

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: North Elevation Historic District

Other names/site number: 24YL2129

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: Boundaries: to the North, 12<sup>th</sup> Ave North; East, alleyway between North 31<sup>st</sup> Street and North 30<sup>th</sup> Street, South, 9<sup>th</sup> Ave North, and West, 32<sup>nd</sup> Street North.

City or town: Billings State: MT County: Yellowstone

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination     request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A     B     C     D

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property     meets     does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title :

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register  
☐ determined eligible for the National Register  
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register  
☐ removed from the National Register  
☐ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private: ☒
- Public ☐
- Public – State ☐
- Public – Federal ☐

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s) ☐
- District ☒
- Site ☐
- Structure ☐
- Object ☐

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>151</u>	<u>49</u>	buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>151</u>	<u>49</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic / single dwelling houses

Domestic / multiple dwelling houses

Domestic/garage

Commerce / Trade / department store/ general store

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic / single dwelling houses

Domestic / multiple dwelling houses

Domestic/garage

Commerce / Trade / specialty store / bakery

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival, Tudor, Mission/Spanish  
Colonial Revival, Classical Revival

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Prairie School,  
Commercial Style, Craftsman

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the district:

Foundations: CONCRETE, STONE: sandstone

Walls: BRICK, STONE, STUCCO, WOOD

Roof: ASPHALT, WOOD, CERAMIC TILE

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

#### Summary Paragraph

Situated between 200-foot high Eagle sandstone rimrocks to the north and the Yellowstone River to the south, Billings, Montana serves as the economic, political, and social center for eastern Montana, Northern Wyoming, and western North Dakota. The state's largest city, Billings boasts a population of over 100,000. Billings was established in 1882 as a Northern Pacific railroad town. The railroad runs generally southwest to northeast through the area. A few blocks from downtown, "on a hillside northwest of the city," are the beautiful historic homes of varied styles and sizes, small neighborhood commercial storefronts, and tree-lined streets that make up the North Elevation Historic District.<sup>1</sup> The historic period, or the period of significance, for the North Elevation Historic District is 1905 to 1940. Its significance lies in its association with the city's planning and development, specifically its rise as one of the first automobile suburbs in Billings.

The speedy adoption of the mass-produced automobile led to a blitz of single family homes in the North Elevation – 137 of the 151 eligible buildings in the district were built between 1910

<sup>1</sup> "North Elevation Subdivision," *The Montana Standard* (Anaconda), April 2, 1905: 14.

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and 1940.<sup>2</sup> Of the total 200 buildings, 151 are contributing and 49 noncontributing. Broken down by building type there are 103 contributing houses, seven noncontributing houses, 46 contributing garages, 42 noncontributing garages, and two contributing commercial stores.

Of the eligible homes, the Craftsman style dominates with over 60 represented in the district; this includes a few original multi-family style homes in the neighborhood also in this style. The largest homes in the district are of the Prairie style, 16 total. The district also contains examples of Minimal Traditional, Folk Pyramidal, and Colonial Revival homes. There are two commercial properties in the proposed district, both originally grocery stores that served the neighborhood. Now, one is a café and bakery, the other a yoga studio. Seven homes are noncontributing in the district either having been constructed outside the period of significance or having been too heavily altered to retain their integrity.

No previously-listed National Register listed properties occur in the district. Within a 15-minute walk of the neighborhood district is McKinley Elementary School, St. Vincent Healthcare, Billings Clinic, Billings Public Library, Yellowstone Art Museum, Alberta Bair Theater, Dehler Baseball Park, Lincoln School, Montana State University Billings, Daylis Stadium at Senior High School, and a host of downtown businesses, restaurants, micro-breweries, and hotels. The neighborhood, representing a mix of income levels, is home to medical professionals, teachers, architects, and small business owners, similar to when it was first created. Overall, the properties and the neighborhood itself maintain a high degree of integrity.

### **Boundary Description**

The North Elevation district is defined as the three blocks north of the historic McKinley Elementary School (1906). The eastern edge of the proposed district runs down the alleyway between North 31<sup>st</sup> and North 30<sup>st</sup> Streets with a shared border with the zoned medical corridor. The western boundary lies down the middle of North 32<sup>nd</sup> as it follows the orientation of the original railroad plat. The northern extant of the district is on the south side of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. The southern boundary is on the north side of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, across the street from the McKinley School. Long and rectangular in shape, the North Elevation Historic District totals 200 buildings.

## **The North Elevation Historic District**

### **The Natural Setting**

Billings' topography rises gently to the northwest, from a 3100-foot elevation at the north bank of the Yellowstone River, to approximately 3300 feet at the base of the rimrocks. While relatively flat in the downtown area along the railroad right of way, the topography begins to climb more decidedly through the North Elevation Historic District, with an elevation of 3130 feet at its southeast corner to 3190 feet at its northwest corner. This slope provided advantages to the subdivision, upon which its promoters expounded.

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<sup>2</sup> David L. Ames and Linda F. McClelland, *Historic Residential Suburbs: Guidelines for Evaluation and Documentation for the National Register of Historic Places* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, September 2002), 21.

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Built as the “new addition on the hillside,” northwest of downtown, the North Elevation Subdivision was promoted as “overlooking the entire city, on broad 80-foot wide streets and avenues leading to the heart of Billings.”<sup>3</sup> (The streets actually measure out to 49 feet.) The North Elevation offered both a “grand panoramic view” and the cleanest air in Billings. The original railroad plat favored the north side of the railroad tracks for development. Even today, the industrial corridor, including the sugar beet factory, oil refineries, stockyards, and sewage treatment plant, are all in the southeast part of the city. This was due to the prevailing summer winds blowing from west to east. Even Austin North, the promoter of the North Elevation neighborhood, sold lots with this promise, “You get the Clean, Pure Breeze, from the West Right in Your Home before it passes through the city.”<sup>4</sup> North took out several half page advertisements promoting the North Elevation Subdivision, where “you will find many of best families in Billings live up this way ...”<sup>5</sup>

### **The Manufactured Setting**

From the seeds of a planned railroad town (1882), named for Northern Pacific Railway President Frederick Billings, the North Elevation Historic District developed in line with the orientation of the original railroad plat. Home building in Billings initially focused in downtown and south of the railroad tracks. By 1905, residential neighborhood construction shifted west, outside of the railroad plat, and northwest, following the railroad platted orientation. An 1882 map of Custer County, Montana (Billings would become the Yellowstone County seat in 1883) shows the railroad plat and how the town was split in two by the Northern Pacific Railway tracks (see image in "Continuation Sheets" at end of nomination).

All of the homes in the North Elevation Historic District fall within the North Elevation Subdivision First Filing. Foster’s Addition, an earlier subdivision dating to the 1880s, is south and southeast of the district and includes the historic McKinley Elementary school. The North Elevation subdivision, second and third filings, are just to the west of the District. McKinley School (1906), south of the district, and Pioneer Park (1921), to the west of the district, are the most identifiable public spaces associated with the North Elevation neighborhood.

### **Streetscape**

The North Elevation Historic District maintains much of the original pattern of the planned street system with consistent setbacks. Early promotional efforts for the North Elevation emphasized the walkable streets and the close walking distance to McKinley School and the Lincoln High School, five blocks to the south. Concrete sidewalks and small grassy, tree-filled, boulevards, between the sidewalk and the street, were created at the time home building took off in 1910s. The roads themselves are 30 feet wide and feature the 13-foot wide boulevards separating the six-foot concrete sidewalks that still exist today. Tall mature cottonwood trees, usually two to a lot, frame many of the homes from the street view. In some cases, trees now obscure some of the

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<sup>3</sup> “North Elevation Subdivision.” *The Montana Standard* (Anaconda), April 2, 1905, page 14.

<sup>4</sup> “The Elevation: Cream of the Fashionable Billings Residence District,” *Billings Gazette*, April 17, 1910.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

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residences from the street. A 1940 aerial image shows the emphasis placed on creating a tree-filled canopy for the neighborhood. The photo also shows a clear demarcation from the other surrounding more treeless neighborhoods (see image in "Continuation Sheets" at end of nomination). As mature neighborhood, the area exhibits well-developed landscaping, including a large number of deciduous trees and evergreens. Flowers and shrubs are maintained by many of the residents. A few yards are bound by hedges and wooden picket fences.

## Architectural Styles

The properties within the North Elevation Historic District are oriented on a northeast to southwest axis. For ease of description, the authors describe the northwest elevations as north, the northeast elevations as east, the southeast as south and the southwest as west.

The dominant architectural style of the neighborhood is Craftsman. The homes were primarily built between 1910 and 1940 and they commonly feature triangular knee braces, exposed rafter tails, and porched entryways. The second most common style is Prairie, numbering 16 contributing residences, and representing many of the larger homes in the neighborhood. The district also contains examples of Folk Pyramidal, Tudor, Colonial Revival, Spanish Eclectic, Cape Cod, Minimal Traditional, and a few other single examples of architectural styles throughout. Three contributing properties designed by architect Chandler Cohagen and another home designed by architects Link & Haire occur in the district. Representative examples of the different styles within the district are provided below.

### Craftsman – 61 Contributing buildings, 2 Noncontributing buildings

The North Elevation Historic District is overwhelmingly represented by Craftsman styled homes. Sixty-one out of the 103 contributing homes are of the Craftsman style. The identifying features of a Craftsman home include: low pitched gabled roofs with wide overhangs, exposed roof rafter tails, decorative roof beams placed under gables, porches either full or partial width, and porch columns that extend from ground level, without breaking at the porch floor.<sup>6</sup> They also have other variants and details including; roof dormers, multiple siding materials (siding is primarily wood clapboard, but some stucco is used as well), and decorative triangular knee braces. Each of the designated Craftsman homes in the district has a combination of these features. There are four roof subtypes of the Craftsman style; the front-gabled, cross-gabled, side-gabled and hipped roof.<sup>7</sup> These are all seen in the neighborhood as well.

The front-gabled Craftsman home is the most popular design throughout the neighborhood. The home at 934 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, constructed c. 1901-1912, is a good example. The key Craftsman features seen on this home are the front gable roof design, exposed rafter tails, triangular knee braces, decorative roof beams in the gable, a full width front porch with columns, and clapboard siding. The south roof side has two brick chimneys located on the slope. The northern slope has two cross-gable dormers. In the Craftsman style, exposed rafter tails are seen on the north and south rooflines. The attic was originally unusable, but has been renovated into a living space.

<sup>6</sup> Virginia & Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984), 453.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

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Two modern, vinyl, four-over-one light windows evenly spaced within the gable end illuminate the upper half story interior. This second story extends over the main entryway's porch creating a generous overhang, commonly seen in the Craftsman style. The porch has three columns extending from the porch half-walls to the overhang above. Narrow decorative corner boards extend from the column base to ground level, nearly giving the appearance of full-height columns. Five triangular knee braces support the overhang's deep eaves. The door is located above the steps to the porch, placed towards the north side of the home's front. The large windows on the south side of the door balance out the door's placement.

The second subtype, the cross-gable, is seen at 1111 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. The main massing of the home is configured with north and south facing gables. The front facing gable encompasses the enclosed porch entryway which was original to this house. It also has exposed rafter tails, clapboard siding, triangular knee braces, porch and porch columns, all of the Craftsman style. This one-half-story Craftsman has a side-gabled roof, with a prominent front-gabled enclosed porch. A horizontal ribbon of three one-light windows appear within a shed dormer centered on the west (front) main side-gable slope. The side gables and front-gable all have triangular knee braces popular with the Craftsman style. The home's corbelled brick chimney rises from the ridgeline of the one-story gabled extension on the south elevation. Five concrete steps lead up to the doorway of the porch, which features a nine-light wood storm door. Square columns reach from the porch railing to the roofline. The home has a concrete foundation and original horizontal clapboard siding.

Featuring the side-gabled design, the home at 1001 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street retains integrity. Along with the side-gabled roof, it has a large front-gabled dormer, decorative roof beams, a full-width front porch and porch columns, and staggered shingle siding and clapboard siding. The large gabled dormer is centered on the west (front) roof slope. This dormer, clad in original staggered shingle siding, contains a set of three double-hung windows. The main roofline's west slope extends to envelop the front porch. The porch is the full width of the home and has four square Doric columns that extend from the porch half-walls to the roof line. There is a centered break in the west half-wall where four wooden steps lead up to the doorway. The siding on the half-walls and this portion of the home is original clapboard. There are two large double-hung windows on either side of the door. The north and south facing gable ends each have a ribbon of three double-hung windows. In the Craftsman style, this home also has exposed roof purlins.

Another example of the side-gabled roof is an original Craftsman duplex. The residences' addresses are 1041 and 1043 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street. As mentioned, the building boasts a side-gabled layout, exposed rafter tails, porched entryways for each residence, porch columns, clapboard siding, and a shed dormer on the western facing roof slope. The home's shed dormer is on the west facing roof slope and has two sets of three original horizontal windows. The entrances to the separate residential areas are located under an extended roof on the northern and southern sides of the main building, address 1043 and 1041 respectively, giving each entrance its own inset porch. Each porch has two square columns from the porch half-wall to the roofline. Next to each doorway is an original eight-over-one double-hung window. In between these two porches, in the center of the building, are two small original windows. These Craftsman features are also

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in good condition. This home is one of the few original multi-family residences in the neighborhood and maintains its historical integrity.

The address of 930 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street showcases the final subtype of the hipped roof. This one and one-half-story Craftsman home has a hipped roof with a small hipped dormer with three original windows over the center of the front entryway, clapboard siding, exposed rafter tails, a partial width porch, and porch columns. The sides of the dormer display coursed wood shingles. The exposed rafter tails display decorative millwork. The porch appears to have been originally open, but now the south half is enclosed. When enclosed, the center column was altered, but its old presence is still evident. The door remains in its original location, off-center to the north. An exterior brick chimney adorns the residence's south elevation.

A photograph at the Western Heritage Center, Billings, indicates Alfred E. Lyle built the home at 930 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street for John Bruce Cook around 1910. In the photograph, John Bruce Cook, his brother F. Cook, Alfred E. Lyle (of Cohagen and Lyle), and H. Lyle are identified. It is signed by Pearle D. Cook of Billings, the owner of the home.<sup>8</sup>

Due to Montana winters, many of the Craftsman homes' front porches that were originally open are now enclosed. Although 930 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street displays a partially enclosed porch, many others are enclosed. A good example of this modification is the Craftsman home at 1117 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. Typical of a Craftsman residence, it features a front gable, clapboard siding, triangular knee braces, exposed rafter tails, and a full width porch. This porch was originally open, but now holds screen windows that fill the space from the porch railing to the roofline. A 1916 historic image shows the home, and the neighboring houses, when it was originally built. Except for the screened in porch, the house displays few changes in over 100 years. These small modifications do not overshadow the other architectural details, and the home's integrity remains.

### **Prairie – 16 contributing buildings**

These homes are primarily identified by their low, hipped roofs with extended eaves, one-story porches, large square porch supports, casement windows, and horizontal emphasis. The Prairie style homes are key to the neighborhood's overall feeling and its association as a historic district.

The home at 1110 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street is a good example of the Prairie style design. It features cedar lap siding and cedar sawn shingles, a low hipped roof, extended roof eaves, a one story porch with large square supports, wide central chimney, and casement windows (these have been upgraded, but remain in the same openings). All of these Prairie features

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<sup>8</sup> Alfred Lyle (the builder) came to Montana from Missouri and originally worked as a farmer around Billings until picking up a job working on the Huntley Irrigation project as a carpenter foreman. By 1911, he started his own contracting business. Alfred married Miss Beth Caroline Barrows on September 2, 1922 and they welcomed a daughter, Barbara Ann Lyle, on September 8, 1926. In 1925, Mr. Lyle opened his own firm, the Alfred E. Lyle & Company. Mr. Lyle constructed businesses in Billings, residences in Billings and Laurel, the Cody, Wyoming high school, among others. Later in his career, he extended to ditch work in Hardin and on the Rosebud Project in Red Lodge. Alfred Lyle died at age 45 due to complications of appendix surgery; "Alfred E. Lyle & Co. File Incorporation," *Billings Gazette*, 25 Apr 1925: 3; "Death Claims Alfred E. Lyle," *Billings Gazette*, 2 Apr 1932: 1, 13.

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are in excellent condition. This home was originally constructed in 1912. The roof has extended eaves typical of this style. The second story casement windows are symmetrical; a set of three windows flank a smaller set of four windows on either side. These window locations are original. There is also an enclosed front porch that also features extended eaves. Side-by-side double-hung windows enclose the space. Large square columns occur on this porch space. The home has a pronounced concrete foundation that acts as a plinth, and projecting continuous sills. The planter at the front of the porch, the prow-shaped stairway beyond (west of) the entry, and the concealed entry are typical of more quintessential Prairie Style homes. It appears the architect was Percy Dwight Bentley.

A single detached garage was also constructed on the lot at a later date than the original house. The original garage stood less than 3 feet from the northwest corner of the house. It had 8-inch lap siding and the north and east walls had 2-foot high concrete walls that allowed the garage to be set into the hill and have the garage door at grade to the west. At time of demolition it was in poor condition. The replacement garage features an additional 2 feet added to the west side and a newer door added at some time to accommodate larger cars. The garage is clad with fiber cement siding.

The most common subtype of Prairie homes in the neighborhood is the American Four-square. With a symmetrical front façade, these homes also have a simple square plan, a low hipped roof and a front entryway. A good example of this subtype is the home at 1102 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street. It is a prime example of a Prairie four-square, with its low hipped roof, extended eaves, stucco siding, full-width front porch, porch columns, front entryway, and symmetrical façade. The main and the porch's hipped roof give the home its horizontal emphasis. There are two double-hung windows on the second story above the porch's roof line and these are mirrored below with the home's door and another large window creating the symmetrical design. This Four-square Prairie home was designed by the architects J.G. Link and C.S. Haire. The house features three stucco column porch supports and stucco porch half walls. Three wooden steps lead up to the wooden planked porch. The door is offset in line with the stairs. A double-hung window is on the southern side of the door. Blonde bricks serve as decoration and as quoins. The home's chimney is located on the southern facing side. All of these architectural features are in good condition and lend to the home's historic integrity.

### **Minimal Traditional – 8 contributing buildings, 1 noncontributing buildings**

This style is a simplified form, based loosely on the Tudor Revival style.<sup>9</sup> The style generally features dominant front gables, large chimneys, a lower roof pitch (compared to Tudors), and a simplified façade lacking any major detailing. The eligible Minimal Traditional homes in the North Elevation were built from 1929-1940 and feature Tudor Revival and Spanish Eclectic flourishes.

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<sup>9</sup> McAlester and McAlester, 477.

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A representative Minimal Traditional example with Tudor elements is the home at 947 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. Its identifying features are in its cross-gable design, stucco siding, brick detailing, arched windows and framing, the large chimney located on the front façade, and the entrance set into the cross-gable. One gable of the home faces north, while the other faces west. The elevations feature either two sets of paired six-over-one double-hung windows, or two single six-over-one double-hung windows, that appear new. There are also arched topped attic vents on both gables. The entrance is set in the nook of the cross gable and the large stucco chimney is located just south of the entryway on the north facing eave, common of Tudor style homes. The Tudor style flourishes are also seen in the arched doorway, decorated with bricks fanning around the arch and the two arched windows to the side of the doorway.

The home at 3111 9<sup>th</sup> Ave North also has Tudor style elements, but is identified as a Minimal Traditional home. It features a side-gable design, cross-gabled front, arched entryway, and an arcaded wing wall to the east. It has a single dominant front gable that extends into an arcaded wing wall, a flourish commonly found in Tudor style homes. It also has slight roof returns and no eave extensions. This front gable holds paired double-hung windows. The entry way is set in a covered archway on top of a set of concrete stairs. To the west of this archway is another double-hung window. The siding is wide horizontal coursed shingles.

Another example is the home at 1125 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, which also displays Tudor flourishes. It features side-gable construction with a front saltbox-roofed entryway and a large stucco chimney on the south facing gable. The façade is dominated by a prominent, steep, cross-gable. The door is located in this dominant front-gable and is reached by concrete steps. An updated double-hung window is south of the doorway. There is a small shed dormer on the west facing eave and another updated double-hung window on the façade below it. These windows all have wooden trim. The cladding is modern vinyl or metal droplap siding and the foundation appears to be concrete. An attached garage, constructed after the period of significance, is located to the south side of the house off the street and is pushed back from the front façade of the house.

The home at 1045 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street also serves as an example in the district of a Minimal Traditional style home with Spanish Eclectic embellishments. It has stucco siding, medium pitched roof with minimal eave overhang, and arched doorway all in the Spanish Eclectic style. It is a side-gable with an arched entry alcove near the center of the front, and front gable at the remainder of the house projecting to the right of it. An arcaded wing wall, popular in the Spanish Eclectic style, defines the side yard. The wood double-hung windows, which appear to be original and in good condition, have shutters and aluminum storm sashes. The property rests on a concrete wall foundation and has a stucco-covered chimney protruding from the center ridgeline of the home. The front entry has brick stairs and black, metal railings on either side.

The house located at 3114 11<sup>th</sup> Ave North, with stucco siding, features a low pitched roof with minimal eave overhang, and an arched doorway. It has a cross-gabled roof with an asymmetrical front gable mass extending across the west two-thirds of the front. The walls are stucco, and a large concrete wall chimney is located on the east side of the house. The house is a simplified Spanish Eclectic style, and like the house at 1045 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street displays Minimal Traditional features, Spanish Eclectic finishes and elements that include the rounded entry door covered by a

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small, cantilevered stoop roof with an arched soffit. The original wood windows have aluminum storm sashes and shutters on the front façade. The arched-top wood front door is original.

### **Folk Pyramidal – 3 contributing buildings, 1 noncontributing**

Folk Pyramidal homes are easily identified by their square floorplans and pyramidal (equilateral hipped) roofs. This roof frame “requires more complex roof framing but needs fewer long-spanning rafters, thus are less expensive to build.”<sup>10</sup> The properties with this original floor and roof plan are located at 918 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, 910 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, and 937 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street.

The home at 937 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street retains the best integrity out of the four. It is located behind the property’s main home at 939 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, and it displays the square floorplan, pyramidal roof shape, original clapboard siding, and original set of three double-hung windows on the southern side of the front façade. The entryway extends slightly from the northern side of the western facing elevation and has a small front-gable roof. This is the only break from the pyramidal design on the home. It was the original home on the property until 939 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street was constructed to the west. All of the home’s architectural features are retained, lending to the home’s historical integrity.

Another variation is seen in the home at 910 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street. It has the typical pyramidal roof in addition to a dropped open nearly full width porch. The siding has been replaced and the decorated porch columns are not original. But, similar to 915 N. 31<sup>st</sup> street, the square floorplan and pyramidal roof remain. This is also seen in the home at 918 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street. A hipped roof extension added to the northern side of the front of the house now contains the entryway.

### **Folk Victorian – 3 contributing buildings**

The Folk Victorian style is defined by Victorian decorative detailing on simple folk house forms. These details are typically less elaborate than the original Victorian styles they attempt to copy.<sup>11</sup> This is the case for the three Folk Victorian homes in the North Elevation, constructed from 1907-1910, at 925 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, 911 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, and 942 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street.

The home at 925 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street features the Folk Victorian Style. This home, built in 1907, features a front jerkinhead gable roof with newer asphalt shingles. The second story has two long, vertical double-hung windows that are not original. The enclosed entryway is below these windows, on the right side of the western facing front. It has a hipped roof, but is unique in that the roof line curves on the left side. This curve is one of the key features that identify this home as a Folk Victorian. The double-hung windows that extend from this roofline to the porch railing are not original. This space appears to have been open at one time and possibly had the column ornamentation fitting a Victorian designed home. The screen door leading into this space is not original; it is approached by four concrete steps. To the left of this entry is a large ornamented original cottage style window with lead coming in the top sash. The home’s large horizontal asbestos siding and stone at the foundation are not original.

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid., 100.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., 309.

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The one and one-half story home at 911 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street is a simplified Folk Victorian style home. The front hipped-on-gabled roof features roof returns and the vent for the attic has a built in pediment frame featuring a faux keystone, placed in the center of the gable; these features are all typical of the Folk Victorian style. The porch roof design is original, however the materials are not. It extends straight out from under the roof returns and is supported by three straight, slim wood posts which possibly replaced the decorative Victorian columns once here. Three concrete steps lead up to the entryway. The door and stairs are slightly offset to the northern side of the porch. The south side of the entryway features a double-hung window that replaced the original within the same frame. The siding is original clapboard. The brick chimney is located on the ridge of the roof. There appears to be a covered deck extension off of the back of the home, it is unclear when this was added. The foundation is sandstone.

The two story home at 942 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street suggests the Folk Victorian architectural style. It has a steep, full width, cross-gabled roof accented with a pent roof above a two-by-two-unit plan. The front facing gable has paired double-hung windows in the center. The brick chimney is on the ridgeline at the intersection of the roof's crossing. The gable on the back of the home has different siding than the other gables. There are fish scale shingles that reach to the top of the two centered double-hung windows. Inside of these scalloped shingles are three diamonds designed with diagonal, flush, siding. Below the fish scales, this diagonal flush siding continues to the dropped decorative roofline. The fish scale siding is reminiscent of Folk Victorian style detailing. It is not currently known if this was the original design of the home's other three gables as well. The siding of this gable is original. The dropped decorative roofline, mentioned above, sits below the gables and it runs around the entire home. The small enclosed entryway is dropped from this decorative roofline and has a hipped roof. The entryway is set on the northern edge of the front of the home. There are three concrete steps that lead to the doorway and two double-hung windows on either side of the door. To the southern side of the entryway is a window covered by a hard top awning.

### **Colonial Revival – 5 contributing buildings**

Colonial Revival homes are identified by an accentuated front door, usually with a pediment and supported by pilasters, or they extend forward supported by slender columns creating an entry porch. Entry doors usually have sidelights, the façade is typically symmetrical, and the front windows, often in pairs, feature shutters.<sup>12</sup> The examples of this style in the North Elevation Historic District occur at 1011 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, 1130 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, 1143 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, 3114 12<sup>th</sup> Ave North, and 1024 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street.

The home at 1130 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street is most emblematic of the Colonial Revival style. It has the side gabled low pitched roof, roof returns on the gables, an entry porch and two Doric porch columns. The front façade has a full height porch with a pediment roof and Doric columns as supports. The front is symmetrical in design – an eight-over-one double-hung window, with attached window planter, flanks each side of the doorway and appear to be original. The home sits on a concrete foundation, but the entry porch has a brick base and stairs. The siding is cedar shingle

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., 321.

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and is original. All of these Revival features are in excellent condition and lend to the home's historic integrity.

1143 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, sports a rectangular transom light and an elaborate door surround as its key Colonial Revival features. The home itself is a 1 ½ story side-gable and has a shed dormer on the west facing roof slope. The siding is brick and it appears to have a concrete foundation. The front, west facing, façade has a set of two double-hung windows with flower planters that are original. The prominent doorway is to the north of these. It has a pedimented doorway with Doric pilasters as decorative supports and a transom window light. These distinct features contribute to the house's designation as Colonial Revival. A set of four slightly rounded brick steps lead up to this doorway.

The Colonial Revival home, 1011 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, is very simple in form. It has a steep front-gabled roof, roof returns, and the double-hung windows popular of this style. The front porch is enclosed with a ribbon of five twelve-light casement windows with three-light transoms, covered by a corrugate steel shed roof. The windows appear original, while the porch roof is not. Previously, the porch roof was flat with an iron balustrade. The siding in the gable is staggered shingles, while the rest of the home has vertical clapboard. Neither of these styles is original. A photo from 2015 reveals that the siding before this was large horizontal clapboard. Extending off the home's northeastern corner is a large slab-on-grade gabled roof wing that is also not original. It appears that it is being used as a residence. The home's foundation is concrete.

The Colonial Revival style house at 3114 12<sup>th</sup> Ave North was built in 1918. The one and one-half story dwelling has a concrete basement foundation, a wood frame, and stucco exterior siding. The northwest side has a nine-over-one double-hung window, a pair of nine-over-one double-hung windows, and a 28-light glass fronted by a 3-light wood storm door. The entry is fronted by a concrete stoop with a hood supported by two Doric columns, typical of this revival style. The upper half-story has a shed dormer with a paired six-over-one double-hung window. The back of the home has a mirroring shed dormer and a large house-width porch. The house has a side gable roof with eaves and enclosed rafters. It has standing seam metal roofing, a metal ridge cap with end balls, and a chimney made of red clay brick. Except for the roofing, the house appears to retain original materials and has good historic character.

The second home at 1024 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street has a symmetrical façade under a side gable roof, a side porch, and window shutters, all indicative of the Colonial Revival style. There are five second double-hung windows over two triple windows flanking the front door. Each window has shutters. The entry hipped porch has open rafters and two square columns with Italianate bracket detailing. The enclosed side porch, located on the southern side of the home, has a balustrade with turned spindles on its flat roof. The clapboard wood siding appears to be original and in good condition. The double-hung windows are not original, but do not detract from the home's Colonial Revival style.

### **Cape Cod Cottage Form – 2 contributing buildings**

Is a subset of the Colonial Revival design whose identifying features include one-and one-half story height, side gabled roofline (often with evenly spaced gabled dormers across the front

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slope), balanced fenestration, and centered recessed entry with entablature. They often feature shingle or clapboard siding. The two homes in the district that display this style are located at 1135 and 1131 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street.

The home at 1135 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street is a story and a half side gable roof design with two small gabled dormers positioned toward the street and a large shed dormer on the rear of the house. One addition occurs on the back of the house that implemented larger single pane window units. The home has staggered shingle siding, popular of Cape Cod designs, with the exception of the entry gable, where the siding runs vertically. Front windows include paired six over six double-hung units. A stucco covered chimney protrudes from the central ridge of the house; it has an “S-like” embellishment on it (often seen on Chandler Cohagen designed homes).

To the south, the neighboring home at 1131 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street is of a story and a half side gable roof form. The exterior materials of the home have been significantly altered with new siding, trim and windows with an altered six-over-one double-hung layout. The three small original gabled dormers located on the front of the house and the roof pitch represent the strongest Cape Cod influence. A break in the roof line at the north portion of the house with a lower ridge line and step back from the street at the front façade appears to be a later addition to the house. Materials added in renovations do not detract from the Cape Cod style appearance.

### **Monterey – 1 contributing building**

A Monterey styled home’s identifying features include two stories, a low-pitched gabled roof, and a second story balcony that is usually cantilevered and covered by the principal roof. The home at 1142 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street showcases all of these features. This two-story house has a second story, full front porch, decorated beams supporting the porch, and stucco siding, all indicators of the Monterey design. A single-story addition to the rear of the house is somewhat sympathetic to the original house with stucco exterior walls, but also has California ranch influences in the form of the addition, fascia, roof overhangs and masonry used to construct the significant fireplace chimney. The front porch has been altered from original brick to concrete. The windows have been replaced, but remain sympathetic to the original design. The second story façade holds two double-hung windows and a multi-light entry door, and the ground level contains one six-over-six double-hung single unit and a pair of six-over-six double-hung windows (the southernmost window has a planter box attached). The original door has been replaced with a modern multi-paneled door; the small multi-light vision glass is common to the style. An attached single car garage is located on the southern facing side of the home and accessed from N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street.

### **Queen Anne – 1 contributing building, 1 noncontributing building**

Queen Anne homes are primarily identified by their steeply pitched roofs of irregular shape, usually with a dominant front-facing gable, patterned shingles, asymmetrical façade, and partial or full-width porches.<sup>13</sup>

The home at 921 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street represents the Queen Anne style with its steeply pitched roof, front-facing gable, partial width porch, and patterned shingles. It has a cross-gabled roof with a

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., 263.

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prominent front-gable. This gable has fish-scale siding and paired double-hung windows with diamond-paned upper sash. Both of these details are original and lend to the Queen Anne style. The front-gable is enclosed with a pent roof. The home's entry is covered by an extended pedimented roof, also lending itself to the Queen Anne design. Two square columns extend from the porch railing to the porch roofline. The porch is accessed by four wooden stairs with iron railings. The door is set directly above the stairs and features four-light vertical side-lights. To the south of the entryway is a two-light cottage style window; the top light containing original stained glass. The siding of the first floor is original clapboard. The north and south facing gables also have two double-hung windows and fish scale siding.

### **Spanish Eclectic – 1 contributing building**

This style is identified by low pitched roofs with little or no eave overhang, one or more arches placed above the doors or windows, stucco siding, and asymmetrical facades.<sup>14</sup>

The sole Spanish Eclectic designed building in the district is located at 917 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street. The apartment complex is one of the only homes set back from the street, suggesting a later construction date, although records, including the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, indicates it could have been built as early as 1923 with a major update/addition in 1949. It is reminiscent of the sugar factory housing built for Hispanic labor near the Billings Sugar Factory on the south side of town in the late 1920s. The relatively flat roof has square parapets on the corners with a slight peak at the center the parapet between corners; this slight peak is mimicked by the visor roof immediately below the roofline. On the west facing side of the home, two windows are symmetrically placed on the north and south side of the façade. They do not appear to be original, but they do fit within the home's original window openings. The entrance to this dwelling is located in the south elevation. A duplex extension is located on the rear western side of the original residence. This a very recognizable style in the historic downtown neighborhoods of Billings, as architect Chandler Cohagen built four remarkable homes with the classic low pitched, red tile roof, arched doorways, asymmetrical facades, and wall surfaces of stucco; a couple of these Cohagen homes are surrounded by low white-washed walls. These homes are all within a few blocks of Pioneer Park, but outside the district boundaries for the North Elevation Historic District.

### **Tudor Revival– 1 contributing building**

One of the most distinctive homes in the North Elevation Historic District is a Tudor Revival built in 1925. The identifying features of a Tudor style home are steeply pitched roofs, side gables, a front façade dominated by one or more prominent steeply pitched cross gables, decorative half-timbering, tall narrow grouped windows, arcaded wing walls, and large chimneys.<sup>15</sup>

The Tudor Revival at 1147 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street is a prime example of the style's high pitched roof, side-gable design, two front cross-gables, decorative half timbering in the gable ends, stucco

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<sup>14</sup> Ibid., 417.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., 355.

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siding, narrow grouped windows, and bricked entryway. While stucco dominates the elevations, the house features half-timbering and brick detailing, and steeply pitched gables. The centered entry gable displays half-timbering detailing but the main façade features brick; an entry is recessed into this elevation. Brick stairs leads up to the entry which displays square columns that support iron porch railings. A brick chimney is located to the north of the gable. The main gable continues the half-timbering design, a characteristic common of Tudor style homes. Below this gable is a ribbon of three vertical multi-light windows featuring an arched lintel. The façade elevation north of the entry has a six-over-six double-hung window. An addition was added to the rear southeastern portion of the home; the date of this addition is unknown. The home retains excellent integrity.

### **Western Commercial – 2 contributing buildings**

Two existing storefronts appear on the avenues in the North Elevation Historic District; 3115 10th Ave. North and 3115 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. North. The building at 3115 10th Ave. North sits on a small lot with no setback from the property line. Its front façade features a stepped parapet, large storefront windows, and a  $\frac{3}{4}$  lite door centered on its 25-foot width. The parapets continue on the sides; the alley elevation has two storefront windows and five punched clerestory windows along its length. The exterior finish is stucco, and little ornamentation occurs. The building, which is in good condition, has served as a commercial building since 1923.

The second commercial property at 3115 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. North faces the new front entrance to McKinley Elementary School. The building includes both a two-story hipped residential portion to the south, and a storefront and garage extensions to the north. The one-story commercial portion features a flat roof, a plate-glass storefront and centered, and canted entry. An applied wood-shingle false mansard appears at the roofline. This small residential building displays both Craftsman and Prairie Style influences. A porch with a solid railing and covered with a shed roof extends across the front with a gable centered over the front door.

### **Garages**

Eighty-eight garages are in the boundary of the North Elevation Historic District. Forty-six contribute to the district and 42 are noncontributing. The predominant type, 31 total, is the front-gable design. Other garage types include nine side-gable, five hipped and one shed roof garage. Of the noncontributing garages, 32 are considered such because they were constructed outside of the period of significance and 10 have undergone enough changes resulting in a significant loss of integrity.

The evolution of the garage in the North Elevation Historic District, reflecting an increased importance and function due to the growing demand for the automobile, provides a microcosm of the larger pattern that occurred in nearly every neighborhood in the United States.

A review of the 1912 Sanborn maps indicates the earliest constructed homes had carriage houses located to the rear of the property; they were primarily accessed off of the alleyways. Once the automobile became more accessible to the middle class, these buildings easily shifted into use as garages for families' new cars. A few buildings converted into use as garages still retain their

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sliding doors and earlier features showing this transition. These garages can be seen at 910 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street (c. 1910), 931 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street (c. 1915) and 941 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street (c. 1918).

As automobiles became more accessible to the general population, and as they increased in size, garages were inevitably adapted as well. The garage located at 906 N. 31<sup>st</sup> street features the original single car unit with a non-original car port extending off of the southern facing wall. This extension provided the home owner with a multi-car garage space off of the original garage design.

Some of the homes' garages were also adapted to the landscape. Towards the northern edge of the district, the terrain has a slight slope up. A few homes in this area of the neighborhood feature garages attached and/or below the homes to accommodate the grade change. They are all accessed from the alleyways behind the homes. This style of garage is seen at 1130 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, 1139 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, and 3114 12<sup>th</sup> Ave North.

In the attempt to provide continuity, many garages in the district mirror many of the architectural elements of the associated home in roof style and siding material; in Craftsman examples, continuity is further stressed by exposed rafter tails. A good example of this is the garage located at 1105 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. The garage sports original clapboard siding, a front gabled roof design, and exposed rafter tails – all elements also seen on the home on the property. Another example appears at 901 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. The garage mimics the home's hipped roof and clapboard siding.

Because some garages weren't updated at the same time as the associated housing unit, they sometimes provide insight into the house's original appearance. At 946 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street the garage has small horizontal clapboard siding, exposed rafter tails and beams. The mirroring home now has replacement siding, but would have originally matched the garage.

### **Integrity**

As a group, the houses and garages in the district display a relatively high level of historic integrity, some more so than others. All the contributing resources retain integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. Alterations to some of the houses and garages have resulted in diminished integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, although the vast majority retain sufficient integrity to be considered contributing to the district; nearly all continue to occupy the same footprint today that they did when originally constructed. Although the North Elevation Historic District is being advanced for listing in the National Register as a district under Criterion A, the district does contain several properties that would be considered individually eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C.

Overall, the resources retain good integrity as a whole, and visually display their historic relationships. The vast majority displays their essential physical features, and of those that have undergone some change, the preponderance still retain sufficient integrity to convey their significance to the district.

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**Building List for the North Elevation Historic District**

Address	Building Type	Style/Influence	Construction Date	Contributing
1145 N. 32nd Street	Home	Minimal Traditional	1940	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	1940	Yes
3114 12th Ave North	Home	Colonial Revival	1918	Yes
1139 N. 32nd Street	Home	Minimal Traditional	1939	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1135 N. 32nd Street	Home	Cape Cod	1939	Yes
1131 N. 32nd Street	Home	Cape Cod	1939	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1939	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1125 N. 32nd Street	Home	Minimal Traditional	1936	Yes
1121 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1916	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1117 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1916	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1111 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1916	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1109 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1915	Yes
1105 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1923	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1923	Yes
1101 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1933	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1045 N. 32nd Street	Home	Minimal Traditional	c. 1930	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c. 1930	Yes
3114 11th Ave N.	Home	Minimal Traditional	1935-1940	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c. 1930	Yes
1043 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1920	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1920	Yes
1037 N. 32nd Street	Home	Prairie	1909	Yes
	Garage	Hipped	c. 1909	Yes
1031 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1919	Yes
	Garage	Hipped	c. 1919	Yes
1025 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1915	Yes
1023 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1919	Yes

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	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1919	Yes
1021 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1919	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1919	Yes
1015 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1919	Yes
	Garage	Hipped	APOS	No
1011 N. 32nd Street	Home	Colonial Revival	1917	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1009 N. 32nd Street	Home	Modified Traditional	1917	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1917	Yes
1005 N. 32nd Street and 3121 10th Ave North	Home	Craftsman	c.1920	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1920	Yes
3115 10th Ave North	Building	Western Commercial	1922	Yes
947 N. 32nd Street	Home	Minimal Traditional	1929	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
943 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	1964	No
939 N. 32nd Street	Home	Modified Traditional	1954	No
935 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Hipped	c.1949-1954	No
931 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c. 1915	Yes
927 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
923 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	1976	No
919 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c.1915	Yes
915 N. 32nd Street	Home	Prairie	1915	Yes
	Garage	Cross Gable	APOS	No
909 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1915	Yes
	Garage	Hipped	c.1915	Yes
907 N. 32nd Street	Home	Craftsman	1914	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1914	Yes
	Home	Craftsman	c.1914	Yes
901 N. 32nd Street	Home	Prairie	1915	Yes
	Garage	Hipped	1915	Yes

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3115 9th Ave North	Building	Western Commercial	1915	Yes
1148 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	1926	Yes
1142 N. 31st Street	Home	Monterey	1930	Yes
1138 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1929	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1929	Yes
1134 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1925	Yes
1130 N. 31st Street	Home	Colonial Revival	c. 1920	Yes
1124 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c. 1925	Yes
1120 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1916	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1916	No
1116 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1915	Yes
1114 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1916-1919	Yes
	Garage	Shed	c.1916-1919	Yes
1110 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	1912	Yes
	Garage	Hipped	2006	No
1102 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	1924	Yes
1046 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	1914	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1040 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	1905	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c. 1905	Yes
1036 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	c.1912-1914	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	APOS	No
1024 N. 31st Street	Home	Colonial Revival	c. 1913	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	APOS	No
1020 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	c.1912-1913	Yes
	N. Garage	Hipped	APOS	No
	S. Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1016 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1912	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c. 1912	Yes
1012 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c. 1914	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1008 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1915	Yes
1002 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	1915	Yes

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	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1915	Yes
946 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1908	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1908	Yes
942 N. 31st Street	Home	Folk Victorian	1910	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1910	Yes
940 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	c.1923	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1923	Yes
934 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	Est. 1901-1912	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	Est. 1901-1912	Yes
930 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c. 1910	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1910	No
926 N 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1915	No
922 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1920	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1920	No
918 N. 31st Street	Home	Folk Pyramidal	c. 1906	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1906	No
916 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1915	No
910 N. 31st Street	Home	Folk Pyramidal	1910	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1910	Yes
906 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1905	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1905	Yes
3111 9th Ave North	Home	Minimal Traditional	c.1930	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1930	Yes
1147 N. 31st Street	Home	Tudor	1925	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c.1925	Yes
1143 N. 31st Street	Home	Colonial Revival	c.1933	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1135 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1925	No
1131 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1917	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c.1917	Yes
1125 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	c.1917-1919	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1123 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1914	Yes

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	Garage	Front Gable	c.1914	Yes
1119 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c. 1915	Yes
1115 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1915-1920	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1111 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1913	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	c.1980	No
1109 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Hipped	c.1915	Yes
3021 11th Ave North	Home	Ranch	1963	No
3015 11th Ave North	Home	Craftsman	1920	Yes
1045 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1920	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1920	Yes
3016 11th Ave North	Home	Craftsman	c.1920	Yes
1041 and 1043 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1917	Yes
1041 1/2 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1917	Yes
1043 1/2 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1917	Yes
1037 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1917	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1917	Yes
1033 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1930	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1029 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1905-1908	Yes
	Garage	Side Gable	APOS	No
1025 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1912	No
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1912	No
1023 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	c.1910	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1910	Yes
1019 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1913-1914	Yes
1015 N. 31st Street	Home	Queen Anne Free Classic	c.1906-1910	No
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1906-1910	No
1011 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	c.1920	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1009 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
1001 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1920	Yes
3015 10th Ave North	Home	Craftsman	1920	Yes

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Address	Building Type	Style/Influence	Construction Date	Contributing
	Garage	Front Gable	1920	Yes
945 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1917	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1917	Yes
941 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1918	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1918	Yes
939 N. 31st Street	Home	Minimal Traditional	c.1930	Yes
937 N. 31st Street	Home	Folk Pyramidal	c.1919	Yes
935 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	1916	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1916	Yes
925 N. 31st Street	Home	Folk Victorian	1907	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1907	No
923 N. 31st Street	Home	Craftsman	c.1915	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	c.1923-1949	Yes
921 N. 31st Street	Home	Queen Anne	c.1906	Yes
	Garage	Front Gable	APOS	No
917 N. 31st Street	Home	Spanish Eclectic	Mid-1920s	Yes
915 N. 31st Street	Home	Folk Pyramidal	1908	No
	Garage	Shed	APOS	No
911 N. 31st Street	Home	Folk Victorian	1910	Yes
	Garage	Shed	APOS	No
907 N. 31st Street	Home	Prairie	1910	Yes
903 N. 31st Street	Home	Minimal Traditional	1919	No
	Garage	Shed	c.1919	No

Key: APOS = After Period of Significance

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

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**Period of Significance**

1905 to 1940

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Chandler H. Cohagen

John Gustave Link

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The North Elevation Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at a local level of significance under Criterion A for its association with the community growth of Billings outside its core area to the north beyond the boundaries of the original 1882 railroad plat. The district originally was promoted to individuals with greater incomes, a neighborhood for civic leaders. Literature advocated the ease of getting around the North Elevation subdivision, from the convenience of neighborhood schools, to the walkability of the area and a streetcar right to the neighborhood. Promotion took the additional step of singing the virtues of the beauty of the North Elevation area as one of the most beautiful drives in the city, and the ease of commuting between the North Elevation area and downtown with the automobile. Indeed, the North Elevation Historic District represents an early automobile suburb. The period of significance starts with the first construction in the district in 1905; the vast majority of the resources cluster from that beginning date to 1940, the close of the period of significance. No contributing resources were constructed after the closing date. The Historic District contains 151 contributing buildings, including 103 homes, 46 garages, and two

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commercial storefronts. The District includes three homes designed by Chandler Cohagen, a well-known local architect, and a home designed by John Gustave Link, one of Montana's greatest architects.

### **Overview: The History of Billings, Montana**

*The following discussion of Native American presence in the Yellowstone Valley is drawn directly from Kimberly Olsen, "Babcock Theater Building National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form," September 2010, on file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office.*

For thousands of years prior to Anglo-Euro settlement, many different tribes or bands of Native Americans inhabited the Billings area. Archaeological evidence indicates that early native peoples have visited the Yellowstone River region in the vicinity of Billings for over 10,000 years. The Crow utilized the Alkali Creek drainage northeast of downtown Billings as a travel route for access between the Yellowstone Valley and the bench lands to the north. In the vicinity of Alkali Creek, archaeological investigations have documented bison kills and camping sites.

While numerous tribes camped and hunted in the Yellowstone Valley, the valley served as home to the Crow for many centuries. The Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 established the Crow Indian Reservation that included much of the Yellowstone River Basin west of the Powder River. The Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 reduced Crow Reservation boundaries by removing all lands north (thereby including the Clark's Fork Bottom) and west of the Yellowstone River. This taking of land allowed for the eventual first European settlement in the Clark's Fork Bottom in the spring of 1877. In addition to the Crow who lived in the area for centuries, other tribes such as the Sioux and Cheyenne utilized the resources of the area, generally as a result of the western expansion.

Though created for the exclusive use of the tribes, reservations lands were often coveted by non-Indians. With much of the available lands in the West already settled in the early 1900's, grazing and agricultural lands were especially desirable including those on reservations. Under the General Allotment Act or Dawes Act, open lands on reservations not settled by Indians were opened to non-Indians on November 1, 1910. Under the Act, reservations were surveyed and individual tribal members allotted a specific amount of acreage, which replaced communal tribal holdings. The Act served as a primary impetus at this time for the westward movement of Euro-Americans; many utilized the Act to acquire property within reservation boundaries.

### **The Magic City to Midland Empire**

In April of 1882, the Minnesota and Montana Land and Improvement Company, founded by Frederick Billings, the former Northern Pacific Railway President, with Thomas Oakes, Heman Clark, John B. Westbrook, and Thomas C. Kurtz, unveiled a new town, in the heart of the Yellowstone River Valley, named Billings.<sup>16</sup> They sold lots as the Billings Townsite Company and shared profits with the Northern Pacific Railway.

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<sup>16</sup> Carroll Van West, *Capitalism on the Frontier: Billings & the Yellowstone Valley in the Nineteenth Century* (Lincoln and London: University of Nebraska Press, 1993), 120-121.

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Along the Montana Baseline or Correction Line for survey, which runs east to west through the southern quarter of Montana, sections overlap to compensate for the curvature of the earth. The Northern Pacific Railway and its investors saw an opportunity and platted Billings in two overlapping, odd numbered, sections of land controlled by the railroad. These were sections 33 and 3. The railroad placed their tracks through the heart of these two odd-numbered sections and platted the new town of Billings in an angled northwestern to southeastern orientation.

The Montana Baseline, or Correction Line, runs along what is known today as Grand Avenue, an east-west arterial, just northwest of downtown. Grand Avenue is located at the southwest edge of the North Elevation Subdivision First Filing and was historically known as Avenue A or Baseline Road.<sup>17</sup> Connected to Grand Avenue's western starting point, Division Street extends south. Division Street serves as the dividing line between the original railroad plat's angled orientation to the east and the true north/south grid orientation to the west.

The Northern Pacific Railroad disregarded the nearby frontier settlement of Coulson when they platted Billings. Coulson was originally located south of Billings, along the banks of the Yellowstone River. The investors of Coulson, named for the Coulson Steamboat Packet Company, quickly grew discouraged. By June 3, 1882, before there was scarcely a town of Billings, the *Coulson Post* changed its name to the *Billings Post*. The Northern Pacific tracks reached Billings on August 22, 1882. The sudden growth of Billings spurred the nickname, "the Magic City" and Coulson quickly disappeared.

The 1882 plat map shows how Billings was split in half by the railroad tracks.<sup>18</sup> The two primary business streets, Montana Avenue and Minnesota Avenue, were located north and south of the tracks, respectively. They are named after the Minnesota and Montana Land Improvement Company, a railroad subsidiary that established the city. The southeast quarter of Billings (McAdow and Anderson Additions), near the Yellowstone River, would be reserved for industrial use. Residential construction would initially focus downtown and south of the railroad tracks. By the early 1900s, residential neighborhood construction shifted west, outside of the railroad plat, and northwest, following the original railroad plat's angled orientation. The North Elevation Subdivision First Filing, northwest of downtown and northeast of Grand Avenue, follows the original railroad grid. A 1913 photograph taken from the sandstone rimrocks north of town, is one of the earliest overviews of the North Elevation Subdivision. It clearly shows the city growing to the west and northwest.

Billings' population tripled in size in the 1890s from 1,000 to 3,000 as several new businesses, stock growing, and trade flourished. The Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad built a line to Billings in 1894 that connected the city to Denver and Kansas City. As Billings entered the twentieth century, the population tripled to over 10,000 residents. Billings passed Miles City and Livingston as the most populous town in the Yellowstone Valley. The Great Northern Railway

<sup>17</sup> "Many of Streets in Billings Perpetuate Names of Men Who Figured in the History of the West," *Billings Gazette*, January 25, 1931: second section, 1.

<sup>18</sup> *Plat of the Town of Billings and Additions, Custer County, Montana Territory* (Chicago: Rand McNally & Co. 1882).

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established Laurel, fifteen miles west, as a switchyard, inevitably establishing Billings as a supply and distributing point for the Northern Plains. The city had developed into the largest rail and transportation center in the Northern Plains.<sup>19</sup> A new downtown “Union Depot” serving the Northern Pacific Railway, Burlington, and Great Northern lines opened in 1909. Civic leaders, such as Albert Babcock, I. D. O'Donnell, Preston Moss, Henry Rowley, and Austin North, contributed to the commercial prosperity of Billings. Historian Carroll Van West wrote about Billings and its emergence; “The presence of aggressive local civic and commercial leaders, who banded together to work for their mutually shared interests, proved especially important.”<sup>20</sup> The Parmly Billings Library, an electric light plant, the Stapleton Building and Hart Albin department stores, Masonic Temple, Babcock Block and Theater (Opera House), the original Northern Hotel, and the Union Depot were all constructed during 1900-1910.

During the 1880s and 1890s, the business fronts on Montana Avenue north of the tracks faced the business fronts on Minnesota Avenue, south of the tracks. This created an open 300-foot swath of prairie filled with railroad tracks through the center of town. By the early 1900s, business began to construct their buildings with the storefronts facing their neighbors across the street on Montana and Minnesota avenues and the rear of the buildings toward the tracks. In 1901, the Parmly Billings Memorial Library, one of Billings' early great civic buildings, was one of the first buildings built along the railroad with the rear of the building toward the tracks.

With the establishment of the new Union Depot on the north side of the railroad tracks in 1909, it marked city development as inevitably shifting northward vs. southward. North 28<sup>th</sup> Street was renamed North Broadway and the commercial development of the city center moved north and away from the tracks. A collection of supply warehouses were eventually built trackside filling in the open “prairie.” By 1905, the North Elevation Historic District and other residential subdivisions began to develop on the edge of the original railroad platted city.

A homestead boom also brought thousands more to the region filling outlier agricultural areas, such as the nearby Huntley Irrigation Project and the local sugar beet factory which began operations in 1906. As a central railroad center and with the impending age of the automobile and airplane, Billings became positioned as the transportation hub for the Northern Plains – Billings had become the “Midland Empire.”

## Community Planning and Development

### Introduction to the North Elevation Historic District

The North Elevation Historic District is composed of the North Elevation Subdivision First Filing, where all of the homes fit into the orientation of the original railroad plat. The North Elevation Historic District is associated within Austin and Hattie North's (North Real Estate

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<sup>19</sup> William L. Lang, editor, *Stories From An Open Country*. Citation from the chapter, *Good Times, Bad Times: The Economic Transformation of the Yellowstone Valley, 1880-1940*, by Carroll Van West (Billings, Montana: Western Heritage Center Press), 1995, page 115.

<sup>20</sup> Lang, 118.

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Company) survey and filing of the North Elevation Subdivision First Filing on March 9, 1905. This encompasses the long rectangular neighborhood that shapes the North Elevation Historic District. The description from the original land title states:

The tract is bounded by the west line of North 32<sup>nd</sup> Street preceding from a point where the north line of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue north intersects the west line of North 32<sup>nd</sup> Street in Foster's Addition to the original town (new city) of Billings ... thence in a north westerly direction in direct line with the west line of North 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, a distance of 2720 feet – Thence in a northeasterly direction at right angles to North 32<sup>nd</sup> Street produced a of 1,000 feet – Thence in a southwesterly direction at right angles to the preceding course a distance of 2720 feet to the north line of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North - Thence in a southwesterly direction at right angles to the preceding course along the north line of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North a distance of 1000 feet to the place of beginning.<sup>21</sup> The streets and avenues are each 80 feet wide and alleys 20 feet wide and the lots are 25 feet by 140 feet and the blocks are 300 feet by 600 feet (matching Fosters Addition).<sup>22</sup>

According to Courthouse research by the Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, Austin North established "The Elevation Company," a tract development company, on December 17, 1912, in Billings. The Elevation Company served as North's promotional vehicle for selling lots in the 1910s. According to the land titles search by the Yellowstone Genealogy Forum:

"On June 6, 1916 the Elevation Company sold their interests in this land to The Brockway Real Estate Company for the express purpose of residential building construction only, and each unit shall cost more than \$2,500 to build. The Elevation Company was formed on August 27, 1914 with \$40,000 of capital. Partners were: Bela [Bert] G. Brockway, Viaretta Brockway [wife of Bert], and W. A. [William] & O. J. Brockway. Subsequently these lots were sold to individuals for residences."

Bert Brockway was President of Brockway Real Estate of Billings, "one of the largest firms in the state and its transactions in 1916 included the sale of 69,943 acres" with a total money value of over \$1,000,000.<sup>23</sup> Bert Brockway, at the time Deaconess was building their hospital in the North Elevation Subdivision in the 1920s, presided as President of the Deaconess Hospital Association.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Map of North Elevation Subdivision First Filing in SW 1/4, Section 32, Township 1 North, Range 26E of P.M.M., 1905. Dedication and Certificate, notarized and filed March 9, 1905, County of Yellowstone, State of Montana.

<sup>22</sup> For more detail about North Elevation Subdivision, please refer to the title and deed search at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mtgyf/county/austin.htm>

<sup>23</sup> Tom Stout, editor, *Montana, Its Story and Biography: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial Montana and Three Decades of Statehood*, Volume 3. (Chicago and New York: The American Historical Society), 1921, 230.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

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### **Growth and Promotion of the North Elevation Suburb**

The notion of a home in the countryside, or a suburban home, has a long history. Expanding western cities, like Los Angeles in the late 1880s, summarized those moving into the “suburbs”:

There will thus spring up a demand for suburban homes of two classes. One is the place where wealthy people go and find a cool retreat during summer months. The other is a place not too far from the city and connected therewith by means of some sort of rapid transit road, so that the toiler can come in in the morning and return in the evening. It must not be over from thirty to sixty minutes from the center of the city. In the next five years there will be a great demand for home of both classes. Fortunately there is no lack of room.<sup>25</sup>

There was no lack of room surrounding Billings and the original plat of the railroad to restrict growth. In 1900, the South Side residential neighborhood, south of the Northern Pacific Railway tracks, boasted the majority of Billings’ single-family homes. I.D. O’Donnell and Preston B. Moss, prominent civic leaders, purchased the remaining railroad holdings of the Minnesota and Montana Land & Improvement Company in 1900 and established the Suburban Homes Company and the Suburban Homes Subdivision by 1904, to develop residential districts west of Division Street downtown.<sup>26</sup> The growth in downtown Billings, the central city, shifted toward commercial construction and apartment building, moving away from the construction of single-family residences. Several single-family residential properties in the city center were moved or demolished once residential development eventually moved out into the new suburbs.<sup>27</sup>

The developing “west end,” including neighborhoods west of Division Street as well as the North Elevation Neighborhood northwest of the city, became the prominent residential expansions during the first three decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. I. D. O’Donnell would follow this trend by moving from his modest home on the south side of Billings at 224 South 29<sup>th</sup> to the West Side Addition at 105 Clark Avenue in 1905. P. B. Moss, the banker and a partner with O’Donnell in the Suburban Homes Subdivision, moved from 201 North 28<sup>th</sup>, at the center of downtown, to a large sandstone mansion on Division Street in 1903. The third partner, in several of their ventures, Henry S., Rowley, the real estate mogul, moved from 2831 Third Avenue North, city center, to 106 Clark Avenue by 1910 (the Moss and O’Donnell homes are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places).<sup>28</sup>

### **The North Elevation**

Austin North (1869-1928) was the key figure in the establishment of the North Elevation Subdivision. Austin North and Oto North of the North Real Estate Investment Company,

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<sup>25</sup> “American Magazines of High Standing (first sentence),” *Los Angeles Herald* (California), November 18, 1888: 4.

<sup>26</sup> Lang, 121.

<sup>27</sup> “House Built in 1882 is Sacrificed to Progress,” *Billings Gazette*, August 31, 1919.

<sup>28</sup> “Henry W. Rowley Dies After Lengthy Illness,” *Billings Gazette*, June 26, 1931: 1-2.

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established in 1892, promoted their “exclusive” neighborhood on the northwest edge of the city to compete directly with the growing collection of elegant homes in the West Side Addition and Suburban Homes Subdivisions (P. B. Moss, Henry W. Rowley, and I. D. O’Donnell). Austin North built his own “castle,” a turreted, red-brick home, designed by Link & Haire, at 622 North 29<sup>th</sup> (1903), toward the southeast corner of the North Elevation Subdivision; the Austin North home is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR listed 11/23/1977, NR #77000822).<sup>29</sup> North family lore notes that North built his opulent “castle” with the hopes of attracting other major civic leaders in Billings, such as P. B. Moss and I. D. O’Donnell, to build homes near his, north of Sixth Avenue North. Moss and O’Donnell instead built homes in the West Side Addition, near their own Suburban Homes Subdivision, to the southwest of North’s residence.<sup>30</sup> The 1904 bird’s eye view lithograph of Billings Montana, commissioned by North, shows how the city was arranged to include the new subdivisions to the west and northwest of the central city.<sup>31</sup>

### Getting to the Neighborhood –Transportation to the Suburbs

The downtown business corridor began shifting away from the railroad tracks as the center of town by 1900. Early promotional efforts for the North Elevation emphasized the walkable streets and close walking distance to McKinley Elementary and Lincoln High School. A battery operated streetcar system, approved by Billings’ voters in 1910, had an extension built right into the heart of the neighborhood, but the venture failed within a couple years. The speedy adoption of the mass-produced automobile led to a blitz of single family homes and garages in the proposed North Elevation District – 137 of the 151 contributing buildings in the North Elevation Historic District, the homes, garages, and two storefronts, were built between 1910 and 1940.<sup>32</sup>

### Take a Walk

Austin North, developer for the North Elevation neighborhood, used a variety of promotions to advertise his development. In 1905, North boasted of his “six foot cement sidewalks” during the first year of publicity.<sup>33</sup> North also promoted the neighborhood’s easy walkability to the local schools:

“Another feature that is attracting buyers to that section of the city for residence property is the fact that one of the largest public school buildings in the city-the McKinley-is right on the edge of the Elevation Company’s holdings, while the new high school (Lincoln) and grade school are within easy walking distance, thus making that section of the city a most desirable one for families having children of school age.”<sup>34</sup>

<sup>29</sup> “For Early Billings’ Man, Home was indeed his Castle,” *Billings Gazette*, April 11, 2015.

<sup>30</sup> David North personal communication to Kevin Kooistra, October 16, 2015.

<sup>31</sup> *Birds Eye View Looking South from Country Club Billings* (Milwaukee, WI, H. Wellge, 1904).

<sup>32</sup> Ames and McClelland, 21.

<sup>33</sup> “North Elevation Subdivision,” *The Anaconda Standard* (Montana), April 2, 1905: 4.

<sup>34</sup> “Fine Auto Drives in Elevation Addition,” *Billings Gazette*, July 25, 1913: 3.

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*The Electric Streetcar and the North Elevation Subdivision*

The first electric powered streetcar system in Richmond, Virginia, in 1887, “ushered in a new period of suburbanization.”<sup>35</sup> The streetcars and trolleys expanded the range people could travel from the central part of the city to the outlier neighborhoods. Before long, the streetcar moved west. By 1907, there was a notice of construction of the “Billings Electric Street Railway” and the “lines will pass along the principal thorough-fares and will radiate through the other streets of the city and will be prolonged into the rural districts ...”<sup>36</sup> This line, however, stalled until a special election was held in June of 1910 to grant to John A. Connelly and Associates, “a franchise to construct, maintain, and operate an electrical or trolley street railroad in the city of Billings, and to use the streets, avenues, and alleys of said city therefor.”<sup>37</sup> The grant for the franchise was passed by the voters in 1910. The Billings Traction Company, using a storage battery system with a lightweight 25 ½-foot by 7 ½-foot wide car, began laying tracks.<sup>38</sup> All the proposed lines for the trolley system crossed at the intersection of North 28<sup>th</sup> (Broadway) and First Avenue North, marking this as the new city center in 1910 – just two blocks from the downtown rail line and the two parallel streets, Montana and Minnesota Avenues, that dominated downtown for the first couple decades after the town’s founding. The trolley lines were charted to reach residential areas west and northwest of downtown. The North Elevation Subdivision was selected as one of the three residential destinations for the new trolley line.<sup>39</sup> The North 31<sup>st</sup> Street line to 10 Avenue North would run past McKinley School into the heart of the fledgling North Elevation Subdivision. In January 1913, the North 31<sup>st</sup> extension from downtown was under construction.<sup>40</sup> According to the *Billings Gazette*, the trolley line was deemed part of a “real estate promotion.”<sup>41</sup> Oddly, Austin North, the great promoter of the North Elevation Subdivision, failed to promote the extension of the trolley line into his neighborhood.

With the combination of overzealous investors, the inefficiency of a battery operated trolley system in Montana, and the increasing dependency on the automobile to convey passengers, the Billings Traction Company went broke by 1917.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> Ames and McClelland, 17-18.

<sup>36</sup> “Building Brisk in Billings,” *The Anaconda Standard* (Montana), December 15, 1907: 9.

<sup>37</sup> “Legal Notices: Special Election,” *The Billings Daily Gazette*, May 29, 1910: 9.

<sup>38</sup> “Billings is Just As Busy As Ever,” *The Anaconda Standard* (Montana), December 11, 1911: 11; Debra Brill, *History of the J.G. Brill Company* (Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 2001), 121.

<sup>39</sup> “Traction Company Starts Service with Motor-Driven Conveyances, March 1, 1912,” *Billings Gazette*, January 3, 1937: 3.

<sup>40</sup> “Cold Snap Puts End to Building Activity,” *Billings Gazette*, January 7, 1913: 6.

<sup>41</sup> “Traction Company Starts Service with Motor-Driven Conveyances, March 1, 1912,” *Billings Gazette*, January 3, 1937: 3.

<sup>42</sup> “Traction Company May Be Sold, says Rowley,” *Billings Gazette*, January 9, 1917: 7.

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### The Automobile and the Suburb

The arrival of the automobile literally served as a transformative event in history. No longer were people tethered to a limited area. Not only did the automobile literally change how business was done, it also changed how, and where, living was done. The first automobile rolled through the streets of Billings in 1902. P. B. Moss and I. D. O'Donnell of the Suburban Homes Subdivision were two of the first automobile owners. By 1907, automobiles "now exist in numbers totaling about 45, and grade from the noisy, loud-puffing little runabout, to the ponderous and more dignified touring car, such as the Winston, Maxwell, and White Steamer."<sup>43</sup> Many of the civic and business leaders of Billings fully embraced the automobile. O'Donnell, "a pioneer road builder," was selected as the first president of the Billings Automobile Club in March of 1912. Austin North gave a talk at the first annual meeting of the fledgling club, perfectly in line with the promotion of his own North Elevation Subdivision, entitled, "The Motor Car as a City and Country Builder."<sup>44</sup> North also served as an agent for Hudson and Saxon automobiles and Vim trucks in Eastern Montana by 1917.<sup>45</sup> North, a leading town booster and promoter of street improvements, town slogans, cross-country highways, and a member of the local Chamber of Commerce, chaired the 1911 Chamber Committee that decided on "See Billings" as the new town slogan.<sup>46</sup> The North Real Estate Company used the slogan, "The Town and Country Builders," fitting the rhetoric of suburban promotions.<sup>47</sup> North was also a key figure in the development of the Glacier-to-Gulf Motorway, an early transcontinental highway developed by entrepreneurial folks from Texas to Alberta.<sup>48</sup>

Historian Richard W. Longstreth notes "the initial impact of the automobile was to intensify the primacy of the street."<sup>49</sup> North promoted "Fine auto drives in the Elevation Addition" in 1913 and stated that "mile after mile of smooth graded roads have been constructed there by private expenses."<sup>50</sup> North promoted access to the neighborhood and the improved roads into the North Elevation, noting the "scenery is unexcelled," and "one of the most pleasant automobile drives to be found in Billings from which a beautiful panoramic scene of the city and the upper valley can be seen is in the North Elevation addition to the city of Billings."<sup>51</sup> Although the roads were

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<sup>43</sup> "Enthusiasts in Billings," *The Anaconda Standard* (Montana), December 22, 1907.

<sup>44</sup> "O'Donnell named President of the Club: Is Chosen to Head Automobile Club and Presented with Silver Loving Cup," *Billings Gazette*, March 31, 1912: 8.

<sup>45</sup> "Automobiles," *Billings Gazette*, January 2, 1917: 7.

<sup>46</sup> "Billings-Cody Highway Plan Boosted At Laurel Meeting," *Billings Gazette*, April 15, 1920; "See Billings is Chosen Slogan," *Billings Daily Gazette*, November 26, 2011.

<sup>47</sup> "Billings Beats Chicago's Record," *Billings Gazette*, November 14, 1909: 6.

<sup>48</sup> "Billings is Chief Tourist Center for the Northwest," *Billings Gazette*, August 17, 1924; "When Highways Advertise As Railroads Do, The South Texas will be Tourist's Paradise," *San Antonio Express*, Texas, March 21, 1926.

<sup>49</sup> Richard Longstreth, *The Buildings of Main Street* (Walnut Creek, CA, AltaMira Press, 2000), 15.

<sup>50</sup> "Fine Auto Drives in Elevation Addition," *Billings Gazette*, July 25, 1913: 3.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.

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promoted as being graded and leading to the “delightful residence portion of the city,” there was much work to be done.

Bert Brockway, President of Brockway Real Estate, who sold many of the lots in the North Elevation Subdivision after 1916, claimed that Billings had the most paved streets of any town in Montana as of 1924.<sup>52</sup> North, like most civic leaders of the times, enthusiastically promoted the automobile which “led to the creation of the automobile-oriented suburb of single family homes on spacious lots,” as witnessed in the rapid suburban expansion of the North Elevation Subdivision after 1914.<sup>53</sup>

The influence of the automobile in the North Elevation neighborhood is demonstrated by the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of 1923. By that time, 58 garages were constructed for 87 homes. Of these garages, 46 remain and are contributing resources to the historic district. These numbers evidence the growing accessibility of the automobile for the average American family.

### **Austin North and the North Real Estate Company promotional efforts**

A thorough search of the Billings City Directories for the years 1912, 1916 and 1919, revealed a pattern of growth for the North Elevation Subdivision neighborhood, moved first up North 30<sup>th</sup>, over and up North 31<sup>st</sup> and over and up North 32<sup>nd</sup>. The pattern of home construction advanced, logically, away from the city center, except for a couple early outlier homes owned by a sheep man (Charles Tintinger at 1038 North 30<sup>th</sup>), a saddle maker (Ten Eyck at 1106 N 30<sup>th</sup>) and a rancher (Tom Hogan at 1126 N 30<sup>th</sup>). McKinley School at 820 North 31<sup>st</sup>, the elementary school built in 1906, was the first school adjacent to the North Elevation Historic District. Oto North of the North Real Estate Company and Bert Brockway of Brockway Real Estate, both selling lots in the North Elevation, claimed 1916 as the best year they had ever had in real estate in Montana up to that time.<sup>54</sup> Home building was booming in the North Elevation from 1915-1916, with as many as 25 homes being built. Several homes were constructed in the 900, 1000 and 1100 blocks of North 31<sup>st</sup> and the 900 of North 32<sup>nd</sup>. The movement of home construction generally occurred from south to north (away from the central downtown) and then east to west toward Pioneer Park.

### **A Park-Like Setting and Fresh Air**

When Billings was established in 1882, the Northern Pacific Railway and Minnesota and Montana Land & Improvement Company laid out two parks in their initial plan for the city, a North Park and a South Park. The two 16.5-acre parks near downtown were devoid of much activity until the 1910s (Austin North would help irrigate North Park).<sup>55</sup> With Billings’ population having grown from 836 in 1890 to over 10,000 by 1910, the City hired Charles H. Ramsdell of Minneapolis to begin fashioning a comprehensive parks plan.<sup>56</sup> Ramsdell, whose

<sup>52</sup> “Billings Leads in Pavements,” *Billings Gazette*, June 4, 1924: 3.

<sup>53</sup> Ames and McClelland, 21.

<sup>54</sup> “Real Estate,” *Billings Gazette*, January 2, 1917: 7.

<sup>55</sup> “Billings is Proud of its System of Parks-Playgrounds,” *Billings Gazette*, September 12, 1926.

<sup>56</sup> Ibid.

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prior boss (in Boston) was Warren H. Manning, the influential American landscape designer, was an advocate for a "City Beautiful" crusade to purchase and develop parklands in urban settings.<sup>57</sup> Leon Lundell, "a landscape gardener from Minneapolis," came to the Billings under Ramsdell's instruction to re-shape both North and South Parks in 1912.<sup>58</sup> Ramsdell consulted with the Billings park board over the next few years, and advocated for playgrounds, wading pools, an athletic field, and a place for the "quiet enjoyment of field lawns and woods as well."<sup>59</sup> In October 1919, the local park board considered 12 sites for park improvements and land purchases, including land just west of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street West and the North Elevation Subdivision.<sup>60</sup> Ramsdell, advocating for the development for more parkland, commented in 1920:

"With these matters in mind, and considering what your city has done (as of 1920), especially with South Park, and when your northwestern residential district is going out so fast, would it not be wise to anticipate growth and set aside a large area adapted for playgrounds, for drives and picnics, for outdoor gatherings, and for the enjoyment of trees and green fields?"<sup>61</sup>

From Ramsdell's opinion and his nod toward the ever-growing northwestern residential district came the development of Pioneer Park, the crown jewel of urban parks in Billings. Pioneer Park, a 35-acre tract (in 1921) measured twice the size of the two earlier parks. Dorothy Gray, a local landscape gardener, designed Pioneer Park.<sup>62</sup> In addition to Pioneer Park, the athletic field and football stadium for Senior High, were later developed on the western boundary of the North Elevation Subdivisions.

As early as 1911, the park boards advocated for the creation of grassy boulevards between the street and the sidewalks. Although construction of grassy boulevards would narrow the width of the roads, it was suggested the city council "be asked to request property owners to fill in the space between the sidewalks and the streets with soil in order that grass might be planted."<sup>63</sup> In addition, Dorothy Grey, the landscape architect for Pioneer Park and local supporter for the beautification of the city, gave praise to the home gardens on North 32<sup>nd</sup> and stated said that there are "certain cardinal principles" of landscape gardening for your home in the 1920s:

Flower beds in the middle of the front lawn are very undesirable. The planting in the front yard should consist chiefly of a "foundation planting" about the base of

<sup>57</sup> "Women's Club Considers Some Important Questions – Gleason Park to be improved," *Eau Claire Sunday Leader* (Wisconsin), February 24, 1909: 6.

<sup>58</sup> "Landscape Man Arrives in City," *Billings Gazette*, April 14, 1912: 4.

<sup>59</sup> "Park Needs of Billings explained by Ramsdell," *Billings Gazette*, March 27, 1920: 6.

<sup>60</sup> "12 Park Sites are presented to Board for Consideration," *Billings Gazette*, October 22, 1919: 1.

<sup>61</sup> "Park Needs of Billings explained by Ramsdell," *Billings Gazette*, March 27, 1920: 6.

<sup>62</sup> "Program Advanced by Garden Club Results In Much Beautification of Billings Yards," *Billings Gazette*, July 31, 1932: 6.

<sup>63</sup> "Billings is Proud of its System of Parks-Playgrounds," *Billings Gazette*, September 12, 1926.

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the house. This planting conceals the basement of the house and, in many cases, gives houses which originally have the appearance of “standing on stilts” an appearance of more solidity. One or two ornamental trees may be placed in the front yard but they should never be placed in the geometrical center of the lawn space, but rather to one side so they move or less frame the house from the viewpoint of the passerby.<sup>64</sup>

A 1926 panoramic aerial photograph of Pioneer Park shows the boulevards and early efforts of planting trees – the photograph also reveals the positioning of most of the homes on North 32<sup>nd</sup> facing west. When compared to the 1940 panoramic aerial image of Pioneer Park (tennis courts in both images and McKinley School on the right) one can clearly see the impact of the tree planting along the North Elevation Subdivision boulevards.

With established sidewalks, boulevards, and paved streets, the North Elevation also offered a “grand panoramic view” along with another sound benefit for those wanting the cleanest air in Billings. As mentioned earlier with the city’s orientation in the original railroad plat, and even today, the industrial corridor, including the sugar beet factory, oil refinery, stockyards, and sewage treatment plant, were all placed in the SE quarter of the city, south of the tracks. The siting of these industrial operations were planned and the direct result of the prevailing winds in the summer, blowing from west to east. Austin North realized this and promoted it as part of the appeal of the North Elevation: “You get the Clean, Pure Breeze, from the West Right in Your Home before it passes through the city (North Real Estate emphasis).”<sup>65</sup>

The changing of street names in the area also served to promote the park-like atmosphere of the neighborhood. The letter “Avenues” in the North Elevation Subdivision (although all outside of the district) were simply named Avenue B, Avenue C, etc. Even after the creation of Pioneer Park in 1921, the Avenues still retained their alphabetic designations. By 1940, a “Beverly Hills Addition” was added to Avenue H to lots running west to Virginia Lane. It appears the creation of the “Suncrest Acres Subdivision” in 1947, just west of Pioneer Park, instigated the change of name to Parkhill Drive, as the new subdivision sported “flowery titles” to mark its streets and thoroughfares (Peony, Azalea).<sup>66</sup> The name change to Parkhill Drive (Avenue G), above Pioneer Park, and Beverly Hills Boulevard (Avenue H), on the most elevated landform just west in the North Elevation Subdivision, are both cited in local newspapers by 1947.

### Home of the Best Citizens

Austin North and the North Real Estate Company promoted the restrictive/exclusive nature of the neighborhood in that “no house in North Elevation shall cost less than \$2,500, has, if anything augmented the sale of lots and unquestionably caused many owners of properties to vie with each other in spirited desire to put up the “best residence.”<sup>67</sup> Residents in the earlier modest

<sup>64</sup> “Federation of Women’s Clubs Holds First Meeting at Acton,” *Billings Gazette*, June 1, 1924.

<sup>65</sup> “The Elevation: Cream of the Fashionable Billings Residence District,” *Billings Gazette*, April 17, 1910.

<sup>66</sup> “Tales of the Town,” *Billings Gazette*, July 23, 1947: 3.

<sup>67</sup> “North Elevation is Swell District,” *Billings Gazette*, November 7, 1909: 10.

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homes in the 800 and 900 blocks on North 31<sup>st</sup> and North 32<sup>nd</sup>, just south of the district, held positions such as clerk or teacher, or were listed as renters (boarders). Austin North quickly grasped the value of promoting the neighborhood by who bought property in the North Elevation Subdivision. North took out several half page advertisements promoting the North Elevation Subdivision, where “you will find many of best families in Billings live up this way ...”<sup>68</sup> The North Real Estate Company listed 22 family names. In 1910, during the height of this promotional campaign, almost all of the homeowners listed lived on North 30<sup>th</sup>, just outside of the North Elevation Historic District.

In the following years, the North Elevation Subdivision added to its legion of “well-regarded” Billings’ citizens. Several contractors, lawyers, and doctors moved into the neighborhood. The “New St. Vincent’s Hospital,” which occupies a “commanding site,” above the city on North 30<sup>th</sup>, was dedicated on November 29, 1923 – the contractor for the St. Vincent Hospital project was Frank Jacoby, who owned a home on North 32<sup>nd</sup> just outside of the proposed district.<sup>69</sup> The Deaconess Hospital on North 30th began construction in 1918 and formally opened on July 3, 1927 – the architects for the Deaconess Hospital project were McIver & Cohagen (Chandler Cohagen built his home nearby at nearby 235 Parkhill Drive). Both of the hospitals, now known as St. Vincent Healthcare and Billings Clinic, were built in the North Elevation Subdivision First Filing. The Eastern Montana Normal School (MSU Billings) was established on March 12, 1927 and the main campus developed in the 1930s, four blocks north of the North Elevation Subdivision. The North Elevation Subdivision became a good place to live for those working at the nearby hospitals, medical offices, schools, college and downtown. A photo of music teacher Julius Clavadetscher, who lived in the North Elevation Historic District, with the first school orchestra at McKinley Elementary School in 1929 appears in the “Continuations Sheets” near the end of nomination. Some of the more prominent local civic leaders and residents during the period of significance (1905-1940), with their occupations, include:

Dr. Frank Adams, Dentist (1148 North 31st)  
Dr. Louis Allard, Physician (934 North 31st)  
Dr. Frank J. Bell, Dentist (1023 North 31st)  
Rockwood Brown, Attorney (1119 North 31<sup>st</sup>)  
Charles J. Carroll, Insurance (1142 North 31<sup>st</sup>)  
Julius Clavadetscher, Musician and music teacher (1143 North 31<sup>st</sup>)  
C. W. Crosser, Crosser Meat Company (1043 North 32<sup>nd</sup>)  
Arthur J. Cunningham, Banker (1109 North 32<sup>nd</sup>)  
Bruce Cook, Transfer Company owner (930 North 31st)  
Louis Dousman, Real Estate and Insurance (1110 N 31<sup>st</sup> and 1020 N 31<sup>st</sup>)  
Daniel M. Hunds, Insurance (1111 North 32<sup>nd</sup>)  
Dr. Wayne Gordon, Physician (1131 North 32<sup>nd</sup>)  
O King Grimstad, Attorney and rancher (931 North 32<sup>nd</sup>)  
Robert Leavens, Stockman and Mayor (921 North 31st)

<sup>68</sup> “The Elevation: Cream of the Fashionable Billings Residence District,” *Billings Gazette*, April 17, 1910.

<sup>69</sup> “Billings, in Last Twenty Five Years, Has Maintained Steady, Sturdy Growth,” *Billings Gazette*, July 24, 1932: 9.

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Dr. Lynn McMullen, College President (921 North 31<sup>st</sup>)  
Thomas Molesworth, Furniture designer (935 North 31st)  
William P. Roscoe, Bridge builder (1025 North 31st)  
Robert C. Stong, Attorney and North Real Estate Company (1116 North 31st)  
Charles A. Taylor, City Attorney (1002 North 31st)  
C.A. Warner, Northwest Fixtures Company (3114 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue North)

Today, the North Elevation Historic District remains a neighborhood of mixed incomes, diverse occupations and assorted home sizes. Most of the homes are owned by those occupying the properties, but there are rentals and some homes that have been divided into apartments, especially closer to McKinley School on the south end of the neighborhood. The neighborhood still carries the character of the period when it was formally established. Although the automobile contributed to its outgrowth on the edge of the city, the North Elevation Historic District, with its smaller lots, garages set back from the street, use of back alleys, the narrower streets, and tree-filled boulevards, accommodates the influence of the automobile but at the same time emphasizes its character as a walkable neighborhood with beautiful historic homes.

## ARCHITECTURE

Several different architectural types are represented in the district, which is unique in Billings as one of the older neighborhoods still adhering to the original 1882 railroad grid pattern and which retains several properties displaying excellent integrity. Although the North Elevation Historic District is not being advanced for listing in the National Register under Criterion C, several properties within the district could be listed individually under this criterion. A general discussion of the architectural trends of the district follows.

### House Construction and Design Trends, 1905-1940

The speedy adoption of the mass-produced automobile led to a blitz of single family homes in the North Elevation – 137 of the 151 eligible buildings in the district were built between 1910 and 1940.<sup>70</sup>

Of the eligible homes, 61 of them are designed in the Craftsman style. There are also a few original multi-family style homes in the neighborhood that are also in the Craftsman style. The largest homes in the district are of the Prairie style, 16 total, and there are a few Minimal Traditional, Folk Pyramidal, Colonial Revival and Cape Cod type homes as well. The last homes are constructed in the Monterey, Queen Anne, Spanish Eclectic, and Tudor Revival styles. There are two commercial properties in the proposed district; both originally grocery stores that served the neighborhood. Now, one is a café and bakery, and the other a yoga studio.

#### *Craftsman*

The most prevalent style in the neighborhood are Craftsman homes, largely inspired by Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene of Pasadena, California from 1893 to 1914.<sup>71</sup> The

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<sup>70</sup> Ames and McClelland, 21.

<sup>71</sup> McAlester, 454.

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term "California Style" was used in Billings during the 1910s to describe these newer forms of housing.<sup>72</sup> Gustav Stickley, a boundless promoter of Craftsman styled furniture and homes, spoke in 1905 of the variety of Craftsman types, the sturdiness and durability of a Craftsman styled house, and the natural woody interiors and open floor plans that promoted communication.

As will be seen, these houses range from the simplest little cottages or bungalows, costing only a few hundred dollars, up to large and expensive residences. But they are all Craftsman houses, nevertheless, and all are designed with regard to the kind of durability that will insure freedom from the necessity of frequent repairs; to the greatest economy of space and material, and to the securing of plenty of space and freedom in the interior of the house by doing away with unnecessary partitions and the avoidance of any kind of crowding. For interest, beauty, and the effect of home comfort and welcome, we depend upon the liberal use of wood finished in such a way that all its friendliness is revealed; upon warmth, richness, and variety in the color scheme of walls, rugs and draperies, and upon the charm of structural features such as chimneypieces, window-seats, staircases, fireside nooks, and built-in furnishings of all kinds, our object being to have each room so interesting in itself that it seems complete before a single piece of furniture is put into it.<sup>73</sup>

Promoter Austin North noted in 1913, "Many of the residences that are being erected in the Elevation-the addition being well named-would do credit in a city many times the size of Billings. Nearly all are being constructed along the bungalow style of architecture and with few exceptions from \$4,500 up to \$9,000."<sup>74</sup> Many early 20<sup>th</sup> century bungalows were designed in the Craftsman style.

The identifying features of a Craftsman home include low pitched gabled roofs with wide overhangs, exposed roof rafter tails, decorative roof beams placed under gables, porches either full or partial width, and porch columns that extend frequently from the ground to roof level.<sup>75</sup> Other details may include roof dormers, multiple siding materials (siding is primarily wood clapboard, but some stucco is used as well), and decorative triangular knee braces. The Craftsman homes in the North Elevation display a combination of these features. Four different roof subtypes occur with the Craftsman style including the front gabled, cross-gabled, side gabled and hipped roof, though the front-gable style is best represented.<sup>76</sup> All of these subtypes are represented in the district.

<sup>72</sup> "Two Apartment Houses for West Side," *Billings Gazette*, August 9, 1919: 8.

<sup>73</sup> Gustav Stickley, *Craftsman Homes* (New York: The Craftsman Publishing Company), 1909. Originally published in *The Craftsman*. July, 1905, "A California House Founded on the California Mission Style," 9. <http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/DLDecArts/DLDecArtsidx?type=turn&entity=DLDecArts.CraftHouseStick.p0025&id=DLDecArts.CraftHouseStick&isize=M>

<sup>74</sup> "Fine Auto Drives in Elevation Addition," *Billings Gazette*, July 25, 1913: 3.

<sup>75</sup> McAlester and McAlester, 453.

<sup>76</sup> *Ibid.*

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### *Prairie*

The second most common architectural style in the North Elevation is Prairie. The Prairie style, developed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright in Chicago, was primarily seen in the Midwest. It eventually reached the suburbs including those of Billings. These homes are primarily identified by their low, hipped roofs with extended eaves, one story porches, large square porch supports, casement windows, and horizontal emphasis. American Foursquare represents the most common subtype of Prairie homes in the district. With a symmetrical front façade, these homes also have a simple square plan, a low hipped roof and a front entryway (although the purest Prairie style homes have side entries, such as that at 1110 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street.) Sixteen Prairie style homes are considered contributing to the district.

### *Minimal Traditional*

Craftsman and Prairie style homes met the needs of middle-class Americans and Billings' residents during the turn of the century. Once the economic depression of the 1930s arrived, ornate detailing and embellishments served a reduced role. Out of this era, the Minimal Traditional design arose. This style is a simplified form, based loosely on the Tudor Revival style.<sup>77</sup> It features a generally dominant front-gable design, large chimneys, a lower roof pitch (compared to Tudors), and a simplified façade lacking major detailing. The eight eligible Minimal Traditional homes in the North Elevation were built from 1929-1940 and showcase Tudor Revival and Spanish Eclectic details.

### *Folk Pyramidal*

Another minimal construction design seen in the district are the four Folk Pyramidal homes. This style is a form of the National Folk, and is easily identified by its square floorplans and pyramidal (equilateral hipped) roofs. Although roof framing is more complex, fewer long-spanning rafters results in less expense to construct.<sup>78</sup> The Pyramidal homes in the North Elevation are some of the earliest, constructed from 1906-1919, and remain simple folk forms without extravagant details.

### *Folk Victorian*

Also based out of the National Folk style, the popularity of Folk Victorian home designs increased with the growth of the railroad. The railroad allowed heavy woodworking machinery to become available resulting in the ability to produce inexpensive Victorian detailing.<sup>79</sup> The Folk Victorian style is defined by Victorian decorative detailing on simple folk house forms, and is typically less elaborate than the original Victorian styles they attempt to copy.<sup>80</sup> Three Folk Victorian homes constructed from 1907-1910 stand in the North Elevation.

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<sup>77</sup> Ibid., 477.

<sup>78</sup> Ibid., 100.

<sup>79</sup> Ibid., 310.

<sup>80</sup> Ibid., 309.

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### *Colonial Revival*

After World War I, fashions in domestic architecture shifted towards previously popular period styles.<sup>81</sup> From this shift in thought, Colonial Revival homes emerged. The two Colonial Revival homes in the North Elevation were constructed in 1913 and 1918. They showcase an accentuated front door, usually with a pediment and supported by pilasters, or they extend forward and are supported by slender columns creating an entry porch, entry doors usually have sidelights, the façade is typically symmetrical, and the front windows often display shutters and occur frequently in adjacent pairs.<sup>82</sup>

### *Cape Cod*

The Cape Cod style is a sub-type of the Colonial Revival movement. The roots stem from early 17<sup>th</sup> century New England colonists primarily constructing linear-two-story I-house forms or single-story, hall-and-parlor houses featuring heavy timber frames covered with boards or shingles. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, to provide greater room, the plans expanded to the rear, resulting in a one-and-one-half-room-deep saltbox and Cape Cod forms. From these evolved the massed-plan houses.<sup>83</sup> The style increased in popularity at the turn of the twentieth century, particularly during the 1920s and 1930s. Identifying features include one-and one-half story height, side-gabled roofline (often with evenly spaced gabled dormers across the front slope), balanced fenestration and centered entry. They often feature shingle or clapboard siding. Two contributing Cape Cod homes, both constructed in 1939, are in the North Elevation Historic District.

### *Monterey*

The Monterey style was initially created by Thomas Larkin, a Boston merchant, who blended the two-story Colonial styles of New England with Spanish adobe construction in his home in Monterey, California.<sup>84</sup> A Monterey styled home's identifying features includes two stories, a low-pitched gabled roof, and a second-story balcony that is usually cantilevered and covered by the principal roof. The single Monterey home in the North Elevation was constructed in 1930.

### *Queen Anne*

The Queen Anne style is actually a misnomer; the precedent for the style, which was followed by English architects led by Richard Norman Shaw, had very little to do with either Queen Anne or the Renaissance architecture dominant during her reign.<sup>85</sup> Instead, the style borrowed from the earlier Elizabethan and Jacobean periods. The earliest American examples of the style followed Shaw's early designs, but American architects favored the spindle work interpretation.<sup>86</sup>

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<sup>81</sup> Ibid., 319.

<sup>82</sup> Ibid., 321.

<sup>83</sup> Ibid., 78.

<sup>84</sup> John Milnes Baker, *American House Styles: A Concise Guide*, (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1994), 132.

<sup>85</sup> McAlester and McAlester, 268.

<sup>86</sup> McAlester and McAlester, 268.

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Common features of Queen Anne construction generally includes steeply pitched roofs of irregular shape, usually with a dominant front-facing gable, patterned shingles, an asymmetrical façade, and partial or full width porches.<sup>87</sup> The Queen Anne home in the North Elevation was constructed in 1906.

### *Spanish Eclectic*

The Spanish Eclectic style was initially started by Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, who published a study on Spanish Colonial architecture. He wanted to expand Spanish architecture from Mission styles to include Spanish influences. Goodhue opened the architectural possibilities to other designers and they melded Spain's architectural history with current American designs, eventually creating a subset deemed Spanish Eclectic. This style features low pitched roofs with little or no eave overhang, one or more arches placed above the doors or windows, stucco siding, and asymmetrical facades.<sup>88</sup> The Spanish Eclectic home of the North Elevation is located at 917 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street and was constructed in the mid-1920s.

### *Tudor Revival*

As with the Queen Anne style, the term Tudor Revival is misleading in terms of its historical influences. The architectural style was based on Elizabethan and Jacobian eras, rather than those of Tudor England of the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Relatively uncommon before World War I, the Tudor Revival style expanded in the 1920s and 1930s when masonry techniques allowed designers to imitate the brick and stone exteriors of their English prototypes.<sup>89</sup> John Milnes Baker wrote that the Tudor Revival style reflected the English manor house and all its associated values and "by the 1930s, the Tudor style had become a symbol of success for persons of any ethnic background."<sup>90</sup> Identifying features of the Tudor style includes steeply pitched roofs, side gables, decorative half-timbering, a front façade dominated by one or more prominent steeply pitched cross gables, tall narrow grouped windows, arcaded wing walls, and large chimneys.<sup>91</sup> One of the most distinctive homes in the district is a Tudor Revival, built in 1925.

### *Western Commercial*

Western Commercial buildings are generally two to four stories in height, masonry in construction, with relatively plain symmetrical facades. The simple, rectangular plans take full advantage of the lot width and when located in downtown areas, are often attached to neighboring buildings. Stamped sheet metal cornices that recreate the carved stone styles of their European predecessors, are common. Others might simply use the wall material, stepping or corbelling out brick or stone, to create decorative elements. The two commercial properties in the district are located at 3115 10th Ave. North and 3115 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. North.

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<sup>87</sup> Ibid., 263.

<sup>88</sup> Ibid., 417, 418.

<sup>89</sup> Ibid., page 358.

<sup>90</sup> Baker, 100.

<sup>91</sup> McAlester and McAlester, 355.

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### *Evolution and Development of Garages*

The evolution of garages in the North Elevation follows nation-wide trends. Many of the earlier homes in the neighborhood had detached and external carriage houses for their carriages and horses. Once the automobile became more accessible to the middle class, these buildings easily shifted into garages for families' new cars. This transformation was primarily seen between 1910 and 1920. The 1912 Sanborn Map, which details only a portion of the North Elevation historic district, shows the beginning of this shift. Out of the eighteen homes displayed, four have carriage houses and there are seven garages. By the release of the 1923 Sanborn map, there are two carriage houses and fifty-eight garages for eighty-seven homes.

Between 1920 and 1950, the inclusion and acceptance of the automobile in American's daily lives affected the way homes were constructed.<sup>92</sup> Architects and designers began to include the garage in the home's construction and expanded the space they took up. Around the 1930s homes traditionally featured a one-car garage; this grew into a two-car garage by 1945. In the 1950s, car size grew and so did the garages. Families now owned large multi-car garages attached to their homes. Due to the alleyway design of the North Elevation neighborhood, and its development before the larger automobile movements, the majority of garages are detached and accessed from the alleyway.

### **ARCHITECTS**

The North Elevation Neighborhood and surrounding area includes one of the best groupings of the design work of Chandler Cohagen, a well-known local architect, as well as a school building and homes designed by John Gustave Link, one of Montana's greatest architects. McKinley Elementary School, a centerpiece and gathering point in the neighborhood, but just outside the North Elevation Historic District, was designed by J. G. Link and built in 1906. Cohagen designed three homes in the district and Link designed one. Percy Dwight Bentley appears to be responsible for the design of one of the Prairie style homes in the district.

#### **Chandler Cohagen**

Son of a building contractor from Iowa, Chandler C. Cohagen (April 24, 1889 – 9 December 9, 1985) went on to be recognized as one Montana's great architects. John Cohagen, his father, was a successful contractor and builder.<sup>93</sup> The family came to Billings after Chandler graduated from High School in Iowa, in 1907. According to the 1912 Polk City Directory for Billings, Chandler Cohagen worked as a draftsman for architect Curtis C. Oehme, before embarking for college at the University of Michigan. Cohagen was a founder of Alpha Rho Chi, a fraternity for students of architecture, and graduated with an architecture degree from the University of Michigan.<sup>94</sup> Cohagen returned to Montana in 1915 and worked with Angus McIver and Walter Marshall in

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<sup>92</sup> Ibid, 30.

<sup>93</sup> Stout, 215-216.

<sup>94</sup> "It Is History," *The Archi: Official Exoteric Publication of Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity*, Volume XX, Number 3, April, 1939: 1.

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Great Falls. McIver, Cohagen and Marshall opened an office in Billings by 1916.<sup>95</sup> The Parker Wallace Hastings home at 1010 North 32<sup>nd</sup> was designed in 1916 by McIver, Cohagen and Marshall and is the first known home connected to Cohagen in the proposed North Elevation Historic District. Marshall left the firm and McIver and Cohagen worked together as a firm from 1919 to 1936.<sup>96</sup> Cohagen designed several schools and churches in the region. Commissions include the Byron School in Wyoming, Fromberg High, and Billings Orchard School, as well as the First Baptist, First Congregational and First Christian Churches of Billings. Commercial properties include the Goan Building on First Ave N. and 33rd, with its distinctive mission style tower, the 1950s Yellowstone County Courthouse, and as a co-architect on the Billings City Hall (with Link and CTA).

In 1926, during a very productive period for his work, Cohagen reflected on his particular style or period of design. He said he borrowed from many elements. He mixed elements of classical Roman and Greek, with gothic motifs, along with English Tudor, and later, Spanish/Mission Colonial Revival. He said his buildings were “entirely original in conception,” and by using modern construction methods and materials, he preferred calling them “Modern American.” He believed, “Everyone with any ambition has a desire to have an individuality and a personality of his own. So it should be with our residences and our business blocks as well as our public buildings.” He generally looked for warmer tones, natural colors, unique features, such as quality flooring, and a balance between utility and beauty, to highlight his work.<sup>97</sup> He described the Mulvaney Automobile building he designed in 1927 as “Modern American”.<sup>98</sup> He built homes and businesses “designed for living” and used modern materials and substantial foundations to “erect an enduring structure”.<sup>99</sup> In 1940, Cohagen said that “as intellectual and social conditions change” the design and function of the homes is altered - things like automobile storage, relaxation time, child playing, laundry rooms, and desire for more bathrooms were changing the form of his homes. As he reduced the role of dining rooms, he emphasized the expansion of the kitchen and garage, as well as moving the living room toward the back of the house.<sup>100</sup> Even though Cohagen was building more affordable housing in the 1930s, he also stretched out the forms of his homes with the introduction of several Spanish/Mission Colonial Revival homes near Pioneer Park and the North Elevation neighborhood.

Cohagen designed several beautiful homes near Pioneer Park, McKinley School, and the Moss Mansion. Other notable Cohagen residential projects outside of the District include the former

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<sup>95</sup> Stout, 215-216.

<sup>96</sup> “McIver and Cohagen Firmed is Dissolved,” *Billings Gazette*, November 26, 1936: 5.

<sup>97</sup> “Novel Features in New Goan Building; Cohagen Says Architecture is Modern American in Design; Special Heating System Used in City for First Time,” *Billings Gazette*, December 19, 1926: 8.

<sup>98</sup> “Cohagen Describes Detailed Design of Mulvaney Building: Architect Terms New Structure as Modern American; Has features Never Before Introduced in Construction in Montana,” *Billings Gazette*, May 29, 1927: 4.

<sup>99</sup> “Novel Features in New Goan Building; Cohagen Says Architecture is Modern American in Design; Special Heating System Used in City for First Time,” *Billings Gazette*, December 19, 1926: 8.

<sup>100</sup> “Modern Homes Are Designed For Comfort,” *Billings Gazette*, September 3, 1940: 3.

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Shadow Lawn, on the corner of Poly and Virginia Lane, and the Chapple home at 206 Clark Avenue. Although he once said, in 1968, that he generally steered clear of home building, because there were “too many bosses” – “You’ve got the people you’re doing it for, their friends, their relatives, and they all have suggestions of what should be done and what shouldn’t,” there were projects he evidently couldn’t pass up.<sup>101</sup>

Highly regarded contractors, John Cohagen (his father), E.H. Gagnon, Frank Jacoby & Sons, Barry O’Leary, and Alfred E. Lyle, served as builders on most of his home and business projects. Cohagen would develop a “California style”, a phrase used in the *Billings Gazette*, as early as 1919, for his use of stucco, and his development of several Spanish/Mission Colonial Revival homes in the surrounding neighborhood in the late 1920s and 1930s.<sup>102</sup> Examples of his Spanish/Mission style homes are on Parkhill Drive, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street West, Grand Avenue, and on the corner of Virginia Lane and Poly Drive; all within walking distance of the North Elevation Historic District.

A distinguishing feature of his architecture is seen on the original McIver & Cohagen architectural drawings. A symbol, a varied backward "S", typically occurs on their chimneys. This same symbol shows up on chimneys on known Cohagen homes in the area. An example is on the Cohagen designed home at 1148 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street.

Chandler C. Cohagen is locally significant as the architect who helped shape the residential landscape of Billings from 1916-1968.<sup>103</sup> Cohagen’s impact in Billings is, in the author’s opinion, second only to the work of John Gustave Link, the architect with Link & Haire who designed many of the beautiful commercial buildings of downtown Billings from 1900 to 1940. Chandler Cohagen, the prominent architect and civic leader, died in Billings, Montana in December, 1985.

The three homes designed by Chandler H. Cohagen (verified by drawings) in the North Elevation Historic District:

1009 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street (McIver, Cohagen and Marshall, 1917), Modified Traditional  
1148 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street (McIver & Cohagen, 1926), Prairie  
1139 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street (Cohagen, 1939), Minimal Traditional

<sup>101</sup> “Man of 1,000 Schools,” *Billings Gazette*, September 15, 1968.

<sup>102</sup> “Two Apartment Houses for West Side,” *Billings Gazette*, August 9, 1919: 8.

<sup>103</sup> “Man of 1,000 Schools,” *Billings Gazette*, September 15, 1968.

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### John Gustave Link, Architect

Billings' population grew from 836 in 1890 to over 10,000 by 1910, leading to the construction of seven new schools from 1900-1910. J.G. Link, Billings' most celebrated architect, designed the new eight-room school on block 29 of Foster's Addition, just south and outside the North Elevation Historic District, that became McKinley Elementary School, completed in 1906.<sup>104</sup> Link also was the architect for the 1917 north addition to the McKinley School. Within the North Elevation Neighborhood, Link designed the Prairie style home at 1102 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street.

The firm of John Gustave Link and Charles S. Haire designed many of Billings' most notable buildings, including the original Parmly Billings Memorial Library, St. Patrick's Church, the mausoleum at Mountview cemetery, Fratt School, Hart-Albin<sup>105</sup>, Stapleton Block, Masonic Temple, the Babcock block, the Billings City Hall (original and new), the first Safeway store, and the Electric Building on North Broadway. Link & Haire are the architects of design for the Austin North residence (proprietor of the North Elevation and North Real Estate Company) and I. D. O'Donnell's home (proprietor of the Suburban Homes Subdivision/West Side Addition) in Billings (both homes are listed in the National Register). There are a minimum of 50 Link & Haire properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Montana. Link also designed the 1912 wings of the Montana State Capitol, several county courthouses in the Northwest, the Metals Bank Building in Butte, and the Power Block in Helena.<sup>106</sup>

John Gustave Link was born in Hattnau, Bavaria, Germany May 13, 1870. He was a student for six years at the Royal Academy at Lindau, graduating in 1886, at age 17. He moved to the United States and was employed by Frank Kidder, the famous author of the *Architects' and Builders' Handbook*, in Denver, Colorado from 1887-1890. According to a vita in the collections of the Western Heritage Center, Link then worked for Robert Day Andrews & Herbert Jacques, a Boston and Denver firm, from 1890 to 1893.<sup>107</sup> He was associated with J.L. Weis in St. Louis before becoming an associate with J.C. Paulson, State Architect for Montana, in 1896. J.G. Link formed short-term partnerships with W.E. Donovan, Joseph Carter, and M.D. Kern, until partnering with Charles S. Haire for 20 years. In 1902, Link of Billings and Haire of Helena competed for the contract for the new Yellowstone County Courthouse in Billings (where they both lost the bid to C.E. Bell of Helena).<sup>108</sup> For a Courthouse design in Sheridan, Wyoming,

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<sup>104</sup> Ruth N. Weyer, *A History of the Billings City Schools, 1879 to 1936*, (Unpublished), May 14, 1936.

<sup>105</sup> Letter of recommendation from B.R. Albin for J.G. Link and Company, September 17, 1941. Western Heritage Center, Billings, Montana, small collection of photographs and archives from a John Gustave Link Collection.

<sup>106</sup> "Architecture: It's All Around Us." User Guide Provided by the Montana Historical Society Education Office, In Cooperation with the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, Montana, 2004, 27-28; Vita of John Gustave Link. Western Heritage Center, Billings, Montana. Small collection of photographs and archives from the John Gustave Link Collection.

<sup>107</sup> Western Heritage Center, Billings, Montana, small collection of photographs and archives from a John Gustave Link Collection.

<sup>108</sup> "New Courthouse Plans Are Accepted," *Anaconda Standard*, December 25, 1902: 2.

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Link of Billings took first place, while C.S. Haire of Helena placed third.<sup>109</sup> Link & Haire first opened an office together in the Silver Bow block of Butte in 1906. Link & Haire quickly established offices in Billings (where Link was living), Helena (Haires' hometown), Butte, Lewistown, and Missoula.<sup>110</sup> The Link & Haire partnership existed until C. S. Haire's death on February 3, 1925.<sup>111</sup> J.G. Link and Chandler Cohagen worked together on the new Billings City Hall (dedicated in 1940).<sup>112</sup>

John G. Link married Martha M. Welling, from Westphalia, Germany, in St. Louis on September 17, 1895 (she died in 1958).<sup>113</sup> They had six children; Vesta (daughter), Randolph, John G. Jr., Louis W. Henry, and Elmer F. Link. They lived at 142 Clark Avenue (on the west side addition). Their sons, J.G. Link Jr. and Elmer Link, went into business with John Link, Sr. in the 1930s under the name J.G. Link & Company, with offices in Billings and Butte. John Gustave Link died January 5, 1954.<sup>114</sup> The majority of the J.G. Link collection, including original drawings, biographical information, and over 250 photographs, is housed at Montana State University-Bozeman Special Collections.

### **Percy Dwight Bentley, Architect**

Bentley, the son of a banker, was born in La Crosse, Wisconsin on January 30, 1885.<sup>115</sup> He studied architecture and graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1907. He continued his studies at the Armour Institute of Technology (now Illinois Institute of Technology) in Chicago. While in Chicago, Bentley spent a great deal of time at the Art Institute of Chicago. Both Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright maintained offices in close proximity to the Art Institute and Bentley saw them on a regular basis. This heightened awareness of Sullivan and Wright led Bentley to study their styles and philosophies. Another architectural influence may have been Walter Burley Griffin who completed a number of Four Square Prairie style houses. The window patterning in this house reflects Griffin's solutions that placed windows at the second floor at the corners, though Wright also featured such window arrangements. Most Four Square Prairie Style homes found inspiration from Wright's Fireproof Home that was designed but unrealized for Ladies Home Journal.

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<sup>109</sup> "Montana Architects Win All the Prizes," *Anaconda Standard*, May 6, 1904.

<sup>110</sup> "Let Us Plan Your Home; J.G. Link and C.S. Haire, Architects," Advertisement from *The Independent Record* (Helena), June 29, 1919: 6.

<sup>111</sup> "C. S. Haire, Architect and Prominent Helena Mason, Dies in Olympia, Washington," *The Independent Record* (Helena), February 4, 1925: 10.

<sup>112</sup> "Council Takes Building Step: Agree on Architects for New City Hall Structure Here," *Billings Gazette*, October 12, 1939: 8.

<sup>113</sup> "Early Resident is Heart Victim," *Billings Gazette*, February 6, 1959.

<sup>114</sup> "Capitol Designer Dies," *The Daily Inter Lake* (Kalispell), January 6, 1954: 6.

<sup>115</sup> The owner of the home at 1110 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street reported the architect as Percy Dwight Bentley; however, to date, firm confirmation of this has not been located.

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Bentley returned to La Crosse before completing his studies and became an apprentice in the office of Wells E. Bennett. He left shortly thereafter with a residential commission from Edward C. Bartl and opened his own office in 1910. He hired Otto A. Merman as his draftsman, and eventual partner, and they continued to design primarily Prairie style residences in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Bentley occasionally partnered with other Prairie architects on his commissions. He had George Mann Niedecken design the furniture, lighting and carpeting for the Henry A. Salzer house of La Crosse, Wisconsin in 1912. The partnership of Bentley and Merman ended with the death of Merman in 1935, and Bentley left La Crosse for Oregon in 1936.

### Summary Statement of Significance

The North Elevation Historic District illustrates the development of Billings from an isolated railroad town on the Yellowstone River in 1882 to the largest city in the state of Montana. The District neighborhood clings to the original railroad plat, but on the edge of the growing city. A new suburb, the 1905 North Elevation Subdivision, pushed residential building outside of the downtown and away from the railroad tracks. The northwest part of the city offered cleaner air and an elevated view of the downtown. Many of the leading businessman, doctors, lawyers, and builders settled into larger homes in the area, while joining a small colony of modest homes and folks who also desired easy access to downtown and the local schools. By the early period of significance, 1905-1940, Billings had become the largest town on the Yellowstone River, largely due to its position as a transportation hub for the Northern Plains.

Today, the proximity of the North Elevation Historic District to Pioneer Park (est. 1921), McKinley Elementary school, local cafés and bakeries, the cultural offerings of a growing urban center, tree-lined streets and the historic charm of the neighborhood, make this a worthy addition to the National Register of Historic Places.

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### Other Sources:

Mapping and UTM coordinates derived from Google Earth on-line at  
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Information about land titles and warranty deeds from the on-line database and narrative  
from the Yellowstone County Genealogy Forum:  
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mttygf/county/foster.htm>

Architectural descriptions written by or derived from local architects and historic  
preservation specialists; Ed Gulick (High Plains Architects), Lesley Gilmore (CTA  
Architects), Blain Fandrich (Ethnoscience), Mary Beth Haynes (A&E Architects), Eric  
Simonsen (A&E Architects), Kevin Nelson (CTA Architects), and Elisabeth DeGrenier  
(Western Heritage Center).

Most of the contemporary property photographs courtesy of Julie Larsen, Billings' landscape  
photographer. Additional contemporary photographs from Elisabeth DeGrenier, Lisa  
Olmsted, Kevin Kooistra and Larry Mayer.

Records, house histories, historic photographs, and bibliographic information derived from  
newspaper searches at newspapers.com and newspaperarchives.com, private collections,  
Billings Public Library, and Western Heritage Center, Billings. Chandler Cohagen drawings  
from the Cohagen Collection, Western Heritage Center, Billings.

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### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

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**Primary location of additional data:**

☐ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 23.5

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 45.791195 Longitude: -108.52200269034587

2. Latitude: 45.792062 Longitude: -108.52012124463702

3. Latitude: 45.787462 Longitude: -108.51561340469883

4. Latitude: 45.786591 Longitude: -108.5174379960711

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 12 Easting: 692596.1 Northing: 5073834.0

2. Zone: 12 Easting: 692739.2 Northing: 5073935.4

3. Zone: 12 Easting: 693105.4 Northing: 5073435.2

4. Zone: 12 Easting: 692966.6 Northing: 5073334.1

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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The North Elevation Historic District is rectangular and runs southeast to northwest. Coordinates are presented above and shown on the project map below. The district is bounded by 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue North to the north, the alley between North 30<sup>th</sup> Street and North 31<sup>st</sup> Street to the east, 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North to the south, and North 32<sup>nd</sup> Street to the west.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

In the 1980s, members of the North Elevation Task Force expressed concern with the expansion of the two hospitals and the removal of several historic homes on North 30<sup>th</sup> and North 29<sup>th</sup> (in the original North Elevation Subdivision). For example, by then, two houses were moved in 1966, from the 1200 block of North 30<sup>th</sup> “to make way for a professional building for doctor,” one of which was moved to 940 North 31<sup>st</sup> Street inside of the current district.<sup>116</sup>

The line for the “Medical Corridor,” as mapped and zoned in 1983, runs down the alley between North 31<sup>st</sup> and North 30<sup>th</sup>, and from 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North to Elevation Ave. Due to the removal of several homes from North 30<sup>th</sup> over the past twenty years, the zoning for the Medical Corridor now is larger than the neighboring North Elevation Historic District neighborhood. North Elevation neighbors became involved in maintaining the North Elevation area; in 2008, 47 homeowners gathered at the McKinley School gymnasium/cafeteria to begin the process of defining a National Register Historic District.<sup>117</sup>

The current boundary lines represent the remaining homes of the North Elevation Subdivision First Filing. As mentioned, the homes on the eastside of the alleyway between N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street and N. 30<sup>th</sup> street that were originally in the First Filing have been lost to hospital growth. Fortunately, the homes on the west have not and this alleyway serves as the eastern boundary line. The Historic District’s southern, western and northern boundary lines are all the original boundary lines of the North Elevation’s First Filing.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Kevin Kooistra, Community Historian and Elisabeth DeGrenier, Volunteer and Education Coordinator  
organization: Yellowstone Western Heritage Center Consultants for the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board  
street & number: 2822 Montana Ave  
city or town: Billings state: MT zip code: 59101  
e-mail: [kevin@ywhc.org](mailto:kevin@ywhc.org); [elisabeth@ywhc.org](mailto:elisabeth@ywhc.org)  
telephone: (406) 256-6809  
date: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016

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<sup>116</sup> “Here Comes Our Home.” *Billings Gazette*, July 28, 1966, page 28.

<sup>117</sup> Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board, Meeting Minutes (on-line), June 17, 2008.

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

*See Photolog and photos on Continuation Sheets below.*

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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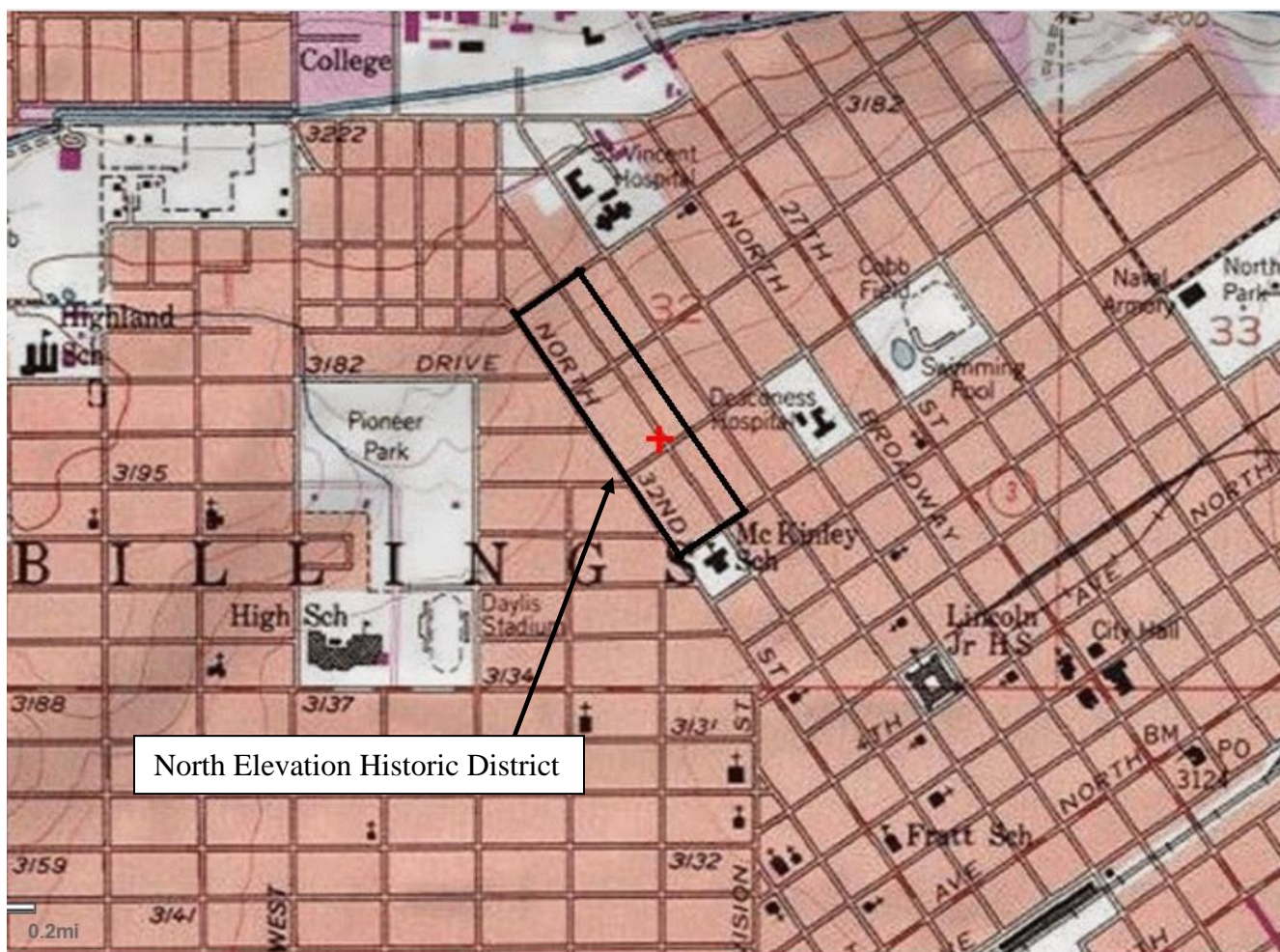
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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North Elevation Historic District. Found on the Billings West 7.5' quadrangle map.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

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Section number Additional Documentation—Maps

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Location of North Elevation Historic District Showing Street Names

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

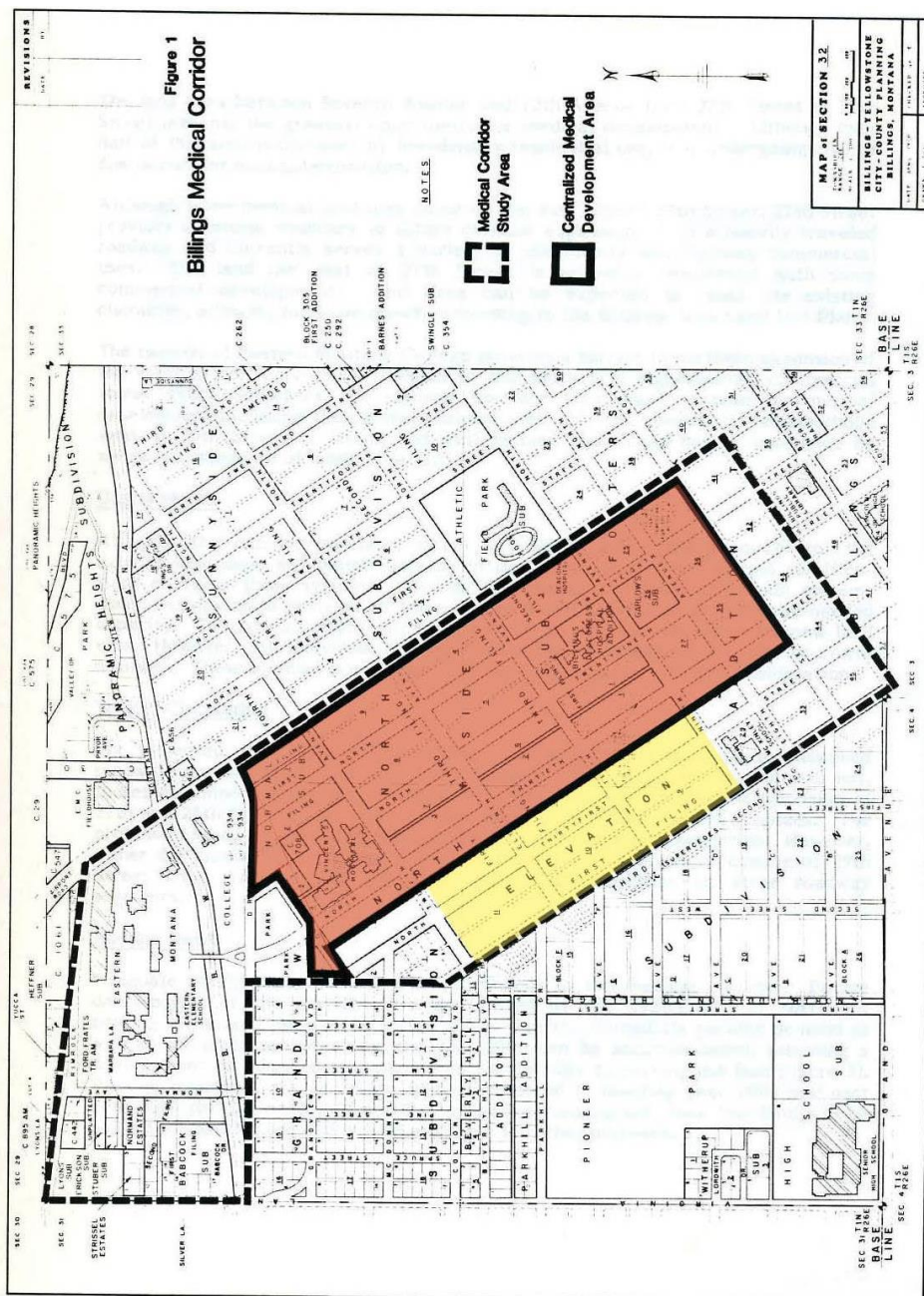
Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—Maps

Page 59



Map Showing North Elevation Historic District (highlighted in yellow) in Relation to the Billings Medical Corridor and Surrounding Area (Billings-Yellowstone City-County Planning, Billings).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

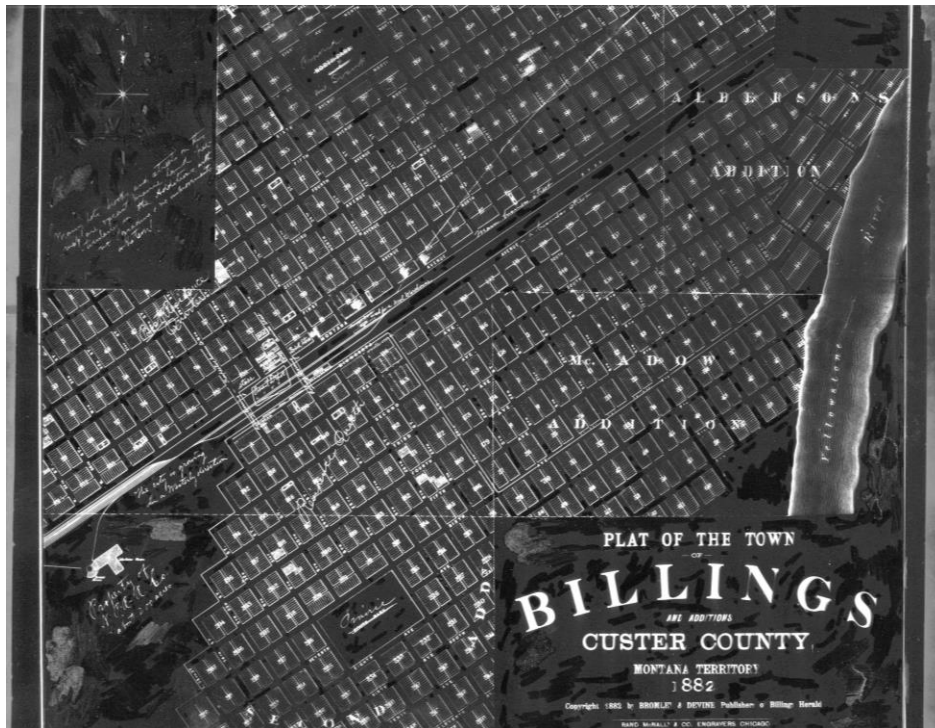
Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—Historic Map

Page 60



**Bromley and Devine Publishers, Rand McNally and Company 1882 Plat of Billings. The map shows how the Northern Pacific Railway tracks divided the town.**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

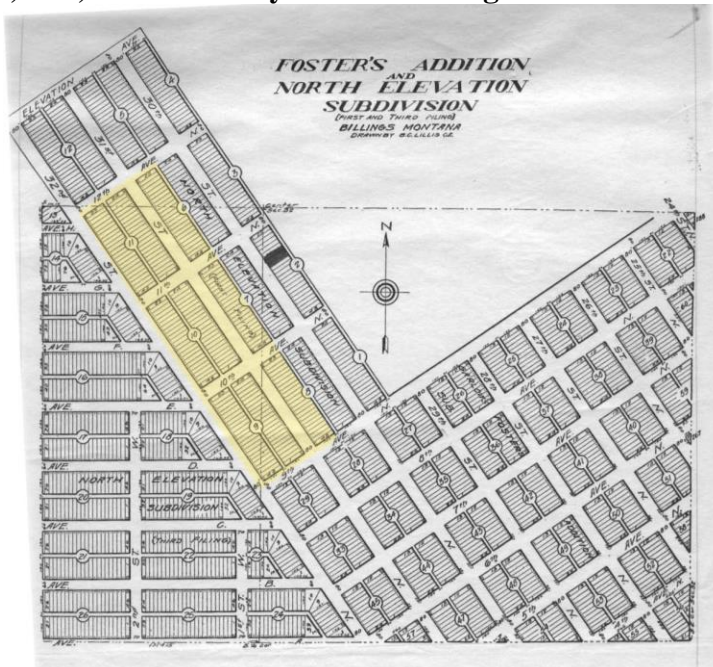
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—Historic Map

Page 61



**Billings, MT, 1904 Birds Eye View Looking South from Country Club**



**Foster's Addition and North Elevation Subdivision plat (First and Third Filing).**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—Historic Map

Page 62



**1904 Bird's Eye View Lithograph of Billings, MT showing area of North Elevation**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—Historic Photographs

Page 63



**1913 photograph showing area of North Elevation Historic District, view to the south.**



**1926 Aerial photograph showing Pioneer Park and early tree planting efforts. Photo also shows homes on North 32<sup>nd</sup> facing west.**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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**1940 Aerial photograph showing Pioneer Park and McKinley School (on right) and tree planting efforts within the North Elevation Subdivision.**



**The Deaconess Hospital on North 30th began construction in 1918 and formally opened on July 3, 1927 – the architects for the Deaconess Hospital project were McIver & Cohagen. Both of the hospitals, now known as St. Vincent Healthcare and Billings Clinic, were built in the North Elevation Subdivision first filing.**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

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Page 65



McKinley School's first Orchestra  
Organized and directed by J.E. Clavadetscher  
Sept. 1929 - 1930

The North Elevation Subdivision became a good place to live for those working at the nearby hospitals, medical offices, schools, college and downtown. Music teacher Julius Clavadetscher, who lived in the North Elevation Historic District, is photographed with the first school orchestra at McKinley Elementary School in 1929.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

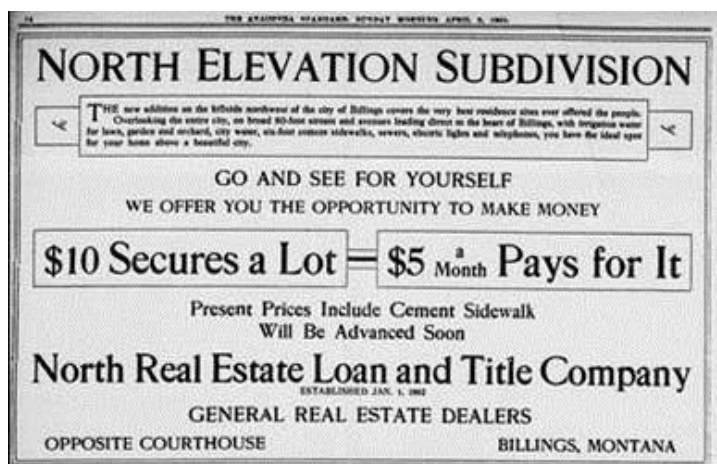
Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

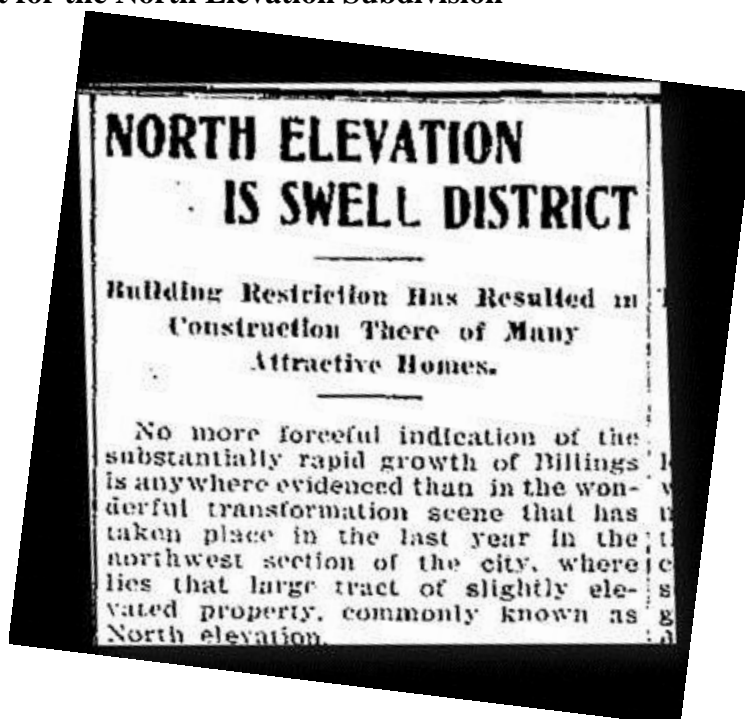
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—Historic News Clippings

Page 66



Advertisement for the North Elevation Subdivision



"North Elevation is Swell District." *Billings Gazette*, November 7, 1909 (from *Billings Gazette*, November 7, 1909, page 10).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

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Page 67

**THE ELEVATION**  
*Cream of the Fashionable  
Billings Residence District*

**LOTS NOW ON SALE**

- Go out North 30th, 31st or 32nd Streets or the Avenues to the West and take a Look for Yourself—One Grand Panoramic View of the whole City and Valley.
- You get the Clean, Pure Breeze from the West right in Your Home before it passes through the city.
- You will find Everything in Favor of the Elevation, so why not make it your home? Prices from \$200 to \$1000, with a big discount for cash or the easiest payments you ever heard of in any country.
- You will find many of the best families in Billings live up this way and here are a few of them, viz:

MR. R. E. SHEPARD	MR. CHARLES SPEAR
MR. W. P. WALDFREN	MR. R. J. COVERT
MR. L. B. N. JOHN	MR. J. M. LIPP
MR. L. H. LIPP	MR. E. STONER
MR. L. J. WHITNEY	MR. A. J. HEWITT
MR. L. W. CHAPPEL	MR. H. M. RAMSEY
MR. E. F. SLAVIN	MR. ROBERT LEAVINS
MR. W. A. VAZ-TIES	MR. J. H. NORTH
MR. E. E. VELTUM	MR. JAY LOVING
MR. H. L. WILSON	MR. W. E. GEORGE
MR. G. E. COAD	MR. GEO. L. LADBURY

and many others, making a long list. Ask the leading Real Estate Men or phone Mutual 1234 or Bell 322 for further information.

"The Elevation: Cream of the Fashionable Billings Residence District." *Billings Gazette*, April 17, 1910.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

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Page 68

### Photolog

#### Unless otherwise noted, all National Register photographs:

Name of Property: North Elevation Historic District

City or Vicinity: Billings

County: Yellowstone

State: MT

Photographer: Julie Larsen, Frank Crosby, Elisabeth DeGrenier, Kevin Kooistra, Lisa Olmsted, and Larry Mayer.

Date Photographed: January 2015 to June 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0001:** 934 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the northwest.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Page 69



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0002:** 1111 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 70



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0003:** 1001 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 71



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0004:** 1041 and 1043 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

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Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 72



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0005:** 930 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the northwest.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0006:** 1117 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Page 74



Elevation homes, 1916. Photograph by Frank E. Crosby / Crosby Studio, Billings. Courtesy Mona Lissa Sumner Collection, Western Heritage Center, Billings.

**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0007:** 1100 block of North 32nd Street, Billings, 1916. View northeast toward the rimrocks (sandstone bluffs). The image also shows 1117 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. View to the southwest. Photograph by Frank E. Crosby, Crosby Studio, Billings. Courtesy Mona Lissa Sumner Collection, Western Heritage.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 75



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0008:** 1110 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the southwest.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Page 76



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0009:** 1102 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the west.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 77



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0010:** 947 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

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Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 78



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0011:** 3111 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

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Page 79



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0012:** 1125 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Page 80



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0013:** 1045 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Page 81



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0014:** 3114 11<sup>th</sup> Ave North, view to the southeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0015: 937 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 83



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0017:** 910 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the west.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0018:** 918 N. 31st Street, view to the south.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 85



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0019:** 925 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0020: 911 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0021:** 924 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the northwest.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 88



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0022:** 1130 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the southwest.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0023:** 1143 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
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North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 90



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0024:** 1011 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
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North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0025:** 3114 12<sup>th</sup> Ave North, view to the southeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
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North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0026:** 1024 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the southeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
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North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0027:** 1135 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
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North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0028:** 1131 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0029:** 1142 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the west.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0030:** 921 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 97



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0031:** 917 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0032:** 1147 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0034:** 3115 10th Ave. North, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
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North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0035: 3115 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. North, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 101



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0036:** 1009 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Modified Traditional McIver, Cohagen and Marshall designed home, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0037:** 1148 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Prairie style McIver and, Cohagen designed home, view to the northwest.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0038:** 1139 N 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Minimal Traditional Cohagen designed home, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0039:** 3114 12th Ave North, showing lower garage, view to the facing north.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0040:** 1139 N. 32nd Street, showing lower garage under principle structure and noncontributing garage in driveway, view to the west.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 106



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0041:** 1105 N. 32nd Street, showing garage, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 107



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0042:** 931 N. 32nd Street, garage, view to the northwest.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 108



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0043:** 901 N. 32nd Street, garage, view to the north.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0044:** 1130 N. 31st Street, showing garage as part of principle structure, view to the east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0045: 946 N. 31st Street, garage, view to the southeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0046:** 910 N. 31st Street, garage, view to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 112



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0047:** 906 N. 31st Street, garage, view to the southeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Elevation Historic District

Name of Property

Yellowstone Co., MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page 113



**MT\_Yellowstone County\_North ElevationHD\_0048:** 941 N. 31st Street, garage, view to the east.