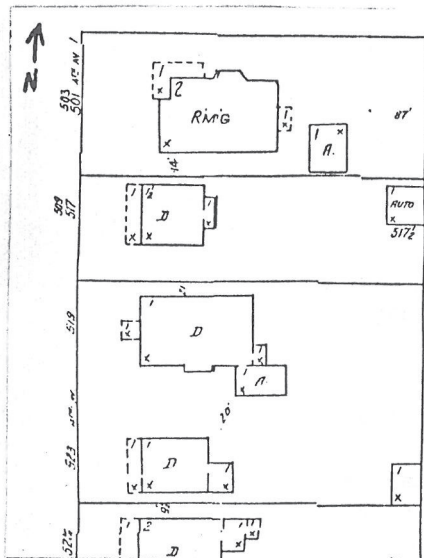


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MONTANA HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL
INVENTORY FORM

Roll# 34 Frame# 2

Roll# 38 Frame# 17

Legal Description: Morris-Smith-McCulloch Addition, Block 1,
lots 1 & 2

Address: 501 Fourth Avenue

Ownership Name: Everett & Velma Tyrrel

Address: P.O. Box 1650, Havre, MT 59501

private: x

public:

Historic Name: Chestnut House

Common Name: Unknown

Date of Construction: 1915 (Assessor's Records)

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Original Owner: Frank B. Chestnut

Original Use: Single-family Residence

Present Use: Residence and Western Union Telegraph Office

Physical Description:

Two story, wood frame Prairie style residence. 3 x 3 bay. Hip roof over square plan. Many projections. Asphalt shingled roof (Originally wood shingled). Corniced eaves. Hip roofed oriel on north side. Clapboard siding is wider at first floor and narrow on second floor. Interior brick chimney. Raised concrete foundation with daylight basement.

Open porch on facade (W). Porch has gable roof. Entry is on NW corner of facade and is reached by concrete steps. Steps are flanked by concrete abutments.

Windows throughout house are 9/1 double-hung sash. Daylit basement has fixed windows with storm additions.

Site is slightly raised and bermed to level of sidewalk.

Historical Information

The 1920 Sanborn map shows this house as being two story with a wrap-around porch on the NW corner of the structure. By 1939, the dwelling had been converted into a rooming house.

Havre pioneer and businessman Frank Chestnut was the original owner of the house. Born in Michigan in 1865, Chestnut had arrived in Havre by 1895. Chestnut owned and operated a saloon until 1908 when he became involved in real estate speculation. Chestnut built many successful commercial structures in the business district, none of which now survive. Chestnut died in 1928.

After Frank's death, his widow, who was also involved in real estate, continued to live in the house. Carson and Eva Phelps also lived in the house. Phelps was a city engineer.

In 1928, Frank Chestnut was issued a building permit to build a garage at the rear of the property. The garage, which was to be constructed of brick, wood and concrete, was built by C. C. Harper for \$375.00.

Footnote Sources:

Grits, Guts and Gusto: A History of Hill County. Compiled by the Hill County Bicentennial Commission. (Havre: Bear Paw Printers, 1976), p. 235.

Polk Directory, Havre and Chouteau County, 1909.

Polk Directory, Havre and Hill County, 1915-16 and 1929-30

Sanborn Maps, 1910, 1920 and 1939.

Building Permit No. 1148, dated March 21, 1928. Department of Public Works, City of Havre, Havre, Montana.

Research Sources:

Assessor's Records, Hill County, Hill County Courthouse, Havre Montana

Water Record no.568 (1915) and Sewer Record no.248 (1915), Department of Public Works, City of Havre, Havre, Montana

Integrity:

This structure retains its original configuration, historic fabric and many distinctive features indicative of its craftsman styling.

Significance:

This building maintains a high level of architectural integrity and would strongly contribute to the proposed Historic District. It would qualify for the National Register under criteria C as a good local example of a Prairie style dwelling.

Form Prepared by:

Name: Jonathan Axline

Address: Bear Paw Development Corp., PO Box 1549, Havre, MT 59501

Date: November 14, 1988.

Geographical Information

Acreage: Less than one acre

USGS Quad: Havre, Montana

UTM's: