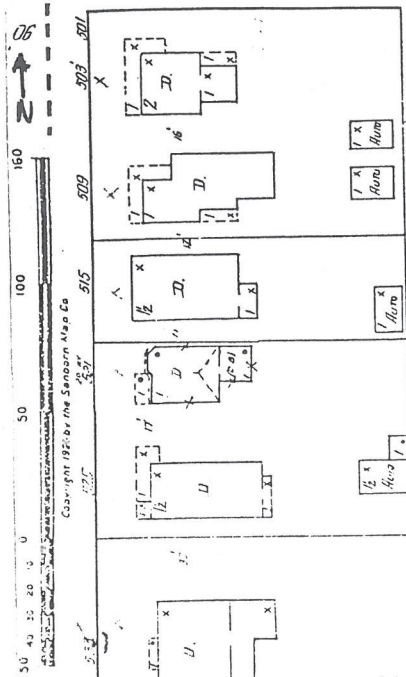


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**MONTANA HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL
INVENTORY FORM**



Roll# 3 Frame# 16

Legal Description: Decelles Second Addition, Block 4, Lots 1-2

Address: 503 Second Avenue

Ownership Name: Greg Munson

Address: 503 Second Avenue

private: x

public:

Historic Name: Gerald Casman House

Common Name: Casman House

Date of Construction: Originally constructed by 1903 (Sanborn Map). Extensively remodeled c. 1928.

Architect: The original builder/designer is unknown. Roy Lancaster designed the major remodeling in 1928. Walter Sinnott, an architect, who owned and lived in the home from 1967-79, made some sympathetic changes in the house during that time.

Builder: Original builder is unknown. Wiley (first name unknown) was the builder for the 1928 remodeling.

Original Owner: William Cance.

Original Use: Single-family residence

Present Use: Single-family residence

Physical Description:

Two-story, 2 x 3 bay, stucco over wood frame, "English-Cottage"-styled residence. Rectangular plan. Gable-front gable roof with

boxed eaves and wood shingling that wraps around the gable eaves in such a fashion as to simulate thatching. The two main windows of the main (W) facade are stacked one on top of the other and are tripartite consisting of a picture window in the center with a six-light transom, flanked by a 6/6 double-hung window with plain wood sill and trim. Both windows are surrounded with a two-story decorative wood trellis. The right-side primary entry is contained within a gabled window-enclosed foyer. The foyer's windows are 9/9 double-hung on the sides (N & S). The entry door is flanked by 6/6 double-hung windows. Both the foyer and the main house have a diamond-shaped wooden decoration applied onto their respective gables.

The north and the south sides of the main house have gabled bay windows with a similar "thatched" treatment. The windows themselves are similar to those of the main facade. Other windows of the north side are 8/8 double-hung and flank the endwall chimney.

The second story-sleeping porch on the rear (E) facade and has 12/12 double-hung windows. The area of the main structure directly underneath was originally built for use as a garage facing north onto Fifth Street. Sometime in the 1970s the garage entry was infilled and stuccoed over and the space was converted for use as an interior living area. The more recent stucco has sensitively matched the pre-existing treatment in color and texture surrounding it and does not detract from the historic appearance of the building.

Historical information:

The building first appears on the 1903 Sanborn Map. The 1905 sewer records lists William Cance as the owner. The 1909 Polk Directory lists William Cance, a storekeeper for the Great Northern Railway, and Herbert Clifford, Chief Clerk for the Store Department of the Great Northern Railway, as residents.

According to the 1910 U.S. Census this house was lived in by William Cance, age thirty-six and born in Wisconsin and owner of the house. He lived here with his wife Della M., age thirty-six and born in Iowa. Also living here as boarders were Bee B. Hall, a bookkeeper for a bank and Herbert Clifford, age thirty and born in Illinois and manager of a dry goods store.

By 1915 Gerald Casman, Pearl Casman, Charles T. Hunter and Raymond V. Love resided here. The Casmans were by then owners of the structure and were also the proprietors of the Havre Drug Co. Hunter and Love were clerks at the Havre Drug Co. and were probably boarders with the Casmans. Pearl Casman was issued the building permit for alterations to this house in 1928.

Because the Casmans were originally from England, they sought to recreate a style they were familiar with and very popular in England. A 1928 building permit (no. 1175) indicates that they

qualify for the National Register under criteria C and would strongly contribute to the proposed historic district.

Form Prepared By:

Name: Richard Bernstein

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

Date: February 1, 1988

Revisions: April 10, May 30, June 3 and October 14, 1988

Geographical Information:

Acreage: Less than one acre

USGS Quad: Havre, Montana

UTM's: