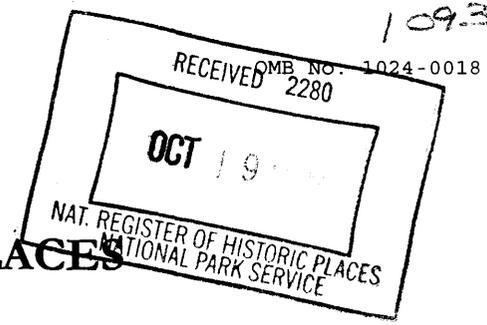


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

## 1. Name of Property

historic name: Teton County Courthouse

other name/site number: n/a

## 2. Location

street & number: 1 Main Avenue South

not for publication: na

vicinity: na

city/town: Choteau

state: Montana code: MT county: Teton code: 099 zip code: 59422

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally.

*[Signature]*  
Signature of certifying official/Title

*October 17, 2006*  
Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency or bureau

(  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

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

*[Signature]*  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

*11-29-06*

## 5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public - local

Category of Property: Building

Number of contributing resources previously

listed in the National Register: na

Name of related multiple property listing: na

## Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

Noncontributing

10 building(s)00 sites00 structures00 objects10 TOTAL

## 6. Function or Use

## Historic Functions:

GOVERNMENT/county courthouse

## Current Functions:

GOVERNMENT/county courthouse

## 7. Description

## Architectural Classification:

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> C MOVEMENTS/  
Italian Renaissance Revival

## Materials:

foundation: CONCRETE; STONE/sandstone; BRICK  
walls: STONE/sandstone  
roof: WOOD/shingle  
other: METAL

## Narrative Description

Teton County is located on the Rocky Mountain Front which forms the seam between the wilderness to the west and foothills and plains to the east in northcentral Montana. The Teton County Courthouse is situated in the town of Choteau, within the Teton River Valley. Choteau is approximately 55 miles northwest of Great Falls. The town of Choteau is laid out in a classic grid pattern with streets parallel and perpendicular to the railroad right-of-way. The Teton County Courthouse is situated one block west of the railroad tracks within the "courthouse" block of the Choteau town site. The Teton County Courthouse is approached from the north and south by Main Street (U.S. Highway 87) which ribbons around the "courthouse" block.

The Teton County Courthouse is surrounded on the north, east and west sides by a large expanse of lawn. A concrete sidewalk leads to the front (north) elevation of the building and around both sides to the employee and visitors' parking area in the rear and southeast corner. Other landscaping includes a row of evergreens planted around the outside edge of the lawn, a pruned hedge in front of the building and curbed flowerbeds on the southeast corner framing two entries.

The courthouse is a two-and-a-half story, Italian Renaissance Revival style building completed in 1906 and constructed of sandstone quarried at nearby Rattlesnake Butte. The ashlar sandstone walls are constructed in regular courses, with a stone water table between the basement and the first floor. The walls below the water table are slightly battered. The stone walls of the foundation are two-feet thick. The stone walls at the main level are 12 inches thick. Both were built with rock on the outside, then an airspace and brick on the inside. Basically, the building has a square plan with two wings and has a full daylight basement.

The courthouse has a hipped roof with three half-hipped roof dormers, all of which are covered with wood shingles and metal-ridge finishes with ornamental globe finials. The dormers on the south and west roof slopes contain wood sashes with diamond-patterned lights while the east roof dormer exhibits a louvered panel. Other prominent roof features include an octagonal cupola vent and a large interior brick chimney. The roof has wide overhanging eaves with decorative wooden brackets and dentil molding. Gutters and downspouts funnel water from the eaves.

The courthouse faces north and the front façade is dominated by a square tower that rises three stories above the flat roof of the front entrance porch. The roof tower originally was topped with an iron cresting and a six-foot flag pole. The first and second stories of the tower are enclosed and include one bank of three narrow double-hung windows on the north elevation of each story, rectangular on the first and arched on the second story. Both side walls on the second story display arched recesses.

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The third floor of the tower is an open-air gallery with square stone pillars on the corners, resting on a continuous stone sill. The open walls of the gallery each contain four round wood columns painted white.

The entrance porch below the tower has an arched entryway and shelters a modern aluminum-frame double door with fixed windows above and on either side. Originally this entrance had a revolving door. Galvanized iron repeating modillions and bead-and-dart pressed molding decorate the porch's cornice. Directly below the cornice, a dressed sandstone block exhibits carved letters that read "Teton County." Two dressed sandstone circles positioned above and to either side of the entrance contain carved lettering that reads "AD" and "1906" respectfully. Three steps lead up to the front entrance.

The wonderful symmetry of the Teton County Courthouse facade is strengthened by the symmetrically placed wood-frame, one-over-one light, double-hung windows clearly defined at each level with sandstone sills and lintels. Triple window openings on the building's basement, first and second levels, frame the porch and tower.

The west and east elevations are virtually identical, except for an arched entrance on the east wall. Each elevation has a central projecting wing that extends from the basement to the top of the first floor. The wings each have two window openings, filled in and fitted with iron bars, in their side elevations, one at the basement level and one at the first-story level. The cornice, wooden brackets and dentil molding on the wings are identical to that along the main roof. Each wing is covered with a hipped roof topped by a round finial.

Window openings are symmetrically placed in the east and west elevations of the main building, on either side of the wings. Most of the openings are one-over-one light, double-hung windows with pronounced sandstone lintels and sills. The courthouse walls north of the wings have four windows in the basement, first-and-second-story levels. The courthouse walls south of the wings have five window openings at each of the three stories, with one exception. At the southeast corner, an arched entrance encloses an aluminum door and fan light on the east side wall. At the same location on the west side wall are two small windows, filled in and fitted with iron bars, on the west side. The two most southerly basement window openings in the southeast corner of the east elevation are filled in.

A 1915/1941 addition extends off the south (rear) wall and obscures the original appearance of the basement and first-story levels of the south elevation. The second-story retains its original fenestration consisting of a pair of central window openings, a single opening at the west end of the wall, and another pair of openings at the east end of the wall. These five openings contain tall, one-over-one light, double-hung windows. In addition, there are two smaller window openings on either side of the central pair.

The 1915/1941 concrete addition sits on a high foundation and has a flat roof. It has a raised concrete water table, at the same level as the water table on the original building. The addition's east and west elevations each have four filled-in window openings and the south elevation has two filled-in openings.

A low, semi-subterranean, concrete vault with a shallow gable roof covered with metal sheeting, constructed in 1941, extends south from the concrete 1915 addition. There are no windows or doors on its exterior. A sandstone wall with an iron gate, all the same height as the vault, runs east from the southeast corner of the vault to a point projecting south from the edge of the ADA addition.

A 2001 addition extends off the southeast corner of the main building and runs the length of the east elevation of the 1915/1941 addition. This Americans-with Disabilities-Act (ADA) addition is a low, single-story, flat roofed structure. The east wall of the addition is partially faced with sandstone and a decorative surround framing the entrance breaks the straight roofline. The entrance has a power-assisted handicapped-accessible door.

The interior of the building still exhibits original handrails, banisters, stairs, stair posts, vault doors, wainscoting, some doors and, possibly, the courtroom furniture that are an integral part of the historic fabric of the building.

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**Integrity**

The Teton County Courthouse retains excellent integrity in all aspects. The north, east and west elevations of the building appear almost unchanged since the courthouse was completed in 1906. The 1915/1941 additions at the south side of the building unfortunately disrupt the symmetry of the courthouse. These historic additions are of a low profile, and because they are located on the rear of the building they are not visually intrusive of the other three sides. The 2001 ADA addition blends with the 1915/1941 addition and the partial sandstone veneer wall eases its appearance.

In 2001, all windows were replaced with modern double-hung units compatible to the building's historic character. The two entrances have modern replacement doors. Maintenance and repair of the courthouse over the years necessitated minor modifications to the roof, including new shingles and gutters and restoration of wood fascia and soffits. Landscaping surrounding the courthouse has also had minor changes over the years.

Despite changes to the Teton Country Courthouse through time, it maintains its ability to convey its significant historic associations. The courthouse retains its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and feeling.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C

Areas of Significance: GOVERNMENT; COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT;  
ARCHITECTURE

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Period(s) of Significance: 1906 to 1956

Significant Person(s): N/A

Significant Dates: 1906, 1915, 1941

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Joseph B. Gibson and George H. Shanley, architects

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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The Teton County Courthouse is significantly associated with the growth of county government, an important theme in local history. The building is monumental in character and one of the most imposing public buildings in northcentral Montana. It symbolizes the early growth of the city of Choteau and Teton County, when the community sought stability and permanence as it left the frontier behind and stood poised to welcome the settlers of the Homestead Era. For these reasons, it is eligible under Criterion A. The courthouse gains additional significance under Criterion C, as an excellent local representative example of early 1900s Italian Renaissance Revival public architecture and is a well-preserved example of the collaborative work of prominent Montana architects Joseph Gibson and George Shanley.

*Historic courthouses are more than architecturally grand buildings and old government offices. They're physical, tangible links to community and state heritage. Courthouses were the first permanent structures in many communities, and main streets and business districts grew and prospered in their shadows. Marriages, trials, elections, parades, festivals, campaign rallies and community celebrations are just some of the events linked to courthouse squares.<sup>1</sup>*

During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Montana was organized into 56 counties, each with its own county seat and courthouse. The buildings span a spectrum, from the simple, wooden false-fronted courthouse to grand multi-story granite and sandstone Revival style buildings. These courthouses have served for decades as important landmarks and the center of local governance. The Teton County Courthouse is unquestionably one of the most impressive monuments to local government in the state of Montana.

Constructed in 1906, the Teton County Courthouse was designed by prominent Montana architects Joseph Gibson and George Shanley. The Italian Renaissance Revival courthouse was constructed of sandstone quarried at nearby Rattlesnake Butte. In 1915, a south end addition was made, a jail was attached at the rear, and over the years some limited interior modifications were made. For one hundred years, the courthouse has functioned as the hub of local politics, an architectural centerpiece for the community of Choteau, and a symbol of the optimism and endurance of Teton County citizens.

**A Courthouse for Teton County**

Teton County, Montana, is a vast wind-swept plateau. Rising sheerly in the west is the flat gray-blue silhouette of the Rockies; there are hardly any foothills, and the mountains are like gigantic paper cutouts against the sky. To the east there is a gradual slope to the hazy brown monotony of the prairie.<sup>2</sup>

The Montana Legislature created Teton County in February 1893 from the western portion of Chouteau County, one of the original counties of Territorial Montana. Teton County once covered an area from the Sun River north to the Canadian border and from the Rocky Mountain Front Range on the west to its varied eastern boundary 60 to 125 miles distant. By 1921, county-splitting reduced Teton County to its present size of 2295 square miles. Teton County is still bounded partially to the south by the Sun River and the Teton River flows across the middle of the county. Teton County today has a population of less than 7000 people and consists of small rural communities spread along the primary transportation routes.

The Blackfeet Indians controlled north-central Montana east of the mountains, including the area now known as Teton County. The Old North trail traversed Teton County in a north/south direction and served as the major travel corridor for

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1 Texas Historical Commission, Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program, <http://www.thc.state.tx.us/faqs/faqch.html>.

2 Joseph Kinsey Howard, *Montana High, Wide and Handsome*, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1943), p. 287.

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the Blackfeet. This region was only briefly infiltrated by fur traders in the mid-nineteenth century. James Doty, who in 1854, explored the region that became Teton County, described it as “a country hitherto unexplored.”<sup>3</sup>

It appears that the area around the present-day town of Choteau, along the Teton River, experienced the earliest white settlement. In 1859, Jesuits priests attempted to establish a mission (called St. Peters) three miles south of Choteau. Unwelcomed by the Blackfeet, the Jesuits quickly abandoned their efforts. Nine years later in 1868, the Office of Indian Affairs moved the Blackfeet Agency from Fort Benton to a site, called Old Agency, located three and a half miles north of Choteau. Old Agency served as the Blackfeet Agency until 1876 when the Blackfeet Reservation was further reduced to north of Marias River and Old Agency abandoned.<sup>4</sup>

In 1873, A. B. Hamilton, a fur trader and his partner, I. N. Hazlett, opened a trading post near Old Agency. Ten years later, Hazlett platted the townsite of Choteau, three miles south of Old Agency where he operated a mercantile with his partner Hamilton. Choteau, in the words of Mr. Hamilton, “was the garden spot of Montana” and gradually became the economic center of the region. After the creation of Teton County, Choteau was chosen as the county seat (formally selected in November 1894).<sup>5</sup>

A month after becoming the county seat in 1893, the commissioners considered the matter of rooms for offices and a courtroom. They approved a proposal to rent a building constructed by W.F. Burgy for a courthouse, and to sublet a courtroom from J.G. Bair. Burgy’s building was condemned in March 1897, as being unsafe, and while repairs were being made, the building burned down, although the records were saved. The commissioners then rented rooms from William Hodgskiss until the present-day courthouse was completed.

The act creating Teton County provided that a courthouse could not be built and owned by the county until the assessed valuation amounted to at least \$4 million. That benchmark was exceeded in 1902. The following June, a committee of citizens of Choteau and vicinity urged the erection of a \$10,000 courthouse at Choteau; but the commissioners took no action. Again in March 1905, the citizens again asked for an election authorizing a loan and issuing bonds to erect and furnish a courthouse at the county seat. The commissioners agreed. On March 10, 1905, the Teton County Commissioners ordered a special election to authorize a \$40,000 loan and issuing bonds to erect and furnish a courthouse at the county seat of Choteau.

The May 4, 1905, *Choteau Acantha* promoted the courthouse project while the community of Conrad (now in Pondera County) and its newspaper, *The Observer*, opposed it. *The Acantha* went point-to-point with the *Observer* in its defense for a courthouse at Choteau. “There is plenty of room of the offices to transact the County’s business, while the contrary is true in others... The county attorney’s office is not in the building at all, and there is no room for it there. When court is in session there is no place to hold witnesses, and the accommodations for jurors are abominable.” The newspaper stated that having the courthouse would lead to a business boom, the expenditure of many thousands of dollars by private parties are new buildings and improvements of various kinds, adding to the county’s assessed valuation. It predicted that the increased valuation would more than offset the interest on the bonds at the present rate of taxation.<sup>6</sup>

By the end of May 2005, the electorate approved the measure, 366-316, (the Choteau town vote being 43 percent of the total vote for the bond). Beginning in June, the county commissioners immediately began their efforts towards the construction of a county courthouse. They selected a donated site for the new courthouse grounds and advertised for brick or stone courthouse plans including steam heating and plumbing, at a cost not to exceed \$30,000. On June 23, the

3 Cited by Olga Monkman’s “James Doty, Meteorologist,” found in Teton County vertical file, Montana Historical Society, Helena, Montana.

4 “Old Agency on the Teton, found in Teton County vertical file, Montana Historical Society, Helena, Montana.

5 “Choteau,” found in Teton County vertical file, Montana Historical Society, Helena, Montana.

6 *Choteau Acantha*, May 5, 1905.

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commissioners selected the designs from the firm of Joseph B. Gibson and George H. Shanley of Kalispell, MT, the only architects to submit plans.<sup>7</sup>

On August 24, 1905, Lease and Richards, a Great Falls general-construction company, won the courthouse contract with the lowest bid of \$27,295 for a stone building. Gust G. Minter of Great Falls won the contract for the steam heating and plumbing with a low bid of \$3,560. In July 1906, the commissioners awarded the electric wiring and lights contract in the courthouse to the Boston & Great Falls Electric Light and Power Co., for \$582. Chas. S. Parker was awarded the \$200 contract for kalsomining and plastering the interior.<sup>8</sup>

T.L. Lowman of Choteau had the contract for “furnishing the rock for the entire building” and it was expected that the stone cutters “will be at work during the entire winter.” The locally quarried stone from Rattlesnake Butte to be used for the courthouse was recognized as some of the finest building stone found in Montana. The town had already built a large elementary school in 1897 using the same local stone (torn down in 1952).<sup>9</sup>

The original contract deadline was October 1, 1906, however, the commissioners granted Lease and Richards an extension to October 31 for finishing the first floor and November 30, 1906, for finishing the second floor. The building was finished by November 22 and the old courthouse furniture was refurbished and placed in the new courthouse (along with new furniture) during the first week of December. The completed courthouse provided a permanent home for county services that had been housed in various leased buildings since the creation of Teton County in February 1893.

The *Choteau Acantha* published a picture of the finished building in its December 6, 1906 edition, declaring

...no picture can do the building justice. Too [sic] fully appreciate it one must visit it and view its architectural beauty. It is of stone, with brick lining, and is carefully laid off in offices, vaults and a court room and has all the modern improvements, being heated by steam, and will soon be lighted by electricity. The architecture, painting, plumbing, heating and lighting are complete in every detail and taken altogether it would be a credit to any city. No citizen of Teton County, who sees it can help feeling proud of this splendid edifice for it will stand for years as a monument to the honor and integrity [sic] of all the people of the county.<sup>10</sup>

As built, the new courthouse stone walls of the foundation are two-feet thick. The stone walls at the main level are 12 inches thick. Both were built with rock on the outside, then an airspace and brick on the inside. The roof tower was topped with an iron cresting and a six-foot flag pole. The 16-x16-foot vaults were 18 feet high inside and built with a vaulted ceiling of three layers of brick. The exterior eaves were fitted with wood cornices and 1 ¼ by-1 3/8 by 3-inch dentils. The plans for the west elevation included a door split at grade level for entry to the basement level, south of the wing; however, in 1915, the opening was changed to a window of wider size than its neighbor.

A galvanized iron water tank was put in the tower, which is accessed on the second floor by 17 stair rails that rise to a trap door in the tower's floor. The opening is also the entry into the attic where some records are stored. A revolving door was installed at the entrance, and the commissioners purchased a “storm” door shortly after the building was occupied. The interior included molded handrails, four-foot high wainscoting and turned balusters on four-inch centers.

The first floor plan in 1906, starting from the south, included the sheriff's office, the surveyor's office, the exterior door and landing, a vault, the clerk of court's office, a corridor, the treasurer's office, the assessor's office, the clerk and recorder's office, entrances to the vault wings, the superintendent of schools' office, a stairwell and the commissioners'

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7 Ibid., June 15 and 23, 1905.

8 Ibid., August 24, 1905 and July 5, 1906.

9 Ibid., November 16, 1905.

10 Ibid., December 6, 1906.

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office. The second-floor plan in 1906, from the south to the north, included two jury rooms with toilets, a judge's room with toilet, a corridor and stairwell, a 54 x 38 foot courtroom, a public toilet, the county attorney's room, another corridor and stairwell, a stenographer room and on the exterior, a balcony with tin deck.

At the time of its completion in 1906, the basement included two storage vaults under the exterior wing vaults. The basement was unfinished except for a boiler and a storage vault. Not including the tower, the courthouse's footprint when completed was 86.4 feet from wing to wing by 79 feet from front to rear. Landscaping of the courthouse grounds began the following year.

The first major modification to the courthouse happened in 1915 when an addition, designed by one of the building architects, George Shanley (now practicing in Great Falls), was built to house a new heating plant including a coalbunker, a boiler room with ash storage and ash hoist. A Choteau contractor, Fred S. Doege, finished the basement and constructed a 29 feet by 33 feet, one-story reinforced concrete building adjoining the courthouse on the south. The old boiler was moved from the basement to the new addition.<sup>11</sup>

In 1941, the county commissioners approved a vault addition, needed for additional storage space for vital records. This addition, built by Roy Anderson Company of Great Falls, was constructed by putting a second floor over the 1915 addition. Remodeling of the interior of the courthouse also occurred in 1941 where the office layout was rearranged, partitions removed and rebuilt.<sup>12</sup>

Today, the many offices housed in the courthouse include on the top floor, justice court, a vault, district court clerk, judge's chambers, probation officer, jury room, toilets, coffee room, foyer, elevator and court room. The first floor includes the elevator, the vaults, a meeting room and offices of the clerk and recorder, the commissioners, the planner, sanitarian, superintendent of schools and the county attorney. The basement level includes the extension office, treasurer, assessor (Department of Revenue), washrooms, maintenance, lobby and elevator. The sheriff's office is now located in the new sheriff's office across the street. The old sheriff's office and jail, built in 1894, also located across the street, now includes the offices of the Disaster and Emergency Services coordinator, the Emergency Medical Services coordinator and the fire warden, all of whom had been in the courthouse before the 2001 renovation.

**Architectural Significance**

One only has to approach the Teton County Courthouse down Main Street from the north to be awestruck by this massive imposing building. The Teton County Courthouse is a handsome, well-preserved example of the Italian Renaissance Revival style, inspired by Italian architecture of the Renaissance Period during the years 1400 to 1600. Influenced by the classical architecture of the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the style is generally associated with large-scale public buildings and dates between 1890 and 1920. The renewal of interest in Classical architecture "provided the symbolic appearance of federal authority in those communities that were becoming commercial or government centers in the early 1900s." A combination of Greek and Roman architectural elements present wonderfully symmetrical exteriors with distinct horizontal divisions and classical details.<sup>13</sup>

The Teton County Courthouse displays many of the characteristics of the Italian Renaissance Revival style, particularly the precise symmetrical arrangement of the façade. Two wings projecting out from side elevations are also typical of this style. The courthouse illustrates common features of the Italian Renaissance Revival style include the bracketed cornice defining

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., July 9 and 30, 1915 and August 11, 1915.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., September 18, 1941.

<sup>13</sup> "United States Post Office, 200 East Broadway, Missoula, Montana National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form," on file at Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

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the transition between façade and roof, the arched entrances, low hipped roofs, rusticated stone and a belt course between the ground and first floors.

The Teton County Courthouse exhibits a textual richness with the use of the native sandstone. Its scale and size, emphasized by the square tower, dominates the built environment of the town of Choteau. The Teton County Courthouse, celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in December 2006, stands as an ornament to the city that continues to serve the citizens of the county faithfully. As the *Choteau Acantha* exclaimed soon after the courthouse opened, “No citizen of Teton County, who sees it can help feeling proud of this splendid edifice for it will stand for years as a monument to the honor and integrity of all the people of the county.”<sup>14</sup>

The Teton County Courthouse is also architecturally significant as a representative example of Montana architects Joseph B. Gibson and George H. Shanley. Vermont native Joseph B. Gibson (1862-1918) arrived in Montana from North Dakota in 1891. He was the first engineer and architect to become identified with Kalispell. He assisted in much of the development work in the city, laid out the town (with a man named Hawes), and served as Flathead County Engineer for six years and as County Assessor for a similar period. Gibson drew the plans for many of the larger and more important buildings in Kalispell including the Masonic Temple, the Young Men’s Christian Association building, and the Buffalo block.<sup>15</sup>

George Shanley was born in Burlington, Vermont, in 1875 and received his education at the University of Vermont. After graduation, he worked for various architects in Duluth, Minnesota and went on to Fargo, North Dakota, to help his contractor father build St. Mary’s Cathedral. Shanley moved to Kalispell, Montana in 1898 and became a partner in the firm of Gibson and Shanley, and the firm designed many buildings in Kalispell. In 1900, Shanley moved to Butte where he became associated with State Capitol Architect John Kent, and together they designed the Graves Hotel in Harlowton (NR listed 8/6/1980). In 1907, Shanley opened an office in Great Falls, where he worked with various architects and eventually started his own firm. Until his death in 1960, Shanley designed public and private buildings throughout Montana and Wyoming. The list of buildings designed by Shanley is impressive, and includes, schools, jails, hotels, hospitals, churches, and even the remarkable 10<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge across the Missouri River in Great Falls.

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<sup>14</sup> *Choteau Acantha*, December 6, 1906.

<sup>15</sup> *Daily Interlake*, May 24, 1918; Helen Fitzgerald Sanders, *A History of Montana Volume III*, (Chicago and New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1913), p. 1490.

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*The Choteau Acantha*. Various dates. March 23, May 4, 11, 25, June 8,15, July 6,27, August 24, October 26, November 16, 1905; July 5, December 6, 1906; August 11, 1915; May 24, 1918; September 18, 1941; August 7, December 11, 1996; February 9, July 12, 2000; January 3, April 18, May 9, 2001. Choteau Public Library.

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*The Choteau Montanan*, July 9, 1915 and July 30, 1915. Choteau Public Library.

*Daily Interlake*. "Kalispell Loses One of Most Valued Citizens." Kalispell, May 24, 1918.

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Elwood, Henry. "Kalispell, Montana, and the Upper Flathead Valley." Kalispell, Montana"

Erickson, John E. <http://www.montanacapitol.com/exhibits/governorsreception/pdf/eroclspm/pdf> (10-23-2004).

Gibson and Shanley Architects. (Architectural drawings) Teton County Courthouse, Choteau, Montana n.d .(1905)Courthouse Vault (Note: Attempted to copy blueprints but they were illegible.)

*Great Falls Tribune*. "George Shanley, Falls Architect, Dies at 85. November 5, 1960." Great Falls Public Library.

LaBaugh. Donald. Black and White Photographs of the Teton County Courthouse. March 25, 2006. Negatives with Nancy Thornton.

Sanders, Helen Fitzgerald. *A History of Montana Volume III*. Chicago and New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1913.

Shanley, George H. (Architectural drawing and specifications) Alterations and Additions to the Teton County Courthouse, Choteau, Montana, July 1915. Courthouse Vault.

Spectrum Group Architects. (Architectural drawing) Teton County Courthouse ADA Renovations, Choteau, Montana Sheets A1,2,C1.1 and CO.1. February 26, 2001, Courthouse Vault.

Teton County. Deeds from Morris and Lizzie Sands, Morris Sands as executor for Julius Sands, and R.S. and Sue M. Ford to Teton County, recorded October 24, 1905 Courthouse Vault.

Teton County. Index to Minutes of the Teton County Commissioners. 1893-1914. Courthouse Vault.

Teton County History Committee, comp. "Teton County, A History." Choteau, Montana"

Teton County History Committee, 1988, personal copy.

Thomas, Mathew M., et.al. "Results of a Cultural Resources Inventory of the Fairfield to Dupuyer Study Corridor, Teton and Pondera Counties, Montana," prepared for the Montana Department of Transportation by Historical Research Associates, Inc., November 2000. On file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, CRABS Document #ZZ 4-23222. Montana State Historic Preservation Office.

Nancy Thornton. Digital Photographs of Teton County Courthouse. April 4 and 21, 2006. First floor clerk's office, front stairs, courtroom interior, galvanized iron modillions, wooden roof brackets, stairway to tower, tower interior, porch detain tie rod.

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U.S.G.S. (Graphic) Excerpt from Choteau Quadrangle highlighting courthouse block, 1987. Personal Copy

“United States Post Office, 200 East Broadway, Missoula, Montana National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form,” on file at Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

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See continuation sheet

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property:** Less than one

**UTM References: Zone Easting Northing (NAD 27)**  
 A 12 411551 5295727

**Legal Location (Township, Range & Section(s)):** SW ¼ NE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 25, T24N R5W, Montana Prime Meridian

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary for the Teton County Courthouse is defined by the Courthouse Block, Choteau Town Plat.

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**Boundary Justification**

The boundary for the Teton County Courthouse encompasses the courthouse block. The courthouse block includes the property historically associated with the courthouse.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title: Nancy Thornton  
 organization: Friends of Old Agency on the Teton, Inc. date: September 2006  
 street & number: PO Box 1482 telephone: 406-466-5168  
 city or town: Choteau state: MT zip code: 59422

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**Property Owner**

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name/title: Teton County  
 street & number: PO Box 610 telephone: (406) 466-2151  
 city or town: Choteau state: MT zip code: 59422

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National Park Service

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Aerial 2005