



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: McGee House

other name/site number: 24FH

2. Location

street & number: 454 First Avenue East North

not for publication: n/a  
vicinity: n/a

city/town: Kalispell

state: Montana code: MT county: Flathead code: 029 zip code: 59901

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. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Marilyn Shoy MT SHPO 6-28-94  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency or bureau

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): \_\_\_\_\_

for  
Signature of the Keeper  
Edson H. Beall Date of Action 6-24-94

Entered in the  
National Register

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### 5. Classification

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Ownership of Property:  private     public-local     public-State     public-Federal

Category of Property:  building(s)     district     site     structure     object

#### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>  2  </u>	<u>  0  </u> building(s)
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u> sites
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u> structures
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u> objects
<u>  2  </u>	<u>  0  </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Properties of Kalispell, Montana

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### 6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions:  
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions:  
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

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### 7. Description

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Architectural Classification:  
other: Craftsman Cottage

Materials:  
foundation: CONCRETE  
roof: ASPHALT  
walls: STUCCO  
other: N/A

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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The McGee House is an excellent example of builder's vernacular influenced by the English Cottage and Craftsman styles of architecture. The one-story residence has a hipped gable roof and stucco siding. The wide eaves are supported by brackets. The most distinctive feature is the eyebrow dormer on the east (front) of the house, which gives light to a closet. The front porch has stuccoed porch supports connected by arches. The windows are four-over-one-light wooden double-hung units, and the house sits on a full concrete basement. The central chimney and the chimney on the south have decorative brickwork. There is a hipped gable dormer on the west; in 1987 the room behind this was converted to a bathroom. The house has four bedrooms and 1 and 3/4 baths. Interesting interior features include beveled glass in the front door, a linen closet with drawers, and the original kitchen cupboards.

At the rear of the lot is a two-car garage with narrow-reveal clapboard siding and a hipped gable roof covered with composition shingles. The garage was built at the same time as the house. The eaves are supported by brackets and the building has exposed rafter tails. An old concrete path on the south side of the house is now blocked by a wooden fence.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Period(s) of Significance: 1933

Significant Person(s): n/a

Significant Dates: 1933

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder(s): Wilson/McGee, Oscar, and Volin, B. C.

### NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McGee House was built in 1933 by its original owner, Oscar McGee, and his son-in-law. The general contractor's name was Wilson. The house is a representative example of houses built in Kalispell in the 1930s that reflect a builder's vernacular that combines elements of the English Cottage and Craftsman architectural styles. The residence is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion C for architecture as a distinctive example of early 1930s domestic architecture in Kalispell.

The McGee House was built in 1933 for trucker and logging contractor Oscar (James) McGee and his wife Ethel when they moved into Kalispell from an outlying area. They lived in the residence until approximately 1947 (Ethel passed away in 1945). It was built by McGee and his son-in-law B. C. Volin, and the contractor was named Wilson (it is not known whether Wilson was a local contractor). Oscar McGee lived in the Flathead Valley from 1918 until his death in 1953. He and his wife Ethel had five children. The McGees owned the house until 1944.

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### 9. Major Bibliographic References

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*Daily Inter Lake*: "James McGee," May 6, 1953, p. 2.  
Heller, Cathie (current owner), interview with Sheryl Main, February 19, 1992.  
Kalispell City Directories, 1930-47.

**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 (City of Kalispell)  
 University  
 Other -- Specify Repository: Flathead County Library, Kalispell

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### 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreeage of Property:** less than one acre

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	11	699610	5342290

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

Block 231, lot 6, Section 7, Township 28 North, Range 21 West, Montana Principal Meridian.

**Boundary Justification**

The legally recorded boundary of this property encompasses the significant resources.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title: Kathy McKay, Historian	date: May 1993
street & number: 491 Eckelberry Dr.	telephone: (406) 892-1538
city or town: Columbia Falls	state: Montana zip code: 59912

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### Property Owner

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name/title: Steven W. and Catherine L. Heller	
street & number: PO Box 2793	telephone:
city or town: Kalispell	state: MT zip code: 59903