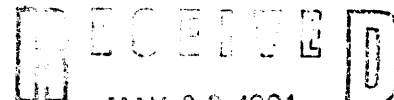


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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



MAY 09 1991

NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Caple, W. T., House

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: 210 Church Street

not for publication: n/a  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

city/town: Stevensville

state: Montana code: MT county: Ravalli code: 081 zip code: 59870

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>3</u>	_____ building(s)
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>3</u>	_____ Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of Stevensville, Montana: 1866-1941.

4. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.

Maurelle Shep MTSHPC 4-8-91  
Signature of certifying official Date

MONTANA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
State or Federal agency and 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

\_\_\_ See Continuation Sheet

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

**Entered In the  
National Register**

entered in the National Register Shelore Byers 6/19/91

\_\_\_ See Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ See Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ See Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]  
Signature of Keeper

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

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## 6. Function or Use

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Historic: Domestic/single dwelling

Current: Domestic/single dwelling

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## 7. Description

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Architectural Classification: Late 19th and Early 20th Century Revivals/Dutch Colonial Revival

Materials:        foundation: concrete  
                  walls: wood  
                  roof: asphalt shingle  
                  other: weatherboard

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Caple House is a Dutch Colonial Revival style house that features a front-facing gambrel roof that is bisected by cross gambrel dormers. The house stands on a rock-faced cast concrete block foundation. The full-width engaged front porch is supported by four Doric columns set on wooden piers. The porch also features a turned spindle balustrade and lattice work beneath. Two additional columns support the projecting centered pedimented entablature over the wide, concrete front steps. The main entrance is located south of center, and the door is glazed with oval beveled glass. There is a small leaded glass window to the south of the door, and a larger cottage window with a transom to the north. Narrow reveal beveled wooden siding covers the exterior of the house. The gambrel roof is covered with asphalt shingles and features boxed return gambrel ends.

With the exception of the small decorative, multi-light, beveled-glass window on the facade, 1-over-1 double hung units are used throughout the building. The windows are symmetrically placed as single units or in pairs, with the exception of the three 1-over-1 double hung windows centered on the second story of the facade above the projecting porch pediment. A bay window is centered under the gambrel end of the first story on the south elevation.

A highly compatible, small hip-roofed addition has been recently constructed at the rear of the building (east). The addition is set on a poured concrete foundation and has narrow reveal beveled siding that matches the siding used on the main structure. Windows are double-hung, 1-over-1 units. A wooden deck wraps around the southeast corner of the addition. An open roof pergola is supported by Doric columns, which are compatible with those on the front porch. The enclosure of the back porch and the construction of rear pergola do not detract significantly from the overall character and style of the home. Overall, the historic character and materials of this Colonial Revival style residence have been well maintained.

### Outbuildings

There are two small, wood frame outbuildings located to the back of the lot. Both buildings appear to have been constructed during the historic period and are considered to be contributing elements of the property. Both buildings have gable roofs and are sided with weatherboard. The original double wooden doors are still in place on both buildings.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: C                      Areas of Significance: Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a                      Period(s) of Significance: 1909

Significant Person(s): n/a    Significant Dates: 1909

Cultural Affiliation: n/a    Architect/Builder: Rodgers, W. R.

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State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The W.T. Caple residence is an excellent, locally significant example of early 20th century Dutch Colonial Revival design that retains a high degree of historic architectural integrity. Located on Church Street, the house claims a prominent position along the streetscape of single family detached residences. Outstanding character-defining features of the house include the cross-gambrel roof plan with enclosed soffits, the engaged, full-width front porch with Tuscan support columns, decorative diamond-pattern window sash, and narrow gauge beveled siding. The Caple residence also obtains importance because of its association with W.R. Rodgers, a prominent Stevensville architect, who designed a number of locally significant buildings, including the Thornton Hospital and the First State Bank of Stevensville.

The house was built for W.T. Caple, an individual who capitalized on the general prosperity and rapid growth in the Bitter Root Valley during the century's first decade. As a successful rancher and real estate agent, W.T. Caple was able to profit from the high degree of land speculation that occurred during the period from 1900-1910.

W.T. Caple (1856-1923) married Josephine Buck (1860-1948) in 1878 in Marshfield, Missouri.<sup>1</sup> Both W.T. and Josephine Caple took part in the Stevensville social life. Josephine was a charter member of the Women's Society of Christian Services. Both were active in the Methodist Church.

Prior to moving to their new house at 210 Church Street in 1909, the Caples lived in another house on College Street. They sold this property and rented a cast concrete block home on Pine Street from its builder, D.C. Cannon. After architect W.R. Rodgers completed their new home in 1909, the Stevensville Register proclaimed the Caple House to be one of the most attractive and nicely furnished homes built that year.<sup>2</sup>

Ownership of this property passed through the hands of Charles Lombard, the Methodist-Episcopal Church and Albert May before W.T. Caple purchased it on May 17, 1909 for \$1,000.00. Caple purchased the property from Albert May, whose house is located on the lots directly south. The Caples had previously farmed in the Burnt Fork area, until W.T. retired from farming and moved to Stevensville. W.T. Caple took advantage of the boom which was affecting Stevensville at this time and became a real estate agent. Preferring<sup>3</sup> the rural life, however, the Caples soon relocated to their son's ranch outside of town.

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<sup>1</sup>Ravalli Republic, August 23, 1948.

<sup>2</sup>Stevensville Register, December 23, 1909.

<sup>3</sup>Progressive Men of Montana, A.W. Bowers, Chicago, IL, 1902, p. 1646.

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## 9. References

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Missoula Herald, Missoula, Montana, Special Edition, January 1, 1909.  
Missoulian, Missoula, Montana, December 15, 1912; June 12, 1949; August 14, 1949.  
Stevensville Historical Society, Montana Genesis (Missoula: Mountain Press, 1971).  
Stevensville Register, Stevensville, Montana, Special Edition, December 23, 1909.  
Ravalli Republic, Hamilton, Montana, August 23, 1948.  
Progressive Men of Montana, C.W. Bowers, Chicago, Illinois, 1902.

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 acre

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	11	723160	5154660

Verbal Boundary Description:

Stevensville Townsite, Block 14, north 14' of Lots 14, 15, and 16 and south ½ of lot 17.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property includes the lots upon which the historic building is situated.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Kathleen M. Olson  
Street & Number: 237 South 2nd West  
City or Town: Missoula State: Montana

Date: revised October 1990  
Telephone: 406/728-7523

Zip: 59801