

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 22 1979 JUL 5 1979
DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Miles City Steam Laundry

AND/OR COMMON

Miles City Laundry and Dry Cleaners

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

800 Bridge Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Miles City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Eastern Montana 2

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Montana

CODE

30

COUNTY

Custer

CODE

017

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

M C L Corporation

STREET & NUMBER

800 Bridge Street

CITY, TOWN

Miles City

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Montana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Custer County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

1010 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Miles City

STATE

Montana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Miles City Laundry & Cleaners is housed in a detached two story unreinforced brick structure measuring 51' x 116'. The foundation rests on spread footings. The building has a wood frame, roof and floors. Over 1/3 of the first floor is now a concrete slab on grade--recently replacing the old wooden floor. The remaining first floor level is composed of wood joists supported by side walls. The second floor joists are supported by the exterior masonry walls and interior heavy timber beams which rest on hollow core steel columns.

The interior ceiling height is almost 13' -- averaging 12' - 11". The small public area is located in the northwest corner of the building. A small office is located east of this along the Bridge Street side of the building. The large laundry room occupies the majority of the first floor area, with a boiler room across the rear. The laundry room has a wood beam ceiling.

The building was erected in 1908 as a one story rectangular building; the second floor was added c.1910-12. There are two one story additions that have been made, also. One of these spaces was originally used as a garage but has since been converted to laundry usage. The second floor is utilized for stations of the laundry business and for storage. The building has always been used as a laundry.

The double hung wood windows are tall rectangular units, 1/1 lights, and set in flattened or segmental arches of soldier bricks. The first floor window units on the front facing onto Bridge Street have been changed in recent years. Today these are casement units with transom lights and are set within the original window openings.

Access to the building is gained through the Bridge Street facade. A single wood door with a large glass panel gives access to the public area of the business. Above the door there is a rectangular transom light. Three concrete steps rise from the sidewalk to the first floor of the laundry, about 20" above the sidewalk.

There are two other doors located on the Eighth Street facade plus a recently installed overhead door that replaced two windows in the fourth bay of the west wall. The overhead door was installed in May of 1978 where some large cracks had developed in the brickwork; it enables newer and larger equipment to be brought in.

The building is relatively unadorned. There are brick pilasters at the corners, and the Eighth Street facade is divided into five bays by two story pilasters that rise up to the cornice. There are five corbelled brick courses that project out from the walls. Brick corbelling occurs again above the first floor windows. Here the corbelling is only three courses. A string course of brick beneath the first floor window sills is found. The second floor line has a string course of corbelled brick. Both string courses are interrupted by pilasters. The front, or Bridge Street facade, has brick pilasters only on the first floor and not above. A single brick chimney projects above the roof adjacent to the parapet wall on the Eighth Street facade. Upper courses of this brick chimney were scheduled to be relaid on May, 1978.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Major vertical cracks (the largest 3/4" wide) were in evidence along the south and west walls as a result of settling of the southwest corner foundation (approximately 1" settling). "A steel rod was installed along the south wall near the roof level, tying the east and west walls together. The tie recovered a portion of the movement and stopped further cracking at that level." (R.P. Whitten Associates report, Dec. 21, 1977). All cracks interior and exterior at lintel locations were to be grouted and filled with epoxy. The structure was sandblasted, repainted and repaired (brick work) prior to May 1978.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1908 / c. 1910 BUILDER/ARCHITECT George Stockhill

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

HISTORY:

Miles City, named for General Nelson A. Miles, grew up on the outskirts of Fort Keogh about 1876-78 as the fort was being built under the leadership of Col. (then) Miles. The inhabitants of the town were traders, freighters, saloon keepers, and frontier "characters". As the fort became established, so did the town, with citizens who were more settled. The railroad reached the town in November, 1881, bringing with it a reliable connection to the East, and displacing the wilder element.

Cyrus Hugg (Larry) Mott, a steam engineer from Minneapolis, came to Miles City in 1892 to operate the electric light plant which had been established only a short time. When the city of Miles City took over the light plant, Mott became superintendent of the Municipal Light Plant and City Water Works.

About 1900 Mott started the Miles City Steam Laundry, which became a successful business in the growing town. He purchased the lots on which this building stands on August 17, 1908, and on September 30, 1908 obtained a mortgage from the Commercial State Bank for \$13,000, presumably for constructing the building. It was built by George Stockhill, a local contractor, using bricks made locally. Between 1910 and 1912 a second story was added to the building, with Stockhill again doing the construction.

Larry Mott served as alderman on the Miles City city council for several terms, then was mayor from 1913 until 1920. Three years later he was elected county commissioner and acted in this capacity for sixteen years. He was also a member of the Custer County High School Board for seven years.

In addition to his business and his political activities, Larry Mott had another interesting facet to his career. He owned a ranch near Miles City, in the Moon Creek area, and in 1912, following a Miles City wild west show, he gave a home to a couple of buffalo that had been used for the celebration. Later he added a bull and three heifers to this group and these became the nucleus for a buffalo herd that was maintained there until 1942. The herd was a tourist attraction and a local item of interest.

The laundry established by C.H. (Larry) Mott continues today. The second owner was his son, George C. Mott. The present owner, Terry Cline, bought the business from George Mott in 1966. It operates in the same building, serving the community that has grown out of the frontier village known as Milestown.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Miles City Steam Laundry, then, meets criteria B for National Register

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Yellowstone Journal, Miles City, Montana, Historical Edition, Sept. 27, 1900
Fanning the Embers, pp. 301 & 552 (1971)
Miles City Daily Star, May 24, 1934 (Golden Jubilee Ed.), Sec. 3, p. 16
 Abstract on the property
 Interview with Bruce Mott, 411 S. Custer, Miles City, Montana

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15.85 percent of 1 acre *less than one*

QUADRANGLE NAME MILES CITY

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,3 43,49,1,0 5,13,93,2,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 10 and 11 in block 62 of the town, now city, of Miles City, Montana, being located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Bridge street and Eighth Street

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Terry A. Cline, John N. DeHaas, Jr., Architect and

edited by Kingston Heath, State Architectural Historian May 9, 1979

ORGANIZATION Historic Preservation, Montana Historical Society DATE

STREET & NUMBER 225 North Roberts

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Helena

406-449-4584

STATE

Montana

Montana

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

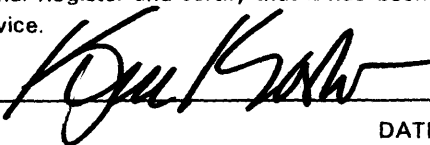
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE

DATE May 14, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles F. ...

DATE 7.5.79

ATTEST: William H. ...

7.5.79

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

designation: the present structure which has continued to operate as a steam laundry since its inception, is closely identified with its original owner, Larry Mott, whose abilities in engineering, politics and ranching have attained local significance.