

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91000727 Date Listed: 6/18/91

Charles Amos Buck House Ravalli MT
Property Name County State

Stevensville MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

fn *Patricia Bik*
Signature of the Keeper

6/20/91
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: The Period of Significance reads 1885-1910 for Architecture and 1913-1941 for Commerce and Politics/Government.

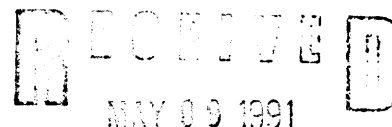
This information was confirmed with Patricia Bik of the Montana SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

727

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Buck, Charles Amos, House

other name/site number: Smola/Buck House

2. Location

street & number: 211 Buck 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not for publication: n/a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>5</u>	_____ building(s)
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>5</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.

Manville Dept MT SHPO 4-9-91
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 Autaineth Lee 6/18/91

___ 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): _____

for _____
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Domestic/single dwelling

Current: Domestic/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements: Craftsman

Materials: foundation: concrete
 walls: wood
 roof: wood shingle

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Charles Amos Buck house is a one-story, Craftsman style residence of wood frame construction. The plan is symmetrical and T-shaped with intersecting, moderately-pitched, gabled roofs. The eaves project, and are decorated with single brackets. Hip knobs are located at the gabled peaks and flashing runs along the ridges. A brick chimney is located on the south half of the main gable. Another brick chimney is located on the northwest half of the main gable. The roof is shingled with wood; the house is sided with weatherboard. The house rests on a concrete foundation. Fenestration is comprised of double-hung, wooden windows, arranged with multi-light decorative, diamond-pattern sash in the upper window over single lights. The transom over the front door also features diamond-pattern wooden sash. The windows are hung singly, in pairs or triplets.

The main entrance faces east toward Buck Street. A porch spans the entire front of the house. The roof is supported by compound posts in four groupings symmetrically spaced. Each set of posts rests on a wooden base between which a simple, open-rail balustrade encloses the porch. Steps lead to a central entrance. Above the door is a decorative, leaded glass transom. Large, double-hung, 2-over-2 windows with leaded upper panels are placed in pairs, symmetrically on either side of the doorway. The porch is supported by concrete footings. Diagonal lattice covers the crawl space.

Along the north side of the rear wing, the gable roof, supported by two square posts, extends to form a shed covering over a side porch. This porch, originally open, was partially enclosed in 1976, and a 1-by-1, casement window was installed in the north wall. A door is centered in the west wall. Also, a gabled addition housing a bedroom was added at the southwest, rear corner in 1931. This addition is compatible with the original portion of the house.

The house retains an extraordinarily high degree of historic architectural integrity. Interior woodworking, including the oak mantle and fireplace and pillared room dividers remain in very good condition.

Of particular note about this property is the fact that a number of historic apple trees from Stevensville's first orchard planted by Amos Buck continue to thrive. The tree to the northwest of the house is a Red Mackintosh that was planted in 1879.

X See Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Charles Amos Buck House

Page 1

Outbuildings

The ice house, dating to 1885, was built by Amos Buck, the man who originally settled on this property in Stevensville and established the first apple orchard in town. Now used as a tool shed, the ice house has a concrete floor. The double wall construction of vertical wooden planks has saw dust insulation packed between the interior and exterior walls. The building measures ca. 10' x 10' and has a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles.

The stable/barn also dates to the mid-1880s, and is a large, gable-roofed building with a lean-to shed addition on the north side. The building is 1½ stories in height and is sheathed with vertical board and batten siding. A hay loft is located above the animal stalls at the ground level. The interior floor is constructed of wooden planks. Likely the building sets on a stone foundation, but this is not visible above ground. Double wooden doors provide access to the building on the south elevation. The roof is covered with wood shingles.

The apple packing house is a cast concrete block building with no windows and only a single door in the north gable end. The lots behind the house originally were the location of the Buck apple orchard and it was here that the apples were cooled and packed for shipment. This may be the only apple packing shed left in Stevensville. The gable roof is covered with metal sheathing. Concrete block was manufactured in Stevensville during the early years of the 20th century, and this building was likely constructed ca. 1908.

The warehouse, used to store goods for the Buck grocery and hardware establishment on Main Street, was rebuilt by Charles Amos Buck in 1926 to resemble its present appearance. Vertical board and batten siding covers the exterior walls, and the gable roof is sheathed with metal. Double hinged wooden doors open on the west gable end.

8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: B, C

Areas of Significance: Architecture
Commerce
Politics/Government

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Period(s) of Significance: 1885-1941

Significant Person(s): Charles Amos Buck

Significant Dates: 1885, 1908, 1910, 1926

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder: unknown

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

The Charles Amos Buck House is a highly significant home within the community of Stevensville. It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places on its architectural merits, as an excellent, well-preserved example of a Craftsman style cottage. The Charles Amos Buck House is additionally significant for its associations with one of Stevensville's most prominent pioneer families, and specifically, for the association with its original owner, Charles Amos Buck.

Charles Buck's activities throughout his career as a leading local merchant and political figure reflects the continuing influences the Buck family continued to have in the Stevensville community through the early 20th century. During the early 20th century, as the town of Stevensville matured, Charles Amos Buck made important contributions to the community through his participation in commerce and local government. Because none of the Buck's business structures remain, their residences serve as an important historical link with their productive endeavors in the community.

Charles Amos Buck, born in 1887, was the only son of Amos and Rosa Buck. The Buck family wielded tremendous influence in the commercial affairs of the emerging Stevensville community, beginning in the early 1870s. Amos Buck, along with his brothers (Fred, Henry and George) became involved in the early Montana freighting, ranching and most importantly, retail opportunities. They operated The Buck Brothers mercantile from 1876 until 1885, making runs periodically between Salt Lake City and the Bitterroot Valley to supply local settlers. The partnership was dissolved during the mid-1880s, and brothers Amos and George established the Amos Buck and Company mercantile, later the Amos Buck Mercantile Company. The business survived Stevensville's 1905 "Post Office" fire, and moved to a new location during the spring of 1907.

Born into this Stevensville dynasty, Charles Amos Buck attended the Stevensville Training School and later acquired a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Montana. Charles returned to Stevensville, upon his father's retirement in 1913, to join his mother and uncle (George May) in "Buck Commercial". Charles married Mildred May of Oxford, Michigan in 1910. That year they completed their one-story bungalow located on the lots just south of his parents' residence.

Both Charles Amos and Mildred Buck were active in the political, religious and social life of the Stevensville community. The community elected Charles to the town council, he served as an alderman for 6 years. Charles Amos Buck was elected mayor of Stevensville in 1938; he served a 5-year term. During his term, he was instrumental in the construction of the reservoir east of town and the installation of the first street lighting system.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8

Charles Amos Buck House

Page 1

Charles also devoted a great deal of time to the establishment of Fort Owen as a State Monument in 1956 and consequently to its preservation.

Continuing the family tradition of retail merchandising, Charles Amos Buck purchased George May's interest in "Buck Commercial" in 1942. He ultimately closed the doors in 1953.

The Charles Amos Buck home remains in family ownership; it is currently owned by Dortha Smola and Gordon C. Buck, Charles and Mildred Buck's children.

Architecturally, the Buck residence is a fine example of a small, Craftsman cottage, embodying many of the characteristics that define the style. The house has a typical horizontal emphasis established by the single-story plan, gently-pitched roof, and grouped fenestration rhythms. In addition, the spacious porch and detailing such as the diamond pattern motif on the windows, the compound porch posts, the decorative bracketing under the eaves are all common to this style.

The Charles Amos Buck House remains in its original location, very nearly in its original condition. Furthermore, the property has been maintained in order to retain the original surroundings and ambiance of the site. The addition of the rear bedroom occurred within the period of significance for this property and does not compromise the overall character of the structure. The enclosure of the rear, side porch in 1976, and installation of new window units on the bedroom addition are not sympathetic to the original design, however, these are minor alteration and do not impact the integrity of the building severely.

9. References

- Abstract of Title, Stevensville Townsite, Block 17, Lots 7 and 8.
Buck, Charles Amos, "Seventy-fifth Anniversary, Buck Brothers", unpublished manuscript, 1951.
Missoula Herald, Missoula, Montana, Special Edition, January 1, 1909.
Missoulian, Missoula, Montana, December 15, 1912; June 12, 1949; August 14, 1949.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Ltd., "Map of Stevensville, Montana", 1909, 1927 (New York).
Smola, Dorothy, Interview by Patricia Bik, November 28, 1990, Stevensville, Montana.
Smola, Dorothy, Personal Communication with Kathleen Olson, 1988.
Stevensville Historical Society, Montana Genesis (Missoula: Mountain Press, 1971).
Stevensville Register, Stevensville, Montana, October 11, 1905; August 29, 1906; Special Edition, December 23, 1909.
Western News, Hamilton, Montana, December 19, 1911.
Negative File: E Elevation, Sleeve 4, Row 4, Neg 13.

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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	11	722950	5154640

Verbal Boundary Description:

Stevensville Townsite, Block 17, Lots 7, 8, 13 and 14.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property includes the lots historically associated with the buildings.

11. Form Prepared By

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