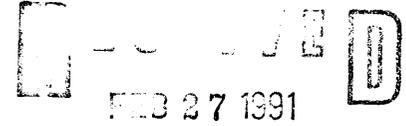


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Ping, J.J., House

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: 119 West Sixth Street

not for publication: n/a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

city/town: Hardin

state: Montana code: MT county: Big Horn code: 003 zip code: 59034

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: buildings

Number of Resources within Property:

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

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of Hardin

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. See continuation sheet.

Manella Ilay
Signature of certifying official Date 2-12-91

MT SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

**Entered in the
National Register**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register Helene Byer 4/11/91
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

for _____
Signature of Keeper Date

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: weatherboard, shingle
roof: asphalt

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This 1½ story, wood frame, Craftsman style residence sets on a concrete foundation and has a gable roof with asphalt composition shingles. The eaves have simple rafter ends with simple bracket supports at the gable ends. The two shed-roofed dormers, facing north and south, have three 3-over-1, double-hung wood sash windows, and exterior wood shingle siding. A variation in siding divides the exterior walls into three horizontal bands: wood shingles extend from the foundation to the sills of the first floor windows; above this, narrow lap siding covers to the headers of the first floor windows; wider lap siding covers the upper portions of the gable ends. A full width front porch is set under the main body of the roof and is screened. The brick chimney, located in the north center portion of the roof has a corbelled top, as do most of Hardin's Craftsman style houses.

To the rear of the lot, west of the house, sets a small, hip-roofed garage with exposed rafter ends. Sided with wood shingles, this garage dates from the early 1930s (tax record)--within the historic period of significance--and contributes to the historic value of the property.

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
Social history

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Period(s) of Significance: 1919, 1921-1937

Significant Person(s): Ping, James Jackson

Significant Dates: 1919, 1921

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 J.J. Ping House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, as an excellent example of Craftsman style residential architecture in Hardin. The house gains significance under Criterion B, for its important associations with J. J. Ping, an individual active in the business and social life of early Hardin.

The house is a very well-preserved example of Craftsman architecture, having had no additions or alterations made to the structure over the years. It typifies the Craftsman style in its square massing, projecting, upper-level dormers, and ample front porch supported by battered piers. In addition, the house achieves a characteristic horizontality through the banded fenestration rhythms, contrasting bands of wood shingle and narrow lap siding, and the low-pitched roofline with its projecting eaves and exposed rafter ends and brackets.

The original owner of the house, John Boyum, was a partner and manager of the local English and Boyum Lumber Company. During the late teens, Boyum purchased several lots in this undeveloped Hardin city addition. Although undocumented, it appears that in association with the lumber company, he developed several properties during that period, erecting sturdy homes of Craftsman design. Three houses were erected on portions of this, lot 7, by 1920. The J.J. Ping House was apparently built in 1919, and sold by Boyum to the first resident, E.B. Russell, for \$5,000. Russell was a sales clerk for W.A. Peden, owner of Hardin's first general store.

James Jackson Ping, always known as J.J., arrived with his family in Hardin on September 15, 1916, to enter the mercantile business. They started Ping's Ladies Ready to Wear with \$1,300 from the sale of their previous home in Liberal, Missouri. In 1921, they purchased this house from Ernest B. Russell, and the home is still owned today by their daughter, Margaret Ping.

J.J. and Ruth Ping were actively involved in community affairs, on many levels, throughout their lives. Ping was associated with the First National Bank, as Vice President of the Board of Directors in June of 1927. He remained with the bank for 50 years until his retirement in 1973. He also served on the school board for 15 years. Ruth was active in church work, Girl Scouts and, for many years, the Cancer Drive. Both were active in Masonic groups both locally and in the state.

Quote from Lookin Back, p. 188:

"While Ruth was always taking up new interests and hobbies, J.J. kept loyal to his great interest in gardening. He found it hard to understand anyone who didn't want to grow things.... Both were interested in having Hardin enjoy all the good things which a town can provide for its citizens, and had a part in establishing the Community Center, the Mountain View Rest Home, the Masonic Temple, the Senior Citizens' Center. J.J. was chairman of the Cemetery Board from the time it was established, and took great pride in seeing it change from a brown, dusty hillside to the green and shady place it is today. Ruth died in 1970, and J.J. in 1975. Both are buried in the cemetery they spent so many hours planning for beautifying."

X See Continuation Sheet

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8

J.J. Ping House

Page 1

Their daughter Margaret, the present owner of the residence, has carried on the family tradition of generosity to the community. She was one of the first to support the idea of a Big Horn County Historical Society, donating the old farm house and the complete grounds which now house the Historical Society. It is a real asset to the community and the county.

The J.J. Ping House is being nominated to the National Register as an addendum to Historic Resources of Hardin.

9. References

Bicentennial Committee of the Big Horn County Historical Society, Lookin' Back, Big Horn County Historical Society, Hardin, MT, 1976, pp. 187-188.
Hardin Tribune, December 19, 1919.
Hardin Tribune-Herald, January 9, 1975.
Polk, R. L. and Co. of Montana, Directory of Billings, Red Lodge and Yellowstone, Carbon, Stillwater and Big Horn Counties, (Helena and Butte: 1916, 1918).
Big Horn County Assessor, Tax Record for block 4, lot 7, center 45' x 100', Third Addition, Hardin.

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

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing
 13 297140 5067640

Verbal Boundary Description:

The J.J. Ping House is located on the center 45' x 100', Lot 7, Block 4, Third Addition, Hardin, Montana. The property is located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 23, T1S, R33E.

Boundary Justification:

These boundaries encompass the legally recorded property which contains the buildings described in this nomination.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Jackie Redding
Organization: Center on Hardin Date: July 1988
Street & Number: 204 North Center Telephone: 406/665-2137
City or Town: Hardin State: Montana Zip: 59034