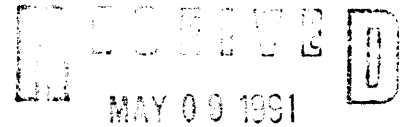


760

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL
REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Morr, Philip and Ella, House

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: 502 Buck

not for publication: n/a

city/town: Stevensville

vicinity: n/a

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>2</u>	_____ building(s)
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>2</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.

Maudie Shuff MT SHPO 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 Michael Beyer 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): _____

fu
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Domestic/single dwelling

Current: Domestic/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Other: Vernacular/Pyramidal Cottage

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

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Morr house at 502 Buck Avenue is a single-story, wood frame building built in the vernacular pyramidal cottage building tradition. The house is a simple square mass capped by a steep, pyramidal roof. The design is basically symmetrical, with little ornamentation to trim this sturdy workingman's cottage.

The house is sided with narrow clapboard simply ornamented with cornerboards and a cornice banding the top. It has a central brick chimney, and the roof has been covered with composition shingles. The house rests on a concrete foundation. Fenestration is composed of standard-sized wooden sash window units, double-hung, 1-over-1. Plain wooden window frames accent the openings.

The principal (west) facade is symmetrical and faces Buck Avenue. The centered, glazed entrance door appears to be original. A 1-over-1, double-hung window is located at each side of the elevation. A hipped-roof porch, supported on wooden posts and surrounded by a solid balustrade, extends across the front of the building. Latticework covers the crawl space under the porch.

The south elevation has two, symmetrically-placed, 1-over-1, double-hung windows, while the windows are irregularly placed on the north elevation. The east (rear) elevation is symmetrical. A hipped-roof porch extends across the building. It is likely that the porch was enclosed during the early history of this house. A small, fixed, single-pane window is located at each side of the porch. The entrance door is located in the center.

Outbuilding

A small gable-roofed shed is located to the rear (east) end of the lot. The shed is wood framed and is sheathed in weatherboard with cornerboard trim. The rafter tails of the roof remain exposed and the roof is covered with wood shingles. The shed is accessed by a 6-panel wooden door, oriented west and hinged double-doors oriented toward the north. Built within the historic period, the shed is considered to be a contributing element 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: C Areas of Significance: Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a Period(s) of Significance: c. 1900

Significant Person(s): n/a Significant Dates: c. 1900

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 Philip and Ella Morr House is representative of the small workingman's cottage, which was common in turn-of-the-century Stevensville. As a well preserved example of vernacular architecture in the pyramidal cottage form, the house is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C.

In Stevensville, examples of both frame and concrete block pyramidal cottages abound. Such cottages had broad appeal, for they were relatively inexpensive to build with readily available materials. The Philip and Ella Morr House embodies the characteristics for which the pyramidal cottage building form is named: the square, simple massing capped by a steep pyramidal roof. Like many houses in this vernacular tradition, it is the form itself which provides much of the visual interest; there is little ornamentation.

In Stevensville, most of these cottages have experienced considerable alteration; however, this house retains a high degree of integrity. The original historic fabric, including cladding, doors, windows, front porch, chimney and detailing, has been largely retained. Alterations are limited to the enclosure of the back porch and the replacement of the roof's wood shingles with composition shingles. Currently, set on its small lot in a residential neighborhood, the Philip and Ella Morr House accurately represents its historic associations and appearance, providing an excellent example of vernacular architecture in Stevensville at the turn of the century.

In 1908, Richard Hughes purchased lots 23, 24, and 25 from Susan Vandercook. The chain of title indicates that the property had passed from Amos and Henry Buck to Vandercook some time after 1895. In 1908, Hughes, a single man, sold lot 25 to Robert H. Wood and lots 23-24 to Howard Lancaster.¹ Wood, in turn, sold this property to Edward Perry, who sold it to Philip Morr and his wife Ella. The Morrs, an older couple, lived in the house in 1910.² These circumstances, and the house's vernacular design, strongly suggest that Vandercook built the house sometime around 1900.

Philip Morr operated a pool hall on the corner of Second and Main, where the Gleason Hotel is now located. He did not, however, own the property. When Gleason purchased the lot, Morr moved his equipment out of the building.³ Morr then purchased the building and moved it to the lot directly east of the Gleason Hotel;⁴ it still stands today.

¹ Chain of Title; Stevensville Register, June 11, 1909.

²Chain of Title; 1910 Census.

³Stevensville Register, January 20, 1910.

⁴North West Tribune, February 4, 1910.

9. References

Abstract of Title, Stevensville Townsite, Pleasantville Addition, Block 9, Lot 25.
Missoula Herald, Missoula, Montana, Special Edition, January 1, 1909.
Missoulian, Missoula, Montana, December 15, 1912; June 12, 1949; August 14, 1949.
Northwest Tribune, February 4, 1910; March 31, 1922.
Sanborn Map Co. Ltd., Sanborn Maps for Stevensville, Montana, 1910 and 1927, Sanborn Map Co., New York
Stevensville Historical Society, Montana Genesis (Missoula: Mountain Press, 1971).
Stevensville Register, Stevensville, Montana, Special Edition, December 23, 1909.
U.S. Department of Commerce, Twelfth U.S. Census, 1910, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Western News, Hamilton, Montana, December 19, 1911.
Negative File: W. Elevation, Sleeve 4, Row 3, Neg 7

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
	11	722900	5154240

Verbal Boundary Description:

Stevensville Townsite, Pleasantville Addition, Block 9, Lot 25

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property includes the lot historically associated with the building.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Frank Grant
Street & Number: 544 Hastings
City or Town: Missoula State: Montana

Date: revised October 1990
Telephone: 406/549-2468
Zip: 59801