

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received DEC 23 1986

date entered

JAN 22 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Christ Episcopal Church and Rectory

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number Southwest corner of Poppleton and Main Streets

N/A not for publication

city, town Sheridan

N/A vicinity of

state Montana

code 030

county Madison

code 057

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Episcopal Diocese of Montana

street & number 515 N. Park

city, town Helena

N/A vicinity of

state Montana

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Madison County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Virginia City

state Montana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

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 <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Christ Episcopal Church and Rectory nomination consists of four buildings, two of which are historic and contribute to the significance of the property. The one story gable roofed church was built in 1896 with local granite stone and stands on the corner of W. Poppleton and Main Sts. in Sheridan (1980 pop. 646). West of the church is the two story, gambrel roofed rectory, completed in early 1906 also of granite stone, and a small wood frame garage, constructed ca. 1900, stands at the back of the lot. Located between the two primary historic buildings, with about 20 feet on each side, is a small, one story c.1960 parish hall, which does not contribute to the significance of the complex.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, constructed 1896.

Christ Episcopal Church is a rectangular-shaped building with two gable projections facing east toward Main St. Constructed of uncoursed, rock faced, rubble stone granite from the foundation to the eaves, the church has a steep gable roof with a tall corbeled brick chimney on the east pitch. An open bell tower with a slotted balustrade and hipped roof was added in May 1901. The southeastern gable features two carved wooden doors flanked on the sides and top by cedar shingles; this replaced the original arched, recessed entrance in 1984. The gable end is sheathed with bands of square butt and hexagonal-shaped cedar shingles. The northeastern gable, which projects further toward Main St., has a narrow entrance with transom, imbrication from the eaves to the ridge, and a south-facing fixed stained glass window. Tripled stained glass, lancet windows are located between the two projecting gables. The main, south gable end features tripled, leaded glass windows and a large circular stained glass window above. Square and hexagonal-shaped shingles cover the upper part of the gable end. The west wall has two sets of stained glass windows and a cellar entrance. The north elevation features three tall, narrow, gothic style stained glass windows in the upper gable. Wide eaves expose sawn rafters throughout the structure.

The cement walkway to the church was laid in 1924 and new electric light fixtures were added in 1927. Interior oak pews and alter of the church, removed from the historic St. John's Episcopal Church in Pony, Montana, were installed in 1945. New cement steps and ramp to the front entry were added in 1984. Alterations to the original entrance and replacement of the original doors with double paneled wooden doors also occurred in 1984. The door replacement was the only major alteration to the exterior of the building.

RECTORY and GARAGE, constructed 1905 and ca. 1900, respectively.

Approximately 45 feet west of the church is the rectory, a two story stone and frame house with four intersecting gambrel roofs. The first floor of the rectory has thick, uncoursed stone walls up to the eaves. All window sills are of brick covered with concrete and the lintels are of carved wood.

The main (north) elevation has a glass and panel door with transom to the west and paired, 1/1 double hung windows. The gambrel gable end has a pent roof and tripled 1/1 double hung windows. Square butt shingles cover each side of the windows, while hexagonal-shaped shingles sheath the area from the window tops to

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Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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the ridge. The same shingle pattern is carried on the west and east gable ends. The west wall features paired 1/1 double hung windows in the northwest corner and a smaller 1/1 double hung sash toward the rear. Above the pent roof are two 1/1 double hung windows. The south (rear) elevation has a six panel door, three 1/1 double hung sashes and a cellar entrance. Paired 1/1 double hung windows light the second floor, and square shingles cover the upper gable. The east wall features a three-sided bay with a cottage window and recessed panels above, flanked by two 1/1 double hung windows. The second floor has a 1/1 double hung sash. Two brick chimneys pierce the roof.

A small wood frame garage behind the rectory was built in the early 1900s. It dates from the historic period, but is not counted as a contributing element because of its small size and scale.

PARISH HALL, constructed ca. 1960.

Situated between the church and rectory is the one story parish hall, a gable roofed, rectangular-shaped, wood frame building covered with masonite siding. It is a non-contributing element. The primary facade of the church is oriented toward So. Main St., with the parish hall and rectory located behind and oriented toward West Poppleton St. The parish hall is set back about five feet from the facade lines of both the church and the rectory along West Poppleton St., which helps to diminish its negative impact upon the historic setting.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1896,1905 **Builder/Architect** attributed to George Hancock, architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The architecturally significant Christ Episcopal Church and Rectory in Sheridan, Montana are fine examples of native rubblestone construction that exhibit many qualities of rusticated stone architecture common to Episcopalian religious buildings in America. The gray, granite glacial boulders used in the construction of the Christ Episcopal Church and Rectory were gathered from the creek beds and nearby mountains by local persons and hauled to the site by wagon and teams of two, four, and six horses. The church building may have been designed by George Hancock, an architect from Fargo, North Dakota who had offices in Bozeman, Montana from ca. 1890–1895. Hancock also designed the large, sandstone St. James Episcopal Church in Bozeman and St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Anaconda (listed in the National Register on December 19, 1978), in addition to a number of Episcopalian church buildings in North Dakota -- one of which bears close resemblance to the Sheridan church. Sheridan residents assert that the Christ Episcopal Church mimics a church in Massachusetts, which in turn was a copy of an English country church. The church and rectory buildings retain a high degree of historic architectural integrity and are very good representative examples of rustic stone architecture.

The large stained glass window in the south wall of the church was installed as a memorial for Mrs. Jennie Morrow, the first deaconess to serve this church. Between 1896–1898, Mrs. Morrow was instrumental in organizing the fund raising drive for church construction. The solid oak pews and hand carved alter were installed in the Christ Episcopal Church in 1945. These furnishings were removed from the St. John's Episcopal Church in Pony, Montana, which had fallen into disuse and disrepair.

Sheridan was served by itinerent Episcopalian ministers from nearby Jeffers or Virginia City from the time of the formation of the local congregation in 1868 until 1904, when a resident minister was assigned to Sheridan. Construction of the rectory began in July 1905 and was completed in May 1906. The rectory matches the church in the use of rubble stone on the first floor and decorative shingling in the gambrel roof ends. The Sheridan congregation's minister was moved by the Episcopalian Diocese to Hamilton, Montana in April 1911, only five years after the rectory was completed. The building was used sporadically by traveling ministers until 1940 when another permanent minister was assigned. Today, the Episcopalian rectories in both Jeffers and Virginia City have been demolished and the area minister resides at the Sheridan rectory.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Pioneer Trails and Trials. compiled by the Madison County Historical Association, no publisher, 1977, pp. 890-91.
 The Madisionian. 17 February 1945.
 "Episcopal Church - Sheridan", unpublished manuscript, Mrs. Len Foster, no date.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Sheridan, MT

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

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4	0	6	4	9	0
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5	0	3	3	8	3	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at the alley of Poppleton St. of the north-west corner of the property, proceed approximately 141 feet south, turn east and proceed about 240 feet to Main St., then proceed north about 140 feet to corner of Main & Poppleton, turn west and proceed about 240 feet to point of origin.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
None			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael Koop, National Register assistant/Survey Coordinator
 organization Montana SHPO date 17 October 1986
 street & number 225 N. Roberts telephone 406-444-7715
 city or town Helena state Montana

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 Marcella Sheffy
 title SHPO date Dec 10, 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the

date 1-22-87

[Signature]
 Keeper of the National Register

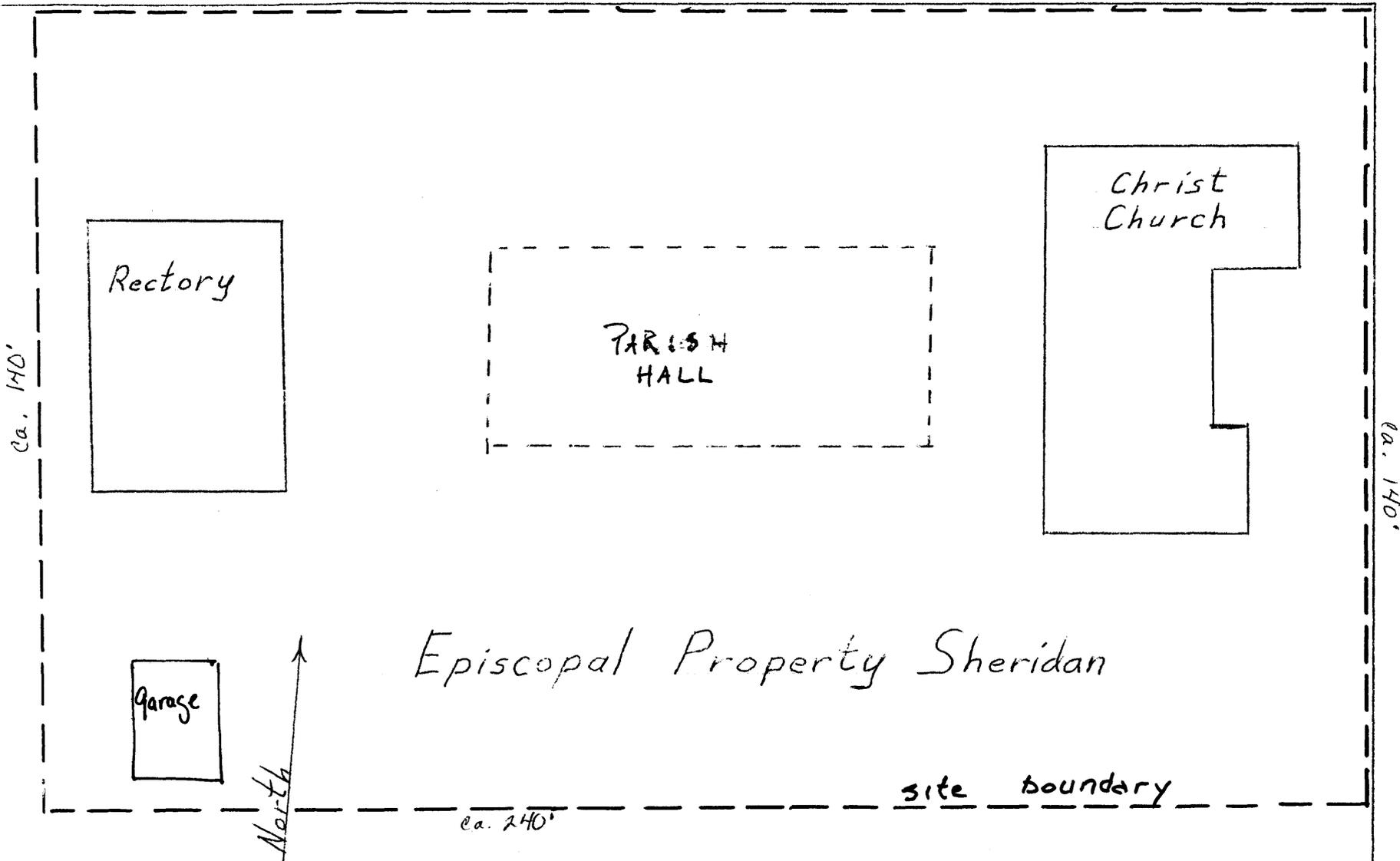
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

West Poppleton Street

ca. 240'



South Main

Episcopal Property Sheridan

site boundary

NOT TO SCALE

H. L. Haggerty Dec. 1985