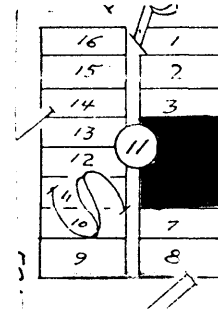


# HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

## Site#

Legal Description: PGT, Block 11, Lots 4, 5, 6

Address: 807 S. 3rd

Ownership: Name: John P. & Susie C. Moreland  
private address: same

Location map or building plan with arrow north

Roll#10 Frame#31

Historic Name: Charles Hoffman House

Common Name: Tucker House

Date of Construction: ca. 1914 x estimated

Architect: unknown

Builder: unknown

Original Owner: Charles Hoffman

Original Use: residence

Present Use: residence

## RESEARCH SOURCES:

Title Search: yes      Tax Records: yes      Bldg. Permit: no  
 Census Records: no      Sewer/Water: no      Sanborn Maps: area not shown  
 Directories: yes      Newspapers: yes

## TITLE SEARCH

Valley Merc. Co.-1910

William R. Kinder (lots 5,6)-1910

Michael J. Casserly (lot 4)-1910

Charles L. Hoffman (lots 4,5,6)-1914

Perry M. Endsley-1914

Grace M Hoffman (lots 4,5)-1915

Mary E. Endsley (lots 4,5)-1919  
Edward M. Tucker (lots 4,5)-1920  
Edward M. Tucker (lot 6)-1923  
Kate L. Morphy (lots 4,5,6)-1926  
Edward N. & Lucy H. Tucker-1927  
Lucy H. Tucker-1940

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY:

RAVALLI REPUBLICAN, July 20, 1967

#### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The Hoffman/Tucker House is a prominent, two story, wood frame building resting on a concrete foundation. Roof system is a multi-hipped roof pattern in the Prairie Style. Features include wood siding, approximately 8 inches exposure, with mitered corners. Plan is rectilinear, multi-faceted, two story except for a one story, hipped roof, open front porch. Front porch is approached by a four riser wooden step with a wood deck covered with brown indoor/outdoor carpeting. It has two lateral short walls on either side of the step. Features include: an open front porch supported by two square piers that are sided with mitered corner siding about 2 feet by 2 feet. Windows are a large picture unit in front flanked by multi-paned shutter type windows. Upper story windows are multi-lite/1 double hung, broad proportion windows with broad wood trim. Front door is solid oak with a rectilinear, full beveled, etched glass. The planter has been cut away into the front porch area. A rectilinear square chimney projects from the focal point of main hip roof and lateral hips flank it. Overhangs are heavy, approximately 3 foot with exposed rafter tails. Shingles are wood and in rather poor condition. Large brick chimney is corbelled at the top in rectilinear proportion. On the second floor in a wing projecting to the south there is a cut-away open porch with full glass lite door. To the back we see a four square pyramidal hip roof garage, low, one story with similar detailing.

#### INTEGRITY

This house appears to have excellent integrity. There are no visible alterations to be seen on the exterior. It appears to be a building possibly built about 1915, due to the concrete foundation and the wide exposure on the horizontal lap siding. The style is definitely Prairie, influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright of Chicago.

#### HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Few houses in Hamilton have a more interesting background, as to origin, than this eight room residence. In 1910, these three lots were owned by Michael Joseph Casserly and William R. Kinder. They sold lots 4 & 5 to Charles L. Hoffman in the spring of 1914. Perry M. Endsley, one of the promoters of orchard development in the 1910 era, and father of Mrs. Hoffman, secured the services of the noted architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Wright had been friends with Endsley for years in St. Paul, Minnesota. A locally published newspaper article (1) written by a long time Hamilton historian, contended that Wright designed this home and it was built in 1914 for the Hoffmans. Later in 1914, it was deeded to Perry Endsley.

In 1920, this became the home of Martin and Lucy Tucker and their family. This remained the Tucker home for 37 years. In 1957, Sam and

Foss Tucker lived here.

Footnote: 1) Ravalli Republican, July 20, 1967

Area of Significance: architecture

Specific Dates: 1914

Contributing buildings: 2

Visual analysis and available documentation does not support the local assertion that the Hoffman House was designed by nationally significant architect Frank Lloyd Wright, the property nevertheless qualifies for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C as a locally important example of Prairie School design. Although likely not the work of a master, the design of the Hoffman House was clearly influenced by the basic tenets of the Prairie School, as seen in the open floor plan, block massing, the generous overhanging roof, the emphasis on simple horizontal lines, creating an overall feeling of repose. The Hoffman House is the very finest example of Prairie School styling in Hamilton.

In 1908-09, Wright was involved in a number of projects in the area, and provided the master plan for the University Heights and Como ~~Orchards~~ projects, as well as plans and specifications for the Bitterroot Inn. Also, developers of the Big Ditch through the Bitterroot Valley were from Chicago, and some had business or social connections with Wright. Although Wright may have been personally acquainted with Perry M. Endsley in the St. Paul area, it is unlikely that Wright provided plans for Endsley's daughter and son-in-law in 1914. No reference to the Hoffman House has been found by archivists at Taliesin in any of the Wright's writings of the period. Also, by 1914, Wright's work had evolved to a considerably higher level of abstraction than evident in the Hoffman residence, which is reflects more of a Craftsman style influence upon Prairie School concepts of form and massing.

The garage located to the rear of the lot is a contributing building. Built in 1914, this one-story, hipped-roof building mimics the architectural characteristics of the house, with its 8" reveal siding with mitered corners, the overhanging roof rafters, and its 18-lite decorative window. The door to the garage has been replaced with a wooden overhead unit, but the building retains complete historic architectural integrity in all other respects.

Acreage: less than one

UTM Reference: 11/719240/5124300

Form prepared by: Kirk Michels and Ada Powell  
205 Bedford St., Hamilton, MT September 1, 1987