

MONTANA HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

JUN 25 1007

Site# PE #88



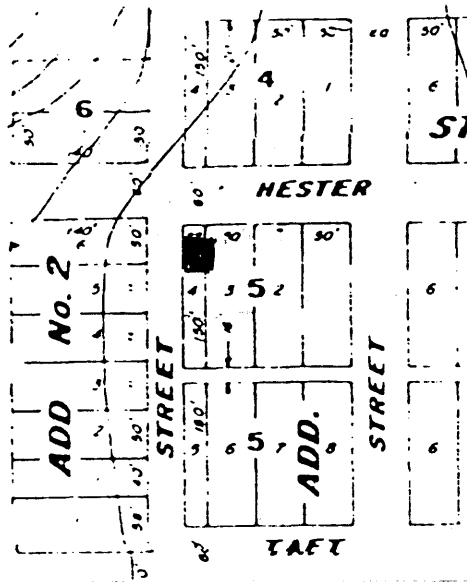
Legal Description: Stevenson Addition, Block 5, Lots 3-4

Address: 10 W. Hester Ave., Lodge Grass, MT

Ownership: Name: Phyllis Schenderline

private address: Lodge Grass, MT
 public

Roll # 4 Frame # 6



Location map or building plan with arrow north.

Historic Name: Dominic Stevens' house

Common Name: same

Date of Construction: circa 1910 estimated documented

Architect: N/A

Builder: Dominic Stevens

Original Owner: Dominic Stevens

Original Use: House

Present Use: House

RESEARCH SOURCES: Note all records consulted to determine dates of construction, original owners, builders, uses, etc.

Title Search: _____ Tax Records: yes

Bldg. Permit: _____ Census Records: yes

Sewer/Water: _____ Sanborn Maps: _____

Directories: yes Newspapers: yes

BIBLIOGRAPHY: (Footnotes CONT.):

³ Lookin' Back.

⁴ U.S. Department of Commerce, Federal Population Census Schedules, 1910 Rosebud County, MT, Federal Archives and Records Center, Denver.

⁵ R.L. Polk, Billings City and Yellowstone County Directory (Helena: R.L. Polk & Co., 1914).
(Cont. below)...

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: Describe present appearance of structure/site, then contrast and compare that with its original appearance, noting additions, alterations, and changes in materials. Discuss significant architectural features.

Square stone one and a half story dwelling. It has a modified jerkin roof design, covered with wood shingles, and Boston lap ridge. Lower story exterior is rusticated cast concrete blocks. Top story on north facade is covered by vertical cedar siding. There is a central window in the top north facade, which is the front of the house. The lower story on the north elevation has a porch, covered by a hip roof and four capital columns, a central door and two windows, one on each side of the door. There are three windows on the west facade.

Footnotes Cont.:

⁶ "Town Ownership Books," Assessor's Office, Big Horn County Court-house, Hardin.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Lookin' Back.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION: Describe the persons, important events, and/or historical patterns associated with the structure/site and surrounding area.

According to local history, Dominic Stevens was born in Connecticut in 1870, moved to Pittsburgh as a child, and in 1884 ended up in Texas. There he got a job as a trail hand and rode with a cattle herd up to Montana. He stayed for a time in the Big Timber country, on the Crow Reservation, where he met and married Mary Kent.¹ She was a daughter of Tom Kent, who brought one of the early cattle herds into Montana and lived with the Crow Indians, marrying into the tribe.² In 1902 Dominic took his family from Parkman, Wyoming to a homestead he established on Lodge Grass Creek.³ In 1910 Dominic Stevens was recorded on the U.S. census, living at Lodge Grass. The census showed him to be married, with no wife or family listed, 42 years old, born in Pennsylvania, and employed as a farmer.⁴ The 1914 Lodge Grass Directory listed D. Stevens in the cattle business, and John Stevens, his son, was a carpenter.⁵ Dominic Stevens built this house some time before 1915, for that year the county assessor credited him with \$3000 worth of improvements on this property. The house passed to John Stevens in 1923.⁶ Stevens owned it until 1953 when it was acquired by Fay Abel. Dominic Stevens passed away in 1944.

Footnote Sources: ¹ Bicentennial Committee of the Big Horn County Historical Society, Lookin' Back, Big Horn County (Hardin, Big Horn County Historical Society, 1976).

² Interview with Joe Medicine Crow, Lodge Grass, 22 November 1985. (cont, under bibliography section over)

INTEGRITY: Assess the degree to which the structure/site, and surrounding area accurately convey the historical associations of the property.

The house has great integrity. It is at its original location and maintains its original design. It can convey historical feelings and associations, because it is in good physical condition, and still serves its original function, as a house.

HISTORICAL and/or ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: Justify how the persons, important events, or historical patterns associated with structure/site lend the property significance and/or describe the ways in which the structure embodies the distinctive characteristics of a particular period, building type, or style.

The site is significant because it is associated with the lives of people who played an important role in the development of Lodge Grass. The Stevens family were one of the first settlers at this community, moving here in 1902. This house is one of the first built in town, as it appears as a major structure on this property in 1915. The house has architectural merit, as well, because it is the only molded concrete block residence in Lodge Grass. Its value in the early assessment rolls indicate that it was one of the more substantial residences in town, and even today it stands out as one of the bigger, grandest homes in Lodge Grass. Its design is unique in this small town.

FORM PREPARED BY:

Name: P. Friedman, Powers Elevation

Address: P.O. Box 2612, Denver, CO 80201

Date: 1-29-1986

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Acreage: Less than one acre

USGS Quad: Lodge Grass, 7.5, 1967

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