

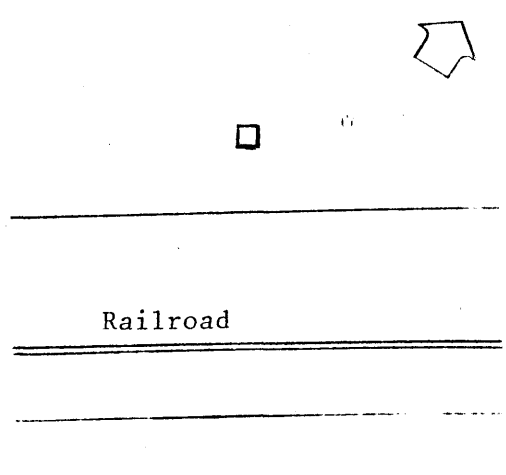
HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

Legal Description: SW1/4 NW1/4,
 Section 13, T4S R22E
 Address: Front Street
 Ownership: Name: Virgil Dowell
 Address: Joliet, Montana



Roll#11/Frame#9

Historic Name: T.W. Smith house
 Common Name: same
 Date of Construction: prior 1899
 Architect: unknown
 Builder: unknown
 Original Owner: T.W. Smith
 Original Use: residence
 Present Use: vacant
 Research Sources
 Abstract of Title: Carbon County Courthouse
 Plat Records: not applicable
 Tax Records: not applicable
 Building Permits: not available
 Sewer/Water Permits: not available
 City Directories: 1905-1922
 Sanborn Maps: 1907, 1912, 1927
 Newspapers: Joliet Journal
Carbon County Journal
 Other: Joliet Pioneers
 1900, 1910 Census



 Railroad

Location Map

HISTORICAL AND/OR ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This building is considered significant as an original homestead dwelling, associated with T.W. Smith who in 1898 was the first settler in the Joliet township to complete his homestead patent. T.W. Smith served as the first section foreman at the Wilsey Depot (east of Joliet) for the Rocky Fork and Cooke City Railroad, which was completed to Red Lodge in 1889. After the lower Rock Creek drainage was ceded from the Crow reservation, he homesteaded directly east of the Wilsey depot.

Architecturally, this building is significant as an excellent example of the vernacular hipped cottage, a classic box with almost square floor plan. A substantial and dignified homestead residence, it stands alone and serves as a focal point at the east entrance into Joliet.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

In June, 1898, T.W. Smith was the first homesteader to receive his homestead patent in the township surrounding Joliet (T4S, R22S). The building is identified in a 1899 deed for a spur track on file in the Carbon County Courthouse. This building was undoubtedly his original homestead dwelling.

T.W. Smith was born in Ontario, Canada. Around 1887, he moved to Rosebud, Montana and was employed by the Northern Pacific Railroad. He was transferred to Wilsey and became the first section foreman at this station after the Rocky Fork and Cooke City Railroad was built by 1889. Wilsey was located approximately 1 mile east from the townsite of Joliet. Smith homesteaded directly northeast of Wilsey, as the area was ceded from the Crow reservation.

T.W. Smith farmed until 1909 when he leased his lands. In 1904, he had purchased 1/2 interest in the Baker and Lovering Merchantile Store in Joliet which then became Lovering and Smith (Lovering was his son-in-law). In 1909, he bought the adjacent lot and they added a new brick addition and new storefront. They operated the store until 1929.

Smith also served as major of Joliet in 1918 and later as sheriff of Carbon County from 1920-1922.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

This hipped cottage or four square building is placed on a low smooth faced sandstone foundation. It has lapped siding framed by corner boards and a skirt at the perimeter. The facade is asymmetrical with a beautiful ornate door with transom to one side and paired 1/1 doublehung windows. The upper elevation has two 1/1 doublehung windows of different sizes.

The hipped roof has a center flat and roof features include asbestos shingles, cornice and bed molding, enclosed eaves and continous flush facia. Across the north or rear wall is an attached shed roof addition which serves as a rear entrance and a tin shed. There are no windows on this north wall.

The fenestration is symmetrical on the east wall with 2 1/1 doublehung windows at the 1st floor but only a small 1/1 doublehung at the second level with a metal fire escape ladder. The west wall fenestration is asymmetrical.

Alterations to the building include the removal of the front porch and the rear shed additions.

The building is isolated, set back from the road and the railroad right of way. Silver maples and fruit trees define the domestic space with an irrigation ditch and open fields to the east and north.

There is a wood frame outbuilding, possibly a grainery to the north west of the dwelling. It has a gable roof with wood shingles and two attached wings.

INTEGRITY:

This building has excellent integrity in all aspects. The original appearance is retained in design and materials. Original location and setting evoke the historic feeling of a original homestead dwelling. The exposed joist running the length of the front facade between the first and second stories marks the location of the detached porch, which was removed at an unknown date. Apparently this porch featured a second story balcony as the original balcony door is still in place although now covered with painted plywood sheeting. Although this important architectural detail has been removed, the house retains primary integrity of design, materials, location, setting and workmanship

and is still able to accurately evoke its significant historical associations.

FORM PREPARED BY:

Name: Joan Louise Brownell

Address: Carbon County Historic Preservation Office
Red Lodge, Montana

Date: August, 1985

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Acreage: less than 2 acres

USGS Quad: Fromberg, Montana/7.5 minute/1956

UTM's: Zone 12 6 59200 Easting
50 39 050 Northing

Boundary: The boundary for this property follows the fenceline that surrounds the residence. From the northeast corner of the house, the northeast corner of the fence is approximately 30' due north. From that point, the boundary runs 60' west; 150' south; 60' east; and 150' to the point of beginning.