

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received FEB 25 1986
date entered MAR 27 1986

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

1. Name

historic Randall, Harry E., House

and/or common Randall, Harry E., House

2. Location

street & number 1003 Fourth Avenue North N/A not for publication

city, town Great Falls N/A vicinity of

state Montana code 030 county Cascade code 013

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name William J. & Jennifer C. Hicks

street & number 1003 Fourth Avenue North

city, town Great Falls N/A vicinity of state Montana

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cascade County Courthouse

street & number Second Avenue North

city, town Great Falls state Montana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic/Architectural Survey within a selected area of the Great Falls
title Revitalization District has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Montana State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Helena state Montana

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 Harry E. Randall House at 1003 Fourth Avenue North is a good example of an elaborate Queen Anne styled residence in Great Falls, Montana. The block within which the Randall House sits is characterized by large Victorian era residential buildings placed on spacious lots, and the house itself stands out as one of the earliest and best preserved examples of period architecture. Portions of the surrounding neighborhood have been surveyed in the past and the Randall House would be a primary element within a historic district.

Constructed in 1890, the Randall House is an irregularly-shaped, two story wood frame building constructed on a sandstone foundation. It was originally built as a square-shaped, hip roofed dwelling with south- and west-facing gables, a full width front porch and a one story rear addition with an attached porch.

In 1899 the property tax value for lots 13 and 14 (on which the Randall House is built) was \$2000. Two years later that amount had increased to \$3500, indicating that in 1901 Randall had expanded his house and added a variety of Queen Anne details. Among these changes were a hexagonal bell-shaped turret capped by a decorative wrought iron lightning rod placed atop the southwest corner of the building. The turret features five 1/1 double hung windows below patterned wood shingles and a denticulated cornice. Below the turret is a south-facing entry which is flanked to the west by a leaded glass oval window surrounded by decorative wooden trim. A rectangular-shaped leaded glass window further lights the entry along the west elevation. The original rectangular bay window was enlarged into an elliptical shape and has a central fixed window with transom above flanked by two 1/1 double hung windows on the first floor. Between the first and second floors is an asphalt-shingled pent roof with dentils along the cornice. The gable fronted second story is covered with patterned wood shingles and features a recessed balcony with elliptical arch supported by a pair of turned wood balusters. The porch railing also features turned wood balusters while the arch is set off by decorative spindle woodwork. Large, paired, single pane windows centered in the balcony light the second story of the west elevation. The house was further expanded by replacing the existing south-facing porch with a larger one that wraps nearly completely around the east, and part of the west side of the building. The porch is supported by fluted Ionic columns and has dentils at the cornice, and square balusters along the railing with decorative lattice work extending from the floor to the ground. Paired columns and a pedimented entry with dentils and scrollwork in the tympanum are located at the main entrance. A gable roofed dormer covered with patterned wood shingles and pierced by a semi-circular leaded glass window framed with decorative woodwork was also added at this time.

Between 1910-1929 a second floor was added on the rear and east side of the house which involved removing the porch at the northwest corner. The single family dwelling was also converted into six small apartments during this period. These alterations did not adversely affect the integrity of the building. The present owners are rehabilitating the house as a single family residence.

The clapboard-sided house features a south-facing two story gable adjacent to the main entrance. The first floor bay has a large single pane window flanked

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on each side by 1/1 double hung windows, while the second story is lit by one 1/1 double hung window with patterned wood shingles and a small ventilator in the peak of the gable. The southeast corner of the house is pierced by two 1/1 double hung windows, one on each floor, and a large single pane window with transom is set in a clipped corner at a 45 degree angle. Toward the rear of the east side of the house is a first floor entrance with a transom flanked by a pair of 1/1 double hung windows. One 1/1 double hung window is located on the first floor in the northeast corner of the house. The foundation at the northwest corner has been rebuilt with concrete block; a covered entrance and two windows at this location that were added between 1910-1929 were replaced in 1985 with a 1/1 double hung window. A small 1/1 double hung window pierces the second floor above the former entrance. The rear elevation, which faces north and is not a primary facade is currently being remodeled to include an oriel window on the first floor with paired 1/1 double hung windows above, and two small fixed windows in the attic. A small, north-facing 1/1 double hung window is located just below the eave in the northeast corner of the house. The asphalt-shingled hip roof has two matching corbeled brick chimneys toward the center of the roof.

The interior of the house has retained most of its original Victorian appearance of detailing and woodwork, although there have been a few alterations, particularly when the house was converted into apartments. The dining room and main entrance have original parquet floors, while the entrance also features oak fretwork, raised oak paneling, and an oak staircase with a fluted newel post and turned balusters. A fireplace on the first floor features a pressed iron and copper insert, oak mantle and raised oak leaf tiles. The second floor has three bedrooms, a sitting room and one bathroom. Original hardware is found on most of the doors in the house.

Although the original design of the Randall House has been altered by the Queen Anne additions, these alterations give the house its architectural character today and represent an important period of historical growth and development in Great Falls. The current owners are carefully rehabilitating the interior and exterior of the house, and maintaining the turn-of-the-century Victorian style of the building.

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

Specific dates 1890, 1901 (remodel) **Builder/Architect** William Roberts, 1890 builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

builder of 1901 remodeling unknown

The Randall House in Great Falls, Montana is significant as a relatively late example of residential Queen Anne styling which exhibits numerous features typical of the design. The irregularly-shaped hipped roof with two lower cross gables, one front-facing and one side-facing, both asymmetrically placed on their respective facades, is a common feature. Other characteristics include an elegantly-crafted wrap around porch which is one story in height and extends along the front and both side walls to accentuate the asymmetry of the facade. Each facade features patterned wood shingles in the gable ends which create differing wall textures. Spindlework ornamentation, commonly found in porch balustrades or as a frieze suspended from the porch ceiling is typical, and in the Randall House is located in the elliptical arch of the recessed balcony. Bay windows, the use of wall insets or projections, and a corner turret also provide random changes in the horizontal continuity of the wall plane. The interior of the Randall House further enhances the Queen Anne details with elaborate fretwork, parquet floors, and a decorative balustraded staircase. In comparison to other dwellings on and near Fourth Avenue North, the Randall House is distinctive for its Victorian elements and Queen Anne-influenced stylistic qualities. As one of the earliest and most ornamented homes in its immediate neighborhood, the Randall House is clearly a very good example of a stylized dwelling.

The Randall House was constructed in 1890 by William Roberts, an active builder and contractor who co-founded with the plasterer W.J. Winters, the Sun Brick Company, a brick manufacturing plant which produced over 5 million bricks per year in the early 20th century. Roberts' firm was involved in the construction of several major businesses in Great Falls including the Milwaukee House, the additions to the Park Hotel, a school building, and numerous residences such as the Gibson, Sweat and Collins houses. Roberts also served as an alderman for the city in 1893-1894. He moved to Los Angeles, California in 1911.

Harry Randall was an early Great Falls resident who lived in the home from 1890--1915. As early as 1887 Randall was involved in local real estate, operating his business out of several locations including the Tod and Dunn Blocks until ca. 1920, and he was a founding member of the Great Falls Real Estate Exchange. He served as president of the Randall Drug Company, a retail drugstore which opened in 1898, and he had investments in silver and coal mining.

Prior to 1887 and the arrival of the Great Northern Railroad, residential and commercial districts were not clearly defined within Great Falls. Shortly after it was incorporated in 1888, the city experienced rapid growth which resulted from railroad- and mining-related activities. At the time the Randall House was built, most residential development, particularly for middle and upper middle class citizens, was concentrated on the south side of Great Falls. Yet rather

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than build within an earlier and more established neighborhood, Randall instead chose to locate his spacious house and live in the relatively unsettled north side of Great Falls.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Great Falls Leader, 1 January 1891, p.1; March 19, 1887, p.4.
Great Falls Tribune, 18 May 1919, Section 2, p.1.; 3 January 1890.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Northwest Great Falls

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	2	4	7	8	2	2	0	5	2	6	1	6	5	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 13 and 14 of Block 197 in the Townsite of Great Falls located in the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1 of Township 20 North, Range 3 East.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer C. Hicks

organization N/A

date August 24, 1985

street & number 1003 Fourth Avenue North

telephone 406-727-6710

city or town Great Falls

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

Marvella Shiffy

title

SHPO

date

2-14-86

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

3/27/86

for *James M. McChesman*
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration