

MONTANA HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

BRIDGER SURVEY



Legal Description: Block 2, Lots 3,4, 2nd Addition

Address: 312 S. 2nd

Ownership: Name: Jerry Scott

Address: Bridger, MT. 59014



Historic Name: Raymond Hough House

Common Name: Raymond Hough House/

Kuchinski Home

Date of Construction: 1910

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Original Owner: Raymond Hough

Original Use: Residence

Present Use: Residence

7 7  
Roll# 7/Frame# 8

Research Sources:

Abstract of Title: Carbon County Courthouse:

1909, George Hough; 1910, Raymond Hough;

1912, Emmeline Hough; 1919, Mary Bertha Baldwin;

1928, Joe Kuchinski; 1939, Mary Kuchinski;

1946, William Baker; 1974, Warren Baker;

1974, Jerry Scott

Plat Records: Carbon County Courthouse

Tax Records: Carbon County Courthouse

Building Permits: N/A

Sewer/Water Permits: N/A

City Directories: 1905-22

Sanborn Maps: 1916

Newspapers: Free Press; 8-28-03; 9-25-03;

Carbon County Republican; 3-16-06;

11-9-06; Clarke Fork Herald;

5-16-07; 6-6-07; 10-31-07; Bridger

Banner; 12-5-07; 12-12-07; Bridger

Times; 4-16-09; 4-23-09; 5-7-09;

6-25-09; 7-2-09; 8-6-09; 9-10-09;

11-5-09; 12-17-09; 3-4-10; 8-12-10;

9-30-10; 10-14-10; 11-4-10; 11-18-10;

1-27-11; 4-7-11; 1-26-12; 2-2-12;

2-9-12; 3-1-12; 4-19-12; 5-4-12;

6-28-12; 9-13-12; 11-8-12; 12-13-12;

1-17-13; 12-19-13; 12-26-13; 1-23-14;

1-30-14; 2-6-14; 3-6-14; 3-27-14;

6-5-14; 6-19-14; 11-17-14; 12-25-14;

2-5-15; 2-12-15; 3-26-15; 4-2-15;

4-16-15; 4-9-15; 4-16-15; 4-23-15;

7-2-15; 9-3-15; 9-28-17; 11-9-17;

8-30-18; 11-8-18; 11-29-18; 5-22-19;

5-31-28; Fromberg Herald; 10-17-12

Other: 1910 Census; Progressive Men of Montana

7	6
8	5
9	4
10	3
11	2
12	1
13	135

Handwritten notes: "ADD" and "2" are written in the center of the table.

Location Map

#### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

(Reappraisal Forms) Single dwelling - 1210 sq. ft. - 1210 sq. ft. 2nd story - 49 sq. ft. enclosed porch - 532 sq. ft. open porch. Formed concrete foundation, sheath siding. Hip roof, composition shingle roofing. Softwood floors.

This irregularly shaped, wood frame, clapboard-sided two story residence combines elements of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. The house is of a basic rectangular plan with a hipped roof. A gable roofed two story polygonal bay projects in the front (east) facade, a one story polygonal bay on the south facade, and a one story gable roofed projection to the rear. A commodious, clipped-corner porch wraps around the front (east) and south facades. The porch apron is framed in and covered with wooden shingles and the roof is supported by Doric columns.

Concrete steps lead up to the front oval glass, wooden door. The front bay window is finished with a central cottage window flanked by two, one-over-one double hung sash. The majority of the windows in the house are also one-over-one double hung sash, with the exception of the tripartite fixed windows in the gable end of the front and southern bays, the fixed windows of the hipped roof dormers, and two other small fixed windows which are 4" x 4" diamond shaped, multi-paned units. All window sash is painted black. The roof is covered with black asphalt shingles.

A three bay garage sets at the back of the lot and is not considered to be a contributing structure to the significance of the Hough House.

#### HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

The Illustrated Industrial Supplement of the Red Lodge Picket, February 1907, had a photograph of the R.H. Hough residence at the Bridger Coal Mine. That issue discusses moving buildings from the mine to the flat west of town, now known as the Third Addition. When this photo was taken Raymond H. Hough was Manager and Secretary of the Bridger Coal Company. The house in the Picket photograph was not located during this survey, nor could we find anyone who knew its whereabouts or its fate. In 1910, August 12, the Times says that "work on residence of R.H. Hough progressing, will be a handsome building," October 14, "R. Hough building home on Second Street \$5,000," and November 4, "Has 8 rooms, large basement, and 2 stories." Those accounts, no doubt, refer to the present house on this lot.

Raymond was one of six Houghs in the Bridger vicinity in the first decade and a half of the century. His brother, George, came to work for W.A. Clark as manager of the Bridger Coal Mine in 1902. Both Raymond and Bodley worked as bookkeepers at the mine, and after George was promoted to be president, Raymond managed the mine and was company secretary until his resignation in 1909. William was president of the Bridger State Bank (1907-1915), and with H.H. Peters, owned the Hough-Peters ranch. Guy

and Clinton also had ranches, and ran cattle and sheep. In 1907 three of the Houghs, George, William and Raymond, were incorporators of the Bridger Opera House.

Raymond was in Bridger at least by 1900. In 1903 the Free Press announced his engagement and his marriage to Bertha Barlow, daughter of Thomas H. Barlow, who ran the Barlow Hotel on Main Street (no longer standing). The 1905-06 Polk Directory listed Raymond as bookkeeper at the Bridger Coal Mine, and in 1906 he was also vice president of the Fromberg Lumber Company. In 1907 Hough built a house on Tract K, lot 7 which still stands, but is too altered for listing on the National Register.

In 1909 Raymond was on the City Council, and he resigned his position with the mine and formed a real estate and insurance company with his brother Bodley. The real estate business apparently was not successful, and in 1912 Raymond and Bodley went into partnership with D.R. Barlow, Raymond's brother-in-law, selling groceries. Billings creditors closed the store in April of 1915, and the Glidden Mercantile purchased the stock at auction.

Raymond moved to Cody when the store closed, then in September of the same year, was employed by the Carbon Cash Grocery in Red Lodge, and was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce. He became war-time county food administrator in November 1917, and in August 1918 worked in Bozeman in the state office of the Food Administrator.

While Raymond apparently experienced financial misfortune, he fared better than most of the Houghs. George, whose accomplishments and contributions are written in the Progressive Men of Montana (page 915), filed bankruptcy in January 1914, and died shortly thereafter. William was accused of forgery and grand larceny, and allegedly escaped to Mexico with \$34,000 in February 1915. Clint lost his Dry Head ranch and filed bankruptcy in March 1915. Guy also lost his ranch that year, and he, too, filed bankruptcy in June of 1916. Bodley, Raymond's partner in the grocery business, joined the Army, and when the war was over, he settled in Joliet, where he worked as a bookkeeper and a civil engineer.

#### INTEGRITY:

This residence has excellent integrity of location and setting, design, materials and workmanship. It appears as it did when Raymond Hough had it built.

#### HISTORICAL and/or ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The Raymond Hough home meets Criterion B as the best surviving property of the Hough family during the first decade and a half of Bridger's history. The Houghs were prominent in the management of the Bridger Coal Mine (1902-1914); involved in commerce and banking in Bridger State Bank, Glidden Mercantile, the Hough and

Barlow Grocery, and the Raymond Company; leaders in community government as mayor, city councilmen, secretary, treasurer, clerk and justice of the peace; in state government as a member of the legislature; in education through the school board of trustees; and in resource development of water for irrigation, and cattle and sheep ranching. They were prominent in social affairs as incorporators of the Bridger Opera House Company (1907), members of the I.O.O.F., the Masons and Eastern Star, and the Woodsmen Lodge, and were civic promoters in the Commercial Club, the Civic League of Bridger, and the county Merchants Credit Association. Raymond, who built this house, also served as county food administrator and worked in the office of the state food administrator during World War I.

The Raymond Hough House also meets Criterion C for its late Queen Anne/Colonial Revival architectural styling. It is the only house of its type in the community, and it remains in excellent condition.

**FORM PREPARED BY:**

Name: Carbon County Historic Preservation Office

Address: Box 1651

Red Lodge, MT 59068

Date: October, 1986

**GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:**

Acreage: less than one acre

USGS Quad: Bridger, Mont. 1956 7.5

UTM's: Zone 12, 663485 E., 5017418 N.



