

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

For NPS use only

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

received DEC 23 1986

date entered

JAN 28 1987

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

1. Name

historic Jacobs, Michael, House

and/or common Jacobi House

2. Location

street & number 4 W. First Avenue North

N/A not for publication

city, town Columbus

N/A vicinity of

state Montana

code 030

county Stillwater

code 095

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

4. Owner of Property

name Kay Woltermann

street & number 4 W. First Avenue North

city, town Columbus

N/A vicinity of

state Montana

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Stillwater County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Columbus

state Montana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Jacobs House is a two story Renaissance Revival building constructed with locally-quarried sandstone finished in a variety of surfaces. The rectangular-shaped residence rests on a sandstone foundation that rises about 2 1/2 feet above grade. A hipped roof with semicircular imported red tiles covers all of the house except for a slightly projecting gable in the front. Dominating the facade is a small entry porch with balcony, and a large pavilion with a curvilinear parapet. The building is situated on the corner of 1st Avenue North and Quarry Street in a residential area on the west end of Columbus, Montana (1980 pop. 1,439), one block north of Pike Avenue, the primary commercial street in town. The property is surrounded by a decorative wrought iron fence set in a sandstone base with carved stone corner posts.

The primary facade (facing south toward 1st Ave.) and the east wall (along Quarry St.) are both finished with coursed, quarry-faced sandstone. The main entrance is located in the southeast corner and is flanked to one side by a small, square fixed window. Covering the east half of the facade is a one story porch supported by two stone Corinthian columns and an engaged pilaster with a Corinthian capital. Carved stone balusters comprise the open railing. A door on the second floor flanked on each side by small 1/1 double hung windows provides access to a balcony which features a carved stone balustrade. A small, decorative, carved lion's head which functions as a downspout is located above the frieze of the southeast corner of the porch. The west half of the facade has a two story corbeled pavilion that extends above the roof line in a handsome Baroque form. The first floor of the pavilion has a large, single pane window, which replaces the original cottage window treatment, while the second floor features two coupled 1/1 double hung windows with semicircular stone arches and keystones. Above the windows is an ornate floriated medallion. The shaped gable parapet is capped by a wide band of dressed stone which has a palmette-shaped cartouche at the peak and a vase-shaped finial on each lower side of the gable. A molded stringcourse encircles the entire building between the first and second floors.

The east wall has three square, single pane fixed windows in a row on the first floor and a bay with three tall, single pane fixed sashes. On the second floor above the bay are two 1/1 double hung windows.

The west wall is finished with random coursed, roughly dressed sandstone. The first floor has two tall, single pane fixed windows; the second story features one tall 1/1 double hung sash toward the rear and two smaller 1/1 double hung windows in the center. An engaged sandstone chimney is located near the southwest corner of the house.

The rear (north) elevation is also finished with random coursed, roughly dressed sandstone. A small wood frame addition sheathed with asbestos is covered by a large shed roof with red tiles. There is an entrance in the northwest corner, a fixed single pane window on the first floor, and two coupled 1/1 double hung sashes on the second story.

A gable roofed, two car garage built ca. 1920 with coursed sandstone stands northwest of the house. It is a contributing element of the property.

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The five tall, single pane fixed windows on the east and west walls are replacements for original double hung sashes which were removed at an undetermined date. The large picture window in the front replaced a cottage window with a stained glass header. The interior of the house has been extensively remodeled and contains an apartment in the basement.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	association with Michael Jacobs	
Specific dates	1900-1907	Builder/Architect	Michael Jacobs, builder and architect	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Built between 1900-1907, the Jacobs House is architecturally significant in a local context as a good example of a Renaissance Revival style residence, and for its association with the builder and original owner, Michael Jacobs. The overall size and massing, and outstanding craftsmanship exhibited in the masonry work and stone carving of the Jacobs House contribute to its distinctive, stylistic appearance. Michael Jacobs was a talented and successful stone mason who used his skills to craft several masonry structures and decorative gravestones in Columbus. His quarrying and carving skills were widely recognized in the state and region. In addition, he was responsible for utilizing vast amounts of sandstone from the quarry he managed for public and private buildings in Wyoming and Montana, including the original State Capitol in Helena, federal buildings in Billings, Butte and Helena, hotels in Forsyth and Havre, high schools in Missoula and Havre and the Missoula Masonic Temple. Known locally as "Daddy Mike," he was, by his death in 1927, recognized as a patriarch, politician and entrepreneur.

The ornate stone Corinthian columns and carved decorations of the Jacobs House provide a sharp contrast to the rustication of the stone blocks. In an effort to present the most attractive facade to the public, the south and east walls of the Jacobs House--those clearly visible from 1st Ave. North and Quarry St.--were finished with finely cut, rock-faced ashlar stone that exhibits thin, precise mortar joints. The builder-architect's Renaissance influence can also be noted in the tall pavilion and carved stone decorations placed along the facade, as well as the hipped roof and rectangular shape, molded stringcourse dividing the first and second floors, and the windows and doors framed with sandstone.

Michael Jacobs was born in Vinchia Turo, Italy in 1862 as Michael Angelo Jacobucci (he changed his name to Jacobi after coming to America, and then to Jacobs when he settled in Montana). Serving originally as a stone cutter and mason, he apprenticed in the granite and marble quarries of the mountains near his home. Jacobs migrated to Chicago where he began work with a construction firm while studying architecture in night school. He served as an assistant in the design and construction of the Art Institute of Chicago, doing finishing work and carving the lions that grace the entrance of the Institute today. He arrived in Columbus with three other expert stone cutters in 1901 to manage the Montana Sandstone Co., a quarry located along the bluffs immediately north of Columbus. In 1907, Jacobs advertised with the company as a cut stone contractor, with "[A]ll work executed according to Plans and Details and Delivered to destination Crated and Numbered ready to go in the wall." By 1914, he had expanded his interests to become the owner of the Stillwater Monumental Works Co., with an "[A]rtistic line of monuments manufactured exclusively of Columbus Sand Stone." Jacobs built, owned and managed (with his son) the Atlas Building in Columbus, a combination bowling alley, billiard room, restaurant and saloon. Jacobs was also a successful politician, being elected as an alderman for the 2nd Ward in 1907,

9. Major Bibliographical References

Billings Gazette Sunday Magazine, October 1, 1967, p.1.

Columbus News December 21, 1916 and January 27, 1927.

Annin, Jim. They Gazed on the Beartooths. no copyright, vol. 1, 1964, pp.265-66.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Columbus, Mont.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary includes all of Block 1 in the Myers & Nice Addition, Columbus, MT

SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ section 21, Township 2 S; Range 20 E

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

state	code	county	code
None			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael Koop, Survey Coordinator/National Register Assistant

organization Montana SHPO date 10 October 1986

street & number 225 N. Roberts telephone 406-444-7715

city or town Helena state Montana 59620

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 *Maevella* *Sheff*

title SHPO date Dec 11, 1986

For NPS use only

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

William B. Beckley date 1/28/87
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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immediately after Columbus was incorporated. He later served as mayor of Columbus in 1913-14.

Although some of its original windows have been replaced, the Jacobs House still retains an extremely high degree of historic architectural integrity. Through its ornamental facade and finely crafted ashlar walls, the Renaissance style residence illustrates the outstanding masonry skills and business and political prominence of its builder and original owner, Michael Jacobs.