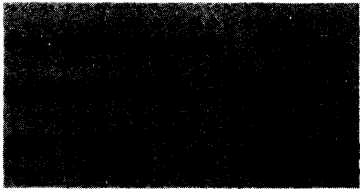


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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



**1. Name**

historic Miles, George M. , House

and/or common The Miles House

**2. Location**

street & number 28 South Lake St. N/A not for publication

city, town Miles City N/A vicinity of congressional district ~~01 Western~~ 2

state Montana code 030 county Custer code 017

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name J. Myles White

street & number 28 South Lake Street

city, town Miles City \_\_\_ vicinity of state Montana

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Custer County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Miles City state Montana

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The George M. Miles House is a two story, irregularly massed frame house, situated on the corner of South Lake and Bridge Streets in Miles City. Because enormous juniper trees obscure a view of the front of the house, a rough sketch of the front facade has been included.

This is a house of seven gables. The asphalt shingled roof slopes down from the peaked ridge line, interrupted by numerous gabled protrusions and shed roof additions. Two of the front gables are gambrel ended. Decorative diamond cut shingles are used on the gable ends. Two bulls-eye windows frame the paired 1/1 double hung windows in the large gambrel dormer.

An L-shaped balustraded porch runs the entire length of the front, wrapping around the southwestern corner of the house. The porch gives this very irregular plan a sense of cohesion. The porch roof is supported by paired Doric columns.

Simple Queen-Anne detailing adds textural interest to this massing of irregular shapes. Clapboard siding is used on the first level while diamond cut and square cut shingles are used on the second. A small triangular pediment with decorative woodwork marks the front, central entrance. Half circle wooden decorative elements are placed above the second story windows on the southern and western facades. Most of the windows are 1/1 double hung, arranged singly or in pairs. Casement, 6 light windows have been used in the later additions.

In 1927, the house was divided into two apartments by H.F. Lee, a former employee of George M. Miles. A double set of stairways were installed in place of the original centrally located stairs. A kitchen addition was built onto the southern side of the back and a sunporch added to the north. During the 1960's, the basement was also finished as another apartment.

The various later additions have only added to the irregularity of the original design, thus detracting little from the integrity 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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** 1899 **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Miles House was one of the first large residential structures to be built in Miles City and is significant for its association with George M. Miles, a prominent businessman and one of the founders of Miles City. Stylistically, the Miles House may be classified as Queen-Anne eclectic due to the building's highly irregular massing, the textural variety of the siding used to animate the exterior wall surfaces and the incorporation of Dutch colonial revival motifs in the gambrel front facade gables. The architect and builder of the Miles House are not known and George Miles destroyed the original plans after construction to insure that no duplicate of this unusual design would be erected.

George Miles came to Montana in 1876 in the capacity of quartermaster clerk for the Fifth Regiment at Fort Keogh. His uncle, General Nelson A. Miles, established Fort Keogh in the Yellowstone Valley as a base from which to launch extensive campaigns against the Indians shortly after the Battle of Little Big Horn. Within one year, the Indians had been subdued and thousands of Indian prisoners were transported to Standing Point Reservation in the Dakota Territory. The War Department soon abandoned portions of the military reservation surrounding the fort and George Miles filled on 10 square miles of very level land east of the Tongue River. A portion of that land today is Miles City, named in honor of George Miles' more noted uncle.

Now a civilian, George Miles and his father became the first wool growers in the area shipping the wool down the Yellowstone River several years before the railroad came into existence. With the Indians under control, cattlemen poured into Montana's range country, and the need for banking facilities soon became evident. Miles, in association with Major J. Brisbin of the Army and Joseph Leighton, Richard E. Stower, Alfred Myers, William H. Gutherie, and John J. Graham--all stockmen and businessmen--raised \$50,000 to organize the First National Bank which received its charter on July 7, 1882. Leighton was the first president and Stower was named cashier.

George Miles was elected president of the First National in 1907 and served in this capacity until 1929 when he sold his interest to the First Bank Stock Corporation. Miles' business involvements and civic activities were extensive: he served as the first U.S. Commissioner (appointed by the governor) and first Notary Public in Custer County, senior partner of the hardware firm of Miles, Strevell, and Ulmer, president of the Miles City Trust and Realty Company, president of the Ekalaka Telephone Company, and superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday School.

George Miles lived in this house at 28 South Lake Street from 1899 until 1913, his most active years as a financial magnate in Miles City. Although the house has been divided into two apartments, the exterior appearance retains complete integrity.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Report of the First National Bank of Miles City, Montana 1979.  
Sanders, Helen Fitzgerald, A History of Montana, Vol. II page 1060  
Raymer, Robert George, Montana, the Land and the People, Vol III, page 6-8

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Miles City

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	3	4	3	5	6	8	0	5	1	3	9	4	4	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

Lot one in Block two of Miles Reserve Addition  
T8N, R47E NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 34

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

state code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Myles White

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 8/9/80

street & number 28 South Lake telephone (406) 232-1898

city or town Miles City state Montana

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

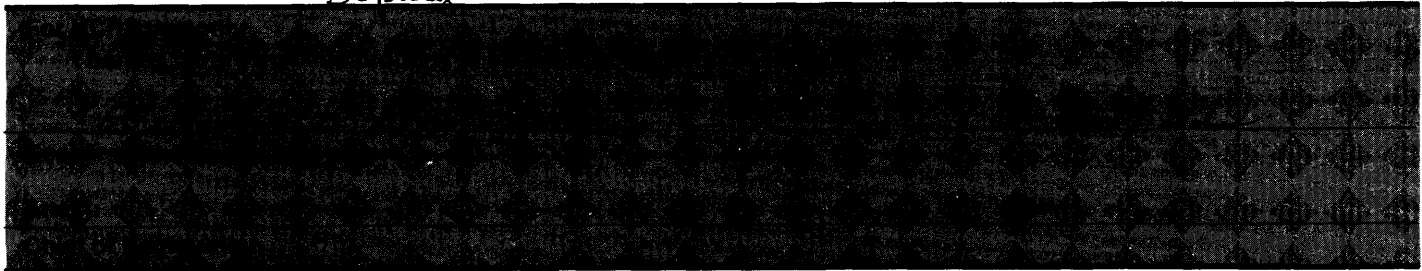
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

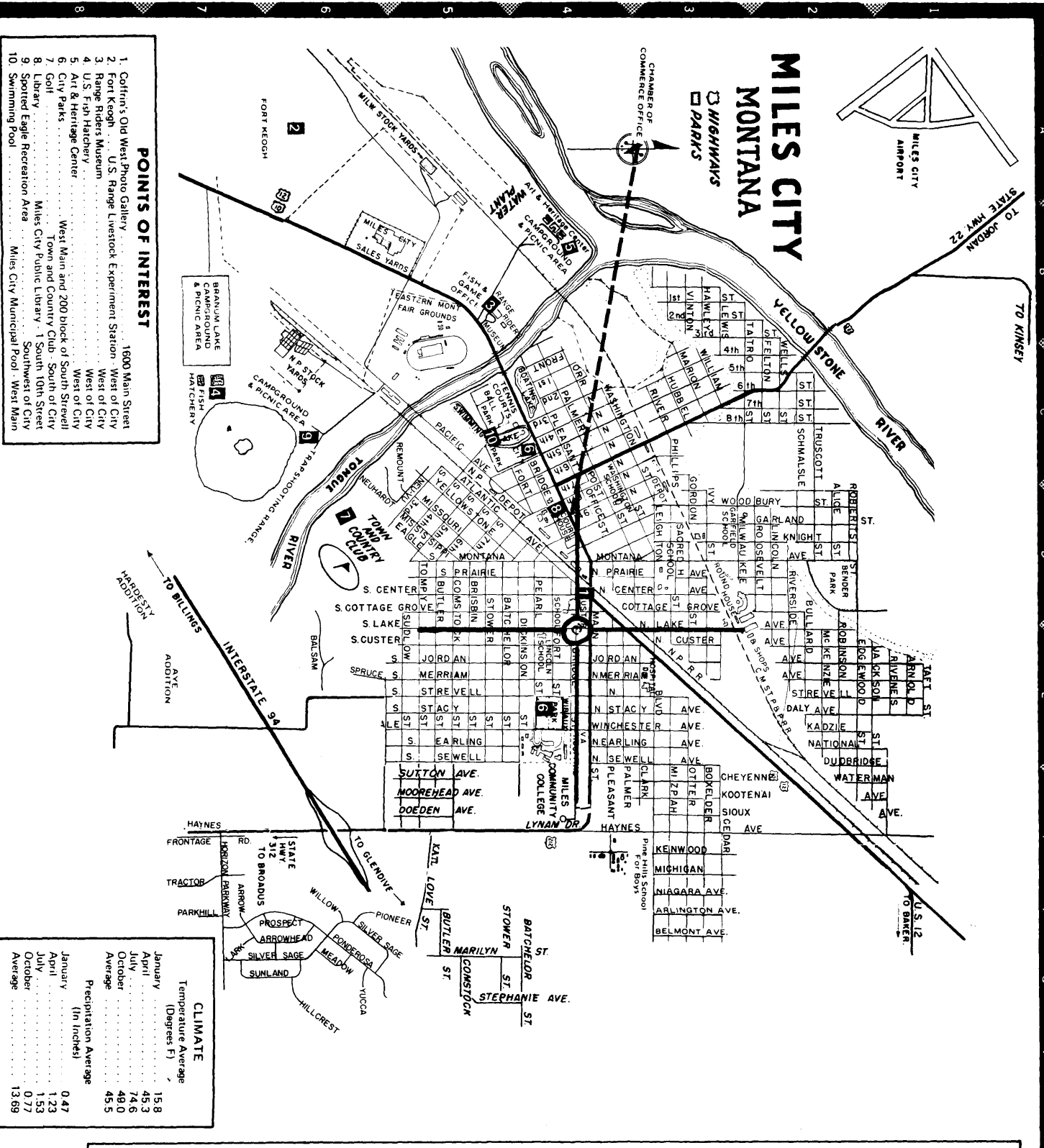
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Mabelle Sheffy

title Deputy SHPO date 12-15-80



The Miles House Corner of Lake & Bridge Sts



- ### POINTS OF INTEREST
- Coffin's Old West Photo Gallery
  - Fort Keogh U.S. Range Livestock Experiment Station
  - Range Riders Museum
  - U.S. Fish Hatchery
  - Art & Heritage Center
  - City Parks
  - Golf
  - Library
  - Spotted Eagle Recreation Area
  - Swimming Pool
- 1600 Main Street  
West of City
- West Main and 200 block of South Street  
Town and Country Club - South of City
- Miles City Public Library - 1 South 10th Street  
Southwest of City
- Miles City Municipal Pool - West Main

### CLIMATE

Temperature Average (Degrees F)

January	15.8
April	45.3
July	74.6
October	48.0
Average	45.5

Precipitation Average (in inches)

January	0.47
April	1.23
July	1.53
October	0.77
Average	1.369

### STREET INDEX

Alice	2D	Milwaukee	2D
Arlington	3F	Missouri	5D
Arnold	1E	Missouri	5D
Ashtand	2F	Missouri	3F
Atlantic	5D	Montana	4D
Ave Addition	7E	Moorehead	5F
Balsam Dr.	5E	National	2E
Bank	4C	Nedringhaus	3B
Batchelor	4E	Niagara	3F
Benton	3G	Orr	4C
Bowdler	3F	Orr	4C
Bridge	4E	Orr	4C
Bridgman	5D	Palmer	4C
Butler	2D	Pearl	4C
Butler	5D	Phillips	3C
Carbon Hill Road	5F	Pleasant	4C
Cedar	3F	Prairie	4D
Center	4D	Riverside	1E
Cheyenne	2E	River	3C
Clark	3F	Riverside	2D
Constock	5D	Roberts	2D
Cottage Grove	3D	Robinson	2E
Corinthian Lane	5D	Roosevelt	2D
Cutter	3E	Schmalz	2C
Daly	2E	Snell	5E
Dickman	4E	Snow	3F
Doeden	5F	Stracy Dr.	5E
Durbridge	2E	Stacy	5E
Eagle	5D	Stover	5D
Earing	5E	Stowell	2E
Edgewood	2E	Sutton	5F
Feltton	2B	Tall	1E
Font	4E	Tarro	2B
Front	4C	Tommy	5D
Garland	2D	Tuscott	2C
Gordon	3D	Ullman	3C
Hardy Addition	7D	Vinton	3B
Harvey	3B	Washington	4C
Hayes Ave.	4F	Waterman	2E
Hubbel	3C	Wells	2B
Ivy	3D	West End	4B
Jackson	2E	William	3C
Jordan	5E	Wilson	3C
Kadzie	2E	Winchester	4E
Kenwood	3F	Woodbury	3D
Knight	2D	Yellowstone	5D
Koortera	3F	1st	1C
Lake	3D	2nd	3B
Lanphon Blvd.	3D	3rd	3B
Lewis	2B	4th	3B
Linton	2D	5th	3C
Linton	2D	6th	3C
Linton	2D	7th	3C
Linton	2D	8th	3C
Linton	2D	9th	3C
Linton	2D	10th	3C
Linton	2D	11th	3C
Linton	2D	12th	3C

Designed by Mildred Miles

GEORGE M. MILES HOME, 28 South Lake - one of Miles City's earliest citizens, a nephew of General Nelson Miles of Fort Keogh. Mr. Miles built this house in 1897. He was one of the founders of Miles Strevell Hardware. It is presently the Dr. Myles White Home.

MILES, GEORGE M. HOUSE  
Miles City, Montana  
28 South Lake Street

Sketch of Front of House -  
by Mildred Miles, 1978

FEB 17 1982

JAN 15 1982



George M. Miles Home