

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED DEC 6 1976
DATE ENTERED SEP 15 1977

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 * The Castle (of White Sulphur Springs)

AND/OR COMMON

Sherman, Byron R., House *use this*

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 310 Second Avenue Northeast

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN White Sulphur Springs VICINITY OF

STATE Montana CODE 30 COUNTY Meagher CODE 059

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"/> 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
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Meagher County Historical Association

STREET & NUMBER
310 Second Avenue Northeast

CITY, TOWN White Sulphur Springs VICINITY OF STATE Montana

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Meagher County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
15 W. Main

CITY, TOWN White Sulphur Springs STATE Montana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Montana Historic Sites Inventory; John N. DeHaas, Jr.

DATE January 23, 1969 FEDERAL XSTATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Recreation & Parks Division, Dept. of Fish & Game, 1420 E. 6th Avenue

CITY, TOWN Helena, STATE Montana

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Castle is an imposing granite mansion situated on a hilltop overlooking the City of White Sulphur Springs. The two story structure rests on an elevated basement and with its heavily rusticated stone (the back, or east facade is layed up in field stone), is a very fine frontier rendition of the late 19th century Romanesque Style. With the exception of two full height towers along the south facade, the plan of the mansion is square, about 40 feet to the side.

The main entrance to the Castle is on the west facade. A stone stoop rises to a porch inset into the northwest corner of the building, enclosed by one semi-circular arched opening on the north side and three identical openings along the west. The arches rest upon short square columns and the porch is entered beneath the southern most arch. Below the porch are two semi-circular headed basement windows on the west side and one square-headed basement window on the north. Centered above the porch on the west are two semi-circular headed windows, and between and above these, in the gable, is a small circular window.

On the southwest corner of the Castle is a rectangular tower set off from the rest of the building at a 45 degree angle. The southwest wall of this tower features the most elaborate window configuration of the Castle. On all three levels the width of the opening is the same, achieving a strong, vertical configuration. The basement opening has three windows (center one wider) separated by stone mullions, the first floor has two wide windows separated by a stone mullion and featuring a leaded stained glass panel in the top of each, and the second floor has a single semi-circular arched window. Below this second floor window is a checker board pattern of recessed stone. Towards the east end of the south facade is a circular tower with three single window openings at each of the three levels.

With the exception of the southwest corner tower windows, the basement windows below the porch and the second floor windows of the east side (which are square-headed) all of the windows in the Castle are of the following pattern: basement and first floor windows are double-hung, one-over-one, square-headed, with a single granite lintel which matches the stone of the facade; second floor windows are double-hung one-over-one, semi-circular arched featuring voussoir stone of matching granite.

The roof configuration of the Castle is intriguing in its variation from the hip roof which covers the main mass. Gables extend above the roofline to cover the main entrance porch and the southwest tower featuring small projecting turrets at the corners, projecting stepped granite beneath the coping of the gable end, and curious stone finials atop the turrets and the peaks. A small dormer covers a second story window between the towers and on the north facade, and small gables sit on the north and east facades. A steep conical roof tops the circular tower, and a single chimney rises behind the south dormer.

The west entrance of the Castle is accented with stained glass and leads to an entry hall and staircase elaborately decorated in cherry. Much of the ornate interior oak woodwork is also intact as are the bathroom and light fixtures. The Castle is maintained today in an excellent state of repair as a museum by the Meagher County Historical Association open to the public from mid-May to mid-October. Prior to 1960, the Castle was operated as an apartment complex and there still remains one active 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input 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 1890-92

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Mr. Soos/B. R. Sherman

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Castle of White Sulphur Springs represents a peak in the career of Byron Roger Sherman, one typical of many men who civilized the Western frontier. In addition, it is one of the most imposing dwellings built in this isolated section of Montana.

Sherman was born in Moriah, New York in 1841, and was named for his grandfather, Roger Sherman, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Byron was also the cousin of the another famous American, the Civil War general, William Tecumseh Sherman.

Like so many others of his generation, Sherman headed west to the gold fields of California and Idaho. By 1865, he had arrived in the Bitterroot Valley of Montana and built one of the first grist mills in the territory at Fort Owen. In 1872, Sherman moved to the Smith River Valley and began his thirty-year participation in all of the region's major "industries." In rapid succession he developed a fine ranch, operated a stage line (between Helena and White Sulphur Springs) and a livery stable, bought and developed real estate in this county seat, profited from mining interests in the nearby silver boom-town of Castle, and built the first local electric light plant. Although Sherman did not concern himself with politics, his wide-spread involvement in the economic development of this region marks him as one of those energetic men dedicated to the idea of progress who brought civilization to the western frontier.

As did so many others in a society which lacked professional artisans, Sherman designed his own home. "The Stone Castle" represented his economic success and he spared no expense to make it the finest in the region. It was built in 1890 by Mr. Soos, a local contractor, of granite from the Castle Mountains, 12 miles distant. Transported to the site by 16-oxen teams, the stones were cut by a talented mason, Ole Opshall. Interior appointments were unusually elegant for a frontier community and included cherry and oak floors and woodwork, Italian marble bath fixtures and elaborate bronze, brass and crystal light fixtures. The installation of a hot-water system powered by windmill and heated by a coal furnace, and an acetylene plant for gas lights were unusual for Montana in the 1890's.

In 1902, Sherman moved to California and sold the Stone Castle in 1905 to Michael Donahoe from Seattle. The Donahoes made their home there for many years. His heirs donated the building to the Meagher County Historical Association as a museum in 1960.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Meagher Republican (Newspaper), White Sulphur Springs, July 2, 1926
 Gordon, Taylor, The Man Who Built the Stone Castle, Meagher Co.
 News, White Sulphur Springs, 1967
The High Country (Newspaper), Bozeman, Montana, April 3, 1974,
 "White Sulphur Springs, The Town With a Castle"

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .67 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,2	5,0,7,6,6,0	5,1,5,5,0,4,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot A, Woodson Addition, City of White Sulphur Springs.
 Southeast corner of East Baker Street and East Second Avenue.

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 Susan W. Curtis, Historian
 John N. DeHaas, Jr., Architect; Fredric L. Quie, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Recreation and Parks Division, Department of Fish and Game	April 6, 1976
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
1420 E. 6th Avenue	(406) 449-3750
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Helena	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 *Ron Hooley*
 TITLE Montana State Historic Preservation Officer DATE April 6, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST: <i>Charles A. ...</i>	DATE 9.15.77
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE 9.9.77