

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93001149

Date Listed: 10-27-93

Comertown Historic District
Property Name

Sheridan
County

MT
State

Archaeological and Historical Resources
of Sheridan County, Montana MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrus
for **Signature of the Keeper**

10/27/93
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Significance:

Architecture is deleted as an area of significance for the district. (This reflects a typographical error on the original cover form.)

This information was confirmed with Chere Jiusto of the Montana SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

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SEP 24 1993

NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Comertown Historic District

other name/site number: 24SH784

2. Location

street & number:

not for publication: n/a
vicinity: x

city/town: Westby

state: Montana

code: MT

county: Sheridan code: 091

zip code: 59275

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Maudie Sheff Montana SHPO 9-9-93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register see continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register see continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register see continuation sheet
- removed from the National Register see continuation sheet
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patrick Andrews 10/27/93

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

Category of Property: District

15 ___ building(s)

Number of contributing resources previously

1 ___ sites

listed in the National Register: 0

2 ___ structures

___ ___ objects

Name of related multiple property listing: Archaeological and Historic

Resources of Sheridan County, Montana

18 ___ TOTAL

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling

Transportation: rail-related

Agriculture/Subsistence: storage

Recreation and Culture: outdoor recreation

Current Functions:

Vacant/not in use

Transportation: rail-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Other: gable front

Other: grain elevator

Other: railroad car

Materials:

foundation: concrete

walls: weatherboard, stucco

roof: wood shingle

other: asphalt

Narrative Description

The Comertown Historic District encompasses the site of a small northeastern Montana homestead community that developed during the region's agricultural boom of the 1910s. The townsite rests on treeless, gently rolling terrain in northcentral Sheridan County, approximately 20 miles northeast of the town of Plentywood and 10 miles west of the community of Westby. Most of the surrounding land is used for wheat farming, although some cattle grazing also takes place. Gravel county roads access Comertown from the south, east and west, and a railroad branch line runs roughly east-west through the northern portion of the district. The trackage was constructed by the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad (the "Soo Line") in 1913; it is now operated by the Dakota, Missouri Valley & Western Railroad under lease.

Comertown was platted in 1913, with streets running north-south and east-west according to compass directions. The original townsite consisted of six platted blocks, three on each side of a north-south Main Street. The townsite was later enlarged with the platting of Comer's Addition, consisting of six blocks of residential lots located west of the original townsite. The railroad right-of-way is located just north of the platted blocks, and includes a series of railroad-owned "industrial lots" intended for lease to commercial enterprises. Most of the townsite remains clearly discernable as such today, and the historic gridwork of platted blocks and unpaved streets remains relatively clear.

Even at its peak, Comertown was a small community. The townsite included a small handful of large and well-built permanent residences, each marked with unusually well-landscaped yards. None of these homes remain today, although their locations continue to be marked by building foundations and extensive landscaping remnants. The only other large

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7

Comertown Historic District

Page 1

buildings were the town's grain elevators, depot, and schoolhouse. In contrast, most of Comertown's buildings--both residential and commercial--were small, vernacular structures, quickly built from rough materials with little attention to style or detail. Many of the houses in this group were probably "second homes" of rural residents, intended to provide only basic accommodations for children attending school in town. A number of such buildings survive in Comertown today, perhaps simply because they were not considered worth salvaging or moving.

A total of 16 significant buildings remain in Comertown in 1992; all appear to date from the historic period. Numerous other buildings also formerly stood in the townsite, but have either burned, been demolished, or been relocated elsewhere. The locations of many of these former buildings remain evident through foundations or ground depressions, or through the survival of historic fencing or landscaping. Except for the grain elevator (Feature 1) and the railroad (Feature 2), all the remaining properties in Comertown are abandoned. Only a few of the town's remaining buildings have known dates of construction based on documentary evidence; for other buildings, estimated construction dates are based on a combination of county land records and the building's physical appearance. Deed records involving much of Comertown are inconclusive, however, since the first land transactions for many lots did not take place until the 1930s, well after buildings were first placed on these lots.

Individual descriptions of Comertown's remaining historic properties follow. Feature numbers used below are keyed to the attached site map.

Feature 1: Occident Elevator (Constructed ca. 1924; contributing)

Feature 1 consists of a wood-framed grain elevator and two support buildings; the three buildings are connected by plank walkways and other common structural elements. The elevator itself was constructed ca. 1924. Wood crib construction predominates, with exterior clapboard siding and a concrete foundation. The building's primary mass contains the grain storage area; it has a monitor roof, currently covered with sheet asphalt. There is a wood-framed wing, with shiplap siding, north of the main elevator mass. The wing houses a drive-through area intended for the unloading of wagons and trucks, and still contains its original Fairbanks-Morse scale. Lettering on both the north and south walls of the elevator includes the words "COMERTOWN [] OCCIDENT ELEVATOR."

A second wood-crib elevator mass is just to the west of the primary elevator. This elevator also has clapboard siding and a monitor roof, although much of the original siding has been sheathed with corrugated metal (probably historic). The concrete foundation beneath this elevator appears newer than that of the rest of the complex, suggesting that this elevator may have been moved to its current site.

A small office building, measuring approximately 14' by 22', is just north of the main elevator. The building is wood-framed; it has plank exterior walls covered with metal sheeting pressed to simulate brick. There is a shed roof, covered with sheet asphalt, behind parapet walls. The building has a brick chimney. The interior includes two rooms. The southern room served as an office, while the northern room probably once housed electrical generating equipment.

Feature 2: Minneapolis, St. Paul, & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad (Constructed 1913; contributing)

Feature 2 consists of that portion of the Minneapolis, St. Paul, & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad which passes through the immediate Comertown area. This includes a segment of the railroad's branch line to Whitetail, Montana, as well as a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7

Comertown Historic District

Page 2

siding track constructed to serve local industries. The track is composed of steel rail (weighing approximately 80 pounds per yard) attached to wooden ties with steel spikes. Little ballast is present. Nearly all of the rail within the Comertown area is probably original--most of the rail includes markings indicating that it was rolled by Illinois Steel in 1900 or 1908. A few of the ties are roughly hand-hewn rather than machine-cut, and these hand-hewn ties are also probably original. Additional cultural features along the track include a highway grade crossing near the west end of the siding, and a switch stand accompanying the switches at each end of the siding.

A variety of other features, now removed, once existed within the railroad right-of-way. These included a railroad depot and platform (south of the tracks), and a second grain elevator, a stockyard, and a bulk oil facility (to the north).

Feature 3: Olson Barn (Constructed ca. 1920; contributing)

Feature 3 consists of a large, wood-framed barn, now largely collapsed. The building was wood-framed with a concrete foundation. It had shiplap siding and a gable roof surfaced with wood shingles. This barn was probably constructed and used by August Olson as part of a livery stable he once operated in Comertown. Olson also operated a dray and milk delivery service from the facility.

Feature 4: House/Saloon (Constructed ca. 1920; contributing)

Feature 4 is a primitive 3-room house. It is wood-framed with a shed roof and plank walls. Both the roof and the walls were covered with tarpaper, which is now largely gone. The door and window openings are now empty. The building rests on timber skids; there is no permanent foundation. The interior contains much historic domestic debris. The structure's appearance suggests that it may have originally been one or two homestead shacks which were moved to this site sometime during the historic period. Elmer Falk, a former resident of the area, stated that this building once housed a saloon.

Feature 5: Rierson House (Constructed ca. 1925; contributing)

Feature 5 is a small wood-framed house with clapboard siding. The building has a concrete foundation and a gable roof surfaced with wood shingles. There is a wood-framed shed-roofed addition on the south end of the east wall, and the site of a former porch north of the addition against the east wall. The building's door and window openings are empty. There is a collapsed interior brick chimney in the building's southwest quadrant (the former kitchen location). County land records indicate that this lot was purchased from the townsite company by Albin Rierson in 1936, although the building itself appears older.

Feature 6: King House (Constructed ca. 1925; contributing)

Feature 6 is a wood-framed house with a stucco exterior. The building has a concrete foundation and a gable roof surfaced with sheet asphalt. The house's appearance suggests that it was constructed in three phases: an original core to the north, a large addition to the south, and a smaller shed-roofed addition to the east. The roof of the shed-roofed addition has collapsed. The roof of the original building mass was reconstructed at the time the south addition was built. The interior

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7

Comertown Historic District

Page 3

of the original portion of the house features beaded-board walls and ceiling; the ceiling is octagonal. County land records indicate that this lot was purchased from the townsite company by Howard B. King in 1936.

Feature 7: Mikkelson House (Constructed ca. 1935; contributing)

Feature 7 is a small wood-framed house with Insul-Brick exterior siding. The building has a concrete foundation and a gable roof surfaced with wood shingles. There are exposed rafter tips visible at the eaves. The building includes a small shed-roofed addition to the east. The building has one-over-one double-hung windows, most of which are missing. Some wood interior trim remains. County land records indicate that this lot was owned by Lillie May Mikkelson, who sold it to Ralph W. Mikkelson in 1946.

Feature 8: Rostad Summer House (Constructed 1935; contributing)

Feature 8 is a small stone-and-wood gazebo building resting on a concrete pad. The structure features roughly-built rubblestone walls approximately 2½ feet high. Most of the wall surface above the stone consists of wire screening in wood framing. Other portions of the upper walls are clapboard. Wood shutters (now mostly gone) could be used to enclose the screened portion of the walls. The total wall height is approximately six feet. The building has a hip roof surfaced with wood shingles. There are door openings centered on both the east and west walls. A small, handsome fireplace, roughly built of rubblestone, is centered on the north wall. The fireplace has a concrete mantle and base; it is now partially collapsed. The following lettering is handwritten in the concrete of the hearth: "Aug 11 1935 MR."

This building served as a recreational outbuilding for the Martin Rostad residence, which formerly also existed on this lot. The Rostad house, constructed in 1927, was probably the largest and most ornate residence to be erected in Comertown. (The house has been removed, but a foundation, basement, and landscape features remain.) An entry in the volume *Sheridan's Daybreak II* notes that the Rostad "mansion" was accompanied by a "stone summer house where the Luther League and Boy Scout Troop 113 were allowed to have an occasional social affair."

Feature 9: Outbuilding (Constructed ca. 1930; contributing)

Feature 9 is a small wood-framed outbuilding with shiplap siding. The building has a gable roof (very poor condition) surfaced with asphalt shingles. A ground depression to the south indicates the possible site of a former building addition. The building's historic function is unknown. It is in poor condition and appears to be in danger of collapse.

Feature 10: House/Church (Constructed ca. 1930; contributing)

Feature 10 is a small wood-framed house with clapboard siding. The building has a concrete foundation and a gable roof with wood shingles. Some of the siding and many of the shingles are now missing. A large shed-roofed addition on the north side of the building has completely collapsed. The standing portion of the building has only one interior room. County land records list a number of different owners for this lot over time; from 1939 to 1948 the property was owned by the Assembly of God Church. An entry on page 138 of *Sheridan's Daybreak II* notes that "The Pentecostals by 1937 had

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7

Comertown Historic District

Page 4

their gospel-tabernacle north of the park. The building had previously housed various businesses and had an apartment in the back for the minister." While not confirmed, it seems likely that Feature 10 is the building discussed in the article.

Feature 11: Comertown Park (Constructed ca. 1926; contributing)

Feature 11 is a community park consisting of a fenced formal landscape, a small concession stand/pavilion, and an outhouse. The park occupies the southern two-thirds of a platted city block. The site is surrounded by a wire fence. The landscape includes a dense planting of mature bushes around the perimeter of the park, and a large, circular planting of bushes in the center of the site. A variety of other trees and bushes are planted in symmetrical arrangements throughout the park. The park's primary entrance is at the center of its southern boundary.

A small wood-framed concessions building is at the exact center of the park. The building is built on a concrete pad, and has walls constructed of horizontal planks. The northeast portion of the building is an enclosed concession area with a serving counter breaking its south wall; a gabled area to the south and a shed-roofed area to the west are open-sided pavilion areas with built-in benches. There is also a small shed-roofed outhouse, constructed of planking, near the park's northern boundary. A pile of planking to the east was probably once a second outhouse.

The lots occupied by the park were deeded to the "Trustees of the Comertown Library, Social Club, and Park" in 1926.

Feature 12: House (Constructed ca. 1925; contributing)

Feature 12 is a small wood-framed house with clapboard siding. The building has a concrete foundation and a gable roof with wood shingles. A shed-roofed addition, apparently constructed in two phases, runs the full length of the east side of the house. Part of the addition is beginning to collapse into the cellar underneath a portion of the building. One-over-one double-hung window frames remain in many of the windows. The building lot is enclosed by a barbed-wire fence, and substantial evidence of historic landscaping still remains in the yard. County land records list a number of different owners for these lots over time, and the building's historic owner cannot be accurately determined.

Feature 13: Solheim House (Constructed ca. 1940; contributing)

Feature 13 is a small wood-framed house with Insul-Brick exterior siding. The building has a concrete foundation and features an asymmetrical round roof (lower at the rear than at the front). The remains of a brick chimney and one-over-one wood window framing are visible in this small building. Unlike the other residences in Comertown, this building stands near the rear of its large, fenced lot, suggesting that it may have been intended as an outbuilding. County land records indicate that this lot was first purchased by Bert Solheim in 1934.

Feature 14: Healey House (Constructed ca. 1920; contributing)

Feature 14 is a small, wood-framed house which has largely collapsed. The northern end of the building remains, while much of the remaining structure has fallen into the building's cellar and collapsed. Walls are sided with shiplap. The building has a gable roof, with shed-roofed wings to both the east and west; the roof was probably once covered with sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7

Comertown Historic District

Page 5

asphalt. This house is also in a fenced yard. County land records indicate that this lot was first purchased by Ellen E. Healey in 1941, although the house almost certainly predates this.

Feature 15: Soo Line railroad car (Constructed ca. 1900; contributing)

Feature 15 is a railroad passenger car, formerly belonging to the Minneapolis, St. Paul, & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad (the "Soo Line"). The trucks and mechanical components have been removed from the carbody, and the car permanently placed in this location. The car was originally constructed to carry passengers; its size and configuration suggest that it may date from ca. 1900. The car has a wooden body, a clerestory roof, and enclosed end vestibules. Bands of wood-framed windows run the length of both sides of the car, except for the east end of the north side, which contains a door for loading cargo (probably not original). The wall has been removed from the west end of the car. Small areas of faded red paint and greatly faded lettering help identify the car's original operator.

Feature 16: House (Constructed ca. 1930; contributing)

Feature 16 is a small wood-framed house with clapboard siding. The building has a concrete foundation and a gable roof surfaced with wood shingles. A large shed-roofed addition runs the full length of the west side of the house. The northeast corner of the house is beginning to sink into the cellar below. Remains of two-over-two double-hung window frames remain in many of the windows. County land records list a number of different owners for these lots over time, and the building's historic owner cannot be accurately determined.

Feature 17: House (Constructed ca. 1930; contributing)

Feature 17 is a wood-framed house with clapboard siding. The building has a concrete foundation and a gable roof (relatively poor condition) surfaced with wood shingles. There is a small, enclosed, shed roofed entry porch on the main (east) facade, and a second shed-roofed addition at the west end of the north wall. Structural debris near the building's west wall suggests that a large, enclosed rear porch once stood there. Large window openings in the gable ends indicate that the attic served as a sleeping area or other purposes. The building is painted white. This is the largest house remaining in Comertown in 1992.

Feature 18: House (Constructed ca. 1925; contributing)

Feature 18 consists of the remains of a wood-framed house that has completely collapsed. The building apparently had a gable roof surfaced with wood shingles, but few other details about the building can still be discerned.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A	Areas of Significance: Architecture Exploration/Settlement
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a	Period(s) of Significance: 1913-1943
Significant Person(s): n/a	Significant Dates: 1913
Cultural Affiliation: n/a	Architect/Builder: n/a

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Comertown Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criterion A. The townsite is historically significant as a representative surviving example of the numerous small agricultural communities which sprang up in eastern Montana during the first two decades of the twentieth century. These towns were an important product of a massive "homestead boom" which brought large numbers of new farmers into the area. In general, these new farms were established with unrealistic expectations of land productivity and success, and most of the farms were either abandoned or consolidated into larger units in the drought years following 1918. This drop in farm population, combined with improved rural transportation systems, caused a sustained decline in the small towns which served the farms. Many, including Comertown, suffered near total abandonment, while others survive today with reduced populations. These towns, along with their neighboring farmsteads, serve as reminders of this dramatic and important period in Montana's history.

The buildings and features remaining at Comertown are characteristic of Montana's early twentieth-century small towns. The assortment of small rural houses remaining in the townsite reflect Montana's agricultural frontier; in contrast, the railroad line and grain elevator are strong visual and functional landmarks of the town's agricultural base. The well-preserved town park, and the other scattered landscape features remaining in Comertown, are unusual components adding to the town's visual character. All these features survive in a setting almost totally devoid of modern intrusions, giving good site integrity and an excellent historic "feel." This combination of varied surviving building forms and high level of site integrity make Comertown an excellent surviving example of an early twentieth-century eastern Montana homestead community.

Historical Narrative

The remote, hilly grasslands of extreme northeastern Montana saw only little Euro-American settlement until the first years of the twentieth century. When this settlement did begin to take place, however, it happened quickly, with a rapid rush of prospective dryland farmers claiming much of the region with hundreds of half-section homestead entries. This settlement boom, which in Sheridan County peaked between 1909 and 1918, was heavily encouraged by the region's railway companies; in turn, the railroads benefitted from the increased traffic generated by the new farms.

A key component of this settlement process, then, was the construction of new railway lines across Sheridan County. One such line was built by the Minneapolis, St. Paul, & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad (the "Soo Line") during the summer of 1913; the Soo Line's new route traversed the northern edge of the county from east to west. As the Soo constructed its new line, it also adopted the common frontier railroad practice of platting and marketing new townsites along its route. In Sheridan County, a Soo Line subsidiary (the "Tri-State Land Company") established five new townsites in 1913 -- Westby, Comertown, Dooley, Outlook, and Daleview. Comertown and Daleview were the two smallest of the towns.

In a pattern typifying town development in the Midwestern agricultural frontier, the Soo's new Sheridan County townsites were intended to serve primarily as centers of commercial and civic activity for farmers living near the town. Consequently, most of the towns rapidly developed small but relatively complete retail districts, as well as a variety of civic services

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8

Comertown Historic District

Page 1

including post offices, schools, and churches. Grain elevators in each townsite allowed farmers to easily sell their crops. Although the towns relied almost exclusively on agricultural settlement for their livelihood, the growth and prosperity of Sheridan County's farms during the 1910s meant that the early years of Comertown and its neighboring villages were apparently very successful.

Comertown grew less rapidly than many of the other Sheridan County towns, although it served as an important local community center from the time of its founding. A post office was established at the town in 1914, and by the early 1920s the town boasted two grain elevators and a variety of retail businesses. The region's farm economy had entered a long, slow decline by that time, however, as local farms consolidated, and other homesteaders began moving away. This loss of rural population caused Comertown to enter a long, gradual decline, from which it was never to recover. Sheridan County's improving road network simultaneously allowed the remaining Comertown-area farmers easy access to the larger communities of Plentywood and Westby; this lessened the need for Comertown still more. Comertown's retail business economy began to disappear first. A fire in the early 1920s destroyed much of the town's commercial district, and many of the businesses did not reopen.

Comertown endured longer as a residential community, however, probably due in large part to the existence of both an elementary and high school in the town. A number of farm families probably lived in Comertown during the winter so their children could easily attend school. The town's large two-story schoolhouse (1922 and 1927) was the largest building in town and a local landmark. A WPA construction project added a small high school dormitory for students from more isolated farms. Thanks to the high school, Comertown's residential community probably reached its peak by the early 1930s, when the town boasted "about 14 residences of the better type, all of them nicely painted." Townspeople supported a variety of civic and educational institutions, including a city park that was probably the best-landscaped in Sheridan County.

By the 1950s Comertown's last days as a populated community were approaching. The number of operating farms continued to decline, and the first generation of homesteaders began to retire elsewhere or die. Remaining farmers looked more and more towards Westby and Plentywood as centers of their commercial and social activity. The town's post office closed in 1957 following the end of Soo Line passenger and express service to the area; this signaled the final demise of Comertown's retail district. The high school closed in 1953 and the grade school ended in 1965. The school's closure indicated the end of Comertown's last reason for existence, and by the 1970s the town was virtually abandoned. The school building was torn down and several of the larger residences were moved to other sites.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Aasheim, Magnus, comp. Sheridan's Daybreak II. Aberdeen, South Dakota: North Plains Press, 1984.
 Minneapolis, St. Paul, & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad Company. Railroad property plat map for the townsite of Comertown, Montana. Original located in the files of the Montana Highway Department, Helena.

Plentywood Herald, September 30, 1927.

Townsite plat maps and deed records maintained at the office of the Sheridan County Clerk & Recorder, Plentywood, Montana.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other -- Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: approximately 36 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing

A	13	555160	5416410
B	13	555160	5416000
C	13	554740	5416150
D	13	554740	5416390

Legal Location: Section 4, T36N, R57E.

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the platted townsite of Comertown, as well as all platted additions to the townsite. It also includes a small unplatted area just west of the townsite on which town residences were constructed. That portion of the Soo Line right-of-way directly adjoining the platted townsite is also included, as are the railroad's industrial lots which were developed in conjunction with the town. The purely agricultural land surrounding the town is excluded.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Mark Hufstetler, Historian
 organization: Renewable Technologies, Inc. date: September 1, 1992
 street & number: 511 Metals Bank Building telephone: 406/782-0494
 city or town: Butte state: MT zip code: 59701

Property Owner

Multiple owners (see attached list)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10

Comertown Historic District

Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary begins at the center of the Southwest Quarter of Section 3, T36N, R57E, M.P.M. (UTM Reference "A"). This point marks the furthest extent of the Soo Line industrial lots platted in Comertown. The boundary then proceeds south and then southeast, following the northerly boundary of the Soo Line right-of-way, to a point directly opposite the spot where the southerly right-of-way boundary is directly east of the centerline of platted First Avenue in Comertown. The boundary then proceeds southwesterly, perpendicular to the right-of-way boundary lines, to a point directly east of First Avenue, and then continues west to the east boundary line of the Comertown plat. It follows the boundary south, then west, then north, to the southeastern corner of the plat for Block 5, Comer's Addition to Comertown. It then proceeds west, then north, then west, then north, following the southern and western boundaries of the plats for Comer's addition to Comertown, to a point where the plat's western boundary meets the centerline of First Avenue. The boundary then proceeds west 100 feet, and then north to a point directly west of the centerline of North Avenue. It then proceeds east to the western boundary of Comer's Addition to Comertown. The boundary then continues north to the northwestern corner of the plat, and then proceeds east along the northern boundary of the plat to the centerline of Phi Street. The boundary then proceeds north to the northern boundary of the Soo Line right-of-way, and then proceeds southeast and east along this boundary line to the point of beginning. The district is located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 3 and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 4, T36N, R57E, M.P.M.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Additional Documentation/Photos

Comertown Historic District

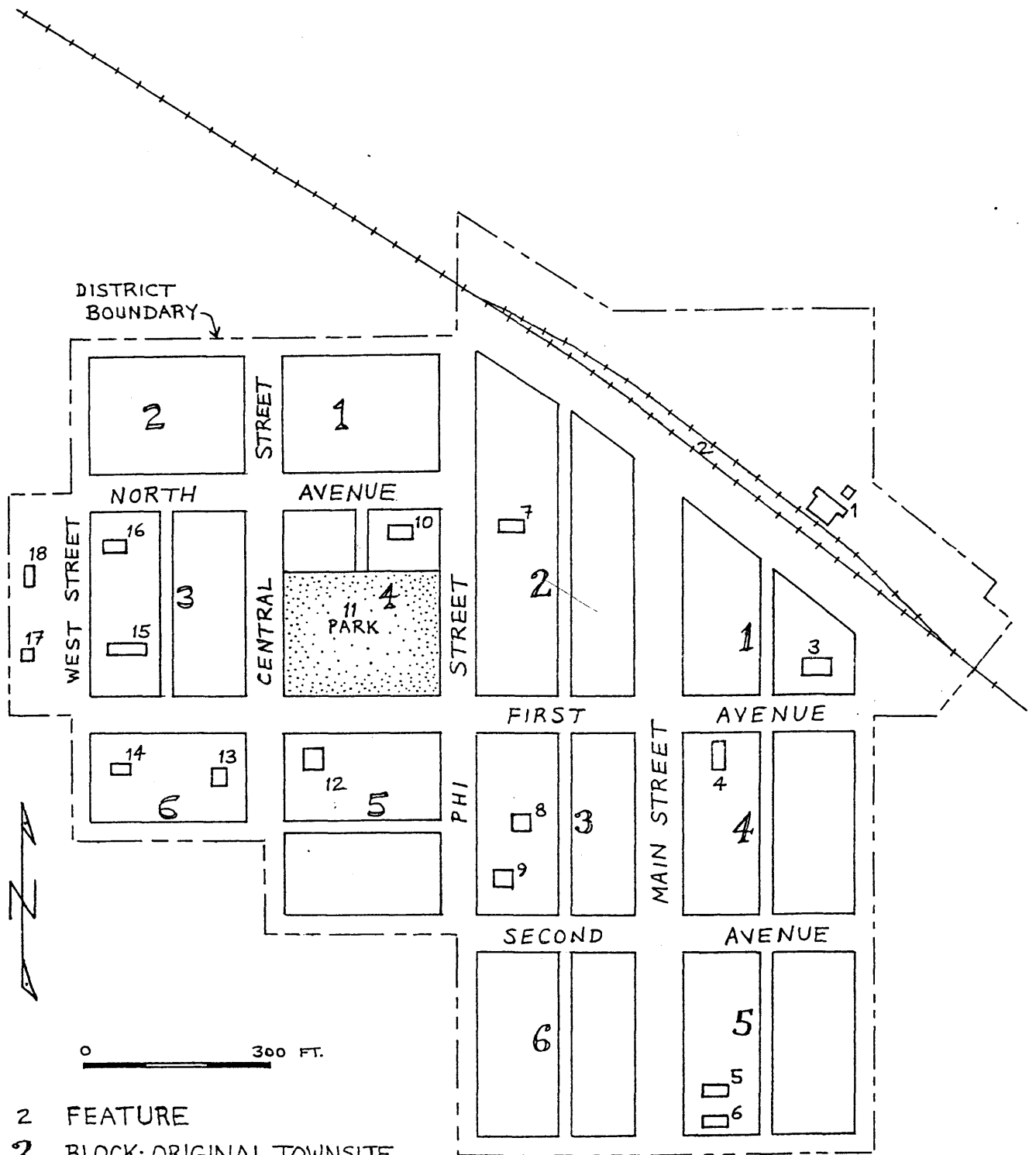
Page 1

Index to Photographs

Photographer: Mark Hufstetler

Date: August 1991

<u>Photo Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Direction Facing</u>
1	Occident elevator (Feature #1): north elevation	South-southeast
2	Occident elevator: east and south elevations. Railroad track (Feature #2) at center	West-northwest
3	Rierson House (Feature #5) in foreground; King House (Feature #6) to rear	South-southeast
4	Mikkelson House (Feature #7) to left; House (Feature #10) to right	East-southeast
5	Rostad Summer House (Feature #8): west elevation	East
6	Mikkelson House (Feature #7) in foreground; House (Feature #10) to rear	Northwest
7	Comertown Park (Feature #11): concession building at center, with shrub plantings in background	North-northeast
8	House (Feature #12): north and west walls	South-southeast
9	Solheim House (Feature #13): East and north walls	Southwest
10	Soo Line Railroad Car (Feature #15): south and east sides. House (Feature #16) to rear	North-northwest
11	House (Feature #16): south and west walls	Northeast
12	House (Feature #17): west and north wall	Southeast



- 2 FEATURE
- 2 BLOCK: ORIGINAL TOWNSITE
- 2 BLOCK: COMER'S ADDITION

COMERTOWN
 Comertown Historic District
 Sheridan County
 Montana