

1769

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DEC 1 1993

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Residence at 813 W. Watson

other name/site number: Stone building #302

2. Location

street & number: 813 W. Watson

not for publication: n/a
vicinity: n/a

city/town: Lewistown

state: Montana

code: MT

county: Fergus

code: 027

zip code: 59457

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.)

Maude Shroy SHPO 12-11-93
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 Patrick Andrews Date of Action 1/27/93

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Buildings

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 2 </u>	___ building(s)
___	___ sites
___	___ structures
___	___ objects
<u> 2 </u>	___ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Stone Buildings in Lewistown, Montana and Vicinity

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:
Domestic/single dwelling

Current Functions:
Domestic/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:
Other: Pyramid cottage

Materials:
foundation: stone
walls: stone
roof: asphalt

Narrative Description

Similar to its neighbors, this single story, roughly coursed stone residence is purely rectangular in plan with the narrow dimension of the rectangle parallel to the street. The hipped roof is of medium-to-steep slope and is covered with T-lock asphalt shingles. A single brick chimney penetrates the roof near the back of the south side of the roof. The narrow fascia is of wood and the soffit is boxed. A low-slope hip-roofed porch is centered on the entry elevation of the house. It is supported at the projecting corners by turned wooden columns and the raised floor of the porch is bordered by a simple wooden balustrade.

The stone walls are constructed of coursed sandstone of varying lengths. The stones have pitched faces and although the coursing is regular the alignment is not precise. Stone lintels are simple single pieces, as are the sills. Windows at the side elevations are individual 1-over-1, double-hung wood windows that are equally spaced in the walls.

The front elevation features a centered entry door flanked by a pair of cottage windows on either side. The entry elevation windows feature fixed transom lights. A back porch is engaged on the southeast corner. It is infilled with T-111 and has a modern hollow door with no lights. There is also a garage to the rear of this residence. It too dates to the historic period of construction. This wooden structure has a gabled roof and is single bay with horizontal lapped siding and exposed rafter ends. The roof is covered by rolled composition roofing, and the doors and windows have been replaced or covered.

Note: The three residences at 805, 809 and 813 West Watson are very similar in size, style and construction and form a small specialized subdivision within the block.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: C **Areas of Significance:** Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a **Period(s) of Significance:** 1905

Significant Person(s): n/a **Significant Dates:** 1905

Cultural Affiliation: n/a **Architect/Builder:** unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

This residence is significant because it is an excellent example of early twentieth century stone masonry construction in Lewistown. The use of coursed rubble stone with smear mortar joints was a technique commonly employed by Lewistown's earliest stone masons. As was typical in communities across the country, early buildings were constructed of materials found near the building site--stone, logs and sod. Materials were prepared by the builders themselves, rather than in distant mills, kilns or factories. In Lewistown, local sandstone could be easily gathered or quarried and the stone building traditions imported by the earliest settlers provided a natural solution to the housing needs created by population growth in the days prior to improved transportation.

Built to serve a burgeoning population in Lewistown in 1905, this house is one of three nearly identical houses owned by John Charters as investment property. This example and its two neighbors at 805 and 809 West Watson, feature simple rectangular plans with hipped roofs. While this roof design required a more complex framing, it used fewer long-spanning rafters and thus was less expensive to erect. The three stone houses, unique in Lewistown, remained in group ownership through three owners until 1922.

This stone residence maintains historic integrity of design, location, setting, materials, and workmanship. However, it has lost a small amount of historic integrity because of porch alterations, replacement roofing and some obvious repointing. These alterations are reversible, however, and because of design, location and setting, the residence still conveys its association with its period of construction.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Abstract of Title

Tax cards

Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1901, 1908.

Sievert, Ken and Ellen, "Historical and Architectural Survey of Sandstone Resources of Lewistown, Montana," unpublished manuscript, March 31, 1987. Available at State Historic Preservation Office.

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

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References:

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	12	619290	5212890

Verbal Boundary Description

This property is located in the Stafford #3 Addition, Block 5, Lot 4, in the SE quarter of the NW quarter of the SW quarter of section 15, T15N, R18E, City of Lewistown, Montana.

Boundary Justification

This property is part of a discontinuous multiple property nomination. This specific parcel includes only the city lots upon which the building is located.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jeff Shelden, Lewistown Historic Preservation Officer/edited by Kim Currie, SHPO Intern
organization: Lewistown Historic Preservation Office **date:** 2/23/89, Rev. 5/29/91
street & number: Box 626 **telephone:** 406/538-2201
city or town: Lewistown **state:** MT **zip code:** 59457

Property Owner

name/title: Karl and Dorothy Johnson
street & number: 813 W. Watson **telephone:** 538-2219
city or town: Lewistown **state:** MT **zip code:** 59457