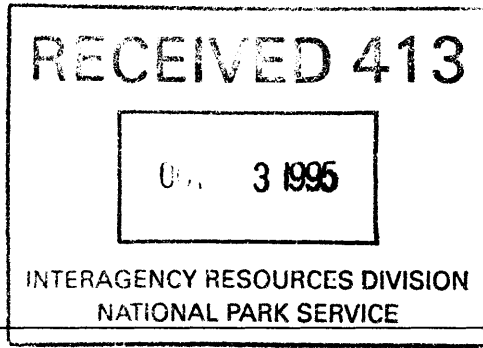


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name: Appleton House No. 9

other name/site number: Appleton Inn

2. Location

street & number: 1999 Euclid Avenue

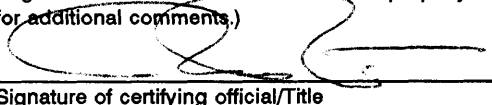
not for publication: n/a  
vicinity: n/a

city/town: Helena

state: Montana code: MT county: Lewis & Clark code: <sup>49</sup> zip code: 59601

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.)

 \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

9-25-95  
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:

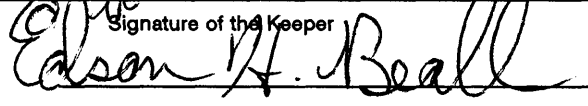
entered in the National Register  
   see continuation sheet

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

11-7-95

**5. Classification**

<b>Ownership of Property:</b> Private	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b>	
	Contributing	Noncontributing
<b>Category of Property:</b> Building	<u>  1  </u>	<u>  1  </u> building(s)
<b>Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:</b> 0	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> sites
	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> structures
	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> objects
<b>Name of related multiple property listing:</b> n/a	<u>  1  </u>	<u>  1  </u> TOTAL

**6. Function or Use**

<b>Historic Functions:</b>	<b>Current Functions:</b>
Domestic: Single Residence	Domestic: Hotel

**7. Description**

<b>Architectural Classification:</b>	<b>Materials:</b>
Late Victorian: Queen Anne, Shingle	foundation: stone
	walls: brick, wood shingle
	roof: wood shingle
	other: n/a

**Narrative Description**

"House No.9" "Corner of Euclid avenue and Joslyn street, facing valley. Lot 50x125 feet with 16-foot alley in rear. Basement under entire house. Two stories and finished attic. Brick (with cut stone trimmings) and frame. Eleven rooms; hall, pantry, bath room and six large closets with shelves and hooks, back stairs, double floors, paper throughout walls and under shingles. No.1 Oregon flooring, cedar shingles, front hall finished in antique oak, two parlors and dining room in cherry, three member casing with carved caps, plinth and corner blocks, beautiful cherry mantle in parlor with large bevel plate mirror. Balance of house finished in No. 1 Minnesota pine, wainscotted kitchen, cabinet in pantry, wood box to fill from outside, first class range bricked in, kitchen table, cupboards and various labor-saving equipment, weighted windows, expensive art glass, solid bronze hardware, complete system of plumbing attached to pipes of Consolidated Water Co., hot and cold water to all fixtures, bath tub, tank water closet, marble top wash stand, soapstone stationary with cess-pool, piped for gas and hot air furnace, sheds, fences and walks complete. Price, \$6,500.00; \$2,000.00 cash, balance on time at 10 per cent."

-- Helena Journal, April 10, 1890

Appleton House No. 9 is a two and a half story residence constructed in Queen Anne style. The massing is irregular, but built around a rectangular block at the central core. The design combines brick masonry on the first floor with wood frame construction on the upper level. Unpainted red-orange brick composes the first floor exterior, while the upper level is finished with staggered-butt wood shingles, adding textural interest overall. The roof is a fairly steep gable across the central core, with a lower cross gable projecting to the rear. Fenestration is generally characterized by double-hung windows, 1-over-1 or multipane-over-1, placed singly and in pairs.

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Appleton House No. 9  
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The primary facade features a two story octagonal bay, rising to a conical peak. Bay windows illuminate the parlor; on the second floor, the bay enframes a balcony, while the cap projects above the slope of the roof. A wooden porch heavily trimmed with lattice work and bentwood openings enriches this facade and wraps the northwest corner. A central pediment with floral scrollwork crowns the porch. The east side is accented by low-relief, gabled masses including a narrow two-story bay at the stairwell. The bay houses two ornamental windows, with multipaned upper glazing. The upper features a rounded arch. Paired windows are placed toward the rear, and those on the first floor are accented by heavy stone lintel and sill. At the rear southeast corner an original open wooden porch was removed long ago. Recently a rear entrance was located here, covered with a shed roof, and trimmed with clapboard.

On the west side, a similar low relief bay projects. This bay is octagonal at the base, and square above. It houses paired windows on all three levels. A rear porch at the southwest corner was also removed years ago. This has recently been replaced by a small room addition, finished with clapboard and tucked under the roofline. Above this a small dormer was added.

The south (rear) elevation completes the projecting rear gable. It is simple by contrast to other facades, and includes a gable return on the east roofline, an exterior chimney offset to the west, plain 1-over-1 windows and a rear entrance with wooden steps.

The home faces to the north on Euclid Avenue and overlooks the Helena Valley. The building lots accommodate the residence as well as a new garage/shop at the rear of the property. This building has recently been completed. It is a two story wooden building with a gambrel roof. It does not contribute to the historic significance of the property.

### Integrity

Appleton House No. 9 retains a very high level of integrity. The original design, workmanship and materials are all very well preserved, and have been carefully refurbished over the past five years. Design alterations have been limited to the secondary porches, including the replacement of rear corner porches with small, enclosed additions and glass enclosure of the balcony porch. Changes to the rear porches are minimized by their placement, tucked as they are into the back corners of the building. They mimic the scale of the original porches while being finished to match the overall exterior design. The enclosure of the balcony did result in loss of original detailing which echoed that of the main porch. However, enclosure was likely essential to prevent water damage; many Appleton homes featured the front balcony, and are known to have developed leaks.

The setting has suffered to some degree, both from the widening of the highway along the front of the property, and the changing character of the surroundings with a commercial business strip encroaching into what was formerly an open suburban, minimally developed fringe of town. However, the edge of town feeling is not entirely lost at this time, and the architectural presence of the building is very strong. Thus there is a clear conveyance of the history associated with the property, and an excellent representation of the design work of George Appleton.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria: C                      Area of Significance: Architecture  
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a                      Period(s) of Significance: 1890 - 1945  
Significant Person(s): n/a    Significant Dates: 1890  
Cultural Affiliation: n/a    Architect/Builder: George S. Appleton, architect

### Narrative Statement of Significance

The Appleton Inn Bed and Breakfast was built by George S. Appleton, a renowned architect who built many of Helena's homes in the mid-1880s and 1890s, as well as contributing to the construction of the Denver Block, Hotel Broadwater and Natatorium, and Fort Harrison. As a lovingly preserved example of Appleton's work, and a gracious example of a Queen Anne style residence, it is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places according to Criterion C.

### Architectural Significance

George S. Appleton was born in Vermont. He attended Oberlin College in Ohio where he completed his education. He learned the carpenter's trade in St. Paul, Minnesota and came to Helena to begin as a journeyman carpenter in 1884. He spent his spare time studying architecture and in 1887 began working with Wallace and Thornburgh. They were an insurance firm, yet handled real estate and helped in the financing of many new buildings. The firm transacted business under Wallace, Thornburgh, & Appleton. The Blake Addition was their first residential housing operation. In less than two years, the value of that land had more than doubled.

Wallace, Thornburgh & Appleton began building the Hotel Broadwater, which Mr. Appleton completed after his dissolution of partnership with Wallace and Thornburgh. The Broadwater Hotel and Natatorium was completed in 1889.

Appleton continued to build houses and purchased over 250 town lots in different parts of the city, but he preferred to be on the west side along the main motor routes. In 1895, he moved to Denver, Colorado leaving behind numerous residences to his credit in the young town of Helena.

Designs for Appleton's houses were drawn heavily from early pattern books, especially Shoppell's Modern Houses published by the Cooperative Building Plan Association, of New York. Founded by Robert W. Shoppell, the Cooperative Building Plan Association published a large number of architectural designs through a series of catalogs and portfolios, collectively known as *Shoppell's Modern Houses*. Advertising "artistic modern houses of low cost," Shoppell's designs were high quality homes for average middle to upper middle class residents, predominantly of Queen Anne and Shingle styles.

This home, designated No. 9 in the Kenwood Addition, was completed in 1890. G.S. Appleton ran a column in the Helena Journal advertising his homes for sale. In the April 10, 1890 edition of the Journal he offered "House No. 9" for sale.

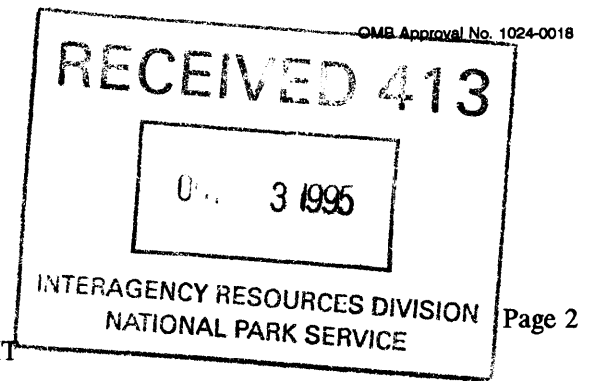
Appleton House No. 9 is highly representative of the work of this prolific local architect. Apparently patterned after "No. 521" in the *Shoppell's Modern Houses* series, the home is a scaled down version of the original. Like many of the Shoppell designs which Appleton followed or modified, Appleton House No. 9 is a 2 1/2 story Queen Anne home with a masonry lower story and frame upper finished with staggered butt shingles. Emphasis is given to wrapping porches, octagonal bays and unusual dormers. Chimneys with inset panels and windows were a Shoppell hallmark. Typical of Queen Anne sensibilities, the massing is irregular, with a vertical emphasis. A variety of rich textures adorns the exterior and ornamental wooden detailing on the porches and elsewhere embellish the design. On the interior, formally divided spaces, ornately carved woodwork and angular roof and wall lines give a rich Queen Anne Victorian feeling to the home.

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Appleton House #9  
Lewis & Clark County, MT



### Historical Background

In May of 1890, "House No. 9" was sold to Mary Marlow for \$6500.00. On May 12, 1891, it was foreclosed with \$4281.09 in damages. James Tucker purchased the property at public auction on June 19, 1891 for \$4815.85. On May 28, 1892, Jeremiah and Letta Collins purchased the home for \$6500.00. He was a mining broker along with Angus McQueen. In 1905, Jeremiah sold the home to Dr. John V. Cole before moving to Washington D.C. to become President of the Collins Land Company. Dr. Cole purchased the home on October 25, 1905 by paying off all liens for \$6800.00. Dr. John Vincent Cole was born in 1857 on the family farm near East Concord, New York. John was not interested in farming, but rather dentistry. He studied under another dentist for two years before deciding to open his own practice in Collins Center, New York in 1881. He was a restless person and moved from village to village for the next ten years. In 1891, news had spread to the east coast of a gold strike in the mountains of Montana. At that same time, New York state was experiencing a tuberculosis epidemic. John decided to leave his wife Janie, son Ward, and daughter Hazel and travel to Montana to find a new life for his family.

In the spring of 1891, John left for Montana. He stopped in St. Paul, Minnesota to visit a physician friend. There he heard that Marysville, not Helena, was where the larger gold strikes were. Tommy Cruise founded a prosperous mine called Drumlummon, named after a parish in Ireland. This mine became the main economic support of Marysville, Montana employing over 300 miners at its peak.

John was attracted to the town of Marysville because it had no dentist. It did support 28 saloons, two drug stores, two dry goods stores, two physicians, a butcher shop, a grocery, a hardware store, a schoolhouse, and two churches. In 1892, John sent for his wife and two children. The life of a dentist in Marysville was very much different than a dentist's life in the east. Money was scarce in this mining town and many of the services were paid by bushels of vegetables or half a cow or pig since the mining company did not pay for dental services as they did physician services. Not only was Dr. Cole a competent dentist, but in this small town both he and his wife Janie were called out many times to help the other two doctors, all of which these services were not paid for, nor did he expect to be. According to his daughter Hazel, their relatives in the east were very worried about John and his family moving out to the "wilds" of Montana. They feared for the family's safety "living in the Wild West filled with Claim Jumpers, Indians and other lawlessness of the territory." John posed for a picture sitting on a rock with a rifle and sent it to his relatives reassuring them that he could fend for himself. On May 11, 1895, the Montana Dental Society was organized in Helena and Dr. John Vincent Cole was its first member. He was very involved in this organization until the time of his death in 1914.

In 1903, the Drumlummon mine had neared the end of its gold strike and Marysville went into an economic depression. Dr. Cole decided to move his family to Helena. In 1905, the Cole family purchased the home at 1999 Euclid Avenue.

Besides dentistry, John Cole had a variety of outside interests. He was an accomplished violinist and built a violin for himself and his son Ward. He was also an avid hunter and self-taught taxidermist. John wrote poetry and had numerous poems published in newspapers and magazines. He enjoyed working in his flower and vegetable garden.

Ward Cole moved with his family to Marysville when he was 10 years old. Ward had an avid interest in the new automobiles of that time and many photographs found him giving rides to his family in many different vehicles. Ward was an assayer at the Gloster mine in Marysville for some years. He married Helen Reeves, moved to Helena, and became an Assistant Engineer for the State Highway Commission in 1931.

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Julia Hazel Lucy Cole was born December 19, 1890 in Gowanda, New York and moved out to Marysville, Montana with her family when she was two years old. An accomplished pianist and photographer, Hazel and her brother Ward would earn spending money taking pictures of the townspeople since there were no commercial photographers in Marysville. Hazel worked as Assistant Clerk in the office of state game warden J.L. DeHart at the Capitol Building after graduating from Business College.

On June 7, 1914, Dr. John V. Cole was on the train to Great Falls for the state Dentistry Convention when he died suddenly of a stroke. He was said to have been in excellent health and was seen in his yard just the day before tending to his garden.

Hazel married William Converse that following fall, September 19, 1914, at the home of Janie Cole, 1999 Euclid Avenue. According to the Independent Record newspaper dated 9/20/1914, "the bride was beautifully gowned in a dress of white embroidered swiss, with a fine net veil and orange blossoms. She was attended by Miss Agnes Dickerson, who wore a gown of pink messaline. The groom was attended by Cecil Wilson, of this city." They made their home in Great Falls where Bill worked for the First National Bank. Soon afterward, they returned to Helena to live at 509 Harrison Avenue. Bill became a Bookkeeper at the Central Garage (Ripley C. Hoffman, Elmer D. Nash) at 40 West Lawrence.

On February 14, 1922, Jane Beverly Cole who was in Marysville visiting friends, was waiting for the Northern Pacific train for a return trip to Helena. According to the Helena Independent dated 2/15/1922, "while walking on the platform was seen to fall into a faint from which she never regained consciousness. Death was evidently due to heart trouble."

In 1925, Hazel, William, and son Billy, moved into the home at 1999 Euclid Avenue. After Janie Cole passed away February 14, 1922, the estate was divided equally among Ward and Hazel. Hazel and William purchased Ward's share of the estate for \$800.00 in September 1927. They purchased Lots 3 and 4 of Block 175 of the Wallace Subdivision in 1936 for \$1,500.00 and added a brick garage to the property in 1939.

On August 12, 1931, sons Billy age 9 and his younger brother Jackie age 6, were tragically killed. The boys were at the Broadwater Natatorium with friend Lois Fraizer and received a ride back home by Granville Boone who was a driver for the Helena Ice Company. Granville dropped the boys and Lois off at what is now Hauser Boulevard. As they were crossing the street and heading down Joslyn toward home, a Dodge Sedan driven by Carl Hirsh, age 16 from Butte, and passenger Buddy Lippert, age 13 from Helena, traveling at a high rate of speed up Joslyn Street, hit the two Converse boys. Billy and Jackie Converse died of extensive head injuries. The accident was deemed "accidental" and no charges were filed against the driver. The Helena Independent, in August of 1931 covered this tragedy in complete detail. After the death of her two sons, Hazel became very reclusive and spent hours playing the piano in the parlor. She did not leave the house for many months. The piano seemed to be her way of healing after such a great loss. Although friends have stated that Hazel never fully recovered from their passing, she eventually began to venture out in the community once again. An old toy cap gun was recently found outside in the east lilac hedge. It was dated back to the 1920s-1930s and is thought to have possibly belonged to one of the boys.

Hazel and Bill continued to make their home at 1999 Euclid Avenue, also known as the Kenwood Addition, for many years. We received a wonderful collection of finely stitched linens which Hazel gave to Dorothy and Charles Tode, most of which were made by her mother Jane. It was noted that Hazel did not possess this talent for fine linens. Hazel instead enjoyed a talent for refinishing furniture and had an avid interest in fine Walnut furnishings. According to Dorothy Tode, who was a close friend of Hazel's, she had a wonderful walnut diningroom set and china cabinet. Today, all that remains is a beautiful walnut table currently located in the parlor. Hazel had a small bell tied to the gate on the east side of the house. When William arrived each afternoon from work at the Central Garage, the bell would ring when he opened the

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Appleton House #9  
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gate. This was Hazel's cue to complete whatever project she was doing and get dinner started. The original bell is still a part of this house.

On December 3, 1964, a public hearing was held by the Montana Department of Transportation to discuss a highway construction project on U.S. Highway 12 through Helena. This project expanded Euclid Avenue from Benton Avenue to Fort Harrison junction into a four-lane highway. On December 16, 1965, Hazel and Bill sold a tract of land approximately 10 feet in front of the house to the State of Montana for \$1,500.00. This money Hazel spent on new appliances including a washer and dryer.

William Kiene Converse was born December 30, 1888 to L.N. Converse and Margaret Kiene Converse in Dubuque, Iowa. He moved to Montana in 1908 and settled in Great Falls. He met Hazel in Helena while working as an assistant in the office of State Veterinarian W.J. Butler. They were married a few years later. On September 10, 1968, William died at the home of a heart attack. He was buried in the Hillcrest Lawn Memorial Cemetery in Great Falls.

In 1965, Hazel was asked to give a presentation to the Helena Womans Club commemorating the Centennial year for the State of Montana. In her speech entitled "I Remember! I Remember!" Hazel talked about her life in Marysville, Montana and the importance of her father in shaping the community.

Hazel continued to live at 1999 Euclid Avenue until moving to an apartment at 428 Power Street in 1971. Soon after, she moved to Helena Nursing Home until her death June 28, 1982 at age 91. Longtime friends Dorothy and Charles Tode visited Hazel daily and would take her for drives around the city. Before her death, Hazel donated a large collection of photographs to the Montana Historical Society mainly depicting life in Marysville and her father's historic career as a pioneer dentist. She also donated some fine furnishings from her home. After her death, Dorothy and Charles Tode donated more of her possessions that were found in the basement of this house and noted to be of historical significance. All of these donations helped to recreate the Dentist Office of Dr. John V. Cole in Marysville, Montana around the 1890s which was on display at the museum in Helena for quite some time.

Thanks to the loving friendship Dorothy and Charles Tode shared with Hazel Cole Converse, this remarkable family remains a vital part of the ongoing history of the Appleton Inn Bed and Breakfast. Many photographs of the family, as well as beautiful hand-stitched linens, are displayed throughout the home and stories are eagerly retold to all who lend an ear.





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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9

Appleton House No. 9  
Lewis & Clark County, MT

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Converse Collection Original photographs of 1999 Euclid, Photoarchives, Montana Historical Society, Helena.

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Jacobsen, Byrd and Jiusto Helena - An Illustrated History. City of Helena, 1983.

Helena Board of Trade Helena Illustrated, 1890. Published by the Board of Trade.

*Helena Daily Herald* September 22, 1894

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*Helena Journal* April 15, 1890

*Independent Record* June 29, 1982

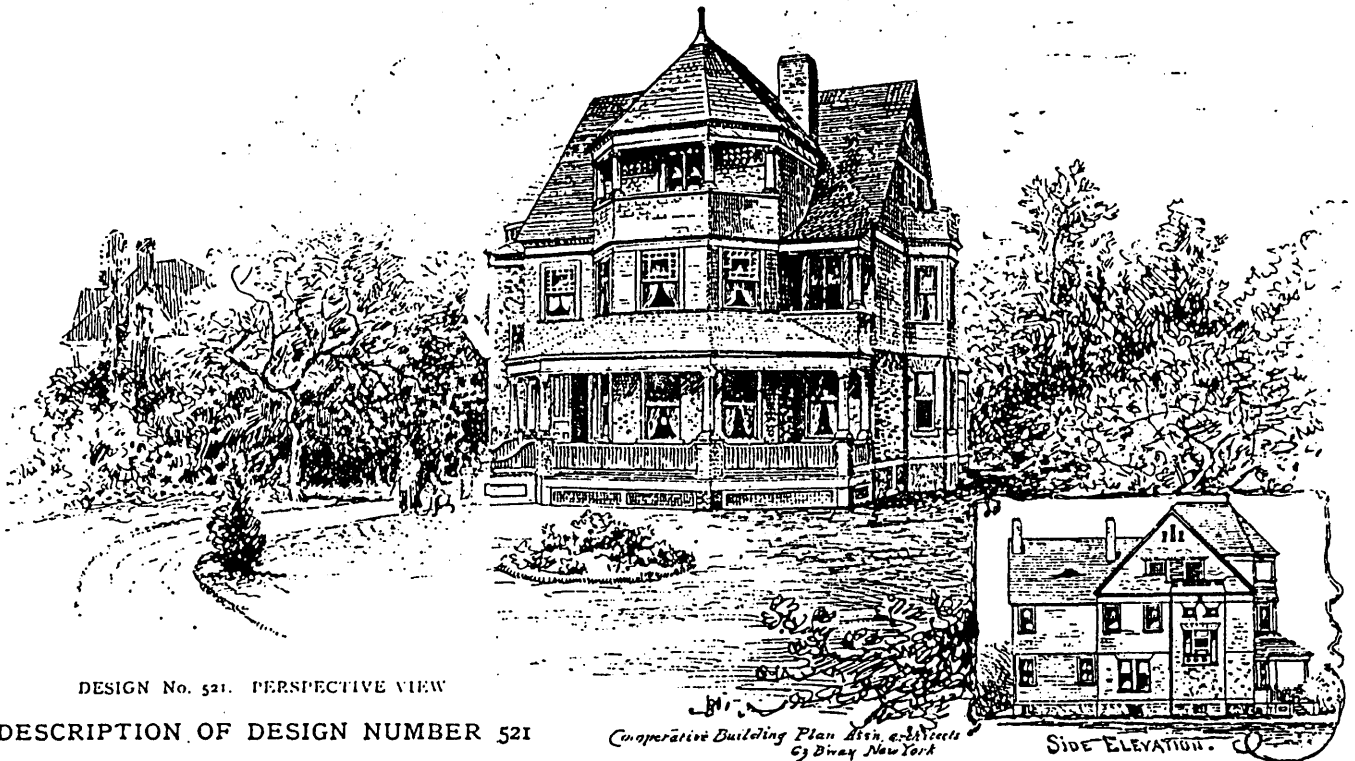
Polk, R.L. & Co. Directories for City of Helena: 1886 - 1990

Shoppell, R.W. et al.

Turn-of-the-Century Houses, Cottages and Villas Floor plans and Line Illustrations of 118 Homes from Shoppell's Catalogs. Dover Publications, Inc. New York, 1983.

Artistic Modern Houses of Low Cost. Select plans and essays.

Shoppell's Modern Houses. Select plans and essays.



SIZE OF STRUCTURE: Front, 32 ft.; Extreme width, 42 ft., 6 in.; Depth, including veranda, 58 ft., 6 in. SIZE OF ROOMS: See floor plans.

HEIGHT OF STORIES: Cellar, 7 ft.; First Story, 9 ft., 6 in.; Second Story, 8 ft., 6 in.; Attic, 8 ft., 6 in.

MATERIALS: Foundations, stone; First Story, a 12-inch brick wall; Second Story, shingles; Gables, shingles; Roof, slate.

COST: \$5,800, complete, except mantels, heater and range. See page 77 for possible "EXTRAS."

SPECIAL FEATURES—Cellar under the whole house, with cemented bottom; an outside entrance to the cellar is provided.

Handsome staircase of ash. Open fire-places in the parlor, the dining-room and the sitting-room, and in two bedrooms.

Sliding doors connect the hall and the dining-room, the dining and the sitting-room, and the sitting-room and the parlor.

Large kitchen, butler's pantry and store pantry. The large kitchen entry furnishes a good place for the refrigerator.

The walls above the grade are faced with selected brick, laid up in red mortar.

The attic stairway ascends near the back stairway, for the convenience of servants in reaching the attic rooms.

Three bedrooms, a hall-way and a store-room are finished in the attic.

