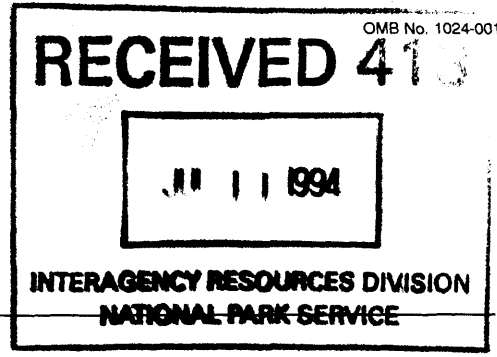


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Reid/Kent House

other name/site number: 24FH

2. Location

street & number: 246 8th Avenue West

not for publication: n/a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

city/town: Kalispell

state: Montana code: MT county: Flathead code: 029 zip code: 59901

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.)

Marcell Shoy MT SHPO 6-28-94
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): _____

for
Signature of the Keeper
Edson H. Beall

Date of Action
8-24-94

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: private public-local public-State public-Federal

Category of Property: building(s) district site structure object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> building(s)
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Properties of Kalispell, Montana

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Queen Anne

Materials:

foundation: STONE
 roof: WOOD: Shingle
 walls: WOOD: Weatherboard, Shingle
 other: N/A

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Reid/Kent House has several features that identify it as a Queen Anne-style residence, one of the few from the 1890s on the western edge of Kalispell's developed townsite. Although initially of a symmetrical T-shaped plan with a lower rear wing, by 1903 porches and additions gave it an asymmetrical plan. The roof has both gable and hip sections, and there are several small cross gables. Decorative shingles in the gable ends are typical Queen Anne details, as are the cornice-line dentils, the varied exterior sheathing materials, the projecting square bay window on the east with a stained glass transom, and the bay window on the south.

The roof is covered with wood shingles (composition shingles on the enclosed porch on the east), the siding is wood shiplap (no longer present on most Kalispell houses that originally were sided with shiplap), and the foundation is native rock, blue-gray argillite from a quarry southwest of town. The porch on the east, enclosed after 1956, has a tarpaper roof. Cornice-line dentils run above the doors and windows and across the dormers. A triangular section in the top of each gable is extended forward.

The basement has a dirt floor, with native rock on three sides, and does not extend under the entire house. A porch on the south has been removed since 1969. The utility room on the west end of the house was added by 1903. An old doorway in the kitchen has been blocked off.

At the rear of the lot is a one-story gable-roofed shed with a tarpaper roof and shiplap siding. This is not the large two-story chicken coop that appears at the same location on the 1910, 1927 and 1956 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. The 1899 map shows no outbuildings, and the 1903 map shows a 1½ story dwelling at the rear of the lot with a different plan than the coop. The fruit trees on the lot were planted in 1956. The current owner reports that there was an old septic tank where the garden now is; timbers covered the opening.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Period(s) of Significance: ca. 1898

Significant Person(s): n/a

Significant Dates: ca.1898

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder(s): unknown

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The ca. 1898 Reid/Kent House meets the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because it is a good example of Queen Anne styling in Kalispell and is one of the few on the western edge of the developed townsite that dates from the 1890s. The distinctive architectural features of the house include the complex gable roof highlighted with decorative vergeboards, varied exterior sheathing materials, a projecting square bay window, stained glass transoms, and decorative exterior window and door moldings.

The original owner of the residence was farmer Frank Reid, who is listed at this address with Mary J. Reid (widow of Ezra L.) in the Kalispell City Directories through 1907. Reid is subsequently listed in the county as owning farmland. The house was constructed between 1897 and 1899. The wings added to the west end of the house and the two original porches were all built during Reid's ownership of the property. When constructed, the house was on the western edge of town.

Thomas B. Kent and his wife Elizabeth bought the house from Frank Reid in 1907. In the 1909-13 directories, Thomas B. Kent is listed as a grocer at 202 8th Avenue West (on the same block as this house), living at 246 8th Avenue West. Kent was born in Pennsylvania, his wife in New York. The Kents owned lots 1-2 (the grocery) and the entire west half of this block until 1921.

Several of the Kents' grown children lived with them in this house. Their single 32-year-old son Byron boarded with his parents and was listed in the 1910 federal census as a lawyer with a general practice (later he was a laborer with the Kalispell Lumber Company). In 1920, the Kents' son Lamoyne lived in the house with his wife Lydia and their 2-year-old son Lamoyne. In that year, Lamoyne's occupation was listed as "train service." The Kents' daughter Myrtle Hodgson lived one block away at 314 9th Avenue West, and their son Stephen, a chiropractor, also lived on the west side, at 819 4th Avenue West.

In 1915, Thomas Kent had a heart attack and died while awaiting news on a trial in the courthouse. Elizabeth Kent, the widow of Thomas, lived at 246 8th Avenue West, with her son Byron sometimes boarding with her, until she passed away in 1918 at age 80. In 1921 the house passed as an inheritance to the Kents' children.

In 1915, the year his father died, Lamoyne Kent took over the grocery at 202 8th Avenue West and lived there as well. By 1917, however, he was a policeman, still living in the grocery but no longer running the store. By 1922 Lamoyne Kent had moved to Whitefish, and the house at 202 8th Avenue West was sold out of the family in 1926.

Samuel and Ellen Leighty bought the residence in 1922. Leighty had come to the Flathead in 1898 and farmed in the Fairview district until retiring and moving to Kalispell in 1924. He died in 1936 at the age of 86. His wife lived in the house until at least 1940 (she is not listed in the 1942-43 Kalispell City Directory). The house was sold by the Leighty children in 1944 and has passed through several owners since 1944.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Daily Inter Lake: "Drops Dead While At Courthouse," March 19, 1915; "Samuel Leighty," February 3, 1936, p. 2.
Koch, Augustus, "Bird's Eye View of the City of Kalispell, Flathead County, Montana, 1897, looking southwest."
Kalispell City Directories (1901-43).
Rhodes, Elsie (owner since 1969), interview with Kathy McKay, May 29, 1992.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Kalispell, Montana, 1894, 1899, 1903, 1910, 1927, 1956.
United States Population Census, Kalispell, Montana, 1900, 1910 and 1920.

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 (City of Kalispell)
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Flathead County Library, Kalispell

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	11	698870	5341120

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot 6, Block 164, Addition One, Section 18, Township 29 North, Range 21 West, Montana Principal Meridian.

Boundary Justification

The legally recorded boundary of this property encompasses its significant resources.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kathy McKay, Historian	date: May 1993
street & number: 491 Eckelberry Dr.	telephone: (406) 892-1538
city or town: Columbia Falls	state: Montana zip code: 59912

Property Owner

name/title: Elsie Rhodes	telephone:
street & number: 246 8th Avenue West	zip code: 59901
city or town: Kalispell state: MT	