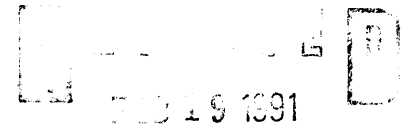


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

**NATIONAL
REGISTER**

1. Name of Property

historic name: Heller Building

other name/site number: The Pastime Bar

2. Location

street & number: 140 Main Street

not for publication: n/a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

city/town: Kalispell

state: Montana

code: MT

county: Flathead

code: 029

zip code: 59901

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property: 0

Contributing

Noncontributing

 1

 building(s)

 sites

 structures

 objects

 1

 Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

4. 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. See continuation sheet.

Maunelle Sheff Signature of certifying official 1-31-91 Date

MT SHPO State or Federal agency and bureau

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

____ Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date

____ State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Entered in the National Register

entered in the National Register Allores Byrum 3/22/91
 See continuation sheet.

 determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain): _____

for Signature of Keeper _____ Date

6. Function or Use

Historic: Commerce/Trade: specialty store, restaurant
Domestic: multiple dwelling

Current:

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements/
Commercial Style

Materials: foundation: stone
roof: asphalt
walls: brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Heller Building, built in 1898, is a two story brick commercial structure, built in Commercial style. The building sets on a common stone foundation of this area, and was constructed on a 25' wide x 140' deep commercial lot, addressing Kalispell's main street.

The Main Street facade is characterized by the use of a white "wire cut" finish brick, laid in running bond, and contrasted by a red rusticated brick. The facade is basically symmetrical, with a storefront on the ground floor offset by an upstairs entrance to the side. Simply pilastered bearing walls frame the front facade, and the fully glazed storefront. By the early 1980s, the storefront had been remodeled several times and lost much of its original character. Although retaining the original format--with recessed storefront entry surrounded by full storefront-style windows, recessed upstairs entrance, and glass block clerestory--much of the historic fabric had been replaced. The original wooden storefront framework was replaced with metal during the 1930-40 period, and the kickpanels below the storefront windows had been covered with light-colored brick veneer. In 1979, a basement entrance was placed within the storefront.

In 1987-1988, the storefront was rehabilitated, restoring much of the building's integrity. The basement stairway was removed, wooden framing restored on the main level, new wooden doors with upper glass panels installed, glass block clerestory restored, and appropriate ceramic tiled kickpanels installed below the storefront windows. Sign removal, cleaning and new paint further brought out the aesthetic qualities on the storefront.

An iron I-beam, tied in with three iron rosettes, spans the storefront and bears the upper masonry. A belt coursing of red, rusticated brick rests on the beam. Sections of red, rusticated brick in the pilasters accent the beam visually. This motif is echoed above at window and cornice levels.

On the upper level, a row of four, standard-sized windows, double-hung 1-over-1, illuminates the second floor. These window openings have rusticated stone sills, red brick surrounds, and windowheads spanned with flat brick arches having rusticated red brick at the shoulder.

On the parapet, a horizontal panel of rusticated red brick edged with wirecut red brick in diamond point bond is centered above each window. Across the top, the parapet is accented with corbelled brick dentils and a cornice of red, rusticated brick.

The interior, main floor, still houses a single store space--a deep, rectangular room with a high tin ceiling. The second floor, originally suites of rooms sharing a common washroom and parlor, was remodeled during the 1930s into a series of four apartments with individual kitchens and bathrooms. Contemporary electrical service and plumbing were installed. In the late 1940s, additional connecting doors were added to the suites on the second floor, joining spaces.

A wood shed was originally attached off the rear of the building. During the 1950-1960 period, this was removed and replaced with a concrete block wall and sloped flat roof. In 1987-1988, this portion of the building was rebuilt to repair moisture damage, and existing wooden stairs were replaced with a new stairway.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7

Heller Building

Page 1

Currently, two commercial ventures occupy the main floor and second floor suites. The rehabilitation has been sensitive to the original building design, and has restored much of the integrity which had been lost to years of incompatible remodeling.

8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Areas of Significance: Architecture, Commerce

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Period(s) of Significance: 1898-1940

Significant Person(s): n/a

Significant Dates: 1898

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder: Stahl Brothers, builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Heller Building, as a well-preserved example of turn-of-the-century Commercial style architecture in Kalispell, Montana, and as a vital part of the Kalispell commercial district for the past 90 years, is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Heller Building was constructed between 1898-1901 during a period when Kalispell was experiencing explosive growth. The town of Kalispell was founded in 1891, when the Great Northern Railroad established a division point and created a townsite here, bypassing the nearby trading community of Demersville. Merchants and residents of Demersville literally moved the town to the trackside that year, and Kalispell was born.

The townsite grew rapidly from 1891 to 1910. Lumber, milling, brewing and retail businesses fueled the Kalispell economy. Wood frame buildings dominated commercial construction the first year; in November of 1891, the town's first brick building was erected at 139 Main Street.

During the decade that followed, the townsite filled in and the commercial district flourished. By 1900, masonry buildings dominated, as major institutions and substantial business blocks mixed with smaller commercial buildings. The commercial district included large and small businesses catering to the growing local population, as well as people living in outlying rural areas and travelling through the area by train.

By 1901, "Heller's Family Liquor Store" was a thriving business, one of the first permanent liquor establishments in Kalispell. Upstairs housed the "Heller Apartments." This dual use pattern, with commercial business on the main level and residential space above, was common throughout the Kalispell commercial district and in many Montana towns.

August Heller was a native of Kansas who travelled westward with his family to California in 1861. Raised in Los Angeles, he learned fluent Spanish and the butcher trade. Prior to coming to Montana, he spent years in the cattle and butcher businesses, in Arizona, Mexico, California and Oregon. In Montana he operated butcher businesses in Butte, White Sulphur Springs, and Ft. Benton, and ranched at Harlan before settling into the Flathead Valley and establishing this business block.

In 1915, Heller moved to San Francisco. However, he retained ownership of the building, and its use was largely unchanged. In 1934, Julius Bergen became proprietor of the Pastime Cigar Store on the main floor, and Ted Burton operated the Pastime Lunch. In 1936, Heller sold the building, although the Heller Apartments retained that name until 1948, when it became the Baxter Hotel.

Built in the Commercial style, the Heller Building's clean lines and restrained ornamentation reflect the shift toward modern 20th century tastes in Montana architecture at the turn-of-the-century. The building is typical of many small business blocks erected during Kalispell's founding decade--the masonry construction, scale of one or two stories, and the storefront format with storefronts at street level and office or residential space above--typify Kalispell commercial buildings. Commercial style buildings dominate, and design and detailing often included finished, light-colored brick with simple corbelling and coursing, and contrasting colored brick or stone for ornamentation.

The building is believed to have been built by the Stahl Brothers, brick makers and contractors who ran a brickworks on the site of present-day Woodland Park. They were also the contractors for McIntyre's Opera House in Kalispell in 1899.

9. References

- Elwood, Henry, Kalispell, Montana and the Upper Flathead Valley, Kalispell: Thomas Printing, Inc., 1980.
- Ibid., The Train Didn't Stay Long, Kalispell: Thomas Printing, Inc., 1982.
- Lutz, Bruce, Draft National Register Nomination and Overview for Historic Resources of Kalispell Multiple Resource Area, unpublished, on file at Montana SHPO, 1981.
- Polk's Kalispell-Flathead County Directory (Directories) 1901-1974-1984).
- Bus, George, interview with Kenneth Williams, (Bus was resident/employee of Pastime Bar, 1974-1984).
- Stout, Thomas, Montana: Its Story and Biography, vol. II, American Historical Society, Chicago & New York, 1921.

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: Kenneth Williams, Architect, 137 Main Street, Kalispell

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	11	699700	5341500

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Heller Building is located on Lot 10, Block 46, City of Kalispell, Flathead County, Montana, in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 18, T28N, R21W.

Boundary Justification:

This is the property encompassing the Heller Building since its construction in 1898.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Chere Jiusto

Organization: State Historic Preservation Office

Street & Number: 225 N. Roberts

City or Town: Helena

State: Montana

Zip: 59620

Date: October 1990

Telephone: 406/444-7715