

DATA SHEET

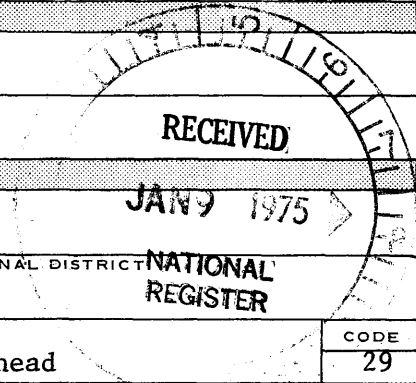
Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Montana
COUNTY: Flathead
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE FEB 20 1975



1. NAME

COMMON:
Conrad, Charles E., Mansion

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
313 - 6th Avenue East

CITY OR TOWN:
Kalispell

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
#1

STATE: Montana CODE: 30 COUNTY: Flathead CODE: 29

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Kalispell

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall, Corner of 3rd Street East and 1st Avenue East

CITY OR TOWN:
Kalispell

STATE:
Montana

CODE:
30

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Flathead County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Corner of South Main Street and 9th Street West

CITY OR TOWN:
Kalispell

STATE:
Montana

CODE:
30

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Survey of Historic Architecture in Montana, 1973

DATE OF SURVEY: November 19, 1973 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Recreation and Parks Division, Montana Department of Fish and Game

STREET AND NUMBER:
Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Helena

STATE:
Montana

CODE:
30

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Montana

COUNTY: Flathead

ENTRY NUMBER: 789 20 1975

DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Long one of Kalispell's landmarks, the Conrad Mansion and its landscaped, fenced grounds occupy a full city block of 2.65 acres bounded by Woodland Avenue on the east, Sixth Avenue on the west, Third Street on the north and Fourth Street on the south. The early Norman style mansion and summer house were built in 1895 within native stone fences built by Belgian stone masons without the use of mortar. Galvanized pipe was installed on the property when the house was built as a permanent sprinkling system with eight-foot high fountains placed every four feet apart. The original estate was extensive and included a game preserve, carriage house, stables, and orchards. The summer house, carriage house and stables are now gone and most of the estate has been given away.

Exterior: The wood shingled frame structure has three stories and a basement. The foundation is of native stone set at a depth of over 5 feet. The siding and roofing consist of native cedar shingles. The roof is in poor condition but the siding is still in good condition with traces of brown stain remaining. Flashing and gutters are in fair condition.

Four dormer windows (2 on the east and 2 on the north) are set into the steep gable roof that forms the third floor. The windows of the house carry out an architectural pattern. About half have diamond shaped leaded lights about 4 inches in width in a standard rectangular frame. The others have rectangular lights of 20,9,8,6 or 1 per frame. Two bay windows are located on the east side of the building and one on the west.

Four large native stone chimneys on the southeast, southwest, east and north sides of the building serve 8 fireplaces. Mullioned glass from Europe decorates the mansion's three main hardwood doors located under arched entrances on the northeast, southeast and southwest.

A balcony juts out from each of the 2 dormer windows on the second floor over the large formal front porch along the entire north side.

Interior: The mansion has 23 rooms and was served by an elevator that linked all three floors and the native stone basement.

The building contains a reception room, fernery, music room, library, servants quarters, billiard room, laundry room, formal dining room, and featured ice water piped to two floors. The laundry and servants quarters, normally located in the basement, had to be on the third floor due to sewer problems. The pine table upon which the townsite of Kalispell was plotted was kept in the laundry room.

The house was designed for entertainment. During the panic of 1893, the contents of many fine homes in the east were going on the block and the house was furnished with antiques purchased at these sacrifice sales.

The formal dining room was reported to seat 45 people on Chippendale chairs. Double serpentine sideboards and a huge fireplace balanced large picture windows and a barrel that served as a dumbwaiter. The oak for the interior was chosen by James Broderick in the eastern markets.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Montana	
COUNTY Flathead	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 20 1975

(Number all entries)

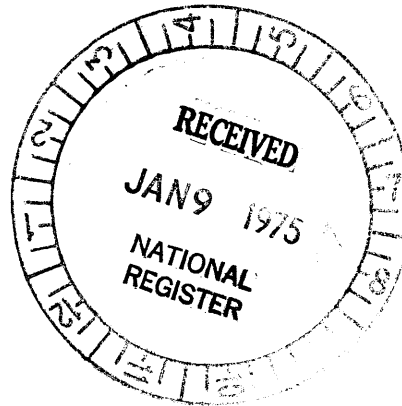
7. Description - continued

Sliding doors connected the main hall and the music room. The balcony opening out over the stairwell from Mrs. Conrad's room was built so that the acoustics would allow her to hear anything in any part of the house.

Fine furniture of the lavish hardwood interior included, in addition to Chippendale pieces, Sheraton and Hepplewhite furniture. Waterford English cut glass chandeliers adorned the finely appointed rooms. These, like those in many fine houses throughout the State in the 1880's and 1890's, were fitted for both gas and electricity. The main hall contained a Flemish dower chest, dating from the 16th century and an early empire secretary, installed before the house was finished because it was too large to bring in afterwards.

The building has been vacant for years and vandalism and theft have taken many of the fine artifacts in the home. For years, one of Charles Conrad's daughters, Alicia (Mrs. George Campbell) and her husband, lived in a trailer within the fenced grounds. They felt that the building was too large for a single couple. Recently, Alicia Campbell donated the mansion to the City of Kalispell for use as a museum.

City crews have cleared the land of the overgrowth of unkempt foliage that accumulated over years of neglect. First floor windows are covered with plywood for protection.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1895-1902**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Charles Edward Conrad was born near Fort Royal, Warren County, Virginia and he and his brother William came to Fort Benton, Montana Territory in 1868 when he was eighteen years of age. They went to work for I.G. Baker & Brothers of St. Louis, Missouri and Fort Benton, Mont. Terr., largest mercantile enterprise in the northwest. Charles' friendly association with the Indians was an asset in their early days of the mercantile business. In 1876 the brothers purchased the company they had started working for as clerks. Their business prospered and soon they expanded into banking and finance. Their legacy includes a city and bank named Conrad.

On the brink of what is now called Conrad Hill in Kalispell looking out over the mountains of Glacier National Park to the east, Charles Conrad built his home in his "Valley of Paradise." After many hunting trips into the Flathead, he decided in 1890 to buy the land for developing the town-site of Kalispell when it was known that the Great Northern railroad would be built through this location due to his friendship with Jim Hill.

The Kalispell Township Company was formed in 1890 and Charles Conrad was one of the first directors. He and his family moved to Kalispell in 1892 and his twenty-three room mansion was built in 1895. Architect for the enormous three-story wood shingled frame building was Kirtland K. Cutter, designer of Spokane's Davenport Hotel. The mansion is early Norman style. The building housed his mother, his wife's mother, his younger brothers and sister and the Conrad's three children.

Conrad was instrumental in getting the railroad to Kalispell, and as the town prospered, so did he, dealing in land in the area and in the banking business.

The great home was the scene of many parties and the social life of Kalispell revolved around the gregarious Conrad family. Great Indian chiefs and leaders in many fields--religion, science, education, art, music, literature, politics, industry and commerce--were often guests at the Conrad Mansion. Among the prominent men who visited here were Charles M. Russell, Dr. W. J. Hornaday, Lyman B. Sperry, George Bird Grinnell and James Hill.

The mansion, long vacant, will soon become a museum and a fitting memorial to one of the State's pioneer businessmen. The enormous grounds have long since dwindled. Various pieces of land were given by his widow to the city, such as the courthouse square, Woodland Park, Conrad Memorial Cemetery, and others.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Begg, Mae B., Kalispell Daily Inter Lake. p.1, October 11, 1973.
 Great Falls Tribune. "Montana Parade" p.2, December 4, 1949.
 Halvorson, Ora J. "Charles E. Conrad of Kalispell: Merchant Prince with Gentle Touch," Montana, the Magazine of Western History, Spring, 1971.
 Halvorson, Ora J. Inter Lake Society, Kalispell Daily Inter Lake. December 4, 11, 18, 25, 1949.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

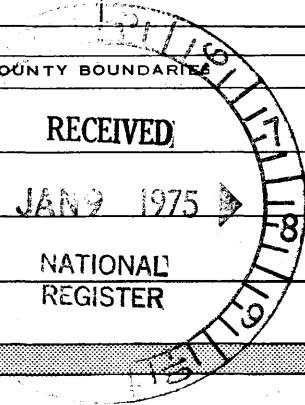
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		N48 0 11 . 49 .	W114 0 18 . 08 .	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

11/7004
5241501
CB

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2.65 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **David G. Conklin, Recreation Planner**

ORGANIZATION: **Montana Department of Fish and Game** DATE: **December 18, 1974**

REcreation and Parks Division,

STREET AND NUMBER: **Mitchell Building**

CITY OR TOWN: **Helena** STATE: **Montana** CODE: **30**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Ashley C. Roberts
 Ashley C. Roberts

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date Dec 20, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register:

A. R. Montross
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 2/20/75

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Greenberg
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date 2/20/75