

1284

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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AUG 17 1992  
NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: University of Montana Historic District

other name/site number: University of Montana 24MO

2. Location

street & number: Roughly bounded by Arthur Avenue on the west, Connell Avenue on the north, Beckwith Avenue on the south, and the ridge lines of Mount Sentinel to the east.

not for publication: n/a  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

city/town: Missoula

state: Montana code: MT county: Missoula code: 063 zip code: 59812

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Marshall Shroy MT SHPO 8-17-92  
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 Guy M. Sapley Entered in the National Register 10/2/92  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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### 5. Classification

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<b>Ownership of Property:</b> Public - State	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b>	
	Contributing	Noncontributing
<b>Category of Property:</b> District	<u>21</u>	<u>9</u> building(s)
<b>Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:</b> 4 (Prescott House and outbuildings)	<u>2</u>	___ sites
	___	___ structures
	___	___ objects
<b>Name of related multiple property listing:</b> n/a	<u>23</u>	<u>9</u> Total

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### 6. Function or Use

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<b>Historic Functions:</b> EDUCATION/college	<b>Current Functions:</b> EDUCATION/college
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### 7. Description

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<b>Architectural Classification:</b> Richardsonian Romanesque, Classical Revival, Renaissance	<b>Materials:</b> foundation: stone walls: brick roof: wood
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### Narrative Description

The University of Montana Historic District encompasses the central, older portion of the University of Montana campus in Missoula, Montana. Situated at the base of Mount Sentinel and on the south bank of the Clark Fork River, the University of Montana campus affords a very attractive natural setting. The quality of buildings and landscaping contained in the historic district only serve to enhance the university's natural setting. Mount Sentinel looms as an enormous presence to the east of the collection of university buildings and the mountain's bald face is included within the boundaries of the historic district.

The buildings and objects which shape the University of Montana Historic District reflect a dynamic state university which has grown over the years to meet the needs of Montana's citizens. While growth has been at times ill-planned, the historic district demonstrates that for the most part, the University of Montana has grown at a healthy rate for nearly one hundred years. The attractive central campus is a testament to this fact.

1) **The Oval:** Designed in 1895 by one of the first University of Montana professors, Frederich Scheuch, the Oval is a well-designed historic landscape that is a contributing site to the University of Montana Historic District.

The original plan of the University called for this central oval to be surrounded by all immediate and future university buildings. Scheuch's plan called for all building entrances to face the center of the Oval, forming a radiating building pattern. Additionally, Scheuch's Oval called for an attractive arrangement of deciduous and evergreen trees on the Oval's boundary. Today, the Oval's trees border a sidewalk. The resulting, shaded walkway creates a very clear boundary to the Oval. In 1981, a brick, cross-shaped walking mall was built inside the Oval, with a central, painted concrete relief of the university seal. As a result, the Oval is now divided into four sections. The mall was the response of campus planners to numerous, unattractive dirt trails crossing the Oval created by heavy use. The mall lessened the impact upon the Oval's landscape.

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**Narrative Description (continued)**

**2) University Hall (Main Hall):** This 64' x 139', three story, brick building built in 1898 is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Designed by famed Missoula architect A.J. Gibson, University Hall is Richardsonian Romanesque in design, with the exception that brick, rather than large granite block, is the dominant building material.

The building sits on a rock-faced raised basement, which also serves as the foundation. From this rock-faced foundation to the cornice level, the building's facade is even-colored, red brick. Granite sills and lintels are used on the symmetrically ordered, transomed windows. Granite belt courses encircle the building at the first and second floor lintels. Additionally, all of the building's columns, capitals, and corbels are made from Montana granite.

Four gable-roofed wall dormers interrupt the steeply pitched, hip roof on the west facade and east elevation. The building's lateral elevations on the north and south contain only one wall dormer each. These symmetrically placed wall dormers contain arched windows, are topped by domed spires, and are flanked by spired corner buttresses. The buttresses run down to the building's midlevel, where they are underpinned by decoratively carved granite corbels.

University Hall is roofed with wood shingles. Two matching, pyramid-roofed chimneys barely interrupt the plane of the roof when viewing from the west facade. These chimneys were originally brick and flat-topped in keeping with the preference of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture.

University Hall's dominant feature is a square-based, 112' bell and clock tower projecting slightly from the west facade. The tower has a pyramidal roof, with a domed and spired buttress at each corner. Each side of the tower's roof is interrupted by a gable-roofed, spire-topped wall dormer. Rounded arches sit within each of these dormers. The tower's roof is covered with Spanish green ceramic tiles. On each of the tower's four sides appears a large, round clock. An iron "M" appears upon each clock face. The clocks were first installed in 1904, appearing on only three of the tower's four sides. A large bell was also added at that time. The first "M" appeared upon the clock's face in 1906. The clock was replaced by a more elaborate version in 1908. In addition, the "M" was replaced by a larger, wooden version. In 1913 the "M" was illuminated. In 1953 a Memorial Carillon, consisting of 47 bells scaling 4 octaves and weighing a total of 12 tons, was added in remembrance of student casualties during World War II. The largest bell, "The Alumna," weighs one ton, while the lightest is seventeen pounds. Finally, in 1977, the manual machinery of the bell was replaced in an effort to reduce unwanted noise caused by friction.

University Hall's front entrance lies at the base of the tower on the west facade and consists of large granite blocks arranged in an arch. "1897" is carved in the rough cut granite blocks at the base of the main entrance. A smooth, ashlar entablature sets above the entrance carved with the words "University Hall." Rough cut granite steps lead into the main entrance. Granite steps also lead up the building's lateral elevations to granite arches which used to be entrances. Today, windows fill these arched entrances slightly undermining the building's integrity.

University Hall sits prominently at the front of the university's Oval with Mount Sentinel and that mountain's "M" in the background. The building's position on campus is in keeping with the original university building plan by Frederick Scheuch. Only two buildings would follow this plan, University Hall and Science Hall. As campus plans changed, University Hall remained in the most prominent position at the front of the campus' main east-west axis.

**3) Math Building (Women's Hall):** This 46' x 103', three story, brick building is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Built in 1902 as a women's dormitory, it is the campus' second oldest, remaining building. The

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third of the University's first four buildings, all of which were designed by Missoula architect A.J. Gibson (the second of the four buildings, "Science Hall" or the "Venture Center" was razed in September 1983), the Math Building was the first campus building built in the Renaissance Revival style. The simplicity, order, and cleanliness of the building's lines illustrate the main features of that style quite well.

The building sets on a rough-cut, granite foundation which rises one half of the basement level above ground. From the foundation to the cornice level, the building's north facade consists primarily of red brick. The first floor's exterior treatment consists of rusticated brick which forms a series of belt courses that encircle the building. The first floor windows have granite sills and flat, brick arches with a rusticated element emphasizing the vertical characteristic of the arches. The exterior walls on the second and third floors are non-rusticated, evenly laid, red brick. The window sills on both of these floors are granite. The second floor windows have simple, flat, brick arches while the third floor windows return to a less elaborate version of the first floor's rusticated, flat brick arches.

The Math Building's eaves are slightly extended, with dentil-like brackets. The building's hip roof is slightly pitched and covered with wood shingles. Originally, a tower extended from the north end of the roof above the main entrance.

The Math Building originally possessed an open, balustraded, flat-roofed portico over the main entrance in keeping with the Renaissance Revival style. In 1947 a brick, flat-arched doorway was installed to replace the portico. Smooth granite steps were also added which lead to the front door. The 1947 doorway uses a dark brown brick, rather than the original building's red brick. As a result, the Math Building's north facade has a very awkward proportion when first viewing it. Over the building's rear (south) entrance is a slightly pitched, non-original, shingle-roofed porch.

The Math Building's placement on the Oval is significant in two respects. First, it deviates from the original plan of the university to place all building entrance's on an axis through the center of the Oval. Like the Venture Center, the building was placed at a geometric degree from University Hall, approximately 135 degrees. (The Venture Center was placed at a 45 degree angle from University Hall.) Unlike the Venture Center, whose entrance was on an axis through the center of the Oval, the Math Building's entrance was at a 90 degree angle from University Hall. Second, the Math Building's placement in relation to the Oval foreshadowed future campus development. The result of its entrance angle, and later, Rankin Hall's entrance angle, would lead to the Carsley-Gilbert master plan of 1918, which created a secondary north-south axis, contrary to the Scheuch plan.

**4) Jeannette Rankin Hall (University Library, Law School, Psychology Building):** This 56' x 84', three-story (originally two-story) building is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Built in 1908 in the Neo-Classical style, Rankin Hall is the last University of Montana building designed by A.J. Gibson. It is also the last campus building based, at least partially, on the original Oval-centered building arrangement.

The building sits on a half-story, raised basement composed of rectangular blocks of rock-faced Montana granite in random coursing, more finely scaled than the granite-block foundation of either University Hall or the Math Building. These blocks are topped by a course of larger, rectangular blocks that serve both as lintels for the basement windows and as a base for the brick walls above. The brick walls are rather plain with the exception of projecting brick quoining on all four corners and the slightly-rusticated, flat, brick arches over the windows on the main floor. The color of the brick is cherry red, brighter than the brick of University Hall or the Math Building.

The windows which encircle the building's main and second floors are large, evenly-spaced, two-over-two, double hung. They have granite sills and flat, rusticated brick arches. Above the sliding windows of the main and second stories are

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rectangular, transom windows. The basement windows are centered below the other windows, lack transoms, but are also of considerable size.

The building's overhanging eaves have dentil-like brackets. The hipped roof is covered with composition shingles. The building lacks its original, flat-topped, brick chimneys.

The dominant feature of Rankin Hall is its front portico. Approximately 35' x 12', the portico extends from the front and rises the full height of the south facade. At the basement level, the porch is built of the same rectangular blocks of Montana granite as the building's raised basement. A long stairway of smooth granite, flanked between heavy side walls of rough granite, rises to the front door landing. Heavy rectangular plinths of dressed limestone rest at the outer corners of the staircase. The plinths support heavy rectangular brick pilasters with quoining. They rise two stories to support a simple entablature that runs the width of the portico. The cornice of the entablature is continuous with, and is of the same design as, the building's cornice. The space between the portico's corner pilasters is narrowed by a pair of massive, free-standing, dressed sandstone columns topped with Ionic capitals and resting upon engaged sandstone plinths. These columns, along with the closely placed pilasters, bear the load of the cornice above. The front door and two stories of windows above it are centered between columns and enhance the very strong vertical composition of the building. There is a simple pediment over the portico which contains a fan light lunette. The pediment's cornice repeats the dentil-like brackets of the main portion of the building.

All of the stonework surrounding the doorway and the landing window is composed of smooth dressed sandstone. Quoined doorposts rise to support a semi-elliptical arch over the entrance. A large projecting keystone, carved into a scroll, supports the center of the projecting sill of the landing window. The ends of that sill, which extend slightly beyond the width of the doorway below, are supported by smaller brackets. The wood and glass front door is not original. The door's transom light consists of a semi-elliptical window divided by vertical bars into five sections and is original.

In 1923, a major alteration of the building's interior occurred. The main floor, with ceilings 16' high, was divided horizontally through the insertion of a mezzanine. The alteration was done to make room for the stacks of the Law School library. The result was a three-storied building. From the outside, this alteration is visible through the tall windows of the main floor. When viewing these windows, one appears to see temporary scaffolding. The problem with the alteration, of course, was that the carefully planned, vertical composition of the building's interior was halved and now does not match the vertical emphasis of Rankin Hall's exterior.

Rankin Hall, like the Math Building before it, marked a considerable change in the layout of campus buildings. Like the Venture Center, Rankin Hall flanked Main Hall and looked out over the Oval. However, unlike the Venture Center, the building's entrance was at a 90 degree angle with Main Hall along an east-west axis through the Oval. Rankin Hall was the last major building erected before the Carsley-Gilbert master plan was developed, yet it shows distinct hints at that plan's emphasis on two axes intersecting the Oval.

**5) Botany Building (Natural Science):** This 56' x 130', three story, brick building is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Built in 1917, the Botany Building was designed by the Billings architectural firm of McIver (Angus), Cohagen (Chandler), and Marshall (W.V.).

The building sits on a polished granite foundation. The building's facades are composed of red-brown brick. The first floor windows rest upon the slightly raised foundation and are topped by a line of brick caps. Smooth terra cotta blocks sit between each window and also rest upon the granite foundation. The second and third floor windows rest upon terra cotta block belt courses which encircle the building. The second floor windows are topped by raised brick arches. The windows

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of the third floor are topped with vertical red and brown brick, which is then capped by horizontal brick. The Botany Building has a hip roof with extended eaves and dentil-like brackets.

The building's main entrance is centered on the building's west facade and consists of a large, unadorned brick arch, framed in smooth, cream-colored terra cotta blocks. Above the arch rests a terra cotta emblem and background with the inscription "Natural Science." A lunette appears below the arch. The center of the rear facade of the Botany Building projects slightly from the building and has entrances located on both sides.

The position of the building in relation to Main Hall marks the emergence of the master plan by Cass Gilbert and George Carsley, formalized a year later. The plan called for a north-south axis to bisect the main east-west axis in the center of the Oval. It also called for a north-south tangent of buildings to run along the Oval's east end, in line with University Hall. Botany Building, as well as the future Forestry Building, would be the only two buildings placed on this north-south tangent to the Oval.

**6) Schreiber Gymnasium (Men's Gymnasium):** This "L"-shaped, brick building with a three-story (181' x 77') gym and a one-story (108' x 47') swimming pool is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. George Carsley of Helena designed this Late Gothic Revival building.

The building sits on a smooth cut, granite foundation. The building's elevations are composed of red-brown brick masonry. The building's west facade has a very strong vertical composition. It contains a huge, arched, Tudor window which rises two stories. Terra cotta blocks frame this huge window and the series of modern glass and metal doors which serve as an entrance below it. Resting upon the Tudor window's large terra cotta sill is a statue of Discobulus. "Health is the First of All Liberties" is inscribed on a terra cotta block beneath the statue. Near the top of the Tudor window is a "UM" design inside of the window's pane pattern. Painted on this impressive window are the words "GRIZ ARMY ROTC." Although the building serves as the headquarters for UM's ROTC unit, the writing detracts from the architectural qualities of the building. A band of decorative terra cotta panels which depict athletic events encircle the three-story gym portion of the building. A terra cotta parapet crowns the cornice of the gymnasium. Schreiber Gymnasium uses rolled composition roofing on its many layered, flat roofs.

On the north side of the building, brick pilasters separate the third floor windows. These windows rest upon several lines of upright brick and terra cotta. The windows of the north elevation's first level rest upon granite sills and are framed in brick. On the east and west corners of the north facade rest terra cotta emblems with the inscription "A 1922 D."

The 108' x 47', one-story projection which originally served as a swimming pool forms Schreiber Gymnasium's south elevation. The projection's south face is plain brick. Positioned on either side of the projection, where it meets the three-story gym, rest two tower-like structures topped with small pitched roofs. These further emphasize the building's vertical composition.

On the east elevation of the three-story gym is found another large Tudor window. This window is framed in brick and has a terra cotta sill. Below the large Tudor window, metal and glass, non-original doors serve as the rear entrance to Schreiber Gymnasium.

**7) Social Science Building (Library):** This 80' x 150', three-story building with a 69' x 98', four-story addition is a contributing building in the University of Montana Historic District. The building, finished in 1921, is a wonderful example of Renaissance Revival architecture while its 1955, utilitarian addition is a demonstration of ill-planned, rapid

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campus building. The original portion of the building was the second campus building designed by Billings architects Angus McIver and Chandler Cohagen.

The original portion of the building sits on a foundation of smooth Montana granite. From the foundation to the cornice level, the building's elevations exhibit red-brown brick laid in Dutch bond. Three unbroken terra cotta belt courses encircle the building between the first and second floors. The first terra cotta belt course serves as the lintel for the first floor windows. The first floor windows are multi-light, double-hung, wood windows grouped in pairs below the very large, two-story windows on the second and third floors.

These two-story windows, which appear only on the south facade of the Social Science Building, originally lit the library's great reading room. They are enclosed in brick arches. Tiny rectangular windows surrounded by a wide frame and topped with a miniature triangular pediment are found in the center of each second-third story window on the south facade. These small windows were apparently at desk-top level in the library's great reading room. Ornamented terra cotta rondels with a raised relief of the State Seal of Montana are situated between these tiny windows and the brick arches which enclose the two-story windows on the south facade.

The building has a hip roof covered with bright green Spanish tile. The roof has extended eaves with dentil-like brackets. The soffit rests on ornamental cantilevers that are the dominant feature of the cornice.

A short flight of stairs approaches the terrace at Social Science's main entrance. Obelisk-shaped standards support ornamental iron lanterns at the main entrance's flanks. A square-headed portal surrounds the main entrance and is built entirely of the cream-colored terra cotta which is so prominent in this and many of the university's other buildings. The portal is composed of free standing Doric columns, topped by a full entablature. Upon the entablature, rests a semi-circular broken pediment with an urn filling the opening.

The secondary entrances (on the east and west elevations) are also impressive. Terra cotta surrounds these entrances while terra cotta pilasters support a full entablature over the entrances. The inscription on the west entrance entablature reads, "Aber Entrance." Both lateral entrances are topped by full-scale blind doorways on the second floor. The doorways are filled with smooth sheets of "Vermont French Gray" marble, behind ornamental iron railings. They are framed in terra cotta and are topped by triangular pediments supported by ancones.

The second and third story windows on the east, west, and what is left of the north elevations are distinctly different than the windows at the same level on the front facade. These elevations make the building appear three stories tall, which it was on the north half. The second story windows are two-over-two double hung windows, enclosed in a plain brick arch. The smaller, nearly square, third floor windows are centered over the second floor windows.

Major changes to the building's exterior and interior occurred in 1955. At this time, the great second floor reading room on the library's south half was divided horizontally into two floors. This required a division of the very large and impressive windows of the south facade. From the exterior, the division was accomplished with little visual impact to the building. Also in 1955, the 69' x 98', four-story, flat-roofed, metal-paneled addition was attached to the building's north elevation. The addition shows no respect for, or understanding of, the original building's historic integrity. Its placement on the building is where McIver and Cohagen had intended an addition to occur. As a result, one of the benefits of the addition is that it is unobservable when viewing from the front. Nevertheless, the addition is an intrusion in the University of Montana Historic District. One receives the impression that this large, purely functional addition has been grafted to the rear of an architectural gem. The only other alteration to the building's exterior is a modest wheel chair ramp at the front entrance.

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The placement of the Social Science Building at the north head of the secondary north-south axis created by the Carsley-Gilbert plan allows the building to occupy a very prominent place upon the university campus. Its majestic front facade and adherence to Renaissance Revival style further heightens its architectural importance. The building's placement gives a very good indication of just how confident university planners were in choosing the Carsley-Gilbert plan. Its anchoring of the north axis (just as University Hall anchors the east axis and the Chemistry Building anchors the south axis) allows the Social Science Building to look out over the Oval. One current landscaping problem involves a large hedge and iron fence between the Liberal Arts Building and Rankin Hall which attempts to block the view of Social Science from the Oval, contrary to the intention of its designers.

**8) Forestry Building (Pinchot Hall):** This 56' x 130', three-story, brick building is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Built in 1922 in the Renaissance Revival style, the Forestry Building was designed by Missoula architect Ole Bakke, while Helena architect George Carsley served as a consultant.

The building has a smooth-cut granite foundation which is the common sill for all of the first floor windows. The second and third floor windows are paired vertically above the first floor windows. They are separated by terra cotta spandrel panels on all four elevations. On each of these spandrel panels is the brightly painted, raised relief of the Forestry Club which consists of an evergreen tree and a superimposed "M." The design is repeated thirty-seven times around the building. Plain brick pilasters rise, unbroken, from the second floor sill to the third floor lintel. In this way the pilasters separate the windows of the second and third floors. The walls between window groups are red-brown brick, unbroken from foundation to cornice. A decorative terra cotta cartouche is at the lintel level of each section.

The building has a low, hipped roof covered with bright, green Spanish tile. The roof projects prominently from the wall and has a galvanized iron cornice and ornamental brackets supporting the soffit.

The south facade is particularly impressive. An arched portal surrounds the main entrance and is built entirely with cream colored, terra cotta. The portal rises one-and-a-half stories from ground level. Above the main door and inside the portal is a large half-circular fanlight with radiating mullions. On each side of the portal is a single free-standing Doric column which supports the half-circular arched inner ceiling of the portal. A terra cotta entablature above the building's modern, glass and iron doors reads "Forestry." At the top center of the arched portal is placed a terra cotta relief of an evergreen tree.

An outstanding feature of the interior of the Forestry Building is the collection of six large murals painted between 1934 and 1957 by Helena artist Irvin Shope. The Shope murals, painted on the walls of the main stairway inside the front door, depict the history of forestry in Montana. The murals are in excellent condition.

The placement of the Forestry Building in relation to the campus is quite important. It was the second building built on a north-south tangent to the Oval's east end, in a line with University Hall. The placement of the Forestry Building at the south end of this north-south tangent balanced the placement of the Botany Building. However, because the Venture Center blocked the corridor which linked the Forestry Building to the Oval, the building's position was awkward. More to the point, the Forestry Building's placement ensured that the placement of the Venture Center according to the Scheuch plan was incompatible with the new, axis-oriented plan presented by Carsley and Gilbert. It sealed the Venture Center's eventual destruction. For a number of years, though, the front entrance of the Forestry Building looked out at the rear loading dock of the Venture Center, and later, the loading dock for the university print center located in the future Journalism School across the corridor. Since traffic was loading and unloading at these two buildings, a parking lot/road was installed between Forestry and Journalism. The net result, of course, has been the ironic placement of the Forestry School in a sea of concrete while the rest of campus rests comfortably among green grass and tall evergreens. With the



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destruction of the Venture Center in 1983, the corridor linking the Forestry Building to the Oval was opened. If any good can come of the Venture Center's destruction, it will be the elimination of the large parking area in front of the Forestry Building and the creation of a grassy corridor linking the building to the Oval, mirroring the Botany Building's relation to the Oval.

**9) Heating Plant (Central Heating Plant):** This 74' x 46' building with 50' high ceilings and a 150' smokestack is a contributing building in the University of Montana Historic District. Built in 1922 and designed by Missoula architects Ole Bakke and Clarence Forbis, the Heating Plant is a wonderful example of how the university applied its Renaissance Revival style to all buildings, even those which would normally be purely functional. George Carsley of Helena was the consulting architect. The smokestack, original boiler, and mechanical works were designed by the Charles L. Pillsbury Co., an engineering firm from Minneapolis-Saint Paul. In 1959 the engineering firm of H.E. Bovey, Jr. from Spokane, Washington performed some conversion work on the old boilers, with no detriment to the building's exterior physical characteristics.

The building is single lofty room with walls that rise 34.5' to steel trusses which support a concrete slab ceiling. The room is lit by a pair of galvanized, iron-framed skylights and by huge Tudor-style windows on the north, south, and west elevations which measure 26.5'. Red-brown brick covers the exterior wall surfaces while the foundation is smooth-cut granite. A terra cotta belt course encircles the building at the lintel line of the great windows. Above the belt course is a projecting cornice, built of terra cotta and galvanized iron painted to match the terra cotta. Above the cornice, the brick wall continues upward to form a low parapet completely surrounding the flat roof. Atop the parapet wall is a coping of terra cotta which extends all the way around the building and expands to form a decorative panel.

The building was placed just beyond the edge of the bi-lateral, symmetrical campus plan designed by Carsley and Gilbert. Yet it is very much a part of that plan. The building was built at the same time, in the same style, and of the same materials as the other Carsley-Gilbert buildings. Today, the major problem with the integrity of the Heating Plant is the fact that it is surrounded on three sides by concrete, isolating it from the campus and its landscape of trees and grass.

**10) Brantly Hall (North Hall, Women's Residence Hall):** This 41' x 222', three-story building, with a central rectangular addition increasing the width to 65', is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Built in 1922, Brantly Hall was designed by Helena architects J.G. Link and C.S. Haire while George Carsley served as consulting architect on the Renaissance Revival building. The addition was completed in 1961.

Brantly Hall sits on a slightly raised concrete foundation. The exterior walls are composed of red-brown brick. A brick course separates the basement and first floors. A pronounced terra cotta belt course, including a frieze and cornice, separates the second and third floors. The windows on the first floor, for the most part, are small-paned arched windows with brick surrounds. The second floor windows are recessed in the brick wall. The third floor windows are the smallest in size. They are straight-headed openings with concrete surrounds. The building has a hip roof with green, Spanish tile roofing. A wide eave extends from the building walls and is supported by scroll-like brackets. Three brick chimneys break the plane of the roof.

The rear of Brantly Hall (south elevation) has an extending, arched window lobby area with a flat roof capped by a balustraded parapet. The extending lobby area has a terra cotta cornice. Under the cornice is decorative brickwork. The two entrances have wood panelled doors with vertical lights and an arched transom above. The doors are surrounded by brick with a terra cotta, pedimented arch and Doric columns. The entrance looks out onto the Corbin-North Corbin-Brantly Quad.

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On the front (north facade) of Brantly Hall sits a one story brick addition built in 1961. This projecting stairway addition, like the Elrod Hall addition completed at the same time, turned the former rear entrance into the main entrance. Two concrete stairways lead to a porch. Wood doors with small lites are at the top of the porch. The like materials and quality of construction makes this addition very compatible with the original building.

The placement of Brantly Hall was intended to form a women's dormitory "U" which would extend to the main west axis splitting the Oval. The building of Brantly and Elrod Halls in 1922 and Corbin Hall in 1927 was as far as the "U" shaped arrangement of men's and women's dormitories progressed under the Carsley-Gilbert plan. This "North Quad" (anchored by Brantly Hall) was abandoned with the deliberate placement in 1938 of Turner Hall away from the "U" begun by Brantly and Corbin Halls.

**11) Elrod Hall (South Hall, Men's Residence Hall):** This 39' x 210' building, with a projecting addition in the center increasing the width to 65', is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Elrod Hall, designed identically to Brantly Hall's Renaissance Revival pattern, was the work of Helena architects J.G. Link and C.S. Haire while George Carsley served as the consultant.

Elrod Hall, like its sister hall Brantly, sits on a raised and fully utilized concrete basement. Also like Brantly Hall, Elrod Hall is organized into distinct horizontal divisions by pronounced belt courses on its main rectangular portion. A brick course encircles the building between the first and second floors. A pronounced terra cotta belt course separates the second and third floors. Basement windows are square, plainly treated, double-hung and have a concrete surround. First floor windows have a brick surround. The second floor windows are recessed in the brick wall, while the third floor windows have an ashlar surround and are topped with an unbroken horizontal line of raised brick. Both the second and third floor windows rest on raised brick sills.

Red-brown brick covers all the exterior walls of Elrod Hall and is arranged in attractive geometric patterns just below the eave line. Green and blue tiles are worked into the brick patterns under the eave. Elrod Hall has a hipped roof covered with Spanish green tile. Three red brick chimneys break the plane of the roof at the center. Extended eaves are supported by scroll-like brackets.

The north elevation of Elrod Hall, which opens into the Duniway-Craig-Elrod Quad, has a three-story brick window projection with a flat roof capped by a balustraded parapet. The first level of this projection contains tall, arched, small-paned, fanlight windows surrounded by raised brick arches. This projection has a terra cotta cornice. Under the cornice is decorative brickwork. The two main entrances have wood panelled doors with vertical light set within an arched transom above. The doors are surrounded by brick and terra cotta with a terra cotta pedimented arch and Doric columns.

On the south facade of the building, a one-story, projecting, brick stairway addition was added in 1961. This projection, like the Brantly Hall addition completed at the same time, turned the former rear entrance into the main entrance. Two concrete stairways lead to a porch. Wood doors with small lights are placed at the top of the porch on the addition's front. The like materials and quality of construction makes this addition very compatible with the original building.

The placement of Elrod Hall is very important in the development of the University of Montana campus. Elrod Hall, Brantly Hall, and the Social Science Building demonstrate the best examples of Renaissance Revival architecture on campus, a style that was implemented under the Carsley-Gilbert master plan. As was already discussed, the Carsley-Gilbert plan emphasized a bi-axial campus centered on the Oval. The Social Science Building emerged as an anchor to the north half of that very important second axis. The plan also added a tangent to the Oval at University Hall on which the Botany Building and the Forestry Building were placed. Finally, the Carsley-Gilbert plan created yet another linear placement

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pattern. The plan called for the new dormitories necessitated by increased enrollments to be placed in a "U" pattern at opposite ends of campus. A men's "U" would fill the southwest portion of campus while a women's "U" would fill the northwest portion of campus. Elrod anchored the men's "U" and Brantly the women's. The plan called for an eventual second anchor to each of these "U"s on the main east-west campus axis, where present day Lodge and Knowles Hall are located. The cleanliness and order of the plan can be witnessed in hindsight as brilliant, particularly when viewing the cluttered, confusing arrangement of later men's and women's dormitories. However, the "U" pattern did not influence campus design for long. Only one other building, Corbin, would follow it. After the incompatible placement to the Carsley-Gilbert plan of post-World War II dormitories such as Duniway, Craig, and North Corbin Halls, the architectural qualities of Elrod, Brantly, and Corbin Halls shine.

**12) Corbin Hall:** This 124' x 41', three-story Renaissance Revival building built in 1927 is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Corbin Hall was designed by architects George Carsley of Helena, and C.J. Forbis of Missoula.

Corbin Hall complements its neighbor, Brantly Hall, in style, scale, form, and building material. The building sits on a raised concrete basement. The windows on the first level are topped with decorative terra cotta arches. Second and third floor windows are symmetrically spaced, one-over-one double-hung. The building has a hipped roof that is covered with green Spanish tile. The building's eaves are extended and are supported by scrolled brackets.

The main entrance protrudes from the building and has a central double door framed by paired arched windows. It opens onto the Brantly-North Corbin-Corbin Quad. A pair of two-story bay windows protrude at opposite ends of the east facade. These bays are topped with decorative cartouches.

The placement of Corbin Hall is in keeping with the 1918 master plan of George Carsley and Cass Gilbert. Corbin Hall was the last building placed according to the planned "U" dormitory arrangement.

**13) Journalism Building:** This 70' x 132', three-story, building built in 1936 is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Journalism Building was designed by architects R.C. Hugenin of Butte and Norman DeKay of Helena vaguely in the Renaissance Revival style.

Journalism Building rests on a cast concrete block foundation which rises one-half story to form the first floor of the building. The building uses red-brown brick on all of its exterior walls; the first floor uses a rusticated brick pattern. A terra cotta belt course encircles the building, horizontally dividing the first and second floors. The building's windows are not symmetrically ordered. The first floor windows rest on the granite foundation and use the foundation as a sill. The sills on the second and third floors are terra cotta. Vertical brick pilasters separate every second and third floor window. The southwest corner of the building's third level no longer has any windows since a darkroom was added to what were once classrooms. Where there were once windows, there is now recessed brick. The impact is minimal.

The building has a hipped roof with rolled composition roofing. Originally the building was roofed with copper. The extended eaves of the building are supported by scroll-like brackets.

The building's main entrance on the west elevation looks out onto the university's secondary north-south axis. A rock-faced cast concrete block projection frames the front entrance steps, which are smooth cut granite. The entrance rises two stories with terra cotta trim. A large copper inscription "Journalism" hangs over the main doors, as well as the building's other entrances on the south and east elevations. On the west elevation, a one story, small-paned window rises just above

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the "Journalism" inscription with a motif depicting early printing methods. The building's south entrance is identical to the main west entrance with the exception that the small-paned window does not contain a motif. The east entrance has been altered to include an elevator shaft for handicapped persons. However, the impact of this necessary addition was mitigated by the use of like materials and brick patterns.

Also on the east elevation is a new loading dock for the university's printing center. The dock detracts from the building's integrity. Further, the dock's impact upon the campus is heightened by the necessity of motor vehicles to drive to the Journalism Building. The response from university planners has been an asphalt slab which runs from the base of the Journalism Building to the front of the Forestry Building. This asphalt doubles as a driveway for the loading dock and a parking lot for both of the buildings. The result is that the Forestry Building, and a side of the Journalism Building, are isolated from the green landscaping of campus and the Oval.

**14) Chemistry-Pharmacy Building:** This 70' x 125' four-story building built in 1938 with a 30' x 41' 1951 addition, is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. The Chemistry-Pharmacy Building is generally Renaissance Revival in style. R.C. Hugenin of Butte and Norman DeKay of Helena designed the building.

The Chemistry-Pharmacy Building rests upon a smooth-faced, cast concrete block foundation while red-brown brick covers all of the exterior walls. The ground floor uses a rusticated brick pattern, while the others do not. A belt course of cut stone encircles the building between the first and second floors. The building's first floor, symmetrically-ordered windows use the cast concrete block foundation for a sill. The second and third floor windows have cut stone sills and flat brick lintels and are vertically symmetrical with the first floor windows.

The building has a truncated hip roof that is topped with rolled composition roofing. Originally, copper covered the roof. The building's extended eaves are supported by scroll-like brackets.

The Chemistry-Pharmacy Building's most prominent feature is a four-story, central tower, on the north facade which is reminiscent of Beaux Arts Classicism. It has three-story brick pilasters which rest upon the cut stone belt course that separates the first and second floors. These pilasters separate the windows of the tower. The tower's fourth floor rises above the truncated roof. It has three arched windows framed in relief brick. The tower's roof is flat and crowned with cut stone. The entrance at the base of the tower is framed in terra cotta while the doors at the base of the tower are glass and aluminum. This central projecting pavilion interrupts the otherwise Renaissance Revival quality of this building, giving a strong vertical emphasis to the facade. Perhaps this was deliberately incorporated into the design in order to culminate the secondary north-south axis of the Carsley-Gilbert campus plan.

A one-story brick addition extends from the building's south elevation. This addition was designed in 1941 by Missoula architects William Fox and Oscar Ballas and built in 1951. The addition was originally used as an Animal Laboratory. The laboratory does not detract from the integrity of the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building since it faces away from the main body of the building.

In 1981 a new Pharmacy-Psychology Building was erected to the west of the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building, roughly opposite the Journalism Building. Urey Lecture Hall, an underground structure with an outside entry in front of the Journalism Building and an inside entry to the Pharmacy-Psychology Building, was also built in 1981. A brick terrace extending from the front entrance of the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building also serves as the roof of Urey Lecture Hall. While showing no similarity in style, the new building did match its older surroundings in material and scale. As such, its impact on the area has been mitigated. The Pharmacy-Psychology Building is connected to the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building by a skywalk at the second floor of the Chemistry-Pharmacy's west elevation.

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**15) Fine Arts Building (Student Union Building and Auditorium):** This 171' x 131', four-story building built in 1935 is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. C.J. Forbis of Missoula designed the Art Deco influenced building.

The Fine Arts Building sits on a raised concrete foundation and uses red-brown brick on all of its exterior walls. Green terra cotta belt courses encircle the building between the second and third floors and at the parapet. The building's first floor windows are sunk approximately a third of their length into the concrete foundation. As such, they utilize the foundation for a sill. The second floor windows, as well as most of the third and fourth floor windows, have simple flat brick sills and lintels. Since the building was designed as a "modern" building, denying any uniform patterns, there are variations in the arrangement of the windows. The building has a flat roof.

The central portion of the south facade is the most prominent feature of the building. A large green terra cotta entrance, arranged in a flat arch, is placed at the second floor level in the center of the facade. An art deco inscription, "UM", is carved into the terra cotta above double metal doors. A double concrete staircase with brick posts leads simply yet attractively to the second floor entrance.

The central portion of the building has windows which deviate from the body of the building. Second and third floor windows rest on terra cotta sills and are separated by simple, brick pilasters. A false balcony is in front of the central projection's third floor windows.

Another major entrance is on the building's west elevation. Here a slight protrusion from the generally rectangular building occurs. Concrete steps lead to the entrance, which serves the building's auditorium. A green, terra cotta, flat arched entryway is at the top of the stairs. Double wooden doors with small lights are set within the arch.

The placement of the Fine Arts building marks an extremely important step in campus development. The designers of the Fine Arts Building intended for the building to be a modern testament to the growth of campus, indeed the nation, following the Great Depression. Fueling this desire was the fact that the building was partially funded by the Public Works Administration (PWA). As such, the Fine Arts Building quite deliberately denied the Renaissance Revival style of the Carsley-Gilbert plan. Additionally, the building was placed contrary to the bi-axial arrangement of the plan. The placement of the Fine Arts Building spelled the end of the symmetrically ordered, well defined and implemented, Carsley-Gilbert campus plan.

**16) Continuing Education Building (Women's Club/Art Museum, Alumni Center):** This 41' x 90', one-story building is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. The building is a very simple Art Deco design.

Continuing Education Building rests upon a concrete slab foundation while its exterior walls are covered with red-brown brick. The building's windows are small-paned, double hung, and framed in terra cotta. A flat roof covers the building. Concrete steps, flanked by small brick sidewalls lead to a slightly projecting tower of recessed brick. A double, wood door with a small-paned transom light sits at the top of the stairs. Above the doors rests a slightly projecting, flat porch roof.

Continuing Education Building, along with the Fine Arts Building, embodied the Art Deco architectural movement, contrary to the Carsley-Gilbert plan which was still the official campus guideline for building development. Furthermore, its placement on campus was according to no designed building arrangement. The impact of its placement is lessened by the building's small size.

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**17) Turner Hall (New Hall):** This 39' x 178' three-story building and 39' x 71' rear extension, both built in 1938, is a contributing building in the University of Montana Historic District. H.E. Kirkemo of Missoula and J. Van Teylingen of Great Falls designed this Renaissance Revival-influenced building.

Turner Hall rests on a concrete foundation while red-brown brick covers all exterior walls. The first floor uses a rusticated brick pattern; the remaining two floors use a non-rusticated brick pattern. Between the first and second floors, three decorative brick belt courses encircle the building. The first floor windows are horizontal-paned, wood sash. They rest on a raised brick sill which doubles as a decorative brick belt course. The second and third floor windows are double hung with vertical panes at the top. The building has a hipped roof covered with decorative, green Spanish tile. The extended eaves of the roof are supported by dentil-like brackets.

Turner Hall displays a very odd symmetry to its east facade. The building's generally Renaissance Revival style is interrupted by an off-center, towered entryway which denies the emphasis of Renaissance Revival architecture on order and balance. The tower rises three stories, intersecting the hip roof. The tower has a flat roof. Decorative brick work dominates the tower's cornice level. A double wood doorway with small-paned transom and side lights sits at the base of the tower. The second and third floor windows of the tower are located directly above the doorway. These break the otherwise symmetrical window patterns on the main portion of Turner Hall. It seems that the building's architects were trying to subtly include some Art Deco features in this Renaissance Revival building.

Turner Hall's placement on campus signified the end of the "U" quadrangles designed for men's and women's dormitories under the Carsley-Gilbert plan. The building's east facade sits approximately 200' east of Corbin Hall. Turner Hall's placement broke the line started by Corbin Hall and ruined any chance to complete the women's "U."

**18) Botany Laboratory and Greenhouse:** This 28' x 61', 55' x 48', and 42' x 22' U-shaped one-story brick and glass building is a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Funded through a Public Works Administration grant, the Botany Laboratory and Greenhouse's scale, materials, and style successfully match the Botany Building's Renaissance Revival style. The laboratory building sits on a concrete foundation and its exterior walls are covered with red-brown brick. It has a hipped roof with a gabled louvre at either end of the mid-section. The roof is covered with rolled composition roofing. The glass and metal greenhouse is attached to the laboratory's south elevation.

**19) Liberal Arts Building:** This 268' x 64', three-story, International style building with three four-story extensions on the north side measuring 91' x 128', 102' x 39', and 98' x 34' is a noncontributing building to the University of Montana Historic District.

Liberal Arts, a modern classroom building, is situated along the campus' main east-west axis. Its placement on campus is in accordance with the building placement pattern established by the Carsley-Gilbert plan, which by this time was abandoned. The building's scale and red-brown brick exterior walls are compatible with its older neighbors on campus. However, the Liberal Arts Building lacks a cohesion with other campus buildings due to its denial of any established architectural style.

**21) Craig Hall:** This 39' x 300', three-story building with a 39' x 250' extension off the west elevation is a noncontributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Kalispell architects Fred Brinkman and Percy Lenon designed this 1956 International Style building.

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Craig Hall is a long, yellow-brown brick building with a flat roof. A slightly projecting portico is located on the building's east facade. The portico is a modern, brick and glass creation. Ordered, double-hung windows are found on all three stories.

Craig Hall's placement to the east of the tangent off Elrod Hall's west elevation ruined any possibility that a south "U" would be completed as the Carsley-Gilbert plan envisioned. While Craig Hall matches the scale of Elrod Hall, it clutters the building arrangement of the southwest corner of campus due to its lack of an established campus architectural placement pattern or style.

**22) Duniway Hall:** This 39' x 300', three-story, International Style building is a non-contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Kalispell architects Fred Brinkman and Percy Lenon designed this 1956 building.

Duniway Hall is a long dark-brown brick building attached to the west elevation of Elrod Hall and Craig Hall. The color of the brick does not match the red-brown brick of Elrod Hall or the yellow-brown brick of Craig Hall. Duniway Hall's placement creates an enclosed "C" dormitory complex consisting of Elrod, Craig, and Duniway Halls. The building has a flat roof and long orderly rows of double-hung windows similar in scale to those of Elrod and Craig Halls.

The building of Duniway Hall attacked the integrity of Elrod Hall even further than the placement of Craig Hall. Once again, a building was built according to no established campus architectural style or building placement pattern. The resulting C-shaped dormitory complex is a cluttered, purely utilitarian group of buildings. Elrod Hall remains a contributing building to the University of Montana Historic District despite the detraction to its design integrity by Duniway and Craig Halls.

**23) North Corbin Hall:** This 41' x 100', three-story, International Style building is a noncontributing building in the University of Montana Historic District. Kalispell architects Fred Brinkman and Percy Lenon designed the 1956 building.

North Corbin Hall attempts to match the scale and materials of Corbin and Brantly Halls, which it connects. It succeeds. The building rests on a raised concrete basement and its exterior walls are covered with a slightly different colored brick than either Corbin or Brantly Halls. Paired, one-over-one, double hung wood windows sit in ordered rows on all of the building's three floors.

The building of North Corbin Hall created a single building of what was once two independent dormitories. North Corbin Hall's inferior building construction, evidenced by both its very plain exterior and spartan interior, leave the impression of a building which does its best to cheapen the much more attractive buildings it connects. Luckily, both Brantly and Corbin Halls maintain most of their architectural integrity.

**23) Forestry Greenhouse:** This 103' x 25', glass and iron greenhouse addition to the Forestry Building is a noncontributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. Completed in 1961, the Forestry Greenhouse projects approximately 25' past the front facade of the older building, creating an L-shaped Forestry complex. The building, although a noncontributing building to the historic district, impacts the historic district very little.

**24) Urey Lecture Hall:** This underground lecture hall, completed in 1981, is a noncontributing building to the University of Montana Historic District. A brick terrace extends from the base of the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building and also serves as

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Urey Lecture Hall's roof. A small, circular brick stairway and elevator building stands between the Chemistry-Pharmacy and Journalism Buildings and serves as one of Urey's entrances. The lecture hall's main outside entrance was created by a dug out bowl directly in front of the Journalism Building, on the north-south campus corridor. Concrete stairways lead down to the entrance.

Urey Lecture Hall fills in the U-shaped space surrounded by the Journalism Building, the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building, and the Pharmacy-Psychology Building, which is outside the boundaries of the University of Montana Historic District. While the building is a noncontributing property in the Historic District, its impact is minimal.

**25, 26, 27, 28) Prescott House, Storage Building, Garage and Outhouse:** The Prescott House and three outbuildings were listed in the National Register of Historic Places on September 26, 1985. All four buildings contribute to the historical significance of University district. Erected before the University was built, the complex of Prescott buildings reflects the early agricultural settlement of the Clark Fork River valley. The house was built in 1898 at the base of Mount Sentinel and is surrounded by large deciduous and coniferous trees. A large orchard formerly was located south of the Clark Fork River up to the farmstead, but a parking lot now covers this area. The two-and-one-half-story, L-shaped Queen Anne style residence is of wood frame construction and rests on a stone foundation. The house is sheathed with narrow clapboard siding and wood shingles in the gables. A hip-roofed porch fully wraps around the north and west elevations. Windows are one-over-one double-hung units.

A small, 15' x 21' stone storage shed with a cedar shingled hip roof is located east of the main house, and a wood frame garage with lap siding and a gable roof is found to the northeast. There is a wood frame outhouse with drop lap siding and a cedar shingle roof adjacent to the dwelling.

**29) Aber Hall:** This 11-story, L-shaped residence hall is a noncontributing element within the historic district. Built in 1968 and designed in the International style by the Kalispell architectural firm of Taylor, Thon, Schwartz and Kirkpatrick, the building is of simple block massing and is finished with stone and orange brick veneer over concrete walls. Aber Hall complies with no master campus architectural or design plan. The expanse of asphalt-covered parking lots surrounding the building serve to visually distance Aber Hall from the central landscaped campus. Consequently, the design, scale and building materials used in the Aber Hall do not make a positive contribution the historic district.

**30) Mansfield Library:** This massive noncontributing concrete and brick building, designed by the Missoula architectural firm of Fox, Ballas, and Barrows in the International style, features two stories below grade and three above. The building's two underground stories and first above-ground story were completed in 1973 during the first phase of construction. The top two floors of the building along with a "penthouse" for heating, cooling and air-circulation needs were completed in 1979 during the second and final stage of construction. Of particular note are the twelve concrete relief art panels located on all of the building's four corners and exposed stairwells. They are the work of artist John Dichorek, who at the time of the building's second phase of construction was a graduate student in art at the University of Montana. The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library is a noncontributing building in the University of Montana Historic District.

Located on the site of the old Dornblaser football stadium, the Mansfield Library is part of a campus expansion effort which resulted from the post-World War II "boom" in U.S. population, which reached college age during the mid-1960s. While designed according to no master campus architectural plan, the library does balance the massive University Center to the north in its placement, use of building materials, design and scale. Paved parking lots with raised plantings spread to the west of this building to Campus Drive and the base of Mount Sentinel.



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**31) University Center:** This two- and three-story, concrete, brick and stone building does not contribute to the historic character of the district. A glass and steel enclosed atrium serves as the center for the University's student activities, housing the student government, bookstore, and mini-mall, and convention facilities. Designed in the International style by the Missoula architectural firm of Fox, Ballas, and Barrows, the University Center's construction was completed in 1969. Originally designed as three separate buildings in close proximity with an inner courtyard planted with native species, the U.C. was turned into a closed atrium during the construction phase, and the interior court was planted with non-native foliage from the tropics. The U.C. is located on the site of the Dornblaser football stadium, which burned down just prior to construction. While following no master campus architectural plan, the U.C. does balance in design, scale, materials, and placement the Mansfield Library completed several years later. Again, an extensive parking lot is located to the west of the U.C.

**32) Mount Sentinel:** The expansive, treeless face of this mountain that rises approximately 2000' above the campus is included as a contributing site within the boundaries of the University Historic District. Visually, Mount Sentinel reads as a wall rising at the west side of the campus. The mountain was given to the University of Montana by an act of the U.S. Congress in 1904 for the purpose of erecting an observatory, which was never built. A zig-zag hiking trail ascends the mountain from the east end of the campus. A large concrete "M", built in 1968 to replace an earlier painted shale model of the same, is maintained on the mountain face. In addition to its heavy recreational use, Mount Sentinel continues to serve as a functional part of the university campus, lending the complex of historic buildings a most distinctive sense of place. Forestry, range management and wildlife biology have always been emphasized within the university curricula, and Mount Sentinel acts as an on-campus wildland that fulfills an important function as a nature study area. Deer, black fox, and numerous other animals frequent the area.

The east portion of the University of Montana Historic District contains several features which follow no established master landscaping plan. The Library Mall consists of a small landscaped mounds located between the University Center, Mansfield Library and University Hall. The Mall was constructed during the first building phase of the Mansfield Library. Originally, an underground Instructional Media Center and Archive facility was scheduled to lie beneath the current Library Mall, but the idea was abandoned as building costs for the library exceeded available funds. Consequently, the Library Mall does not match design specifications. Campus Drive serves as a paved road around campus and does go through the east end of the historic district at the base of Mount Sentinel. Campus Drive is forced to curve around the Clarence Prescott House, and provide vehicular access to the numerous parking lots paving the west end of the district.

Other objects located with the University of Montana historic district that are worthy of mention include Grizzly statue (1969), university seal and brick walks (1981), a modern sculpture (1969), and a modern statue (1990). These objects are not included in the count of resources for the historic district due to their insubstantial size and scale.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Areas of Significance:

Education  
Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Period(s) of Significance: 1898-1940

Significant Person(s): n/a

Significant Dates: 1898, 1918, 1935, 1956

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder:

Gibson, A.J.  
Carsley, George  
Gilbert, Cass

### Narrative Statement of Significance

The University of Montana Historic District is significant for its associations with the establishment and early development of higher education in Montana. The district is also significant for its attractive examples of several important architectural styles. Finally, the district's association with architects A.J. Gibson, George Carsley, and Cass Gilbert is important because of the tremendous influences these architects had on regional and national design.

Montana's system of higher education had its beginning in an 1881 act of Congress which granted the Territory of Montana 72 sections of timber, grazing, and farming land to use in funding a university. Although discussions about establishing a university took place during the following territorial period, it was not until 1893, four years after statehood, that the act creating the University of Montana was passed by Montana's Legislature. Its first class did not enroll until 1895, when the University was housed in a condemned schoolhouse, refurbished by the citizens of Missoula. The institution moved to its present site at the foot of Mount Sentinel in 1899 when its first two permanent buildings, University Hall and Science Hall, were completed.

The University's move into higher academic circles took longer, however. In 1895, Montana had only five high schools that were capable of providing their students with college preparatory work. Thus, for its first decade, more of the University's students were in its preparatory school than in its college. In order to shift the focus of the University away from high school coursework and towards college level instruction, its first president, Oscar Craig, led a successful effort to improve secondary education in the state. By 1908, over twenty-six Montana high schools taught college preparatory classes, enabling the university to fully develop its college curriculum.

The university's land grant status played an important role in its formative years, funding the construction of buildings necessary to accommodate its growth. Revenue from the sale, lease, and rent of the university's timber, mining, and grazing lands paid the interest on the building bonds authorized by the Montana Legislature.

The University of Montana's enrollment has grown from fifty students in 1895, housed in a temporary building, to over ten thousand students and over forty major buildings on a two hundred acre campus. As Montana's leading liberal arts university, it is considered the "flagship" of Montana's university system and offers a number of undergraduate and graduate programs with national recognition. Despite tremendous growth, the nucleus of the university campus remains the designed arrangement of buildings erected during the university's first five decades of existence. This nucleus forms the proposed University of Montana Historic District.

In addition to its association with the progress of higher education in Montana, the University of Montana Historic District exhibits a high degree of architectural importance. The district's buildings range from Richardsonian Romanesque, Neo-Classical, Renaissance Revival, and Art Deco styles. The historic district's many building styles complement one another.

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The university's association with Missoula architect A.J. Gibson, the most prominent architect in western Montana history is worthy of attention. Gibson designed most of western Montana's best known mansions, homes, and public buildings. Gibson's buildings on the university campus are: University Hall, a Richardsonian Romanesque building with an impressive 112' clock tower; the Math Building, a Renaissance Revival building that served as the first permanent women's dormitory, thus solidifying co-education at the university; and Rankin Hall, a Neo-Classical building which has always served a prominent role in the university as its first library, and later, its Law School. In addition, Gibson designed the now razed Venture Center which was another, although less spectacular, example of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture. Gibson's buildings on campus are very important since they represent different phases in Gibson's career. The early University Hall and Venture Center show Gibson's early fascination with the Chicago School of Architecture. The Math Building represents a transition in Gibson's work away from the Chicago School. Finally, Rankin Hall demonstrates the Neo-Classical stage of Gibson's career, the last stage used in his many public buildings.

The university's association with New York architect Cass Gilbert is equally important. Gilbert submitted a master campus plan in 1917 which called for a bi-axial campus arrangement with straight patterns of building placement. George Carsley of Helena oversaw the Gilbert plan for the twenty years it was in existence. The Carsley-Gilbert plan is significant because it was during its implementation that the great majority of the University of Montana's buildings were erected. The plan's strengths are still evident despite deviation from the plan after 1935. All buildings under this plan were designed as three-story, Renaissance Revival buildings with a hipped roof and Spanish green tile. The style is not only attractive and uniform, but it links the university with the intellectual vigor of the 16th century, which is so important to a liberal arts community.

The University of Montana Historic District qualifies under criteria A and C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because of its associations with the establishment of higher education in Montana and its association with three master architects and the diverse, attractive buildings they created.

### 9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation sheet for Section 9

**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: approximately 330 acres

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	12	272300	5193985
B	12	272490	5193500
C	12	272750	5193500
D	12	272620	5193010
E	12	274180	5192800
F	12	272960	5193960

**Verbal Boundary Description**

See continuation sheet for Section 10

**Boundary Justification**

See continuation sheet for Section 10

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Edited by Patrick McCleary, spring 1991 intern from architectural surveys completed in 1987 by James R. McDonald and in 1985 by Linda Frey and Elizabeth Brewster and from an incomplete and unpublished draft nomination of a University of Montana Historic District in 1984 by John Westenburg.

organization: State Historic Preservation Office  
street & number: 225 N. Roberts  
city or town: Helena

state: MT

date: June 23, 1991  
telephone: 406/444-7715  
zip code: 59620

### Property Owner

name/title: Board of Regents, Montana University System  
street & number: 2500 Broadway  
city or town: Helena

telephone: 406/444-6570

state: MT zip code: 59620

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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### BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

DeHaas, John; Montana Historic Building Survey; Montana Historical Society, Helena; 1973.

Frey, Linda; Brewster, Elizabeth; and others; Historical and Architectural Inventory of University of Montana Campus; Partially completed, unpublished; 1985.

Heath, Kingston; National Register Nomination, A.J. Gibson House; Montana Historical Society, 1980.

McDonald, James R.; Historical and Architectural Inventory of The University of Montana campus; Montana Historical Society, Helena; November 1987.

McLeod, Paul J.; "Campus Architecture Reflects Changing Tastes and Styles"; Montanan: The Magazine of The University of Montana; Spring 1987.

Merriam, H.G.; The University of Montana: A History; The University of Montana Press, Missoula; 1970.

Missoulian, September 20, 1982

Westenburg, John; Draft Nomination of The University of Montana Historic District; unpublished; 1984.

Whiffen, Marcus; American Architecture Since 1780; M.I.T Press, Cambridge, MA; 1969.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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### Verbal Boundary Description:

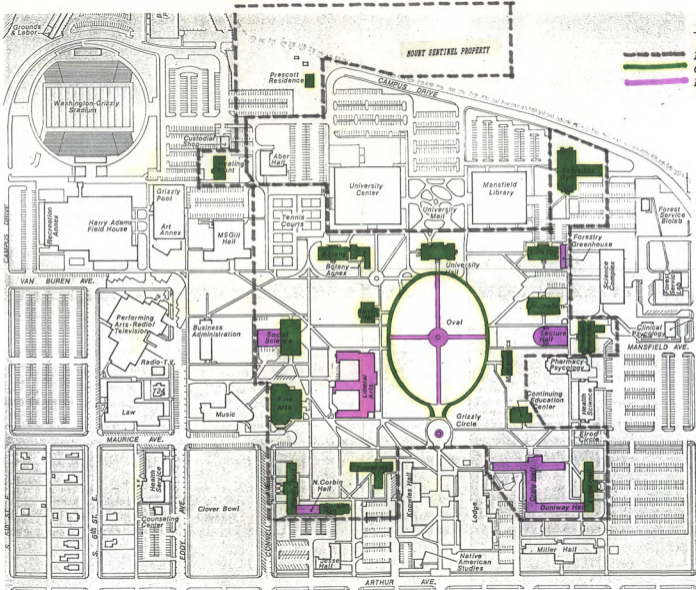
The University of Montana Historic District begins at the Grizzly statue at the head of the west axis of the campus' main east-west axis. From here it proceeds approximately 150' and turns west for 300'. Then it proceeds 500' north to Connell Avenue. Here it turns east for approximately one city block past Brantly Hall and the Fine Arts Building. The district then turns north for a short distance past the rear addition of the Social Science Building. It then heads east for a block and a half past McGill Hall, which is not in the district. The district turns north for 350' to include the Heating Plant. It turns east then south and then west in order to fulfill that goal. The boundary then turns east to the base of Mount Sentinel at the 3200' elevation line. From the base of the mountain the boundary runs along the ridge line in a southeasterly direction to the summit at 5158'. From the summit, the boundary follows an intermittent drainage to the west to return to the mountain base at the 3200' elevation line. Then the boundary jogs north to the rear of the Schrieber Gymnasium. Then it follows a sidewalk west to the northeast corner of the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building. Then it follows sidewalks to the south, west, and then north to include the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building and Urey Lecture Hall. The boundary excludes the Pharmacy-Psychology Building. It goes beyond this building and heads west across a grassy field to meet a sidewalk near the Continuing Education Building. It heads south, then west, then north to include Elrod, Duniway Halls. The boundary then heads northeast from the northwest corner of Duniway Hall to encompass Craig Hall. Here it meets the north-south sidewalk which runs directly in front of the Grizzly Statue.

This district is located in T13N, R19W, the eastern portion of Section 27 and the western portion of Section 26.



### Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of the University of Montana Historic District are drawn to include all buildings that date from the first five decades of the university's development, are contiguous with the historic "core" of the Oval, and contribute to the district's architectural coherence. The district also includes the Oval, campus landscaping and the bald face of Mount Sentinel which all contribute to the integrity of the district. While Mount Sentinel reads as a "wall" at the west end of the historic district, the campus itself may be seen as the "floor," and the boundary brings the historic complex of the university right up to the mountain face that gives the campus a highly distinctive sense of place. The boundary generally follows sidewalks, making it readily recognizable on the ground. The eastern boundary follows the ridge line of Mount Sentinel and descends in a clearly discernible drainage to the south.

PROPOSED HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA  
 (AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS)



LEGEND

-  BOUNDARY CONTRIBUTING
-  NON-CONTRIBUTING