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ESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wibaux House is a substantial Victorian era house, but only in fair condition at present. It is a wood frame one and one-half story structure which is approximately  $25' \times 75'$  in rectangular plan. The house originally faced to the north but in 1903 W.A. Orgain, Wibaux merchant, purchased the property and moved the building to the rear, swinging one end around so that it now faces west. There is a verandah with boardwalk attached to the front which runs the length of the house.

The exterior consists of horizontal wood siding. Four doors permit entrance to the front of the building and two doors are in the rear. Most doors and windows are extant.

The roof covering is asphalt shingle (replacing the original) is in fair condition and is deteriorating. Two ridge-line chimneys exist and are in fair condition.

The foundation is in fair condition.

The original grounds are now deteriorated and all traces of the landscaping are now gone with the exception of some old cottonwood trees. The marble statuary which once graced the grounds has become scattered.

The interior consisted of four rooms.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PERIOD (Check One or More	as Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	X 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applie	able and Known) 1892		-
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE	Check One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	XX Other (Specify)
🗌 Historic	Industry	losophy	Banking/Finance
X Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	X Landscape	Sculpture	
🗋 Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	📋 Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

The Wibaux House was built in 1892 as a town house office building by Pierre Wibaux, notable open range cattleman of eastern Montana. Wibaux's importance as a representative of European capital in the open range cattle industry makes this site of state significance. As Wibaux's ranch was about twelve miles from town and as much of Wibaux's business was transacted in the village of Wibaux, he conferred with Henry Boice of the Berry-Boice Cattle Company in regard to constructing joint headquarters in the shipping center. The building, begun early in 1892, consisted of four rooms, an office and living quarters for each co-owner. Wibaux purchased furniture for his office while in Chicago in June, and the building was ready for occupancy during the shipping season.

Wibaux's character kept him from willingly sharing property with another for long and he probably obtained complete title to this building in 1893 or 1894. Soon after he became sole owner, Wibaux set his employees to work beautifying the grounds which became known as "The Park," largely because of the way in which the yard was landscaped and maintained. In 1899 the <u>Glendive Independent</u> stated that "Mr. Wibaux's park promises to be the most pleasing resort between here and St. Paul." The <u>Yellowstone</u> Journal described "The Park" in much more detail.

The grounds surrounding the office building are large, handsomely kept and constantly under improvement. An elevated tank filled by a windmill, supplies all the water needed for irrigation and for the maintenance of two artificial ponds, in one of which, nearest the house, there is a picturesque grotto, formed of immense chunks of many-colored scoria from the bad lands, and in the center of the pool a little Cupid directs the spray of a tiny fountain. A velvety lawn stretched away in all directions and on two sides of the grounds a continuous arbor, covered with creeping vines affords the shade and comfort that agrees so well with summer drinks, the concomitants of which are readily found in the well stocked altar.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL R	EFERENCES								
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	Form 10-301 UNITED STATES DEPARTME (Dec. 1968) NATIONAL PAR		STATE Montana
	NATIONAL REGISTER OF	F HISTORIC PLACES	COUNTY Wibaux
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ΣΤ	STATE: Montana	CODE COUNTY: 30 Wibaux	
SEEIN	<ul> <li>3. MAP REFERENCE</li> <li>SOURCE: Montana State Highway</li> <li>SCALE: 1" = 1200 feet</li> <li>DATE: June 1962</li> <li>4. REQUIREMENTS</li> <li>TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS         <ol> <li>Property broundaries where required</li> <li>North arrow.</li> <li>3. Latitude and longitude reference.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	Commission City Plats	

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Form 10-301 UNITED STATES DEPARTME (Dec. 1968) NATIONAL PARK		state Montana
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3. MAP REFERENCE		
Wibaux City Plat Map		
SCALE: 1" = 200'		
DATE: 1959		
4. REQUIREMENTS		
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS		
1. Property broundaries where required		
2. North arrow.		
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