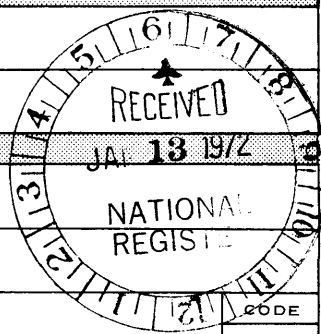


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 20 1972



1. NAME

COMMON:
Billings Chamber of Commerce Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
303 North 27th

CITY OR TOWN:
Billings (Congressional District 2)

STATE: Montana CODE: 30 COUNTY: Yellowstone CODE: 111

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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>unoccupied</u>
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Executive Investors

STREET AND NUMBER:
10 North Broadway

CITY OR TOWN: Billings STATE: Montana CODE: 30

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Billings STATE: Montana CODE: 30

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: June 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JAN 20 1972

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

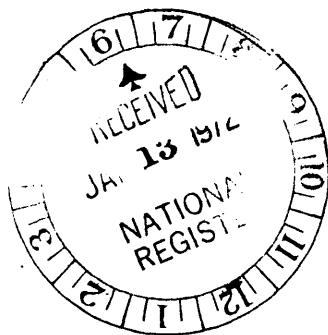
(Check One)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked=""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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building is of the Italian Renaissance Revival style and was designed by the architect G. McAlister. It is three stories high and is of brick bearing wall construction having been built by Gagnon and Company in 1911. Sandstone excavated from the Heffner quarry is used for the foundation. The entry is decorated by a round stone arch which springs from a stone pedestal, supported by ornate scroll-like brackets. Dominating the front facade are the giant order columns and the Renaissance roof cornice and balcony.

On the interior the bar unit included leaded, stained glass windows, beer steins, walnut paneling, and a bar inlaid with bands of ebony and mother-of-pearl. The building also boasted murals and interior designs painted by E. Soderberg and a \$1000 tapestry presented by Odin J. Oyen, contractor for paintings and tapestry. The interior still contains many of these original furnishings; even the brass door knobs with the head of an elk embossed on them remain.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1911

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

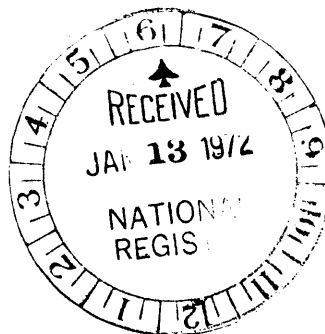
- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <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 type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input 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

This building was originally planned by J. Collins West, then Exalted Ruler of Lodge 394 of the Elks Club. Its bar and some fixtures were bought at the St. Louis Exposition of 1904, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase. Some Billings Elks who were there had them shipped to Billings and stored until the building was completed.

The dedication celebration of the Elks Club was in 1910 and lasted for three days. It included a formal lodge dedication, balls, reception, auto tours, and street decorations. Some 5000 people were invited to this celebration. In November of 1918, the Elks were forced to give up the building due to various accumulated debts. After the consolidation of the Billings Chamber of Commerce and the Billings-Midland Club, the new organization was able to purchase the building, property, and contents. Bonds were sold to help pay for the buildings, and it wasn't until 1946 that these were repaid. It is interesting to note that the third floor was rented to the War Agency during World War II.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Billings Gazette, Nov. 28, 1918, Dec. 11, 1918, Jul. 27, 1910, and Feb. 20, 1966;

&

Billings Commercial Club Board Minutes; Interview H. Buck, Pres. Chamber of Commerce.

H. A. B. S.

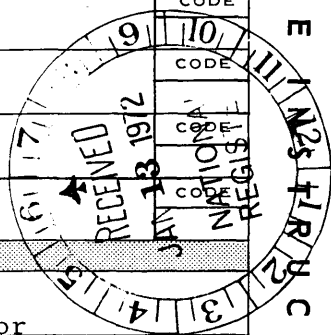
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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 . "		45° 47' 5.3"	108° 30' 18.9"	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Norman Guyaz, Assistant Planner & Project Administrator

ORGANIZATION: Montana Fish & Game Department DATE: January 6, 1972

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 Wesley R. Woodgerd
 Title State Liaison Officer
 Date January 7, 1972

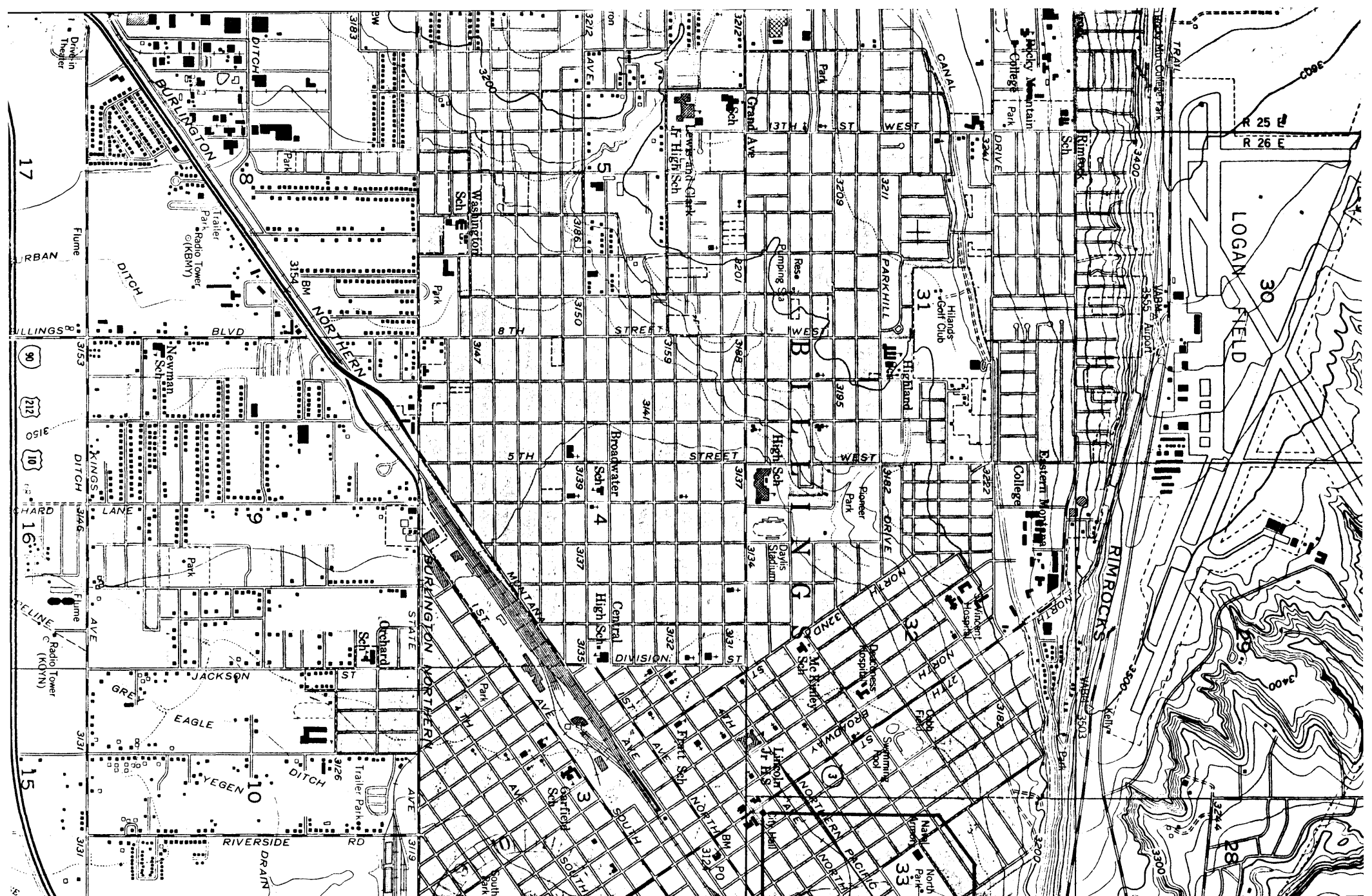
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date JAN 20 1972

ATTEST:
William H. Murray
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date JAN 18 1972

10/698920/30189950 SEE INSTRUCTIONS



BALLANTINE 25 MI.
CUSTER 57 MI.

507 1000m. N.

U. S. G. S.
BILLINGS WEST, MONT.
1:24000
PHOTOREVISED 1969

RECORDED
INDEXED
JAN 13 1972
FEDERAL BUREAU OF SURVEY

T. 15 S.

HUNTLEY 15 MI.
CUSTER 55 MI.

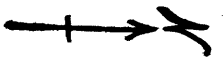
LONGITUDE
108° 30' 18.9"

47° 30'

5074

LONGITUDE
108° 30' 18.9"

1.2 MI. TO U.S. 10 AND 12



(BIL)

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 20 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Billings Chamber of Commerce Building			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
303 North 27th			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Billings (Congressional District 2)			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Montana	30	Yellowstone	111
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U. S. G. S. Billings West, Montana			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1957, Photo revised 1969			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

