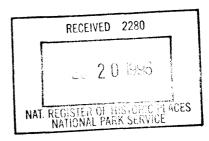
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property					
historic name: Bestwick	c's Market				
other name/site number:	Valley Bookstore				
2. Location					
street & number:					not for publication: n/
city/town: Alberton					vicinity: n/
state: Montana	code: MT	county: Mineral	code: 061	zip code: 59820	
3. State/Federal Age	ency Certification				
for determination of el the procedural and pr	ligibility meets the do ofessional requiremend that this property.  official/Title	onal Historic Preservation Act cumentation standards for regnts set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 operty be considered significated.	gistering properties in D. In my opinion, the	n the National Register of e property <u>X</u> meets <u>d</u> statewide <u>X</u> locally. (	Historic Places and meets oes not meet the National
In my opinion, the pro	perty meets	does not meet the National Ro	egister criteria.		
Signature of comment	ing or other official		Date		
State or Federal agend	cy and bureau				
4. National Park Ser	vice Certification	Par			
I, hereby certify that this  vertered in the Nation see continu determined eligible for National Register see continu determined not eligible National Register see continu removed from the Na see continua other (explain):	nal Register lation sheet or the lation sheet ble for the lation sheet ation sheet	Desgrativre	of the Keeper	Beall	Date of Action 1.13.97

5. Classification			
Ownership of Property: private	Number of Resources within Property		
	Contributing Noncontributing		
Category of Property: building			
	_1 building(s)		
Number of contributing resources previously	sites		
listed in the National Register: $\boldsymbol{0}$	structures		
	objects		
Name of related multiple property listing:			
Historic Resources of Alberton, Montana	TOTAL		
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions:	Current Functions:		
Commerce/trade: Specialty store	Commerce/trade: Specialty store		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification:	Materials:		
Other: Western false-front	foundation: COncrete		
	walls: wood		
	roof: metal		
	other: n/a		

## Narrative Description

Bestwick's Market is a two-story, wooden, falsefront commercial building. The building has an irregular plan, resulting from a series of historic-period additions. Built of frame construction, the two-story, western portion of the market is the original building. Its two-story front has a simple cornice with brackets, and is finished in clapboard with vertical board corner trim.

The design features two original entries: a central, recessed storefront entry flanked by chamfered piers, and a secondary entrance to the east accessing the upper level. Recessed panelling finishes the apron beneath the window bays. Windows on the storefront are non-original plate glass panels. The storefront is now covered by a non-historic, suspended flat metal awning.

Windows above the storefront and on the side elevations are the original 2-over-2, double hung corniced windows. Those on the front are now trimmed with shutters.

Two additions were constructed to the east of the original two-story market. The first addition, completed prior to 1915, widened the building, and carried the false-front motif, although it is of lower height. This addition has historically been an integral portion of the commercial use of the building. An additional one-story wood frame mass with a false front parapet was also added historically, although a firm construction date has not been determined. The use of the same scale of clapboard sheathing for this portion of the building suggests that its construction likely occurred during the historic period prior to 1925.

The roof over the original market is gabled with square bracketed eaves; over the middle and eastern portions, the roof is a shed. The entire building is covered with metal roofing. A covered stairway accesses the building on the west. Two brick interior chimneys are visible on the building. The building rests on a concrete foundation.

## 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Areas of Significance: Commerce, Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a Period(s) of Significance: 1910 - 1940

Significant Person(s): n/a Significant Dates: 1910, ca. 1915, ca. 1920

Cultural Affiliation: n/a Architect/Builder: n/a

## Narrative Statement of Significance

Bestwick's Market is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, for its association with the commercial development of Alberton and for its role as a meeting place for local civic and fraternal groups. The building's significance is enhanced by its architectural value according to Criterion C, as the only historic, wood frame, false-fronted commercial structure in the community which still retains primary historic architectural integrity.

Bestwick's Market was one of Alberton's earliest established businesses. Joe Boileau, formerly the foreman of the planing mill at Lothrup, moved to the new town of Alberton, built and opened a meat market here in 1910. William Bestwick purchased Boileau's business in 1912 and operated a meat market/grocery/frozen foods locker business until the 1950s.

For many years, the west second floor provided space for meetings of the Masons, Eastern Star, Odd Fellows and others. During the 1970s, Lew Kinney operated a restaurant and soda fountain in the front eastern storefront. It currently houses a bookshop and a private residence.

In addition to its strong historical associations, Bestwick's Market gains significance as the best preserved example of vernacular commercial architecture in Alberton dating from the Milwaukee Road era. The double recessed entrance, a unique feature in a single commercial building of this size, and large plate glass display windows are intact -- offering an important example of commercial small town construction.

9. Major Bibliographic References
Bowman, Audrey "Alberton, MT". Looseleaf notebook, n.d.
Kinney, Della "Yesteryears in Montana". Unpublished manuscript. 1978.
Polk, R.L. & Co. Directories for Alberton, Montana: 1907, 1911. P. 311, 330.
See Historic Resources of Alberton, Montana MPD.
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 # Other Specify Repository:  Primary Location of Additional Data: X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Specify Repository:
10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property: less than one
UTM References: Zone Easting Northing 11 691820 5208450
Legal Location (Township, Range & Section(s)): Located in the NW1/4, SE1/4, NW1/4 of Section 2, T14N, R23W.
Verbal Boundary Description
Bestwick's Market is located on Lots 10 - 12, Block 5, Alberton Townsite.
Boundary Justification
This is the property associated with Bestwick's Market since its construction in 1910.
11. Form Prepared By
name/title: James R. McDonald Architects, P.C. revised by: Mike Koop, SHPO staff, 1986 street & number: P.O. Box 8163 telephone: date: 1986 updated, 1996 city or town: Missoula state: MT zip code: 59801
Property Owner
name/title: Keren Fredette

street & number: Box 355 telephone:

city or town: Alberton state: MT zip code: 59820