

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET	Individual Property	ITEM NUMBER	PAGE
			56
Name:	KPRK Radio		Photo #56
Map number:	Maps C & D #9		
Location:	On U.S. 89, east of Livingston		
Owner and address:	KPRK Radio Station c/o Ken Colby Box 110 Livingston, Montana 59047		
Construction date:	1947		
Style:	Moderne		
Verbal Boundary description:	T 2S, R 10E, Section 7		
Acreage:	less than 1 acre		
U.T.M. reference:	[1,2] [5,3,5,8,4,0] [5,0,5,7,5,8,0]		
Bibliography:	Oral interview, Ken Colby, May, 1979. Bill and Doris Whithorn, <u>Photo History of Livingston, Montana</u> (Livingston, 1966).		

Description:

The station building is a 1-story, detached wood-frame white stuccoed structure of rectangular plan, approximately 50' x 20'. Projecting to the front is an asymmetrically placed semi-circular vestibule, crowned with a four-tiered, round roof structure, whose concentric levels diminish in diameter toward the top. Above is a miniature simulated radio tower, a tripod circled by bands of black metal. Glass block fills vestibule windows and the narrow vertical openings at the corners of the main structure. Stylized call-letters and a lightning bolt appear in gold-leaf on the front door glass and larger letters appear in black sheet metal along the top of the front facade over large plate-glass windows. Above and below these windows are smooth bands, once bright red, as was the front door. Originally, the call letters and lightning bolts were repeated in neon on the roof. Planters flanking the door are additions.

Significance:

Architect William Fox of Missoula, Montana, designed this structure in 1947 for Livingston's first radio station, KPRK. It continues as such.

This structure meets the following National Register criteria:

C. This building is a popular, if belated, interpretation of the Moderne style. The design draws upon futuristic imagery perpetuated by radio and film media in the 1930s and 1940s. It is whimsical, consciously "modern," and belongs in the context of the world outside Livingston, unlike nearly every other structure in town, except the Depot. It sits like a 3-D billboard along the developing Park Street strip, having been constructed the year before the NP discontinued passenger service to Yellowstone Park. Although the KPRK Station building is less than fifty years old, it merits inclusion in the Multiple Resource District as an individual property because it is a locally unique example of this style and very well preserved.