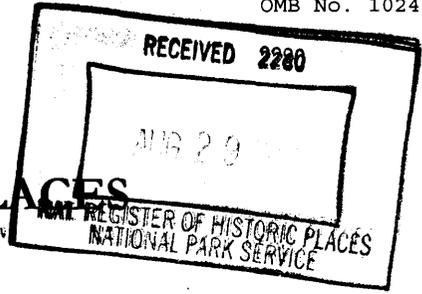


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Bruyer Granary

other name/site number: Julius Bruyer and Sons Granary; Kal-Mont Dairy Granary; Schulze Granary

2. Location

street & number: 1355 Whitefish Stage Road

not for publication: NA
vicinity: NA

city/town: Kalispell

state: Montana code: MT county: Flathead code: 029 zip code: 59901

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.

Signature of certifying official/Title: *Mark F. Sauber SAPO* Date: *August 23, 2006*

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	<i>Edson W. Beall</i> Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action <i>10-12-06</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet		
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet		
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain):		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

Category of Property: Building

 1 0 building(s)Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register: na 0 0 sites 0 0 structures

Name of related multiple property listing: na

 0 0 objects 1 0 TOTAL**6. Function or Use****Historic Functions:**

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/storage

Current Functions:

VACANT

7. Description**Architectural Classification:**

OTHER: hipped granary

Materials:

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: WOOD

roof: WOOD/shake

other:

Narrative Description

The Bruyer Granary is located just north of the city Kalispell, Montana, along the old stage road, now a secondary highway, between Kalispell and Whitefish. Though residential and commercial subdivisions have begun to creep into the area from the south and west, the setting retains its rural character, with rolling fields surrounding the building, and a golf course and small farms nearby. Constructed in 1909 by Julius Bruyer and his sons, the building functioned as a granary for their dairy farm, the Kal-Mont Dairy, through their tenure there, and was still in use, holding wheat, barley and oats, for the Schulze family when took ownership in during the 1950. Its sturdy construction style, stacked two-by-fours, belies its function.

Building description:

The Bruyer Granary is a tall, two-story, square building constructed of stacked two-by fours resting on a modern concrete-wall foundation. Its pyramidal roof is pierced by a large, pyramid-roofed cupola. The cedar shake roofs have been recently restored, and feature wide boxed eaves. The square, wood-frame cupola features a single, modern, six-over-six light double-hung window centered on each side. The windows were chosen to replicate the originals. Recently painted its original cream color, the horizontal wood siding is intact. A belt course, consisting of a simple, narrow milled lumber projection, defines the junction between the first and second stories. Green paint highlights the milled lumber trim, including the frieze, cornice, and eaves, as well as the window and door trim and corner boards. Extending from the foundation wall to the belt course, the corner boards feature stepped caps. Similarly molded caps also top the window openings and pedestrian doors.

Large, cross-braced, vertical plank, sliding doors provided access to wagons from the east and west elevations. Wagons could drive to the center of the building, and be lifted, using a hand-cranked lift, to dump grain into one of the two-story storage bins at the northwest, northeast, and southwest corners. Two "short bins" added to the 11,000-bushel grain capacity of the building. The west elevation faces the road, and features the centered sliding door. There is a centered, five-paneled wood pedestrian door on both the south and north elevations. A six-over-six double-hung replacement window is centered to the east side of the south door. The east elevation features an identical window, centered on the south side of the elevation, as well as the sliding door noted above. In keeping with the original design, "A.D. 1909" is handpainted on the frieze above the north and west doors.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Areas of Significance: AGRICULTURE; ARCHITECTURE

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Period(s) of Significance: 1909-1946

Significant Person(s): n/a

Significant Dates: 1909

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder: Julius Bruyer and Sons, Builders

Narrative Statement of Significance

Rising above the secondary highway that connects the cities of Kalispell and Whitefish, the Bruyer Granary conveys the agricultural and architectural legacy of the Flathead Valley through the first half of the twentieth century. Constructed in 1909 to store grain for the Kal-Mont Dairy, the sturdy building is associated with the patterns of agricultural development, particularly the farm operations that provided foodstuffs to the burgeoning railroad community of Kalispell, just over a mile south. As was typical of family farms in the area, Julius Bruyer and his sons, Phillip, Lawrence, Nicholas, and Elmer, constructed the building of lumber harvested and milled on the property. Architecturally, the granary resembles a commercial elevator, and its 11,000-bushel capacity is a testament to the expansive production and use of grains on such a farm. Made more beautiful by moldings and trims, the granary is an excellent example of a purely functional building. Elegant in form, it is representative of an increasingly rare and precious property type. For these reasons, the Bruyer Granary is eligible for listing under Criteria A and C.

Flathead Valley History:

Humans have occupied the Flathead Valley of Northwestern Montana for at least 12,000 years. Early inhabitants of the region hunted large game animals such as mammoth, musk ox, and bison. Later peoples subsisted on fish, local game hunted with the bow and arrow, and indigenous vegetative resources such as bitterroot, camas, and the cambium layer of trees.¹ At the time of Euroamerican contact, there were several populations of Native Americans living in western Montana, including the Salish, Kootenai, Kalispel, and the Pend d'Oreille.² The earliest contact between whites and Native Americans in the Flathead Valley occurred in the early part of the nineteenth century primarily by way of trappers, adventurers, and prospectors. Due to the harsh winters and rugged terrain of the area, however, the Flathead Valley remained relatively unknown and unsettled by outsiders until the 1860s.³

With the discovery of gold in southern British Columbia in 1862, a route from Missoula, Montana, north through the Flathead Valley along the west side of the Flathead Lake developed. Of the travelers bringing supplies and looking for riches, however, few stayed in the valley in these early years. The first permanent settlement in the Upper Flathead Valley was at Selish in 1881, five miles east of the present town of Somers. The first real influx of non-Indian settlers arrived with the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad to Ravalli, north of Missoula, in 1883. Even with the railroad going as far as Ravalli, settlers still had to take a stage to the southern end of Flathead Lake at Polson. From there a steamboat carried people and supplies to Demersville. Finally, another stage ride would deliver settlers to their final destination in the Upper Flathead Valley. Due to this long journey, the flow of settlers and supplies into the Upper Flathead Valley remained a slow trickle through the 1880s. With the decision by Great Northern Railway to build a line through the Flathead Valley and on westwards in the early 1890s, traffic saw an increase. Passenger trains began running through Kalispell in August of 1892. The Great Northern Railway construction created markets for timber and other building supplies, created a source of employment for area settlers, and opened up distant markets to Flathead farmers and loggers. Using superlatives and exaggeration, the Great Northern Railway actively promoted settlement in the Upper Flathead Valley in towns along its lines.⁴

¹ Kathryn L. McKay, *Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of the Bigfork- North and South Roadway Reconstruction Project* (May 2000) pp. 16-17.

² Flathead Culture Committee, *A Brief History of the Flathead Tribes* (Polson: Gull Printing, Inc., 1993) pp. 1-2.

³ McKay, pp. 16-17.

⁴ Ibid. pp. 17-20.

Bruyer Granary
Name of Property

Flathead County, MT
County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation sheet

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: less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing
A 11 E 700052 N 5344949

Legal Location (Township, Range & Section(s)): SW ¼ SW ¼ Section 32, T29N, R21W

Verbal Boundary Description

The Bruyer Granary National Register boundary coincides with the boundaries of the tract of land surveyed November 10, 2004 and filed with Flathead County on June 1, 2005 as certificate of survey number 16698, known as Tract 1 in the SW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 32, T29N, R21W. See continuation sheet for more particular description.

Boundary Justification

The tract on which the granary is located was surveyed in 2005 for the purpose of preserving the building in the face of encroaching subdivisions and development. The polygon is drawn to keep its historic access from the Whitefish Stage Road, and to encompass sufficient lands surrounding it to sustain the character of the building. The rest of the Bruyer's Kal-Mont Dairy has witnessed development. While the residence and a barn are still standing, their associations have been compromised by development and alteration, as well as the loss of the dedicated agricultural lands and other outbuildings.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kate Hampton
organization: MT SHPO date: April 2005
street & number: 1410 8th Ave. telephone: (406) 444-3647
city or town: Helena state: MT zip code: 59620-1202

Property Owner

name/title: Village Plaza, Inc.
street & number: 1355 Whitefish Avenue
city or town: Kalispell state: MT zip code: 59901

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 1

Integrity:

The Bruyer Granary retains a high degree of integrity. Though the setting and association has been disturbed by encroaching development, the location and feeling is intact. Recently restored, the granary's integrity of design, workmanship, and materials is apparent. New cedar shakes cover the roof, but are in keeping with the original roof material. Replacement windows are similar to the originals in design and glazing pattern. The originals had been lost through decades of neglect.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 2

In the center of the most fertile valley on the face of the earth to which the River Nile valley is but a shadow in productiveness, a valley 200 miles long and 30 miles wide, to say nothing of the many tributary valleys running out for many miles either way, and banked on either side with the grand old Rockies, making for her a climate all her own, and warm in the winter when all the rest of the wonderful northwest is often blizzard-bound, and a fascinating crystal lake 50 miles long in the center – aye, any wonder she is called the queen of the west?⁵

Another factor that increased the settlement of the Flathead Valley came with the Dawes Act in 1887, which opened up lands not allotted to individual tribal members for settlement by the general public throughout the United States.⁶ These "surplus" lands were taken from tribal control and opened to settlement in the Flathead Valley in 1910 with the Flathead Land Allotment Act of 1904.⁷ As the railroad expanded and the availability of new lands opened up the Flathead Valley for new growth and exploration, many farming families came to carve out a living for themselves, including Frank Emerson and later, Julius and Susanna Bruyer.

Frank Emerson patents a homestead

Throughout the late 1880s and 1890s, economic optimism was pervasive in Montana. Transcontinental railroads were being built, and opportunistic settlers sought out land along the lines. As the Great Northern Railroad approached northwestern Montana, the fertile lands surrounding the new city of Kalispell were patented and "proved up", both by speculators hoping to sell the property for a profit, and by those who wished to stay and prosper with the nascent communities.

Not surprisingly, this era of land-taking was a time of heady optimism and high hopes. Joseph Kinsey Howard described many homesteaders as land speculators who had no intention of putting down roots. Some certainly fit that description, and they sold out shortly after gaining patents to the land. But a substantial majority, at least initially, looked forward to staying and becoming part of a new community.⁸

Frank Emerson and his wife Effie fell into the latter category. They supplemented their 1888 cash entry of 160 acres with an additional 160 acre homestead entry. His brother, William P. Emerson did the same on lands immediately north of Frank and Effie's holdings. There the Emerson family farmed, improved the land, and acquired more of the surrounding property. The Emerson Brothers were great boosters of the area, and Frank was elected one of the first three county commissioners when Flathead County was established in 1893. By 1901, Frank and Effie's property was valuable, and they sold 160 acres to Julius Bruyer of Clay County, South Dakota, for \$14,000.

The Bruyer Family

Julius Bruyer was born on September 18, 1853 in Champagne, France. He emigrated with his parents, August and Josephine Bruyer, and his siblings just a few years later. His family first settled in Chicago, then Debuque, Iowa, and moved on to Clay County, Dakota Territory by 1859. Despite lean years through the first decade in Dakota Territory, the Bruyer family began to flourish and added to their holdings. The children, John, Rose, Julius, and Joseph, worked beside their parents, and took up lands around the family farm as they reached adulthood.

Julius was thirty before he married Susanna Birgen in 1883. An 1897 Biography noted:

⁵ W.D. Darst, "Kalispell and the Flathead Valley 100 Years Hence," newspaper article, vertical files, Montana Historical Society Research Center, Helena.

⁶ 24 Stat. 388-91.

⁷ *A Brief History of the Flathead Tribes*, pp. 14-15; 33 Stat. 302.

⁸ Malone, Rader, and Lang, *Montana: A History of Two Centuries*, p. 248.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 3

The ceremony which united the lives of our subject and Miss Birgen was performed January 23, 1883, after which the young couple took up their domestic life on the farm where they now reside. The estate consists of 569 acres, all improved and under cultivation, and on this Mr. Bruyer is carrying on a general farming and stock-raising business.⁹

In 1901, however, Julius and Susanna chose to sell their South Dakota farm and purchase 160 acres north of Kalispell. Though the Great Northern Railroad diverted the main line through Whitefish, thirty miles north, just two years later, the Kalispell community continued to flourish on the branch line. As the county seat, a center of trade, an agricultural base, and hub of the timber industry, Kalispell offered plentiful local and distant markets for the farms that surrounded it. The Bruyer's land holdings increased to 440 acres by 1905.

The Bruyers were well-seasoned farmers, and understood the diverse skills needed to run a self-sufficient farm. They established the Kal-Mont dairy, serving the growing community of Kalispell. Their diversified farm included, of course, a residence and agricultural buildings, cultivated fields and pastures, but also a sawmill. The highly skilled family of workers, specifically Julius and his sons Philip, Lawrence, Elmer, and even fifteen-year-old Nickolas, used timber harvested from their property, and cut in their mill, to construct a granary to store the fruit of their crops and feed for their cows.

Tall and solidly built, the granary could hold 11,000 bushels. When it was completed in 1909, it was a testament not only to the carpentry skills of the Bruyers, but also their pride in excellent craftsmanship and design, mechanical ingenuity, and the sheer volume of production at their farm. Several factors contributed to that volume, including the rich soil and relatively sheltered climate of the valley.

While most of Montana experienced high yields of agricultural production through the 1910s, the wetter, less varied climate of the western third of the state was particularly fruitful. Though boosterism by the railroad was rampant, in the case of the Flathead Valley, the celebration of its farming potential was justified:

[Flathead Country] has a wealth of resources comprising agriculture, timber, coal, building stone, clay deposit, limestone and precious metals. The most important factor thus far in the development of the Flathead is agriculture...the marvelous grain yields have shown the soil to be immensely rich and capable of wonderful results. In fact, each succeeding harvest produces some of the most astonishing results. They seem almost incredible...One reason for the success attained in grain growing is the bountiful supply of moisture. The mountains in shedding their coats of snow during the spring and summer months furnish a continuous flow of water, which is distributed throughout the valley by a network of streams...¹⁰

These bountiful harvests resulted in grains that had to be stored efficiently. In constructing their granary, the Bruyers took aesthetic and industrial cues from the commercial-scale grain elevators prevalent along railroad lines. Their building allowed the family to drive, hoist, and store their bushels. A loaded wagon could be driven in from one side, raised on a platform to the second story via a hand-cranking system, and drained into the bins. The wagon was then cranked down and driven out the other side. Indeed, the granary played a key role in the continued success and self-sufficiency of the farm, and its massiveness is an indicator of the Bruyer's success and optimism.

Like much of Montana, Flathead County grew at an astonishing rate during its first years, doubling in size between 1900 and 1910, from 9,375 to 18,785 people.¹¹ The Bruyer farm grew and was successful throughout the 1910s, and continued

⁹ Memorial and Biographical Record for Turner, Lincoln, Union, and Clay Counties, South Dakota. Chicago: George A. Ogle & Co., 1897, p. 128

¹⁰ "Flathead Area Word Description of Yesteryear (Published in 1895 by the Great Northern Railway), reprinted in *News-Farm Journal*, January 19, 1967, Kalispell, MT

¹¹ Indeed, whereas other counties in the state witnessed depopulation on a large scale, Flathead County lost less than 10% of its residents through the 1920s. Richard L. Forstall, "Population of Counties by Decennial Census: 1900 to 1990", Population Division, US Bureau of the Census,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 4

to function even when much of Montana experienced extreme drought and agricultural collapse in the early 1920s. Flathead County did not suffer the devastating effects of the drought as keenly as others, but still, by 1923, its residents carried indebtedness, totaling \$893,057.68.¹² There is no record of a mortgage on the Bruyer dairy enterprise during this period. As they grew older, most of the family stayed on locally. Nickolas served in World War I, but returned home. Only oldest son Philip moved on to try his luck in Oregon. At the age of 72, Julius began to experience ill health, and even moved to California for a short time to recover. When he returned, however, he began dividing his property between his children in anticipation of his death one month later. Nickolas Bruyer received, for "one dollar and love and affection," 160 acres of his father's farm, including the dairy operation, including land on which the granary stood. His brother Elmer farmed the neighboring land, as did Lawrence.

Julius died on April 29, 1927, four years after his wife Susanna passed away. All five brothers, and sister Elizabeth Tetrault all attended the funeral:

The last rites for the late Julius Bruyer were held yesterday morning at 10 o'clock in the St. Mathew's church...Rev. Father Frances O'Farrell sang the Requiem High Mass and in the conclusion of the service at the church spoke of the attributes which made Mr. Bruyer a true citizen and gained for him the respect of all who knew him...The many friends attending the funeral and beautiful floral tributes were evidence of the high esteem the deceased was held in this community.¹³

Nickolas kept the farm running after his father's death. The dairy business had taken a prominent place in the economic health of the Flathead:

The country developed rapidly during the [18]90s. Lumbering was by far the most important industry, but by 1900, farming had attained sufficient momentum to insure eventual rivalry. About 1910 dairying reached a stage of some importance, and five years later fruit growing began to contribute materially to the annual wealth output. Lumber in and farming now [1931] rank very close together industrially...

The diversification of activities on the farm, and its infrastructure, allowed it to be self-sufficient. For twenty years, Nickolas and his wife Mabel maintained the dairy together with their children, Francis Jane and Robert. Despite the nationwide depressed economy in the 1930s, the Bruyers were able to keep the farm intact through that difficult decade. Economic and climatic fortunes began to rise at the end of the 1930s, as World War II erupted. Like the rest of the state, the agricultural economy in the Flathead Valley boomed after the war. Prices rose, and optimism was again pervasive.

For the Bruyers, however, their direct associations with the land that sustained them were waning. Partners in both family and business, Nickolas transferred the deed to the dairy to his wife, Mabel, in 1944, and that transaction was recorded in June 1946.¹⁴ In the meantime, Nickolas and Mabel contracted the property for deed to James and Ada Holman. In 1945, the Holmans began to work off the cost of the property, agreeing to a \$18,000 down payment and an annual payment of \$1,500 until the total cost, \$42,000 was paid. Nickolas died on February 3, 1946. He had spent 45 years on the farm. Mabel still held the contract for deed, and agreed to let the Holmans enter into joint tenancy with Herman and Neva Storm. The Storms promptly bought the property outright. Just three years after they purchased it, the Storms sold to George and Anna Schulze. Upon receipt, the granary was intact and functional – and continued to serve the Schulzes during their long tenure there.

Washington, DC.

¹² "Flathead – Noted for Farming and Lumber," *Helena Independent*, December 20, 1931.

¹³ "Obituary for Julius Bruyer," *Kalispell Interlake*, May 9, 1927.

¹⁴ "Deed Record No. 275," p. 410, on file at the Flathead County Courthouse, Clerk and Recorder's Office, Kalispell.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 5

Architectural Significance

The Bruyer Granary gains additional National Register significance under Criterion C, as an excellent example of an increasingly rare property type. Grain elevators, both commercial and those located on private farms, are remarkable for their particularly American antecedents, and their form – mass, surface, and plan – intrinsic to the development of Modern architecture.

Grain elevators date to the 1842, when Buffalo, New York, merchant Joseph Dart recognized the need for an efficient method of storing and loading grain for transport. Dart's grain elevator relieved grain producers and transportation managers – in this case, the large vessels on the Great Lakes - of the need to bag, lift, and stow grains from warehouses to waiting ships. Dart's idea was to use the building itself to store the grain in large storage bins. Dart's elevator was functional and efficient, and allowed marked increases in the capacity to get grains to market.

Dart's invention consisted of a wooden structure that served as storage bins for the grain. Loading the grain into this structure was a steam-driven belt which had buckets attached to it. As the belt with the buckets was lowered into the hold of a ship, the buckets would scoop up the grain and hoist it up into the structure where it was dropped into tall bins. This is where the term "elevator" originated because this is exactly what the process did. It elevated the grain from the ship and stored it in bins until it was lowered for transshipment or for milling purposes.¹⁵

Architectural Historian Robert B. Riley explains that a grain elevator is a facility designed to store dry cereal grains in bulk, rather than in bags, and to move those grains vertically. In addition to cutting down the time and intensive labor of grain shipping and loading, the elevator kept the grains dry, cool, and free of pests. Within twenty years of its introduction, the elevator technology had moved from water shipping points to the rails.¹⁶

The grain elevator is an iconic American invention and property type, and its influence on the history of agriculture and transportation is clear. Additionally, its purity of function and form exacted an influence on the tenets of Modern architecture. Twentieth century architect Le Corbusier (born Charles-Edouard Jeanneret-Gris in Switzerland, 1887) embraced the burgeoning machine age and accused contemporary architects of leaning on historical aesthetics. In his groundbreaking book, *Towards a New Architecture*, Le Corbusier used the grain elevator as the embodiment of his design ethic:

The *architects* of today, lost in the sterile backwaters of their plans, their foliage, their pilasters and their lead roofs, have never acquired the conception of primary masses. They were never taught that at the School.

Not in pursuit of an architectural idea, but simply guided by the results of calculation (derived from the principle which govern our universe) and the conception of A LIVING ORGANISM, the ENGINEERS of to-day make use of the primary elements and, by co-ordinating them in accordance with the rules, provoke in us architectural emotions and thus make the work of man ring in unison with universal order.

*Thus we have the American grain elevators and factories, the magnificent FIRST FRUITS of the new age. THE AMERICAN ENGINEERS OVERWHELM WITH THEIR CALCULATIONS OUR EXPIRING ARCHITECTURE.*¹⁷

Riley explains:

¹⁵ Buffalo History Works, "Grain Elevators: A History," <http://www.buffalohistoryworks.com/grain/history/history.htm>.

¹⁶ Robert B. Riley, "Grain Elevators: Symbols of Time, Places and Honest Building," *AIA Journal*, November 1977, p. 50.

¹⁷ LeCorbusier, *Towards a New Architecture*, translated by Frederick Etchells, (New York: Dover Publications, Inc, 1986), p. 31.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 6

To Le Corbusier the North American grain elevators were a moral lesson in architecture. He admired them for their great primary forms, determined by engineering and unadorned by architectural treatment. He used them exclusively to illustrate his famous dictum, "architecture is the masterful, correct, and magnificent play of masses brought together in light"...¹⁸

Riley also argues, which LeCorbusier did not, that the grain elevator is also an intrinsic feature of many cultural landscapes.

But generations of painters and photographers and novelists have found in them not architectural maxims, but symbols of life on the Great Plains. Many aspects of these elevators are of interest to anyone curious about the human landscape – their construction systems, their economic function in settling the interior third of the continent, their rhythmic spacing, their verticality in a flat landscape – and all these features flow as naturally from functional determinants as does their geometry.

In fact, granaries of all sorts have served as object lessons to those sensitive to the built landscape. The granaries of Spain and Portugal have been admired for their high vernacular craftsmanship and those of the Dogon for their sculptural power. Lewis Mumford has seen the royal granary as a symbol of urbanization in the ancient Orient. But whatever its symbolism, the modern grain elevator, like its antecedents, must first be understood as a product of specific structural, economic and functional determinants.

...Whatever else one can say of Corbu's 50-year-old polemics on the relation between architecture and technology, his claims about the grain elevators were correct. They were basically engineering solutions, and they were almost invariably left unadorned. Primary port terminal facilities in other countries sometimes achieved the character of high architecture through impressive brick massing or an appliqué of classical features, but even the largest of North American complexes were left unstyled, except for an occasional timid molding or parapet along the conveyor gallery at the top.

...Architects do still admire them for their forms and their honest expression of materials and function. A wider audience finds them symbols, too – if not of a new technological life, at least as a regional landscape and culture. Painters and photographers find them appealing, chambers of commerce and agricultural organizations and tourist agencies use them to illustrate brochures and even the weary tourist moving across the Plains' interstate may find in them some special – a part and essence of a place.¹⁹

Country elevators rise above the landscape as symbols of progress and productivity as well as streamlined, efficient design. The Bruyer Granary, though nestled in the Flathead Valley rather than the stark Plains, is essentially a scaled-down version of a commercial elevator. Borrowing from the design and mechanization of the commercial elevator, the Bruyers adapted its principles to their own needs. Taking advantage of his timbered property and sawmill, Julius Bruyer chose a cribbed method of construction.

The cribbing technique employs wooden planks laid flat in a rectangle or square, overlapping at the corners in "log cabin" fashion, and built up to the desired bin height....The exterior is usually sheathed over with siding...A 1965 history Cargill, Inc., the international grain company based in Minneapolis, reported a long tradition in the firm that James Cargill was responsible for devising the cribbed technique. The author, John Work, stated that the story could not be confirmed. In 1866, civil engineer Alfred P. Boller published an article in the *Journal of the Franklin Institute* that described early wood cribbed elevator construction in Buffalo, N.Y.²⁰

¹⁸ Riley, p. 50.

¹⁹ Ibid., pp. 54-55.

²⁰ Robert M. Frame III, "Grain Elevators in Minnesota," Multiple Properties Documentation Form (on file at the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, St. Paul), 1989, Section E, p. 13.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 7

When the cribbing technique for elevators was first implemented is unclear, but the design was made possible by the standardization of dimension lumber. "Standardization lumber, in large part, emerged in the nineteenth century tide of standardized items throughout industry."²¹ The Bruyers ran these standard sizes in their own sawmill, and cribbed them, knowing that "such construction was rigid enough to resist not only bursting pressure, but also its reverse, the sudden vacuums that could develop if the grain began to flow suddenly while being emptied under gravity through ports at the bottom of the bin."²²

The sturdy granary on the Bruyer farm is a manifestation of the grain elevator principles adapted to a productive family farm. That is still stands, nearly one hundred years later, is a testament to construction talents of the Bruyer family, and the dedication of later generations to their historical and agricultural legacy. The result is an excellent local example of a cribbed "elevator." For these reasons, the granary is eligible also under Criterion C.

Conclusion

Constructed in 1909 during a period of growth and agricultural prosperity in the Flathead Valley, the Bruyer Granary is representative of the history of agriculture in that area during the first part of the twentieth century. The Bruyer family's dairy farm, and specifically the granary, testified to the optimism and productiveness there. The resilient and skilled family maintained the farm through two generations, weathering, like the granary building itself, the tides in agricultural patterns through those years. The period of significance for granary's associations with Criterion A concludes with Nickolas Bruyer's death in 1946, as the farm and granary experienced a transition to new ownership after that year. Though the Schulze family maintained the granary and continued using it during their long tenure on the property, the building is most representative the early years of agricultural production in the Flathead Valley. In addition to its historic associations, the granary is remarkable, and eligible under Criterion C, as an excellent example of a cribbed granary, influenced in design, manufacture, and function by grain elevators.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Reyner Banham, *A Concrete Atlantis: U.S. Industrial Building and European Modern Architecture, 1900-1925* (Cambridge: MIT press, 1986), p. 115.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 8

24 Stat. 388-91.

33 Stat. 302.

Banham, Reyner. *A Concrete Atlantis: U.S. Industrial Building and European Modern Architecture, 1900-1925*.
Cambridge: MIT press, 1986.

Buffalo History Works. "Grain Elevators: A History." <http://www.buffalohistoryworks.com/grain/history/history.htm>.

"Deed Record No. 275," on file at the Flathead County Courthouse, Clerk and Recorder's Office, Kalispell.

"Flathead Area Word Description of Yesteryear" (Published in 1895 by the Great Northern Railway), reprinted in *News-Farm Journal*, January 19, 1967, Kalispell, MT

Flathead Culture Committee, *A Brief History of the Flathead Tribes*. Polson: Gull Printing, Inc., 1993.

"Flathead – Noted for Farming and Lumber," *Helena Independent*, December 20, 1931.

Forstall, Richard L. "Population of Counties by Decennial Census: 1900 to 1990." Population Division, US Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC.

Frame III, Robert M. "Grain Elevators in Minnesota." Multiple Properties Documentation Form. On file at the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, St. Paul, 1989.

LeCorbusier, *Towards a New Architecture*. translated by Frederick Etchells. New York: Dover Publications, Inc, 1986.

Malone, Michael P., Roeder, Richard B. and William L. Lang. *Montana: A History of Two Centuries*. Rev Ed. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1991.

McKay, Kathryn L. *Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of the Bigfork- North and South Roadway Reconstruction Project* (May 2000).

Memorial and Biographical Record for Turner, Lincoln, Union, and Clay Counties, South Dakota. Chicago: George A. Ogle & Co., 1897.

"Obituary for Julius Bruyer," *Kalispell Interlake*, May 9. 1927.

Riley, Robert B. "Grain Elevators: Symbols of Time, Places and Honest Building." *AIA Journal*, November 1977.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

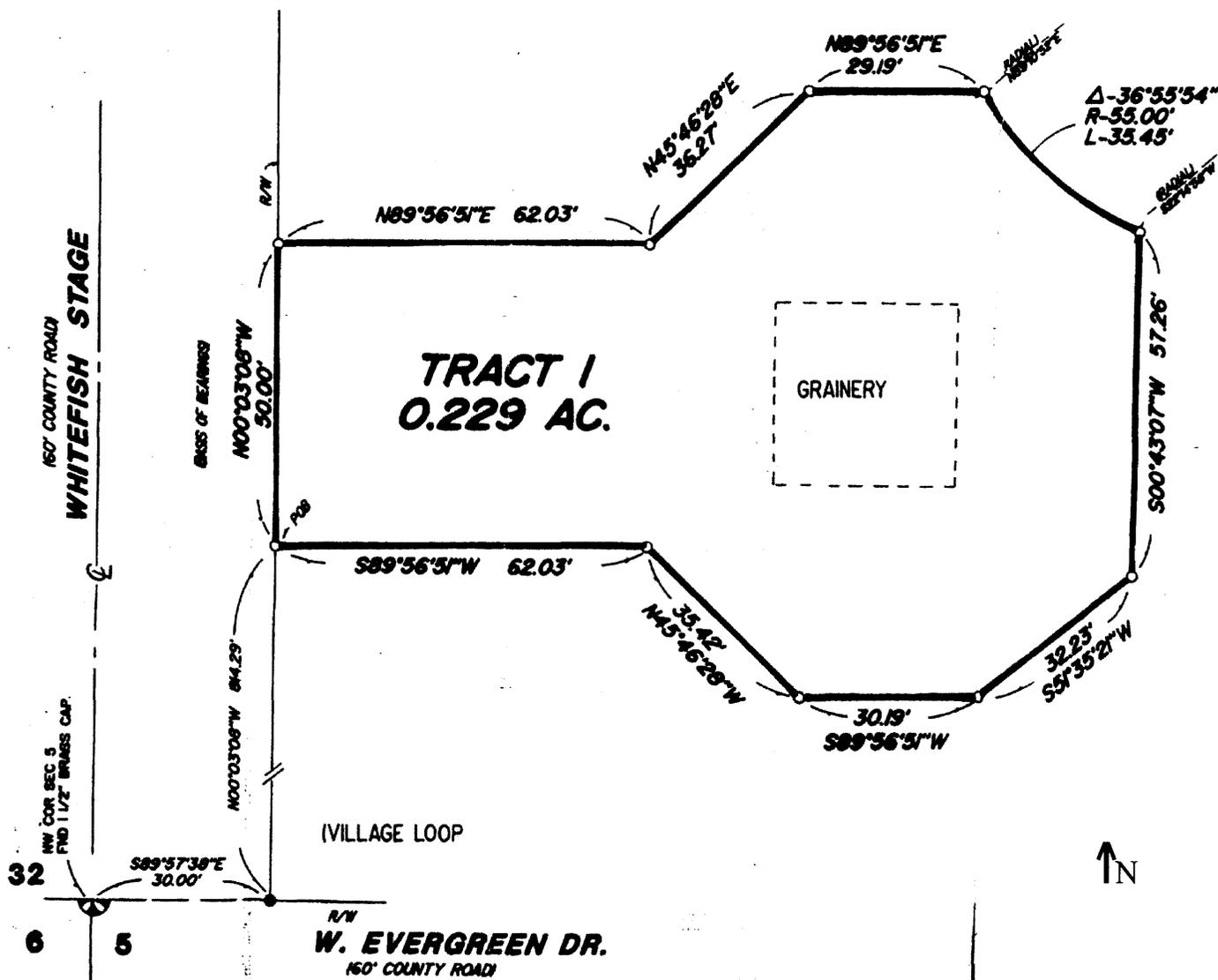
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 9

Commencing at the northwest corner Section 5, Township 28 North, Range 21 West, P.M., M., Flathead County, Montana, which is a found brass cap; Thence along the north boundary of said section 5, S89°57'38"E 30.00 feet to a found iron pin on the easterly R/W of a 60 foot county road known as Whitefish Stage and the southwest corner of the Plat of Village Plaza (records of Flathead County, Montana); Thence along said R/W and along the west boundary of said Plat N00°03'08"W 814.29 feet to a set iron pin and THE TRUE POINT OF THE BEGINNING OF THE TRACT OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED: Thence continuing N00°03'03"W 50.00 feet to a set iron pin; Thence leaving said R/W N89°56'51"E 62.03 feet to a set iron pin; Thence N45°46'28"E 36.27 feet to a set iron pin; Thence N89°56'51"E 29.19 feet to a set iron pin and the P.C. of a 55 foot radius curve, concave northeasterly (radial bearing N59°10'52"E); Thence southeasterly along said curve through a central angle of 36°55'54" an arc length of 35.45 feet to a set iron pin; Thence S00°43'07"W 57.26 feet to a set iron pin; Thence S51°35'21"W 32.23 feet to a set iron pin; Thence S89°56'51"W 30.19 feet to a set iron pin; Thence SN45°46'28"W 35.42 feet to a set iron pin; Thence S89°56'51"W 62.03 feet to the point of the beginning and containing 0.229 ACRES; Subject to and together with all the appurtenant easements of record.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 10



Aerial photo, 2004.

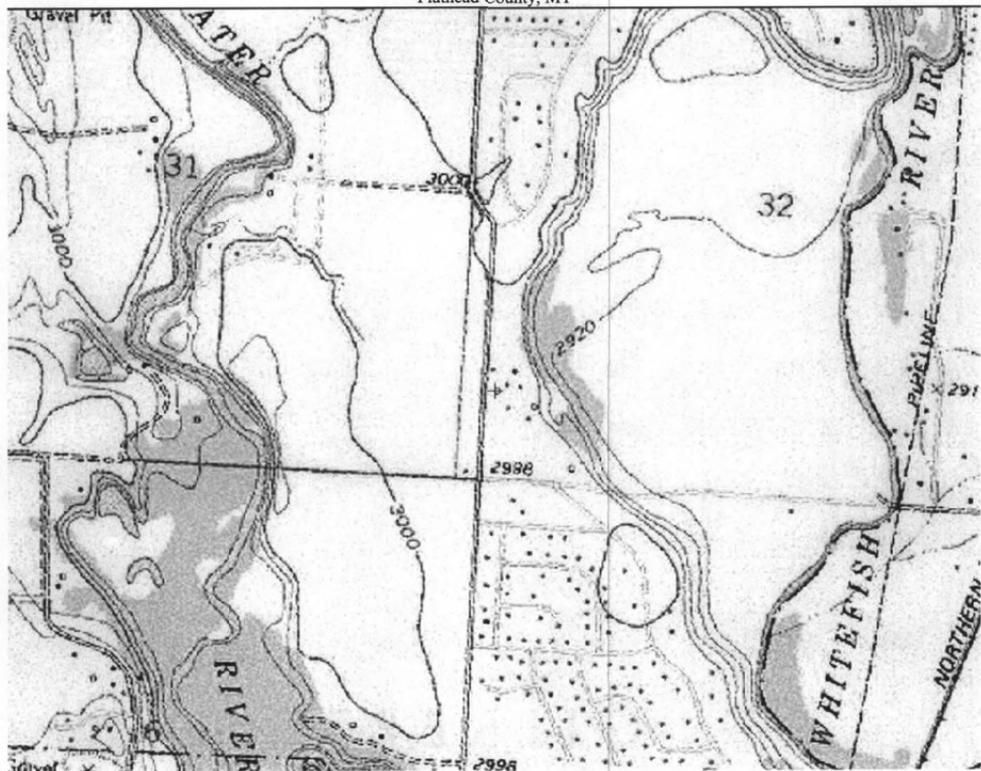
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 11



Kalispell 7.5 minute topo map detail, 1994.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 12

The photographs that accompany this nomination were taken by Kate Hampton on August 3, 2006, using a high-resolution digital camera. In accordance with the March 2005 Photo Policy expansion, the photos are printed on HP Premium Plus Photo Paper, using a Hewlett Packard 100 gray photo cartridge. This combination of paper and inks is included on the NR's list of "Acceptable Ink and Paper Combinations for Digital Images." The images are also recorded on a CD with a resolution of at least 1200x1800 pixels, 300 dpi in "true color" 24-bit format.

Additional Historic Photographs:



Bruyer Family in front of their farmhouse, 1904.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Bruyer Granary
Flathead County, MT

Page 13



Philip and Lawrence Bruyer,
prior to their move to Montana.



August Bruyer, date unknown.



Wedding photo of Carl and Ellen (Bruyer) Naumann.

Mrs. Naumann, daughter of Lawrence Bruyer understood the legacy instilled in the Bruyer Granary. She and Carl financed and oversaw the restoration of the building in 2004.



Susanna Bruyer, date unknown.