

1281

MONTANA
HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL
INVENTORY

JUL 18 1988

#7

Site#

Legal Description:RV, Block 26, Lots 1,2,3

Address:801 N. 3rd.

Ownership: Name:Lewis F. & Mary S. Beer

private address:same



Roll#12 Frame#18
Historic Name:E. G. Ellis House
Common Name:Sid Wheeler house
Date of Construction: c.1900, c.1908
Architect: unknown
Builder: unknown
Original Owner:E.G. Ellis
Original Use: residence
Present Use: residence

RESEARCH SOURCES:

Title Search: yes	Tax Records: yes	Bldg. Permit: no
Census Records: no	Sewer/Water: no	Sanborn Maps:1914-1944
Directories: yes	Newspapers: yes	

TITLE SEARCH

Martha J. Allison
Emma Leunstrund-1900
E.G. Ellis-1900
Herman Moll, Jr.-1900
Miltilda Ellis-1900
J.M. & Cora Pierce-1907

Millie M. Wheeler-1908
Sidney A. Wheeler-1936

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
WESTERN NEWS, Dec. 18, 1947

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The E. G. Ellis house is a tall, vertical proportion, two-story, wood frame residence on a rubble stone foundation with a concrete plaster coat over the stone. Features include: a full wrap around porch to the front, addressing Adirondac, with two wooden riser front steps. The front porch is supported by turned solid wood columns with small scroll brackets and a fancy cut spindle railing. A vertical slat board skirting is below the front porch. There are two entrances to the big front porch. The one addressing Adirondac has a small gable over the front steps. Siding is narrow beveled siding with vertical corner trim. There is a moderate wood water table seen at the first floor and a belly band at the second floor line. There is a frieze board. The roof is 12/12 pitch gable with eave returns and a horizontal flat soffit with moulded fascia board. Roof has asphalt shingles. Windows are vertical proportion single and pairs of 1/1 double hungs. Front door is obscured by an aluminum storm. Basic plan is rectilinear with a cross axis roof and bay projecting toward North 3rd Street. Bay toward North 3rd Street has full eave return. There is a stucco and brick chimney on the outside in the center or slightly off center of the north bay. There is a one story gable and shed addition to the south which has narrow horizontal proportion slider windows. It rests on a concrete foundation. The siding is detailed similar. The original house probably had two open porches to either side and this one has been infilled. There is also a low entry to the basement. Shingles are asphalt. Outbuildings include a rectangular, wood frame, one-story building with drop-lap siding and small four lite window and wood panel doors.

INTEGRITY

Basically, this building appears to have good architectural integrity with the exception of the infill on the south, one-story portion of the building. Aluminum storms are an add-on and asphalt shingles are an alteration.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Sidney A. Wheeler was born in Canada and came to Hamilton in 1904. He engaged in the meat market business here and operated a farm northeast of the city. He built a slaughter house on his farm and operated it in conjunction with his meat market. He also shipped considerable meat from the valley for a number of years. Wheeler was a member of the Hamilton Masonic Lodge, the Bitterroot Shrine Club, Bitterroot Aerie 1693 FOE and the Hamilton Elks Lodge.

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Area of Significance: architecture

Specific Dates: c. 1900, c. 1908

Contributing buildings: 2

The E. G. Ellis House meets criterion C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because it is a locally significant example of a transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival house that warrants preservation. An interesting aspect of the construction of this house is the fact that the second story was added ca. 1908, which was not noticed by surveyors until an historic photograph of the building was discovered. The exterior placement and construction methods used in the fireplace are also unusual. While protruding fireboxes were often used on log cabins, they were not commonly used on larger, frame houses. The detailing of this house is a combination of Queen Anne, in the porch treatment and floor plan, and Colonial Revival, as exhibited by the overall massing, return gable ends, and regular rhythm of the fenestration.

The two-bay, one-story garage located to the rear of the lot, built ca. 1908, is a contributing building. The gable roofed garage retains an especially high degree of historic architectural integrity, including the unusual preservation of the original, wooden, double hinged doors accessing each bay. The garage is sheathed with ship lap siding, and has 2- and 3-lite fixed windows. The roof is covered with wooden shingles.

Acreage: less than one

UTM Reference: 11/718980/5126060

Form prepared by: Kirk Michels and Ada Powell
205 Bedford St., Hamilton, MT September 1, 1987



E.G. Ellis House

photo ca. 1906