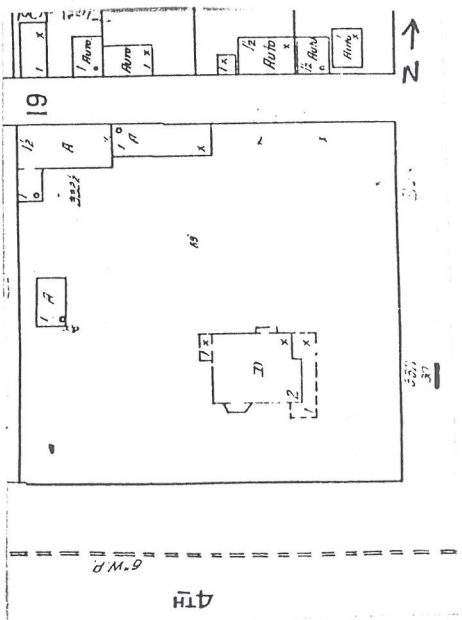


HAVRE-HILL COUNTY LIBRARY

MONTANA HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL
INVENTORY FORM



Roll# 3 Frame# 7

Legal Description: Havre Original Townsite, Block 19, Part of Lots 16 - 20.

Address: 332 Second Avenue

Ownership Name: Robert and P.L. Frey

Address: 332 Second Avenue

private: x

public:

Historic Name: H.W. Stringfellow House

Common Name: Stringfellow House

Date of Construction: This structure was standing by 1903, according to the Sanborn Map of the same year.

Architect: unknown

Builder: unknown

Original Owner: H.W. Stringfellow

Original Use: Single-Family Residence

Present Use: Single-Family Residence

Physical Description:

Large two-and-one-half story, 2 x 2 bay, transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival wood-frame residence. Steeply pitched cross-gabled roof (after 1939 asphalt-shingled; originally wood-shingled) over rectangular plan. The pediments of the side (N & S) gables have mildly projecting tympanums. The exterior is now

sheathed with asbestos shingling. Large interior brick chimney with paneling and stone cap. Concrete foundation.

The main (E) facade features a full-width screen-enclosed porch with wooden Tuscan columns that support a second story open-air balcony with millwork balustrade. The north side of the porch is shielded with multi-light glass. The screening is in a state of disrepair. According to the 1903 Sanborn Map, the porch extended past the south side of the main house. The rounded south end of this porch was modified and squared off by 1920, according to the Sanborn Map of the same year.

The window styles varies, although most have a 9/1 double-hung wood sash type with plain wood sill and trim. The porch contains the right-side main entry and a large slanted bay window. The south side has a single-story bay window. An aluminum awning shelters the second-story triple window on the main (E) facade. Several windows on the north side are aligned diagonally and probably follow an interior stairway.

Within the past two years a tar-papered covered garage has been added to the northeast corner of the structure. Access is via Fourth Street to the south.

Although neither exist today, this structure once had a large two-story wood-frame stable 75 feet to the northwest as of 1903 that still existed as of 1939; by 1920 an iron clad auto-garage was added and remained in place, like the stable, at least until 1939.

The site is raised well above the street level and has a concrete retaining wall along the south side of the property, scored in such a fashion as to simulate ashlar masonry.

Historical Information

This house was the second in Havre built for Henry W. Stringfellow (1864-1935). Stringfellow was born in Virginia and at the age of eighteen came to Montana.

In 1892, the year the city incorporated, Stringfellow located in Havre and established the city's first drug store. In 1892, Stringfellow began his eight-year tenure as city alderman. Stringfellow also served as the first clerk of the Havre school board. Stringfellow was the main proprietor and president of the Havre Commercial Co., a merchandising retail establishment. He also established Havre's first auto dealership in 1913 when he started selling the Ford Model T.

Footnote sources:

Grits, Guts and Gusto: A History of Hill County. Compiled by the Hill County Bicentennial Commission, (1976), pp. 285-86.

Robert C. Lucke, Historic Homes of North Central Montana,
(Havre, Montana, Robert C. Lucke Enterprises, 1977), pp. 20-21.

Sanborn Maps: 1903, 1910, 1920, 1939.

Integrity:

Despite the rear addition visible from the street, and the newer synthetic exterior siding, this residence retains much of its original configuration (Queen Anne massing and roofline) and several original styling details (i.e. wooden Tuscan porch columns and balustrade, bay windows, large brick chimney, bay windows).

The hilltop site continues to make this one of the more prominent homes within the city, despite the fact that newer and more modern intrusions now occupy portions of its original lot to the north (i.e. 320, 322, 324 Second Avenue).

Research Sources:

Assessor's Records, Hill County, Hill County Courthouse, Havre, Montana.

Water Record no. 75 (1906) and Sewer Record no. 125 (1910),
Department of Public Works, City of Havre, Havre, Montana.

Significance:

This transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival structure is one of the oldest and more prominent structures within the locality. It retains a significant portion of its original styling (i.e. full-width classically styled porch, decorative sash treatments, projecting bay windows and cross-axial plan) and is one the very few to survive within the Original Townsite of Havre. It would qualify for the National Register under criteria C as one of Havre's better examples of a transitional home exhibiting both Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styling features.

Form Prepared By:

Name: Richard Bernstein
Address: Bear Paw Development Corp., PO Box 1549, Havre, MT 59501
Date: December 9, 1987
Revisions: April 8, and May 28, 1988

Geographical information:

Acreage: Less than an acre
USGS Quad: Havre, Montana
UTM's: