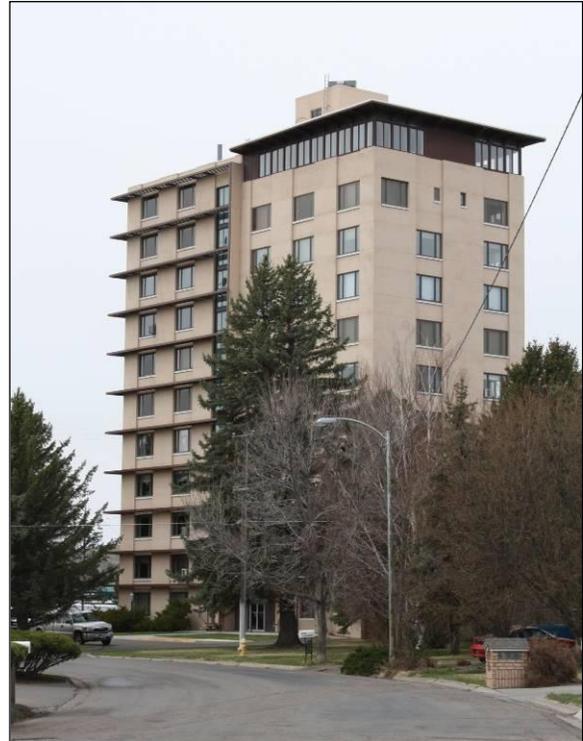


# MONTANA POST-WORLD WAR II ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY AND INVENTORY



*A Preserve America project*

*Prepared for*  
the Montana State Historic Preservation Office  
*Helena, MT*

*Prepared by*  
Diana J. Painter, PhD  
Painter Preservation & Planning  
*Spokane, WA*



***MONTANA POST-WORLD WAR II ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY AND INVENTORY  
HISTORIC CONTEXT AND SURVEY REPORT***

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*A Preserve America project*

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Montana Historical Society  
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*December 2010*

**Montana Historical Society**



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## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### *Summary*

This survey of selected examples of Montana's post-World War II building stock, and the creation of this survey report and historic context statement, took place between August 2009 and December 2010. Planning for the survey took place in the months preceding the field survey work. Staff of the Montana State Historic Preservation Office solicited possible subject properties with local Historic Preservation Officers and others throughout the state. Properties reflected in this work are in Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Lewistown and Warm Springs. The intent of the work is to document and promote an understanding of mid-century architecture in Montana. Building types include office buildings, both public and private, civic buildings, academic buildings, other educational facilities, commercial and industrial buildings, and one multi-level residential structure.

After World War II, many Montana cities experienced the growth characteristic of this era throughout the country. Nationwide, the post-war era saw rapid expansion of suburban neighborhoods, commercial centers, churches, schools, universities, medical clinics, and commercial office buildings; in short, all the facilities needed to serve a growing population. Montana in particular had an infrastructure deficit as well as a need to replace outmoded building stock. Following on twenty-five years of economic stagnation, Montana's communities required an infusion of new construction to alleviate pent-up demand and to respond to a new economic era.

In Montana, many sectors provided opportunity, including the development of schools, university buildings, government buildings, and buildings catering to new suburban locations. Government functioned as a particularly strong growth sector, apparent in the expansion of the university system statewide, the government campus in Helena, as well as individual buildings such as the Yellowstone County Courthouse and the United States Courthouse in Billings. Montana State University, which hosts the only accredited professional architecture degree program in the state, is the site of some very innovative buildings and complexes of the post-war era. Elementary schools constructed throughout the state at the time incorporated the latest concepts in education facility planning and design. In short, the work of Montana's architects reflect national trends, in that most cities saw population growth and a demand for new buildings to serve growing populations, replace outmoded building stock, and/or to meet new standards for development.

Montana's architects practicing in the post-war era experienced many of the opportunities enjoyed by their counterparts elsewhere, as the post-war economy grew and demand increased for new, modern facilities. They eagerly sought opportunities to experiment with the new modern forms and expressions, materials and construction methods. Among architects in general there was often a desire to reflect new social values in architectural form. The way buildings met the ground plane, related to the outdoors, their internal organization, all reflected post-war ideas about how people and buildings should interact. The most common building types of post-war buildings also reflected the values and needs of post-war communities and organizations. This is no less the case in Montana than elsewhere.

Growth and opportunity coincided with the dominance of Modern architecture and planning in the post-war era to change the face of Montana's cities, as it did throughout the country. Clients and commissions allowed Montana's most talented native and émigré architects to showcase their skills in the new Modern styles. In Montana cities and towns, as in any urban environment, buildings that make up the majority of streetscapes tend to be more utilitarian in presentation, while others stand out as unique in any number of ways. Some architects' talents are readily adaptable to almost any building style or type they undertake, some are associated with a particular style or expression, and some produce the serviceable, background buildings of our cities and towns.

Modern architectural styles and building types in Montana reflect those prevalent in the western states and, for that matter, the entire country at that time. In Montana, some designs that more closely characterize pre-war styles continued to be built after the war, but this is not uncommon. Styles like the Streamline Moderne and PWA Moderne continued to be seen through the 1950s. Typically, however, the common buildings consisted of curtain wall structures that were relatively interchangeable with post-war curtain wall structures elsewhere, although brick veneer, in conjunction with expanses of window walls, is very common in Montana. Examples of structures where the curtain wall dominates include the handsome Union Bank and Trust by Orr Pickering and Associates and the Western Life Insurance Building by Berg and Jacobson Architects (since altered), both in Helena. Examples where brick cladding is the primary finish material include the classroom buildings and residence halls at MSU-Billings and MSU-Bozeman.

Several buildings and complexes represent Montana's version of innovative forms and expressions that architects also experimented with elsewhere. Two examples are the Hedges High Rise Complex and Miller Dining Hall at Montana State University at Bozeman, a megastructure complex designed by Sigvald Berg (not surveyed here). Another example is the Armory Gymnasium on the Montana State University – Northern campus, a hyperbolic paraboloid building designed by Oswald Berg Jr. The Walt Sullivan Department of Labor & Industry Building (originally the Unemployment Compensation Commission building), by the young firm of Evans, LaMont & Cole, is worth mentioning as an early (1961) example of a building that integrated energy efficiency measures with its design.

Montana's most talented architects left a legacy of extraordinary buildings that are singular in expression and uniquely reflect their times and circumstances. Examples include Johannes and A. A. van Teylingen's Receiving Hospital at Warm Springs and the Kennedy School in Butte by John G. Link & Co. Interestingly, a number of Montana architects who established practices before World War II developed some of the most interesting and striking modern buildings after the war, including John G. Link, George Shanley, and Johannes van Teylingen.

Where regional variations occurred in Montana, it appears they were due more to the vision of individual architects or opportunity, rather than a response to regional expressions or trends. For example, curtain wall structures were very popular, despite their lack of suitability to the Montana climate. But individuals such as Sigvald Berg and A. A. Van Teylingen composed their interpretation of contemporary architectural ideas in very unique buildings. Further, clients such as the University of Great Falls provided the opportunity for Montana architects Page & Werner to design and construct an entire campus, which remains one of the best examples of mid-century institutional development in Montana to this day.

In summary, many of the circumstances under which Modern architecture and planning thrived in the post-war era in the United States also existed in Montana, and like other places, these opportunities left a lasting legacy in Montana worthy of recognition and preservation.

### ***Recommendations***

**Future surveys.** Recommendations for future survey work include undertaking a survey of New Formalist structures in Montana. There are many excellent examples of this style in the state, such as the United States Courthouse in Billings and the Clapp Building at Montana State University at Missoula. However, the Period of Significance for this survey did not extend past 1965, whereas this style reached its apex in Montana in the late 1960s and 1970s. Additional types under-represented in this survey include private commercial and industrial buildings. An insufficient number of these types were surveyed to fully understand the prevalent building types and stylistic expressions in the state. In particular, although the survey evaluated two Googie buildings, and report discusses the style, it does not address the Roadside Architecture genre in depth. Building types typical of these commercial uses include motels, drive-ins and other restaurants, visitor facilities, and building types that cater to automobiles in general.

This survey does not address single family residential development, which is another possible subject for a future context statement and focused survey. A survey and context of post-war residential development would allow for an examination of post-war trends in planning and community development. A number of elementary schools were surveyed here, but elementary schools were often developed in conjunction with residential neighborhoods and commercial centers after the war. Communities typically carried out this type of integrated community planning under the auspices of Federal Housing Administration policies and modeled on the “neighborhood unit” planning concept. Other major factors affecting the nature of post-war residential development included financing mechanisms and transportation policies. These important components are key to understanding the neighborhoods and communities that developed during the post-war era. A historic context statement developed around these themes would complement this survey.

**Education.** Like historic buildings from other eras, insensitive alterations and additions, neglect, economic development and planning policies that do not place value on historic structures, threaten mid-century modern structures. More so than older historic styles, however, mid-century modern structures are threatened by a lack of understanding of the design principles of the era and the contribution of these buildings to our contemporary environment. In Montana in particular, the need or desire to make buildings more energy-efficient is a challenge to mid-century buildings, as many exhibit expansive window walls and curtain wall structures that are, by definition, ‘thin-skinned.’ Guidance as to appropriate renovations of mid-century structures, particularly retrofitting them for energy efficiency, is important in the effort to save these buildings and protect their integrity.

Education is an important tool in developing an appreciation of modern buildings on the part of the public and professionals in the field. Appreciation often follows understanding. This and other survey reports, studies, and texts can help building owners, managers, and architects understand and appreciate mid-century styles and the work of the significant architects practicing in Montana during the post-World War II period. Education about the history of the post-war era and how it changed the face of many of Montana’s cities can also facilitate an awareness of the period’s importance. Finally, information about the character-defining features of mid-century properties, and how to interpret the Secretary of Interior’s Standards when renovating mid-century modern buildings, can help ensure the integrity of these structures.

Exhibits, lectures, walking tours, pamphlets, websites, blogs, social media, and other mediums and programs provide outlets for educating the public about Montana’s post-war architecture. All can help spread the word about the state’s mid-century legacy, which includes extraordinary buildings that are the backdrop to our day-to-day lives.

**Technical guidance.** While not discussed in this document, technical issues associated with mid-century modern architecture are an ongoing concern. Some of the experimental building forms and materials that came into use at mid-century have not aged well, and may be particularly challenged by the Montana climate. For example, the cladding for the Western Life Insurance Company building in Helena has been entirely replaced. All the windows in the Petroleum Building in Butte have been replaced. Windows have been boarded up in the Washington School in Billings, the transportation department's Office/Shop in Havre, and the Webster Garfield School in Butte. Windows have been partially enclosed in the Cooley Chevrolet Building in Lewistown and the Billion Dealership in Bozeman. Other options, particularly for retrofitting a building for energy efficiency, are available that do not involve inappropriate replacement materials.

The International Building Code, which has provisions specifically for historic buildings, may be utilized in Montana. Planning and building officials and historic preservation professionals should become familiar with these more flexible provisions in order to pass them on to architects, engineers, and building owners and managers.

Technical guidance can help building owners and managers retrofit their structures in appropriate ways without undermining architectural integrity. Guidance on issues associated with modern buildings, in addition to the more traditional building materials and construction methods, is widely available through a number of resources and organizations, including the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Park Service, the Association for Preservation Technology, and state and local advocacy groups. Several good books on working with modern materials and construction methods in the historic preservation process include Jester's *Twentieth-Century Building Materials, History and Conservation*, Prudon's *Preservation of Modern Architecture*, and Slaton's *Preserving the Recent Past* and *Preserving the Recent Past 2* (all referenced in this report's bibliography). Information from these resources on retrofitting and rehabilitating mid-century modern structures can be made readily available to building owners and managers, architects, and planners working with modern buildings, public officials, and local preservation offices.

Another issue facing mid-century buildings is that they can be difficult to adapt to new uses and/or changing programmatic needs. The exposed structure and transparency seen in many of these buildings can pose challenges to retrofitting them for current infrastructure needs, as there are fewer places to 'hide' new conduits, HVAC equipment, etc. On the other hand, many modern buildings were designed with large, open, flexible spaces. With creativity and imagination, property owners and architects can retain and reuse these structures, thus preserving the important architecture of this era and reminders of a significant era in Montana's architectural history.

## **CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION**

### **Purpose of Survey and Survey Report**

The Montana Historical Society and Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) initiated the Montana Post-World War II (1945-1965) Architectural Survey and Inventory with funding from a Preserve America grant. The purpose of the survey was to identify, document, and evaluate selected properties from Montana's post-war period. It focused on selected property and building types that represent Montana's architectural legacy from the post-World War II era.

This survey report documents the research design and field methods for the survey and provides the background information by which evaluations were made as to the significance of the survey properties. It also makes recommendations for future survey efforts and suggests registration criteria for evaluating future survey subjects. This report also serves as a reference and resource for the SHPO and other state agencies, local governments, and state and local historical societies as they begin to address their historic resources from this era. It will assist property owners and community members in making informed decisions about their mid-century properties.

### **Research Design**

The Montana SHPO determined the general scope of the survey and inventory when they applied for a Preserve America grant for the project. In their application, SHPO identified the property types and resources to be surveyed as the first step in defining the project. SHPO designed the state-wide survey to address properties from a range of geographic settings. Property types focused on institutional, commercial, and industrial properties, with one multi-unit residential property. The majority of properties are public, although a significant number are also privately-owned. By far, educational buildings, from elementary schools to university campuses constitute the largest number of building types. Additional campus buildings surveyed include selected buildings from a mental hospital campus (Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs) and the Capitol campus.

The subject properties were selected based on the knowledge of local Historic Preservation Officers in the various cities and towns, and personal knowledge of state staff involved in Montana history and historic preservation. Properties were in a sense 'nominated,' and then selected based on age, location, integrity, and whether they were a good example of a style or type. SHPO initially defined the Period of Significance for the survey subjects based on construction dates between 1945 and 1960, the immediate post-war period. It soon became apparent that the years 1945 to 1965 would better capture the range of significant properties of the post-war era. Thus, the SHPO broadened the Period of Significance for the study to the two decades following World War II.

Once SHPO selected the properties for the survey (a few were still under discussion in the first few months of the study), the consultant, Diana J. Painter of Painter Preservation & Planning, surveyed and documented them in the field. Some substitutions were made at this time, based on the integrity of the initially selected properties. A result of this period of selecting, field checking, and researching properties is that a broader range of mid-century properties were researched and surveyed than originally envisioned. A secondary result of this process is that the significance of the selected mid-century property types in Montana is discussed here with greater confidence than if the survey had focused just on the initially selected properties.

### Geographical Boundaries

The survey and inventory constitutes a state-wide study, though not all regions are represented. Most of the properties are in urban locations, either within cities or campuses. Locations encompass both large and small towns within Montana, including Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Lewistown and Warm Springs. The survey covers a wide range of settings and locations, with the exceptions of the far eastern and the far western portions of the state.<sup>1</sup>

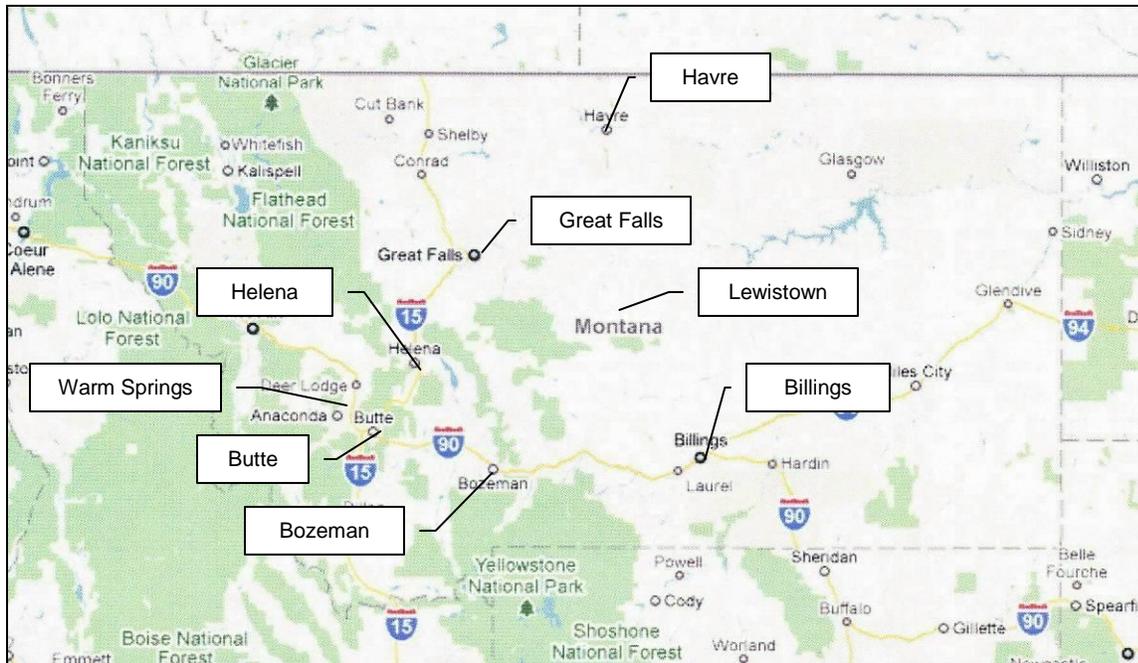


Figure 1: Survey locations

### Research and Field Methods

Research was undertaken primarily at the Montana SHPO and the Montana Historical Society, beginning with a records search in August 2009. The author utilized existing surveys, historic contexts, and similar documentation where available and relevant. Because the survey and survey report focus on mid-twentieth century architecture in Montana, less historical research in local archives and repositories was undertaken than would ordinarily be the case. Efforts concentrated on a general overview of the era. Much of the historical research on individual buildings and property types was derived from newspapers of the time. R. R. Bowker's American Architects Directory from

<sup>1</sup> Note that concurrent with this study, a survey of mid-century structures on the University of Montana – Missoula campus was undertaken by another party. This study was reviewed in conjunction with preparing this survey and the campus visited to gain a familiarity with these resources.

1956, 1962, and 1970 proved to be the primary source of information about the architects. Surveys and historic contexts for other buildings and projects were also utilized. Additionally, the Montana Architectural Drawings archives at Montana State University contributed valuable information about the architects and their firms.

Painter Preservation & Planning conducted intensive surveys of fifty properties throughout the state between November 2009 and April 2010. Buildings were photographed and field notes made, sometimes with later follow-up trips to confirm information or re-take photographs. As noted above, local archival research was limited, although several people, such as building owners or managers, were interviewed either at the time or later. Architectural descriptions were drafted and relevant historic narratives prepared in the office. Research on the architectural styles and building types of the time was also conducted in the office, as the styles, types and construction methods present in Montana were not found to be substantially different from the styles, types and construction methods from other parts of the West.<sup>2</sup> An exception to the similarity of modern styles in the West is found, however, in the work of individual architects, which is addressed in the architectural context. This survey report addresses primarily those styles and types identified in the survey. An exception is the information about the New Formalism style, introduced in the 1960s and seen in many significant civic and commercial buildings in Montana and elsewhere.<sup>3</sup> Future surveys and contexts should be developed to address the styles and types, as well as Periods of Significance, not covered by this survey.

### **Historical Themes**

This historic context provides a brief overview of the 1920s through the post-war era in Montana. This era encompasses the following themes. This is not to say that there are not additional important themes in this period of time. These themes, however, relate most closely to the survey subjects and broader themes of mid-century urban development and expansion in Montana:

- Trends in post-war education
- The growth of universities
- Government expansion, and
- Emerging trends in goods and services.

### **In This Document**

The following is an outline of this document and its intended use.

The **summary and recommendations** summarizes major findings of the survey and makes recommendations for future surveys, education, and technical assistance for those with mid-century modern buildings.

The **introduction** outlines the purpose and scope of the project, the research design, field and research methods, and what to expect of this document.

The **regulatory context** briefly outlines the methods used to evaluate the properties in the survey, outlines the purpose of the historic contexts, and suggests registration requirements for the evaluation of survey subjects in the future.

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<sup>2</sup> An exception is minor accommodations made for climate. For example, most public and private commercial buildings in Montana have a double set of entry doors separated by an entry vestibule as a protection from the weather.

<sup>3</sup> Two New Formalism structures in the survey fell within the Period of Significance for this study. Most however were constructed later and were therefore not selected for inclusion in this survey. New Formalism is a significant style and representative structures should be surveyed in the future.

The **historic context** outlines the major themes identified in this survey to assist with the evaluation of these and future survey subjects. It outlines trends at the time that influenced how these property types developed and the purposes they served.

The **architectural context** provides general background on the development of post-war architectural styles, building types, and development models, with particular focus on the West, and describes the styles and types surveyed for this project. It also briefly addresses styles that were not part of this study, which will be important to address in subsequent, expanded surveys. Character-defining features of the various styles and types are presented. Additionally, selected development types, specifically the development of the post-war campus, are discussed.

Profiles of the **architects** practicing in Montana in the post-war era are presented here. These profiles provide a sense of the type of training architects received at this time, the types of commissions they undertook, and the geographic area covered in their practices. This information was used to help evaluate the significance of the properties surveyed here with respect to Criterion C, as well as those that may be surveyed in the future.

The **references** section lists the sources used in the development of the subject surveys and in this report. These references may also be used to assist with the development of future context statements and evaluation of future survey subjects.

The **appendices** for this survey report contain a list of surveyed properties with a brief architectural profile, historic information, and a statement of significance. Two tables are also provided that list the properties by SITS number and city/location.

### **Evaluator Qualifications**

Diana Painter of Painter Preservation & Planning undertook the survey and evaluation of historic and architectural resources for this project, as well as authoring this report. Ms. Painter is a qualified architectural historian as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, 36 CFR Part 61, and has 30 years of professional experience in historic preservation and urban design. She holds a PhD in Architecture from the University of Sheffield, UK and an MUP in Urban Planning/Urban Design from the University of Washington. Ms. Painter is listed as an architectural historian on the roster of consultants on file with the Montana SHPO.

## CHAPTER 2 - REGULATORY CONTEXT

### Criteria for Evaluation

The Montana Post-World War II Survey and Inventory project surveyed and evaluated post-war properties throughout the state utilizing the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places Criteria for Evaluation, which are as follows:

#### Criterion A:

Properties associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

#### Criterion B:

Properties associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

#### Criterion C:

Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

#### Criterion D:

Properties that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.<sup>4</sup>

### Aspects of Integrity

In order to be considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, a property must generally be over 50 years of age, meet one or more of the above criteria, and retain integrity. Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance. It is defined as a function of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. A historic property – which may be a building, structure, object, site or district – must retain most of the aspects of integrity in order to be eligible for listing on the National Register. Ideally, a property will maintain those aspects of integrity that are most relevant to its significance.<sup>5</sup> The aspects of integrity are defined as follows:

- Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.
- Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.
- Setting is the physical environment of a historic property.
- Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.

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<sup>4</sup> Rebecca H. Shrimpton and Patrick W. Andrus, *National Register Bulletin 15, How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, D.C.: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1995), 2.

<sup>5</sup> *National Register Bulletin 15*, 44.

- Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.
- Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.
- Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

### Historic Contexts

Whether or not a property meets one or more of the Criteria for Evaluation is grounded in the historic context statement for this and any intensive survey. Historic context statements provide the foundation for historic preservation planning and decision-making for historic resources by grouping historic properties that share a common theme, common geographical area, and/or a common time period for purposes of interpretation and establishing significance. To be historically significant a property or properties must represent a significant part of the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or the culture of an area. It must also embody the characteristics that associate it with the relevant aspects of the past.<sup>6</sup> The National Park Service describes historic contexts as follows:

*Historic contexts are those patterns or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within history or prehistory is made clear.<sup>7</sup>*

The architectural styles and building types selected for the survey, and present in the survey area, guided the focus of the Montana Post-World War II Survey and the historic and architectural contexts provided in this report. The Period of Significance is 1945 to 1965, the heart of the post-war period. The themes explored here apply primarily to Criterion C: "Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction."<sup>8</sup>

Correspondingly, the aspects of integrity most relevant to the resources evaluated for this survey are the aspects of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. These aspects must, in most cases, be present for the property or resource to be determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places with respect to Criterion C.

### Future Surveys

Properties evaluated for this report generally fall into the category of post-World War II development, with a Period of Significance of 1945 to 1965. Areas of Significance generally fall within the larger theme of post-war expansion. The following sub-themes are discussed in this study:

- trends in post-war education
- the growth of universities
- government expansion, and
- emerging trends in goods and services

Properties found significant with respect to these themes might gain additional significance under Criterion A or possibly B, and would have to retain integrity sufficient to convey those associations.

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<sup>6</sup> *National Register Bulletin 15, 7.*

<sup>7</sup> *National Register Bulletin 15, 7.*

<sup>8</sup> *National Register Bulletin 15, 17.*

Properties evaluated for this report, however, are evaluated with respect to Criterion C. Properties evaluated for this survey are generally found eligible for listing on the National Register if they represent a good example of a mid-century or post-war architectural style or building type, whether high-style or vernacular in its expression; and/or if they represent the work of a master as defined in this survey report; and if they also retain integrity.

Additional areas to be explored in future surveys include residential and neighborhood development, including neighborhood services such as churches and commercial centers, and the architectural styles and types prevalent in post-war suburban expansion. Additional types warranting survey and research include auto-oriented commercial development, both urban and suburban, transportation developments, and post-war trends in manufacturing and industry. Additional documentation regarding New Formalism, popular for commercial buildings such as banks and civic buildings in Montana, and Roadside or Gogie style should also be pursued.

Registration criteria for future surveys must be based on the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and the aspects of integrity, and be grounded in the relevant historic contexts.



## CHAPTER 3 - HISTORIC CONTEXT

### Overview

The post-war era in Montana played out against the backdrop of twenty years of drought, farm failures, and economic depression, and an additional five plus years when very little private development or development unrelated to the war effort took place. Unlike most of the country, the 1920s in Montana were a time of hardship, due to the failure of many farms and ranches established in the previous decade, as well as the economic depression that occurred after World War I.<sup>9</sup>

Between 1910 and 1918 Montana saw unprecedented growth and an enormous influx of people. In the decade following, the 1920s, the state re-adjusted, losing over 15% of its population. The state gained some population by the middle and late 1930s, as a substantial percentage of the country's population migrated west, attracted to jobs created by New Deal projects and programs. In the war years the state again gained population, as did all western states, and growth continued into the post-war era, again paralleling national trends.

The gross gains and losses however, do not reveal the massive population shifts that took place during these time periods within Montana and the West. In the post-war era, population shifts still occurred as migration into and out of the state continued, and the population moved to urban areas and between urban areas within the state. Industry evolved as post-war demands changed and as the extractive industries adopted new methods and practices. New goods and services were offered, as cities expanded and the emphasis shifted back to consumer goods. The social services system also required facilities to serve new populations. Finally, education expanded greatly, with a concurrent demand for new and improved facilities.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Change from previous decade</b>
<b>1920</b>	<b>548,449</b>	<b>+172,396</b>
<b>1930</b>	<b>537,606</b>	<b>-10,843</b>
<b>1940</b>	<b>559,456</b>	<b>+21,850</b>
<b>1950</b>	<b>591,024</b>	<b>+31,368</b>
<b>1960</b>	<b>674,767</b>	<b>+83,743</b>
<b>1970</b>	<b>694,409</b>	<b>+19,642</b>

**Figure 2: State population growth by decade**

Source: <http://www.his.state.mt.us/education/textbook/Timeline/decades.asp>

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<sup>9</sup> An exception is the oil industry developed in the Cut Bank/Shelby area.

The following sketch of the decades leading up to the post-World War II era draws heavily on the work of historian Michael R. Malone who, along with authors Richard B. Roeder and William L. Lang, wrote *Montana, A History of Two Centuries*, first published in 1976 and revised in 1991.

### **The Post-World War I Era**

A severe drought that began in 1917 and spread in 1919, and an international decline of farm prices affected Montana and the Northern Plains, culminating in a serious depression after World War I.<sup>10</sup> Fires, insects, and winds that caused severe dust storms impacted Montana's farmers and ranchers beginning in the 1920s, ten years ahead of similar circumstances in other parts of the country. At the same time, the price of wheat and other farm commodities fell after World War I, which also affected Montana's farmers. This slowdown in demand also undermined the mining and lumber industries.

As in other areas of the country, the influenza epidemic of 1918 impacted Montana, killing an estimated 5,000 people in the state.<sup>11</sup> Historian Michael Malone noted that the early-to-mid 1920s, while prosperous for most of the rest of the country, were disastrous in Montana. An estimated 20% of farmers vacated their farms, the average value of farmland fell by 50%, and over one-half of Montana's commercial banks failed, due in part to being overextended.<sup>12</sup> Approximately 60,000 people left Montana during the 1920s, most moving farther west to the coastal states, including Washington, Oregon and California.<sup>13</sup>

The loss of population had a spin-off effect throughout the entire Montana economy. Montana witnessed a drop of about 15% of its population in the decade between 1930 and 1940, which negatively impacted the economy.<sup>14</sup> Out-migration continued during the war years, as workers moved to more lucrative war-time jobs on the west coast.

### **The Great Depression and the New Deal**

Drought and depression gripped Montana again in 1929-1931, and continued through the 1930s. The world-wide depression radically affected wheat prices, which dropped 80% during this period.<sup>15</sup> The value of beef cattle dropped 60% between 1929 and 1934, and the price for sheep was equally affected.<sup>16</sup> Again, there was an exodus of population in this period. Both the number of farms and farm values fell, despite the infusion of public aid in conjunction with New Deal programs. Another twenty banks failed between 1929 and 1933.<sup>17</sup> The corresponding slow down in construction greatly affected the mining and lumber industries.<sup>18</sup> To compound the problem, the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, which expanded into international markets in the 1920s, became heavily indebted. The Great Depression further devastated the mining economy, as the value of copper dropped by more than half between 1929 and 1931, and to nearly 25% of its former value by 1933, which in turn had a negative effect on Montana's mining towns.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Michael P. Malone, Richard B. Roeder, and William Lang, *Montana: A History of Two Centuries*, Revised edition (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1991), 280.

<sup>11</sup> Krys Holmes, Dave Walter, and Susan C. Dailey, *Montana: Stories of the Land* (Helena: Montana Historical Society Press, 2008), 355.

<sup>12</sup> Malone, 283.

<sup>13</sup> Malone, 283. Note that there is a discrepancy between Malone's figures and census data provided by the state of Montana.

<sup>14</sup> Gerald D. Nash, *The American West Transformed, The Impact of the Second World War* (Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 1985), 9.

<sup>15</sup> Malone, 292.

<sup>16</sup> Malone, 292.

<sup>17</sup> Malone, 293.

<sup>18</sup> Montana's copper mines supplied manufacturers with the materials needed to supply utility and electrical providers.

<sup>19</sup> Malone, 295.

While Montanans suffered during the Great Depression, they also benefitted from New Deal programs. The 1934 Taylor Grazing Act allowed stockman to lease federal lands for grazing. The Rural Electrification Administration electrified over 3,000 rural farms in Montana. Wheat farmers received benefits and subsidies in the mid-1930s under the auspices of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Over 25,000 young men were employed by the Civilian Conservation Corps, which undertook a range of building, maintenance, and conservation programs in state and national parks and on state and federal lands.<sup>20</sup> Programs that aided other impoverished areas and populations, such as the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, the Public Works Administration (PWA), and the later Works Progress Administration (WPA) (established in 1935) also benefitted Montana.<sup>21</sup>

By spring of 1940, the PWA program was responsible for the construction of 7,230 miles of highway, 1,366 bridges, 201 school buildings, 31 outdoor stadiums, 81 athletic fields, 30 swimming pools, 40 skating rinks, 16 golf courses, 10 ski jumps, and more than 10,000 rural privies in Montana, according to historian Michael Malone. This infusion of infrastructure paved the way for post-war developments and urban expansion.<sup>22</sup> The largest PWA program, however, was the construction of the Fort Peck Dam. This project, jointly managed by the Army Corps of Engineers, employed over 10,500 workers at its peak in 1936.<sup>23</sup>

An additional long-lasting effect of these programs was the increasing dependence of Montana on federal dollars. New Deal programs brought \$381.5 million in aid and another \$142 million in loans to the state.<sup>24</sup> Agencies such as the Unemployment Compensation Commission administered the federally-sponsored programs.<sup>25</sup> After the war, new buildings were constructed on the Helena Capital Complex and throughout the state to house the programs and agencies that continued into the post-war years, including the Department of Labor & Industry Building in Helena and United States Courthouse in Billings.

## World War II

World War II had a dramatic effect on the economy of Montana, as it did on the rest of the country. Particularly in the West, it brought population shifts, prosperity to farmers and ranchers, and a boon to manufacturers and the extractive industries. Farmers and ranchers in Montana benefitted from higher prices and ample rainfall in the early 1940s. Soaring prices for minerals, including copper, coal, and crude oil, revived these extractive industries. The timber industry benefitted as a spin-off from demand in the Pacific Northwest. Large scale timber operations in the Pacific Northwest and Northern Rockies supplied Douglas fir for World War II facilities throughout the country, including military buildings, manufacturing plants, and defense housing.

Unlike the far western states, Montana did not build up its manufacturing sectors during the war, but did see benefits from the infusion of public funds, demand for materials and goods, and growth from military installations. In 1942 what eventually became known as Malmstrom Air Force Base became a primary staging point for Lend-Lease airlift flights to Alaska to supply B-17 bombers to the Russians.<sup>26</sup> The state still lost population, however. Workers moved west to work in manufacturing, as these industries provided higher wages than those available in Montana. The state lost nearly 90,000 people, about 15% of its population, between 1940 and 1943, although overall it gained in

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<sup>20</sup> Malone, 299.

<sup>21</sup> Malone, 299.

<sup>22</sup> Malone, 300.

<sup>23</sup> Malone, 300.

<sup>24</sup> Holmes, 368.

<sup>25</sup> The building that houses this agency, now called the Department of Labor and Industry Walt Sullivan Building, is surveyed as a part of this project.

<sup>26</sup> Malone, 309. Malmstrom Air Force Base would continue to be a factor in the Cold War and beyond, as would other centers that played a role in the Korean and Cold Wars.

population in the decade between 1940 and 1950, due in part to the growth of the military in the state during the war.<sup>27</sup> The military in Montana continued to have a significant presence after World War II, as the Northern Tier states of Montana, North Dakota, Wisconsin and Minnesota were selected for missile defense installations during the Cold War.<sup>28</sup>

### **Post-War Growth**

Like other Western states, the post-war era in Montana's major towns and cities was one of sustained growth. New home building, which occurred primarily in suburban areas, responded to the pent-up demand for housing after nearly three decades of curtailed growth. Along with housing came the need for schools, churches, clinics and similar services, and retail centers. The demand for new facilities was particularly felt by the universities, as they attempted to absorb the large numbers of veterans who pursued a college education under the GI Bill. Montana saw growth in government at all levels at this time as well. While not all cities experienced growth – Butte is an example – a desire to modernize facilities continued to drive demand. Other cities, like Great Falls and Billings, gained dramatically in population.

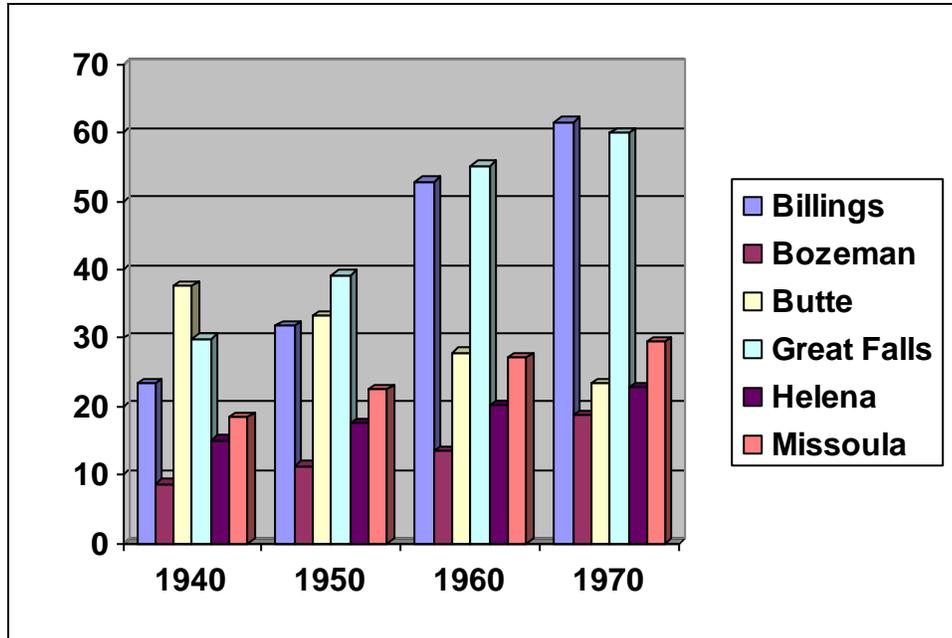
Billings' population grew 73% between 1940 and 1950, and by 1960 had more than twice as many people as in 1940, at the beginning of the war. Bozeman experienced more gradual growth, but nonetheless saw a 65% increase in population over these same two decades. Butte lost population, from 31,700 in 1940 to 27,900 in 1960, due primarily to the decline of the mining industry. Great Falls grew at a similar rate as Billings, seeing an increase of 76% between 1940 and 1950, and an increase of 71% between 1950 and 1960. Helena, like Bozeman, saw a more gradual increase of 75% over the two decades between 1940 and 1960. Missoula, another college town, saw an increase of 68% over two decades.

While Montana differed from many of the western states in population and economic trends before World War II, it experienced similar growth after the war as veterans returned and post-war prosperity gradually gained hold in several of Montana's major cities. With growth came a demand for buildings, particularly educational and government buildings, as documented in this survey.

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<sup>27</sup> Malone, 311. 57,000 Montanans also served in the military during the war. More than 1,500 died.

<sup>28</sup> "History," Malmstrom Air Force Base, accessed July 2010,  
<http://www.malmstrom.af.mil/library/history/malmstromhistory.asp>.



**Figure 3: Population growth and decline in major Montana cities, 1940 to 1970**

Source: <http://www.populstat.info/>, accessed July 2010

Trends in the post-war era affected the types of jobs available to Montanans, changed the face of Montana cities, and influenced how Montanans traveled. Increasing mechanization in agriculture and industry slowed job growth in these sectors. At the same time, however, technological advances spurred growth in the oil and energy industries. Government continued to be a source of jobs, particularly in the areas of natural resource management, environmental regulation, and social and health services.<sup>29</sup>

The decline of the railroads and rise of trucking to move products affected how cities were configured. Following national trends, industry in Montana's cities tended to move away from the traditional centers that developed around rail stations and into outlying suburban areas. The completion of the interstates through Montana in the late 1950s also affected where and how growth was accommodated, and therefore how the post-World War II city functioned. The interstates also supported tourism in Montana, bolstering Montana's reputation as a travel destination. New buildings types and expressions developed to cater to this trade.<sup>30</sup> All these trends influenced the building types and architectural expressions that represent the post-war era in Montana.

<sup>29</sup> Montana State Historic Preservation Office, *Preserve Montana: The Montana Historic Preservation Plan, 2008-2012*, December 2007, 25.

<sup>30</sup> Holmes, 413.



## CHAPTER 4 - ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

This chapter provides a brief background on the genesis of modern architecture and the development of modern architectural styles and building types in Montana. The construction of several important modern structures in Montana formally introduced the state to Modernism in the late 1940s, though interest in modern design philosophies blossomed earlier.

### **Brief Overview of Modernism**

The term “Modernism” refers to several architectural trends that took place in the mid-twentieth century, sometimes in combination, that embraced functionalism and rationalism, a new aesthetic sense that did not rely on historical precedent, and new materials and building methods. What we now call Modern architecture was introduced on the west coast of the United States through the work of architects Rudolf Schindler and Richard Neutra in Los Angeles in the early 1920s and the work of California architect William W. Wurster in the San Francisco Bay Area in the late 1920s. In the Pacific Northwest, Seattle architect Paul Thiry, originally from Alaska, is often credited with introducing modernism to the Puget Sound area in the mid-1930s. During this period, Pietro Belluschi, an Italian, and John Yeon, from an established Portland family, experimented in the Portland area with what is now identified as the Northwest Regional Style. These architects focused largely on residential design.

What is widely considered the first modern skyscraper, the PSFS Building by Howe & Lescaze, was constructed in Philadelphia from 1929 to 1932.<sup>31</sup> The new Museum of Modern Art’s 1932 show, the *International Exhibition of Modern Architecture*, curated by Henry-Russell Hitchcock Jr. and Philip Johnson, introduced the American public to Modernism. In addition to publishing a catalogue and a related book entitled *The International Style*, the museum sent traveling exhibits from the show throughout the United States, where it was staged in galleries, at universities, and most importantly, in department stores.

Modern architecture had its genesis in Europe between the world wars, as countries whose housing stock had been decimated sought to rebuild in ways that addressed contemporary needs. Architects and planners from the continent looked to England, as that country had renewed its building stock to house workmen earlier in the century in the wake of the Industrial Revolution. At the same time, new standards were sought for industry that rejected outmoded historicist styles and decorative detailing. These influences came together in the teachings of the Bauhaus school in Germany, established in 1919. The Bauhaus School became a widely recognized center for modern architecture, planning and design as its underlying philosophies were disseminated throughout Europe and the United States.

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<sup>31</sup> Note that Pietro Belluschi’s ground-breaking Equitable Building in Portland was constructed 1944-1948, the first post-war curtain wall structure.

European architects began to immigrate to the United States in the early part of the century. Several architects came to the United States to work for Frank Lloyd Wright after his work was introduced in Europe in 1910 and 1911. These designers included the Austrian architects Rudolf Schindler and Richard Neutra and Czechoslovakian architect Antonin Raymond, who introduced Paul Thiry to many of the European modernists in the early 1930s.<sup>32</sup> Between the world wars the immigration continued, reaching a peak during the political difficulties that lead to the outbreak of World War II in Europe in 1939. This was presaged by the closure of the progressive Bauhaus school in Germany in 1933, in response to Nazi pressure. Modernism's influence in the United States grew as European leaders in the Modern Movement took important positions in some of this country's most influential architecture schools, museums, and other institutions.

European immigration distinctly influenced American Modernism. Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Director of the Bauhaus from 1930 to 1933 came to the United States in 1937, taking a teaching position at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) (then the Armour Institute). He served as the director of the architecture program from 1938 to 1958.<sup>33</sup> Museum of Modern Art held a retrospective of his work in 1947, which featured an accompanying book by Philip Johnson. Mies van der Rohe's 1939 commission to design the campus at IIT and its buildings transformed modern campus design in the United States. To this day, buildings that display walls of glass articulated with a regular rhythm of an expressed structure are referred to as "Miesian." The influence of this campus design can be seen in Montana's University of Great Falls campus.



*Metallurgy and Chemical Engineering Building, IIT, Mies van der Rohe, 1942-46 Source: A Concise History of American Architecture*

<sup>32</sup> Kurt G. F. Helfrich and William Whitaker, eds., *Crafting a Modern World: The Architecture of and Design of Antonin and Noemi Raymond*, (Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton Architectural Press, 2006), 270.

<sup>33</sup> Magdalena Droste, *Bauhaus*, (Koln, Germany: Taschen, 2006), 248.

Walter Gropius, director of the Bauhaus from 1919 to 1928, took a position at Harvard in 1937, serving under Dean Joseph Hudnut. He was named the head of the architecture department in 1938.<sup>34</sup> At the same time, he established a partnership with Marcel Breuer, who studied and taught at the Bauhaus under his direction. The partnership constituted the first of three influential practices with which Gropius associated in Cambridge. In addition to his built works, Gropius' writings about the Bauhaus school and its philosophies, including *The New Architecture and the Bauhaus* (1955) and *The Scope of Total Architecture* (1956), were highly influential.



*Bauhaus Dessau by Walter Gropius, 1926*  
Source: *Twentieth Century Architecture: A Visual History*

The Swiss architect Le Corbusier is generally considered the third member of the European triumvirate that had a defining influence on modern architecture in the twentieth century. While he never lived in the United States and had no significant commissions in this country, nonetheless he was highly influential through his writings, lectures, entries to architectural competitions, and published works. Among his most well-known writings, widely available to American architects, was *Towards a New Architecture*, first published in English in 1931.<sup>35</sup>

The influence of Modernism in the post-war period broadened through the media, including professional periodicals, the popular press, newspapers and books. Exhibits, including museum, university, and department store exhibits, and their accompanying catalogues also exposed professionals and the public to Modernism. Model homes were a very popular way of introducing modern ideas and modern architecture to the public. Lectures and symposiums, aimed at professionals and/or the public, also spread the word. Even the new medium of television got into the act when architect Frank Lloyd Wright appeared on the television program "What's My Line?"

Modern architecture gained hold and became the primary architectural style and expression in Montana after World War II, as it did throughout the country. Periodicals, lectures and symposia made ideas about Modern architecture accessible to Montana architects who were interested in exploring the new ideas, materials and construction methods. Some structures built after the war,

<sup>34</sup> Droste, 245.

<sup>35</sup> The English translation was first published by John Rodker of London, based on the thirteenth French edition.

such as John G. Link's 1953 Petroleum Building on the Montana Tech campus, continued in pre-war styles. For the most part, though, Modern architecture prevailed, and buildings such as Link's 1950 International Style Central Girls High School were as ground-breaking in appearance as any modern building constructed in the West at this time. This era is as important as any other in the preservation of Montana's architectural legacy.

### **The Survey - Location and Setting**

The survey area for the Montana Post-World War II Architectural Survey and Inventory encompassed much of the state. Specifically, survey subjects were located in Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Lewistown and Warm Springs. Most properties were located within an urban setting, whether in the larger cities or smaller towns. Many were also located within a campus setting, not only at universities, but also the state capital campus and the Montana State Hospital campus at Warm Springs. The subject properties represent a cross section of post-World War II architectural styles, building types, and development models, focusing on institutional, commercial, and industrial uses, with one multi-unit residential property.

In general, properties selected for the survey are characterized as follows. Twenty-six are government properties, encompassing industrial properties, two hospital buildings, and office buildings, including academic office and classroom buildings. Seven are elementary or high schools. Eleven university buildings are the private structures of the University of Great Falls. Five are commercial office buildings. Three are associated with transportation, whether public or private. There are four designed in early or pre-modern styles. Three represent the post-war finger plan concept in elementary school design. Two buildings are designed in the International Style. The majority of buildings are curtain wall structures. One is a classic post-and-beam structure; another building designed in the Northwest Regional Style has been heavily altered. Two represent the Gogole style. And several are experimental buildings, utilizing new materials and construction methods that became popular after World War II.

### **Modern Architectural Styles and Building Types**

Like architectural styles and building types from other historic eras, mid-century modern buildings can be characterized by their style, by their building form, and/or by their construction method. An example of a Modern style is the International Style, a name coined by Henry-Russell Hitchcock Jr. to identify an architectural style that emerged between the world wars in Europe characterized by simple forms and a lack of decorative detail.<sup>36</sup> The 1950 Central Girls High School in Butte, surveyed as part of this study, exhibits the International Style. Modern residences described as "A-Frame" or "Shed Style" provide examples of building identification by form. The hyperbolic paraboloid MSU-Northern Armory Gymnasium, described in this survey, is characterized best by its form.

One modern building type identified by its construction method is the modern "Curtain Wall" structure. Curtain wall refers to buildings that have an alternative means of support, allowing the exterior skin of the building to be non-structural and clad in glass and thin panels of various materials. There are numerous examples of this type of construction in the survey area; the most outstanding is the University of Great Falls campus, in which almost every structure exhibits curtain wall design.

All styles are "Modern," in the sense that they date from the modern era, generally defined as beginning in the late 1920s and early 1930s and extending through the 1970s, although the modern era in the United States is most closely associated with the two decades following World War II. During this period, the popularity of modern architecture in the United States coincided with post-war growth and the concomitant expansion of cities and towns, and came to characterize the post-war era.

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<sup>36</sup> Note that whether the International Style was a style at all was the subject of contention at the time.

The over-arching label of “Modern,” although imprecise, can be generally characterized by buildings exhibiting simple volumes (in institutional and commercial buildings) and a lack of decorative detail. Additional characteristics include a use of materials in place of decorative detail, and the use of natural colors and textures of materials to embellish a building. An example is employing brick or concrete (in the case of Brutalist architecture) for decorative effect. The modern era was also a time, however, when new materials and construction methods were explored. An example is curtain wall construction, which utilizes aluminum frames for window walls in place of steel, and new material combinations in the solid spandrel panels that separate them. Additional examples include the thin shell concrete construction of the Physical Education Building at MSU-Billings; the folded plate construction of the Alberton High School; and the hyperbolic paraboloid of the MSU-Northern Armory Gymnasium.

Post-and-beam construction was popular in the post-war era for residential and small-scale commercial and institutional uses, particularly on the west coast where wood was readily available. Post-and-beam construction is characterized by an interior structure that allows the exterior walls to admit the maximum amount of light where desired. The difference in post-war post-and-beam construction is that it employs innovations in manufactured wood products, some of which came into use during the war. After the war, this inexpensive construction method used laminated beams in place of solid wood beams and plywood, which became increasingly popular for a wide variety of uses after the war.<sup>37</sup> It was used for both interior finishes and exterior siding. An example of the use of plywood for decorative effect in this survey is the Student Union Building at MSU-Billings.

### **Montana’s Mid-Century Styles**

The following discussion describes the architectural styles and building types that characterize the buildings surveyed for this study, identifies their character-defining features, and provides examples of the styles from the survey and throughout the state of Montana. This discussion will help Montana agencies, historical societies, and private property owners evaluate the significance of their mid-century modern buildings and assist them in determining the significance of a building in its respective community.

The architectural styles that will be discussed are:<sup>38</sup>

#### **Pre-modern or early Modern styles**

- Streamline Moderne
- PWA Moderne or Stripped Classical

#### **Modern styles**

- International Style
- Modern
- Googie
- Neo-Expressionism, and
- New Formalism
- Modern architecture primarily characterized by its construction method, form and/or materials is discussed under “Materials and Methods,” and includes curtain wall construction, folded plate construction, and thin shell concrete construction.

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<sup>37</sup> Note that one reason for its popularity after the war is that resins had been developed to make the material waterproof.

<sup>38</sup> Note that Brutalism will not be discussed, as no buildings in this style were found in the survey area.

***Streamline Moderne.*** The Streamline Moderne style, also called Art Moderne, Modernistic, and Depression Moderne, reached its zenith in the 1930s and was particularly popular for commercial buildings, although many residences were built in the style as well. It followed on the more angular and decidedly decorative Art Deco style of the 1920s. The Streamline Moderne style is characterized by more curvilinear applied decorative motifs. Important characteristics are the cubic forms seen in the style, and streamline styling employed to evoke a sense of movement.

Streamline Moderne styling drew inspiration from and reflected the nascent Industrial Design profession, and was incorporated in the design of everything from automobiles to toasters. Curved, even aerodynamic, forms enclosed the product, often accented with horizontal ‘racing’ lines. This denotes movement and speed, characteristics of the modern age. Correspondingly, buildings that were popular applications for the Streamline Moderne style include those associated with transportation, including car dealerships, bus stations, and airports. Examples in this survey include the Bennett Automobile Dealership in Great Falls and the Great Falls Bus Station. Originally a movie theater, the Cloyd Funeral Home in Lewistown also exhibits this style, as do the Club Moderne in Anaconda; the Billings Bus Station; and the Great Falls Airport (no longer extant).

The Streamline Moderne style can be seen as late as the 1950s. It was quite common to renovate a storefront in the new style, with ‘new’ materials such as structural glass, steel and aluminum, and neon signage. An example is the M&M building in Butte.

**Character-defining features.** Character-defining features that may occur on a Streamline Moderne building include:

- Asymmetrical, cubic massing with some curvilinear or rounded forms
- Flat roofs and parapets
- Features such as portholes and horizontal rails (reminiscent of boats)
- Use of glass brick or block and corner windows
- Use of horizontal banding and similar accents



*Billings Greyhound Station (historic postcard)*



*Club Moderne, Anaconda*



*Greyhound Bus Depot and Garage, Great Falls*

**PWA Moderne.** The PWA Moderne style, also called “Stripped Classical,” was a term coined by architectural historian David Gebhard to describe the mostly civic and public architecture that characterized the Depression years. The style is seen in commercial and industrial buildings as well, however, mostly constructed from 1928 to 1941, but also found through the early 1950s. The style is characterized as follows: “These buildings were fundamentally classical and formal, with just enough Moderne detailing injected to convey a contemporary feeling as well as the traditional authority of the Classical.”<sup>39</sup> The style is characterized by a formal symmetry, often with hierarchical massing, limited decorative details, and an austere use of fine materials. An excellent example of the style in Montana is the 1953 Petroleum Building on the Montana Tech campus in Butte.

Character-defining features. Character-defining features that may occur on a PWA Moderne building include:

- Symmetrical, cubic massing with a hierarchal form
- Flat roofs and parapets
- Formal entries, emphasized by wide surrounds or vertical towers
- Symmetrical fenestration
- Limited use of horizontal or vertical decorative banding to accentuate building features
- Use of fine cladding materials such as terra cotta to emphasize important features
- Smooth surfaces on the body of the building, sometimes accented by pilasters or bas relief sculpture



*Petroleum Building, Montana Tech University, Butte*

<sup>39</sup> David Gebhard, Eric Sandweiss, and Robert Winter, *The Guide to Architecture in San Francisco and Northern California*, Revised edition, (Salt Lake City: Gibbs-Smith Publisher, 1985), 578.

***International Style.*** The International Style, a term coined by architectural historian Henry-Russell Hitchcock Jr. in the early 1930s, describes an architectural style that emerged in Europe between the World Wars and coalesced in the United States in the early 1930s due to the efforts of Hitchcock and Philip Johnson to codify and attribute the elements of a style to the emerging architectural forms and characteristics. While the European architects experimented with new forms and expressions for a new post-industrial age, east coast American architects and architectural historians described what they interpreted as stylistic features of the architecture, often without the accompanying social reforms advocated by their European counterparts. Today, the term International Style refers to these early experiments in Europe and their later interpretations in American architecture.

The International Style reinterpreted traditional forms to reflect a new age, new uses, and often a functional interpretation of architectural requirements, particularly with respect to the architectural plan. Roofs were flat, as gabled roofs were considered an unnecessary embellishment. Decorative details were abolished, as they were considered superfluous. Windows were ganged, to emit plentiful light. Buildings were sited at grade, eliminating the traditional sequential approach to a building. Alternatively the first floor might be raised one story above the grade, creating a podium above which the building rose. Essentially all traditional building features were reversed.

The International Style is summarized as follows:

*The International Style is characterized by large, rectilinear forms, the complete absence of ornamentation, smooth wall surfaces, expansive banded windows, flat roofs, and cantilevered building extensions. A skeletal construction of steel or reinforced concrete is typical with an emphasis on horizontality. The International Style originated in Europe in the 1920s and remained popular into the 1970s.<sup>40</sup>*

In Montana, an excellent example of the International Style in a low scale, horizontally-oriented building is the Central Girls High School in Butte. This building, with its largely smooth, planar surfaces, ribbon windows with plain, enframing surrounds, and simple decorative features, embodies the International Style as interpreted in brick and concrete. A good example of the International Style in a high-rise building is Aber Hall at the University of Montana in Missoula. Another good example is the Country Club Towers in Great Falls. Although the windows in this building are not the ribbon windows of a classic International Style building, the horizontal emphasis of the other building features carry the typical horizontal lines of an International Style building, a counterpoint to its overall vertical form.

**Character-defining features.** Character-defining features of an International Style building include:

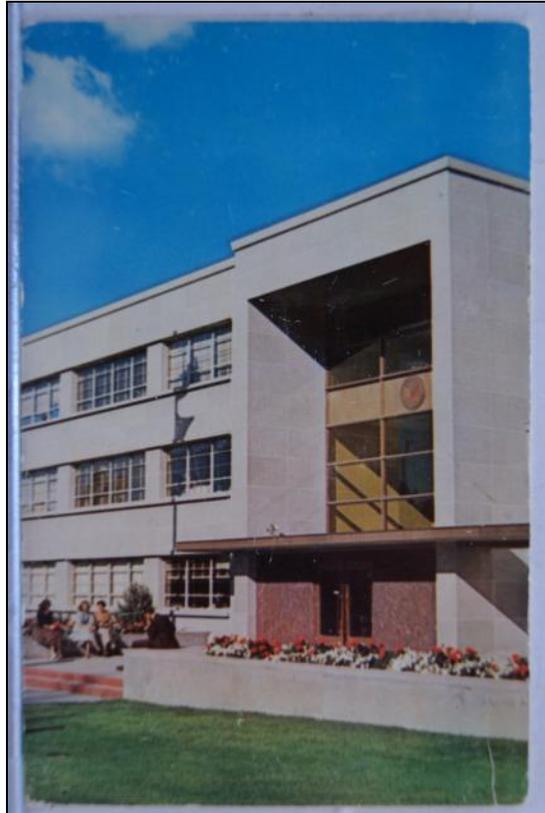
- Simple, often asymmetrical massing
- Flat roofs
- Lack of decorative detail, or simple decorative detail that articulates a significant aspect of the building
- Use of natural materials and textures in place of decorative detail *or*
- Use of new, experimental materials in place of traditional materials and construction methods
- Ribbon windows or windows with a strong horizontal emphasis
- Smooth planar surfaces and finishes

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<sup>40</sup> Robinson & Associates, "Modernism in Washington," Brochure, (Washington, D.C.: The District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office, 2009).



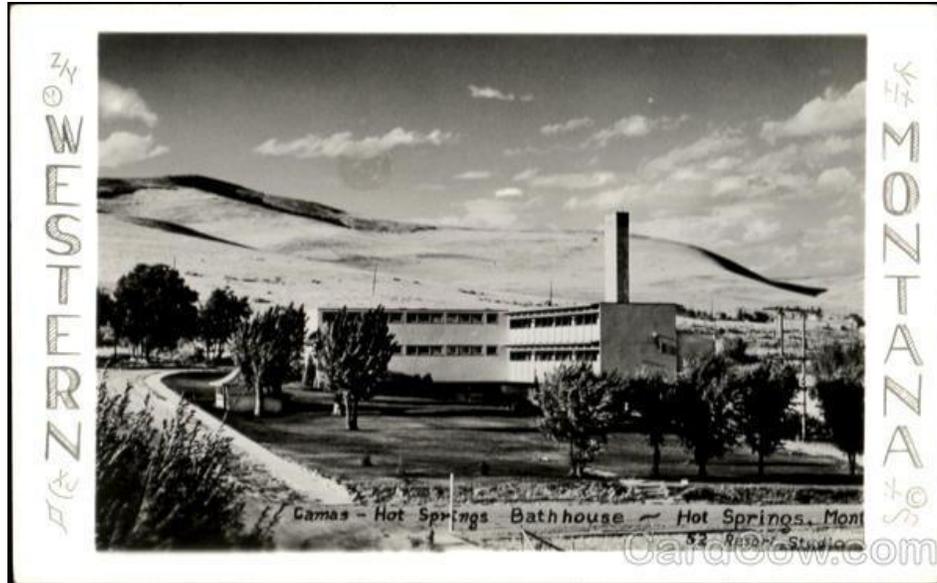
*Aber Hall, MSU – Missoula*



*Montana Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building  
(historical view)*



*Central Girls High School, Butte*



*Camas Hot Springs, Hot Springs (historical view)*

**Modern.** There are several important ideas about contemporary commercial and institutional design in the post-war era that fall under the general classification of “Modern.” These qualities are found in many post-war structures, regardless of style, and reflect the underlying values of Modernism. One is the three-dimensional arrangement of forms as part of the architectural expression of the building. Another idea is the importance of the two dimensional composition on any one surface as a design feature. This composition is typically asymmetrical and does not, as in traditional architecture, serve primarily to emphasize the building form. Rather, it is another design feature that may express the interior functions of the building. As an aesthetic device, it can also facilitate a three-dimensional ‘reading’ of the building form, much like the flat surface of a cubist painting describes to the viewer how to read the three-dimensional form of the object portrayed in the painting.



*Receiving Hospital at Montana State Hospital, Warm Springs*

A third 'Modern' idea is that the pattern, texture, color, reflectivity, and other visual aspects of the building materials are also decorative features. As in many modern styles, they take the place of traditional architectural detailing to embellish the building. The juxtaposition of polished granite and dull, smooth brick, the repetition of simple metal frames and pattern of small ceramic tiles, and the tinted glass and colored metal panels are the 'decoration.' They express or represent the building's function, its structure, and its aesthetic appearance, and speak to the new possibilities in materials and construction in the post-war era. An example from this survey is the Western Life Insurance Company building at 560 N. Park Avenue in Helena, and the Walt Sullivan Building on the Capital Complex grounds in Helena.<sup>41</sup>



*Walt Sullivan building, Helena*



*American Building and Loan building, Helena*

<sup>41</sup> Note that both of these buildings also display curtain walls.

**Googie.** Googie architecture, so-called after the Googie coffee shop in Los Angeles designed by John Lautner and also called Roadside Architecture, is known for its eye catching forms and signs suitable for viewing at the speed of automobile travel. It is a vernacular style that emerged in the 1930s in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and other tourist venues around the country that catered to automobile travelers. The buildings influenced the form of development as well, particularly along commercial corridors and highways throughout the country.

As defined by architectural critic Douglas Haskell, a Googie building has an abstracted appearance; often seems to ‘float’ above the ground without the sense of gravity (in both senses of the word) of ordinary buildings; and displays modern materials and often a mix of structural systems.<sup>42</sup> Car dealerships, being by definition automobile oriented, often borrowed this style for their showrooms, to create a dramatic backdrop for their merchandise.

A good example of Googie architecture in this survey is the Cooley Chevrolet showroom in Lewistown. The evidence of Googie architecture influence on this building includes the canted windows (as originally designed and constructed) and the expressive canopy over the street. Canted windows that lean into the street at the upper edge became popular in the 1950s as a way of reducing glare on large, plate glass windows, allowing the interiors of a shop to be more visible. This building originally had lights under the deep eaves that lit the sidewalk and lent a floating appearance to the building at night.<sup>43</sup>

Another example of Googie architecture in this survey is the Billion Dealership in Bozeman. The main character-defining feature in the Billion Dealership building is the building form, which is certainly noticeable from what was an early commercial corridor on the outskirts of Bozeman. When the building had its original full-height, plate glass windows and was lit from the interior, it no doubt presented a very otherworldly appearance as viewed from the road. Additional examples of Googie or Roadside Architecture in the study area include Ford’s Drive-In in Great Falls and the Dash-Inn in Lewistown.

Character-defining features. Character-defining features that may occur in a Googie building include:

- Simple building forms overshadowed by a dominate, typically neon, sign *or*
- An unusual, eccentric building shape, often accented by neon
- Use of humor and visual gags
- Extensive use of glass, often canted glass, revealing well-lit interiors
- Features that facilitate access by automobile, such as may be seen at a drive-in restaurant

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<sup>42</sup> Alan Hess, *Googie Redux – Ultramodern Roadside Architecture*, (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1985), 68.

<sup>43</sup> Interview with Bill Cowen, January 17, 2010. The building also had heaters under the eaves that kept the sidewalk area warm in the winter.



*Billion Dealership, Bozeman*



*Gas station, Great Falls*

***Neo-Expressionism.*** The Receiving Hospital at Warm Springs (1957-59) is the one property in this survey that has expressionistic details, evident in the projecting canopies marking entrances and other features denoting interior functions. Another example, not in the survey but in the study area, is the Music Building on the MSU-Missoula campus (ca. 1953), whose building form reflects the uses and function of that building, culminating in a large curved form that defines one side of an internal recital hall. The style is defined as follows:

*Expressionism is identified by sweeping, curved wall surfaces and rooflines, bold use of geometric forms often with faceted, concave or convex surfaces and arched or vaulted spaces. The style is also referred to as Neo-Expressionism and became popular in the United States in the mid-1950s.<sup>44</sup>*

**Character-defining features.** Character-defining features that may be seen on a Neo-Expressionistic structure include:

- Building forms include curved elements or may be expressed curved forms
- Building articulations that are subservient to the overall form of the building
- Expression of interior functions or a representation of interior functions in the building form



*Music Building, The University of Montana - Missoula*



*Receiving Hospital, Warm Springs (detail)*

<sup>44</sup> Robinson & Associates, "Modernism in Washington."

***New Formalism.*** New Formalism is a style not included in this survey because it generally occurred later than the Period of Significance.<sup>45</sup> However, there are two examples among the survey subjects: a theater added to West High School in Billings (1962), and the McLaughlin Center at the University of Great Falls (1965). A discussion of this style is included here because it is an important Modern style and there are a number of excellent examples of New Formalism in Montana. These buildings should be included in a future survey, as these buildings ‘come of age.’

New Formalism is the name given to an architectural style that emerged in the 1960s and is most often seen in public or civic and commercial architecture. New Formalism, also called Neo-Formalism, applies the formal geometries of classicism in new forms, materials, and decorative expressions. Buildings designed in this style often display simple volumes on a raised base, one story or more in height. Formal rhythms are applied with colonnades and pilasters. Alternatively, applied decoration may be seen in the form of patterned screens or grills. Either form may incorporate geometries that express an overall pattern, akin to an egg crate. The plastic qualities of concrete are often expressed.

Character-defining features.

- Simple building forms with flat roofs, often raised on pilotis or an enclosed, recessed base
- Regular geometric rhythms seen in colonnades, overall geometric patterning, or other features recalling the symmetry of classicism
- Extensive use of modeled surfaces, exploiting the plastic qualities of concrete
- Geometric features that accentuate the roofline in place of a traditional cornice
- Symmetrical fenestration that is secondary to the overall form and expression of the building



*United States Courthouse, Billings*

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<sup>45</sup> Note that both of these buildings were added to campuses that were developed earlier, in 1958 and 1959-60 respectively.



*Clapp Building, The University of Montana - Missoula*

### **Materials and Methods**

Modern architecture that is characterized by its construction method and discussed here includes curtain wall construction. While other buildings are noted for their experiments in building methods, such as the thin shell concrete roof at the Physical Education Building at Montana State University in Billings and the radial folded plate roof of the high school in Alberton, these buildings are not referred to by their construction name, unlike curtain wall.



*Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, MSU – Bozeman (historical view)*

**Curtain wall construction.** Curtain wall construction combined masonry and/or steel frame construction at mid-century to create the “quintessential symbol of post-World War II modern architecture.”<sup>46</sup> Curtain wall construction is easily recognizable and readily associated with commercial and institutional building types at mid-century. In addition to being identified with its typical stylistic treatment, curtain wall construction refers to the material itself, its manufacture, installation, and the construction methods with which it is associated.<sup>47</sup>

Separating the structural system of a building from its window wall was attractive to building designers and owners because it created more light on building interiors and allowed for more flexibility in the use of interior spaces. The larger glazed areas in curtain wall construction, which allowed for natural light in interior work spaces, was made possible by new methods of manufacturing glass and made practical by widespread use of air conditioning after World War II. Improvements in sealants and insulation materials also made this form of design and construction practical.

The metal most commonly associated with mid-century curtain wall construction is aluminum, which replaced steel in the post-war era as the material of choice for this application. Aluminum framing for curtain wall construction is extruded and can, as a result, take on any cross sectional shape.<sup>48</sup> Aluminum was readily available and inexpensive after World War II, as the output of the nation’s aluminum plants was adapted to civilian purposes.

The use of exterior curtain walls also rationalized the construction process, leading to greater efficiencies in building production. Whether the curtain wall was fabricated primarily on site or prefabricated in large panels, the metal components were produced at the factory, leading to labor savings on site. The material is also lighter than traditional masonry, allowing for easier handling and reduced shipping costs.

A number of materials are used for the spandrel panels under the windows, but the most popular are metal or glass. Glass panels were manufactured under the names Spandrelite and Vitrolux, and came in eight and sixteen colors, respectively. Porcelain enamel on steel, which can also be manufactured in a numerous colors, is a popular material and finish for spandrel panels. Aluminum and stainless steel are also used.

As the post-war decades progressed, additional materials such as thin stone veneer, precast concrete, prefabricated brick masonry panels, as well as new generations of glazed products became popular, in addition to the glass, aluminum and brick veneer of the immediate post-war era.<sup>49</sup> The dark color and metallic surface of the aluminum panels for the Union Bank and Trust Company building in Helena with its dark-colored anodized aluminum frame, seems to have been favored by corporate clients in the late 1950s through the 1960s, whereas pastels, particularly blue and green, seem to have been favored in the early-to-mid 1950s.

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<sup>46</sup> Theodore H. M. Prudon, *Preservation of Modern Architecture*. (Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2008), 107.

<sup>47</sup> Prudon, 107.

<sup>48</sup> Bruce S. Kaskel, “The Metal and Glass Curtain Wall,” *Cultural Resource Management*, Preserving the Recent Past, Volume 18, No. 8, 1995, 24.

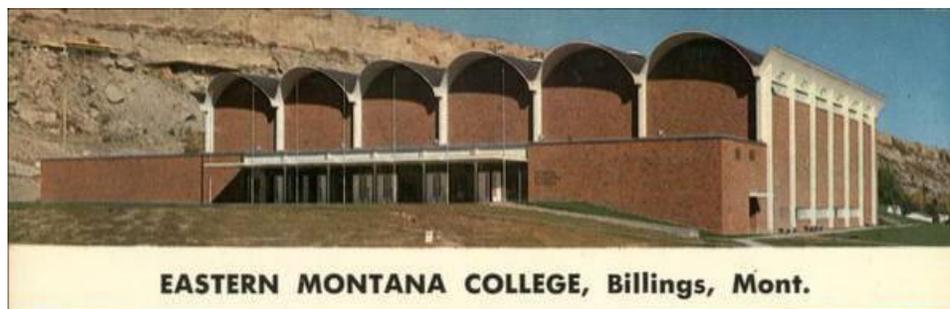
<sup>49</sup> Kelley, 1995:15.



*Western Life Insurance building, Helena (historical view)*

**Lift slab construction.** Lift slab construction was developed in the early 1950s as an economical concrete construction method. It involves casting the concrete floor and roof slabs of a multi-story building on the ground and lifting or jacking them into place. “Bond breaking compounds” are applied between the slabs. Once the concrete slabs have cured, they are lifted into place by hydraulic jacks.<sup>50</sup> In some cases, walls were also lifted into place in conjunction with the slab. The University of Great Falls curtain wall structures utilize lift slab construction.

**Thin-shell concrete construction.** Thin-shell concrete construction was developed as a way to economically span large spaces without columns or other internal supports. It was developed in the 1920s and 1930s in Europe, but not widely utilized in the United States until the 1960s and 1970s.<sup>51</sup> It is defined as follows, “A thin-shell concrete structure is a reinforced-concrete structure whose geometry is optimized to develop membrane forces for the support of the structure against gravity.”<sup>52</sup> It utilizes both compression and tension, the latter resisted by steel reinforcing. This method of construction, particularly popular for its expressive capabilities, can be seen in the Physical Education Building at Montana State University at Billings.



*Physical Education Building, MSU – Billings (historical view)*

<sup>50</sup> Frank A. Randall, Jr., “New Developments in Lift Slab Construction,” The Aberdeen Group, 1986.

<sup>51</sup> Thomas E. Boothby, M. Kevin Parfitt, and Charlene K. Roise, “Case Studies in Diagnosis and Repair of Historic Thin-Shell Concrete Structures,” *APT Bulletin*, Vol. 36, No. 2/3, 2005, 3.

<sup>52</sup> Boothby, 3.

**Concrete folded plate construction** is used for the same purpose as thin-shell concrete construction, to span large spaces without intermediate supports.<sup>53</sup> Folded plate construction can be linear or radial in the design of the ‘folds,’ such as seen at Alberton High School. ‘Folds’ are generally pre-cast in “V” or “W” shapes. As a result of their shapes, they are stiffer and lighter than conventional construction.



*Alberton High School, Alberton*

### **New Building Forms at Mid-Century**

Building forms also went through transformations at mid-century. Discussed here are elementary schools, which benefited at mid-century from new research on children and learning. Another mid-century transformation is modern campus planning. Campus planning was being reconsidered at mid-century, partly in response to nation-wide competitions staged at the time, which transformed the modern campus.<sup>54</sup> These ideas are evident in other types of campuses, including government complexes and hospitals.

**Post-war elementary schools.** Population growth in the post-war era, particularly in the western United States, created a tremendous demand for new schools. Growth in the West was due in part to western migrations during the war, when newcomers were stationed at military installations and worked in defense industries. In addition to immigrants who stayed and made their home in the West, population growth was due to the post-war baby boom. In the country as a whole, enrollment in elementary and secondary schools rose from 25.1 million in 1949-50 to 35.1 million in 1959-60.<sup>55</sup> The West, including the states of Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, and New Mexico, received a large proportion of this growth.

<sup>53</sup> Charles Bryan Wilby, *Concrete Folded Plate Roofs*, (Amsterdam: Elsevier Butterworth-Heinemann, 2005), xii.

<sup>54</sup> For further information see James D. Kornwolf, *Modernism in America 1937-1941, A Catalogue and Exhibition of Four Architectural Competitions*, (Williamsburg, Virginia: Joseph and Margaret Muscarelle Museum of Art, College of William and Mary, 1985).

<sup>55</sup> Ogata, 2008:562.

Many schools were built after the war to meet this demand. The design of modern schools was based on experiments undertaken in the 1930s and 1940s and reflects changes in educational philosophy and correspondingly, in architectural design. In contrast to the pre-war, multi-story brick school building, the post-war school is typically one story with expansive windows and direct access to the outdoors.<sup>56</sup> This reflects an emphasis on adequate natural light and fresh air. Additionally, small post-war schools were often placed within neighborhoods to be friendlier to young students and allow for walking access.

The National Council on Schoolhouse Construction published its “Guide for Planning School Plants” in 1946. This document emphasized the importance of flexibility in designing school interiors, which the Council considered more child-oriented and less authoritarian than the historical school model, where desks and chairs are fastened to the floor. The structural design of the modern school is more flexible in the sense that the linear arrangement allows the school to, theoretically, be expanded at any time.

Adequate, indirect light sources were considered important in combating glare and thus fatigue. Research published by Darell Boyd Harmon of Texas on lighting in the mid-1940s led to new standards for lighting, color, and the surfaces of furniture: “Harmon’s experiments built upon wartime studies of light and color to increase morale and to decrease fatigue, but in addressing effects on children, he opened up new questions for architects, school planners, and furniture designers, and gave lighting an expanded role in the determination of form.”<sup>57</sup> His work continued to influence school design throughout the post-war years.

Modern schools were designed to be more responsive to the natural environment. An emphasis was also placed on being sensitive to the psychological needs of the student. Well-lit spaces and cross ventilation were considered important, and ceiling heights were lowered to create a greater sense of intimacy for the young student. Indirect lighting that fell on the front of the classroom was considered a better response than the traditional design, which raked light across the desks from a 90-degree angle. The colors and reflectivity of interior surfaces and furnishings were important in achieving design goals, as were clerestory windows and expansive window walls with operable lights.

Architects interpreted these ideas through the new “finger plan.” The popular finger plan is attributed to architect Ernest J. Kump of California, who trained at Harvard under Walter Gropius. Kump developed the finger plan model in the late 1930s, when in partnership with C. H. Franklin of Fresno. Their Acalanes High School and Exeter High School, both in California, brought early recognition to the educational work of the firm. Their educational work gained national attention when the Museum of Modern Art selected their designs for Fresno City Hall (1941) and Acalanes Union High School (1940-41) as among the most significant American structures built between 1932 and 1944.<sup>58</sup>

In finger plan design, individual buildings are laid out parallel to each other, linked by spines. The main, exterior corridors or spines run one direction, and the classrooms individually open up onto secondary exterior corridors, which run in the opposite direction. As developed in California, the building type responded to environmental concerns, minimizing heat gain with strategically-placed blank walls and offering operable windows on the window walls for ventilation.

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<sup>56</sup> Ogata, 2008:563.

<sup>57</sup> Ogata, 2008:570.

<sup>58</sup> Mock, 1944:76.



*Highland Elementary School, Billings*

Examples of this plan type in Montana include the Webster-Garfield Elementary School in Butte and the Newman and Washington Elementary Schools in Billings. This concern for light and air, as well as doors that open directly onto outdoor areas, however, is not well-adapted to the Montana climate. Windows have been blocked for several of the finger plan buildings in Montana, including the Washington School in Billings. All finger plan buildings in the survey have single-loaded corridors with doors at the end of the hall, rather than doors from individual classrooms to external hallways.

The design of the post-war elementary school campus reflects Modernist ideals and ideas as well, first seen in contemporary city and institutional planning schemes in Europe in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Building forms and relationships recall industrial motifs, appearing to be “extruded” across the landscape. The building forms themselves appear to be “manufactured” in varying lengths. In actuality, the classrooms are the individual units that make up the building form, and the length of the building is determined, in part, by the configuration of the parcel. Another Modernist motif in these campuses is a lack of hierarchy in building forms and spaces. The buildings are equal in width, as are the spaces between them. The buildings are also similarly proportioned as the spaces. Finally, all the buildings are equal or nearly equal in height. This ‘democracy’ between the buildings, and between buildings and spaces, also represents a Modernist ideal.

Innovations in post-war school design became known to local architects through professional publications and national and regional awards programs. They also became known through exhibits, such as the traveling Museum of Modern Art exhibit, “Modern Architecture for the Modern School,” which was shown at universities, museums and community centers. This exhibit illustrated 41 progressive schools from the United States, Europe and Brazil, and traveled throughout the United States from 1942 through 1946.<sup>59</sup> Architects in Montana were able to attend a symposium featuring architect Richard Neutra speaking on modern school design and community and regional planning at the Montana State University at Bozeman in 1949.<sup>60</sup> Modern models for school and campus design continued to be influential from the early 1940s through the late 1950s.

<sup>59</sup> Ogata, 2008:567.

<sup>60</sup> “Neutra to Talk at School Meet,” *The Billings Gazette*, April 10, 1949:10.

**The post-war campus.** The post-war campus differed significantly from its pre-war antecedents primarily in its use of Modern architecture, rather than the historicist revival architectural styles employed before the war. Modern ideas influenced post-war campus planning as well. In Montana, this can be seen most strikingly in the University of Great Falls campus, whose master plan was developed in 1957. The campus exhibits Modern curtain wall structures almost exclusively, designed in the same architectural vocabulary, with minor differences to differentiate the various structures and their purposes. A number of important Modernist ideas are seen in its plan. The following discussion highlights innovations in campus planning at mid-century, followed by a discussion of how these ideas are reflected in the University of Great Falls campus.

Several important architectural competitions, held from 1937 to 1941, influenced post-war campus planning.<sup>61</sup> The number of entrants for these competitions likely reflected in part the lack of architectural work in the late 1930s, but may also have expressed the excitement about new concepts in campus and master planning. Entrants submitted over 800 design schemes for four campuses, three for colleges and one for the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC.<sup>62</sup> According to the authors who chronicled these competitions, “The competitions, the designs solicited, the designs selected, and the accompanying publicity and widespread exhibition of the designs afterwards prophesied the ascendancy of the Modernist over the Traditionalist after World War II . . . .”<sup>63</sup> The Museum of Modern Art publicized the competition results by showing them in 36 or more museums, galleries and universities.<sup>64</sup>

The design for the Illinois Institute of Technology by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, which would become an icon of modern campus planning, began in 1939. Van der Rohe planned both the buildings and the spaces between them using a regular, three-dimensional module that was twenty-four feet by twenty-four feet by twelve feet high.<sup>65</sup> The regularity of this system, its emphasis on spatial qualities, and the planar qualities of the materials and their precise combination, were all characteristics of Modernism as expressed in Henry-Russell Hitchcock Jr. and Philip Johnson’s *The International Style* of 1932.<sup>66</sup>

During World War II, the catalogue *Built in the USA, 1932-1944*, published by the Museum of Modern Art in 1944, commemorated innovations in campus planning. Campus plans recognized in this exhibit and publication include the Crow Island Elementary School Campus in Winnetka, Illinois by Eliel and Eero Saarinen and others (1940); the Acalanes Union High School in Lafayette, California by Franklin & Kump and Associates (1940-41); and the US Merchant Marine Cadet Basic School in San Mateo, California, by Gardner A. Dailey (1942).<sup>67</sup> Additional contributions to the concept of master planning a large site with a complex program included communities and housing for workers, industrial plants, research campuses, such as government campuses, shopping centers, and Mies van der Rohe’s work at IIT. Again, the modern planning concepts in these campus plans were widely published and therefore available to architects and designers.

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<sup>61</sup> Kornwolf, 1985.

<sup>62</sup> Kornwolf, 1985:2.

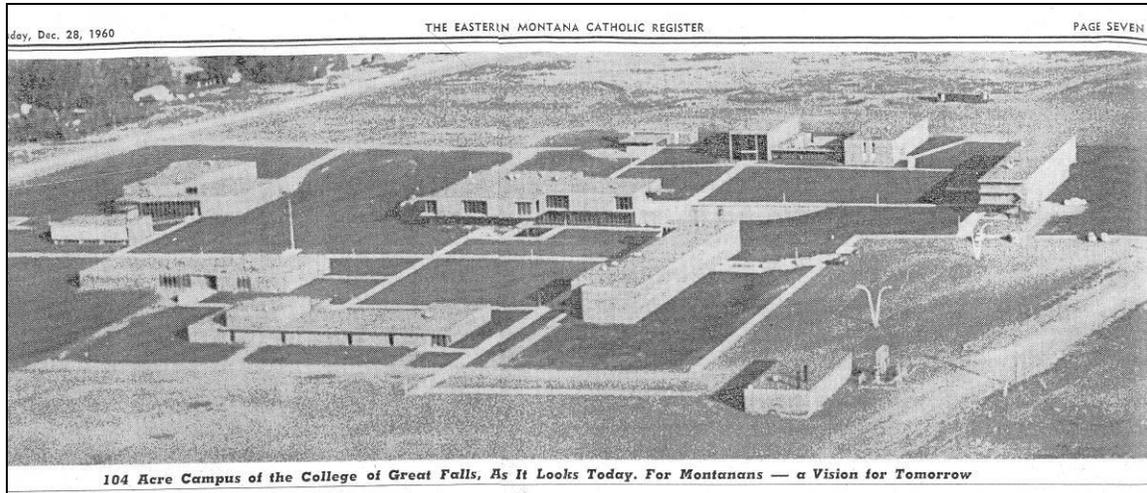
<sup>63</sup> Kornwolf, 1985:3.

<sup>64</sup> Kornwolf, 1985:3.

<sup>65</sup> Roth, 1979:280.

<sup>66</sup> Hitchcock, 1995.

<sup>67</sup> Mock, 1944.



*University of Great Falls, Great Falls*

Architects George C. Page and Vincent S. Werner took advantage of the previously undeveloped landscape in designing the University of Great Falls campus. The architects devised the entire master plan for the property according to Modernist principles. The campus plan displays a strong geometry in an asymmetrical composition, with both buildings and spaces pierced by several axis that extend through the campus. Embodied modern ideas include architecture as volume, with open, flexible interiors; the expression of independent structural supports, seen in cantilevers and projecting screen walls; smooth, planar surfaces, seen in the campus' curtain wall structures; use of an established module to achieve regularity, seen in the curtain wall frames; and use of windows and other openings to express the overall composition, which is typically asymmetrical. All these principles are seen in Hitchcock and Johnson's seminal *The International Style*.

**Additional building types.** The focus of this discussion on mid-century building forms has been on schools and university and other campuses, as these types were heavily represented in this survey, constituting 35 of the 50 properties surveyed, or 70% of the survey subjects. As a result, other property types, including commercial buildings, commercial office buildings, industrial buildings, and multiple-unit residential buildings are not particularly well represented, and few generalizations can be made about these properties. However, some observations can be made.

The four retail commercial buildings represented (8% of the survey subjects) tend to have large, well-lit interiors that are highly visible from the street due to extensive use of glass. This is largely a mid-century phenomenon, as retailers recognized that their customers would be arriving by car and would need to see the merchandise from a distance or at the speed of an automobile. Innovations in the production of plate glass, and the wide-spread use of fluorescent lighting, made this type of retailing more feasible as well.



*Safeway, Butte*

The four private commercial office buildings (8% of the survey subjects) all have a curtain wall component, consistent with the most popular construction method and stylistic features of the day. Both private and publicly-owned multi-story office buildings reflect the post-war trend toward standardized, pre-fabricated building components and on-site construction methods designed for ease of production and economy. Additional characteristics of these modern buildings are described in the section on “Modern” styles in this report.

The four industrial buildings represented (8% of the survey subjects) are modern, vernacular structures. They all have both office and plant, warehouse or shop components, reflecting their dual functions. All the structures reflect their interior functions on the exterior of the building, if only in the use of overhead garage doors versus pedestrian doors. Two have barrel-vaulted ceilings, allowing for additional height in the main work spaces.

One high-rise residential building was surveyed for this study (2% of the survey subjects). It is a modern building displaying elements of the International Style. The most unique aspect of this structure, however, was its management. Country Club Towers was a pioneering building for the fact that it was an early condominium tower. It is also likely one of the few suburban, high-rise residential buildings in the state when built. The design of this building looks as contemporary today as it no doubt did when constructed in 1955-56.

**Summary.** Modern architectural styles and building types in Montana reflect those prevalent in the other western states and, for that matter, throughout the United States at this time. Some styles that more closely characterize pre-war styles continued to be built after the war, but this is not uncommon. Styles like the Streamline Moderne and PWA Moderne continued to be seen through the 1950s. Familiar, or background, buildings, such as the typical curtain wall structure in particular, were relatively interchangeable with curtain wall structures elsewhere. Examples include the handsome Union Bank and Trust by Orr Pickering and Associates and the Western Life Insurance Building by Berg and Jacobson Architects (since altered), both in Helena. Montana's most talented architects left a legacy of extraordinary buildings as well that are singular in expression and uniquely reflect their times and circumstances. Examples include Johannes and A. A. van Teylingen's Receiving Hospital at Warm Springs and the Kennedy School in Butte by John G. Link & Co. Interestingly, a number of Montana architects who established practices before World War II developed some of the most interesting and striking modern buildings after the war, including John G. Link, George Shanley, and Johannes van Teylingen.

Montana architects, like their counterparts elsewhere, were eager to experiment with the new modern forms, materials, construction methods and stylistic motifs after World War II. Opportunity was present in many sectors, including the development of schools, university buildings, government buildings, and buildings catering to their new suburban locations. Some buildings and complexes represent Montana's version of forms and expressions that were also being experimented with elsewhere, such as the Hedges High Rise Complex and Miller Dining Hall at Montana State University at Bozeman, a megastructure complex designed by Sigvald Berg whose construction was overseen by campus architect A. A. van Teylingen (not surveyed here). Another example is the Armory Gymnasium on the Montana State University – Northern campus, a hyperbolic paraboloid building designed by Oswald Berg Jr. The Walt Sullivan Department of Labor & Industry Building (originally the Unemployment Compensation Commission building) by the young firm of Evans, LaMont & Cole is worth mentioning as an early (1961) example of a building that integrated energy efficiency measures with its design.

Montana's architects practicing in the post-war era experienced many of the opportunities enjoyed by their counterparts elsewhere, as the post-war economy grew and demand increased for new, modern facilities to serve the growing population. Growth and opportunity coincided with the dominance of modern architecture and planning, which changed the face of Montana's cities, as it did throughout the country. As occurs in any urban environment, some buildings are the 'ordinary' buildings that make up the majority of building stock in our communities, and some buildings are unique in any number of ways. Also as occurs elsewhere, some architects' talents are readily adaptable to almost any building style or type they undertake, some are associated with a particular style or expression, and some produce the serviceable, background buildings of our cities and towns. In summary, many of the circumstances under which Modern architecture and planning thrived in the post-war era in the United States also existed in Montana, and like other places, these opportunities left a lasting legacy in Montana that should be recognized and preserved.



## CHAPTER 5 - THE ARCHITECTS

The following discussion profiles some of the architects working at mid-century or after the World War II in Montana. As a preamble to this discussion, the typical training undertaken by Montana architects is discussed, as well as the professional milieu at the time. Profiles include a mix of individual architects and architectural firms, depending on how the architects were most closely identified. Many architects worked for established firms before going out on their own. In Montana, as elsewhere, many architects formed partnerships with other architects that may or may not have lasted a significant period of time, making the historic record complex. In the case of large projects, firms may have 'teamed up' with other architects for the duration of the project. As a result, more than one architect and/or firm may be associated with a project. For all these reasons, the profiles presented here include both individual architects and architectural firms.

The American Institute of Architects keeps a historic directory of architects that lists Montana architects in the post-war years of 1956, 1962, and 1970.<sup>68</sup> The profiles below are drawn in part from this resource.

### Professional Development

Architects practicing in the post-war era were essentially divided into two groups. The first group was made up of those who received their training before the war and adapted to, or were eager to explore, the new modernism after the war. These architects were often very facile in a number of styles. They may, like Sigvald Berg and Oswald Berg, have explored new materials and construction methods during the Depression in New Deal programs and in the build-up to and during World War II as part of their service. The second group was made up of the new post-war generation of architects that went to architecture school on the GI Bill or otherwise finished their training after the war. This group may also have gained experience in the military during World War II.

A brief profile of the typical training architects in Montana received is noted below. Of the architects and firms discussed here, fourteen received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture at Montana State College (University today) in Bozeman.<sup>69</sup> Three received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture at the University of Michigan and two received engineering degrees from this same university. One was awarded a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the University of Washington and another architect held a degree from Washington State University. George Shanley held a degree from the University of Vermont.

Two of the architects who still had active practices after the war trained in Europe before they immigrated. These were John L. Link of Bavaria, Germany and Johannes Van Teylingen of Holland. Two architects had east coast, Ivy League degrees. They were Arie Van Teylingen, the son of Johannes, who attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology after studying at MSC-Bozeman, and Fred R. Willson, who attended Columbia University after studying at MSC-Bozeman. Willson also studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. All who received their training in Europe were among the older generation of architects in Montana. The vast majority of architects trained in the post-war era received their training at Montana State University at Bozeman.

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<sup>68</sup> Note that these lists only include architects who belong to the American Institute of Architects and do not include designers, builders or in some cases, those with architectural engineering degrees.

<sup>69</sup> Note that discrepancies between the number of architects discussed here and the number of degrees is due to the fact that some received more than one degree.

The historical record shows a substantial interest in Modernism among Montana architects in the immediate pre-war and post-war period, evidenced by the number of lectures, symposiums, exhibits, and newspaper reports focusing on modern practice at the time. Nationally-recognized housing expert and advocate of modern architecture Catherine Bauer, who authored the 1934 “Modern Housing,” spoke in Helena in 1939.<sup>70</sup> Los Angeles architect Richard Neutra gave a series of lectures at the Montana State College summer session of the Institute of Architects in 1948.<sup>71</sup> Neutra was featured again in a symposium on modern school and community and regional planning in Bozeman in 1949.<sup>72</sup> An exhibit of his work was also held at MSU-Eastern in Billings in 1957, sponsored by the Billings Architectural Association.<sup>73</sup>

The Montana Institute of the Arts (note this organization encompassed all the arts), founded in the late 1940s, expected 300 to 500 participants at their tenth anniversary meeting at the Montana Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building in Helena in 1958.<sup>74</sup> One of the speakers for the festival noted, “Montana can boast some of the best modern architecture in the U.S. but who knows it?,” in support of Montana’s art scene. The general public was also interested in modern design, materials, furnishings and ideas, judging from the number of newspaper articles and features from the late 1920s through the post-war era.

Today, the Montana State University at Bozeman still has the only accredited architecture program in the state. It offers a BA in Environmental Design, generally considered a pre-professional degree, and a Masters Degree in Architecture, a professional degree.<sup>75</sup> There is one American Institute of Architects office in Billings, Montana that serves the state. Also in Billings is the Billings Architectural Association. The latter is a section of the Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and has nine member firms.<sup>76</sup>

### Post-War Practice

The following sketch of post-war practice was taken from Bowker’s *American Architects Directory*, made available by the American Institute of Architects.<sup>77</sup> It was issued three times in the post-war decades, in 1956, 1962 and 1970. The year 1956 was one of continued growth and expansion for the architecture profession in Montana. Commissions included educational buildings and campuses, government buildings, retail and commercial development, and industrial facilities. Buildings that catered to tourists, such as motels, were also being built. In 1956, Billings, the largest city in Montana at that point, had twenty architects (note that some of these architects, such as Everett Terrell and Ralph Henry Cushing, were in business together). Great Falls, the second largest city in the state, had fourteen architects. The number of registered architects in the smaller cities was as follows: Bozeman, seven; Kalispell, five; Butte, three; Missoula, three; Glendive, one; and Helena, one.

The 1960s were years of increasing prosperity. In 1962, there were five architectural firms listed in Billings and twenty-six architects (note that a number of these individual architects were partners in the aforementioned firms). In Great Falls, there were seven architectural firms. Most of the sixteen individually-listed architects were partners in one of the firms. In Kalispell, there were two firms and

<sup>70</sup> “Housing Director will Make Public Address Tonight, *The Helena Daily Independent*, March 29, 1939.

<sup>71</sup> “Noted Architect Will Deliver Series of Talks at State College Next Week; Many Topics Will Be Discussed,” *The Independent Record*, July 25, 1948:2.

<sup>72</sup> “Neutra to Talk at School Meet,” *The Billings Gazette*, April 10, 1949:10.

<sup>73</sup> “Tales of the Town,” *The Billings Gazette*, January 10, 1957:5.

<sup>74</sup> “Montana Institute of Arts 10<sup>th</sup> Festival May 30-31, *The Independent Record*, May 25, 1958:13.

<sup>75</sup> Montana State University, [www.arch.montans.edu/home.shtml](http://www.arch.montans.edu/home.shtml).

<sup>76</sup> Billings Architectural Association, <http://www.aiabillings.org/?page=links>.

<sup>77</sup> <http://www.aia.org/about/history/aiab082017>.

seven individually-listed architects, six of whom were partners in the firms. In Helena, there were three individually-listed architects and one firm; the same was true of Havre. Missoula had two firms and four architects, all of whom were partners in firms. Red Lodge had one architect, who had been in partnership with another architect in earlier years.

There was a general trend toward multi-disciplinary firms in the 1970s, but many small firms still practiced. In 1970, there were four firms listed in Billings and 34 individual architects. In Great Falls, there were five firms and twenty-one architects. The following cities hosted the following practices: Helena – ten architects and four firms; Kalispell – eight architects and three firms; Bozeman – seven architects and one firm; Missoula – seven architects and three firms; Butte – five architects and one firm; and Havre boasted two architects.

### **The Architects**

**Oswald Berg Jr.** Oswald Berg Jr. was a Montana native, born into a ranching family in Lewistown, on October 8, 1918. He attended St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota and then Washington State College (now University), where he was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1941. He worked for the Civil Service Commission and the Department of the Navy in Washington D.C. during World War II and attended night school at George Washington University. After the war, he was employed by the college architecture office at WSU and as an architect for N.W. Fabricators, Inc. before opening his own firm of Oswald Berg Jr. Architect in 1949. Between 1949 and 1983, Berg practiced under the names of Oswald Berg Jr. and Associates, Berg-Grabow and Partners, BGS Architects, and Berg-Grabow-Schofield.

Berg had a long and prolific career. He and his partners designed churches and chapels, schools and university buildings, banks, libraries, shops, some commercial buildings, and some residential projects. He designed several buildings for Montana State College at Bozeman and Montana State College at Havre. Among his most well-known buildings are the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman and the South Hedges dormitory and food service building at MSU – Bozeman. He designed projects throughout the state of Montana, as well as Wyoming and Oregon. He taught at Montana State College as a visiting professor and was licensed as an engineer in addition to being an architect.

**Sigvald L. Berg.** Sigvald L. Berg, who was of Norwegian heritage, spent most of his career in Helena, although he also gained architectural experience in Berkeley, California. Born in 1895, he graduated from Montana State College in Bozeman with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architectural Engineering in 1921. He worked throughout Montana on a wide range of industrial, commercial and institutional building types during his career. One of his most well-known residential commissions was the home of Barclay Craighead in 1936, who was the secretary to Senator Burton K. Wheeler and director of the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) in Helena.

During the Depression, Berg worked as the supervising architect for the Federal Housing Administration for the state of Montana and the local liaison for the state's Depression-era "Better Homes" program. His California experience stood him in good stead after the 1935 Helena earthquake, when he worked on inspecting damaged buildings and re-writing the local building code for seismic safety. His interest in modern architecture is evidenced by his attendance at a three-day symposium in 1948 offered by Richard Neutra.<sup>78</sup> He joined with Lorren O. Bradford in 1950, another graduate from Montana State University. Berg died in 1985.

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<sup>78</sup> *The Independent Review*, July 25, 1948.

***Brinkman and Lenon.*** Frederick Adolf Brinkman and Percy Hazelhurst Lenon founded the Brinkman and Lenon architectural partnership in Kalispell in 1946. Fred Brinkman (1892-1961) was born in Spokane, Washington, but graduated from high school in Kalispell. He received a civil degree in engineering from the University of Wisconsin, and in 1916 he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from the University of Michigan. After a military stint in the Panama Canal Zone in World War I, he moved to Billings, Montana, where he worked as an architect. After the only architect in Kalispell died in 1921, Brinkman relocated to his home town and opened his own architectural practice. He practiced in Kalispell until 1942, when all the members of the firm joined the World War II armed forces.<sup>79</sup>

After World War II, Brinkman partnered with Percy Lenon (1905-1961), a graduate of the architecture program at Montana State College. Together they designed many buildings throughout the state of Montana, from residences to buildings at Montana State University and Glasgow Air Force Base, as well as schools and churches.

After the deaths of Brinkman and Lenon in 1961, the firm continued until 1991 under the partnership of William Heinecke (1920-2000), Fred Brinkman's son-in-law, who was a mechanical engineer, and Harry Schmautz (1923-1989), who had received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from Montana State University in 1949 after serving in World War II. He became a partner in the firm in 1954. Heinecke also served in World War II. After the war, he attended the University of Montana and Montana State University, from which he received degree in mechanical engineering in 1950. He was made a partner in 1953.

After 1961, the firm was known for a variety of building types and worked in Kalispell and throughout the state. Among their works are the Summit House and Lodge at Big Mountain; airport, university, state, school, commercial, and tribal construction projects; and, federal projects including the work at Glacier National Park. The National Park Service also contracted with the firm in the early 1960s for the preparation of design and construction documents for Saint Mary Visitor Center and the Headquarters Administration Building at West Glacier, designed by Harry Schmautz in 1963 and constructed in 1964. Brinkman and Lenon had a region-wide reputation for experience and excellence and, as the larger of two architectural firms in Kalispell, had the staff to provide in-house engineering as well as architectural services.<sup>80</sup>

***Chandler C. Cohagen.*** Chandler Carroll Cohagen was born in Pierson, Iowa on April 24, 1889. He studied architecture at the University of Michigan College of Architecture, where he was awarded the AIA school medal, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architectural Design in 1915. While there, he co-founded the national architectural fraternity Alpha Rho Chi. After forming firms with other colleagues, he founded Chandler C. Cohagen, Architect, in Billings in 1935 (over time he also practiced as McIver & Cohagen, Cohagen & Williams, and McIver, Cohagen & Williams). In the late 1930s, he designed two high schools (one building and one addition) for the Public Works Administration during the New Deal. In 1942, he became the chief architect for Smith, Hinchman & Grylls architects of Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Among Cohagen's most well-known works are the Masonic Grand Lodge in Helena (1936); the A. V. McIver Deaconess Hospital of Billings (1950); the Governor's Mansion in Helena (1958); the Yellowstone County Courthouse in Billings (1958); and the Central Christian College in Billings (1961). The Montana State University archives hold 353 architectural drawing sets and files for works that Chandler undertook over the course of his career, representing projects spanning 1907 to 1971. Cohagen was very active in civic and professional organizations, taught at the University of Michigan, and lectured at the College of Montana. He died in 1986.

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<sup>79</sup> Wheaton, 2008:9.

<sup>80</sup> Wheaton, 2008:9.

**Cushing & Terrell.** The Billings firm of Cushing & Terrell, also known as Cushing Terrell and Associates, is now called CTA. Cushing & Terrell was founded in 1938, when partners Ralph Cushing and Everett Terrell joined forces. Ralph Henry Cushing was born in Dillon, Montana on January 16, 1903. He was educated at Montana State College, from which he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1927. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Architectural Engineering from the University of Michigan in 1932. He worked for others, apprenticing in architecture and engineering, before establishing the firm of Cushing Terrell and Associates in 1938. Cushing's partner Edwin O. Terrell was born in Billings, Montana on February 11, 1908. He was educated at the University of Washington, where he earned a bachelor's degree in architecture in 1931. His first listed architectural employment was with Cushing, Terrell and Associates.

Cushing Terrell and Associates had an established reputation in Montana at mid-century, based on extensive work in the areas of education (schools and university buildings) and healthcare (hospitals and related structures). They also designed numerous government office buildings and other buildings types for state and local government. Additional building types undertaken by the firm included commercial structures and resort developments. When faced with a downturn in the education market in 1966, the firm re-organized and expanded.<sup>81</sup> Today, CTA is a multi-disciplinary firm with sixteen offices throughout Montana and six other western states.

Cushing Terrell and Associates designed a number of the buildings on the Montana State University – Billings campus. Their office, constructed in 1958, was located across N. 27<sup>th</sup> Street from the campus, just south of the Physical Education Building. Other notable buildings designed by the firm include Reid Hall and Hannon Hall on the Montana State University – Bozeman campus; buildings for the Midland Empire Fairgrounds in Billings; Highland Elementary School and Shrine Auditorium in Billings; the hospital in Red Lodge; the Dude Rancher Lodge in Billings; the Veteran's Hospital in Miles City; Deaconess Hospital in Billings; and the Montana Crippled Children's Association Rehabilitation Center in Missoula; among many others.

**Davidson & Kuhr.** The firm of Davidson & Kuhr was established in 1956. Partner David Scott Davidson was born in Great Falls on December 17, 1925. He attended Montana State College in Bozeman, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1950. Davidson worked as a draftsman for the Great Falls firm of George H. & Frank B. Shanley from 1948 to 1952 and then for the Great Falls firm of Van Teylingen, Knight & Van Teylingen, where he remained until 1954. He joined with William Kuhr to establish the firm of Davison & Kuhr Architects in 1956.

Among their works are the US Bank building, the McLaughlin Research Center, the south campus of Great Falls High School, the First Congregational United Church of Christ, and the terminal at Great Falls International Airport, all in Great Falls. They also designed an office building for D. A. Davidson, a financial company owned by his father. They designed schools, churches and office buildings throughout Montana, and the addition to the Montana Veterans & Pioneers Memorial Building in Helena. In addition to his architectural practice, Davidson was a painter and musician. He died in 2008.

William H. Kuhr was born in Chinook, Montana on March 15, 1927. He attended Montana State College, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1950. As Kuhr spent most of his career with the Davidson & Kuhr firm, they are known for the same buildings. Their Bethany Lutheran Church and Farmers & Stockmen's Bank won awards from the Montana Chapter of the AIA in 1964.

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<sup>81</sup> Dennis, 1974:57.

**Drake & Gustafson.** Vernon Leslie Drake was born in Billings, Montana in 1922, and educated at the Northwest Nazarene College, Billings Polytechnic Institute, Texas A & M, and Montana State College, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1948, graduating with honors. He worked for Billings architect Chandler C. Cohagen as a draftsman from 1946 to 1949, after which he was in private practice. He partnered in the firm Osness & Drake Architects from 1952 to 1954. After this association he formed his own firm, where he designed a number of institutional structures. He became a partner in Drake & Gustafson, Architects in 1956.

F. (Francis) Wayne Gustafson was born in Chinook, Montana in 1927. He attended Montana State College in Bozeman, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1950. At that time, he worked as a draftsman for Chandler C. Cohagen. He later worked for the prominent Billings firm of Cushing & Terrell. In 1956, he became associated with Vernon Drake and they formed the firm Drake & Gustafson. By 1970, they were still in association.

**Norman J. Hamill.** Norman James Hamill was born in New Rochelle, New York on April 22, 1906. He attended Carroll College in Helena, Montana, and Montana State College in Bozeman, where he was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1933. He practiced with architect Fred F. Willson from 1933 to 1935 and was chief architect for J. G. Link & Co. from 1947 to 1949. He had his own offices in Bozeman and in Butte. Among his works were elementary schools at Deer Lodge, Montana and Idaho Falls, Idaho; the junior high school at Idaho Falls; a high school and gym at Rexburg, Idaho; the Safeway Distribution Center and St. Johns Church in Butte; Silver Bow General Hospital in Butte; and the City Hospital in Scottsdale, Arizona. Hamill died in 1966.

**Max E. Kuhr.** Max Edwards Kuhr was born in Havre, Montana on March 22, 1923. He received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Michigan in 1949. Early in his career, he worked as a draftsman for the Los Angeles firms of Flewelling & Moody and Balch, Bryan, Perkins & Hutchason. He also worked as chief draftsman for Merrill W. Baird of Glendale, California.

Kuhr established his own firm of Max E. Kuhr and Associates in Havre in 1958, shortly before undertaking the design of the Student Union Building on that campus. Additional projects for which Kuhr is known include Liberty Company Bank in Chester; Married Student Apartments at Northern Montana College (MSU-Northern today); the City/County Airport Administration Building in Havre; several commercial buildings, including one for the law offices of Max P. Kuhr; additional buildings on the MSU-Northern campus; and Havre's new City Hall.

**John G. Link and J. G. Link & Co.** John Gustave Link was born in Bavaria, Germany in 1870 and received his training at the Royal Academy of Landau before immigrating to the United States in 1887 at the age of 17 and settling in Denver. There he worked for Frank H. Kidder (1887-1890), who authored *The Architect's Handbook*, and architect William Fisher (1890-1893).<sup>82</sup>

Link won a national competition at the age of 22 for the design of the Minnesota State Capital. Hoping to capitalize on this experience, he moved to Montana in 1896 and settled in Butte, where he first formed a partnership with W. E. Donovan, under the name of Link & Donovan (1896-1900), and then with Joseph T. Carter (1900-1905).

In 1906, he formed a partnership with Charles S. Haire. Haire was from Ohio and received his early training in Cincinnati. He moved to Pocatello, Idaho in 1885 and worked for the Union Pacific Railway as a draftsman. He subsequently went to Butte and worked for the Great Northern Railroad in a similar position.<sup>83</sup> About 1888, Haire moved to Helena, where he was employed by the real estate and construction firm Wallace and Thornburg. He opened his own firm in 1891, which was engaged in the design of institutions throughout the state. In Billings, he particularly was known for the

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<sup>82</sup> Allison, 2007.

<sup>83</sup> Withey, 1970.

design of the 1901 Romanesque Revival Parmly Library and the first St. Vincent's Hospital, as well as many residences.<sup>84</sup>

Based on the strength of his earlier award, Montana State Architect Paulson commissioned Link to design the expansion of the Montana State Capital in Helena.<sup>85</sup> Link & Haire undertook this work in association with New York architect Frank M. Andrews, and construction took place from 1909 to 1912.<sup>86</sup> It was one of their most important early commissions.

One of Link's first trips to Montana was in 1890, when he began design of the Billings Brewery Building in that city.<sup>87</sup> He settled there permanently in 1906, but maintained an office in Butte throughout his career. In addition to Billings, Butte and Helena, Link & Haire maintained offices in Bozeman, Missoula, and Lewistown at various times during their association.

Link and Haire were considered the leading architects in the state in their 20 years of practice together. They designed 'thousands of buildings statewide, both public and private, including 18 of the 56 county courthouses.'<sup>88</sup> Among their commissions were the Algeria Temple, the Scottish Rite Temple, and the Classical Revival Montana Life Insurance Building in Helena. In Billings they designed the Great Northern Hotel, the Stapleton Building, the Electric Building, the Hart-Albin Building, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and the second St. Vincent's Hospital.

In Butte, they designed The Silver Bow Club, the Silver Bow County Courthouse and Silver Bow County Jail, the 1922 Masonic Lodge (with W. Wellington Smith), and the State Savings Bank (with George Carsley), among other buildings. They were also responsible for hospitals in Boulder, Billings, and Missoula, and buildings for the Montana State Universities in Missoula and Bozeman. Clients included the Yellowstone Park Hotel Company and the Yellowstone Park Transportation Company. They designed over 100 schools, 50 churches, and 50 office buildings throughout Montana and the western states.<sup>89</sup> Link & Haire continued their partnership until Haire's death in 1925. J. G. Link left the firm in 1926 and was involved through the 1920s in lawsuits with Haire's estate over the firm's profits.<sup>90</sup> E. G. Benson, a former employee of Link & Haire, and Haire's son, Thomas, carried on that firm under the name of Haire and Benson, Architects. Link practiced under his own name until the 1940s, when the firm became known as J. G. Link & Co.

Link married Martha Welling in St. Louis on September 17, 1895, whom he had met when he lived there briefly.<sup>91</sup> The Links, who moved to Billings in 1906, had one daughter and six sons.<sup>92</sup> Elmer Link (born ca. 1913) later became a partner in his father's firm and John Gustav Link Jr., (born ca. 1909) also trained as an architect (a son Frederick died before his father). In 1920 the Links lived at 105 Yellowstone Avenue. Shortly thereafter Link moved the 1899 Queen Anne residence of Billings pioneers Kate and David Fratt from its original location at 205 N. 29<sup>th</sup> and had it reconstructed at 142 Clark Avenue (Link received the house in partial payment for the design of the Fratt Memorial Building at the house' original location). He lived there the rest of his life.<sup>93</sup>

John G. Link continued to practice under his own name. The firm name of J. G. Link, Inc. is seen in the 1920s through 1930. He briefly used the name of J. G. Link and Son Co. in the mid-1930s. The

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<sup>84</sup> Brownell, 2010.

<sup>85</sup> "Pioneer Billings Architect Dies," *The Billings Gazette*, 1954.

<sup>86</sup> "Helena: Standing Up for Montana" <http://www.ultimatemontana.com/newsletterarchives/helena92705.html>, accessed November 2010.

<sup>87</sup> "Pioneer Billings Architect Dies," *The Billings Gazette*, 1954.

<sup>88</sup> Brownell, 2010.

<sup>89</sup> The Montana Historical Society, 2004.

<sup>90</sup> "Stacks of Public Records Offered in Architect Case," 1929.

<sup>91</sup> "Local Couple Notes 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary," 1945.

<sup>92</sup> US Census, 1920.

<sup>93</sup> Reich, 2009.

name of J. G. Link & Co. began to surface in the mid-1940s, perhaps signaling a change in ownership structure. In 1947, Link's son, Elmer, served as Secretary of J. G. Link & Co. Billings architect Harry Loners was a draftsman for the firm (Loners worked for the firm from 1935 to 1952). After the senior Link's death in 1954, Elmer Link continued to operate under the name J. G. Link & Co. through the mid-1960s.<sup>94</sup>

The name E. F. Link and Associates is also seen from the late 1940s through the mid-1980s. The American Society of Civil Engineers' 1952 Directory lists Elmer's son, John Gustav Link, as a partner in J. G. Link and Co., Architects & Engineers, of Butte (he is also seen as John G. Link III). Early 1970s directories list him as a managing architect on projects. According to historian Chere Jiusto, Elmer Link is credited with the design of over 80 stores, warehouse and residences in the Billings area.<sup>95</sup> He was most active, however, in the 1940s through the 1960s, where one of his most noteworthy commissions was the 1966 GSA-sponsored US Courthouse in Billings.

**McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa.** Angus Vaughn McIver was born in Great Falls, Montana on April 29, 1892. He studied civil engineering at the University of Michigan, from which he earned a bachelor's degree. McIver practiced with several other architects over time, including Chandler Cohagen (1915-1926), William Hess, and Knute Haugsjaa. McIver undertook a range of commissions, including institutional and educational work. Among McIver's best known works are the Veteran's Hospital in Miles City; the Montana Veterans & Pioneers Memorial Building in Helena; Air Force Housing at Malmstrom Air Force Base; the Lewis & Clark School, a number of elementary schools, and Russell Art Gallery in Great Falls; the Renne Library and the Men's Residence Hall at Montana State University at Bozeman; and the Scottish Rite Temple in Great Falls. He was honored as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1949. He died in 1974.

William James Hess was born in Teton County, Montana on October 21, 1914. He attended Montana State College, from which he graduated in 1937 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture. His first professional job was as a draftsman for Chandler C. Cohagen (1937-1939). He then went to work for A. V. McIver, working as an employee through 1953, when he became a partner in McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa. Partner Knute Haugsjaa died in 1959, after which the firm became known as McIver & Hess, headquartered in Great Falls. Some of their most well-known works can be seen above in the profile of Angus V. McIver.

Hess formed the firm of Hess, Gillis & Vigesaa with Robert A. Gillis and Lawrence W. Vigesaa in 1969. Some of their well-known works include Married Student Housing at Montana State University (1968); the Great Falls Public Library (1967); the Scottish Rite Cathedral at Great Falls (1968); and the Fort Benton School Building (1968).

Knute S. Haugsjaa was born on December 29, 1915 in Pekin, North Dakota, and attended North Dakota State College, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1939. He worked for A. V. McIver from 1939 to 1940. During the war, he worked for McNeil Construction Company in Las Vegas and Los Angeles, and for Boeing Aircraft Company designing factories and hangars. He worked again for A. V. McIver from 1945 to 1950. He became a partner in McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa in 1953. Haugsjaa died in 1959.

**Page & Werner.** The University of Great Falls campus, surveyed for this project, constituted one of Page & Werner's (now L'Heureux Page Werner) most significant commissions. George Calvert Page and Vincent Sterling Werner joined forces to found Page & Werner 1953. George C. Page was born in Great Falls in 1925 and attended Montana State College, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1948. He worked as a draftsman for A. V. McIver and Bordeleau-Pannell before joining with Werner. Vincent S. Werner was born in Falls City, Nebraska in 1922 and

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<sup>94</sup> Montana Architectural Drawings - Montana State University Digital Initiatives.

<sup>95</sup> Jiusto, 1998.

attended Montana State College, from which he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture, also in 1948. He worked as a draftsman for George H. Shanley from 1948 to 1950, and for the firm of Bordeleau-Pannell from 1950 to 1952 before opening Page & Werner.

Page & Werner undertook a wide variety of architectural work in their early years, including educational, commercial, and institutional work. Some of their most significant commissions included the Montana Rehabilitation Center, Great Falls Public Housing, and Riverview, Fairfield, and Westview Elementary Schools, in Great Falls; Our Lady of Mercy Church in Eureka, Montana; and the McLaughlin Research Institute on the Great Falls campus. They won a First Design Award from the Montana chapter of the American Institute of Architects for the University of Great Falls campus, perhaps their most well-known work.

Today, the firm provides architecture, engineering and planning services. Their third partner, Stephen L'Heureux, joined the firm in 1978, leaving in 1986 to form his own firm. The two firms merged in 1991. They continue to undertake a wide variety of commissions.

***George H. and Frank B. Shanley.*** George H. Shanley, perhaps Great Falls' most prominent architect, was born in 1875 in Burlington, Vermont and attended the University of Vermont. After graduation, he worked for various architects in Duluth, Minnesota. In 1898, he came West to help his father build St. Mary's Cathedral in Fargo, North Dakota.<sup>96</sup> He also helped his father build a barn near Glacier Park.<sup>97</sup> In early years, Shanley worked in Kalispell in the firm of Gibson and Shanley. In 1900, he moved to Butte, where he was associated with the firm of Shanley, Wilson and Hugenin. He formed his own firm in Great Falls in 1907. He continued to collaborate with others, however. In 1915, he worked with the renowned Spokane architectural firm of Cutter & Malmgren on a country house in West Glacier for Mrs. John G. Morony.

The following list of Great Falls buildings designed by Shanley is taken in part from a HABS survey of the Sparling Hotel, designed by Shanley in 1905. The list includes the Independent Telephone building, Washington School, State Deaf and Blind School, Rainbow Hotel, First National Bank, the new Park Hotel, Liberty Theatre, Johnson Hotel, Strain Building, Falls Hotel, Buttrey Building, Rocky Mountain Fire Insurance Building, Cascade County Jail, Forest's Garage, Barber-Lydiard Building, Ursuline Academy, St. Thomas Home, Columbus Hospital, Central High School, First Avenue North Bridge, Tenth Street Bridge, the Country Club Towers and the original Meadow Lark Country Club clubhouse, State Fairgrounds buildings, Dunn-Brown Block, YMCA, the Blackstone Apartments with Henry Hall Johnson, and the Civic Center with Johannes Van Teylingen. The Great Falls Automatic Telephone Company (the Independent Telephone Building) was reportedly the first reinforced concrete building in Great Falls.

Shanley designed buildings throughout Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming. Representative examples include: First National Bank and Federal Reserve Bank buildings and the State Highway Department building in Helena; the Finlen Hotel, the Immaculate Conception School and Convent, and the main pavilion at Columbia Gardens in Butte; the Baxter Hotel in Bozeman and several buildings on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman. He designed the Army Winter Training Camp at Yellowstone National Park. He also designed several Catholic Churches, many schools and numerous banks.

Shanley was active in Democratic Party politics. He was elected to the Montana House of Representatives in the fall of 1936, where he served one term. He was appointed to the State Board of Architectural Examiners in 1918 and served many years as its president. He was also a longtime member and president of the City of Great Falls Planning Board.<sup>98</sup> Married in 1906, he and his wife

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<sup>96</sup> Matthews, 2006, Section 8:14.

<sup>97</sup> McMillan, 1988:2.

<sup>98</sup> McMillen, 1988:2..

Margaret Inez had four children. His son, Frank, was a business partner, and son, Boland (Bo), supervised the firm's construction projects. Shanley died November 4, 1960.

Frank B. Shanley was born in Great Falls on December 11, 1910 and attended Montana State College. He joined his father's firm in 1932, working as a draftsman until 1946. When Frank became a partner in his father's firm, it was known as George H. and Frank B. Shanley, Architects. Sometime after George Shanley's death, Frederick O. Anderson joined the firm. The firm was then known as Shanley, Shanley & Anderson.

**Johannes and A. A. Van Teylingen.** Johannes Van Teylingen, born in Holland in 1892, gained fame as an internationally recognized chess player in addition to being an architect. Early in his career he practiced with Great Falls architect George Bird (1861-1961), where he was involved in the design of many churches and schools. He was best known for the following works: the Art Deco Butte High School, undertaken with J. G. Link & Co.; the Great Falls Masonic Temple, while employed by W. R. Mowery; the Great Falls Civic Center, with George Shanley; the Great Falls Medical Arts Building; and the Women's Dormitory at Montana State University at Missoula, with H. E. Kirkemo. He also assisted in the early design of the Receiving Hospital at Warm Springs. He died in 1956.

His son, Arie Andrew Van Teylingen, was born in Great Falls on March 15, 1921. He attended Montana State College for two years, and graduated from MIT in 1942 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He began practicing in his father's firm in 1947. When he became a partner, they were known as Van Teylingen, Knight & Van Teylingen. After his father's death in 1956, the firm was called Knight & Van Teylingen. Among his most well-known works are the Montana State Hospital Receiving Hospital (1957-1959); Montana State Tuberculosis Hospital at Galen (1954); the Van Orsdel Methodist Church in Havre (1957); the Ft. Peck Elementary School (1958); master plan of the capital complex (1958); the Benton Senior High School (1959); an addition to Kennedy Deaconess Hospital (1959); Poplar Community Hospital in Montana (1960); designs for a soil and research center at Sidney (1963); and numerous schools. He became the university architect for Montana State University at Bozeman in 1965, where he implemented a progressive building and design program. Van Teylingen died on July 23, 1995.

Kenneth K. Knight was the third partner in the firm of Van Teylingen, Knight & Van Teylingen. Knight was born in Idaho on September 27, 1920. He attended Washington State University, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1942. He worked for the Army Corps of Engineers and then the U. S. Navy from 1942 through 1945. Knight joined the Van Teylingens in 1947 and became a partner in Knight & Van Teylingen when it was re-organized in 1956, at the death of the senior Van Teylingen. Major works include the Receiving Hospital and Intensive Treatment Building at the Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs; Kennedy Deaconess Hospital and Van Orsdel Methodist Church in Havre; the Cascade County Convalescent Hospital in Great Falls; and the Montana State Prison.

**Fred F. Willson.** Architect Fred Fielding Willson was born in Bozeman, Montana on November 11, 1877. He attended the Montana State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts until his junior year, when he enrolled in Columbia University in New York City, from which he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1902. He subsequently returned to Montana, where he worked as chief draftsman for Charles S. Haire in Helena, Montana for two years. Willson continued his studies at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and traveled in Europe from 1904 to 1906. Upon returning to Montana, he was placed in charge of the Butte office of the renowned Montana firm of Link & Haire, where he worked from 1906 to 1910. He established his own firm in Bozeman in 1910. In 1928, he joined with R. C. Hugenin and George Shanley to open a headquarters office in Butte. Hugenin, previously the state architect, was in charge of the Butte office, while Shanley was in charge of the Great Falls office. Willson was in Missoula.

Research did not reveal when he formed a partnership with Oswald Berg. Both Berg and Willson designed many buildings on the MSU campus. Willson is credited with the Student Union Building (1940, heavily remodeled), Men's Residence Hall (1946-7, with E. W. Bunnell), Renne Library (1944, heavily remodeled), Service Shop-Plew Physical Plant (1949-51), Hannon Hall (1954, with Cushing, Terrell & Associates), and Brick Breeden Fieldhouse (1956, with Oswald Berg Jr., heavily remodeled).

Willson's office took on a range of projects in his 46-year career. In addition to his substantial commissions for Montana State University in Bozeman, and throughout Montana, he also accepted modest projects. Examples of some of his more well-known commissions include the Baxter Hotel, Gallatin County Courthouse, Bozeman grade schools, and numerous Montana State College buildings from 1940 to 1956. Drawings for 331 of his projects are held in the Montana State University archives, as are his papers. Willson died August 14, 1956, at the age of 76.

The successor firm to Willson & Berg was Berg-Grabow & Partners, formed in 1968 (see profile of Oswald Berg Jr. above). Architect William Edmund Grabow was born in Livingston, Montana on September 10, 1924 and attended Montana State College, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1950. He opened his own firm, where he practiced from 1956 to 1968. In 1968, he became a partner in Berg-Grabow & Partners, with Oswald Berg Jr. They undertook a number of commissions on the MSU-Bozeman campus, among other work. In 1976, the firm became Berg, Grabow and Schofield (BGS Architects). Grabow was also involved in politics, serving one term as mayor of Bozeman in early 1970s.



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# **APPENDIX A**

**INDIVIDUAL SUMMARIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SURVEYED PROPERTIES**



## PREFACE

Eligibility recommendations for the individual properties listed here focus heavily on their significance with respect to Criterion C, as this was the primary focus of this survey and context statement. With a few exceptions, evaluating properties with respect to Criteria A and B would require additional research.<sup>99</sup> Similarly, future research and evaluation may reveal that some resources are eligible as contributors to potential districts. Most properties, with the singular exception of the University of Great Falls, were evaluated as individual structures. It is possible that, in the future, the Period of Significance for a group of structures related by theme, geographic location, or chronological time may be evaluated, and mid-century resources not presently considered individually significant might become historically significant as contributors to a district. An example is a college campus whose Period of Significance is expanded to include the mid-century years. It is also possible for Multiple Property Submissions to be created for certain property types. This approach to nominations might also enable properties that are not now individually significant to become historically significant in the future.

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<sup>99</sup> Note that Criterion D is not typically applicable to built environment resources.



*Academic Support Center*

**Name:** Academic Support Center

**SITS:** 24YL1859

**Address:** 1500 North 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Billings

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** Originally built as the Student Union Building, it is located near the center of the Montana State University Billings campus on the east side. The Academic Support Center is a one-story, irregularly-shaped building with a flat roof. The building has a steel frame with laminated wood beams. It is finished in concrete block and rough-cut, tongue-and-groove siding and has a concrete foundation and a membrane roof. This Modern structure was designed by Billings architects Nordquist & Sundell in 1954 and constructed in 1955.

**History:** The Student Union Building was designed in 1954 by the Billings firm of Nordquist & Sundell and constructed in 1955. As conceived, it consisted of a lounge and dining area on the west side, with the lobby located at the main entrance, as it is today. The new addition to the building was designed by the Billings firm of Drake-Gustafson Associates in 1995.

**Statement of Significance:** The Student Union Building at Montana State University – Billings is a Modern building, having been constructed using modern materials and displaying contemporary features that embody many of the tenets of modernism as it was practiced in the post-war era. The building is a good example of small-scale, mid-century institutional building. It is significant under Criterion C for its design qualities. The building displays good integrity.



*Apsaruke Hall*

**Name:** Apsaruke Hall

**SITS:** 24YL1860

**Address:** 1500 North 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Billings

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** Apsaruke Hall is located in the southeast corner of the Montana State University-Billings campus. It was known as the Men's Residence Hall when designed, but now houses the College of Health Professions. It is a three-story, somewhat T-shaped building with the east-west hall predominating, with a flat roof. Apsaruke Hall is a steel-frame building with reinforced concrete floors with a brick and light-colored glazed brick finish. The foundation is concrete, and the roof is built-up. Additional details include aluminum-frame doors and windows, and metal signage with free-standing letters displaying the names of the building and the college it houses. It is a Modern building, designed by Cushing, Terrell & Associates in 1956 and constructed in 1957.

**History:** The Men's Residence Hall was designed in 1956 and constructed in 1957. Aluminum windows were removed and replaced with aluminum windows of the same design in 1995. Interior renovations made to convert the building from a residence hall to classroom building at that time. Alterations to the building were designed by the Billings firm of JGA Architects Engineers Planners.

**Statement of Significance:** Apsaruke Hall is significant under Criterion C for its architecture. It is significant as an intact residence hall dating from the mid-century that represents contemporary thinking in modern university building design on a modest level. The building is additionally significant as the work of the well-known Billings firm of Cushing, Terrell and Associates, which practices throughout the western United States today as CTA. The building displays good integrity.



*Physical Education Building*

**Name:** Physical Education Building

**SITS:** 24YL1861

**Address:** 1500 University Drive, Billings

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Physical Education Building at Montana State University-Billings is located east of the campus, on the east side of North 27<sup>th</sup> Street. It is a two-story building (two floors and a basement) with an irregular footprint. The roof of the original building is made up of a series of barrel vaults of thin-shell concrete. The newer addition has a flat roof. Both Phase I and Phase II of the building were designed by Cushing, Terrell & Associates.

**History:** The first phase of the Physical Education Building was designed in 1960 and constructed in 1960-61. A second gymnasium was added in 1969. The large addition to the northwest was designed in 1979 by Cushing & Terrell and constructed in 1980. The underground pedestrian walkway and exterior renovations were also completed in 1980. Additional renovations occurred in 1998.

**Statement of Significance:** The Physical Education Building is significant with respect to National Register Criterion C for its architectural design and its association with a prominent Montana architectural firm. It is significant as (reputedly) Montana's first thin-shell concrete building. It is significant for its association with the architectural firm of Cushing & Terrell (CTA today), which was founded in Billings in the 1930s and today has sixteen offices throughout the western United States. The firm was known for their progressive design work in the post-war era and for their work in educational and health care building types. The building displays fair integrity.



*Highland School*

**Name:** Highland School

**SITS:** 24YL1862

**Address:** 729 Parkhill Drive, Billings

**Historic use:** Elementary school

**Current use:** Elementary school

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Highland School is located north of Parkhill between 7<sup>th</sup> Street West and Delphinium Drive. The school is one-story, with an E-shaped plan, and a flat roof. The building is brick masonry construction with a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. The main windows have steel-frames and the clerestories are glass block. It was designed by architects Cushing and Terrell and constructed in 1947, with the annex constructed in 1956.

**History:** The Highland School was built in response to demand and as part of the post-war building boom. Initially, two wings were constructed, with the third wing following shortly thereafter, in the winter of 1949. This phase of construction was funded by a \$1.2 million bond approved by the taxpayers in 1947 for this and the Washington School in Billings. The first two wings opened for the fall 1949 school year. The third wing was scheduled to be constructed shortly thereafter. The building annex was under construction in summer and fall of 1956, designed by Cushing and Terrell, with Frates Construction Co. as the contractor.

**Statement of Significance:** The 1949 Highland School in Billings is significant as an early post-war modern school that incorporates a plan and motifs that would come to exemplify the design of post-war public schools, particularly elementary schools, through the 1960s. This building, while not typical of the plans and motifs of this era, may demonstrate an adaption of the design concepts to the Montana climate. Nonetheless, it is a good example of the design motifs and has excellent integrity.



*Midland Implement Co. Inc.*

**Name:** Midland Implement Co. Inc.

**SITS:** 24YL1858

**Address:** 402 Daniels Street, Billings

**Historic use:** Industrial building

**Current use:** Industrial building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criteria A and C

**Architectural description:** Midland Implement Company is located in the southwest quadrant of the intersection of Daniel Street and Monad Road. It is a one-story building with a largely square footprint and double-barrel vault roof. The building is concrete and concrete block construction with brick veneer, a concrete foundation, and a built-up roof. The roof structure is wood-frame, with wood bowstring trusses and joists. Window and door frames are aluminum. Overhead doors are primarily wood, but also metal. The building was designed by Cushing, Terrell and Associates of Billings and constructed by Hitz Construction of Billings in 1958.

**History:** The Midland Implement Company, Inc. was founded about 1921 in a brick warehouse and garage building at Montana Avenue and North 23<sup>rd</sup> Street (2303 Montana Avenue), across from the railroad station in downtown Billings. The business was established as an agricultural implement distribution business at a time when Billings was the center of a large, growing agricultural region. In the late 1950s, it re-located to a five-acre vacant site referred to as the Northern Pacific Industrial Site.

**Statement of Significance:** The Midland Implement Co. Inc. building is a good example of a vernacular industrial building that utilizes wood bowstring trusses in its double barrel vault roofs. The building gains additional significance under Criterion A, for its association with patterns of local history. The building is the corporate headquarters for this 90-year-old business, which is highly representative of Billings' history and industry in the past. The business' continued growth indicates that the building continues to serve the regional market as a wholesale distribution center. It retains good integrity.



*Newman Elementary School*

**Name:** Newman Elementary School

**SITS:** 24YL1863

**Address:** 605 South Billings Blvd., Billings

**Historic use:** Elementary school

**Current use:** Elementary school

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Newman Elementary School is located on a block bounded by South Billings Avenue on the west, Stone Street on the south, and Newman Lane on the east, southwest of central Billings. It is a one-story elementary school with a largely L-shaped plan and a flat roof with moderate eaves, where they occur. The main building is constructed of concrete masonry units with a brick veneer of striated, multi-colored bricks in a running bond pattern. The foundation is concrete; it has a built-up roof. Windows have aluminum frames and brick sills. Spandrel panels under the sills are painted, corrugated material. Clerestory windows are made up of small lights of translucent, textured glass (glass block). The addition is frame construction. The Modern school was designed by architect Chandler C. Cohagen of Billings and constructed in 1953 with a 1957 addition to the east, also designed by Chandler Cohagen.

**History:** The school was designed by Billings architect Chandler C. Cohagen in 1953. It was constructed by Hitz Construction. The east addition was designed by the same firm and constructed in 1957 by Wells Construction. The school was named after Florence Newman, Yellowstone County's first school teacher.

**Statement of Significance:** The Newman School is a good example of a later, mid-1950s elementary school. It displays some characteristics of the earlier post-war schools, including expansive window walls, clerestories that provide indirect lighting, and operable windows along one façade. It retains very good integrity.



*Washington Elementary School*

**Name:** Washington Elementary School

**SITS:** 24YL1864

**Address:** 1044 Cook Avenue, Billings

**Historic use:** Elementary school

**Current use:** Elementary school

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not individually eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** Washington Elementary School is a one-story school with a largely square footprint, interior courtyards, and a nearly square annex addition to the south. All roofs are flat or nearly flat. The original school is brick masonry construction. The new addition is post-and-beam construction with exposed beams and brick veneer on the solid walls. Windows on the original building are steel frame; windows on the addition have aluminum frames. The buildings have concrete foundations and built-up roofs. The modern school was constructed in 1948. The rear addition of four rooms was constructed in 1952 and the annex was developed in 1962. The building and additions were designed by Cushing and Terrell of Billings. The annex was designed by architect Evans Lamont & Cole Architects.

**History:** The Washington and Highland elementary schools in Billings were authorized by a \$1,162,000 bond approved by the taxpayers in 1947. The Washington School opened in January of 1949 and was the first “complete” school to be constructed in Billings District #2 since World War II, and the first new school built since 1930.

**Statement of Significance:** The Washington School is significant as the first “complete” post-World War II school to be constructed in Billings, and was the prototype school for future schools by prominent educational building designers Cushing and Terrell. It retains moderate integrity. If the main windows and clerestories were uncovered and the non-contributing addition removed, this building would retain integrity under Criterion C.



*West High School*

**Name:** West High School

**SITS:** 24YL1865

**Address:** 2201 Saint Johns Avenue, Billings

**Historic use:** High school

**Current use:** High school

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The West High School is a one-and-two-story building with an irregular footprint and flat roof. Structural materials include concrete, concrete masonry units, and steel frame. Cladding materials include brick veneer, exposed aggregate panels, and corrugated metal. Additional materials include aluminum and anodized-aluminum-frame doors and windows and glass block. Most of the complex is reinforced concrete with a concrete foundation and built-up roof with a gravel finish.

**History:** Constructed in 1958, West High School was designed by associated architects Nordquist & Sundell and Drake & Gustafson. The 30-acre parcel for the high school was purchased in 1958. As originally conceived, the high school had 40 classrooms; it was planned from the beginning for expansion. At the time, it was the largest construction project in Billings. The 1965 theater addition was designed by Loners & Stroebe, architects, and Hurlburt & Kersich, structural engineers. Further additions occurred in 1962, 1966 and 1975.

**Statement of Significance:** West High School is significant under Criterion C, as a good example of a post-war educational facility that embodies the principles of post-war school design and as a good example of a campus-style, suburban school that represents the most current thinking in architectural styles, materials, and construction methods. It maintains good integrity.



*Yellowstone County Courthouse*

**Name:** Yellowstone County Courthouse

**SITS:** 24YL1866

**Address:** 217 North 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Billings

**Historic use:** Courthouse

**Current use:** Courthouse

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criteria A and C

**Architectural description:** The Yellowstone County Courthouse, located in downtown Billings, is an eight-story building with a square footprint and a flat roof. The building is reinforced concrete with polished granite and glazed terra cotta finishes and aluminum and anodized aluminum frames for the windows and doors. It has a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. The Yellowstone County Courthouse is a Modern building, designed by Chandler C. Cohagen with associated architect Harry Loners, and constructed in 1957.

**History:** The 1958 Yellowstone County Courthouse replaced a 1905 Romanesque Revival courthouse that was originally located in the southwest corner of the block. Planning for a new building began in the mid-1940s. At the bid opening in February 1956, it was found that the bid exceeded the budget by roughly \$500,000. As a result, the building was re-designed as a reinforced concrete structure rather than steel-frame, and put out to bid again. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held September 12, 1956. It was the largest single construction project in Billings in 1957.

**Statement of Significance:** The Yellowstone County Courthouse is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent example of a mid-century government building, exemplifying the Modern characteristics of the time, and the contemporary interpretations of how a modern government building might convey a functional appearance, yet employ fine details, materials and finishes that reinforce the dignity of the building without being ostentatious. It gains additional significance under Criterion A, for its association with Billings's development in the mid-twentieth century, and as a political and social center of the community. It retains very good integrity.



*Brick Breeden Fieldhouse*

**Name:** Brick Breeden Fieldhouse

**SITS:** 24GA1795

**Address:** 1500-1698 South 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Bozeman

**Historic use:** Gymnasium

**Current use:** Gymnasium

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not eligible

**Architectural description:** The Brick Breeden Fieldhouse is located on the south side of the Montana State University - Bozeman campus. The original Fieldhouse has a cylindrical shape with a shallow, domed roof. It is a steel-frame structure clad in concrete masonry units and brick. It has a concrete foundation and a membrane roof, with a sheet metal fascia. The original main entry is glass curtain-wall, terminated in travertine-clad walls. Both new and original windows are typically aluminum or anodized aluminum. Doors include solid metal for utilitarian or support areas and glass doors for public entries. The newest portion of the building features brick cladding, some stucco panel cladding, and aluminum windows and doors. It was designed in 1956 by Willson & Berg (Fred F. Willson and Oswald Berg Jr.) and opened in 1958.

**History:** The Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, originally called a health and physical education center, appeared in the press as a model in January 1956. At that time, the building was envisioned as a domed cylinder with two broad, curving wings extending north and south to which auxiliary spaces would be attached. Additions were designed in 1969 by Berg-Grabow and Partners (the successor to Willson & Berg), and again in 1996 and 2007.

**Statement of Significance:** The Brick Breeden Fieldhouse is an important building on campus, and its construction was considered an accomplishment at the time it was built, an era when many campuses in Montana were growing and building student union buildings and fieldhouses to provide for extra-curricular and recreational opportunities for their students. Nonetheless, the building does not retain sufficient integrity today to be listed in the National Register under Criterion C.



*Danforth Chapel*

**Name:** Danforth Chapel

**SITS:** 24GA1796

**Address:** Montana State University Campus, Bozeman

**Historic use:** Chapel

**Current use:** Chapel

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criteria A and C

**Architectural description:** The inter-denominational Danforth Chapel is located on the grounds of the Montana State University - Bozeman. It is a small, one-story building with an L-shaped footprint and a shallow-pitched shed roof. The building is wood-frame construction with a pressed wood, clapboard finish, a concrete slab foundation, and a built-up roof. A stone masonry wall is incorporated as part of the building, but primarily projects into the landscape and provides a privacy screen between the main entry to the building and the chapel. Additional materials include stained glass. Windows have wood frames, and doors are flush wood.

**History:** The chapel was designed by Emanuel Milstein, an architecture graduate from Montana State University. It was built by about twenty Montana State College students beginning in 1950, using funds from a \$7,000 grant from the Danforth Foundation. The college covered the remaining estimated funds of \$13,000 through donations from faculty and students. It took two years to build the chapel. It was dedicated in June 1952.

**Statement of Significance:** The Danforth Chapel is significant under Criterion A, as one in a series of 24 chapels built throughout the United States by the Danforth Foundation, which was founded by William H. Danforth. It is also significant under Criterion A as part of the history of the Montana State University at Bozeman campus. The funding, design and construction of the chapel was initiated and primarily undertaken by students on the campus. The Chapel is also significant under Criterion C for its architectural design. It was designed by Emanuel Milstein, who went on to a career specializing in the design of sculpture for synagogues. It retains very good integrity.



*Langford Hall*

**Name:** Langford Hall

**SITS:** 24GA1797

**Address:** 801-1073 West Harrison, Bozeman

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** Langford Hall is a men's residence hall located in the northwest corner of the Montana State University – Bozeman campus. It is a four-story building with a basement and a flat roof. It has a double-cross shape in plan. It is constructed of concrete block clad in brick in a running bond pattern. The foundation is concrete and the roof is built-up. Spandrel panels are faced with glazed brick in a pale green color. There are no eaves. The building is finished in a sheet metal cornice that displays a stepped pattern and is pale green in color. Windows and doors have aluminum frames. Canopies over the doors have an aluminum fascia. The entry arcade is reinforced concrete construction. It is a Modern building, designed by McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa and constructed in 1960.

**History:** The building was designed in June of 1959 by architects McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa. It was named after Nathaniel P. Langford, who was a leader of the 1870 Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition sent to explore the upper Yellowstone. Nathaniel Langford was also the first Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park.

**Statement of Significance:** The building is architecturally significant as a good example of a modern, post-war residence hall that also retains integrity. The materials, design, and detailing are typical of the post-war era, and the bold geometric forms represent a good example of some of the architectural experimentation being undertaken by the Montana State University - Bozeman at that time. It retains excellent integrity.



*McCall Hall*

**Name:** McCall Hall

**SITS:** 24GA1799

**Address:** 1201-1399 S 11th Ave., Bozeman

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criteria A and C

**Architectural description:** McCall Hall is located on the west side of the Montana State University – Bozeman campus. It is a one-story building with a U-shaped footprint and a flat roof. The building is brick masonry on concrete block, with a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. The brick is multi-colored with a combed finish. It has glazed terra cotta detailing, aluminum-frame windows and doors, a metal fascia and metal coping. Some windows are glazed with colored and textured glass. It is a Modern building, likely designed by Fred F. Willson (unconfirmed).

**History:** McCall Hall was constructed as a research laboratory of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station. Today it is used as a “chemistry analytical laboratory and an education technology lab.” The Agricultural Experiment Station Analytical Laboratory is still housed there. Today it is called the Chemistry Research-TV Building and displays a dense array of satellites and communications equipment in the side yard.

**Statement of Significance:** McCall Hall is significant as a good example of a small scale, post-war academic building. It is particularly characteristic of a Modern building for the fact that it uses materials – multi-colored brick, terra cotta and colored and textured glass – as its decorative elements and relies on composition to enhance the simple building form. The building is also significant because of its association with MSU-Bozeman as the state’s primary Land Grant university. The building was developed as a state-of-the-art laboratory to assist with the state’s livestock and range management programs in the post-war era; as such it is eligible under Criterion A. It retains very good integrity.



*Reid Hall*

**Name:** Reid Hall

**SITS:** 24GA1798

**Address:** 900 Garfield, Bozeman

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** Reid Hall is located within the heart of the Montana State University - Bozeman campus, just southwest of the central campus building, the 1896 Montana Hall. It is a four-story building with an L-shaped footprint and a flat roof. Reid Hall is a concrete block building clad in combed brick in a running bond pattern. Exterior 'ribs' are reinforced concrete clad in travertine. It has a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. Windows and doors have aluminum frames. The roof line is finished with a narrow metal coping. It is a Modern building, designed in 1957 by Cushing, Terrell & Associates.

**History:** When planned, Reid Hall was to provide additional classrooms, office space, conference rooms, and lecture rooms for the campus. The building opened in January 1959. It was the first building on the campus financed exclusively by student fees. The building was named after James Reid, the second MSU president, who served from 1894 to 1904.

**Statement of Significance:** Reid Hall is significant as a good example of a post-war academic building that displays excellent integrity, and as the work of the Billings architectural firm Cushing, Terrell & Associates, now CTA. This firm was highly regarded for the work in education and healthcare in the post-war years, and continues to this day with six offices throughout the west coast. The building displays excellent integrity.



*Billion Dealership*

**Name:** Billion Dealership

**SITS:** 24GA1794

**Address:** 1919 West Main Street, Bozeman

**Historic use:** Car dealership

**Current use:** Car dealership

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Billion car dealership is located at the corner of West Main Street and North 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It is a one-story building with an irregular footprint. The foundation is concrete and the roof is built-up. The building materials include laminated wood ‘ribs’ and cladding that includes stucco-finished composite panels and plate glass, contemporary corrugated metal, and concrete block. Aluminum-frame windows and doors and metal overhead garage doors complete the list of materials on the building. It is a Googie building designed by Oswald Berg Jr. and constructed in 1968.

**History:** The Billion car dealership was developed by its original owners, Robert F. Dye and his partner Lou Jones as a GM dealership. It was designed and constructed by Bozeman architect Oswald Berg Jr. in 1968 to house the dealership, which was originally located at 512 East Main Street. The property was sold in May 1978 to Joseph Billion. Over the years at least two major additions have been made to the building, the service bays to the north and the two loading bays on the west side of the building. The property was sold to Susan Pederson in 2002, who in turn sold it to CVS Pharmacy in 2008, which plans to redevelop the site about 2012 for a large, mixed-use commercial development.

**Statement of Significance:** The Billion car dealership building is significant as an excellent example of Googie architecture. While the building’s integrity is only fair, the dramatic and iconic form of the showroom ensures that this portion of the building is what is most noticeable, not building additions or window replacements. HABS documentation has been prepared for this building in anticipation of its demolition.



*Petroleum Building*

**Name:** Petroleum Building

**SITS:** 24SB1042

**Address:** 1300 West Park Street, Butte

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Petroleum Building is located on the west side of the Montana Tech campus, one of five buildings that define the main quad on the campus. It is a two-story building with a basement, a largely rectangular footprint and gable-on-hip roof. It is a brick masonry building with a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. The brick has a combed finish and is richly colored in shades of terra cotta, green and brown. The terra cotta tiles at the entry have a mottled finish in shades of pale green. The aluminum frames of the windows, which are new, are pale green. Additional materials include concrete and what appears to be a copper fascia on the canopies of the rear entries. It was designed by the J. G. Link & Co. architecture firm and constructed in 1953, with modifications in 1957.

**History:** Funds were appropriated to build the Petroleum Building through a five million dollar bond approved by the voters of Montana in 1948. It was to contain classrooms and laboratories for the petroleum engineering division and physics department, as well as an electrical machinery laboratory. The first phase was completed in 1953. The second floor was renovated and an addition constructed in 1957 (likely the roof), but a planned third story was never added. A pitched roof set back from the building parapet was, however, added later.

**Statement of Significance:** The Petroleum Building is significant as an excellent example of the Stripped Classical or PWA Moderne style, and for its association with the firm of J. G. Link & Co., one of the premier architecture firms in Montana. The Petroleum Building exemplifies the Stripped Classical style, with its symmetry, contrast of horizontal and vertical elements, subtle detailing, and use of materials. It displays moderate integrity, due to replacement windows which, nonetheless, retain the original pattern of muntins and mullions.



*Student Union Building*

**Name:** Student Union Building

**SITS:** 24SB1043

**Address:** 1300 West Park Street, Butte

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not eligible

**Architectural description:** The Student Union Building is located on the west side of the Montana Tech campus, one of five buildings that define the main quad on the campus. It is a two-story building with an irregular footprint and flat, shallow-pitched gable, and mansard roofs. The Student Union Building is composed of a variety of materials, reflecting its various phases of construction. It is constructed of brick on concrete masonry construction. There are at least two different types of brick on the structure, laid in various patterns. The roof is a combination of built-up roofing and standing seam metal roofing. It has a concrete foundation. Glazing is a combination of glass and plexi- or colored glass. Window and door frames are aluminum and anodized aluminum. Additional materials include panels finished in aggregate stone, pressed metal, and concrete. The building, completed in 1958, has had one major addition and two renovations. The original building was designed by architect Eldred F. Moyle of Butte. The addition was designed by Charles A. Kestle of Butte.

**History:** The building as first conceived in 1958 and constructed in 1960 had a light, airy, almost residential feel. It was relatively small, with a largely L-shaped footprint. In 1969, the students voted to expand the building. The new construction, which included an addition on the west side and alteration of other facades, was completed in late 1971. The student union was renovated again in 1983 and 1998.

**Statement of Significance:** The Student Union Building at Montana Tech is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places due to lack of integrity.



*Central Catholic High School*

**Name:** Central Catholic High School

**SITS:** 24SB1044

**Address:** 9 South Idaho Street

**Historic use:** High School

**Current use:** High School

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Girls Central High School in Butte is located on the east side of South Idaho Street between West Park and West Galena. It is a U-shaped building with a one-story wing and a three-story wing, and features basement and flat rooflines. The building is reinforced concrete with steel joists, clad in brick, with a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. Windows, which are steel-frame, are enframed with projecting concrete surrounds. The main entries have wood doors covered with a concrete canopy in a steel frame. Glass block windows are located at the basement levels. Detailing throughout is concrete and brick. The name of the school, “Central High School,” is spelled out in free-standing aluminum letters on the north side of the south wing. Designed by J. G. Link & Co. in 1950, it is an International Style building.

**History:** The J.G. Link & Co. firm designed the building in 1949-50. It opened in September of 1951. When first built, the Girls Central High School consisted of an auditorium with a stage in the southeast corner and a gym in the basement in the northwest corner, in addition to classrooms and offices. The school was an all-girl high school until 1969, when it was adapted for co-ed education. Today, it operates as the central, and only, Catholic high school in Butte, and has an enrollment of 140 students.

**Statement of Significance:** The Girls Central High School is significant as an excellent and rare example of the International Style in Montana. It is also significant for its association with the firm of J. G. Link & Co., which designed numerous significant modern buildings in Montana from the late 1940s on, continuing the earlier outstanding career of founder J. G. Link in his partnership Link & Haire. The building retains excellent integrity.



*Kennedy School*

**Name:** Kennedy School

**SITS:** 24SB1045

**Address:** 1101 North Emmet Avenue, Butte

**Historic use:** Elementary school

**Current use:** Elementary school

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The John Fitzgerald Kennedy Elementary School is located in far northwest Butte, on a hillside west and north of a residential neighborhood. It is a three-story building with each 'part' rising just one story, with an irregular footprint. The building is a curtain wall structure with a steel frame and a glass and solid-panel curtain wall. The brick-clad portions of the building are likely reinforced concrete construction, similar to the many retaining walls on the site. The building has a concrete foundation and a membrane roof. Additional materials include brick cladding, metal doors, contemporary corrugated metal for the newer accessory structures, wire mesh screening on the buildings and tubular metal balustrades, and a stucco finish for the stack. It was designed by J. G. Link & Co. and constructed in 1958-59.

**History:** The Board of Trustees accepted the plans in February 1958, and J.G. Link & Co.'s final drawings are dated March 13, 1958. Bids were opened on April 8, 1958. The general contractor was Cahill-Mooney Construction Co. Initially the school was to have sixteen classrooms, but ultimately eight were planned and constructed.

**Statement of Significance:** The Kennedy School building is significant as an excellent and intact example of a post-war elementary school. It is also significant to the community as the last elementary school left on the 'hill.' The school was re-named after President John F. Kennedy immediately after his assassination in 1963. On the occasion of the building's dedication ceremony in 1963, Senator Mike Mansfield presented the flag flown at half mast over the White House during the funeral of President Kennedy to the school principal. The building retains excellent integrity.



*Safeway Store*

**Name:** Safeway Grocery

**SITS:** 24SB1041

**Address:** 310 West Front Street, Butte

**Historic use:** Grocery store

**Current use:** Grocery store

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Safeway Store on Front Street is located south of downtown Butte. It is a one-story retail store with a rectangular footprint. It has a shallow, barrel-vaulted roof with flat-roofed ‘wings’ to the north and south, along the side facades, and at the back. It is constructed of concrete block, with wood trusses on steel columns. Additional materials include molded concrete block and the glass curtain wall on the front façade, which is set within an aluminum frame. The building has a concrete foundation and what appears to be a membrane roof. The Safeway store is designed in the “Marina” style that was prototyped by Safeway in 1959. It was constructed in 1963.

**History:** The first Safeway Store on Front Street was built about 1951. It was constructed at the front (west end) of the lot, along Montana Avenue. The Front Street store interior was remodeled in 1958, but by 1963, Safeway decided to build a whole new store. The new store was constructed on the east side of the lot, and the original store on the west side was demolished once construction was complete. The new store, which opened September 23, 1963, nearly doubled the size of the previous store.

**Statement of Significance:** The Safeway store on Front Street is significant as the first and only remaining Safeway store in Butte designed in the “marina” style, a style introduced by Safeway in 1959 and seen at mid-century in Safeway stores throughout the country and internationally. The building has excellent design integrity on the exterior and interior. It is a unique structure, not only in Butte but likely at the national level.



*Webster Garfield School*

**Name:** Webster Garfield School

**SITS:** 24SB1046

**Address:** 1050 South Montana Street, Butte

**Historic use:** Elementary school

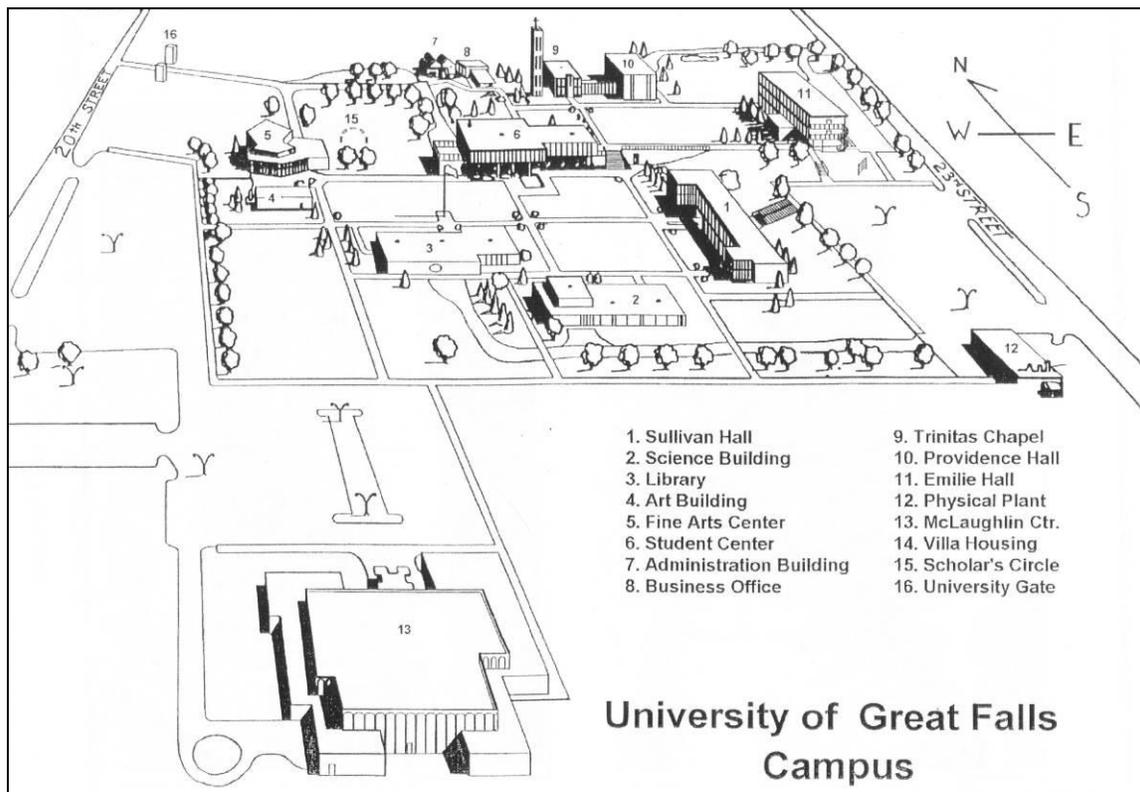
**Current use:** Alternative school

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Webster Garfield Complex is located at the intersection of South Montana Street and West Front Street south of downtown Butte. It is a one-story school building with an irregular footprint, consisting of two, long, east-west wings connected by a shorter north-south wing on the west side, and a larger rectangular wing on the north side. It is brick masonry construction with a built-up roof and concrete foundation. Most of the roofs are shallow-sloped shed roofs. The doors are wood, and most of the windows have wood frames. An exception is the large room in the northeast corner of the building, which has steel sash. The clerestory windows are glass block. It was designed by J. G. Link & Co. and constructed in 1949.

**History:** The Webster Garfield School was designed by the renowned Montana firm of J. G. Link & Co. in 1946-47 and constructed in 1949. According to the school district, it was “cited as one of America’s outstanding school buildings” at the time. It had sixteen classrooms and “rooms for sewing, cooking, gym, library, music room, auditorium and three health department rooms.” Today the building is a public alternative school and accommodates a daycare and all grade levels. It additionally provides a number of special education and social service programs.

**Statement of Significance:** The Webster Garfield School is significant as the first post-war school in Butte and the first school to embody modern planning and design principles that reflected contemporary thinking about school design. It is also significant as the work of John Gustav Link and his firm of J. G. Link & Co. The building has very good integrity.



**Name:** University of Great Falls

**SITS:** 24CA1531

**Address:** 1301 20<sup>th</sup> Street South, Great Falls

**Historic use:** University campus

**Current use:** University campus

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The original campus of the University of Great Falls is located on a large block bounded by 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, a major thoroughfare, on the north; 23<sup>rd</sup> Street South on the east; 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue South on the south; and 20<sup>th</sup> Street South on the west. Today, this block includes a large retail complex housing a Target and Albertsons store, as well as some smaller retail outlets on the north side. Also within the original main campus block are the McLaughlin Research Institute and the McLaughlin Center, the physical education center for the college.

The original campus is laid out in a loose grid that is slightly skewed from the gridiron of the surrounding area. The original large parking areas for the campus are wedge-shaped and located on the east and west sides. Major pedestrian entrances to the campus are correspondingly located along these edges. A newer parking area is located near the southwest corner, in front of the McLaughlin Center. A driveway is located in the northwest corner, leading to a small parking area by the Business Office and Administration Building. Another wedge-shaped parking area is located in the northeast corner, near Emilie Hall.

While there are large open spaces on the campus, there is little formal landscaping. The landscaping that exists is informal in nature and consists primarily of mature evergreen trees. The center of the campus is marked by a crossing of primary north-south and east-west walkways. The four quadrants

here are largely vacant, but offer a vantage point from which most of the campus is visible, including the design of some of the campus's most striking buildings.

The materials of the original buildings on campus are consistent throughout, with the exception of the Administration Building, which was moved to the site. The structures are modern, curtain wall buildings composed of solid, painted, metal panels and glass in aluminum frames. The foundations are concrete and the roofs are built-up, finished with narrow metal copings. Structurally, the buildings are a mix of load bearing masonry, steel, and reinforced concrete. The brick walls are multi-colored, laid in a running bond pattern. Doors are aluminum, and balustrades are metal. Utility doors are typically flush metal doors. A decorative concrete screen wall is incorporated in the Art Building. Individual buildings occasionally depart from these descriptions, but these additional materials tend to be replacement materials, where they occur.

The massing of the individual buildings on the University of Great Falls campus tends to be simple and straight-forward, typical of curtain wall buildings, but each building displays a particular feature that distinguishes it from the others. For these reasons, the majority of the buildings stand eligible for listing in the National Register both individually and as contributors to the historic district. Each building is described below. Numbers are correlated to the map above.



*Sullivan Hall*

**1. Sullivan Hall.** Sullivan Hall is a two-story building with a flat roof and a largely rectangular footprint. It is located on the east side of the campus, adjacent to a large, wedge-shaped parking lot on the east boundary. The building defines the east side of the main quad on the campus; its main entry is at the southwest corner, on the campus side of the building. The open passage and covered plaza on the north side of the building represents the main pedestrian entry to the campus in this location. The building and plaza are sited at grade.

The building is a curtain wall structure. The curtain wall is made up of fixed and awning-style windows and metal panels within an aluminum frame, and occurs on the east, west and north building facades. These glazed walls are interspersed with sections of brick walls with the exception of the south end wall, which is all brick. The brick is multi-colored and laid in a running bond pattern. A

narrow metal coping defines the building roof, which has no eaves. The foundation is concrete slab and the building has a built-up roof. The interior rooms are arranged in a linear fashion and face east. The hall accessing the rooms is on the west side of the building. Sullivan Hall is contributing to a potential historic district.



*Science Hall*

**2. Science Building.** The Science Building is a one-story building with two penthouses, flat roofs, and a rectangular footprint. It is located on the south side of the original campus. Along with the Library, it defines the south end of the campus quad. Its main entry is located on the north face of the building, facing the center of the campus. The building is sited at grade. A greenhouse is located at the southeast corner of the building.

Like the other buildings on campus, this building is a curtain wall structure. It is atypical, however, in that more of the building façade is brick than in the other structures, likely reflecting the interior uses of the building. The curtain walls on this building are designed as follows. The glazed portions of the curtain wall extend from grade to nearly the top of the building. A very narrow solid panel is located directly under the building's eaves. The upper light is the tallest, with an awning-style sash occurring just below center. At the bottom is a fixed light or solid metal panel. Some windows are full-height glass, and some have three fixed lights. Another characteristic of this building that is different from other buildings on the campus is the use of clerestory windows, which are located directly under eaves on the east and west facades of the building. Like the other buildings, the foundation is concrete, the roof is built-up, and a narrow metal coping finishes the roof. Originally the east-west hall linking the classrooms was located on the north side of the building. Because of an addition on the north side of the building, this hallway accesses classrooms on both the north and south sides of the building. The north façade of the addition diminishes the integrity of the building considerably. Therefore, under Criterion C, the Science Building is not eligible individually, nor does it contribute to a potential historic district.



*Library*

**3. Library.** The library building is a one-story building with a flat roof and an L-shaped footprint. It is located on the east side of the campus, the only building in the four quadrants that make up the interior open space for the campus. It originally housed both the campus administration and the library. Today, it houses just the library in the original building and an addition constructed in 1999. The building faces north and is oriented toward the interior of the campus. It is sited at grade.

Like the Science Building, the Library has many more solid walls than the curtain wall structures on the campus. The new addition on the south side of the building has mostly brick walls. It appears that the original portion of the building is curtain wall construction however. The curtain wall is made up of glazed and solid metal panels in an aluminum frame. Brick is multi-colored and in a running bond pattern in the original portion, and a solid brick color in the new addition. The building has a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. The roof is finished with a narrow metal coping. It has no eaves. The Library is contributing to a potential historic district, but is not individually eligible due to changes to the building.



*Fine Arts building and Annex*

**4. Art Building.** The Art Building is located across the courtyard from the Fine Arts Center. It historically housed the visual arts programs, in contrast to the dramatic arts, housed in the Fine Arts Center. The Art Building is a one-story building with a basement about a half-level below grade. It has a rectangular footprint and a flat roof. It is located in the northwest corner of the campus, south of the Fine Arts Center. It is oriented toward the north. A plaza is located between the two structures, protected by a low, open brick screen wall on the west edge. The main level of the building occurs slightly above grade; the lower level is accessed from the interior of the building.

The building is a curtain wall structure with the north and south facades comprising curtain walls and the east and west facades being brick masonry. The curtain wall is made up of fixed and awning-style windows. The roof is finished in a painted metal gutter that encircles its perimeter. A brick and metal kiln is located on the west façade. A decorative concrete (CMU) screen is located on the south façade. The foundation is concrete and the roof is built-up. The Art Building is individually eligible for listing in the National Register and is contributing to a potential historic district.

**5. Fine Arts Center.** The Fine Arts Center is the main building in a two-building complex that includes the Art Building to its immediate south. The Fine Arts Building is a two-story building with an irregular footprint. There is a slight butterfly shape to the roof, as viewed from the west. The part of the building that represents the theater has a high roofline than the remainder of the building. The building anchors the northwest corner of the campus and faces south, toward the building's annex. One of two major walkways into the campus from the west parking area is located between the two art buildings. The walkway goes through a plaza area between the two buildings, accessed via eighteen concrete steps with a tubular metal rail. The building is sited at grade. The site, however, slopes down toward the parking area on the west side of the building.

The building is a combination of curtain wall and solid brick. The glazed portion of the building occurs on the south façade, which is the public face of the building. It is supported by large columns placed slightly behind the wall, in the interior foyer of this structure. The typical curtain wall on this building consists of three-part, full-height, fixed light windows with a small solid metal panel near the top alternating with a panel whose lower two-thirds is a solid metal panel, surmounted by a square single light and a small solid metal panel near the top. The remainder of the building is a

combination of brick masonry and brick veneer. The roof is finished with a narrow metal coping. The foundation is concrete and it has a built-up roof.

This building, which had a 378-seat theater when built, historically housed the theater and music programs. The Fine Arts Center is individually eligible for listing in the National Register and contributing to a potential historic district.



*Student Center*

**6. Student Center.** The Student Center is a two-story building (a main floor and lower level) with a largely T-shaped footprint and a flat roof. It defines the north side of the quad but is visually in the center of the campus. The Student Center is linked to the west side of the campus and the west parking lot by a main walkway that passes in front of the building, on the south side. It is linked to the east side of the campus and the east parking lot by a walkway from the east side that extends across a bridge-like structure and enters the building at the main floor. From the south, the building presents a two-story façade. From the north, it appears to be one story. There is a service area on a retained 'platform' on the west side of the building.

The building is a curtain wall structure with relatively few openings. The front south façade displays the most glazed areas. The windows at the upper level are typically floor-to-ceiling glazing. The windows at the lower level are more similar to those found elsewhere on the campus, with a three-part window on the upper portion and a solid panel below. The projecting lower level of the building is supported by large concrete columns. The flat roof is finished in a narrow metal coping. The brick walls are multicolored in a running bond pattern. The foundation is concrete and the roof is built-up. Concrete walls retain the platform that forms the service area on the west side and the bridge that leads from the east campus on the east side. The balustrade at the outdoor patio area and bridge on the east side of the building is wire mesh within an aluminum frame. The Student Center is individually eligible for listing in the National Register and is contributing to a potential historic district.



*Business Office/Administration*

**7 & 8. Business Office/Administration.** The Business Office building is part of the original campus that opened in 1960. In the 1958 model of the campus, it was envisioned as Men's Faculty Housing. Administration was housed with the Library, and the Administrative Building adjacent to the Business Office today was not present. This building is a former branch bank and was moved to the site in 1973. Today, it is part of the Business Office and is connected to the Administration Building with a short gallery with an internal hallway and offices.

The original portion of the Business Office is a one-story building with a flat roof and a T-shaped footprint. It is located on the north side of the campus, close to the north property line. The building is accessed from a driveway and parking area to the west, and connected to the main campus via pedestrian walkways. It is linked to the Administration Building to the west with an internal hallway on the south side of the addition connecting the two buildings, and by a sidewalk on the south side of the building. Today, with the addition of the Administration Building, the building has an irregularly shaped footprint and a combination of flat and gabled roofs. Both portions of the building are oriented south, toward the main campus and sited at grade.

The Business Office is a frame building with brick cladding on the public sides and vertical grained wood cladding on the rear facades. It has single, paired, and ganged one-over-one-light, double-hung windows with wood frames and brick sills on the public facades and tall, aluminum-frame windows on the rear facades. A few large, fixed, single-light windows with wood frames are located on the east façade. It exhibits a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. It has a combination of no eaves and deep eave overhangs. The rear roofline is slightly higher than the roof on the front (south side) of the building.

The Administration Building is a frame building with brick veneer and striated shingle siding. It has ganged, fixed, single light windows on the front façade and four-light, double-hung windows with wood frames on the rear facades. It has a concrete foundation and a composition shingle roof. This building appears to have been built ca. 1940. The small addition that links the two buildings has

ganged, double-hung windows on the front façade and wood cladding and limited openings on the rear façade. The Business Office/Administration building is non-contributory to a potential historic district because of the addition in 1973 of the Administration building. Note that if the Business Office was removed in the future, the Administration building would be contributing to a potential historic district.



*Trinitas Chapel/Providence Tower*

**9. Trinitas Chapel/Providence Tower.** The Trinitas Chapel is one building that changed substantially between the time that the model for the campus was presented in 1958 and final construction. In the model, the Chapel was envisioned as a modest, multi-sided structure with a folded plate roof. It was located mid-way between the Men's Faculty Housing (the Business Office) and Women's Faculty Housing (Providence Hall today). In the birds-eye photograph of the campus published late in 1960, the chapel displays its present form with the gallery linking it to Providence Hall and a wall near the rear of the building, which forms a courtyard between the two buildings. Today, the bell tower or campanile accompanies the chapel, making this a focal point of the campus.

The Chapel is a tall, one-story building with a rectangular footprint and a flat roof. It is located on the north edge of campus, near the center. It is a focal point partly because of its dramatic appearance, but mostly because of the campanile, as the chapel itself is partially screened from view of the main campus by the Student Center building. A walkway that extends across the entire length of the original campus terminates near the doorway of the chapel in a small plaza area. Because this walkway changes level at the Student Center, however, it is not visually a direct route. The building is oriented toward the south and the interior of the campus. It is sited at grade.

The Chapel is a curtain wall structure with an exterior frame of reinforced concrete with infill panels of brick. The frame 'describes' the outer edges of a cubic form, which is cut away at the corners to form a modulated façade within this overall frame. Windows in the building have aluminum or wood frames. Many of the windows on the building façade are stained glass. A gallery with a window wall with full-height glass (the Trinitas Gallery) connects the chapel and Providence Hall. Vertical

concrete ‘louvers’ project from the side façades of the building under an extended eave at about the one-story level. The main central portion of the building is flanked by two one-story projections on the north, rear façade. These are finished in glass and metal panels on the south face. The foundation is concrete and the roof is built-up. The eaves and the roof of the building terminate in a narrow, metal coping.

The interior of the chapel and the Trinitas Gallery display artwork by Sister Trinitas Morin, including the stained glass windows, wood carvings, mosaics, and a wood and metal mural. A small aluminum cross is located above the doorway at the main entrance to the chapel.

Providence Tower, the campanile or bell tower that is southwest of the chapel, was designed by the same firm that designed the rest of the campus, Page & Werner, and constructed in 1965. It is 80 feet high, of reinforced steel and concrete and brick. A twenty foot high aluminum cross is located on the top of this tower. The Chapel and Tower, although not part of the original master plan for the campus, is contributing to a potential historic district and is individually eligible for listing in the National Register.



*Providence Hall*

**10. Providence Hall.** Providence Hall is the original Women’s Faculty Housing for the campus. It is a two-story building with a flat roof and a rectangular footprint. It is parallel and adjacent to the chapel, to which it is connected with a gallery and linked with a walled courtyard. It historically served as a convent for the university. The courtyard likely served as a private outdoor area for the nuns and the gallery was a direct link to the chapel.

Providence Hall is located on the north edge of the campus, toward the east side. It is adjacent to a large open space between the building and 23<sup>rd</sup> Street South to the east, but is screened with evergreen trees from this open space. It can be accessed from a sidewalk on the south side which extends to a sidewalk on the west side, the public face of this building. The building is sited at grade.

The building is a curtain wall structure, with the curtain wall located on the long east and west facades. It is made up of fixed and awning-style windows and metal panels within an aluminum frame. The north and south facades are clad in brick masonry. The roof is finished in a narrow metal coping. The foundation is concrete and the roof is built-up. A tower and mechanical room with

newer brick cladding are located on the west façade. This likely accommodates an elevator and ADA access. Providence Hall is individually eligible for listing in the National Register and is contributing to a potential historic district.



*Emilie Hall*

**11. Emilie Hall.** Emilie Hall is named for Emilie Tavernier Gamelin (1800-1851), the founder of the Sisters of Charity of Providence, who founded the college. Originally, this was the residence hall for female students; it is still a residence hall. The 1960 article in the *Eastern Montana Catholic Register* provided a great deal of detail on the hall and the modern and convenient facilities it provided for the students: “In designing the rooms in Emily Hall [sic], the architects made every effort to create a home-like atmosphere combining useability [sic] with simple elegance.” The modern furnishings were also described, including Formica-clad desks, a fiberglass chair, and built-ins. The article stated that Emily Hall was “the newest, most modern and up-to-date residence hall for women in the whole northwest, is a home away from home for the coeds at the College of Great Falls.”<sup>100</sup>

Emilie Hall is located in the northeast corner of the campus, north of the east parking area. It has a smaller wedge-shaped parking area between the building and 23<sup>rd</sup> Street to the east. It is accessed via a sidewalk from the east parking lot, which also includes a stair with twelve concrete steps. The building is located at grade, but is sited slightly higher than the parking area to the south.

Emilie Hall is a three-story building, the tallest building on campus, with a flat roof and an L-shaped footprint. It is a curtain wall structure. The curtain wall is made up of fixed and awning-style windows and metal panels within an aluminum frame, and occurs on the east and west facades of the building. The two upper stories, supported by large concrete-clad columns, originally extended over an open area at the ground floor at both the south and north ends; today just the south end remains open. The upper two floors project slightly over the lower floor on the east and west facades. Open

<sup>100</sup> *What is the College of Great Falls*, 1960.

stairways exist under a deep cantilevered overhang on the south end. On the north end this has been augmented with an enclosed stair tower and elevator. The building has a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. A narrow coping finishes the roofline; there are no eaves. Emilie Hall is individually eligible for listing in the National Register and is contributing to a potential historic district.



*The Physical Plant*

**12. Physical Plant.** The Physical Plant is located in the southeast corner of the original campus, close to 23<sup>rd</sup> Street South. It is also located south of the main, east parking lot. A work yard is located on the west or campus side of the building and a driveway is located on the north side, connecting it to the main arterial. Another unpaved driveway extends from the Physical Plant to the Science Building and Library. A sidewalk along the west side of the parking area leads to the main campus via the two east-west sidewalks into the campus. Another east-west sidewalk south of the driveway leads to the McLaughlin Center.

The Physical Plant has a power substation adjacent to it, on the northeast corner. On the southeast corner is a fenced storage area with tall cyclone fencing and a small metal enclosure attached to the building. On the southwest corner is a contemporary metal building.

The Physical Plant, called the Maintenance Plant when first constructed, boasted two LaMont Recirculating Generators that heated water used to heat the entire campus, including the sidewalks, through underground tunnels. The power substation provided the power to the campus. The Physical Plant is contributing to a potential historic district.



*McLaughlin Center*

**13. McLaughlin Center.** McLaughlin Center, part of the master plan for the campus, was not built until 1965, the McLaughlin family donated money to build the facility. The building is located where it was envisioned in the master plan, as seen in the 1958 model for the campus. It is in the far southwest corner of the campus, directly south of the Fine Arts Center, to which it is connected with a sidewalk. A large parking area separates the center from the main part of campus. This parking area stretches from the south edge of the original campus to the west edge, to the building.

The model for the building shows a somewhat L-shaped structure, with a large volume toward the rear and a shorter volume that wrapped around it on the north and west sides. The building faced north, toward the main campus. The early rendering showed that a large super-structure articulated the building, appearing as regularly spaced pilasters along the east and west facades and projections above the roofline, spaced at regular intervals. The upper, north-facing wall was glazed. Most of the north-facing entry pavilion was curtain wall construction, with the exception of a brick-clad portion to the east.

The building today has a different appearance than the initial rendering. It has a main central volume with lower volumes on the east and west sides and at the northeast corner. The main entry is located near the center of the front (north) façade and consists of rows of double entry doors with full-height glass, large full-height sidelights, and rows of transom windows. Regularly spaced windows along the one-story portions of the east and west facades are similar to the design of windows found on the curtain walls elsewhere on campus, with two lights in the center, and solid panels above and below.

The main volume of the building is brick, with regularly spaced brick pilasters that extend to a slightly projecting cornice. The profile of this feature forms a flat arch, presaging the New Formalism architectural style popular from the mid-1960s through the 1970s. The lower level volumes have plain brick walls terminating in a narrow metal coping. The rear façade displays four large, square, fixed windows with a bowed window feature in the center. McLaughlin Center is contributing to a potential historic district.

**History:** The Catholic bishop of the Dioceses of Great Falls founded the University of Great Falls in 1932. It began as a two-year liberal arts and science college for women, taught by the Ursuline Sisters and the Sisters of Providence. Beginning in 1935, it was called the Great Falls Normal College and held classes at the Ursuline Academy and in a building by Columbus Hospital. By the late 1930s, the college expanded to offer four-year degrees, was called the Great Falls College of Education, and had admitted its first male student. In 1942, it closed the campus at Ursuline Academy, and in 1943, the Sisters of Providence solely administered the college.

Supporting the United States' interests in World War II, the college began offering programs such as preflight aeronautics, astronomy for navigation, and radio broadcasting in 1940. In the early 1950s, its name was changed to the College of Great Falls. The new campus, opened in 1960, allowed the school to cater to resident students as well as commuting students. In 1995, the name changed again to the University of Great Falls.

**Planning the new campus.** The sisters of the college had been making a case for a new campus since the mid-1940s; by 1944 they began acquiring land. By about 1957, they held 104 acres and publicly announced their plans to construct the new campus. The architectural firm chosen for the project was Page & Werner of Great Falls, who began with a master plan, published in 1957. It called for the construction of eleven buildings, with an additional eight buildings to be built beginning in the early 1970s. An early 1958 model of the new campus was published in the Great Falls Tribune. It showed the campus largely as it appears today, with the exception of the chapel, the addition of the Administration Building and Providence Tower, and the Physical Education Center (McLaughlin Center today), which was not built until 1965. The college opened for classes September 19, 1960.

**Statement of Significance:** The University of Great Falls is architecturally significant and eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. The campus was planned, designed, and, for the most part, constructed as a whole. Most of the original campus was constructed in 1959-60. It reflects a unified design vision, where each building is designed in the same architectural vocabulary, with minor variations to individually distinguish them. The concept of a unified plan such as this was indicative of the times, when there was both a great demand for new college facilities, and a desire for college campuses, as well as other institutions, to reflect a vision for the future rather than associations with the past. It was also part of a trend to build totally new campuses, rather than provide infill buildings on existing campuses or within existing facilities. Most of the buildings are contributing to a potential historic district; several are individually significant for their architectural design as well.



*Bennett Motors*

**Name:** Bennett Motors

**SITS:** 24CA1528

**Address:** 26 9th Street South, Great Falls

**Historic use:** Car dealership

**Current use:** Car dealership

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criteria A and B

**Architectural description:** Bennett Motors is located at the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South and 9<sup>th</sup> Street South. It is a two-story building (one story with a mezzanine), with an L-shaped footprint and a flat roof. The type of construction is unknown; it has a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. Most of the building is clad in brick, but it also displays decorative concrete masonry units (CMU), plain CMU, corrugated metal, and hollow clay brick. Window frames include anodized aluminum, steel, and wood. Pedestrian door frames include anodized aluminum and wood. There is one wood overhead door on the site; other overhead doors are metal (insulated aluminum). It is a Modern structure with Streamline Moderne influences in the rounded corners on the main showroom. It was designed by Melvin A. Nelson and constructed in 1948.

**History:** The Bennett Motors building was built in at least three stages. The main, L-shaped building was constructed in 1948. By 1957, an addition housing an auto repair shop had been added at the northwest corner. Today, another structure is located south of this building, to infill the lot to the property line along 9<sup>th</sup> Street South. A 2002 survey of the building notes that building changes took place in 1962 (interior remodel), 1966 (addition), 1967 (mezzanine constructed) and 1978 (re-roof).

Bennett Motors got its start in 1916 as Pierse Auto Company, located at 307 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North in Great Falls, where Carroll Bennett, the founder of Bennett Motors, sold Oakland and Chevrolet cars. Bennett established his own dealership in 1929 as "Bennett Nash." He began to distribute Pontiacs in 1939, GMC truck in 1958, Subaru in 1972, Buick in 1995, and expanded to include Budget Rent-A-Car services in 1998. He constructed the present building in 1948 as a showroom and repair location.

**Statement of Significance:** The building displays insufficient integrity to be individually eligible for listing under Criterion C. It is significant under Criteria A and B as a long-standing business in the community, and for its association with Carroll R. Bennett, a local businessman. It displays fair integrity.



*Country Club Towers*

**Name:** Country Club Towers

**SITS:** 24CA1529

**Address:** 1536 Meadowlark Drive, Great Falls

**Historic use:** Multi-unit residential property    **Current use:** Multi-unit residential property

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** Country Club Towers is sited on the north side of Meadowlark Drive, a residential suburban street that terminates at the Meadowlark Country Club. It is an eleven-story building with a rectangular plan and a flat roof with a mechanical penthouse. It is a reinforced concrete building with a stucco finish, a concrete foundation, and a built-up roof. The community room at the top of the building is wood frame, with deep, overhanging eaves. Additional materials on the building include aluminum-frame windows, metal sunshades, polished granite tiles at the main entrance, and roll-up metal doors at the garages.

**History:** The planned construction of Country Club Towers was announced in December 1954. The building was declared the first of its type in the state. The building was planned by Country Club Towers, Inc., a consortium made up of architect George H. Shanley as president; Julius Peters, vice president; and John Duncan, secretary. The twenty-one apartments were planned from the beginning as owner-occupied units, or condominiums.

**Statement of Significance:** Country Club Towers is significant as an excellent example of a Modern residential high-rise with International Style influences that retains very good integrity. It was also a pioneering building type in Great Falls, for both its form and management as an early (possibly the first) condominium.



*Great Falls bus depot*

**Name:** Bus Depot and Garage

**SITS:** 24CA1530

**Address:** 326 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, Great Falls

**Historic use:** Bus depot and garage

**Current use:** Bus depot

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The GFT Transit Transfer Center – historically the Greyhound Bus Depot – is located at the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South and 4<sup>th</sup> Street South. The Great Falls Greyhound Bus Depot is a one and two-story building (the central portion is two stories) with an L-shaped footprint and a flat roof. It is constructed of brick and concrete block (CMU) clad in terra cotta and polished marble tiles on the public facades. The central tower portion is wood frame, clad in tiles. Windows include plate glass with aluminum frames, glass block, and multi-light steel sash. There is an aluminum fascia on the rounded canopy on the building. Additional materials include neon and an internally-lit box sign. Original Interior finishes include terrazzo floors. The building is designed in the Streamline Moderne style by McIver & Cohagen and was constructed in 1947.

**History:** Constructed in 1947, the Greyhound Bus Depot is Great Falls' first centralized mass transit station. It also provided meals at the Post House Grill and access to luxury lines in addition to the Greyhound bus. Today, the Intermountain Transportation Company, founded in Anaconda in 1917, operates the station.

**Statement of Significance:** The Greyhound Bus Station is considered significant under Criterion A for its role in Great Falls' transportation history and under Criterion C as an excellent example of the Streamline Moderne style and its association with regionally prominent architects McIver & Cohagen. It has been rehabilitated and retains excellent integrity. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.



*Armory Gymnasium*

**Name:** Armory Gymnasium

**SITS:** 24HL1382

**Address:** 1200 College Road South, Havre

**Historic use:** Gymnasium and armory

**Current use:** Gymnasium

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Armory Gymnasium is located in the southwest corner of the Montana State University-Northern campus. It consists of one large volume with a largely rectangular footprint and a hyperbolic paraboloid roof to the west; a secondary gym with a somewhat wedge-shaped footprint and a gable roof to the east; and a “J” shaped wide connecting gallery. The building displays a number of materials. The main gym is concrete block and smooth panels of an unknown material, possibly plywood, with an exterior wood frame. It has a built-up roof and concrete foundation. The large tapered beams are laminated teak anchored in concrete piers. The building also displays smaller wood beams. The smaller gym has been finished in stucco. Original windows in the classroom wing have wood frames. New windows here and on the smaller gym have aluminum frames. The building was designed by Oswald Berg Jr. and constructed in 1955.

**History:** Groundbreaking for the Armory Gymnasium occurred in November 1955. The building was jointly financed and used by MSU-Northern and the National Guard. The main building was renovated and additions made in the mid-1980s.

**Statement of Significance:** The Armory Gymnasium at Montana State University – Northern is significant as a rare example of a hyperbolic paraboloid with a saddle roof in Montana. The form is somewhat unusual, and is representative of experiments in form, structure and use of materials occurring at mid-century nationally and internationally. The building itself retains good integrity, but is connected to two additional buildings that are non-contributing. Nonetheless the building is significant under Criterion C for its design.



*Student Union Building*

**Name:** Student Union Building

**SITS:** 24HL1383

**Address:** 100 College Road West, Havre

**Historic use:** Education building

**Current use:** Education building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Student Union Building at Montana State University - Northern is located in the central part of the campus on the north side. It is a one- and two-story building with a basement, an irregular footprint, and a flat roof. The building is steel frame and concrete masonry construction. It also has wood beams, a concrete foundation, and a membrane roof. Exterior cladding is primarily a combination of combed, multi-colored brick veneer and vertical wood siding. Smooth panels, possibly metal, with regularly-spaced battens are also seen below windows in several locations and on the raised parapet. Windows and doors have a combination of wood and anodized aluminum frames. The eastern portion of the building displays the main entry. The newer west half of the building is the food service wing. Both the original building and the later addition were designed by Havre architect Max E. Kuhr.

**History:** Construction on the new Student Union Building began in August 1959; it was dedicated in October 1960. The building was renovated and a bowling alley and other recreational facilities added to the basement in 1964. Finally, the Food Service wing was added in 1971.

**Statement of Significance:** The Student Union Building was constructed in three stages. The main building was constructed in 1959. Renovations were made in 1964, but these appear to be primarily to the interior of the building. Finally, the Food Service wing was added in 1971. The size of the 1971 addition has undermined the integrity of this building.



*Havre Office/Shop*

**Name:** Havre Office/Shop

**SITS:** 24HL1381

**Address:** 1649 US Highway 2 NW, Havre

**Current use:** Office and shop

**Historic use:** Office and shop

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Montana Department of Transportation office and shop at Havre are located about two miles west of Havre on US Highway 2. The U-shaped building is one story with a lower level shop area for a total of 21,276 square feet. It is brick, concrete and concrete block construction, with a concrete foundation and built-up roof. The main portion of the building has a barrel vault roof, and the wing to the east has a shed roof. The main body of the building is concrete block with a brick face, according to state records, and the basement walls are reinforced concrete. The concrete stem wall is on average about 2'0" above grade. The brick has a combed finish and is laid in a running bond pattern. It is colored in shades of terra, brown and black. The utilitarian structure was constructed in 1953.

**History:** The bid to construct the Montana Highway Department office and shop at Havre was awarded to Dudley Construction of Great Falls in September 1952. It replaced earlier shops in Havre that were located on the east edge of the city and constructed some time between 1920 and 1930. The office/shop is part of the Montana Transportation Department District 3 – Great Falls facilities, which includes Helena, Great Falls, Cut Bank, and Havre.

**Statement of Significance:** The Montana Department of Transportation Havre Office/Shop is a vernacular industrial structure constructed in 1953. The building is not architecturally significant, although the construction of a two-level, integrated office and shop is somewhat unusual, and the building materials and workmanship appear to be of high quality. The building's garage doors have been replaced and windows replaced with anodized aluminum frames and partially enclosed with fiberglass and plywood panels, lending an altered appearance to the building. As a result, although this building has fair integrity, it is not considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C.



*Cogswell Building*

**Name:** Cogswell Building

**SITS:** 24LC2191

**Address:** 1401 Lockey Avenue, Helena

**Historic use:** Laboratory and offices

**Current use:** Laboratory and offices

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not individually eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Cogswell Building is located within the Montana capitol campus. A reinforced concrete building, it was constructed in 1955 to house the state laboratories. It is a three-story building with a roughly M-shaped footprint and a flat roof. The Cogswell Building is constructed of reinforced concrete and has a smooth concrete finish. It features anodized aluminum windows throughout, a concrete foundation, and a built-up roof. The new addition appears to be finished in precast concrete panels, likely on a steel frame. A few windows are glass block.

**History:** Plans for the new state laboratory got underway in 1945, part of a \$4.5 million program of postwar building authorized by the state legislature. It was envisioned as a centralized facility in which all necessary laboratory testing for the state would take place. Victor H. Walsh, a water conservation board engineer, was selected to develop plans for the facility. When opened in 1955, the building housed the Highway Commission Testing Division and the State Board of Health Bacteriological Division, Health Education Division, Public Health Nursing, and Disease Control Divisions. The addition to the building was constructed in 1981.

**Statement of Significance:** The Cogswell Building is a utilitarian structure that was meant to consolidate and house the state's laboratory functions, primarily for the highway and State Board of Health departments. It was originally a V-shaped building designed to distribute natural, north light to all the laboratories. However, when a major addition was made in 1981, this office wing filled the void between the two laboratory wings, rising above the original building and altering this aesthetic. The building therefore retains insufficient integrity to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.



*Walt Sullivan Building*

**Name:** Walt Sullivan Building

**SITS:** 24LC2193

**Address:** 1315 Lockey Avenue, Helena

**Historic use:** Office building

**Current use:** Office building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Walter Sullivan Labor & Industry Building, located at the corner of Lockey Avenue and North Roberts Street, was constructed by the state in 1959 to house the Unemployment Compensation department. The building is five stories, with a somewhat L-shaped footprint and a flat roof. The building is a steel frame with exterior cladding of precast concrete panels and curtain walls with aluminum frames. Exterior materials include smooth concrete, concrete aggregate, slightly blue-tinted glass in flat aluminum frames, corrugated aluminum panels, and corrugated aluminum vertical louvers. It has a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. The building is finished in a narrow metal coping. It is a Modern curtain-wall building, design by Billings architect Larry Evans Jr. of Evans, LaMont and Cole.

**History:** Preliminary planning for the Unemployment Compensation Commission Building began in January 1958. The legislature selected a building site in 1959 and the building was funded and designed. Construction began in November 1959 and took 20 months to complete. The open house for the building was held July 19 and 20, 1961.

**Statement of Significance:** The Unemployment Compensation Commission Building is significant for its architecture. It is a good example of a curtain wall structure. The movable louvers that covered the rear curtain wall on the southern face of the building, designed to reduce heat gain on this façade, was an innovation not seen on other structures at the time. It retains good integrity today and the 1981 addition to the structure meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.



*Aeronautics Operation Building*

**Name:** Aeronautics Operation Building

**SITS:** 24LC2192

**Address:** 2360 Airport Road, Helena

**Historic use:** Office building/hanger

**Current use:** Office building/hanger

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion A

**Architectural description:** The Montana Aeronautics Commission Operation Building is located south of Helena Regional Airport, on Airport Road. It is a one-story, irregularly-shaped building with a flat roof with deep eaves over the banks of windows. The building is brick masonry construction with a built-up roof and concrete foundation. Other materials on the building include the wood frames of the office windows and wood trim on the fascia. The screen wall is made of up solid concrete masonry units marks the main entry. The building accommodates offices, a conference room, and three airplane hangars. A shop associated with the building is located south of the building, across a small yard. It is a Modern building, designed by Ostheimer & Campeau, constructed in 1958.

**History:** The Montana Aeronautics Commission Operations Building was constructed in 1958 to house the aeronautics administration staff, including the Director and Administrator, and provide hanger space for three planes. It was located east of the Airport Administration Building when constructed, and faced out onto the runway. The shop, located south of the main building, was part of the original conception. Additions have been made to the Aeronautics building and to the shop, but it essentially serves the same purpose today as it did in 1958, and is occupied by the same government agency.

**Statement of Significance:** The Montana Aeronautics Commission Operations Building is a modest, Modern building whose main stylistic flourish is the design of the entry, which sports a simple concrete screen and pentagon-shaped overhang. It is most interesting as a building type, in that the offices and hangers for the organization are housed in the same building, and have been for over 50 years. It is not determined here to be individually eligible under Criterion C, but is considered significant and eligible for listing under Criterion A for its association with the Montana Aeronautics Commission and that organization's role in Montana's important aviation and aeronautics safety and training history.



*American Building & Loan Association building*

**Name:** American Building & Loan Association building

**SITS:** 24LC2196

**Address:** 347 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena

**Historic use:** Office building

**Current use:** Office building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The American Building & Loan Association building is located at the northeast corner of the intersection of North Last Chance Gulch and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It is a two-story building with a basement. It has an irregular footprint and a flat roof. If the covered parking deck on the rear (east side) of the building is included in the building footprint, it is a square building. It is a reinforced concrete building clad in brick veneer, polished granite veneer, glazed terra cotta, tile and metal, with a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. It is a vernacular commercial building, constructed in 1955.

**History:** The building was designed by Helena architect Sigvald L. Berg. Underseth & Logan, Inc. were the contractors. The building permit was issued on June 7, 1955. The addition to the building, which doubled its size, was constructed in 1973. The architects for the addition were Crossman, Whitney & Griffin. The new parking deck was permitted in 1973. Subsequent interior renovations occurred in 1980 and 1997. The latter renovation blocked a portion of the picture window on the 1973 addition with the construction of an interior demising wall.

**Statement of Significance:** The building as originally constructed was a post-war example of the work of Helena architect Sigvald L. Berg. The building displayed modern materials such as aluminum, and Berg's characteristic mix of materials. The building as originally designed fit well in its urban setting, presenting clean, modern lines, but also maintaining compatibility with the surrounding buildings, which represent several architectural styles and periods of construction. As a result of subsequent additions, however, the building does not retain sufficient integrity today to be listed in the National Register under Criterion C.



*Western Life Insurance Company building*

**Name:** Western Life Insurance Company building

**SITS:** 24LC2194

**Address:** 560 North Park Avenue, Helena

**Historic use:** Office building

**Current use:** Office building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not individually eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Western Life Insurance Company building is located along the east property line of its urban lot on North Park Avenue. It is a four-story, largely rectangular building with a flat roof with a short parapet, and two penthouses. The building is steel frame and curtain wall construction with reinforced concrete end walls. Finishes include “Norman” brick cladding on the end walls, polished granite veneer on the entry bay, as well as glass and synthetic stucco panels in an aluminum frame on the long sides of the rectangular building. It has a concrete foundation and built-up roof. The building is a Modern curtain wall building, constructed 1954-56, and designed by Helena architect Sigvald L. Berg of Helena, with Morrison & Maierle, Inc., consulting engineers.

**History:** The Western Life Insurance Company was founded in Helena on June 20, 1910. By 1950, the company operated in eight states. Groundbreaking for the company’s new flagship building occurred on December 21, 1954. By 1961, however, the building was occupied by Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company. In the late 1980s, it was owned by US West. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana bought the structure in 1996. Many renovations have taken place over time.

**Statement of Significance:** The Western Life Insurance Company was a good example of a post-war curtain wall building. As originally constructed, it displayed the characteristic building form, materials, colors, and construction techniques of the classic post-war curtain wall structure, and was likely the largest and most prominent of such structures in Helena. However, the exterior sheathing of the building has been replaced and towers added at either end. As a result, the building no longer retains sufficient integrity to be listed in the National Register under Criterion C.



*Union Bank and Trust building*

**Name:** Union Bank and Trust

**SITS:** 24LC2197

**Address:** 350 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena

**Historic use:** Office building

**Current use:** Office building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Wells Fargo building (formerly Union Bank and Trust) is located on the east side of its lot and extends to the property line on East Lawrence and North Last Chance Gulch streets. It is a three-story building with a basement, a concrete foundation and composition roof. It has a rectangular footprint and a flat roof with a mechanical penthouse in the northwest corner. The building is reinforced concrete construction with brick veneer and an aluminum and glass curtain wall. Finish materials include brick veneer, polished granite veneer, and tinted glazing and dark aluminum panels set within the dark frame of the curtain wall. It is a Modern curtain wall building, designed by Orr Pickering & Associates of Billings, constructed in 1958.

**History:** At the time it was constructing its new building, Union Bank and Trust Company was considered Helena's oldest bank. They obtained a building permit on April 25, 1958 for their 'modern, efficient and convenient' new building. Two stories and the basement were to be used by Union Bank, and the top story was to be rented out to various sub-tenants. The basement was to contain the vault.

**Statement of Significance:** The Union Bank and Trust Company building is significant under Criterion C, as a Modern curtain wall office building, embodying many of the features of this style and method of construction favored by corporate clients at this time. It displays good integrity.



*Little Western Life building*

**Name:** Little Western Life building

**SITS:** 24LC2195

**Address:** 600 North Park Avenue, Helena

**Historic use:** Office building

**Current use:** Office building

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Little Western Life building is located in the north corner of a somewhat wedge-shaped urban block in Helena bounded by Neill Avenue, North Park Avenue and North Benton Avenue. The building, constructed by the Western Life Insurance Company in 1961, is a one-and-two-story building with a T-shaped footprint and a flat roof. The building is a concrete masonry and curtain wall structure with a combination of finish materials, including brick veneer, ceramic tile, metal panels, polished granite veneer, and concrete screen block. It has a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. It was designed by Morrison-Maierle & Associates in the Modern style.

**History:** The building permit was issued November 1, 1961 to Waddell Construction Company. The building was constructed for the Western Life Insurance Company, who vacated their adjacent larger building when they moved their headquarters to Saint Paul.

**Statement of Significance:** The building at 600 North Park Avenue is significant for its architectural design, as a good example of curtain wall construction, specifically the stylistic qualities of curtain wall construction that characterized mid-century commercial and institutional design. An additional consideration in the historic value of the building is that it was designed by Morrison-Maierle & Associates, whose architectural arm is now represented by CWG Architects (Crossman, Whitney & Griffin), and who have been in business in Helena for over 50 years.



*Cloyd Funeral Home*

**Name:** Cloyd Funeral Home

**SITS:** 24FR1100

**Address:** 209 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North, Lewistown

**Historic use:** Theater

**Current use:** Funeral home

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not individually eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Cloyd Funeral Home, built by the Weider Brothers as the Georgiann Theatre in 1950, is located at the intersection of West Broadway Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North. It is a one-and-two-story building with a slightly irregular footprint and a combination of gabled and flat roofs. An accessory structure is located on the east side of the lot, which backs up against a waterway. The building is brick masonry. It has a concrete foundation. The gable roof is finished in corrugated metal. Additional materials include contemporary corrugated metal within the gable end on the front façade; decorative concrete forms in the stepped tower and bands on the front façade; and glass block. It is a Streamlined Moderne building. The accessory structure is a wood-frame, vernacular building.

**History:** The building was constructed as the Georgiann Theatre by the Weisman Brothers in 1950. In the mid-1950s it became the Fergus Theater. It was purchased by Dr. Wallace W. Cloyd and remodeled for a funeral home in 1961. The building is still owned and operated by the Cloyd family.

**Statement of Significance:** While the Cloyd Funeral Home retains some architectural associations with its use as the Georgiann Theatre, its overall integrity of design, most significantly changes to the fenestration patterns, render the building ineligible for individual listing in the National Register under Criterion C.



*Cooley Chevrolet building*

**Name:** Cooley Chevrolet Building

**SITS:** 24FR1099

**Address:** 116 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

**Historic use:** Auto dealership and garage

**Current use:** Auto dealership and garage

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Cooley Chevrolet Building is located at the west corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and West Janeaux Street. It is a one-story building with a roughly L-shaped footprint. It appears as three different buildings, but is actually one structure. It has a flat roof with deep eaves on the showroom portion of the building and a flat roof with a short parapet on the garage. The building has a concrete foundation and a built-up roof. Structural materials include concrete block and brick masonry. Additional materials include steel-frame windows on the brick building and wood-frame windows and an aluminum fascia on the showroom. The original garage door, on the east façade, is wood; the contemporary garage door on the south façade is metal. The building, designed by the Billings firm of Cushing, Terrell & Associates, and displaying Googie elements, was constructed in 1949.

**History:** The Cooley Chevrolet building was designed in 1949 for the Jones Motor Company by architecture firm Cushing & Terrell. In the mid-1950s, it became Cooley Chevrolet. Today, it is owned and operated by Bill Cowen as Courtesy Chevrolet. It was virtually unchanged until a tornado blew out the windows in 1999. At that time, the owner replaced the front windows on the showroom building resulting in their present appearance.

**Statement of Significance:** The building is significant as a good example of the Googie style, a mid-century commercial style, and a somewhat unusual example a combined garage and automobile sales building, each of which retain their individual architectural expression and function. It is also significant for its association with the Billings firm of Cushing, Terrell & Associates. It retains good integrity.



*Food Center at Warm Springs*

**Name:** Food Center

**SITS:** 24DL0784

**Address:** Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs

**Historic use:** Cafeteria

**Current use:** Demolished

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Not applicable

**Architectural description:** The Food Center at the Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs was located within the southwest quadrant of the Warm Springs campus. It was actually part of three interconnected buildings (all now demolished). The buildings were constructed at different times and in different styles. The easternmost building was the Food Center, a 1959 curtain wall structure. It was a one-story building with a partial basement, a rectangular footprint, and a butterfly roof. Materials included laminated timber posts and beams, steel joists, brick veneer (brick on masonry), aluminum framing for doors and windows, and spandrel panels (likely metal) within the curtain wall. Signage was constructed of free-standing aluminum letters affixed to the brick endwall. The foundation was concrete and the roof was built-up, on wood tongue-and-groove decking. It was designed by Butte architect Norman J. Hamill and constructed in 1960.

**History:** A 1958 newspaper article announced that the state was studying the concept of constructing a central, modern food service building at Warm Springs. Until that time, the food was prepared in a central kitchen and carried through underground tunnels to the twelve dining rooms in patient dormitories. The building was designed by Norman J. Hamill and constructed in 1960. The building was demolished in spring 2010.

**Statement of Significance:** The building, a cafeteria, was architecturally significant as an excellent example of a small-scale institutional structure in the Modern style, incorporating a glass and solid panel curtain wall. Nonetheless, the building was not eligible for the National Register, as it was technically an addition to an existing ca. 1940 industrial structure that housed the kitchen facilities, which was, in turn, an addition to an earlier Craftsman-era building. It had fair integrity.



*Receiving Hospital at Warm Springs*

**Name:** Receiving Hospital

**SITS:** 24DL0783

**Address:** 301 Blizzard Way, Warm Springs

**Historic use:** Hospital

**Current use:** Vacant

**NRHP Eligibility status:** Eligible under Criterion C

**Architectural description:** The Receiving Hospital at Montana State Hospital is located at the northeast corner of the site and looks out onto open fields to the northwest, north and northeast. The building is one-story with a complex, irregular footprint and both flat and shallow-sloped shed roofs. The building is reinforced concrete with brick veneer on concrete block walls and has a concrete slab foundation and a built-up roof. Major walls consist of glass and solid panels within an aluminum frame curtain wall, interspersed with solid, brick-clad walls. The roof has deep eaves finished with a tall, angled fascia. Windows and doors have aluminum frames; some windows have concrete sills. Some brick-clad demising and parapet walls have a brick coping; others are finished with a brick header course. The building also features a superstructure at certain points with concrete frames and metal sunshades, some of which cantilever beyond the building face and others supported by canted metal posts. At other points regularly spaced concrete 'fins' buttress the building walls.

**History:** The plans for a new receiving hospital and treatment building were approved by the Montana Board of Examiners in October 1954, prior to passage of the \$2 million bond, which required approval by Montana voters. The design for the hospital had been conceived by the superintendent of the hospital, R. T. Spratt, and the architect for the building, Johannes Van Teylingen of the Great Falls firm of Van Teylingen, Knight & Van Teylingen. The building was constructed in 1957 and dedicated in 1959.

**Statement of Significance:** The Receiving Hospital at Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs is significant for its architecture. The building embodies many characteristics of modernism as applied to a contemporary treatment facility and was, at the time, considered a progressive reflection of contemporary thinking in modern psychiatric design. The architectural qualities in the building representative of modern architecture include the building's flat and nearly flat roofs; curtain wall construction; use of form and materials in place of decorative ornamentation; and siting of the building at grade, with no steps or grade changes. In addition to these characteristics, the building incorporates unusual expressive forms and structures that nonetheless provide for such practical functions as shading entries. It has excellent integrity.

# **APPENDIX B**

## **TABLE OF SURVEYED PROPERTIES BY SITS NUMBER**



SITS Num.	Building name	Arch. Style	Location	Address	City/town	Architect	Const. date	Eligibility	Criteria
24CA1528	Bennett Motors	Streamline Moderne		26 9th Street S.	Great Falls	Melvin A. Nelson	1948	Yes	A, B
24CA1529	Country Club Towers	International Style		1536 Meadowlark Drive	Great Falls	Shanley and Shanley	1955-56	Yes	C
24CA1530	The Bus Depot	Streamline Moderne		326 1st Ave S.	Great Falls	McIver & Cohagen Architects	1947	Yes	C
24CA1531	Art Building	Modern	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C
24CA1531	Business Office/Administration	Modern	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1940/1959-60	No	NA
24CA1531	Emilie Hall	Modern - curtain wall	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C
24CA1531	Fine Arts Center	Modern - curtain wall	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C
24CA1531	Library	Modern - curtain wall	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C
24CA1531	McLaughlin Center	New Formalist	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1965	Yes	C
24CA1531	Physical Plant	Modern	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C
24CA1531	Providence Hall	Modern - curtain wall	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C
24CA1531	Science Building	Modern - curtain wall	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	No	NA
24CA1531	Student Center	Modern - curtain wall	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C
24CA1531	Sullivan Hall	Modern - curtain wall	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C
24CA1531	Trinitas Chapel/Providence Tower	Modern - curtain wall	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S.	Great Falls	Page & Werner	1959-60/1965	Yes	C
24DL0783	Receiving Hospital	Modern - Neo-Expressionist	Montana State Hospital	301 Blizzard Way	Warm Springs	Van Teylingen, Knight & Van Teylingen	1957-59	Yes	C

SITS Num.	Building name	Arch. Style	Location	Address	City/town	Architect	Const. date	Eligibility	Criteria
24DL0784	Food Center	Modern - curtain wall	Montana State Hospital	Montana State Hospital	Warm Springs	Norman J. Hamill	1960	NA	NA
24FR1099	Cooley Chevrolet Building	Googie		116 5th Ave. S.	Lewistown	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1949	Yes	C
24FR1100	Cloyd Funeral Home	Streamline Moderne		209 3rd Avenue N.	Lewistown	Unknown	1950	No	NA
24GA1794	Billion Dealership	Googie		1919 W. Main Street	Bozeman	Oswald Berg Jr.	1968	Yes	C
24GA1795	Brick Breeden Field House	Modern	MSU - Bozeman	1500-1698 11th Avenue	Bozeman	Willson & Berg	1958/69	No	NA
24GA1796	Danforth Chapel	Modern	MSU - Bozeman	MSU Campus	Bozeman	Emanuel Milstein	1951-52	Yes	A, C
24GA1797	Langford Hall	Modern	MSU - Bozeman	801-1073 W. Harrison	Bozeman	McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa	1960	Yes	C
24GA1798	Reid Hall	Modern	MSU - Bozeman	900 Garfield	Bozeman	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1957	Yes	C
24GA1799	McCall Hall	Modern	MSU - Bozeman	1201-1399 S. 11th Avenue	Bozeman	Unknown	1952	Yes	A, C
24HL1381	Havre Office Shop	Modern - barrel vault		1649 US Hwy. 2 N.W.	Havre	Unknown	1953	No	NA
24HL1382	Gymnasium	Modern - hyperbolic paraboloid	MSU Northern - Havre	1200 College Road South	Havre	Oswald Berg Jr.	1955-56	Yes	C
24HL1383	Student Union Building	Modern - post-and-beam	MSU Northern - Havre	100 College Road W.	Havre	Max E. Kuhr & Associates	1960	No	NA
24LC2191	Cogswell Building	Modern - vernacular	MT Capitol Complex	1401 Lockey Avenue	Helena	Victor H. Walsh	1955	No	NA
24LC2192	Aeronautics Operation Building	Modern - vernacular		2630 Airport Road	Helena	Ostheimer & Campeau	1958	Yes	A
24LC2193	Walt Sullivan Building	Modern - curtain wall	MT Capitol Complex	1315 Lockey Avenue	Helena	Evans & LaMont	1961	Yes	C
24LC2194	Western Life Insurance Building	Modern - curtain wall		560 N. Park Street	Helena	Berg & Jacobson Architects	1954	No	NA
24LC2195	Little Western Life Building	Modern - curtain wall		600 N. Park Street	Helena	Morrison-Maierle & Associates	1961	Yes	C

SITS Num.	Building name	Arch. Style	Location	Address	City/town	Architect	Const. date	Eligibility	Criteria
24LC2196	American Building and Loan	Modern		347 N. Last Chance Gulch	Helena	Sigvald L. Berg	1955	No	NA
24LC2197	Union Bank and Trust	Modern - curtain wall		350 N. Last Chance Gulch	Helena	Orr Pickering and Associates	1958	Yes	C
24SB1041	Safeway Grocery	Modern - Marina style		310 W. Front Street	Butte	Unknown	1963	Yes	C
24SB1042	Petroleum Building	PWA Moderne	MT Tech - Butte	1300 W. Park Street	Butte	J. G. Link & Co.	1953/57	Yes	C
24SB1043	Student Union Building	None	MT Tech - Butte	1300 W. Park Street	Butte	Eldred F. Moyle	1959-60	No	NA
24SB1044	Central Girls High School	International Style		9 S. Idaho Street	Butte	J. G. Link & Co.	1950	Yes	C
24SB1045	Kennedy School	Modern		1101 N. Emmett Avenue	Butte	J. G. Link & Co.	1958	Yes	C
24SB1046	Webster Garfield School	Modern		5060 S. Montana St.	Butte	John G. Link	1946-47	Yes	C
24YL1858	Midland Implement Co. Inc.	Modern - barrel vault		402 Daniels Street	Billings	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1958	Yes	A, C
24YL1859	Academic Support Center	Modern	MSU - Billings	1500 University Drive	Billings	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1957	Yes	C
24YL1860	Apsaruke Hall	Modern	MSU - Billings	1500 University Drive	Billings	Nordquist & Sundell	1955	Yes	C
24YL1861	Physical Education Bldg.	Modern - thin shell concrete	MSU - Billings	1500 University Drive	Billings	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1961	Yes	C
24YL1862	Highland School	Modern - finger plan		729 Parkhill Drive	Billings	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1949;1956	Yes	C
24YL1863	Newman Elementary School	Modern		605 S. Billings Blvd.	Billings	Chandler C. Cohagen	1953/1957	Yes	C
24YL1864	Washington Elementary School	Modern - finger plan		1044 Cook Avenue	Billings	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1948	No	NA
24YL1865	West High School	Modern - curtain wall		2201 Saint Johns Avenue	Billings	Nordquist & Sundell	1958	Yes	C
24YL1866	Yellowstone County Courthouse	Modern		217 N. 27th Street	Billings	Chandler C. Cohagen	1956-57	Yes	A, C



# APPENDIX C

## TABLE OF SURVEYED PROPERTIES BY CITY/LOCATION



City/town	Location	Address	Building name	Arch. Style	Architect	Const. date	Eligibility	Criteria	SITS Num.
Billings	MSU - Billings	1500 University Dr.	Academic Support Center	Modern	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1957	Yes	C	24YL1859
Billings	MSU - Billings	1500 University Dr.	Apsaruke Hall	Modern	Nordquist & Sundell	1955	Yes	C	24YL1860
Billings	MSU - Billings	1500 University Dr.	Physical Education Bldg.	Modern – thin shell concrete	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1961	Yes	C	24YL1861
Billings		729 Parkhill Dr.	Highland School	Modern - finger plan	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1949;1956	Yes	C	24YL1862
Billings		402 Daniels St.	Midland Implement Co. Inc.	Modern - barrel vault	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1958	Yes	A, C	24YL1858
Billings		605 S. Billings Blvd.	Newman Elementary School	Modern	Chandler C. Cohagen	1953/1957	Yes	C	24YL1863
Billings		1044 Cook Ave.	Washington Elementary School	Modern - finger plan	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1948	No	NA	24YL1864
Billings		2201 St. Johns Ave.	West High School	Modern - curtain wall	Nordquist & Sundell	1958	Yes	C	24YL1865
Billings		217 N. 27th St.	Yellowstone County Courthouse	Modern	Chandler C. Cohagen	1956-57	Yes	A, C	24YL1866
Bozeman	MSU - Bozeman	1500-1698 11th Ave.	Brick Breeden Field House	Modern	Willson & Berg	1958/69	No	NA	24GA1795
Bozeman	MSU - Bozeman	MSU Campus	Danforth Chapel	Modern	Emanuel Milstein	1951-52	Yes	A, C	24GA1796
Bozeman	MSU - Bozeman	801-1073 W. Harrison	Langford Hall	Modern	Mclver, Hess & Haugsjaa	1960	Yes	C	24GA1797
Bozeman	MSU - Bozeman	1201-1399 S. 11th Ave.	McCall Hall	Modern	Unknown	1952	Yes	A, C	24GA1799
Bozeman	MSU - Bozeman	900 Garfield	Reid Hall	Modern	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1957	Yes	C	24GA1798
Bozeman		1919 W. Main St.	Billion Dealership	Googie	Oswald Berg Jr.	1968	Yes	C	24GA1794
Butte	MT Tech - Butte	1300 W. Park St.	Petroleum Building	PWA Moderne	J. G. Link & Co.	1953/57	Yes	C	24SB1042
Butte	MT Tech - Butte	1300 W. Park St.	Student Union Building	None	Eldred F. Moyle	1959-60	No	NA	24SB1043
Butte		9 S. Idaho St.	Central Girls High School	International Style	J. G. Link & Co.	1950	Yes	C	24SB1044

City/town	Location	Address	Building name	Arch. Style	Architect	Const. date	Eligibility	Criteria	SITS Num.
Butte		1101 N. Emmett Ave.	Kennedy School	Modern	J. G. Link & Co.	1958	Yes	C	24SB1045
Butte		310 W. Front St.	Safeway Grocery	Modern - Marina style	Unknown	1963	Yes	C	24SB1041
Butte		5060 S. Montana St.	Webster Garfield School	Modern	John G. Link	1946-47	Yes	C	24SB1046
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Art Building	Modern	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Business Office/Administration	Modern	Page & Werner	1940/1959-60	No	NA	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Emilie Hall	Modern - curtain wall	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Fine Arts Center	Modern - curtain wall	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Library	Modern - curtain wall	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	McLaughlin Center	New Formalist	Page & Werner	1965	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Physical Plant	Modern	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Providence Hall	Modern - curtain wall	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Science Building	Modern - curtain wall	Page & Werner	1959-60	No	NA	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Student Center	Modern - curtain wall	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Sullivan Hall	Modern - curtain wall	Page & Werner	1959-60	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls	University of Great Falls	1301 20 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Trinitas Chapel/ Providence Tower	Modern - curtain wall	Page & Werner	1959-60/1965	Yes	C	24CA1531
Great Falls		26 9 <sup>th</sup> St. S.	Bennett Motors	Streamline Moderne	Melvin A. Nelson	1948	Yes	A, B	24CA1528
Great Falls		1536 Meadowlark Dr.	Country Club Towers	International Style	Shanley and Shanley	1955-56	Yes	C	24CA1529

MONTANA POST-WORLD WAR II ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY AND INVENTORY  
 TABLE OF SURVEYED PROPERTIES BY CITY/LOCATION

City/town	Location	Address	Building name	Arch. Style	Architect	Const. date	Eligibility	Criteria	SITS Num.
Great Falls		326 1st Ave S.	The Bus Depot	Streamline Moderne	Mclver & Cohagen Architects	1947	Yes	C	24CA1530
Havre	MSU Northern – Havre	1200 College Road South	Gymnasium	Modern - hyperbolic paraboloid	Oswald Berg Jr.	1955-56	Yes	C	24HL1382
Havre	MSU Northern – Havre	100 College Road W.	Student Union Building	Modern - post-and-beam	Max E. Kuhr & Associates	1960	No	NA	24HL1383
Havre		1649 US Hwy. 2 N.W.	Havre Office Shop	Modern - barrel vault	Unknown	1953	No	NA	24HL1381
Helena	MT Capitol Complex	1401 Lockey Avenue	Cogswell Building	Modern - vernacular	Victor H. Walsh	1955	No	NA	24LC2191
Helena	MT Capitol Complex	1315 Lockey Avenue	Walt Sullivan Building	Modern - curtain wall	Evans & LaMont	1961	Yes	C	24LC2193
Helena		2630 Airport Road	Aeronautics Operation Building	Modern - vernacular	Ostheimer & Campeau	1958	Yes	A	24LC2192
Helena		347 N. Last Chance Gulch	American Building and Loan	Modern	Sigvald L. Berg	1955	No	NA	24LC2196
Helena		600 N. Park Street	Little Western Life Building	Modern - curtain wall	Morrison-Maierle & Associates	1961	Yes	C	24LC2195
Helena		350 N. Last Chance Gulch	Union Bank and Trust	Modern - curtain wall	Orr Pickering and Associates	1958	Yes	C	24LC2197
Helena		560 N. Park Street	Western Life Insurance Building	Modern - curtain wall	Berg & Jacobson Architects	1954	No	NA	24LC2194
Lewistown		209 3rd Avenue N.	Cloyd Funeral Home	Streamline Moderne	Unknown	1950	No	NA	24FR1100
Lewistown		116 5th Ave. S.	Cooley Chevrolet Building	Googie	Cushing, Terrell & Associates	1949	Yes	C	24FR1099
Warm Springs	Montana State Hospital	Montana State Hospital	Food Center	Modern - curtain wall	Norman J. Hamill	1960	NA	NA	24DL0784
Warm Springs	Montana State Hospital	301 Blizzard Way	Receiving Hospital	Modern - Neo-Expressionist	Van Teylingen, Knight & Van Teylingen	1957-59	Yes	C	24DL0783





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