

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Lower Rattlesnake Historic District

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number:

not for publication: na

vicinity: na

city/town: Missoula

state: Montana

code: MT

county: Missoula

code: 063

zip code: 59801

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally.

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency or bureau

(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

entered in the National Register

see continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register

see continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register

see continuation sheet

removed from the National Register

see continuation sheet

other (explain): _____

5. Classification

| Ownership of Property: private/public | Number of Resources within Property | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Category of Property: district | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: na | <u>187</u> | <u>135</u> building(s) |
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | | objects |
| Name of related multiple property listing: na | <u>188</u> | <u>135</u> TOTAL |

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling; multiple dwelling;
secondary structure

LANDSCAPE: park

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling; multiple dwelling;
secondary structure

LANDSCAPE: park

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne
LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY
MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/Craftsman
OTHER: Pyramidal Cottage; Gable Front; Gable Front & Wing;
American Four-Square

Materials:

foundation: stone; concrete
walls: clapboard, drop siding; brick
roof: asphalt; wood, metal
other:

Narrative Description

The Lower Rattlesnake Historic District is made up of twenty residential blocks in the lower Rattlesnake watershed in the city of Missoula. It is located to the northeast of the city's historic downtown. The neighborhood is bounded by Vine Street to the south, Elm Street to the north, Monroe Street and Greenough Park to the west, and Pierce Street and Mount Jumbo to the east. Van Buren Street, a major thoroughfare running in a northeast-southwest direction, bisects the neighborhood into east and west sections. The neighborhood is located on a slight southerly slope.

The Lower Rattlesnake Historic District contains 323 buildings, most of which are single-family residences, and one public park. The houses and garages are located in the Town Company and Woody Additions to the City of Missoula, platted in 1885 and 1888, respectively. Examination of early perspective maps and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps shows residential development in the lower Rattlesnake before the turn of the century and developing northward during the early 1900s. Aerial photographs taken in 1940 show fairly dense residential development to Holly Street, about three blocks north of Elm Street. Forty-two acre Greenough Park, which runs along Rattlesnake Creek and serves as the western boundary of the historic district, was donated by the Greenough family to the city in 1902.

Lots within the neighborhood measure 30 by 135 feet; twenty of which comprise one block. Generally speaking, houses are located on two lots, although some occupy only one lot and a few, three lots. Alleys bisect the blocks. Some of the blocks (parts of Blocks 111, 112, 133, and 136, Woody Addition) are located on top of an historic cemetery. Typically, the houses are set back from the sidewalks. They are surrounded by yards with mature deciduous and conifer trees. The neighborhood is zoned single-family residential.

The Lower Rattlesnake Historic District is characterized by working class houses. While some houses are unique in design, the vast majority are from plans mass produced for ease and economy of construction. Similar designs appear in working class neighborhoods throughout the nation. Later modifications to these houses are important indications of the upward mobility of their owners. Even with the mass-produced styles found in the neighborhood, builders chose from a wide variety of designs. The earliest houses in the neighborhood are typically one- or one-and-one-half stories with gable-front, side-gable, gable-and-wing, and hipped roof worker's cottages comprising the overwhelming majority of designs. A few Queen Anne style houses and cottages were built during the same period. After the turn of the century, these styles continued to be built, but the then popular Colonial Revival style also found manifestations in the neighborhood. Most of the houses built in the teens and twenties are modest versions of the Craftsman Bungalow. After World War II, in-fill on vacant lots in the neighborhood included houses in the minimal traditional, ranch, and split level styles. Almost all houses have garages; pre-World War II garages are generally detached from the house.

The early working class, vernacular houses are distributed throughout the neighborhood. The smallest of the houses are found in the shotgun style. A typical shotgun at 914 Poplar (B110, L13) has the characteristic front-facing gable with a gable-roofed front porch. The house has clapboard siding with cornerboards. The windows are 4-over-1 double-hung sash. A flat roofed single car garage with clapboard siding is also located on the lot. Another good example of a shotgun house at 929 Locust (B113, L1). It has a full-length front porch with a hipped roof and 2-over-2 double hung windows. A two-story gable front house typical of the district is located at 838 Poplar (Block 109, L20). It has 1-over-1 double-hung windows and a centered, gabled roof front porch.

Side-gabled houses were built in the Lower Rattlesnake Historic District throughout its development. These houses, by the application of decorative details, reference a variety of styles. The one and one-half story pattern book house at 737 Locust (B115, L13N1/2) combines stucco and clapboards for its exterior siding. It has 8-over-8 double hung window, a rubble foundation, a masonry chimney, and an eyebrow dormer. The front porch has an arch supported by classical pilasters on a rubble stoop. The one and one-half story house at 716 Harrison (B132, L11-12, N1/2) has some Craftsman features including exposed purlins and diagonal support braces, a cutaway corner front porch, and a concrete foundation. The original siding is covered with horizontal vinyl Aclapboards.~

A variant of the gable roofed vernacular house exists in several places in the neighborhood. These houses have clipped gable or jerkin roofs. The jerkin roof house at 1014 Vine (B132, L14) has a front facing gable with decorative shingle work. The house is sided with narrow clapboards and has a full-length front porch. The house at 1220 Vine is another example of a jerkin roof as part of a small, T-shaped, pattern-book design. The front porch, beneath the roof of the house, has a gable roof hood with cedar shingles and molded rake boards. The rafter tails and purlins are exposed. The original exterior cladding is covered with asbestos siding. A side gable jerkin roof house is located at 831 Jackson (B108, L1-2, N1/2). It is one story with an enclosed front entry and later, horizontal composition board siding.

The ubiquitous hipped roof workers cottages, found in working class neighborhoods throughout America, appear in small numbers in the neighborhood. Some of these have pyramidal roofs while others have truncated hip roofs. A good example of the former is located at 727 Cherry (B108, L3-4). It is a one-story house with a full-length front porch. The porch roof is supported by turned posts. A hipped roof polygonal bay extends from the east side. Windows are 1-over-1 double-hung sash. The house is sided with clapboards. The residence also has a small one-car gable roofed garage with clapboard siding and a pair of original wood garage doors comprised of vertical 1 by 4s and cross pieces in the lower half of the door panel. Another four-square hipped roof workers cottage at 802 Poplar (Block 109, L11-12) has a half-open, half-enclosed full-length front porch, clapboard siding, and 1-over-1 double hung windows.

Several variations of the hipped roof workers cottage exist in the neighborhood. These include the one-story, hipped and gabled house at 714 Locust (B117, L13-14). This house has a full-length front porch with square posts and lattice skirting. It is sided with clapboards. The windows have 1-over-1 double-hung sash. A shed roofed addition was added to the west side. The one-story hipped roof workers cottage is extended to a full two stories in the house at 1107 Poplar (B131, L8-10, N1/2). It has a truncated hipped roof with a central brick, corbeled cap chimney. The roof eaves have raking cornices. The original exterior cladding was covered during the historic period with simulated brick asphalt siding; a later hipped roof addition was also added to the rear.

Intermixed with the mass-produced, vernacular houses are a number of Queen Anne style residences, most on Poplar Street. These houses are generally characterized by their irregularly shaped footprint, a hipped roof with intersecting gables, bays, a combination of Victorian-era and Classical design details, and multiple exterior cladding materials. The Queen Anne style house at 930 Poplar (B110, L17-18) is a one and one half-story irregularly shaped house with a hipped and cross-gabled roof. It has bays to the east and west and a full-length front porch. It is sided with stucco.

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The front-facing gable of the house encloses Palladian window. Front and side gables have partially pedimented gable returns. A larger, two and one-half story, irregularly shaped Queen Anne style house at 1121 Poplar (B131, L3-5) features the characteristic hipped roof with gabled bays and, in this case, cedar shingle siding, a corner hipped roof, and a partially enclosed front porch with 6 by 6 posts. Another two and one-half story Queen Anne style house at 801 Poplar exhibits classical design elements with intersecting, pedimented gables, and a full-length front porch with a front-facing pedimented gable and paired Doric-order columns. The historic cladding has recently been covered with metal siding. Another Poplar Street Queen Anne house at 1204 (B134, L11-12) is constructed of brick. The one and one-half story house has a front-facing polygonal bay with geometric-patterned windows and a pedimented gable roof. The gable encloses wood shingles in a fish-scale pattern. First floor window openings have arched lintels. The porch at the inset of the bay has slightly bowed, Classical Revival columns.

Vine Street Queen Anne style houses include a large two-story example at 1132 Vine (B131, L19-20) with a hipped roof and intersecting front gable, a side-gabled roof bay, and a west side wall dormer. The front and side gables are partially pedimented with gable returns and decorative fish-scale shingles. The house has a full-length front porch and narrow clapboard siding. A unique one and one-half story Queen Anne at 1310 Vine (B129 L, 11-12) has a hipped roof and south- and west-facing gables. The gables have a variety of shingle patterns (fish-scale, diamond, square). A small gabled roof dormer is located in the valley between the house's main roof and the south-facing gable. A hipped roof dormer is located on the west-facing slope of the main roof. The house also has a gabled roof polygonal bay. Examples of Queen Anne style cottages are located 804 (B 114, L11) and 816 Cherry Street (B114, L16). The former is of brick construction with arches over the window openings, while the latter has front wall dormers and clapboard siding.

Classical Revival details appear on many of the small houses throughout the Lower Rattlesnake Historic District, particularly the one-story, four-square brick cottages in the 700 block of Monroe Street (704 B105, L11-13; 722 B105, L7 S43=4=) 728 B105, L7-10, E16=S43=4=& 734 Monroe B105, L7-10, N43=4=) Each of these has front-facing, pedimented dormers, concrete belt courses, and in the case of the residence at 804 Monroe (B108, L11-14), a partial front porch supported by square columns and a balustraded porch roof deck. Classical Revival design elements are also evident on some of the gable-front cottages considered earlier. These elements were probably added after the turn of the century to update the appearance of the houses. Most commonly found are pedimented gables and classical porch columns. The four-square hipped roof cottage at 736 Poplar (B109, L19-20) also has a full length front porch with a pedimented gable and slightly bowed Doric columns.

The Colonial Revival style became increasingly popular in the neighborhood after the turn of the century. Most houses referencing this style have gambrel roofs. Perhaps the most elaborate Colonial Revival style house in the neighborhood is the two story cross gambrel roof residence at 1118 Poplar (B133, L15-16). The first floor walls are sided with clapboard and the gambrel ends are covered with shingles. The east side of the house has a shed roof dormer and a first floor shed roof bay. The house at 1024 Locust (B120, L13-14) has intersecting gambrel roofs, side bays, and shingle siding. An unusual gambrel-fronted house at 1015 Taylor (B120, L18-20 S1/2) has a partial, gable roofed front porch. A second story oriel projects to one side from the second floor. The house is sided with clapboards.

The most popular style in the lower Rattlesnake Historic District after 1910 was the Craftsman Bungalow. Most of the houses built in this style are modest examples. They typically have low-pitched gable roofs with wide, open eaves, exposed rafters tails, and decorative purlins with diagonal support braces under the gable eaves. The full or partial-width front porches have gable or shed roofs supported by square wood posts on tapered or square piers.

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Excellent examples of gable front Craftsman Bungalow houses are located at 926 Poplar (B110, L16), 822 Taylor (Block 133, L7-10), 909 Locust (B113, L8-9), 1024 Locust (B120, L15), 924 Poplar (B110, L14-15), and 1240 Locust (B134, L19-20). All of these have full or partial gable roof porches and clapboard siding. Another gable-front house at 836 Cherry (B114, L19S1/2) has stucco siding. Side-gabled Craftsman residences are located at 801 Locust (B114, L 8-10, N1/2), which is a one and one-half story house with full, recessed front porch, centered, front dormer, clapboard siding, front, centered, gable roof dormer with extending eaves and exposed rafters and rakes with fascia, purlins, and diagonal support braces and ribbon, double-hung 1/1 windows. The Craftsman house at 921 Filmore (B112, L1-2, S1/2) exhibits narrow clapboard siding, extended eaves, exposed rafters, and diagonal support braces. At 1034 Poplar (B111, L19-20), sits a Craftsman house with exposed rafters and extending rakes, purlins, diagonal support braces and double-hung 1/1 windows.

Greenough Park

Greenough Park consists of approximately twenty-nine acres of trees and grass located at T13 R19, Section 15, 17, 22, 23. It is bordered on the east by Rattlesnake Creek from Vine Street on the south end to Cherry Street at which point the park land starts to branch to include increasingly wide sections on both sides of the creek until reaching its northern boundary at City Drive. The western edge of the park follows what used to be City Drive. The park contains a large picnic area with stoves, tables, and swings. Retaining walls, constructed from glacial till (stones of all sizes and shapes disseminated through it) bonded by mortar. This retaining wall on both sides of Rattlesnake Creek is both functional and aesthetic. A stone and mortar Abeare cage structure is located about a block into the park from the south entrance on Vine Street. This rectangular shaped structure has a metal door on its eastern facade and barbed wire on its upper exterior surface. At one time a merry-go-round, a fish hatchery and a fishing pond were all part of the park=features, but none of these amenities remain today. The interior sections of the park feature heavily wooded semi-natural areas containing a variety of flora and fauna, much of which was present when the park was first defined. A bike-pedestrian asphalt-surfaced trail runs on the west side of Rattlesnake Creek from the southern entrance of the park to its northern boundary which borders a residential area. A number of non-paved paths traverse the park through the heavily wooded sections.

INTEGRITY

Most of the houses in the Lower Rattlesnake Historic District retain good integrity. Changes are generally in the form of side and/or rear additions (many of which were constructed in the historic period), the replacement of front double-hung windows with large, single-pane windows, the use of asphalt shingles on the roofs, and the replacement of historic garages with post-war two-car garages. These changes generally do not compromise the integrity of the district. The most problematical alteration in the neighborhood is the addition of some siding (asbestos, composition board) was installed during the historic period, and is evidence of attempts to update the appearance of early houses. On the other hand, more modern siding, such as aluminum and vinyl, is generally over clapboards, causing a loss of materials and detail. The loss of detail is especially evident around windows and doors where wood surround and trim are obscured. The use of siding also conveys a false sense of structural unity by obscuring from view the points at which there is evidence of structural additions.

Also located within the neighborhood are houses built after the historic district=s period of significance. These houses, built on vacant lots on already developed blocks, can be found in the minimal traditionalist style which was popular right after World War I and into the 1950s and later ranch style houses.

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Building List

P = Primary
C = Contributing
NC= Non-Contributing

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 718 Vine | house | Side-Gable | c.1902 | C |
| 728 Vine | house garage | Gable Front garage | c.1902 c.1902 | C C c.1902 |
| 736 Vine | house | Side-Gable | c.1902 | C |
| C | garage | | | c.1902 |
| 1000 Vine | house | Gable-Wing | c.1942 | C |
| 1010 Vine | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1901 c.1903 | NC C |
| 1014 Vine | house | Front-Gable | c.1901 | C |
| C | garage | | | c.1901 |
| 1018 Vine | house | Front-Gable | c.1901 | NC |
| 1026 Vine | house garage | Hipped Roof | c.1901 c.1901 | C C |
| 1036 Vine | house garage | Gable Front | c.1921 c.1921 | C C |
| 1104 Vine | house | Hipped Roof | c.1907 | C |
| 1110-1114 Vine | house garage garage | Side-Gable | c.1901 c.1901 c.1901 | C C C |
| 1116 Vine | house | Gable-Wing | c.1951 | NC |
| 1126 Vine | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1901 c.1901 | NC NC |
| 1130 Vine | house | Front-Gable | c.1901 | NC |
| 1132 Vine | house | Front-Gable | c.1912 | C |
| 1136 Vine | house | Front-Gable | c.1912 | C |
| 1204 Vine | house garage | Gable&Wing | c.1944 c.1944 | C C |
| 1210 Vine | house | Hipped Roof | c.1901 | C |

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| | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------|----|
| | garage | | c.1901 | C |
| 1220 Vine | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1936 | C |
| | | | c.1936 | C |
| 1230 Vine | house | Craftsman Front-Gable | c.1901 | C |
| 1230 1/2 Vine | house | Gable&Wing | c.1950 | NC |
| 1232 Vine | house | Side-Gable | c.1912 | C |
| 1234 Vine | house | Side-Gable | c.1921 | C |
| 1310 Vine | house garage | Queen Anne | c.1912 | C |
| | | | c.1912 | C |
| 1330 Vine | house garage | American 4-square | c.1889 | P |
| | | | c.1889 | C |
| 712 Poplar | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1946 | C |
| | | | c.1946 | C |
| 714 Poplar | house garage | log/Craftsman | c.1947 | C |
| | | | c.1947 | C |
| 715 Poplar | house | Front-Gable | c.1950 | NC |
| 716 Poplar | house | Log/Craftsman | c.1948 | NC |
| 719 Poplar | house | Bungalow | c.1946 | C |
| 726 Poplar | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1951 | NC |
| | | | c.1951 | NC |
| 736 Poplar | house garage | Hipped Roof | c.1903 | C |
| | | | c.1960 | NC |
| 801 Poplar | house garage | Queen Anne | c.1903 | C |
| | | | c.1960 | NC |
| 802 Poplar | house garage | Hipped Roof | c.1902 | C |
| | | | c.1902 | C |
| 806 Poplar | house | Front-Gable | c.1902 | C |
| 814 Poplar | house | Center-Gable | c.1921 | C |
| 817 Poplar | house garage | Craftsman | c.1923 | C |
| | | | c.1923 | C |
| 817 1/2 Poplar | house | Side-Gable | c.1938 | C |
| 818 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1902 | C |
| | | | c.1902 | C |
| 825 Poplar | house | Pyramid Cottage | c.1947 | NC |
| 826 Poplar | house | Front-Gable&Wing | c.1902 | C |

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|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| | garage | | c.1950 | NC |
| 830 Poplar | house | Front-Gable | c.1901 | NC |
| 831 Poplar | house | Flat w/Eaves | c.1951 | NC |
| 838 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1944 c.1944 | C C |
| 838 1/2 | house | Craftsman | c.1944 | C |
| 839 Poplar | house | Side-Gable | c.1944 | NC |
| 912 Poplar | house | Side-Gable | c.1906 | C |
| 914 Poplar | house garage | Shotgun | c.1934 c.1934 | C C |
| 915 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1950 c.1950 | NC NC |
| 924 Poplar | house garage | Craftsman | c.1907 c.1980 | C NC |
| 925 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1947 c.1980 | NC NC |
| 926 Poplar | house | Craftsman | c.1929 | C |
| 927 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1950 c.1950 | NC NC |
| 930 Poplar | house | Queen Anne | c.1903 | C |
| 930 1/2 Poplar | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1903 c.1903 | C C |
| 931 Poplar | house shed | Side-Gable | c.1931 c.1990 | NC NC |
| 937 Poplar | house garage garage | Side-Gable | c.1949 c.1950 c.1950 | NC NC NC |
| 938 Poplar | house garage | Hipped-Roof | c.1902 c.1902 | C C |
| 1007 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1943 c.1943 | C C |
| 1007 1/2 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1946 c.1946 | C C |
| 1011 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable&Wing | c.1943 c.1943 | C NC |
| 1015 Poplar | house garage | Pyramid Cottage | c.1921 c.1921 | C C |

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|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------|
| 1019 Poplar | house garage | Modern | c.1960 c.1960 | NC NC |
| 1020 Poplar | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1944 c.1944 | NC NC |
| 1034 Poplar | house | Craftsman | c.1929 | NC |
| 1107 Poplar | house garage | Hipped Roof | c.1912 c.1921 | C C |
| 1114 Poplar | house garage | Shingle-style | c.1912 c.1912 | P C |
| 1118 Poplar | house | Gambrel | c.1921 | C |
| 1121 Poplar | house garage | Queen Anne | c.1907 c.1907 | C C |
| 1126 Poplar | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1902 | C |
| 1129 Poplar | house | Front-Gable&Wing | c.1950 | NC |
| 1134 Poplar | house garage | Hipped Roof | c.1901 c.1901 | C C |
| 1139 Poplar | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1901 c.1901 | C C |
| 1201 Poplar | house | Front-Gable | c.1950 | NC |
| 1203 Poplar | house | Front-Gable | c.1950 | NC |
| 1204 Poplar | house garage | Queen Anne Gambrel | c.1907 c.1907 | P C |
| 1208 Poplar | house | Mobile Home | c.1960 | NC |
| 1219 Poplar | house | Bungalow | c.1960 | NC |
| 1220 Poplar | house | Gable & Wing | c.1912 | C |
| 1221 Poplar | house | Side-Gable | c.1912 | C |
| 1240 Poplar | house | Bungalow | c.1945 | C |
| 600 Cherry | house | Modern | c.1970 | NC |
| 600 1/2 Cherry | house | Modern | c.1970 | NC |
| 601 Cherry | house | Modern | c.1960 | NC |
| 603 Cherry | house | Modern | c.1960 | NC |
| 624 Cherry | house | Modern | c.1960 | NC |

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| | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|----------|
| 711 Cherry | house | Hipped Roof | c.1951 | NC |
| 714 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1946 c.1946 | C C |
| 717 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1950 c.1940 | NC NC |
| 720 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1921 c.1950 | C NC |
| 722 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1902 c.1901 | C C |
| 727 Cherry | house garage | Pyramidal Cottage | c.1912 c.1940 | C C |
| 730 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1907 c.1907 | C C |
| 734/738 Cherry | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1902 c.1902 | NC C |
| 804 Cherry | house garage | Gable & Wing | c.1907 c.1907 | NC C |
| 808 Cherry | house garage | Gable & Wing | c.1907 c.1970 | NC NC |
| 812 Cherry | house garage | Gable & Wing | c.1907 c.1907 | P C |
| 815 Cherry | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1950 c.1950 | NC NC |
| 816 Cherry | house garage | Gable & Wing | c.1912 c.1912 | C C |
| 820 Cherry | house garage | Gable & Wing | c.1945 c.1950 | NC NC |
| 825 Cherry | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1903 c.1903 | C C |
| 829 Cherry | house shed | Hipped Roof | c.1912 c.1912 | C C |
| 832 Cherry | house garage | Bungalow | c.1907 c.1907 | C C |
| 833 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1942 c.1950 | C NC |
| 836 Cherry | house | Bungalow | c.1907 | C |

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|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|----------|
| 902 Cherry | house | Craftsman | c.1907 | C |
| 908 Cherry | house | Side-Gable | c.1912 | NC |
| 914 Cherry | house | Side-Gable | c.1901 | C |
| 915 Cherry | house | Side-Gable | c.1901 | C |
| 917 Cherry | house shed | Side-Gable | c.1947 c.1902 | C C |
| 918 Cherry | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1935 c.1935 | C C |
| 930 Cherry | house garage | Gable & Wing | c.1935 c.1935 | C C |
| 933 Cherry | house | Side-Gable | c.1960 | NC |
| 936 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1935 c.1935 | NC NC |
| 1000 Cherry | house | Gable & Wing | c.1950 | NC |
| 1005 Cherry | house | Modern | c.1960 | NC |
| 1015 Cherry | house | Bungalow | c.1921 | C |
| 1016 Cherry | house | Side-Gable | c.1945 | C |
| 1020 Cherry | house | Side-Gable | c.1907 | C |
| 1021 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1902 c.1902 | C C |
| 1031 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1902 c.1902 | C C |
| 1035 Cherry | house | Front-Gable | c.1950 | NC |
| 1036 Cherry | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1903 c.1903 | C C |
| 1036 1/2 Cherry | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1943 c.1943 | NC NC |
| 1119 Cherry | house | Side-Gable | c.1938 | NC |
| 1125 Cherry | house | Hipped Roof | c.1950 | NC |
| 1139 Cherry | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1955 c.1955 | NC NC |
| 701 Locust | house | Front-Gable | c.1943 | C |
| 714 Locust | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1901 c.1901 | C C |

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|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 715 Locust | house garage | Pyramid Cottage | c.1902 c.1940 | C NC |
| 718 Locust | house | Gable & Wing | c.1947 | C |
| 722 Locust | house shed | Gable & Wing | c.1912 c.1912 | NC C |
| 725 Locust | house | Side-Gable | c.1945 | C |
| 734 Locust | house shed | Front-Gable | c.1912 c.1912 | NC C |
| 737 Locust | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1946 c.1946 | C NC |
| 801 Locust | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1947 c.1970 | C NC |
| 806 Locust | house garage | Gable & Wing | c.1940 c.1940 | C C |
| 817 Locust | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1929 c.1929 | C C |
| 820 Locust | house | Front-Gable | c.1942 | NC |
| 827 Locust | house garage | Bungalow | c. 1920 c.1929 | C NC |
| 828 Locust | house | Pyramid Cottage | c.1912 | C |
| 831 Locust | house garage | Front-Gable & Wings | c.1948 c.1909 | NC C |
| 832 Locust | house | Front-Gable | c.1912 | NC |
| 835 Locust | house | Side-Gable | c.1912 | NC |
| 835 1/2 Locust | house | Pyramid Cottage | c.1910 | C |
| 836 Locust | house | Pyramid Cottage | c.1911 | C |
| 838 Locust | alley house | Front-Gable & Wing | c.1920 | C |
| 900 Locust | House | Ranch Style | c.1914 | C |
| 903 Locust | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1912 c.1912 | NC NC |
| 908 Locust | house garage | Craftsman | c.1920 | C C |
| 909 Locust | house garage | Craftsman | c.1909 c.1929 | C C |
| 917 Locust | house | Front-Gable | c.1929 | C |

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| | | garage/residence | Vernacular | c.1929 | NC |
| 920 Locust | | house | Front-Gable | c. 1902 | C |
| 923 Locust | | house garage | Front-Gable | c. 1907 c. 1907 | NC NC |
| 924 Locust | | house shed | Side-Gable | c.1903 c.1970 | NC NC |
| 925 Locust | | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1907 c. 1907 | NC C |
| 926 Locust | | house | Gable & Wing | c.1902 | C |
| 929 Locust | | house | Shotgun | c.1903 | C |
| 930 Locust | | house shed | Front-Gable | c.1902 c.1902 | C C |
| 1003 Locust | | house | Front-Gable | c.1921 | C |
| 1015 Locust | | house garage | Hipped-Roof | c.1943 c.1943 | NC NC |
| 1016 Locust | | house garage | Gambrel | c.1945 c.1951 | NC NC |
| 1023 Locust | | house | Hipped & Wing | c.1950 | NC |
| 1024 Locust | | house garage | Craftsman/Bungalow | c.1920 c.1920 | P C |
| 1025 Locust | | house | Front Gable | c.1922 | NC |
| 702 Monroe | | house | Side-Gable | c.1934 | NC |
| 704 Monroe | | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1970 c.1970 | NC NC |
| 722 Monroe | | house | Hipped Roof Brick | c.1902 | C |
| 722 1/2 Monroe | | alley house | Vernacular | c.1920 | C |
| 728a Monroe | | house | Hipped-Roof Brick | c.1891 | C |
| | | garage | | c.1921 | C |
| 728 1/2 Monroe | | alley house garage | Cross Gable | c.1920 c.1920 | C C |
| 734 Monroe | | house | Hipped-Roof Brick | c.1902 | C |
| 775 (67+apartmts) | Monroe | apartments | Modern | c.1970 | NC |
| 802-804 Monroe | | house | Hipped-Roof Brick | c.1893 | C |

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| 811 Monroe | house | Side-Gable | c.1965 | NC |
| 813 Monroe | house | Side-Gable | c1965 | NC |
| 815 Monroe | house | Side-Gable | c.1965 | NC |
| 817 Monroe | house | Side-Gable | c.1965 | NC |
| 822 Monroe | house | Gable & Wing | c.1954 | NC |
| 828 Monroe | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1947 c.1912 | C C |
| 904 Monroe | house shed | Front-Gable | c.1912 c.1951 | C NC |
| 907-909 Monroe | house | Side-Gable | c.1948 | NC |
| 910 Monroe | house | Front-Gable | c.1952 | NC |
| 925 Monroe | house | Side-Gable | c.1945 | NC |
| 930 Monroe | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1945 | NC NC |
| 932 Monroe | house | Side-Gable | c.1902 | C |
| 723 Jackson | house garage | Front-Gable & Wing | c.1921 c.1950 | C NC |
| 824 Jackson | house garage | Front-Gable | 1964 | NC |
| 828 Jackson | house garage | Front-Gable | c.1965 c.1965 | NC NC |
| 831 Jackson | house garage | Side-Gable | c.1948 c.1948 | NC NC |
| 833 Jackson | house garage | Front-Gable & Wing | c.1948 c.1948 | NC NC |
| 935 Jackson | house | Flat roof | c.1950 | NC |
| 724 Van Buren | house | Side-Gable | c.1950 | NC |
| 725 Van Buren | house garage | Vernacular | c.1945 | C C |
| 803 Van Buren | house | Vernacular | c.1929 | NC |
| 834 Van Buren | apartments | modern | 1970 | NC |

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| 915-919 Van Buren | Duplex | Craftsman | c.1920 | C |
| 927 Van Buren | house | Modern | c.1950 | NC |
| 716 Harrison | house | Craftsman | c.1920 | C |
| 800 Harrison | house | Front-Gable & Wing | c.1947 | C |
| 812 Harrison | house | Modern remodel | c.1948 | NC |
| 815 Harrison | house | Craftsman | c.1920 | C |
| 828 Harrison | house | Modern | c.1950 | NC |
| 833 Harrison | house | Hipped roof | c.1952 | NC |
| 1000-1002 Harrison | duplex | Ranch | c.1960 | NC |
| 725 Polk | house | Front Gable | c.1955 | NC |
| 719 Taylor | house | 70s remodel Front-Gable | c.1920 | NC |
| 722 Taylor | house | Craftsman | c.1920 | C |
| 741 Taylor | house | Front Gable | c.1900 | C |
| 821 Taylor | house | Front Gable | c.1910 | NC |
| 822 Taylor | house | Craftsman | c.1920 | C |
| 912 Taylor | house | Side-Gable | c.1950 | NC |
| 921 Taylor | house | Craftsman | c.1920 | C |
| 925 Taylor | house | 1950s | c.1950 | NC |
| 1015 Taylor | house | Gambrel | c.1920 | NC |

Lower Rattlesnake Historic District

Name of Property

Missoula County, Montana

County and State

J. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C

Areas of Significance: Community Planning and

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Period(s) of Significance: 1888-1948

Significant Person(s): n/a

Significant Dates:

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder: unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Lower Rattlesnake Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. The district has been a unique residential area in the Lower Rattlesnake drainage since the platting of its additions in the 1880s. It is geographically separate from Missoula's residential area to the west of downtown by virtue of Water Works Hill and Greenough Park and Rattlesnake Creek, all of which have historically provided scenic and recreational amenities to the district. The district is also somewhat unusual in that it has historically been a working class district, but one primarily of skilled blue collar residents and a slowly evolving middle-class sector. Architecturally, the area is largely composed of vernacular, working class houses. These appear in a variety of forms including shotgun, gable-front, side-gabled, gable-and-wing, four-square, hipped roof workers cottages, some Queen Anne and Classical Revival styles, and numerous Craftsman Bungalow style houses. Historic period, post-war styles include several minimal-traditional style homes.

BACKGROUND HISTORY

The Lower Rattlesnake residential neighborhood and Greenough Park are located in a geographically unique and a historically important part of Missoula in the Lower Rattlesnake Drainage. Rattlesnake Creek largely explains the location of Missoula and has played an important part in its early development and in defining its character.

The Salish Indians are reported to have named the stream "Kehi-oo-le," meaning Rattlesnake. Captain Meriwether Lewis noted it as "a stream about fifteen yards wide" on July 4, 1806. The next recorded reference to the stream is that pertaining to William T. Hamilton, a Scottish/Indian and army scout, who camped in the Missoula area in 1858 on his way to eastern Montana to investigate rumors of an Indian uprising there. Hamilton, who noted the convergence of Indian trails in the Missoula area, saw it as a good place to establish a trading post, and did just that in the fall of 1858 at the mouth of Rattlesnake Creek. He built a two-room cabin just west of the mouth of the creek and used it as a home base while he was employed as an army scout. He engaged in what may have been the Lower Rattlesnake's first enterprise--selling liquor to workers digging the Missoula Mills ditch. Hamilton lived at the site until 1865, when he sold his property and moved to Fort Benton. The Mullan military road, constructed in 1860 to join the head of navigation on the Missouri with the Columbia River near Walla Walla, Washington, crossed Rattlesnake Creek about 150 feet north of its confluence with the Clark Fork River. The first bridge was constructed across Rattlesnake Creek in 1869.

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Rattlesnake Creek was to have its major impact on the history of Missoula when, in 1864, Frank Worden and C.P. Higgins, who had built the Hellgate Trading Post about four miles west of Missoula's city center in 1860, joined David Pattee in a sawmill venture called Missoula Mills. The three men chose to locate their mill at the present location of Missoula to take advantage of the water supplied year-round by Rattlesnake Creek. The three partners had a ditch constructed to divert water from Rattlesnake Creek to the sawmill located on the north bank of the Clark Fork River near where the Higgins Avenue Bridge is now located. The location of the sawmill formed the nucleus of what was to be the city of Missoula. The ditch provided the main water supply to the town for several years. In 1871 or 1872, Worden and Company began construction of a water system that diverted water from Rattlesnake Creek about three and one-half miles north of town through a system of wooden pipes into a small reservoir on what later was called Water Works Hill. A second reservoir was constructed later and a diversion dam was constructed in 1902, which was replaced in 1924 by a concrete dam and settling pond.

Between 1864 and the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883, the city of Missoula grew modestly, and the growth was based almost entirely on locally generated capital and goods. Missoula had the strategic advantage of being located at the hub of major east-west and north-south trading routes. As noted, the Mullan Road linked Fort Benton with the eastern-most extension of the Columbia River. The main north-south trail, which crossed the Mullan Road just west of Missoula, provided access north to the Jocko Indian Agency, the Flathead Valley, and the Kootenai Mines in Canada, south to Fort Owen and the Big Hole Valley, and southwest to the mines of central Idaho. From the 1860s to the early 1880s, Missoula sustained itself as a trading and service center for farmers growing produce and stock to supply primarily placer-mining operations around Missoula. Later, in the 1880s, placer mining converted to large hardrock operations in Helena, Philipsburg, and Butte, which required not only food for the miners and town inhabitants, but also timbers for the mine tunnels, lumber for buildings, and cordwood for firing the smelters. In 1877, with the Nez Perce flight toward Missoula, Fort Missoula was constructed and provided an additional boost to the Missoula-area economy.

The city of Missoula was platted in 1866 and its haphazard appearance reflected the early growth along the Mullan Road, itself a product of the alignment of the Clark Fork River. By 1872, there were from 50 to 70 buildings in the city, all, with the exception of the Worden & Company Store were wood frame buildings of a modest size. The only additions platted before 1880 were the Higgins and McCormick Additions, adjoining the original townsite; both were platted in 1872. These additions extended Missoula from beyond the core of the Mullan Road (later Front Street)-Higgins Avenue axis, but growth was confined by the Clark Fork River to the south, Water Works Hill to the north, Orange Street to the west, and Rattlesnake Creek to the east.

The key commercial establishment was the Missoula Mercantile, established in 1866 by E. L. Bonner, D. J. Welch, and Richard Eddy, who were joined in 1876 by the city's most remarkable entrepreneur, A. B. Hammond. The company, which was incorporated in 1885, quickly secured the largest share of Missoula's wholesale and retail trade and was to play a major role in Missoula becoming the commercial center of a five-valley trading area. During this early period, Missoula also acquired its title of the "Garden City" from the McWhirk Gardens located at the east end of town and the widespread planting of Maple trees along city streets. The existence of the Rattlesnake and the establishment of and preservation of Greenough Park and its natural amenities bolstered this claim.

While the Upper Rattlesnake Valley was utilized as the main source of water for the city and for farmers and settlers in the upper valley, the Lower Rattlesnake remained largely undeveloped until the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883, apart from scattered cabins and commercial enterprises and a slum called Shacktown. Shacktown, which developed on the west side of lower Rattlesnake Creek, was largely occupied by Indians who sustained themselves by hunting, fishing, trading, and working at odd jobs, such as loading freight. When the construction of homes in the Lower Rattlesnake began in the 1880s, Shacktown was moved to Parker Island in the middle of the Clark Fork River.

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In 1866, the town cemetery was located in the Lower Rattlesnake between what are now Poplar and Cherry Streets. When land was purchased in 1884 for the present cemetery west of Missoula, most of the bodies were moved from the old one. However, the Chinese who remained after the construction of the Northern Pacific Railway through Missoula in 1883, continued to use the old cemetery and, in 1886, contributed money to fix it up, including the construction of a fence. According to Chinese custom, the bones of the deceased were exhumed and sent to relatives in China. There were stories up to at least 1891 of the Chinese conducting funerals in the cemetery, accompanied by elaborate processions and bands. In 1888, the plat of the Woody Addition was filed, which showed Cherry Street crossing the cemetery. The city fathers inspected the cemetery in 1891 and apparently approved the plat and future development over the cemetery. In 1937, when WPA workmen were leveling Cherry Street, they dug up and removed a casket with silver handles containing a silk kimono, trousers, shoes, and a burial brick that said in Chinese, "Lee Foo Lim is buried here."

By 1871, stone was being quarried about one mile up the Rattlesnake for use in the construction of the Worden & Company Store on West Main at the corner of Higgins Avenue. It is not known exactly where the quarry was located. The lime used in the building, to which a brick facade was added, came from a kiln on the divide between Mount Jumbo and Marshall. There is evidence of lime being dug out of Mount Jumbo. Also in 1871, Frank Decker and Edward Wiles moved their steam sawmill from Frenchtown to the mouth of Rattlesnake Creek. They contracted with George Montgomery for logs, and Montgomery cut trees in the Upper Rattlesnake and floated them to the boom at the mouth of the creek. In 1873, the sawmill was moved about four miles up Rattlesnake Creek.

Settlers used the homestead act and other forms of land entry to settle the valley to the north of the historic district area. Government surveys were conducted in 1884 and 1901, but farmers and others began to settle the Upper Rattlesnake before these were completed. Farmers tended to settle that area between the survey area and the present entrance to the Rattlesnake Wilderness, and squatters settled in the Rattlesnake's drainage within what is now the wilderness area. During the mid-1870s, August G. Pelkey (also Peltier) homesteaded land on the west and east side of Rattlesnake Creek just north of Greenough Creek, including the park's northern tip (W1/2NW1/4 and W1/2SW1/4 of section 14, T13N, R13W). Pelkey sold the land to Frank Worden in 1885. Henry Wylds started farming in the SE1/4 of section 11, T13N, R19W. Charles E. Williams bought Wyld's land in 1881 for \$500. Williams raised horses and dug an irrigation ditch named after him and harvested the first crop of oats in the Rattlesnake Valley. In 1881, Jeannie Williams also bought land in section 11. In 1880, James M. Woods homesteaded land in the NE1/4 of section 2 and filed a water right on a stream east of Rattlesnake. He had developed a fine garden there by 1882. In 1882, Henry C. Hollenbeck, a mechanic who worked at odds jobs, bought land east of Pelkey's. In 1888 Hollenbeck sold 40 acres to Missoula County for a poor farm for \$1,200. In 1891, he sold the remaining 120 acres to Gilbert, Raymond, and Wylie for \$12,000. They, in turn, created Park Addition out of this land.

By the early 1880s, increasing demands were placed on the Rattlesnake water system. The demand increased after the arrival of the NP in 1883, resulted in the creek drying up by the fall of 1885. In response, Rattlesnake farmers filed water rights on the High Falls Tributary of Rattlesnake Creek and set about finding other lakes they could tap to sustain flows during the summer and fall. Clarence Prescott and John Higgins found several lakes for this purpose and named seven of them. Ditches were dug from some of the lakes to convey water to Rattlesnake Creek, increasing the annual amount from 3,000 to 17,000 inches.

The Upper and Lower Rattlesnake drainage also was the site of considerable logging activity that accompanied the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Thomas L. Greenough, a local businessman, contracted with the Northern Pacific Railroad to furnish ties for construction of the rail bed 40 miles east and west from Missoula. He logged from unsurveyed public lands and unclaimed lands up Rattlesnake Creek. His crews cleared out log jams and other

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obstructions along the banks and floated the ties or logs down the creek. Tie hackers used broad axes to square the logs so they could be laid in the rail bed. Wood that was not suitable for ties was cut into cordwood, which, during the winter, was hauled by sleigh to the stream bank for floating in the spring. Greenough had log booms installed about where Interstate 90 now crosses the creek. The cordwood was stacked in a wood yard where the Greenough Mansion was later located (See below). Crews cut timber for four to five years until sometime between 1885 and 1887. During this time, Greenough cut an estimated 20,000 ties and large amounts of cordwood. In 1884 alone, he floated about 2,500 cords of firewood down the creek.

The early 1880s defined a new era in the history of Missoula and the Lower Rattlesnake. The arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad ensured the survival a city that had been in the economic doldrums since the area's placers had played out, precipitated the platting of the Lower Rattlesnake and its settlement as a residential area. The arrival of the Northern Pacific in 1883 and of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad in 1908, provided Missoula with ready access to the west coast and points east and made possible the implementation of capitalistic methods necessary for the exploitation of western Montana's considerable natural resources--minerals, timber, and fertile agricultural lands. The city's location on level ground about halfway between the Cascade Mountains and the main ridge of the Rocky Mountains made it a logical choice for the railroad's division headquarters and its associated shops. Also, the construction of branch lines in the Bitterroot Valley from 1885 to 1887, the Flint Creek Valley in 1887, the Coeur d'Alene region in 1891, and the Flathead Valley in 1917 strengthened Missoula's position as the center of a five-valley trading area and made it the dominant regional trading center within a radius of 75 miles.

One significant, long-term impetus to the growth of Missoula was the establishment of Hammond, Eddy and Company in 1881 to provide the railroad with supplies, including timber, clothing, and small sawmills for the construction of the main line. In 1883, Washington Dunn joined the company, then known as the Montana Improvement Company, and reincorporated later as the Big Blackfoot Milling and Manufacturing Company. The company constructed a large sawmill seven miles east of Missoula at Bonner. The Bonner Mill under various ownerships and rebuilt over the years has been a mainstay of the Missoula economy since its construction. Many Lower Rattlesnake residents have worked there over the years. The Garden City Brewery constructed at the base of Water Works Hill, later the Sicks Missoula Brewing Company and, by 1949, the Missoula Brewing Company, also provided a place of employment for Lower Rattlesnake residents. The brewery was demolished in the mid 1960s to make way for the construction of Interstate 90 through Missoula.

The emergence of the west as a timber resource for eastern markets in the early twentieth century encouraged the Milwaukee Railroad to construct a line through Missoula to the West Coast in 1908. The increased lumber production, the opening of the Flathead Indian Reservation to settlement by Euroamericans, and the influx of homesteaders encouraged by the railroads and their land companies stimulated agricultural production. Most of it was marketed locally and regionally, with the exception of a few products such as cattle and wool. The establishment of the University of Montana in Missoula in 1893 and of what was to become the U.S. Forest Service Region One Office in 1906 inserted the presence of the state and federal governments, which provided economic diversity and stability to the Missoula area.

Lower Rattlesnake Development

With the arrival of the railroad in 1883, the city embarked on a sustained period of growth, extending south across the river and east and north of the tracks. This growth also greatly affected the Lower Rattlesnake. The Town Company Addition was platted in 1883 and the Woody Addition in 1888. Examination of the BLM Master Title Plat shows land in the Lower Rattlesnake in these locations leaving the public domain at about the same time (1883 and 1891) indicating that the two events occurred almost simultaneously. The Town Company Addition is bounded by Rattlesnake Creek to the West, Harrison Street to the east, Beech Street to the south, and Elm Street to the north. The Woody Addition is bounded by

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Harrison Street to the west, Mount Jumbo to the east, the alley between Cherry and Locust Streets to the north and Beech Street to the south. Settlement in the Town Company Addition occurred soon after the plat was filed. The 1891 perspective map of Missoula shows scattered residences along Vine Street, with concentrations on the north and south sides of Vine Street between Monroe and Jackson Streets and on the northeast corner of Vine and Harrison Streets, and other residences on the north side of Poplar Street between Jackson and Van Buren Streets. The perspective map also shows a bridge across Rattlesnake Creek on Vine Street, trees along Beech Street just south of the Greenough property, poplars along Poplar Street between Jackson and Van Buren streets, and a grove of trees between Vine Street and Beech Street east of Harrison. There also is a farm located between the railroad tracks and the river. Greenough Park is pictured with numerous trees and full vegetation.

The 1890 Missoula City Directory shows residents along Monroe and Vine Streets and numerous others in the Lower Rattlesnake, but without addresses. About 70 residences are listed with a basically working class population of general laborers, carpenters, teamsters, machinists, a liveryman, a millwright, a painter, gardeners, and a brickmaker. A student, a bartender, and a dog fancier also are listed. Northern Pacific Railroad employees such as a conductor, brakeman and fireman also are represented, indicative of proximity of the Lower Rattlesnake to the Northern Pacific station, shops, and yard. The new additions offered a convenient place of residence for the many new employees of the railroad now living in Missoula.

In 1891, the Lower Rattlesnake was served by a school constructed by Charles Owen, operating out of a two-story, false front, frame building at the corner of Harrison and Vine Streets, constructed by Charles Owen as a store; he rented the downstairs of the building to School District 3 as the East Side School, a purpose it served until 1896, when the East Side School constructed at the northeast corner of Harrison and Elm Streets opened. While the East Side School was in session in the Owen's store, it occupied the first floor and Owens' and his family the second floor. After 1896, the building served its original purpose as a grocery store. The site is located one block east of the exit ramp for Interstate 90 at Van Buren Street. School District 1 purchased land from the Missoula Real Estate Association in 1893 for \$600 for the construction of a new East Side School. The first phase of the school was constructed for \$4,000. School commenced in 1896, although the second floor was still under construction during the 1896-1897 school year. The school had an 1896 year enrollment of 40 students in two rooms heated by a wood stove. Trees were planted in 1901 and a fence was constructed around the school. In 1902, the East Side School was renamed the Prescott School. A 1911 addition to Prescott School was designed by A. J. Gibson and constructed by David W. Emerson for \$10,960. The old Prescott School was demolished for the construction of the new Prescott School, which was completed in 1951.

The Missoula City Directory for 1901 and turn-of-the-century photographs show a Lower Rattlesnake area that has developed considerably but one that still was marked by considerable open space. Two major events occurring in the Rattlesnake during this time had lasting effect on further defining the character of the neighborhood and explaining the nature of its development--the construction the Greenough Mansion at 631 Vine in 1897 and the donation of Greenough Park by Thomas and Tennie Greenough to the city in 1902. Turn-of-the century photographs show about 25 residences along Vine Street, the 1901 Directory lists about 38 residences along the same stretch, and about 64 residences in the survey area. The 1902 Sanborn Maps show 34 residences along Vine Street and 70 residences in the historic district, which represents about one-third of the present number.

It was at this chronological juncture that Thomas Greenough & his wife, Tennie, commissioned the construction of a mansion and shortly thereafter donated 20 acres of wooded land along Rattlesnake Creek to the city. The Greenoughs were by far the most prominent residents in the Lower Rattlesnake. The construction of the mansion and donation of the parkland contributed significantly to the increasing middle-class element that began to seek residence in an area that was

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close to town but was still somewhat separate by virtue of the creek and the park. Both served as a buffer and offered scenic and recreation amenities to the city and to the residents of the Lower Rattlesnake, in particular.

Thomas L. Greenough was born in Iowa in 1851 and was raised and educated in Kansas and Missouri. He was engaged in railroad work as a young man, as a stone mason, and later developed interests in mining in Silver City, Mexico. He pursued contract mining work, sinking shafts and running tunnels in New Mexico, Colorado, and the Black Hills in South Dakota, where he married Tennie L. Epperson of Tennessee in 1876. He arrived in Missoula in 1882 and contracted with the Northern Pacific Railroad to furnish ties (see above) and also provided cords of wood to the Butte area. He formed partnerships with T. F. Wren, with whom he engaged in railroad construction work, and with Peter Larson with whom he went into the mining business. He acquired ownership of the Morning Mine in Mullan, Idaho, and later sold it for \$3 million. He also purchased the Snowstorm Mine Company in the Coeur d'Alene Mining District and held an interest in numerous mining ventures in Butte, Anaconda, Missoula, and Wallace, Idaho. He also was heavily invested in numerous banks in Montana, Washington, and Montana and served on several bank boards. He was vice president of the Missoula Trust and Savings Bank. Greenough also served two terms in the state legislature.

Greenough first built a modest residence at 631 Vine Street near where he had earlier stacked wood. In either 1897 or 1902, he built the Greenough Mansion on the same spot for his wife. The 2 1/2-story Queen house was designed by A. J. Gibson, Missoula's preeminent architect of the time. The 18-room house's first floor featured a Louis XV style reception room, a room with Chinese designs, a music room, a dining room finished with an oak and gold leaf mural, and a bedroom, bath and pantry. The second floor had seven bedrooms and three baths, and the third had two bedrooms and a bath for servants. A disciple of William Morris, a well-known English interior decorator, decorated the interior of the house with such notable features as hand painted wallpaper, inlaid wood floors, a rug woven to specifications in Scotland, and a large, hand painted window in the landing. Most of the woodwork in the house was chosen from upper Rattlesnake tamarack. The grounds covered about one and one-half residential blocks and included a large barn and several outbuildings, along with numerous trees. The residence was moved from the site in the mid 1960s when Interstate 90 was constructed through Missoula and relocated to Ben Hogan Drive in the South Hills, where it was the Mansion Restaurant until 1992, when it burned down.

GREENOUGH PARK

On September 6, 1902, Thomas and Tennie Greenough donated land along lower Rattlesnake Creek to the city to be used as a public park with the following conditions:

The above conveyance and grant is for the express condition that the said party of the second part [the city] will improve, maintain, and forever preserve the said property and the whole thereof for the purpose of a public park to which the citizens living in the city, and the visitors thereto, may have free and uninterrupted access for the purpose of a pleasure resort. And upon the further condition that if the said party of the second part ever, from any cause, cease to maintain and use the said land and premises for a public park and park purposes, or shall suffer, permit, or allow to be sold on or within the limits of the land hereby conveyed any spirituous_____, malt or other intoxicating liquors, that then in that event, title herein and hereby conveyed shall immediately revert to and become revisited in the said parties of the first part [the Greenoughs], the heirs, and assigns.

At about the same time that the Greenoughs donated their 20 acres to the city, the Missoula Water Company donated 2 acres and the Missoula Real Estate Association donated 7 acres as additions to the Greenough donation. The donors stated that nothing would contribute to "the growth, development, and beautifying of the city of Missoula" more than

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a "comfortable retreat" such as a park "to which the people of Missoula may during the heated days of summer, the beautiful days of autumn, and the balmy days of spring find a comfortable, romantic and poetic retreat." In 1910, Mrs. Greenough paid \$7,500 for land on the east side of the park (on a stub of Cherry Street between Rattlesnake Creek and Monroe Street) owned by a Mr. Walcott, who had constructed a pavilion for dancing in the summer and roller skating in the winter, in 1903. Mrs. Greenough paid to have a new floor laid and built a lean-to for refreshments. Mr. and Mrs. Pidge managed the pavilion until 1925 when it was torn down because Mrs. Greenough was tired of the criticism directed at her operation of it, especially the accusation that she had been profiting from its operation.

The park has since been a landmark and amenity for the city but its history reflects the contradictory impulses of development and preservation that have, finally resulted in formal legal action to preserve the park in keeping with the wishes of the Greenough family. A menagerie was built with a stone bear pit shortly after the park was donated to the city. A two-acre, fenced-in area was constructed to enclose the pit. In a July 8, 1911 letter to the *Missoulian*, Thomas L. Greenough protested that the \$100 to \$150 spent on keeping the bears could have been better used on building bridges and trails in the park. He also objected strongly to recent cutting of trees and native vines and shrubs and urged that the "natural beauty" of the park be preserved. The animals were finally removed and the pit was eventually roofed over for a storehouse.

Mrs. Greenough also paid for improvements to the park and to the stream embankments totaling about \$15,000, including a retaining wall on the east side of Rattlesnake Creek from the Vine Street Bridge to the upper end of the dance pavilion in Greenough Park; a wall on the west side of the creek from the Vine Street Bridge to the railroad dyke; and a concrete sidewalk from the west side of the railroad bridge to the railroad right-of-way on the west side of Vine Street Bridge to the west side of Rattlesnake Creek.

Subsequent changes to the park included construction of a road just inside the limits of the park, creation of small picnic area with a stove; a long, covered table; and swings on the east side of the park. Other additions, such as a merry-go-round, a fish hatchery, and a children's fishing pond are no longer in existence. In 1948, a group of Rattlesnake residents cleaned up the park, which included improving the picnic area and thinning overgrown brush. However, the Greenough family objected to the group's wish to remove some old cottonwoods (which the group believed to be dangerous) and to replace them with conifers as a violation of the conditions of the donation. The family believed that the road, the cutting of trees and brush, and the expansion of the picnic area were compromising the park's natural condition and turning the park into a playground.

In a stipulation of December 30, 1955 filed in Missoula District Court, the Greenough family agreed to drop a complaint filed against the city for not protecting the park from vandalism, for using heavy equipment for clearing, and for converting the park from a natural one to an artificial one, if the city would adopt a plan for the management of the park (consisting of 13 points that the city Park Board had recommended to the city many years before). These points included: blocking off all roads except the periphery drive; repairing sections destroyed by random use of vehicles in the park, and better policing; appointing a committee consisting of experts with technical knowledge of trees, shrubs, and natural park areas for long-range planning in accordance with the terms of the city's contract with Greenough's heirs, and the preparation of annual work plans; removing only dangerous and dead and down trees in accordance with terms defined by a committee; selectively removing and trimming shrubbery; making improvements--paths, footbridges, picnic areas, fireplaces--in accordance with prescribed procedures; and ensuring that the only areas of "artificial development" be the existing picnic area and wading pool and the exit at the southwest end of the park.

An amenity that bordered on the Lower Rattlesnake just to the east of the Lower Rattlesnake district in Hellgate Canyon was the Hughes Gardens established by John W. Hughes in 1909, who is shown as a resident at 1134 Vine

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Street in 1907. The gardens were located on land first deeded in 1868. A Rattlesnake Creek water right was filed in the 1870s and an irrigation ditch was dug and a water line was laid. John Wesley Hughes purchased the property in 1909, when it was little more than a pig farm. Hughes began a small-scale truck farm on the purchased land and some additional rented land. Hughes died in 1911, but his nephews, Harry and Ben Hughes, under the supervision of the Father William F. Hughes, continued the truck-farming operation. (The Hughes Gardens water right was confirmed as an integral part of the land in the 1930s after the passage of a statute providing for the State Water Conservation Board.) John Hughes moved log buildings constructed in the 1890s in the Rattlesnake to the truck garden site where they provided a place to live for migrant workers, most of whom were Mexicans. Many local teenagers also worked in the gardens. One of the cabins was used as the office and others were used as wash sheds for vegetables. One building was used to store ice cut from the Clark Fork River during the winter. The Hughes Gardens supplied local grocery stores and also merchants in surrounding communities as the gardens were expanded. The gardens owned their own refrigerated trucks and also scheduled regular trips to Philipsburg, Anaconda, Butte, Great Falls, Livingston, and Billings. The gardens added to Missoula's reputation as the "Garden City" and continued the tradition of Missoula area farms supplying produce to other western Montana cities with shorter growing seasons and less fertile soils. The tradition was maintained until 1971, when Ben Hughes sold to Gateway Corporation. He sold the top soil and the old log buildings were demolished.

The Lower Rattlesnake area continued to fill with houses during the early 1900s as a result of the economic developments noted above and because of the area's growing reputation as a nice place to live with its proximity to Greenough Park, its less dense population; its easy access to the rural life of the Upper Rattlesnake; its numerous recreational opportunities, including fishing, walking, and cycling; and its social events such as picnics and the pavilion dances. Slowly, too, the working class character of the area began to give way slightly to the lower middle class.

The 1907 Polk City Directory shows 51 residences along Vine Street, compared to 38 in 1901. The historic district shows 120 residences as compared to 70 in 1901, or about one-half of the present number. Most of the growth during this period occurred along Poplar and Cherry Streets. At that time, there continued to be a large number of working class residents of varying skills in the district, including general laborers, carpenters, teamsters, gardeners, a cement worker, bricklayers, engineers, machinists, boilermakers, brakemen, a yardmaster, butchers, farmers, domestics, painters, cooks, a brewer, a watchman, and seamstresses. The most notable change in occupation of the residents was the emerging number of middle-, lower-, and some upper middle-class residents—store proprietors (tailors and dressmakers, grocery, electrical, jewelry and optical, barbers, cigar maker); stenographers-secretaries; and sales clerks in drugstores, dress shops, department stores, and electrical shops. Other middle class residents included teachers, a real estate salesman, a lawyer, and an editor of the Missoulian. A large number of students either lived with their families or boarded with others. The largest single employer remained the Northern Pacific Railroad. The Garden City Brewing Company employed brewers and teamsters. Several railroad workers roomed together and some widows took in boarders.

The 1912 Sanborn Maps show 148 residences in the historic district area, about two-thirds of the present number. There were probably more residences at this time; however, for some reason, the 1912 maps do not show the half-blocks between Monroe and the creek. The 1912 maps and the 1917-1918 Polk City Directory also show the presence of small businesses, such as grocery stores and a bakery, in the Lower Rattlesnake. The 1912 Sanborn Maps show a grocery store at 830 Vine Street and a combination dwelling-bakery at 732-734 Locust Street. There are also 29 alley houses at the back of residential lots with half-number addresses. The 1917-1918 Polk City Directory continued to show a large percentage of Northern Pacific Railroad employees in the survey area, especially along Cherry and Vine Streets. The Garden City Brewery also employed a number of Lower Rattlesnake residents at this time. A large number of students and teachers also resided there; many were boarders. Northern Pacific employees continued to board. The 1917 Directory shows the Poplar Grocery located at 838 Poplar, Homer M. Wise, proprietor.

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The 1920 Census shows about 142 residences in the historic district area. Many of the Lower Rattlesnake residents were Scandinavian. In addition to those who came directly from Scandinavia, about 50 had parents born in Scandinavia. There were Scandinavian societies in Missoula, such as the Norwegian Ladies Aid Society of Missoula. The American Scandinavian Bank located at the corner of Higgins and Main Streets was attractive to working class citizens living in the Lower Rattlesnake. That bank failed in 1924 and the manager and his wife left for South America.

The 1920 census also showed that the Northern Pacific Railroad continued to be the largest single employer of Lower Rattlesnake residents. Several telephone and telegraph employees (manager, clerk, operator) are also listed, showing the emergence of the communication's industry in Missoula. Public employees, such as a U.S. Forest Service grazing department staff member, a county clerk, a policeman, a city civil engineer, and a county constable, also are shown residing in the Rattlesnake at this time. The Missoula Mercantile was, perhaps, the second largest employer of Lower Rattlesnake residents, which included sales clerks in the suit and corset department, the grocery department, the dry goods department, and the carpet department. Proprietors of grocery, hardware, and confectionery stores continued to reside in the Rattlesnake, some with businesses there. Doctors, nurses, and a dentist also are listed as residents. Still, most of Rattlesnake residents are blue-collar workers, including numerous skilled laborers who worked primarily for the Northern Pacific Railroad and others linked to the building trades--carpenters, masons, electricians, and well drillers.

The 1929 Polk City Directory shows 167 residences in the historic district area. During this time, the Northern Pacific is still the largest employer of those living in the survey area. There is a particularly large number of Northern Pacific Railroad firemen living in the area. There is also evidence of the influence of the automobile, with those with auto livery businesses living at 826 Elm Street and 1132 Van Buren. That some residents worked across town from the Lower Rattlesnake, indicates use of the automobile or the streetcar system providing transportation by then. There are also a few small businesses listed in the survey area, including Harvey Cady, auto livery, and Nellie Cady, potato chip manufacturer at 826 Elm; Richard E. Kingsford, grocer, at 1035 Van Buren Street; Stella Lacy, grocer, at 1001 Vine Street; and Charles Wilson, carpenter, contractor, and cabinet maker at 1137 Vine Street.

The Rattlesnake historic district area grew significantly during the 1930s, despite the Depression. The 1940-1941 Polk City Directory shows 220 residences in the historic district, close to the present number of about 240. There is a marked increase in the number of residents connected with the automobile industry--sales, service, tire companies, and auto part stores. There were over ten persons earning a living as drivers for local companies. Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company's employment of district residents also is indicative of the increasing prominence of this communications industry at this time.

A large number of persons living in the survey area were connected with the timber industry, some working for the U.S. government and some for timber companies or in the building trades. The 1941 directory shows ten persons working for the U.S. Forest Service, mostly as draftsmen and clerks, and about five persons working for the timber industry, most notably the Anaconda Mining Company. Mr. Robert Jones, who resided in the Lower Rattlesnake between 1919 to about 1933, remembers Bonner mill millworkers taking the street car, which ran through the Rattlesnake, to and from the Bonner mill. Carpenters, laborers, a building contractor, a construction foreman, and hod carriers are listed as Lower Rattlesnake residents. The presence of New Deal agencies in Missoula is evident with two persons working for the Civilian Conservation Corps and one for the Works Progress Administration. Florence Laundry also emerged as a major employer of survey-area residents during this time. The Northern Pacific, the Missoula Mercantile, and the Missoula Brewing Company continued to be major employers. The Lower Rattlesnake also continued to be the location of a few businesses, including the Finlayson Grocery at 1035 Van Buren, Cady's Potato Chips at 825 Elm Street, and Campbell's Grocery at 1001 Vine Street.

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The Rattlesnake neighborhood experienced continued growth during the 1940s, with the post-war boom contributing to the construction of a number of minimalist traditional houses that now characterize the survey area, along with the ranch-style and split-level houses built since the 1960s. Because the number of houses present in 1940-41 is just slightly less than the number today it is probable that at least some of the post-war houses replaced older frame residences. This situation is also due, in a large part, to the construction of Interstate Highway 90 in the mid 1960s. The construction of the freeway resulted in residences along Beech Street and the south side of Vine Street either being demolished or moved from the south end of the Lower Rattlesnake, including the Greenough Mansion. Farther to the west, the Highlander Brewery (Garden City Brewery) also underwent demolition to make way for the new highway. The construction of the freeway also added a major barrier between the Lower Rattlesnake and the area of Missoula to the south. As a result, the lower Rattlesnake is not as closely connected with the rest of town as it once was and the freeway has created a sense of intrusion in the Lower Rattlesnake, especially along Vine Street.

Architectural Significance

The Missoula Lower Rattlesnake Historic District is significant under Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places with most residences and buildings in this district achieving significance as part of a larger whole. The Lower Rattlesnake historic district contains 23 full or partial blocks of predominately middle-class, skilled-worker housing. A public park, donated by the owner of the largest and most ornate home built in this district (Greenough Mansion, 1898; moved 1965), occupies approximately twenty-nine acres delineating the western edge of the Historic District. This park is one of the largest and most densely vegetated public parks in the city core. The district is also architecturally significant in that it is comprised of a high concentration of early worker housing, most typically one or one-and-one-half story variations of gable-front, side-gable, gable-and-wing, and hipped-roof pyramidal cottage dwellings, with good integrity of design, materials and setting. Like the Northside Historic District, many of these worker houses date to the period following the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883, and from the period of expansion of that railroad line during the 1906-16 period. Many pattern book designed houses exist in the district. There is also a significant, but limited, representation of Queen Anne style houses from that early era, which maintain their architectural integrity, and more Craftsman Bungalow representations from the first three decades of the Twentieth Century. A row of hipped-roofed brick houses along the 700 block of Monroe add a distinct flavor to the District and can be identified as being connected to the formality of the Greenough Mansion, which stood in close proximity to these houses until the mid- 1960s. Many of the district's larger, older homes, including representative Queen Anne's, are visible from the Interstate, making a strong statement as to the historic nature of this area known as the Lower Rattlesnake.

As a whole, the Lower Rattlesnake Historic District retains a high degree of historic architectural integrity. It remains an area where the housing of its formative decades dominates the streetscapes. With the Historic District's relative isolation from the city center as a result of the Interstate 90 barrier, and the area's physical boundaries of park and mountainside, it exemplifies its earlier character of a place beyond the hustle and bustle of the city proper; a place where neighborhood and recreational areas blend together unlike anywhere else in Missoula.

Architectural Significance

The Lower Rattlesnake Historic District is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C. The residential district is a unique historical entity, containing basically the historic homes of skilled workers and some middle-class residents, representing a variety of architectural styles. The district is distinguished by its location in the Rattlesnake Creek watershed, tributary to the Clark Fork River, and by Greenough Park, the city's largest natural

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park, on its western boundary. Working-class homes, primarily constructed during periods of railroad construction in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, which contributed significantly to the growth of the north-side residential areas of the city, predominate. The houses are pattern book or carpenter-designed and -built, one- and one-and-one-half-story, gable-front, side-gable, gable-and-wing, and hipped roof workers cottages. These residences are typical of workers' cottages constructed across the country in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries with clapboard and drop siding with corner boards; wood frame, double-hung windows; open front porches with either spindled Victorian or Classical Revival posts. The additions also are typical of remodeled carpenter-designed and -built homes. They are important indications of the increased affluence and the slow emergence in the district of a lower-middle, white-collar class during the first four decades of the twentieth century.

Also indicative of the presence of a skilled working class and an emerging middle class is the presence of Craftsman Bungalow houses, most of which are one-story, gable-front or side-gabled residences, typical of the design of the smaller Bungalow homes, with gently sloping gable roofs, exposed rafter tails, and knee braces; open, extending front porches with large, square columns; and some decorative shingle work. The south (lower) end of the Lower Rattlesnake Historic District contains most of the middle-class residences, most of which are two-story, four-square variations of the one-story workers' cottages; some one-and-one-half and two-story Queen Anne houses; and a few Classical and Colonial Revival residences.

These middle-class houses are mostly concentrated near where the Greenough Mansion once stood, a former landmark of the Lower Rattlesnake district, whose owners became major benefactors to the city at the turn of the century. The Greenoughs donated the park that bears their name to the city. Greenough Park is the second major defining characteristic of the Lower Rattlesnake Historic District. The park serves as a buffer between the city's commercial district and the Lower Rattlesnake, and is one of the city's most historic, treasured, and carefully protected amenities, with the rapid, clear waters of Rattlesnake Creek running through it and along its historic concrete retaining walls; densely wooded grounds with large, mature conifer and deciduous trees; thick shrubbery; grasses; and paths providing pedestrian and bicycle access. The park's demarcation of the district's western boundary, the design and materials integrity of the workers' cottages, and the location of both in a separate watershed tributary to the Clark Fork River, make the Lower Rattlesnake Historic District worthy of recognition as a distinct historic neighborhood, which played a unique role in the history of Missoula.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Missoula Historic Preservation Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 70 acres

| UTM References: | | | Zone | Easting | Northing | UTM References: | | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|-----------------|----|--------|------|---------|----------|-----------------|----|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| A | 12 | 273280 | | 5194500 | | F | 12 | 273320 | 5195010 | | |
| B | 12 | 273400 | | 5194600 | | G | 12 | 273010 | 5195320 | | |
| C | 12 | 273320 | | 5194680 | | H | 12 | 273500 | 5195820 | | |
| D | 12 | 273370 | | 5194720 | | I | 12 | 273290 | 5195810 | | |
| E | 12 | 273210 | | 5194880 | | J | 12 | 272700 | 5195130 | | |

Legal Location (Township, Range & Section(s)): NE 3 Section 22, SW 3 Section 15, SW 3 Section 14, and NE 3 Section 14, all in Township 13 North, Range 19 West, M.P.M.

Verbal Boundary Description

Blocks 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, S2 117, S2 118, S2 119, and S2 120, Town Company Addition to the City of Missoula; and Blocks 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, and S2 135, Woody Addition to the City of Missoula; and Greenough Park. The Point of Beginning is the intersection of Vine and Pierce streets (UTM A). From the POB the boundary runs in a northeast direction to the alley of Block 135 (UTM B); northwest to Polk Street (UTM C); northeast to Cherry Street (UTM D); northwest to Taylor Street (UTM E); Northeast to the alley of Block 120 (UTM F); northwest to Monroe Street (following the slight jog along the northeast property line of 714 Locust Street) (UTM G). From Monroe Street, the boundary follows the boundary of Greenough Park in an irregular line, first in a northeasterly direction (UTM H), then in a westerly direction (UTM I), then in a southwesterly direction to Vine Street (UTM J). From this intersection, the line runs in a southeasterly direction along Vine Street to the Point of Beginning (UTM A).

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Lower Rattlesnake Historic District is based on a historical and architectural survey of the Lower Rattlesnake neighborhood. The boundary includes the highest concentration of architecturally and historically significant resources between the western edge of Greenough Park (which is a significant site) on the northwest to Mount Jumbo on the southeast. With the construction of Interstate 90 in the mid-1960s, the area to the southwest of the district was radically changed with a number of houses raised or moved.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Allan Mathews, Missoula Historic Preservation Officer

organization: Missoula Historic Preservation Office

street & number: 435 Ryman

city or town: Missoula

date: November 30, 1998

telephone: 406-523-4650

state: MT zip code: 59802

Property Owner

Multiple

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