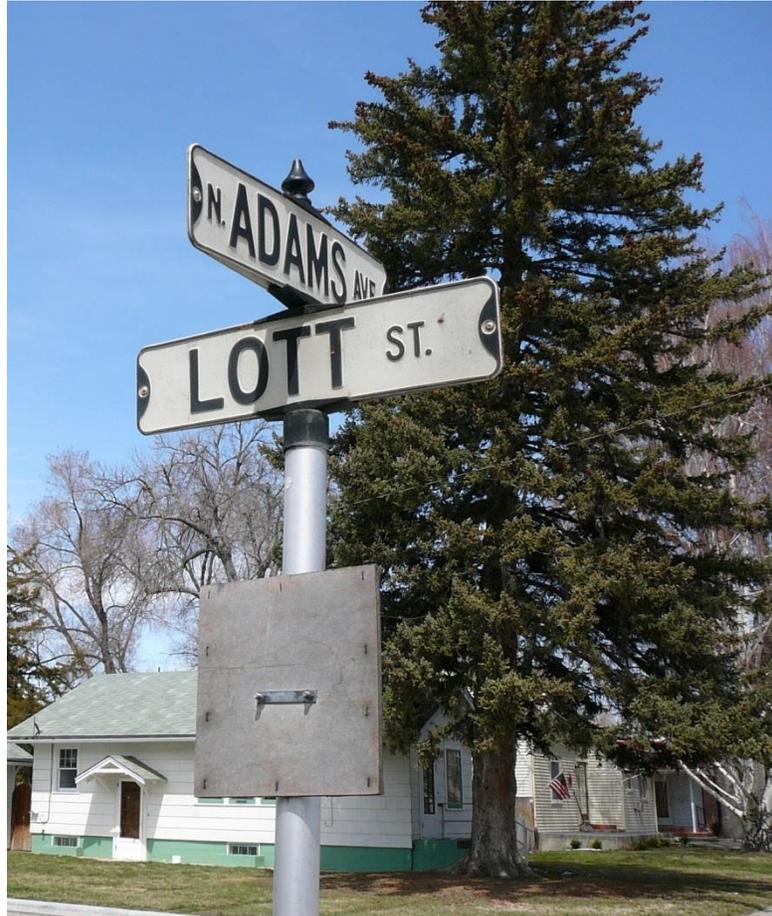


Johnson County Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum



Streets and Homes of Buffalo Tour

The Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum presents this tour for your enjoyment.

Learn about the citizens who helped develop Buffalo and were honored with streets named after them. The homes featured are examples of typical architecture in Buffalo or was the home of well-known citizens. They are private homes or businesses and are not open for tours. This is a long tour, so there are three regions: North Buffalo, Central Buffalo, and South Buffalo.

CENTRAL BUFFALO: Fort to Hart

Begin in front of the Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum. Cross Fort Street and head towards the Bighorn Mountains. (While you will not be visiting Fort McKinney, it is 2.5 miles from the museum, heading west.)



Fort Street

Fort Street directly leads to the historic Fort McKinney. It was originally established near old Fort Reno on Powder River in 1877 and called Cantonment Reno. In 1878 the military relocated to present-day Buffalo and established Fort McKinney (1878 – 1894). Civilian contractors working for the military followed and their presence helped establish a permanent civilian settlement in

Buffalo. Given to the state of Wyoming after being decommissioned, Fort McKinney became the Soldiers and Sailors Home and is now the Veterans' Home of Wyoming.

Turn right onto Carrington Avenue.



Carrington Avenue

Colonel Henry B. Carrington, born in 1824, was a 42-year-old Yale educated lawyer when he came to Fort Phil Kearny as commander. He was a Civil War veteran although he never saw battle. When he became commander, he had less combat experience than his subordinate officers. After the Fetterman Fight, Carrington was reassigned from Fort Phil Kearny due to his inability to adapt to frontier warfare and lack of leadership. Carrington died in 1912.



236 N. Carrington

Built in 1900, this house has a cedar roof, a wooden balustrade on the second floor, and a roof deck. The house has a two-story bay on the front with three double hung windows. The wrap around porch was added at a later date.

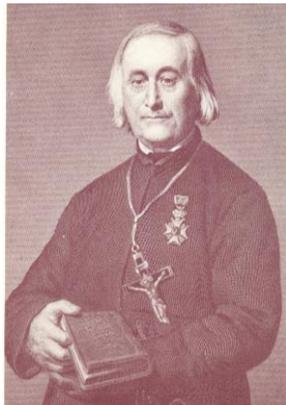
Turn left onto Lott Street.



Lott Street

Dr. John Howard Lott was born in Pennsylvania in 1853 and attended Lafayette College and Jefferson Medical College. Lott was appointed Assistant Surgeon in the U.S. Army to Fort McKinney in 1884. After serving four years, Lott retired from the army and set up a practice in Buffalo. He died in 1913.

Turn right onto De Smet Avenue.



De Smet Avenue

Father Pierre Jean De Smet of Antwerp, Belgium, was the first recorded Catholic priest in the Buffalo area. Known as “Black Robe” by the Indians, Father De Smet founded Indian missions in the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Northwest from 1838 – 1870. Father De Smet, serving as a consultant for the U.S. Government during Indian treaties, was part of the 1868 peace mission to the Powder River camp of the Lakota Indians. He died in 1873.

Turn right on Holland Street.



Holland Street

William Henry Harrison Holland was born October 28, 1840. After serving time as a Prisoner-of-War at Andersonville, Georgia during the Civil War, he was discharged in 1865 and came west in 1879. Settling in Buffalo in 1880, Holland founded the Des Moines Cattle Co., raised cattle, and became one of the first settlers in Johnson County to file final proof on his homestead. Holland died in 1906.

Turn left onto Burritt Avenue.



Burritt Avenue

Charles Henry Burritt, a Vermont native, came to Buffalo in 1883 to open a law practice. Burritt, the second mayor of Buffalo, held office during the Johnson County Cattle War. He took part in preparing Wyoming's state constitution and was a veteran of the Spanish-American War. Burritt died in Reno, Nevada, on June 8, 1927.



Foote Street

Robert Foote, born in Scotland in 1832, came to Wyoming in 1856 where he worked as a territorial sheriff, military post trader, farmer, and freighter. In 1882 he arrived in Buffalo and opened the Foote General Merchandise Store. His store burnt down in 1895 and Foote died in Arizona in 1919.



414 N. Burritt

Built in 1917, this single-family, one and a half-story bungalow has a gable roof and a shed roof over the front porch. The wrap around porch has balustrades.



Snider Street

Elias U. Snider, born June 5, 1845, was a Union soldier during the Civil War. Later he worked as a post trader and freighter at Cantonment Reno in 1876. Before he died in 1896, Snider had held every elective office in Johnson County except for Superintendent of Schools. He was the second sheriff of Johnson County after Frank Canton and was elected to the Wyoming Legislature.



568 N. Burritt

This single-family, one-story house was built in 1904. There is a gable roof with wood shingles and a half-turret room on the front with a peaked roof. The roof possesses an eyebrow window and ionic columns supporting the wrap-around porch.

At this time, you can begin the NORTH BUFFALO region of the tour. Continue on Burritt Avenue to reach Hart Street.

If you wish to finish the CENTRAL BUFFALO region, turn right on Hart Street then right to continue on Adams Avenue.



Hart Street

Major Verling K. Hart served sporadically as commander of Fort McKinney from 1878 to 1883. While at Fort McKinney, Major Hart and his wife Juliet filed a desert claim that included the future site of Buffalo. Hart died suddenly of a heart attack in 1883 and in 1884 Juliet was granted his patent. Anyone who wanted to or had settled already in Buffalo had to purchase the land from her.

NORTH BUFFALO: Hart to Watkins



Hesse Street

F. G. S. Hesse, an Englishman born in 1852, traveled to the American West in 1872. He became ranch manager for the Frewen Brothers 76 Ranch from 1878 – 1888. At the same time, he started his own ranch, the 28 Ranch, and was an active businessman of Buffalo. An “Invader” during the Johnson County Cattle War, he returned to Johnson County and continued to operate the 28 Ranch until his retirement in 1924. Hesse died in 1929.



Hogerson Street

Charles Hogerson, a native of Sweden, started a blacksmith shop in Buffalo after working for the army at Fort McKinney. He made iron tires for wheels, shod horses, and supplied metal hinges, hooks, weapons, and cooking utensils. Hogerson served as mayor of Buffalo for thirteen years. He died in 1899 at the age of 54.



Munkers Street

George Munkres (the street is spelled incorrectly), born in 1850, drove a bull team from Missouri to New Mexico on the Santa Fe Trail in 1861. He had a lifelong business partnership with Eugene Belmont Mather. They owned the M&M Coal Mine, a general merchandise store, a freight company, hardware store, and the M&M Ranch. Munkres died in 1924.

Turn right onto Mather Street.



Mather Street

Born in 1847 in Pennsylvania, Eugene Belmont Mather was a descendant of Cotton and Increase Mather, the Puritan ministers who participated in the Salem Witch Trials of Massachusetts. Munkres and Mather brought in the first stock of goods when Robert Foote opened his store in Buffalo. Mather died in 1935.

Further north of Burritt is Watkins Street and further north of Main Street is McKinney Street. Turn right onto Adams Avenue.



Watkins Street

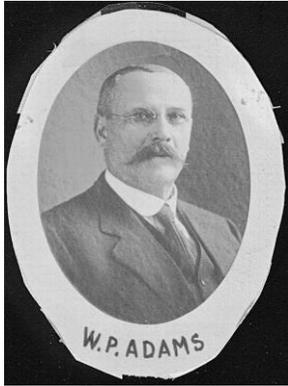
Dr. John C. Watkins, born in 1841, was a member of the 6th Massachusetts Regiment during the Civil War. He was the first surgeon and physician not associated with Fort McKinney to settle in Buffalo in 1882. He died of a heart attack while on his way to examine the bodies of Nate Champion and Nick Ray during the Johnson County Cattle War in 1892.



McKinney Street

First Lieutenant John A. McKinney, born in 1847 in Tennessee, graduated from West Point Military Academy in 1871. He was killed at the Dull Knife Battle during General Crook's 1876 campaign. His name was chosen for the fort because of his youth, (29 years old), bravery in battle, and he was the only officer killed during the fight.

CENTRAL BUFFALO: Fetterman to Hart



Adams Avenue

William P. Adams, born in 1856, was a clerk at the Robert Foote Store during the Johnson County Cattle War and helped supply the “Defenders.” With Dave Young he operated the Adams and Young Grocery Store, which later became the Adams and Son Grocery Store. Adams died in 1931.



531 N. Adams

This residence is built from an old Fort McKinney building. When the fort was decommissioned in 1894, the government sold many buildings to Buffalo residents to be used as homes.



412 N. Adams

This house was built in 1903 and is a single-family, one and a half story bungalow with a gable roof. It features open end eaves with brackets. It was crafted from a Sears Catalog house and is the companion to the 351 N. Adams residence.



351 N. Adams: Funeral Home

John C. and Robena Flint, emigrants from Scotland, opened the Flint Funeral Home in 1911. Their son-in-law George Adams operated it during WWII. George’s son Bill ran the business from WWII until his then son-in-law Dave Harness took over in 1981.



164 N. Adams

This house was built between 1920 and 1927 for the Hesse family. It is a single-family, one and a half story bungalow with a rectangular frame.

Go to Fort Street. Turn left and then left again at N. Main Street.



294 N. Main: Burritt House

This is the home of Charles Henry Burritt, a lawyer and Buffalo mayor from 1886 – 1896. The house originally started out as a cabin, built by Burritt, in 1884. Today it houses Buffalo Realty.



312 N. Main: Holland House

William H. Holland built this house after buying the land from Juliet Hart, who stipulated that the house must cost at least \$3,000. The Hollands moved into the first two-story brick house on Christmas Day, 1883. A good example of “Late Victorian Vernacular,” made with local bricks, this house has been remodeled since 1883.



313 N. Main: Mansion House

Dr. John Howard Lott built this house in 1903 for \$5,000. It includes hand-carved oak mantles, handmade glass windows, elegant wood floors and an elaborate spiral staircase. Built in the “Queen Anne” style, it stands two and a half stories with a gable roof, and a wooden roof deck with metal flashing. The main floor was said to be an examination room, and the parlor did double duty as a viewing area during funerals. When Dr. Lott died, his wife converted the home into a boarding house for bachelors and teachers.



468 N. Main: Snow Cabin

Leslie Snow built this log cabin after he retired in 1939. He had served in the first state legislature of Wyoming, was a member of President Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War, and served more than forty years in law enforcement. Snow died in 1953.



559 N. Main

The main part of the house was built from the Officers' Quarters of Fort McKinney and later brought to Buffalo. The original building dates to 1883.



587 N. Main

Built in 1916 by George Wolcott in the "Georgian" style, the main house with two wings was made mostly of wood with a gable roof. It contained five bedrooms and eight closets. There is a fan light window above the front door.



596 N. Main

E. B. Mather, of Mather Street, built this house in 1921 for his daughter, Mrs. Kube. It has clapboard siding, a gable roof with gable dormers, an attic gable over the front porch, and brick pillars.

SOUTH BUFFALO: Lobban to Angus

Turn right onto E Hart Street then turn right onto Lobban Avenue.



Lobban Avenue

James M. Lobban worked as a post trader at Fort McKinney in the 1880s. Lobban became a partner in J. H. Conrad and Co. Later, with C. W. Hine, he bought out Conrad. While in Wyoming, Lobban was a judge, state senator, county commissioner, county treasurer, and judge of probate for the Territory of Wyoming. He died in 1910.

The Clear Creek Trail intersects Lobban Avenue on your left near the Car Quest Auto Parts store. Travel north on the trail and cross the bridge. You will be at the intersection of Bozeman Avenue and Van Dyke Street. Head south on Bozeman.



Bozeman Avenue

John Bozeman, born in 1835 in Georgia, was the founder of the Bozeman Trail and Bozeman, Montana. Leaving his wife and children, he came west in 1860. He mined the goldfields of Montana and later established the trail in order to profit from the influx of miners. Bozeman was killed on his trail in 1867.



Van Dyke Street

John C. Van Dyke homesteaded on the Red Fork of Powder River. Later he opened a store in Buffalo where Robert Foote's store had been. After selling the original store, Van Dyke opened a men's furnishing goods store in 1897 which his sons operated until 1950. He was the county treasurer from 1907 – 1911. Van Dyke died in 1946.



Benteen Street

Frederick William Benteen, born in 1834 in Virginia, joined the 10th Missouri Cavalry during the Civil War. Afterwards, he served with the 7th U.S. Cavalry for 16 years under Custer, whom he despised. He was saved from Custer's fate when he was ordered to scout the land surrounding The Little Bighorn and was too far away to participate in the battle. He became a Brigadier General, then Major of the 9th Cavalry, and was stationed at Fort McKinney. Benteen retired in 1888, died in 1898, and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Turn left at Benteen Street, head east towards Reno Road, past Fetterman Street.



Fetterman Street

Captain William J. Fetterman was stationed at Fort Phil Kearny after the Civil War. On December 21, 1866, Lakota, Northern Cheyenne, and Arapaho Indians ambushed and killed Fetterman and eighty men. Historical accounts claim that Fetterman pursued the Indians, violating a direct order from Colonel Carrington. Other accounts suggest that Fetterman had not been given the order, but due to his lack of frontier military experience, led his men to defeat at the hands of the Indians.

Turn right onto Reno Road.



Reno Road

Reno Road was named for Fort Reno, one of the two Bozeman Trail forts established in Johnson County in 1865. Fort Reno, near the present-day community of Sussex, was originally called Fort Connor. The military later changed the name to honor Major General Jesse L. Reno, killed during the Civil War. The fort never saw any direct battle and the soldiers never participated in any major encounters. Abandoned in 1868, the fort was later burned down by Indians.



Hamilton Street

A settler named Hamilton used to live in the area along Clear Creek. He was probably there when Buffalo citizens decided to name the street.

Turn left and head east down Hamilton Street until you reach Williams Avenue and then turn right and head south.



Williams Avenue

Charles Williams was one of the founders of Buffalo. He had a Dry Creek homestead in the area.



Bennett Street

Harvey A. Bennett was born in 1854 and came to Wyoming in 1877. He worked at Organ's Hardware in the 1880s, later owning it. He was one of the first directors of the First National Bank. He was the first mayor of Buffalo as well as president of the *Buffalo Echo* Publishing Company in 1884. Bennett and his family left Buffalo and moved to Missouri in 1889. Bennett died at the age of 97 in 1951.



Thom Street

William J. Thom, born in 1861, came to Wyoming in October of 1882 as a sheepherder. After arriving in Buffalo in 1885, Thom became a clerk then manager at the Stebbins Conrad Bank, later known as the First National Bank. Thom served two terms in the Wyoming Senate Legislature.



Parmalee Street

Carroll Hathaway Parmelee, born in 1865, attended Hiram College and the University of Michigan. As a lawyer, Parmelee came to Buffalo to settle Juliet Hart's estate. Parmelee had a law practice, served in the local militia, and worked as a judge. Parmelee retired from law in 1919 and died that same year.

Turn right and head west up Parmalee Street to turn left onto Cummings Avenue. Turn right onto Gatchell Street.



Cummings Avenue

David Charles Cummings was a miner, fur-trapper, frontier soldier, cowboy, and shepherd. Born in Virginia in 1856, he moved to Bannack City, Montana with his family in 1862 and met John Bozeman during Bozeman's first wagon train in 1864. After his father's death in 1867, Cummings became a freighter, working for the Northwestern Fur Company. He participated in General Crook's 1876 Campaign as a soldier. After being discharged, Cummings came to Buffalo to ranch and harvest lumber. He died in 1936.



Gatchell Street

Jim Gatchell was born in 1872. He became a veterinarian and a pharmacist, opening Buffalo Pharmacy, later renamed Gatchell's Drug Store. With an insatiable passion for history, Gatchell loved to hear first-hand accounts of battles and events. Gatchell died in 1954 and his family donated his collection to the county. The Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum is named in his honor.



Tisdale Avenue

Tisdale Avenue is named for John A. Tisdale and his son Martin A. Tisdale. John Tisdale was a homesteader and cowboy who worked for many of the large cattle companies. John was killed in an ambush at present-day Tisdale's Divide in 1891 when Martin was four years old. John's death is one of the several murders that took place in events leading up to the Johnson County Cattle War. Martin Tisdale became one of Johnson County's most renowned sheriffs, serving from 1927-1943. He continued to ranch and died in 1952.

Continue to head west on Gatchell Street until you reach Lobban Avenue and turn left. Head south towards Keays Street.



Keays Street

Keays Street is named for Verna Keays Keyes and her father Wilbur Keays. Wilbur Keays served many county positions such as clerk, treasurer, and postmaster, and also owned the American (later Stockman) Hotel. Verna Keays Keyes, a Buffalo native, designed the Wyoming flag in 1916 when she was 21. Keays married Arthur C. Keyes in 1921 and was a lifelong participant in community and national organizations such as the Girl Scouts. She died in 1982.

Turn right on Keays Street and head west towards Main Street. One street to the left of Keays is Brock Street. Turn left to head north down Main Street.



Brock Street

Albert L. Brock, born in 1857, arrived in Buffalo in 1884 with his brothers and purchased a ranch ten miles south of Buffalo. After selling his original ranch, Brock purchased two other ranches, one near EK Mountain and one northeast of Buffalo, and worked them simultaneously. In Buffalo, Brock was president of the Powder River Company, established the first store in Kaycee, was a county commissioner, and a state representative. Brock died in 1946.



494 S. Main

William Graham, a renowned blacksmith who ran a livery stable/blacksmith shop. He had the house built in 1905. It is a one-story Victorian cottage with a stained glass window and scrollwork, a hip roof with deck, and a front porch with fish scale trim.



472 S. Main

T. P. Hill, a prominent lawyer in Buffalo, opened a law practice with Burt Griggs in 1888. Later he practiced alone until he retired and turned the practice over to his son. His one-story house was built in 1928 with a wrap-around porch, a hip roof, and side gables.



390 S. Main: Thorne-Rider Mansion

Built in 1932 by Paul Rothwell, Count and Countess Frederic Thorne-Rider purchased the home when Rothwell died in 1942. In 1946 the house was donated to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Charles Marton then traded his house, which was located closer to the church, for the Thorne-Rider Mansion. In 1988 this house was sold again. The house is made of bricks and features a sloped, curved roof, ten rooms, four bathrooms, and a secret room located in the basement.



385 S. Main

Fred Dillinger, owner of the New York Store, built this “Modified Arts and Crafts” style house in 1917. The exterior, very typical of the 1910s, is made of river rock and has a deep porch and roof style.



367 S. Main

Paul Rothwell built this “Modified Arts and Crafts” style house in 1914. His parents’ home was located next door and his brother Irvine lived nearby. With the Rothwell homes so close together, that section of Buffalo became known as “Hell’s Half Acre” for the noisy feuds between the Rothwells and other neighbors.



341 S. Main

Built in 1890, the house has an interesting roof and unique turret over the deck that is reminiscent of Russian or German architecture. The overall architecture of the house is classified as the “gingerbread” style, common in turn-of-the-century Victorian homes. The Rothwell family moved into the house after H.P. Rothwell left his quartermaster position at Fort McKinney in 1890.



293 S. Main

This house was built in the 1890s for the family of Albert L. Brock, a prominent rancher. It is a two-story structure with approximately 1,200 feet on each floor. The front porch has a balcony.



212 S. Main

The land was once owned by Frank Canton, a prominent lawman and participant in the events leading up to the Johnson County Cattle War. The house is a one-story with a cross gable roof and cupola. The front window has stained glass in it, and the small square windows in the gable have 16 glass lights.



Angus Street

Angus Street was previously known as Laurel Avenue. It was the center of the Red Light district of Buffalo with saloons, hotels, and hotels with rooms offering hourly rates. The street name was changed to honor William “Red” G. Angus. Born in 1849, Angus was 12 when he convinced his mother to allow him to enlist in the Union Army during the Civil War. After the war, he worked as a freighter, cowboy, and teamster. He arrived in Buffalo in the 1880s. Angus was a saloon keeper and later elected sheriff for Johnson County. During the Johnson County Cattle War, he led the “Defenders” to the TA Ranch as sheriff. He retired to his ranch and died in 1922.

The following are some historic homes located on Lobban Street.



207 S. Lobban

C. J. Hogerson had a blacksmith shop on Main Street beginning in the late 1890s. He was also a bank president and county commissioner when he built this house in the late 1890s or early 1900s. It is a rectangular wooden frame house with a curved eave over a small front entry.



240 S. Lobban

J. G. Oliver was a prominent businessman in early Buffalo who owned the Oliver Building and the Capitol Hotel. The house was built pre-1903, and is a one-two story house with a gable roof and an end chimney.



270 S. Lobban

The house was built in 1889 with a stucco-covered foundation. It is an H-shaped wooden frame one-story house with a gable roof. A fan light window is present

over the front door.



307 S. Lobban

This is an original log cabin covered with stucco with a native stone fence. There is a north side entrance and bay window, as well as an east side bay window. The house was F. G. S. Hesse's home from 1890-1900 and then his daughter Vivienne lived here until shortly before her death in 1975.



310 S. Lobban

Built in 1884, Judge Carroll Hathaway Parmelee's two-story brick house has nine rooms, attic storage, and a bay window. It contains a marble fireplace, a central hallway and stairway, and a double arch over the windows.

Images courtesy of the Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum, Wyoming State Archives, Johnson County Historical Society, U.S. Military Academy Archives West Point, Jennifer Romanoski, and Google images.

Mapping by City of Buffalo Planning Department.

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