

Anaconda Historic District
Park and Commercial Streets
in Vicinity of Main Street
Anaconda
Deer Lodge County
Montana

HABS No. MT-53

HABS
MONT,
12-ANAC,
1-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ANACONDA HISTORIC DISTRICT
MT-53

HABS
MONT.
12-ANAC,
1-

Date: late 19th and twentieth century

Location: Park and Commercial Streets in the Vicinity of Main Street, Anaconda, Montana

Owner: Various private and public interests

Engineer/Builder: various

Significance: Anaconda was established in 1885 by Marcus Daly on Warm Springs Creek, as the site of the smelter for the Amalgamated Copper Mining Company. The site was selected for its proximity to the mines at Butte, and the abundant water provided by Warm Springs Creek falling 400 feet in a ten mile stretch. The Anaconda Reduction Department (HAER No. MT-37), situated about 1 mile southeast of the city limits, was the town's largest employer, and dominated the local economy. In the 1890s, Daly attempted to have Anaconda designated as the capital of the newly created state of Montana, but was unsuccessful. It is now the seat of Deer Lodge County, and contains many of its original historic structures.

Transmitted by: Monica E. Hawley, Historian, 1984