

ford Bridge and baby girl  
at Deaconess hospital on Sunday  
morning.

Rumney, who has been at  
Deaconess hospital four days for  
his injury, went home on Monday.

Mrs. W. J. Hartman went  
to Monday on business from  
her home in the Highline dis-

trict of Gallatin Gateway,  
Bozeman. One of his uncles and his  
nephew were at Deaconess hospital five  
days, and left the hospital Monday.

John Porter of Three Parks,  
Bozeman, went to the Pinewood hos-  
pital Monday to visit with  
his wife and friends in Bozeman  
at her home.

Mr. Brown of Dillon, who  
has been at the Pinewood hos-  
pital all at the Pinewood hos-  
pital a few days with her  
mother, Lester Cottrell, left Sun-  
day morning.

Mr. Seller, who had his foot  
injured when he was struck by a piece  
of iron in a blow out as he was  
driving the fire, was brought to  
the hospital yesterday evening for sur-  
gery. He was at the Deaconess  
hospital Sunday at the Deaconess  
hospital. He went home on

Monday. A service was held with eleven mem-  
bers in expression at Gal-  
latin high school Monday af-  
ternoon. The service was  
conducted by Miss El-  
izabeth H. Hahn, Miss  
Alice Hale, Miss  
Alice Hale, Miss  
Alice Hale, Miss  
Alice Hale. These five will have  
the honor in a few days, the  
first place to represent  
Bozeman at the annual inter-  
district district, and the  
first place to represent  
Bozeman at the district meet in

### REBUKE GIVEN ALSO BY COURT

(Continued from page one.)

of his principal,  
the court to

that  
to be provided the  
to have

## PASSING OF A PIONEER WOMAN

### Mrs. S. W. Lewis Died at Her Home on Sunday Morning After an Illness of a Few Weeks.

Mrs. Melissa Lewis, a pioneer colored  
woman, widow of S. W. Lewis, died at  
her home, 308 Bozeman Avenue South,  
Sunday morning at 7:40, after an ill-  
ness of six weeks from influenza. Fun-  
eral services will be held at the home  
this (Tuesday) afternoon at 2:30, and  
interment will be in the family plot  
in the Bozeman cemetery.

She was born in St. Joe, Mo., May  
17, 1851, and was married at her home  
in 1864 to Charles Bruce, who came  
to Montana in 1866, locating in Vir-  
ginia City, where she joined him in  
1868. They lived there about two  
years and for a few months in Ban-  
nock, then came to Bozeman, where  
Mr. Bruce died in 1882. Two years  
later she was married to S. W. Lewis,  
a pioneer who had a barber shop and  
bath rooms on Main street, where the  
Fechter block stands.

The Bruce family had been renting  
the house on South Bozeman from S.  
W. Lewis, and Mr. Lewis and his wife  
continued to make their home there,  
remodeling and adding to the house  
about two years after their marriage.  
Here Mr. Lewis died March 28, 1896,  
in the same house in which Mrs. Lewis  
died on Sunday.

Of the six children born to Mrs.  
Lewis by her first husband and one by  
the second husband, only one survives,  
Mrs. E. G. Atkinson, formerly Miss  
Jessie Bruce, who has been with her  
mother for the past four years and  
cared for her during her illness. Mrs.  
Lewis has been a member of the Bap-  
tist church for 28 years, and she had  
many friends in the community among  
the white people, as well as among  
those of her own race.



AT THE ILLER

## SPRING MAKES A BAD SHOWING

### Temperatures for 72 Hours Equal to Midwinter Service. Promises for Change for the Better.

For more than 84 hours the tempera-  
tures in Bozeman and vicinity have  
been below the freezing point contin-  
uously. That kind of conditions smacks  
too much like winter weather, and the  
people who try to keep faith with  
themselves by believing in the ground-  
hog, or even those who believe that  
spring should be here when the almanac  
says "March 21 is the first day of  
spring," are beginning to think the  
present stuff is no joke.

It is possible the three-day snap will  
end today, and that the last gasps of  
the storm fiend were spent on the ex-  
hibition given yesterday afternoon and  
last night, when the wind from the  
east brought snow and chill that re-  
sembled a blizzard.

The present cold spell began Satur-  
day in this section, and reports from  
other parts of the country showed it  
was general. Saturday night, snow  
fell most of the night, and when it  
stopped the temperatures dropped. The  
lowest for the 24 hours ending at 5  
o'clock, Sunday night, was 16 above—  
the highest 30. That kind of weather  
is equal to many winter days and  
nights.

There was a slight rise in tempera-  
ture Sunday night, when the thermome-  
ter fell no lower than 24, with 30 high,  
but during the night the wind, that  
had been shifting during the day,  
settled down to blowing from the east  
and northeast, brought more snow and  
the chill and dampness of midwinter.

A year ago this time was the start-  
ing of the real winter weather. Sat-  
urday's temperature ranged between 58  
for high and 26 for low, and the low  
was the last time the thermometer went



STATE OF MONTANA  
Bureau of Vital Statistics  
Certificate of Death

Do not write  
**Boz. 773**  
In this space

PLACE OF DEATH

County Gallatin Registered No. 62  
Township \_\_\_\_\_ or Village \_\_\_\_\_ or  
City Bozeman No. 308 S. Bozeman St. \_\_\_\_\_ Ward \_\_\_\_\_  
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number)

FULL NAME Mrs. Melissa Lewis

(a) Residence. No. 308 S. Bozeman St. \_\_\_\_\_ Ward, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Usual place of abode) (If nonresident give city or town and state)  
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yrs. mos. days. How long in U. S., if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. days.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS.

1 SEX Female 4 COLOR OR RACE Negro 5 Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced (Write the word.) Widowed

5a If married, widowed, or divorced HUSBAND of (or) WIFE of Samuel Lewis

6 DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) May 17, 1851

7 AGE years 75 Month 10 Days 23 If less than 1 day. hrs. or min.

8 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED (a) Trade, profession or particular kind of work. At Home (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer). (c) Name of employer

9 BIRTHPLACE (city or town) St. Joe, (State or County) Mo.

10 NAME OF FATHER Unknown

11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (City or Town, State or Country) U. S.

12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Charlotte Railey

13 BIRTH PLACE OF MOTHER (City or Town, State or Country) U. S.

14 Informant Jessie Atkinson (Address) Bozeman, Mont

15 Date Apr. 11, 1927 Registrar. Dr. Floyd J. ...

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

16 DATE OF DEATH (Month, Day and Year) Apr. 10, 1927

17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from March 5, 1927, to April 10, 1927 that I last saw her alive on April 7, 1927 and that death occurred on the date stated above, at 2 p.m. The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows:  
MI

(duration) 11 yrs. mos. 36 ds.

CONTRIBUTORY Myocarditis (Secondary) (duration) 30 yrs. mos. 30 ds.

18 Where was disease contracted If not at place of death?

Did an operation precede death? No Date of \_\_\_\_\_ Was there an autopsy? No

What test confirmed diagnosis? Clinical

(Signed) L. J. ... M. D. Apr. 11, 1927 (Address) Bozeman

\*State the Disease Causing Death, or in deaths from Violent Causes, state (1) Means and Nature of Injury, and (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal, or Homicidal. (See reverse side for additional space.)

19 Place of Burial, Cremation or Removal Bozeman Gen Bozeman, Mont Date of Burial Apr. 13, 1927

20 UNDERTAKER H. F. WEST ADDRESS BOZEMAN

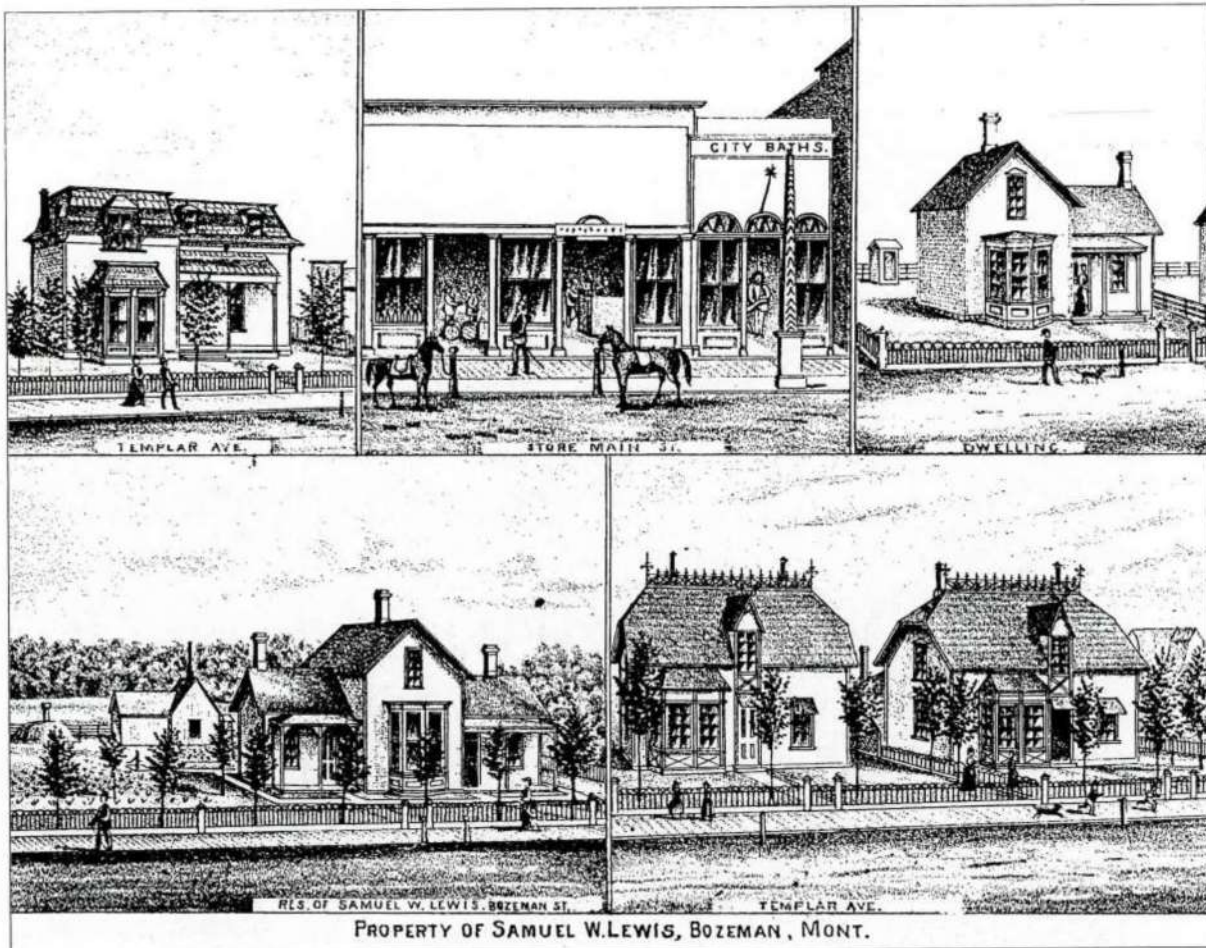


Samuel E. Lewis traveled to many places before he decided on Bozeman in 1868. A black native of Haiti, Lewis spent several years traveling in Europe, then investigated gold camps in California, Oregon, and Idaho where he earned his living as a barber. He cut hair in Elk Creek, Radersburg, and Helena as well. After he arrived in Bozeman, he built the Lewis Block on the south side of East Main Street, which housed a number of businesses, including his barber shop and bath house. The genial Lewis participated in Bozeman civic affairs, often singing at public events, accompanying himself with a harp, banjo, or guitar. His son took up the guitar and accompanied his father on these occasions. Lewis built twin houses at 209 and 211 South Tracy Avenue and a residence for his family at 308 South Bozeman Avenue.

When his half-sister Edmonia was sixteen in 1859, Lewis encouraged the talented girl to apply to Oberlin, one of the few American colleges that would accept a black woman. After Oberlin, Lewis sent Edmonia abroad to study art in Florence, where she became a noted sculptor. When Lewis died in 1886, one hundred mourners attended his funeral; Mayor Frank L. Benepe gave the eulogy.

A few other American black families also sought refuge in the West from an uncertain future during the Civil War years. Richard and Mary McDonald left their home in Saint Joseph, Missouri, in 1864, and traveled by covered wagon with their three children to the new Montana Territory. They bought land near Sourdough Creek on what is now 308 South Tracy and built a cabin. The family fished the creek for summer meals; in

Successful barber and builder Samuel Lewis owned a number of private and commercial structures in town.  
(Templar Avenue is the present Tracy Avenue.) ETCHING FROM MICHAEL LEESON, *HISTORY OF MONTANA*, 1885.





winter, the children enjoyed skating on the frozen stream. McDonald began freighting goods from Bozeman to Virginia City; by 1872, he was affluent enough to build a two-story home around the original cabin.

Years later, Melinda M. Rich described her first impressions of the settlement:

Back of everything else is a confused picture in which are mule trains, and ox trains, emigrant wagons and cowboys with bucking horses, and the welcome arrival of the stage coach that brought to us the letters which told us of all the dear ones left behind in the old home. Not infrequently numbers of Indians would camp near town, coming every day to the dwellings, standing outside the houses with noses flattened against the window panes. At times whole tribes passed through, the chiefs in advance often dismounting to visit the stores. Squaws and papooses followed mounted upon all sorts and sizes of horses, which were otherwise laden with pots and kettles and

other articles belonging to the household, with lodge poles trailing behind. The sounds of murderous pistol shots were often heard at midnight or in the early morning hours. Then followed the measured tread of men's feet as they bore some dead or wounded body away from the midnight revel. The deadly thing that usually instigated the murders and the angry shouts and curses which so often rang out upon the midnight air, was sold in low board houses.<sup>4</sup>

The "deadly thing," of course, was liquor, which Melinda Rich, a founding member of the local Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU), abhorred.

What Melinda Rich heard as bumps in the night quite possibly were men dragging drunks or other hapless law-breakers to the edge of town. It was customary in many western communities for a judge to fine the miscreant or banish him from the territory; there was no need for a jail building. O. D. Loutzenheiser, the county's first sheriff,

*Members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows line the street before the J. W. Tilton building and a photograph gallery.*





on the 13th day of July, 1882, to Miss Kate Martin, formerly of San Jose, Cal.

S. W. LEWIS, P. O. Bozeman, is a native of the West Indies, born on the 19th day of May, 1832. When a child his parents moved to the United States and located at Newark, N. J. His mother died in 1844 and his father in 1847, and leaving Newark he traveled during the intervening years until 1852. In the spring of that year he went to California, and locating in San Francisco opened a barber shop on Commercial street, continuing in business there two years. He then removed to Sierra Co., Cal., opened a barber shop, and was also engaged in mining until 1862 with very good success. His health becoming much impaired at that time, he spent two years in traveling, and visited Europe and the West India Islands, returning in 1864 to San Francisco. Finding business very dull there, he went to Portland, Ore., and from there to Idaho City, where he engaged in business, and in 1865 lost two fine buildings by fire. He rebuilt in 1866, and during that year came to Montana, visiting Virginia City and Helena, and finally locating on Elk Creek, where he bought a lot and erected a building. In the latter part of 1866 he changed his residence to Helena, where he remained until late in the season of 1867, then opening a shop at Radersburg, also visiting the various camps in the vicinity plying his trade. In the fall of 1868 he came to Bozeman and established his present business. In 1870 he built the shop he now occupies on Main street, and since then he has constantly followed his vocation, not having been three miles from the city of Bozeman for the past seven years. He has erected several fine business buildings and residences in Bozeman. Mr. Lewis, after the death of his parents and prior to his going to California provided a home for his sister with Capt. S. R. Mills, paying her board and also her tuition while in attendance at day school, afterward sending her to the schools at McGrawville, N. Y., and thence to Oberlin, where she graduated. He continuing to pay her expenses sent her to Boston, where she took instructions under Mr. Brackett, the sculptor. Under the advice of Harriet Hosmer, the sculptress, Mr. Lewis sent her to Florence, Italy, having, through the courtesy of the Hon. Wm. H. Seward, then secretary of state, been provided with letters of introduction to the American consul at Paris and Florence, from whom she received every possible courtesy, attention and kindness, and arduously pursuing her studies as a sculptress succeeded in thoroughly mastering the art, and secured for herself a position in the profession.

C. LEVERICH, Bozeman, was born in Tipton, Cedar Co., Ia., August 4, 1846, and is a son of Ira and Jane Morgan Leverich. His father was a native of New York state, and his mother of Virginia, near Wheeling. His parents are both living and recently paid their son a visit in Montana. Ira Leverich was a farmer, and our subject worked on the farm until he was twenty years old. On the 20th day of May, 1866, he started to cross the plains for Montana, and was sixteen weeks *en route*, coming *via* Omaha, North Platte, and the Bozeman route. His time was spent for two or three years in work by the month and visiting the different mining camps. In 1872 he located on his present place of 240 acres at the mouth of Leverich cañon. He took out the first timber that was ever cut. The location is a picturesque one at the foot of a beautiful mountain range. There is an abundance of water and Mr. Leverich is always sure of a crop. In 1882 his crop averaged 41 bushels of wheat to the acre and 74 bushels of oats to the acre. April 27, 1875, he married Miss Kate Shney, who was born in Wisconsin, to which state Mr. Leverich returned after her. Both paid a visit to the states in 1881-82. They have one child, Fred Shney, born at the present home, November 16, 1878. Mr.

Leverich came to Montana poor, but by industry combined with temperance he has accumulated sufficient to enjoy life. He experienced the usual ups and downs in the early days of the settlement in the territory.

J. LIBBY, Northern Pacific Hotel, Bozeman, was born in Maine, and attended day school until 14 years old, when he began labor to sustain himself, attending school at night. He engaged in a grocery and meat market in Milford, Mass., in 1872, and two years later was interested in a large co-operative store in Michigan, of which he was secretary and treasurer. In 1873 he was engaged in the boot and shoe business in Michigan, but closed that out in 1877, afterward going to Minnesota, Dakota and Massachusetts, and finally to Montana. After spending about three years hunting, boating and fishing, he opened a first-class restaurant, which he operated until 1883, when he became proprietor of the Northern Pacific hotel, and he now conducts one of the best houses in the Territory, being especially adapted to the business. He was married to Miss Belle Blackett, of Roseville, Mich. Three children were born to them: Stella (now deceased), Grace and Belle B. In 1876, subsequent to the death of his wife, he was married to Miss Catharine McArthur, by whom he has one child.

JOHN W. LOCKEY, of Lockey Bros., Bozeman, was born in Dubuque, Iowa, October 19, 1850, and commenced mining and farming early in life. At the age of twenty-one he was lead mining in Iowa. In 1871 he came to Helena, M. T., and clerked in a general store until 1876. He then returned east to visit his parents, also to attend Baylies' commercial college at Dubuque, Iowa, remaining two years; he then returned to Montana, clerking till 1880 in Helena, and until 1881 in Butte City. In company with his brother, G. W. Lockey, he bought an interest in the present business, and in June, 1882, took \$1,000 stock in the Wisconsin and Montana Cattle Co., being then organized. He built a residence in 1882, having on the first of February in that year married Miss Winnie Anderson. Mr. Lockey at one time owned considerable real estate in Helena, which he sold in the spring of 1884.

A. L. LOVE, P. O. Livingston, was born in Iowa City, Ia., in August, 1853. He was educated in the State University of Iowa; learned the tinner's trade, and engaged as merchant's clerk. He next traveled two years as salesman for Pitkin & Brooks, of Chicago, afterward spending one summer on the plains for his health, and finally bringing up at Deadwood, Dak., where he engaged in the lumber business. He came to Billings in August, 1882, and entered the banking house of Stebbins, Mund & Co., as collecting clerk. In April, 1883, he was sent to Livingston to organize the bank of which he is cashier and manager.

TIMOTHY L. LUCE, P. O. Bozeman, was born in Vermont, on the 21st day of November, 1826. He is a son of Joshua and Rebecca (Boxter) Luce, and remained at Montpelier, his birthplace, until he was 21 years old, when he traveled to Grand Rapids, Mich., and after working for a time at his trade, which was that of baker, he went to Milwaukee, Wis., about 1840, remaining there about one year, when he went to Sault Ste. Marie, Lake Superior, staying there through one summer, next going to Boston and Lowell, Mass., also to Keene, N. H., his stay in those places occupying a period of about three years. Returning to Montpelier for a short time, from that city he went to Fort Atkinson, Wis., staying there some four or five years, or until the stamped to Colorado took place in 1858-9, when he with other parties started for that section. The other parties gave up the trip, and he was obliged to abandon it until the next year, when he went on alone. Arriving at Denver he proceeded to the mountains, staying there for a year or more and thence going to the San Juan mines in New Mexico. Returning to Colorado he went



## SAM LEWIS

### "The Bozeman Barber"

1832 - 1896

Referred to by many as "the colored barber," Sam Lewis became one of Bozeman's most respected businessmen. Despite the color of his skin, he was admired and respected by all, and was considered very intelligent, industrious, and generous.

Sam Lewis was born on the Island of Haiti on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1832. When a child, Sam and his parents moved to New Jersey, where his mother died in 1844 and his father in 1847. In 1852 Sam went to San Francisco, where he ran a barbershop for two years. He then moved to Sierra, Colorado, where he opened a barbershop and also tried his luck at mining. He used his "diggings" to finance a two year trip to Europe and the West Indies, after which he returned to San Francisco in 1864. Sam moved on to Portland, Oregon and then to Idaho City, where he was a successful businessman.

Sam first came to Montana in 1866 and opened a barbershop in Helena. Two years later, in 1868, Sam moved to Bozeman, where he built a barbershop on Main Street in 1870. Sam also invested in real estate, and was owner and landlord of several buildings on Bozeman's south side.

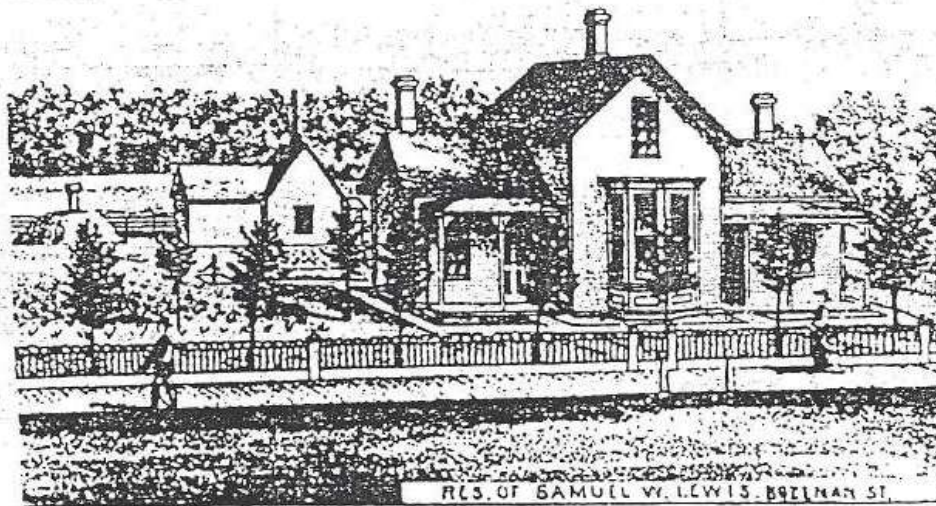
In 1884 he married Melissa Bruce, a widow with five children, and together they had a son, Sam jr., who was born in 1880. Sam also paid for his sister Edmonia's education, and she went on to become a world renowned sculptress.

Sam Lewis died on March 28, 1896. Melissa passed away April 10, 1927

The Lewis home at 308 South Bozeman is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Source: Bozeman Avant Courier





This was the home of Samuel W. Lewis. From his obituary, dated April 6, 1896:

"All that was mortal of Sam W. Lewis, 'the colored barber', as he was familiarly called, was tenderly laid away in the silent cemetery on the hill, on Tuesday last.... Samuel W. Lewis was born on the Island of Hayti (West Indies) on the 19th day of May, 1832 .... In 1852, Sam went to California, locating in San Francisco, where he opened a barber shop .... In the fall of 1868 he came to Bozeman where he permanently established himself in the business that he continuously followed until his death.... For many years also he contributed generously of his means for the education of his sister, Miss Edmonia Lewis, who has achieved more than a national reputation as a sculpturess .... About 12 years ago Sam Lewis was married to Mrs. Bruce, a widow woman with five children. One son, a bright little fellow of 11 years, is the result of that union .... they are left well provided for in a material way, with a handsome and most comfortable home and an estate estimated to be worth at least \$25,000." (The obituary entitled , 'Biography of "The Bozeman Barber - Sam W. Lewis - His Remarkable Personal History - Life and Death of a Colored Pioneer Whose Friends Were Legion", is about 20 column inches long.)

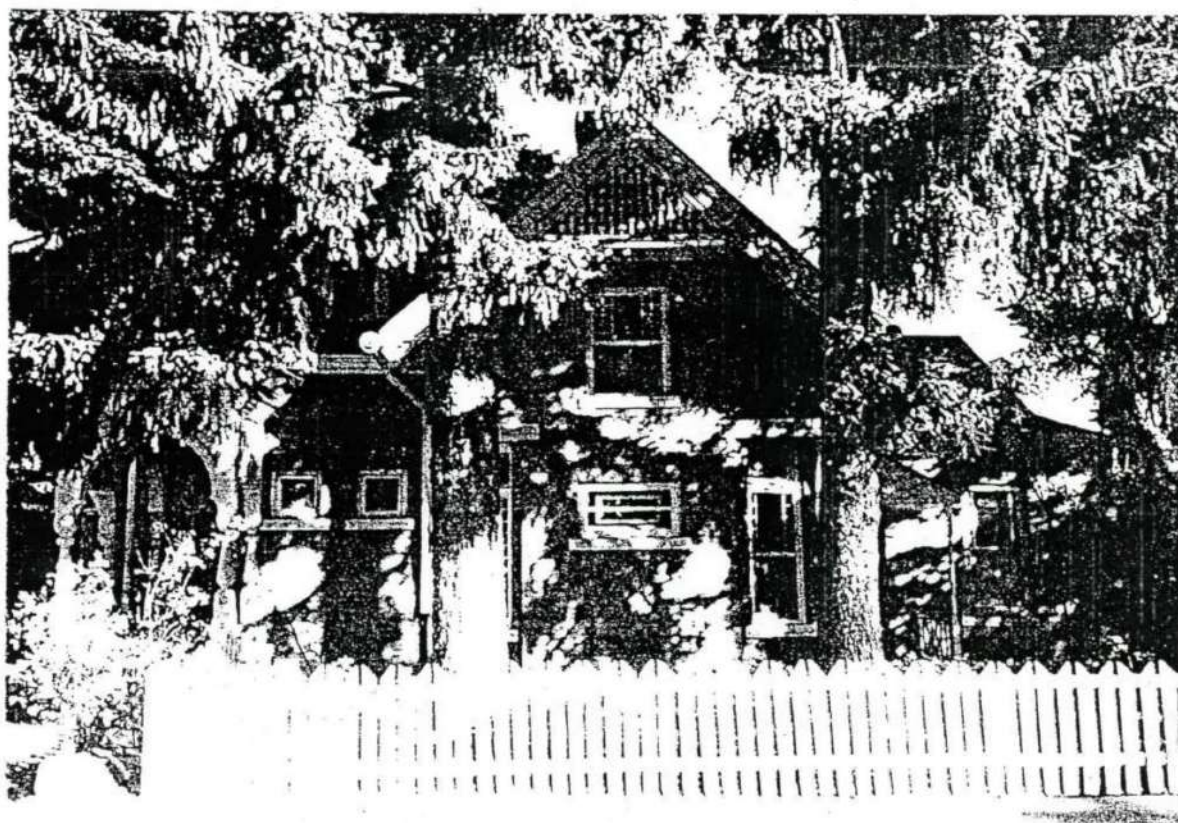
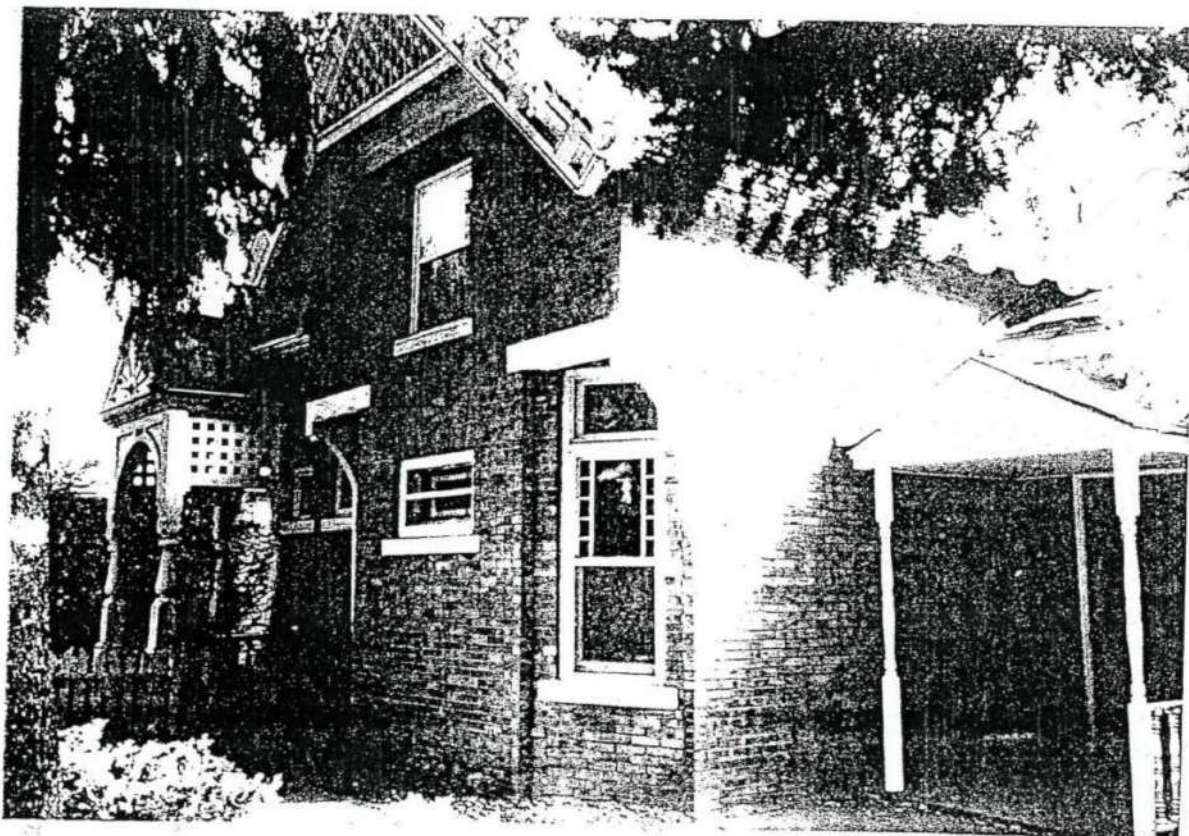
The house has been restored. Note the ceiling in the 'front room'. The antique pieces furnishing the house are not original to the home but have been accumulated by the Tenney's in their travels.

*by Derek Straun*

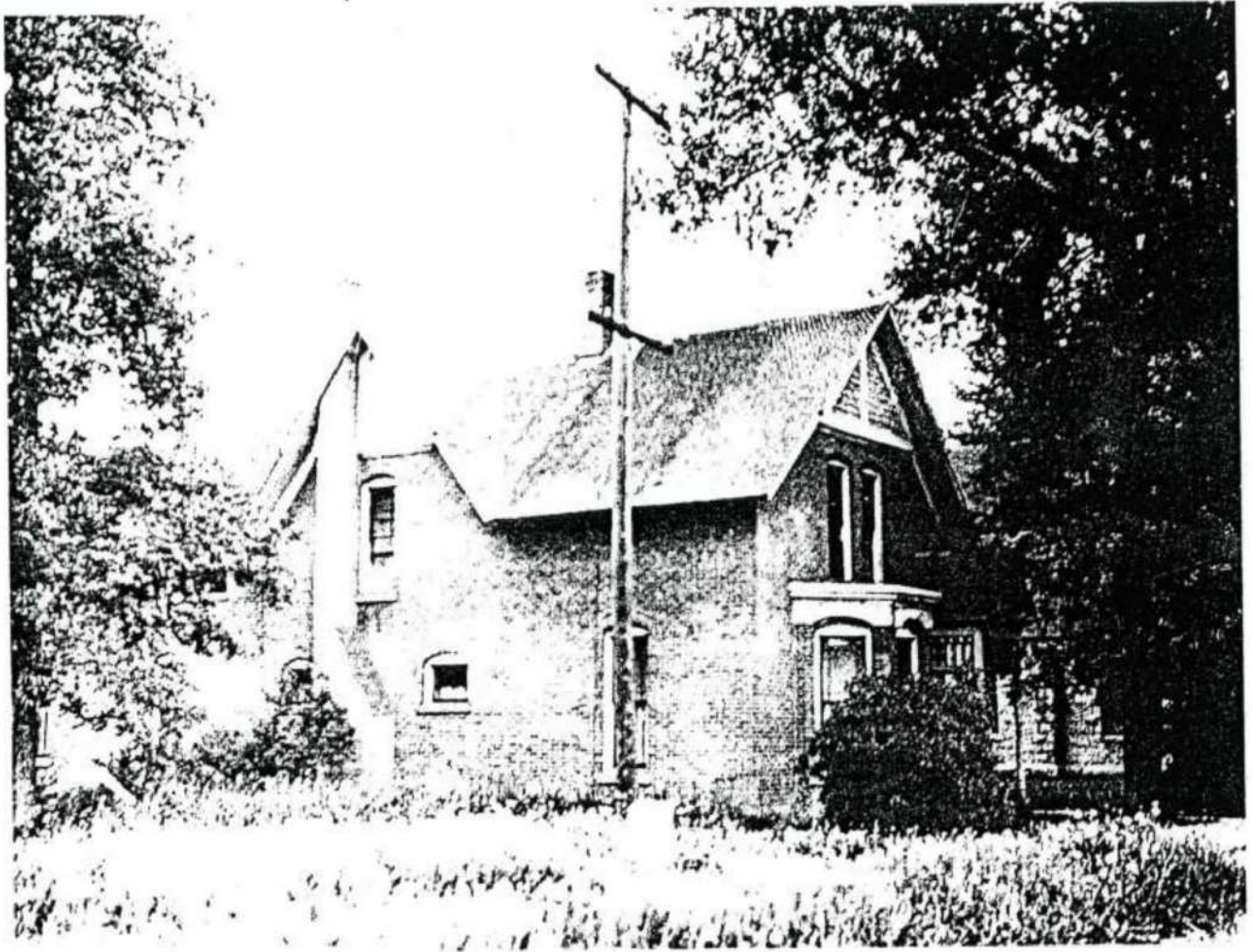
## SAMUEL LEWIS HOUSE

Samuel Lewis settled in Bozeman in 1868, joining a small but growing population of African Americans who came to Montana after the Civil War. Lewis, a native of the West Indies, was a skilled barber, an expert sleight-of-hand performer and first-class musician. He established a thriving tonsorial parlor and bath house on Main Street that he kept in "apple pie order." Wisely investing his business profits, Lewis constructed several rental properties; two still stand at 209 and 211 South Tracy Avenue. Lewis shared his success with his younger sister, Edmonia, financing her studies in the East and abroad. Highly acclaimed as one of the most gifted African American sculptors of the nineteenth century, Edmonia's work was displayed at the 1894 Chicago Exposition. In 1881, the wealthy barber built a simple frame gable-front-and-wings house on this site. Eight years later, Lewis transformed his modest home into a fine Queen Anne style showplace. Brick veneer, lovely stained glass and exuberant Eastlake ornamentation including heavy carved brackets, abacus-like spindlework and a sunburst applique highlight the dramatic makeover and reveal a high level of architectural sophistication. The equally grand and beautifully maintained interior features a frescoed parlor ceiling, tin ceiling in the kitchen and ornate woodwork. Completed in 1890, the Lewis residence was considered one of Bozeman's "most delightful homes." When Lewis died in 1896, he left an estate valued at \$25,000. It was a well-deserved fortune likely unparalleled by other contemporary African American Montanans.









03.4  
P11633

RESIDENCES (Bozeman)

The old Lewis house--Bozeman  
308 So. Bozeman--June 21, 1929

Donor: Carla Wright

RESIDENCES (Bozeman)