

November 2, 1964

Mr. J. E. Sidor
424 Harrison
Helena, Montana

Dear Mrs. Sidor:

Your letter of October 26 addressed to my Mother has been given to me for reply. My Mother is now in a nursing home and finds it very difficult to write.

It is good to hear from you folks and I well remember that you bought my Mother's house some years ago. Since my Grandfather's pancake business has been a subject of discussion in my family for many years, it is a little startling to me to find that it is now "historic". A short computation of the years involved indicates that such could well be the case.

My Grandfather's name was George W. Shaw rather than John Shaw, and the pancake business, according to my information, was always in his name. It was, however, operated primarily by my Aunt, Miss Lida M. Shaw, who died, I believe, in 1911. After her death the business was apparently permitted to disintegrate.

Turning now to the questions in your letter, my Mother does not know the approximate date on which the house was built, saying that she was a child at the time. Similarly, she cannot date the time when the garage was built.

It is my impression that the pancake business was started around the turn of the century and lasted until about 1912. It was sold to various people throughout Montana and to a few outside the state. From correspondence which I found, I know that my Aunt would make business trips to various places in the state to drum up business.

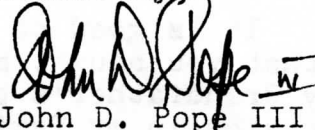
My Grandmother had a colored man named Alex who worked for her for many years and lived in the little room

next to the bathroom on the second floor of the house. He may well have helped with the work during the time the pancake flour business was being conducted, but I do not know.

My Mother says that the rock in the garage was quarried on Mt. Helena and that the logs in the house were part of a saloon in Rimini and were hauled to Helena by my Grandfather.

* Some years back one of the St. Louis papers published an article about my Mother and this is enclosed for any help it may give. Since I have other copies, you do not need to return it.

Sincerely



John D. Pope III

LMML

*Enclosure