THE REDEVELOPMENT OF
DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN, MONTANA

Undergraduate Thesis
By
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INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION & REFLECTION OF A COMMUNITY IN A PROJECT CAN EVOLVE AN ARCHITECTURE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO REVitalize OR STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY SENSE
INTRODUCTION

It has become increasingly more visible that today we are living in an age of advancing technology and decreasing personalization of the surroundings in which we live. More and more we succumb to the use of devices easing our routine lifestyles and jobs. This advanced technology of which we are in the midst of has also produced a culture of greed and profit working at a level beyond the grasp of ordinary man, and he is inadvertently left to follow large corporate rule and succumb to their ways. This occurs in changes of shopping habits, relocation of employment as a result of the available job market, purchase of luxury items and the ways in which we spend our leisure time.

One of the most effecting results of this advancing technology is the automobile and our heavy dependency on it which aides in the destruction of small semi-isolated communities as we become more transient, travelling to work, shopping and entertainment. Our increased use of and dependency upon the automobile has resulted in loss of local industry, community interaction, and identity. For many small communities this has meant the inevitable role of bedroomism whereby self sufficiency is lost and no longer pursued.

This thesis takes a look at one of these small communities and the effects which technology and industrialization have had upon them and their place in our society today. It further offers areas of possible solution to avert bedroomism and increase local industry and interaction in an effort towards self sufficiency and identification within a
This thesis explicitly looks at Manhattan, Montana and its position as a small community today along with avenues of approach to avoid future decline and advancing bedroomism, as well as successful development as part of a regional community through preparedness.

BACKGROUND

Manhattan, Montana lies twenty miles west of Bozeman, Montana along Interstate 90 in the "Heart of the Gallatin Valley" and high yield agricultural land. Its evolution began in 1862 as the town of Hamilton, Montana settled south of its present site. In 1883 the Northern Pacific Railroad came through the Gallatin Valley and Hamilton moved to the present position of Manhattan and the available railroad services while changing their name to Moreland.

The farmland surrounding Moreland was producing a high grade of barley and in 1890 the Manhattan Malting Company of New York purchased some 13,000 acres of land in and around Moreland. Some of this land was platted and is now part of the present town of Manhattan, the rest of the purchased land was put into production. The Manhattan Malting Company built irrigation canals for the land in use, a grain elevator and malt house. They had also begun to sell off parcels of land to people who were being attracted to this small growing community.

In 1911 with a population of 570 people Moreland became the
incorporated town of Manhattan in honor of the company who helped produce it and was supporting the following businesses and industries:

| 2 blacksmiths | harness shop | malt house |
| 3 general stores | hardware store | train depot |
| shoe repair shop | ice house | 2 meat markets |
| newspaper | elevator | garage |
| telephone office | cafe | drug store |
| implement outlet | jeweler | bank |
| cigar making | theater | 2 saloons |
| 2 real estate offices | 2 lumber yards | hotel |
| creamery | livery stable | barber |

P.O.

The Roaring Twenties brought along prohibition and the Manhattan Malting Company was closed for good. This event, however, did not endanger the future or economy of Manhattan because local industry and businesses were thriving and they stabilized the area as well as maintaining a balanced economy allowing Manhattan to grow and prosper sufficiently.

Some twenty miles away though, Bozeman was also growing along with its industries and trade at a faster rate than any other town in the Gallatin Valley. Technology and industrialization were definitely moving ahead and this is where Manhattan's problems begin. With our advancing technology and its development of the automobile as a symbol
of western culture and part of the "American Dream," the Gallatin Valley and Manhattan followed the steps of every American community slowly integrating itself into a suburb or urban area. It became a commuting society thus giving as well as succumbing to the ability of shop owners and businessmen throughout the Valley to engage in economic competitiveness and vie for business and power.

Bozeman would be the choice for many organizations as a place to set up business and consolidate services before offered in Manhattan and throughout the Valley. This was the result of an already larger market offered in Bozeman and greater available money and luxuries. This consolidation along with the increased market in a new location allowed businessmen to lower their prices enough to drive small competition out of business, or at least make it unfeasible for them to remain in business. As a result of this shift in the economic market and technological advances the following businesses would eventually disappear from Manhattan's economic community:

- blacksmiths
- shoe repair
- telephone office
- real estate offices
- harness shop
- malt house
- jewelry store
- general stores
- newspaper
- cigar making
- creamery
- cafe
- ice house
- theater
- livery stable
- lumber yards
The loss of these services however can be contrasted to the new businesses which have appeared in the Manhattan community:

- beauty salon
- appliance store
- clothing store
- yamaha dealer
- gas stations
- upholstery shop
- transfer dealer
- metal and machine shop
- body shop

In contrasting the new available services in Manhattan today with those which were lost it should be noted that these changes were a result of advances made in technology and changes in lifestyle due to those advances. While some of these changes are necessary in order for people to provide a more successful end to their roles in society, others were a result of an upgrade in living style. i.e., The advent of an appliance store, beauty salon, and upholstery shop were resultant of increased leisure time and affordable luxuries which we all seem entitled to in this day and age since it only makes sense to take advantage of technology to benefit ourselves. On the other hand a metal and machine shop aids in the efficiency of agricultural production and results in leisure time and money to be spent by individuals. These leisure pursuits however are minimal when compared to those offered the larger populations of Bozeman and Three Forks. The people living in these areas are in a more present day societal and cultural environment which is spurred by technology. They've a desire to live and go full speed ahead, they want to be amused so local businesses
happily take their money and give them fancy clothes, gas for their cars, superfluous luxuries and entertainment.

Manhattan is slowly being pulled out of its sub-culture of self-sufficiency and strong individualistic identity as it succumbs to advancing technology and loses businesses and services to Bozeman through economic competitiveness. But in an effort to remain in vogue and exist by today's standards people of Manhattan further succumb and everyday hop into their cars and travel to Bozeman or other surrounding communities to keep up with what's going on, culturally expose themselves, shop, and work. This function of people's lives is clearly represented in the open road and full speed ahead culture being experienced by many Americans today and made available by our use of the automobile.

A major factor though which exists in both direct harmony and opposition to these pursuits of people today is the appearance of gas stations, body repair shops, and automotive dealers. These businesses are an outgrowth of the automobile industry and are necessary for us to survive with it, to survive with the vehicle which provides us the necessary escape when needed, and further become part of the technocratic society in which we live in pursuing economic activities outside of our own communities. The automobile can also be seen as a major social problem existing in conflict to our best needs at one time aiding us while aiding in our certain destruction via alternative means such as
money, ecology and the deterioration of social institutions such as small communities forcing them into a position of bedroomism with a loss of identity.

The point of essence here is that Manhattan, Montana is a beautiful case in point of what is happening in America today in our adaptation to a highly technological society and the detrimental effects of such upon us. Manhattan is no longer the strong self sustained community it was in the early 1900's. With its present population of 817 people everyday are hopping into their cars and coming to Bozeman for shopping at K-Mart, Gibsons and Buttreys, to buy necessities, luxury items and spend leisure time. Manhattan's work force has also re-located itself with people coming to Bozeman to work at the university, county jobs or the many large businesses, or going to Trident to work at the cement plant. It can easily be seen that by and large Manhattan is becoming an ever growing bedroom community, having become increasingly more dependent on Bozeman and surrounding communities for its economic existence and services. As a result of Manhattan's increasing dependency on outside forces it has experienced a loss of community sense and identity as a functioning entity; a desocialization of the community. A closer look will put technology and more explicitly the automobile as the major factor in this desocializing process.
SOCIOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

It is increasingly more visible (especially in our use of the automobile) that technology and industrialization are outrunning us and what they have made possible such as small communities they have also destroyed. The gradual decline of Manhattan is the result of such an advancement. I feel that those who encourage such an advancement and increased dependency on outside forces are probably fully aware of the physical and social damages done but continue irregardless because modern-day middle-class man is living in a world of abstract realities unable to have a voice or effect on the situation with which he's been endowed; this has resulted in apathy amongst community members and consumption of them by these outside forces.

As a result of this situation with which people are forced to live, members of small communities have developed a set of social defenses which allow them to live with their situation and yet actually rejecting what has happened to their community. This is seen in interviewee's responses that this is a fine little town, well kept; we have no deviance here, everybody gets along well, I'm glad my family lives here even if I do have to travel to work or shopping and that's what my car's for; on the other hand older members of the community express social deviance, and that it's not the same close-knit community it used to be, people have divided into clique groups, and rejection of intruders come here just to live. Manhattan's big loss has been in loss
of community sense, a loss of harmony, interaction and sufficiency.

People search for community as a sense of reality in cities as well as in rural areas and it is found in man conceived in his wholeness rather than in one or another of the roles taken separately that he might hold in a social order. Manhattan no longer exists as a whole and is in fact only a disjuncted part of the entire Gallatin Valley. A true community is a fusion of feeling, thought, tradition, commitment of members and volition. Communities exist as an expression of man's culture and beliefs, becoming the last link of identity in a world consisting of illusion of democratic control and local independence. Manhattan no longer exists as the total community it once did; and has been drawn out of its sub-culture although some people still live within it inadvertently.

The actual importance of small communities whether it's ten city blocks or a rural town such as Manhattan is that they permit an individualistic reason of existence and the gratification of work as a means to a successful end; rather than furthering a larger whole of which the individual is a mere cog bearing no recognition. America today is building a physical environment in which the individual is losing his identity with the identification of many people as the cost.

The continued existence of small communities in America is of the utmost importance if we're to remain a truly democratic country; for if this is really a democratic country then the existence of small
communities as social institutions is mandatory.

In the book Small Town Renaissance, by Richard Waverly Poston on small towns in Montana it's said that "The future of our state depends on our power to make life in small communities rewarding and significant to those in them." This is practically a direct reflection for Montana's being in America's westward expansion and man's search for a new rewarding life full of excitement. The book further explores areas which would enable the continued existence of such small towns and these are obvious areas which naturally make an individual's life more meaningful, areas being: co-operatives and small scale industry, increased human relations, and stabilization and enrichment of community members. It's also observed that in small communities the expressive arts or humanities can have a far deeper significance than elsewhere.

In our expanding technological society of decreasing community sense and individualism our primary problem lies in our fundamental attitudes toward the world we inhabit, not just economics and aesthetic values. The real root of this problem is the result of a limited vision, a failure in consciousness and awareness of the environment which surrounds us.

With the foregoing in mind, it can be said that we are living in a period which necessitates a serious re-examination of our value systems and norms, a time to undergo an inward looking and reversion to
those basic goals of self sufficiency which resultantly make life for people more meaningful and rewarding.

FUTURE OF MANHATTAN

As has already been mentioned we're living in a time when a re-examination of our value systems and a broader look at the environment around us are necessary if we are to survive and maintain any semblance as individuals in a democratic society. With this and the role of technology upon our environment and pocket books in mind, it's not at all unfeasible to see that in the near future our use of the automobile will have to be abandoned or severely limited in which case mass transportation and life centered about communities will be a necessity. To look at life in a small town such as Manhattan and say it can become totally self-sufficient is an absurdity in today's culture when we take so much for granted; but it is not beyond realization that Manhattan can become more self sustaining and strengthen their sense of community and identity as an entity within themselves and the rest of the Gallatin Valley.

What I am suggesting is a regional community which can benefit all of those who participate in it economically, ecologically, and mentally. A Regional Community in the Gallatin Valley would be just what it implies, "a community of the region" with all participants extending their own communities to an entity within themselves and at
the same time furthering the entire Gallatin Valley.

A regional community in the Valley would exist with Bozeman, Belgrade, Manhattan, Logan and Three Forks as its main vein, and with Trident, Churchill, Amsterdam, and Gallatin Gateway as extensions of it. Serving as a transportation link for such a community would best be the already existent railroad which serves but doesn't fully service all of these towns. The main purpose of a regional community would be to first promote self sufficiency of all its members through localized industry and cooperatives, secondly the development of cultural outlets for community members to better enrich their lives, and thirdly to provide the Valley with services resulting from industry and when necessary enable people to work in other areas via this transportation link and not cars and the highway which are undependable and inefficient in winter and economically and environmentally unsuitable year round. This regional community would exist with Bozeman as its nucleus and the other towns of the Valley as its supporting nodes furthering their own existence as individuals as well as the entire Valley instead of just Bozeman.

To revert for a moment, its obvious that if we can't keep up with the technology that's destroying our identity and ecological base; then we must move towards more domestic and human centered activities which will further our own existence as individuals being part of an integral whole. If we have any hope of living in a harmonious
environment then we must work towards goals which directly benefit those who directly aid us, we have to further our own existence.

In looking at Manhattan as a specific case, its preparation for its destiny will begin to solve its problems of economy and desocialization now as well as allowing them to prepare for change and adapt to it with little discomfort and fewer psychological adjustments. In determining solution areas for Manhattan as well as any community, it's important to keep in mind the aspects and meaning of community and what will further this sense and its existence.

Manhattan's loss of community sense has been in everyday interaction, economic stability, and lack of possible cultural exposure for youth and the community at large. Existing in contrast to this last point is the being of poor cultural development centers. i.e. (the "Chicken Hut!"). Solutions to these losses and resultant insecurities lies in an inward turning of people's activities to create new and more viable reasons for existence in a small town. This can be accomplished by introducing economic activities (small business and industry) which will aid the community, creation of communal activities and outlets upgrading efficiency and ego while realizing the cultural influence and self being they have as individuals, successfully existing, on society as a whole. The process becomes the emergence of a new lifestyle or an old lifestyle revisited with technology on its side instead of in opposition to a person's freedom and identity.
Areas of Approach

The possible areas of solution for Manhattan to prepare for its future and not its fate are innumerable, but there are many obvious areas of a low-key nature which would bear tremendous impact while remaining within the realm of a small community. It is of primary importance for people to look at their meaning as a community and importance of their evolution and what factors have aided in the de-evolution. Having developed a sense of importance and awareness of their problems, the community can begin to work towards a revitalization of their existence, strengthening and reflecting their personal needs and conditions.

In order for a community to develop into a wholeness, it must be aware of and strengthen their primary views of circulation upon which a community operates and depends on for successfully functioning. In Manhattan the main axis of the town are R.R. Ave. and Broadway, and their crossing marks the center of town and activity within the bank, fire department, grocery stores, bowling alley and barber shop all being within a block of their intersection. Railroad Avenue and Broadway south of the intersection provide Manhattan with the bulk of its economic activity, this resulting from access into Manhattan which was primarily on Railroad Avenue (the old Highway) and now up Broadway from the interstate. The crossing of two streets forming a shape in the emptiness, a nucleus to grow around. While primary access is now via Broadway,
Railroad Avenue is left fairly uninhibited and suitable for further development to serve as a downtown area abundant with activity and human interaction, a pulse for the community. Railroad Avenue becomes a natural choice for sites in areas of solution for activity upon it. By centering activity about Railroad Avenue, people will be drawn from the four quarters of the community which Railroad Avenue and Broadway divide into common areas of interest, causing increased interaction and socialization, emphasizing its role as a nucleus.

In looking at Manhattan's economic problem and future as part of a regional community, Railroad Avenue gains further importance. Already being the primary commercial district it becomes an obvious place for further economic development. A desire was expressed by the Mayor of Manhattan, Mr. Bailey, for the town to acquire several small businesses to aid in its economic base. I therefore propose a domestic economic center for the development of small business centered about and which will aid the community providing both services and cultural exposure. The site is on Railroad Avenue between Fifth and Sixth Streets on lots 7-10. Presently existing on this site are the American Legion, which would be incorporated into the center and an abandoned building, both existing structures would be razed.

The site is twice as large as any that one single building exists on and presents a unique situation of marriage of two different eras along with the rhythm of Railroad Avenue. It was first decided to
turn Railroad Avenue into the site and create a spinal axis with activities occurring off both sides of it and it as circulation and mall area for browsing or socializing between both patrons and store owners. The extreme climate in the Gallatin Valley further enhances the idea of enclosed circulation and the use of a celestory to provide natural light for the mall and shops further humanizing the spaces bringing the outside in and opening up the space. In turning the storefronts and circulation in off of Railroad Avenue directs activity to the alley behind making it another form of access for people residing on the south side of town and becomes a natural access and circulation area with its southern exposure. Alleys gain further importance in their use as pedestrian spaces with an atmosphere of activity abounding around and providing alternative circulation other than Railroad Avenue.

The services proposed in the domestic economic center are American Legion Club, bakery, artists' guild, food co-op, bookstore, hobby and crafts, cafe....these various businesses are chosen on their basis of minimal space consumption, new outlets and exposure for the people of Manhattan and as those services which can be handled by a small community and directly aid its members in activity and service while further promoting interaction and self sufficiency.

The site presented a unique problem in its size being twice as large as its adjoining buildings and on one side a new metal building and on the other an old garage of arches and factory soot. The site
resultantly is a traditional space between the old and new, requiring a marriage of two eras to create a space and scale in keeping with traditional Railroad Avenue respecting and enhancing it. In first attempting to deal with the facade as a whole and emphasizing its entrance, it became overbearing on the surrounding buildings, suppressing them and growing out of scale. In a second attempt to deal with the site it was divided in half and remained mundane and repetitious and expansive in attitude towards its surrounding. A third attempt was made in dividing the facade into a trinity, a second closest thing to a whole. Within this trinity the entrance could be emphasized and the facade scaled to its surrounding in elevation but remained overbearing. The solution arrived in recession of the entrance and use of a false facade to scale it. The false facade becomes important in providing a true street facade reaching for an urban scale and marrying eras in architecture, urbanism is a rapport of conversations set up between different eras of architecture. The honesty of the false facade is further emphasized in the change of materials and expression of roof structure (truss joists) below it. The straight square false facade was used as it denotes a traditional manner of dealing with street scale while the subtlety of arches reflects the proper use of brick in dealing with openings and the rhythm of surrounding buildings.

Means of construction for this domestic-economic center are brick bearing wall with truss joists to carry the roof system and
interior partition of stud walls—choices were a result of maintenance, an image of permanence and solidarity, and minimal construction for the exterior. The roofing system follows suit in these desires and the exposure of trusses aids in tying the building together. Use of stud walls in the interior provides for flexibility at later dates if desired.

The initiation of a domestic economic would begin to aid Manhattan's economic problem now while decreasing its desocialization and preparing it for self sufficiency while creating new outlets of expression for community members. Economic expansion could be further increased in the future by use of abandoned smaller buildings for single businesses. It can be further suggested that the city purchase such lots to provide themselves with revenue from rent and maintain control of Railroad Avenue expansion.

In further promoting the expansion of Railroad Avenue a Community Center is proposed to occur at the opposite end of town on Railroad Avenue between Second and Fabrick Streets. The purpose of this site is to force trailers off of main street and into the trailer zoned portion of town and making use of a site now burdened with abandoned motel units. The use of this site further encourages circulation and activity along Railroad Avenue. The use of the site was again turned in providing access to the Community Center from both north and south, while pulling it off of Railroad Avenue so as not to impose upon it
directly. The use of the site requires the removal of one building which is of notorious value to the surroundings and while razing it is one means it could also be moved to another site.

The Community Center grew out of the expressed desires of community members for a teen center, multi-purpose area for athletic and social functions, accessibility to rained out picnics from an adjoining park, the need of a suitable replacement for the Community Center which was once in the High School, and lost to expansion of such, and a place for carrying on continuing education. The design and structure were as in the domestic economic center dictated by economy of structure and detailing to be adaptable to use of local labor force to avert building costs while maintaining a local vernacular.

A first attempt in design of the Community Center was through the use of wooden trusses constructed and erected on the site and direct reflection of form following functioning. This design approach, however, proved inadequate in providing an image of economy and ease of construction as well as tending towards the current and excessive use of shed structures. A re-evaluation of function and structure saw the possibilities of using metal structure with wood sheathing and metal roofing—providing relatively quick construction and a finished surface when applied. This lower keyed design also appears more sympathetic to local conditions and cost.

Along with a Community Center was the desire for park
development and the rest of the site adjoining the Community Center has been suggested for use as such. The development of park facilities here would be geared towards parent and children usage furthering interaction for parents who've brought their children here to play and making the Community Center accessible at the same time for rest facilities and climatic relief.

The development of parks in a community is a major factor in the interaction of community members being a common ground to carry on any of a numerous number of activities amongst friends, old and new, and when in close proximity to the downtown area promotes usage of businesses. I therefore further suggest the development of the strip of land on the south side of the railroad tracks running the length of Railroad Avenue as park facilities. This requires more sitting and planting areas as well as spaces for athletic events—basketball, handball, tennis, horseshoes, etc....This point of development can be met with adversely due to our lengthy winters but one need only ask himself where he likes to be when the nice weather comes and the common answer is outside! So be it—a park gives people a place to go and things to do, not to mention people to meet and talk to if desired.

In looking at Manhattan in relation to regional community, all of this Railroad Avenue activity gains further importance. In functioning as a part of a regional community, Manhattan's link would be along Railroad Avenue, its place of economic activity and center of town, distribution and receiving of services to and from member communities
would obviously occur here. Should people find it necessary to work outside of the community they live, transportation would most functionally depart and arrive at the center of town furthering the importance of this part of town as the heartbeat of Manhattan where life originates from. Departure from the heartbeat puts one in the privacy of his domain away from activity to dwell in his surroundings. Park development will acknowledge full use of Manhattan's potential and the existence of people in unity and prosperity backdropped by the activities which enable them to thrive.

CONCLUSION

This thesis has taken a look at the position of small towns in our society and culture today and their importance as a point of departure in gaining or maintaining a sense of identity and relation to wholeness. It has further put forth the proposition that if we're to advance any further today, and remain as individuals bearing significance, it can only be through an examination of surroundings and a realization of the effects which an advancing technology is having upon us; such an examination resulting in the reversion and inward looking of activities which we take part in, mandating the necessity to get back to basics and provide ourselves with an environment that maintains as an entity within itself. A concept indicative of man represented in his environment rather than his environment existing in
opposition to him.

Manhattan, Montana is used as a case in point of how a community has devolved as a result of an advancing technology impinging upon it and how such a community might overcome economic and desocializing problems while preparing to meet the future head on in a realistic and civil manner. A community uninhibited by modern planning still has hope to successfully exist in today's world.

Proposed solutions for these problems were based on interviews with members of the inflicted community expressing their needs, desires and observations as well as observations of the community by myself. These interviews further express the willingness of community members to improve their situation while others acknowledged the situation but felt helpless or abstract of positive approach to solution. Excerpts of interviews appear in the appendix.

Solutions were also reflective of local conditions, being economy, resources, and labor force; it was approached with people and their needs in mind.

Further awareness of the situation was through readings and courses and consultation in Rural Sociology.
AND AESTHETIC ARCHITECTURE IS SOCIOLINGUISTICAL AS WELL AS PSYCHOLOGICAL.

WILL STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY SOLUTION CONSIDERATIONS

STRENGTHEN MAIN STREET AXIS

EFFICIENCY & EGO

NEED TO UPGRADE & UPDATE CERTAIN SERVICES AS AN ADJUSTMENT TO MORE DOMESTIC & HUMAN CENTERED ACTIVITIES

DEMANDS ON THE SITUATION

OF TECHNOLOGICAL MOVES OR OF HUMAN REALM WE MUST MOVE TOWARDS
To involve a whole community
A stronger identity can be handled by a small community
Activities have been chosen as those which will help establish

Note:

Areas of solution:

Community

Tennis
Basketball
Park & Play
Pineal Area
Supporting facilities
Multi Room
Informal lounge
Spain Room
Meeting Room

Bookstore
Arts & Crafts
Cafe
Food 10-10
Deli
false facade reaching for an urban scale

Urbanism in a canopy set up between cliff and sea of architecture
APPENDIX
Minister of Manhattan Bible Church

Tight knit community.
A lot of volunteer labor was used to help build church as a result of budget. It's a very straightforward functional design. The congregation is really proud of it. Their meeting rooms are used by outsiders. They use high school gym and usually have no problem getting it. Gym floor is a hassle though in winter and if picnic is rained out and moved indoors.

Mayor's Secretary, w/interjections by Mayor

Population 816
Local cattle comp.
Old bank was donated via matching funds from Jim Taylor.

It houses--her office-town council's meetings-senior citizens-library-boy and girl scout meetings and basement is open to all.

Manhattan is an agricultural community and P.V. elevator.
town businesses consist of
shops on main street
metal and machine shop
custom kitchen shop
bank case machinery

People are also largely employed in Trident and Bozeman.
Feels the school is excellent and the town holds it in high regard.

The town is remaining extremely stable.
It's a very sportsminded town--basketball.
There's a desire to improve the park system.
Citizens are very happy here.
No real police dept. they hire a nightman and have a day man who's in charge of maintaining road equipment--he's liked by everybody.

Mayor

Town could use more businesses but EPA approved
Fire dept. bad
People donate time and get things done
Could use a D.P.N.
Talk of a swimming pool--if ever affordable
Trailer in courts only.
Wytana cattle corporation owns some of the surrounding land--thus expansion of Manhattan is impossible.
Superintendent of Schools

Virtually all kids are associated with school activities
Manhattan is small and accepted as such and people shoot over
to Bozeman for their needs
People proud of community
Good upkeep
Basketball is big
Kids go to Chicken Hut to hang out

Patron of the Oasis

Chicken Hut: 30-40 kids a nite--they spend money here, no booze,
1 foos table, 2 pool tables
No adults in game room 10:30 wk days 1:30 weekends
Can't get High School on weekends
Chicken Hut was donated by an old man if somebody would just
run it. Don said it was what this town needed.
Softball big in spring and summer

Observations and considerations: personal

Medical people come once a year for welfare people
facilities for--vaccination
flu
polio, etc.
desired: community center w/grounds--park and play equipment
and picnic facilities

Coach, Manhattan High School

An important factor in the development of youth is the church
People are neighborly and communicate well but members of
different religious factors tend to be cliquish.
What lacks in actual youth development is cultural exposure and
background--perhaps a place to let this happen.
The high school used to have a community center, but this is
gone now due to school expansion and it has weakened certain communal
ties.
People will assert strong communal efforts due to the fact that
it's easier than to go through the hassle of red tape.
Never has a mill levy been voted down
Certain people are overused in community jobs and efforts mainly
because they're dependable.
Funding from the government is available but not reasonable and upon completion of a project you're bothered with follow up reports and made an example of.

The car is a status symbol for youth and they work for them.

Everyday interaction is decreasing due to the decline of local industry. with local industry on the decline in 30-40 years main street will be non-existant and so goes the community. Competition may be weak--so a competitive base has to be set for both owner and shopper.

The industrial revolution made local and small industry possible and we must take advantage of this.

The high school track was built by the community to create an awareness and cohesiveness. it worked.

Mayor's Secretary

Organizations--masons, legion, rebeccas, rotary, girls scouts, cub scouts, 4-H--Organizations do work together more a reflection community spirit.

Town council makes decisions usually and almost always in the best interests of citizens--They're always open to suggestions--everybody knows a council member.

Government seems to be more efficient as it's more accessible and reflective.

Librarian

She rejects the present community
Having been born and raised here she no longer feels the ties and place of community--she's rejecting intrusion of outsiders.

The 500 Club...people in the town of position
Lack of interaction
She also complained of action not being taken when requested as stray dogs.

Extension Service

High degree of personalization in Manhattan
People will naturally show rejection of intruders in their community and breaking the ice isn't easy.

Again stress on the point that the church is a stronghold in the community
F.H.A. Small Loans Program

Although they won't issue loans they'll guarantee them for communities or actually purchase necessary bonds. Especially helpful in large scale community improvements -- sewage--vo tech schools.

A decline is certainly noticed in rural communities but this is due by and large by the movements and trends in our society and culture today., i.e., the move to cities, rising prices and need for bargains sho shoppers go elsewhere--small industry is no longer supported, thus no longer pursued.

Observation:

The economy seems to be misbalanced here--the small guy can't compete with the big guy, i.e., grocery, gas,--so he raises his prices somewhat so he can survive on our nation's economy and the big guy beats him. People go to the big guy--cause they have to save $. too-- Not more small business but more diversified small business--one must provide a reasonable service ata reasonable price--but must also be afforded services himself so he can survive.

One working example--the food co-operative. Point of notice for the grocer to survive, he needs more Direct access to products--milk, meat, bakery--etc. to beat big guys and the middleman

County Commissioner
Gallatin County Court House

Member-Manhattan Rotary Club...a good number of farmers are also members. Rotary is basically a service club and they'll undertake major problems--One such was obtaining a good doctor for Manhattan and then helping to establish the medical center.

Commissioner's family lives in Manhattan and his children attend school there, he is pleased with this. He also expresses the existence of drug problems, alcoholism, divorce, social deviance as increased in Manhattan to the point of where it's now visible.

Observation:

Being the first to openly express it one would think that in an effort to maintain community pride this was avoided in previous inter-views. Also openly expressed was the former sense of community rejection to intruders.
Decline of Manhattan was more or less directly attributed to current trends in society and our culture. The economy and its exclusion of small and home industry and if small business is pursued it's difficult for the little man to stay alive with the competition--As a result we're becoming transient and traveling to Bozeman to get our bargains and resultantly avoiding community interaction and survival.

Observation:

Point: What constitutes a small town, village, community, etc.....it appears (and it does) that this sort of thing exists right down the line and nobody can push the guy above him. This thesis will aim to correct that which is weakening communities and aid its "proper" future growth to avoid other later problems which society imposes on us.

Head of Cattle Company

This operation bought up dying farms and stabilized them, and thus the community too.

There's something wrong with society that Plentywood, Montana can provide two really swinging night clubs and Bozeman really can't. The potential is here but the initiative is lacking.

Wytana supports local business when feasible as they owe it to any community that they choose to become involved with.

Some communities are too small to deal with but others can't be afforded to pass by. With proper planning of growth and economy--business--co-operatives--people can overcome the society and outside forces suppressing them and prosper independently and successfully....

People have to get together and work together and then they'll make it. Big Business need not hamper small towns--it can and (here it does) help them.

Personal Opinions:

Lack of personalization causes rejection of mega-structures. In such a complex and intricate society and culture, man is being simplified to the point that we have to re-examine our values, and are becoming ever so much more frustrated.

There is no real respect in today's world for human, ethnic, personal feelings and quality.

We've got to get back to the people--people in the cities and people in rural America alike.
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thesis statement:
individual participation and
reflection of a community in a
project can evolve an
architecture powerful enough to
revitalize or strengthen
community sense

"architecture is sociological as
well as psychological and
aesthetic"

community:
a fusion of feeling, thought
of tradition, commitment of
membership, and volition
sense of reality

we are building a physical
environment in which the
individual is losing his/her
identity

illusions of democratic
control
domestic economic center

to further the economic base of the community via domestic businesses

bakery
food co-op
baby and craft
bookstore
artists' guild

a place in time
part of a conversation