United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

Historic name: Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Addendum and Boundary Increase Other names/site number: Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery. 24LC0407/24LC2802 Name of related multiple property listing: N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing 2. Location Street & number: North Benton Avenue between Chert Place and Flagstone Avenue City or town: Helena State: MT County: Lewis and Clark Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: X 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide X local Applicable National Register Criteria: X A B C D Signature of certifying official/Title: Date State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. Signature of commenting official: Date	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal In my opinion, the property X meets or criteria.	Government does not meet the National Register
Increase	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal In my opinion, the property X meets	Government
County		
Other names/site number: _Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery, _24LC0407/24LC2802 Name of related multiple property listing: N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing 2. Location Street & number: _North Benton Avenue between Chert Place and Flagstone Avenue City or town: _Helena	Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
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Other names/site number: _Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery, 24LC0407/24LC2802 Name of related multiple property listing: N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing 2. Location Street & number:North Benton Avenue between Chert Place and Flagstone Avenue City or town: _Helena	recommend that this property be considered signi	
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Increase Other names/site number: Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery, 24LC0407/24LC2802 Name of related multiple property listing: N/A	Street & number: North Benton Avenue between City or town: Helena State: MT	
Increase Other names/site number: _Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery,		property listing
		nty Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery,
1. Name of Property Historia name: Lawis and Clark County Hagnital Historia District Addandum and Roundary	Other names/site number: Lewis and Clark Coun	

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase	Lewis and Clark County, MT
Name of Property	County and State
4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
entered in the National Register	
determined eligible for the National Register	
determined not eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain:)	
_	
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification	_
Ownership of Property	
(Check as many boxes as apply.)	
Private:	
Dublic Lead	
Public – Local X	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	
1 done – 1 ederai	
Category of Property	
(Check only one box.)	
Building(s)	
District X	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
NPS Form 10-900

OMB Control No. 1024-0018

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District		Lewis and Clark County, MT
Boundary Increase Name of Property	_	County and State
Number of Resources within Property	, y	
(Do not include previously listed resources)		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	Total
Number of contributing resources previous	ously listed in the Natio	onal Register 5
rumber of controucing resources previo	sasiy noted in the ivati	onar register <u>s</u>
nomination form; these include four contributing buildings. The boundary in originally defined district, the cemetery locatotal. The cemetery does not abut the origin discontiguous district.	crease encapsulates ab ation, and adds one cor	out 1.8 acres north of the atributing site to the district
6. Function or Use Historic Functions		
(Enter categories from instructions.)		
HEALTH CARE/hospital = public hos	nital	
HEALTH CARE/sanitarium	 -	
FUNERARY/cemetery		
Current Functions		
(Enter categories from instructions.)		
COMMERCE/TRADE = business		
LANDSCAPE/park = city park		

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase	Lewis and Clark County, MT
Name of Property	County and State
7. Description	
Architectural Classification	
(Enter categories from instructions.)	
OTHER: cemetery	
Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)	
Principal exterior materials of the property: OTHER: di	rt

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District was listed in the National Register November 19, 2002. At the time of the original district listing, the location of the associated Lewis and Clark County Hospital Cemetery was unknown. The identification of the cemetery site about 1/3rd of a mile north-northwest of the original hospital district allows for its inclusion, recognizing the cemetery's role in the operation of the Lewis and Clark County Hospital. The Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District-proper that remains virtually unchanged since its 2002 listing, consists of eight resources, five contributing and three noncontributing, located at the north end of Cooney Drive in Helena, Montana. The addition of the cemetery site to the hospital district will raise the number of contributing resources of the district to six. The cemetery was utilized concurrently with the county hospital from circa 1890 to 1916.

Both the originally listed Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District and the cemetery, the subject of this boundary increase (also referred to as the Poor Farm cemetery) sit in the Prickly Pear (Helena) Valley of southwestern Montana. The broad intermontane valley is crossed by a host of small perennial and intermittent streams that drain into the Missouri River at the northeast edge of the valley. The Big Belt Mountains to the north provide a dramatic backdrop to the hospital facilities and cemetery, while the south and west sides of the valley border the Boulder Mountains and Mount Helena. The Spokane Hills are visible to the east. Both the original district and cemetery are located on the north edge of the town of Helena, Montana, in an area once sparsely populated.

¹ NR #02001101, listed November 19, 2002.

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District	
Boundary Increase	
Name of Property	

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The cemetery is located within a recently developed residential subdivision on Helena's northside. It is situated near the northern terminus of North Benton Avenue, about 1½ miles north of the National Register-listed Benton Avenue Cemetery. The Lewis and Clark County Hospital's historic cemetery site is bounded by Chert Place to the north, Flagstone Avenue to the south, North Benton Avenue to the west, and an open field (roughly paralleled by a two-track) to the east. The inclusion of the cemetery results in the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District increasing in acreage from 3.75 acres, the area of the original district, to 5.56 acres, with the inclusion of the 1.81 acres that constitute the area of the cemetery.

Narrative Description

When originally listed, the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District consisted of eight resources that included four contributing buildings, one contributing site, and three noncontributing buildings with construction of the earliest occurring circa 1891. These resources remain unchanged and stand as described in the original 2002 documentation. As noted in the original nomination, the property represents Lewis and Clark County's efforts to treat and care for its citizens who could not care for themselves. The county hospital and associated buildings were popularly known as the "poor farm," that initially included not only a hospital building, but barns, outbuildings, ditches, a cemetery, and cultivated land tended by the facility's residents. The cemetery, the subject of this boundary increase, is the second established by the county for use by the county hospital and poor farm for indigent burials. It essentially functioned as a potters field from very late 1890 to 1916.³

Located on City of Helena-owned land within the Stone Meadows Subdivision, the noncontiguous boundary increase consists of the cemetery's 1.81 acres of land counted as one contributing site, historically referred to as the Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery (also referred to as the poor farm cemetery). The cemetery measures 222 feet x 367 feet of undeveloped land located within the subdivision. The ground is undulating reflecting the rough location of individual burials. None of the burials are marked.

The depressions in the field vary in size but are all oriented east and west and roughly correspond to an undated plot map of the cemetery. This map indicates the cemetery design reflected the potential to hold 480 interments, 40 interments to each north-south alignment, 12 alignments total, with every two alignments comprising a block. A north-south foot path separated the two alignments of a single block with a wagon path separating the six different blocks.

The soil is comprised of rocks and clay with shallow topsoil, supporting the historic sources that indicated the burial depths of only two to three feet. Ground cover consists of blue and short grasses and various varieties of weeds. The cemetery is bounded on the west, north, and south by

² NR# 3000689, listed July 24, 2003.

³ A potters field is a popular term for a place for the burial of unknown, unclaimed or indigent people.

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase Name of Property Lewis and Clark County, MT

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concrete sidewalks and the east opens to an undeveloped field owned by the City and a private individual. An unnamed north-south trending creek provides an additional approximate eastern boundary of the cemetery. No features (i.e. headstones, wood crosses, footstones, monuments, etc.) remain on the surface.

The cemetery contains remains of those who perished at the hospital and adjacent poor farm or those who expired elsewhere in the county whose remains went unclaimed by relatives. Up to 377 individuals may be interred at the cemetery. The cemetery was utilized from circa 1890 to 1916. A Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of the cemetery in October 2022 revealed the presence of graves, but not the number of burials or extent of the cemetery. Further investigations by forensic dogs in 2023 confirmed the presence of graves, but not the exact number.

Integrity

The nearly two acres that served as the poor farm cemetery lies now as barren, slightly undulating land, the result of the burials, that lacks landscaping or other features that once distinguished it as a cemetery. The cemetery obviously retains integrity of location, but integrity of setting has been diminished by the growth of a residential subdivision on three sides. Although limited to begin with, integrity of design remains mostly intact through the light presence of the planned rows of burials that conform to an undated cemetery plot map. Since its inception, the cemetery lacked formal landscaping adhering to a stripped, practical, and functional use and presentation. The cemetery also lacked permanent headstones, monuments, mausoleums, or other markers due to the impoverished nature of those interred. At best, simple wooden crosses with the names of the deceased attached noted the individual burials; these fragile markers have all since disappeared with the result that integrity of materials, at least above ground, has also greatly diminished. Integrity of feeling and association remain; although the cemetery lacks any above ground markers, the Lewis and Clark County Hospital from where many of those buried in the cemetery hailed, is easily visible to the south-southeast yielding a strong conspicuous bond between the two areas of the district. The intentional placement of the cemetery at this location allowed easy access but also served to separate the hospital and poor farm from the darkest reminders of life in poverty. Integrity of workmanship is not applicable to the cemetery.

Although no physical above-ground markers remain, the important chapter the cemetery played in the larger role of the hospital warrants its inclusion in the district.

Lewis and Boundary	Clark County Hospital Historic District	Lewis and Clark County, MT
Name of Pro		County and State
8. S	tatement of Significance	
	cable National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying to.)	the property for National Register
X	A. Property is associated with events that have ma broad patterns of our history.	ade a significant contribution to the
	B. Property is associated with the lives of persons	significant in our past.
	C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristic construction or represents the work of a master or represents a significant and distinguishable cindividual distinction.	, or possesses high artistic values,
	D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, infor history.	mation important in prehistory or
	ria Considerations "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
	A. Owned by a religious institution or used for rel	ligious purposes
	B. Removed from its original location	
	C. A birthplace or grave	
	D. A cemetery	
	E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure	
	F. A commemorative property	
	G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance	ee within the past 50 years

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase	Lewis and Clark County, M
Name of Property	County and State
Areas of Significance	
(Enter categories from instructions.) SOCIAL HISTORY	
Period of Significance	
<u>1890-1916</u>	
Significant Dates _1890	
Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)	
Cultural Affiliation	
Architect/Builder Lewis and Clark County/Designer and builder	

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase, referred to historically as the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Cemetery or Poor Farm Cemetery, is eligible for listing as a contributing element of the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District. Residents of the facility who died on the premises were interred in the cemetery from

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase Name of Property Lewis and Clark County, MT

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circa 1890 to 1916.⁴ The cemetery functioned as a potters field for unclaimed bodies and for those who could not afford burial in one of Helena, Montana's eight cemeteries. The cemetery functioned as part of the hospital's mission in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and cannot be divorced from that fact. It contributes to the significance of the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District and is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as a contributing resource of the district. While the individual markers are now gone, the orderly rows of interments remain lightly evident across the surface of the cemetery.

The period of significance for the boundary increase begins in 1890 (December) acknowledging the site's first interments and ends in 1916, the date of the last interments. Significant dates include 1890, the date of the first burial.

Because the cemetery represents a boundary increase to the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District and is not the focal point of the district, it need not meet Criterion Consideration D.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The boundary increase that contains the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Cemetery is associated with Lewis and Clark County's efforts to provide services to the poor, elderly, and indigent within its jurisdiction in the late nineteen and early twentieth centuries, an effort correlated to a nationwide push by state and local governments to care for their poorer and less fortunate citizens. The people interred at the Poor Farm Cemetery were wards of the county or those who died unattended with no family or friends to claim their remains. For the most part, those buried in the cemetery were forgotten during their lives and remain forgotten with little to no mention of them in the historic record. The site and its association with the County Hospital is important to Helena's history as a dark reminder that while stories of success and financial gain play a strong part of Helena's early history, not everyone who lived in the Capital City during those early years attained financial success—many are lost to history serving as virtual footnotes to the town's early years. The Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Cemetery is eligible for listing under Criterion A as a contributing resource to the earlier listed district.

Established by Lewis and Clark County in 1890, the cemetery shortly afterwards received its first burials of those exhumed and moved from the first county hospital cemetery (approximately 1/4 mile to the south) to the second cemetery site and subject of this boundary increase. The subject cemetery, established about 15 years after the 1875 establishment of the Lewis and Clark

⁴ The complex was variously referred to as either the County Poor Farm or the Lewis and Clark County Hospital until a push in the 1920s by Dr. Cooney and Superintendent Dick Tobin resulted in referencing the facility by the latter name, thereby lessening the stigma associated with the property.

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase Name of Property Lewis and Clark County, MT

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County Hospital and poor farm, lies just north of the NR-listed hospital district. In addition to providing medical care for the county's aged and indigent population, the facility also functioned as a haven for those unable to care for themselves.

Those interred in the cemetery were not Helena's or the county's decision makers or business, social, or religious leaders. They were then, as they are now, the area's marginal and largely forgotten residents. Because none of the interments relate to a person of transcendent importance, the cemetery is not eligible as a contributing site of the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District under Criterion B nor under Criterion Consideration D.

Other than topography and depressions associated with burials, the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase cemetery displays few features associated with its use as a burial ground. The access roads and footpaths depicted on an undated late nineteenth century plat map of the cemetery no longer remain and no trace of them appear on the ground or in satellite photos, a testament to the site's abandonment over 100 years ago. Similarly, the site lacks markers designating individual graves or the location of individual burial plots. No known survey markers exist that denote the cemetery boundaries—while its presence was documented via oral tradition and newspaper accounts, its specific location wasn't identified until the inadvertent discovery of a grave by a workman in 2008. Later confirmation occurred through the use of Ground Penetrating Radar and forensic canines. Due to the lack of above ground features, the cemetery is not eligible for listing as a contributing resource of the district under Criterion C.

With few exceptions, those buried in the cemetery have rested undisturbed since 1916. The remains of those interred at the Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery could provide important information about life (i.e. diet, physical condition) at the county hospital and poor farm as well as burial practices for those marginalized by the county in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in Helena and Lewis and Clark County. Information yielded could involve mortuary practices, or lack thereof, for the city and county's indigent population, physical evidence of cause of death, chronic health issues, nutrition, and other variables. However, no archaeological testing has occurred to demonstrate these presumptions wit the result that the cemetery is not recommended eligible under Criterion D. Although the cemetery likely contains such relevant information pertinent to past lifeways, the avoidance of investigations in burial properties, especially subsurface, is prudent on several levels.

This boundary increase will include the cemetery as a contributing resource of the previously listed Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District. The cemetery's association with the county administration of commissioners and county hospital is borne out by the minimally 94 percent of interments related to the habitants of the facility who perished there.

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The full background history and context for the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District can be found under that National Register document title.⁵ Because no changes have occurred to the district since the original listing of the property, this document focuses on the boundary increase area, specifically, the cemetery.⁶

Early History of the Area

Meriwether Lewis provided the first written description of the Helena valley on July 21, 1805, when he called it "a handsome and an extensive valley." Undoubtedly, a few Euro-American fur trappers and traders were familiar with the valley in the decades following the Lewis and Clark Expedition. In the 1850s, Lieutenant John Mullan of the US Corps of Topographical Engineers skirted the valley several times while in search of a route for both a transcontinental railroad and wagon road in the northern Rocky Mountains and Pacific Northwest. In 1860, he completed construction of the wagon road between Walla Walla, Washington, and Fort Benton on the upper Missouri River. The road went around the valley to the west, but Mullan held great hopes for the future development of the valley as more Euro-Americans entered the area. In 1863, he reported that in the Helena Valley "will be found several small and choice localities for farms, and if the mines on the eastern slope prove successful, I look forward to much hope to see all these creeks settled and fine farms development under the hand of the Rocky Mountain farmer."

In July 1862, prospectors discovered rich placer gold deposits on Grasshopper Creek in southwestern Montana about 150 miles south of Helena. The discovery caused a stampede to the new diggings and spawned the founding of Bannack on the bench adjacent to the creek. Word of the discovery came at just the right time. The placer mines in Colorado and Idaho had about "played out," with the result that large numbers of transient men scoured the region searching for new gold strikes with no real desire to return to the "States," then embroiled in the Civil War. As the good claims on Grasshopper Creek were taken, prospectors fanned out across the region in search of new bonanzas. Prospectors made even richer gold discoveries on Alder Creek in 1863 and Last Chance and Confederate gulches in 1864. The ensuing stampedes resulted in the establishment of Virginia City, Helena, and Diamond City.⁸

In late July 1864, four prospectors, erroneously called the Four Georgians, discovered extraordinarily rich gold placers on Last Chance Gulch about a 1000 feet northeast of the future

⁵ Kate Hampton, *Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District National Register nomination*, (NR# 3000689, listed July 24, 2003).

⁶ The cemetery that comprises the entire boundary increase area is variously referred to as the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Cemetery, the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Cemetery, the Poor Farm Cemetery, or cemetery.

⁷ Gary E. Moulton, ed., *The Definitive Journals of Lewis and Clark: From Fort Mandan to Three Forks*, (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002), 412; John Mullan, *Report of the Construction of a Military Road from Fort Walla-Walla to Fort Benton*, (Washington DC: Government Printing Office, 1863), 42-43, 143.

⁸ Merrill G. Burlingame, *The Montana Frontier*, (Helena: State Publishing Co, 1942), 85, 87-88, 90-91; Michael P. Malone, Richard B. Roeder and William L. Lang, *Montana: A History of Two Centuries*, rev. ed. (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1991), 65, 67, 233.

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase Name of Property Lewis and Clark County, MT

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site of the boundary increase area, Poor Farm Cemetery. The discovery generated a stampede to the new diggings and, by late 1864, hundreds of miners worked the winding gulch in search of gold. A camp was built to the south of the mines and on the benches on both sides of the gulch. At a meeting of the Miners' Court in October 1864, residents of the mining camp christened the new camp, "Helena." Unlike remote Virginia City and Bannack, Helena was strategically located near the Mullan Road and the road between Fort Benton and Alder Gulch. It was also located very near two already established mining camps, Montana City and Silver City. The richness of the mines in the Helena area contributed to the establishment of new roads to Virginia City, Bannack, Butte, the Gallatin Valley, and, after December 1864, Confederate Gulch in the nearby Big Belt Mountains. Helena's central location on the territory's transportation network, proximity to good agricultural land in the adjacent Helena Valley and to other mining districts made it the preeminent settlement in Montana Territory by the early 1870s. In recognition of its ascendancy in the territory, the 1874 Montana legislature designated Helena the territorial capital and relocated it from Virginia City, whose fortunes had declined for several years.⁹

As with other mining camps in Montana, fire proved an ever-present danger to Helena. Conflagrations periodically decimated the city in the 1860s and 1870s. Each time the camp rebuilt, oftentimes replacing the flimsy wooden buildings with more substantial structures built of stone or brick. The arrival of the Northern Pacific Railway in Helena in June 1883 sparked an economic boom in the city that continued until 1893. During that period, Helena transformed from a shabby appearing settlement of wooden commercial buildings, shacks, and log cabins, to a modern late nineteenth century metropolis. Locally quarried stone and manufactured brick replaced wood in both the commercial and residential areas of Helena. The building boom came to an end in 1893 when a nationwide economic depression ended most construction in Helena. ¹⁰

Coincidental with the economic boom and transformation of Helena's commercial district and surrounding residential neighborhoods, the city embarked on a major infrastructure improvement program that enhanced the city. The Helena City Council approved the establishment and improvement of street grades, paved important city thoroughfares, and constructed concrete sidewalks throughout the town. Also included were the installation of storm drains, water mains, and sewers. A major project undertaken by the city occurred in 1892, when it approved the improvement of Lawrence Street, an east-west throughfare that bisected Helena's downtown. The major undertaking required the excavation of a large cut through the bluff bordering Last Chance Gulch. The work was performed by a chain gang made up of prisoners from the city/county jail. Helena essentially transformed itself from mining camp to modern metropolis

⁹ Burlingame, *The Montana Frontier*, 387; Muriel Sibell Wolle, *Montana Pay Dirt*, (Athens, OH: Sage Books, 1963), 82; Ellen Baumler, *Helena, The Town That Gold Built: The First 150 Years*, (San Antonio: HPHBooks, 2014), 7-9.

¹⁰ Malone, et al, *Montana*, 215, 217; Baumler, *Helena*, 18.

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between the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railway in 1883 and 1892; the onset of the economic panic 1893 greatly curtailed later growth.¹¹

The economic downturn of 1893 soundly ended the building boom Helena enjoyed since 1883. Other than at Fort Harrison, little significant construction occurred in the Queen City until around 1900 when the depression finally ended. As Montana's capital city, Helena's development remained steady until economic depression and war caused a curtailment in the city's prosperity. Helena again boomed following World War II with the expansion of state government, the presence of the Veterans Administration hospital at Fort Harrison, increased military spending, and the construction of Canyon Ferry Dam.

Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm¹²

During the nineteenth century, the US economy was subject to massive fluctuations, especially in the decades following the Civil War. In a young, capitalistic economy governed by a laissez-faire philosophy, nineteenth century economic disruptions brought on by low wages, increased mechanization, and standardization (which decimated the artisan class), the seasonal nature of agricultural or construction-based labor, and no safety net in the event of unemployment all contributed to the creation of poverty among the laboring class. Old age was an added element of poverty, that whether a recent immigrant, unemployed artisan, or seasonal laborer, everyday problems of survival in nineteenth century America intensified with age. As historian William Trattner summarized, "With no savings, no pension, no social security, or if they lacked children able or willing to care for them, old people often found themselves completely destitute."

As the nineteenth century progressed, many observers began to view private charity and outdoor relief (relief provided directly to the needy, to be used as the needy saw fit) as encouraging idleness and incapable of dealing with the depth of poverty. These observers viewed traditional poor relief policies as creating the conditions that made it possible for many to live modestly without hard labor. So, by the mid-nineteenth century, with pauperism rising at an astounding rate, a public institution, the poorhouse, a staple of eastern communities for decades, was becoming a fixture nationwide.

The dilemma most localities faced began with defining who the poor were, and how to prevent the genuinely desperate from starving without creating a class of people who chose to live off local aid rather than work. In many localities, two classes of paupers were assumed to exist. The first group, as one nineteenth century report related, "was the impotent poor, who are wholly incapable of work though old age, infancy, sickness or corporeal debility." Orphaned children were certainly poor, so children began to be associated with the "impotent" poor of the era rather than as a separate class.

¹¹ William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, Vol. II (Helena: Helena Independent Record Publishing Co., 1964), 46; Minutes of the Helena City Council, 1891-1892. City Commission Office, City-County Building, Helena, Montana, p. 1ff.

¹² Portions of this section adapted from James W. Jenks' "Down on the Farm: The Gallatin County Poor Farm, 1883 and Beyond," Master of Art Thesis, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana, 2000.

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The second class was made up of "the able poor, who are capable of work of some nature or another." The needy of this group were generally viewed as unworthy of aid and often as alcoholics with little societal value. Most localities agreed that the elderly and impotent deserved help—hopefully common human compassion dictated this—though the form of such aid was not clear.

One way to provide a level of care to the indigent sick and poor was through the creation of poor farms. The farms were common in the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and often associated with county hospitals. Mostly funded by county or city governments, elderly, disabled, mentally ill, and indigent people were required to work to support themselves. Work involved tending gardens, small farms, housekeeping, and caring for other residents of the facility. Some farm complexes also included separate facilities for those judged "insane" or suffering from dementia. Poor farms filled the requirements that the definitions of the poor created—a sanctuary for the infirm and elderly as well as a place where the able-bodied could earn a living.

Counties throughout Montana, like many other localities in America, saw a solution to the issues and costs of poverty relief in the creation of poor farms. However, by the time Lewis and Clark County established a poor farm about 1876, the institution began to disappear in the East as an element of poor relief. Eastern communities discovered what Montana communities would eventually experience, poor farms increased financial burdens rather than reducing costs. For counties and townships all over the West, the sheer numbers of the needy and the associated costs of poor relief simply become too great for localities to effectively handle. By the latenineteenth and early twentieth centuries, frequent national economic depressions and financial panics increased poverty exponentially and illustrated the need for a national or state system of poverty relief.

In 1866, a group of concerned Helena citizens met at the Methodist Episcopal Church to establish a miners' hospital for the "sick, disabled, and needy, together with those that have got the blues or not a rich claim." Within a year, Lewis and Clark County opened a hospital on Hill Street in south central Helena. The Catholic Sisters of Charity obtained a contract from the county to operate the hospital in 1872. Despite chronic complaints by county physician William R. Bullard about the quality of care by the sisters and the lack of ventilation in the hospital, the order managed the hospital through the decade, eventually losing the contract to Heman Gleason in 1880.¹³

¹³ "Helena Items," *The Montana Post*, February 3, 1866; Sandy Tobin, "Odyssey of a Caring Institution: The Cooney Convalescent Home and Hospital" in *Valleys of the Prickly Pear*, Vivian A. Paladin, ed., (Helena: Little Red Schoolhouse, Inc., 1988), 243; "County Hospital Affairs," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, February 4, 1875;

"Our County Poor," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, November 20, 1875; "The County Poor," *The Helena Independent*, December 10, 1880.

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In 1871, the county commissioners purchased Daniel Carpenter's 160-acre dairy ranch about 1½ miles north of Helena and established a "poor farm" at the site by 1875 or 1876. The county administered the facility and annually contracted with individuals for its operation. The county constructed a hospital at the poor farm site in 1876 and expanded the facility when Gleason took over management of it in 1880. Various Helena physicians, including the county coroner, contracted their services with the county at the hospital. From 1876 to 1885, the poor farm consisted of several buildings, including a barn, a 12-acre vegetable garden, and some acreage devoted to wheat. The garden produced potatoes, turnips, rutabagas, cabbages, carrots, and peas. Improvements at the site included fences, ditches, outbuildings, and a separate building for the "mildly" insane. ¹⁴

The county contracted management of the poor farm to private individuals on an annual basis. Responsibilities for the superintendent included the sheltering and feeding of each individual at the farm along with the maintenance of the buildings on the site. The county annually contracted with Helena physicians for the medical care of the patients in the hospital. Twice each year, a "grand jury" inspected county-owned property, such as the jail and the poor farm, and provided the county commissioners with a report of conditions at those institutions. Beginning in 1883, the jury seldom had much good to say about the poor farm other than the "inmates" appeared to be comfortable and well fed. Every year the jury complained the main building was poorly located in a swamp that impeded the quick recovery of the patients in the hospital and poor ventilation aggravated the crowded conditions in the building. A committee consisting of three local physicians (two employed by the county in previous years) conducted further investigations of the operation in March 1884. They accused the then-current county physician, Dr. R. F. Clark, of not providing adequate care to the patients, neglecting the "requisite medical and surgical skill demanded by the miscellaneous and serious class of diseases and accidents that call for treatment," and administering medicine based on economy without regard to the suffering of the patient.¹⁵

The population at the county hospital steadily grew, especially after the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railway in 1883. The railroad sparked an economic and population boom in Helena. It soon proved even more clear to the commissioners that the hospital and poor farm buildings were badly located and inadequate for accommodating a growing population of the poor, indigent, and sick dependent on the county. Gleason divided patients at the facility into three

¹⁴ Tobin, "Odyssey of a Caring Institution," 243; Ellen Baumler and Dave Shors, *Lost Places, Hidden Treasures:* Rare Photographs of Helena, Montana, (Helena: Far Country Press, 2002), 43; "Twelfth Exhibition," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, September 22, 1881; "The Poor Farm," *The Helena Independent*, July 24, 1881; Kate Hampton, *Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District, National Register of Historic Places Nomination*, NR# 02001101, listed December 4, 2002, nomination on file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, Montana.

¹⁵ "Grand Jury Report," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, March 15, 1883; "Grand Jury," *The Helena Independent*, March 27, 1884; "Paper from Dr. Clark," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, March 27, 1884; "Grand Jury Report," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, March 19, 1885.

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groups: the aged and infirm, those suffering from disease or accidents, and "victims of intemperate habits," with the latter group comprising two-thirds of the facility's inhabitants.¹⁶

It was not until late 1885 that the county commissioners advertised for the construction of a new county hospital at the poor farm. Helena contractors Alfred Bourk and Charles Newbury obtained the contract to build a palatial two-story brick building on higher ground about 400 feet southeast of the old hospital building.¹⁷ The new structure included hospital rooms and dormitories for the poor farm's male and female residents. Bourk and Newbury completed the building in June 1886. Once an "object of scorn by passerby," the poor farm included a new hospital and barn and outbuildings on 80 acres enclosed by a pole and wire fence. That summer, the commissioners purchased acreage adjoining the poor farm "for interment purposes, the present cemetery being too small for the increasing demands upon it." ¹⁸

Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm Cemetery

From 1880 to 1890, both local newspapers sporadically reported deaths at the poor farm. The newspapers reported 13 deaths at the poor farm from 1881 to 1889 (out of 47 deaths that occurred there during that period). All were males, ranging in age from six to seventy-six. One of the earliest was miner Henry Juenger, found near death in his cabin at Canyon Creek and transported to the poor farm where he soon died. James Conlin died of pneumonia and Tom Conlan of scarlet fever in 1882. Other deaths included Lillie Filmore, a prostitute who died of syphilis at the poor farm in January 1888. 19

One death at the poor farm garnered special attention in newspapers and the grand jury report. In mid-February 1884, 50-year-old German immigrant Reiker Leridae fell into an abandoned prospect pit while walking to his boarding house from a local restaurant. Despite the freezing temperatures, he managed to survive for 10 days before rescue. His rescuers took Leridae, suffering from hypothermia and severe frostbite, to the county hospital. He lingered there for three weeks before succumbing to gangrene. According to the *Helena Weekly Herald*, a fellow

¹⁶ "Grand Jury Report," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, March 15, 1883; Tobin, "Odyssey of a Caring Institution: The Cooney Convalescent Home and Hospital" in *Valleys of the Prickly Pear*, Vivian A. Paladin, ed., (Helena: Little Red Schoolhouse, Inc., 1988), 243; "Our Poor Farm," *The Helena Independent*, January 11, 1884.

¹⁷ The original poor farm site is now under the Lewis and Clark County's Public Works Department grounds. There is still low, swampy ground adjacent to Crystal Springs near the county shop.

¹⁸ "Proposals," *The Helena Independent*, August 20, 1885; "Contract Awarded," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, September 17, 1885; "County Poor Farm," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, December 10, 1885; "County Commissioners," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, June 17, 1886.

¹⁹ "Brief Items," *The Helena Independent*, September 22, 1881; "Died," *The Helena Independent*, February 21, 1882; "Brief Items," *The Helena Independent*, April 6, 1882; "Died," *The Helena Independent*, April 27, 1882; "Brief Items," *The Helena Independent*, November 8, 1883; "Died," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, November 8, 1883.

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patient tended to Leridae, but by the time the hospital superintendent notified the county physician it was too late to save him.²⁰

By 1887, the county poor farm became a showcase and frequently visited by newspaper reporters and private citizens. In July 1887, a reporter from the *Helena Independent* accompanied Dr. Daniel Carmichael, the county physician, on a tour of the poor farm. By then, the farm consisted of 160 acres suitable for irrigation with 50 of those acres planted to wheat, oats, potatoes, and other vegetables. Although the hospital could accommodate 50 people besides the caretakers, the average occupancy during the summer hovered around 20 full-time residents. The reporter was careful to note that the number of "inmates" increased during the winter by 35 to 40 people. In the warmter months, "the old bums and broken-down saloon loafers, who found the place a convenient winter asylum, have crawled out since summer came...." The death of six-year-old Lewis Coombes from typhoid in 1887, however, revealed a serious problem at the poor farm: the site's septic system drained into the well supplying water to the farm's residents. A grand jury report two months after Coombe's death stated that it was paralyzed by the smell at the farm and pinched their noses closed during the inspection. It wasn't until 1891 that county connected the poor farm to the city water supply.²¹

In response to the grand jury's complaints about the small size of the poor farm cemetery, the county commissioners investigated options for a new burial ground in July 1890. Because the county ran out of room at the original poor farm cemetery site, it buried indigents in a corner of the Benton Avenue Cemetery. The commissioners ordered county surveyor Benjamin Marsh and poor farm superintendent William Stuewe to lay out a 25-acre plot in the northwest corner of the farm grounds. The commissioners discussed "removing the county poor already buried in the cemetery to a place selected at the poor farm." The commissioners, however, had grander plans than just establishing a new potters' field. Their plan involved retaining a quarter of the acreage as a potters' field, another quarter for graves, and the remaining half for use as a public cemetery. The commissioners would sell lots to individuals and families as a revenue source for the county.²² The public could buy individual grave spots for \$5 dollars, while lots cost \$20. The proposed move would eliminate a problem with water overtopping a portion of the original cemetery and create a more healthful environment at the poor farm by removing the cemetery from near the county hospital. It could also, potentially, generate \$40,000 (\$1.3 million in 2023) in revenue for the county.²³

²⁰ "Nine Days in a Prospect Hole," *The Helena Independent*, February 24, 1884; "Buried Alive," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, February 28, 1884; "Grand Jury Report, *The Helena Independent*, March 23, 1884; "Dr. Clark Denies." *The Helena Independent*, March 27, 1884.

²¹ "The County Poor Farm," *The Helena Independent*, July 14, 1887; "Two Deaths at the Poor Farm," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, September 22, 1887; "Grand Jury Report," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, November 17, 1887; "Jottings About Town," *The Helena Independent*, December 5, 1891.

²² A potters' field is a place for the burial of unknown, unclaimed or indigent people.

²³ "Synopsis," *The Helena Independent*, June 20, 1890; "Courthouse Cuttings," *The Helena Independent*, August 2, 1890; "Their Views are Given," *The Helena Independent*, December 12, 1890.

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The decision to relocate the Poor Farm Cemetery occurred with some public controversy. Opponents of the county's plan argued that the county was not in the business of managing a public cemetery and put them in direct conflict with a private corporation, the Helena Cemetery Association (HCA). In September 1890, the HCA formally offered the county five acres at the new Forestvale Cemetery for use as a potter's field and for those who died at the county hospital and poor farm. The association's offer was not philanthropical as it proposed selling the acreage to the county for \$300 per acre. The proposal caused another stormy debate among the county commissioners and the public. The county countered the association's offer by tendering \$150 per acre. If the association accepted the offer, the county would make arrangements to move the cemetery to Forestvale. If not accepted, the county would bury the indigent and poor at a yet-to-be selected new poor farm cemetery. But there would be no sales of plots and lots to the public.²⁴

The discussion about the cemetery peaked shortly before Christmas 1890. At a contentious meeting on December 18, the commissioners deemed it not in the county's best interests to abandon the earlier cemetery "until fully assured that a cemetery has been organized and ample substitute for a physical dying community to meet the requirements of the people." The board agreed that the current cemetery proved inadequate to meet the poor farm's requirements and arrangements would soon be necessary for a new burial ground location. The public protested the HCA's proposal by presenting a petition, signed by 350 county residents, objecting to the county entering into an agreement with the association. By the end of the meeting, the county commissioners declined the cemetery association's proposal and made plans to expand the poor farm cemetery at an alternate site. The board hired Miles McInnis to move the bodies from old cemetery to a new site and authorized a payment for \$230 to do so.²⁵

McInnis began moving coffins to the newly selected site, the boundary increase area, by late December 1890. The *Helena Independent* reported in late December, "the bodies interred at the county poor farm are being removed. This is proving quite a task, as the ground is in a flat which is under cover of snow and water." Further, the newspaper article stated, "in removing a body, it was necessary to build a dam around the grave to keep water from pouring in the grave, water had to be bailed out to reach the body." The process drew complaints; in a letter written to the *Helena Independent* by poor farm superintendent William Stuewe, he noted the malicious gossip surrounding the move, which he attributed to "malice on the part of persons interested in another cemetery," a different location. Stuewe addressed the issue of several children's caskets left resting on the ground at the old cemetery and claimed there were only 12 graves plagued by water on the grounds, not the 30 reported in a *Helena Weekly Journal* story.²⁶

²⁴ "Synopsis of the Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners of Lewis & Clarke County in Regular Session, September Term 1890," *The Helena Independent*, September 18, 1890.

²⁵ "Synopsis," *The Helena Independent*, December 18, 1890; "Their Views are Given," *The Helena Independent*, December 12, 1890; "For a City of the Dead," *The Helena Independent*, December 3, 1890; "The People Will Decide," *The Helena Independent*, December 18, 1890.

²⁶ "The New Cemetery," *The Helena Independent*, December 26, 1890; "Card from Mr. Stuewe," *The Helena Independent*, December 25, 1890.

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During the winter of 1890-1891, the county re-interred 80 sets of human remains at the second, boundary increase, poor farm cemetery. This included indigent residents of the poor farm who died from 1880 to 1890. Four of those remains were female. From 1891 to 1900, the county buried 357 bodies in the boundary increase cemetery. The burials included 30 women, 22 infants, 12 children, and 19 "John Does." That averaged 30.5 burials per year – all of which are still, presumably, located in the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase cemetery grounds. The county originally marked the burials with wooden crosses with the names of the deceased on the markers; all these markers have since disappeared.

In July 1900, the county established a potters' field for those unable to pay burial expenses on a 10-acre plot located across from McHugh Lane from Forestvale Cemetery and east and north of the Odd Fellows Cemetery, a couple miles north of the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District. The county paid William Steuwe and Evan J. Harris \$40 an acre for the property. The purchase occurred only 10 years after the county designated the acreage for the second poor farm cemetery; however, over that decade, the commissioners determined that potential cemetery grounds too swampy. Although it established the new potters field, the county continued to use the second poor farm cemetery and location of the boundary increase until 1916; from 1901 to 1916, 24 individuals, including six male infants, were interred at the poor farm cemetery. The last interment being James Symons, a cook who died of pneumonia on June 1, 1916. At least 377 individuals are buried at the poor farm cemetery or around its fringes.²⁷ A plat map for the cemetery shows the potential for 480 burial plots. At least 60% of the cemetery property was occupied by 1916.²⁸

The county hospital and poor farm continued to operate at its original location into the twentieth century. The hospital expanded around the turn of the twentieth century with other outbuildings added later. The October 1935 earthquakes severely damaged the 1885 hospital building resulting in its replacement in 1939 with the present NR-listed concrete building at 3404 Cooney Drive. Increasingly, the hospital functioned more as a retirement home for the elderly than as a county hospital. The commissioners moved the county hospital to a new site adjacent to St. Peter's Hospital in southeast Helena in 1984. It now functions as a retirement home and rehabilitation center. The old Lewis and Clark Hospital facility and poor farm went into private ownership in the late 1990s after years of vacancy.

The county retained ownership of the second cemetery site that comprises the boundary increase area until transferring ownership to the City of Helena. An aerial photograph of the site suggests

²⁷ 381 individuals were originally buried in the cemetery. Four remains were removed and relocated to Forestvale.

²⁸ The number doesn't account for burials from the 1871 to 1879 period. In January 1879, the county contracted with Gus Seineur to exhume the graves at the cemetery adjacent to the Central School grounds and move them to the county cemetery. It is not known how many graves Seineur moved to the poor farm site and if they were dug up and moved again to the current poor farm cemetery. "Notice," *The Helena Independent*, December 15, 1878; "Brevities," *The Helena Weekly Herald*, January 9, 1879. "Jottings About Town," *The Helena Independent*, August 4, 1900; US Census Records.

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plowing of the area may have occurred in the past. A 2004 aerial photo indicates that a portion of the cemetery may have been planted to alfalfa and irrigated by a center pivot sprinkler. The cemetery was included as a Public Lands Institution District (open space) in the newly created Stone Meadows Subdivision in December 2006. In May 2008, a workman from Helena Sand and Gravel disturbed human remains associated with the cemetery while trenching for a water main in the new subdivision. The remains consisted of part of a lower jaw and a femur. The backhoe also unearthed the side of a wooden coffin, buried three feet below the topsoil. The remains were placed back in the ground in the trench and reburied.²⁹

Investigations in 2022 and 2023

In October 2022, the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) utilized Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to probe the site of the boundary increase cemetery area of the Lewis and Clark County Hospital and Poor Farm. The GPR crew performed several GPR 2D scans in a north-south direction. However, due to a recent rain, the GPR signal was limited to a depth of 6 feet for the first 52 scans. All following scans extended to a depth of 12 feet. Based on the results of the 3D scans, MDT identified subsurface features at depths of 0 to ~2 feet and ~5.5 to ~11 feet throughout the extent of the 3D scan, though primarily on the eastern one-third of the grid. It was not, however, able to conclusively confirm the location of the western border of the cemetery and surveyed the remaining area using 2D scans. In total, 77 2D scans from south to north occurred.

The MDT independently prepared maps of the parcel area showing where significant disturbance and/or subsurface features of significance (i.e. strong GPR reflection) were identified. A consensus of MDT's interpretation appears below. Difficulty in determining any clear patterns in the data exist likely due to the cemetery land between Chert Place and Flagstone Avenue experiencing a large amount of ground disturbance the last 100 years. Because several subsurface features of interest were identified at the site, the GPR results would be useful in prioritizing areas for future investigations at this site, if desired. Despite the GPR and canine investigations, the full extent of the number of occupied graves at the cemetery remains unknown.

Seven months after the GPR survey, in May 2023, members of True North Search Dogs volunteered the use of their canines at the site as a training exercise. The dogs, all German Shepherds, have a proven track record for locating human remains; the question, however, would they be able to identify human remains considering the age of the burials in the cemetery. Dense fog and recent rain further complicated the canines' search. Prior to the exercise, several of the suspected grave sites identified during the GPR work were probed and marked with pin flags. Although the dogs' examination of the cemetery proved inconclusive, they did identify several locations of interest.

²⁹ Google Earth; "Notice of Public Hearing," *The Independent Record*, December 3, 2006; Eve Byron,

[&]quot;Construction Workers Dig Up More than Just Soil," The Independent Record, May 8, 2008.

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A second canine investigation occurred two months later in July when the weather turned hot and the city mowed the boundary increase cemetery parcel. A different forensic dog handler offered the services of her dogs to investigate the site as a training exercise. In this case, in vastly different weather conditions, the dogs positively identified 16 potential burial locations. Interestingly, the dogs indicated likely burials also occur in the tall grass east of the specified cemetery site.

Summary

In July 1890, Lewis and Clark County surveyed the boundary increase area with an eye to establishing a second poor farm cemetery on 25 acres of land it recently acquired from a private individual. The county commissioners intended to utilize some of the land for a potters field to inter patients and others who died while under the care of the county or whose remains went unclaimed by family members. The remaining acreage, the commissioners schemed would be sold off to individuals or families as a source of revenue for the county. Public opposition compelled the commissioners to abandon that plan. Instead, the county surveyor layed out a two-acre section containing plots for 480 individuals approximately 600 yards northwest of the hospital and poor farm. During the winter of 1890-1891, the county commissioners contracted with Miles McInnis to exhume and reinter 80 individuals from the first poor farm cemetery. From 1891 to 1916, the county buried additional individuals at the second cemetery that comprises the boundary increase area. Thereafter, the county buried indigent and poor at a third cemetery located about two miles north of the boundary increase cemetery adjacent to Forestvale Cemetery and the Odd Fellows cemeteries a few miles to the north, a cemetery still in use by the county after 107 years.

Investigations at the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase cemetery indicate 16 features of interest at depths of 0 to ~2 feet and ~5.5 to ~11 feet. These GPR data in conjunction with the disturbance in 2008 of a coffin buried only three feet below the ground surface indicates that not all the burials are deep. The contractor who relocated the burials from the original poor farm plot to the boundary increase area in 1890-1891 did so during the winter when the ground was frozen. The lack of depth would hardly prove surprising due to the frozen soil. The results of the MDT's GPR survey and the exploration of the area by canine units suggest that while some burials may have been relocated to the third cemetery two miles north of the boundary increase, not all interments likely made the trip north.

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase Name of Property Lewis and Clark County, MT

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Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase		Lewis and Clark County, MT
Name of Property		County and State
Previous documentation on file (N	VPS):	
preliminary determination of indi	vidual listing (36 CFR 67) ha	as been requested
previously listed in the National I	Register	-
previously determined eligible by		
designated a National Historic La		
recorded by Historic American B	uildings Survey #	
recorded by Historic American E		
recorded by Historic American L	andscape Survey #	
Primary location of additional data:		
State Historic Preservation Office	e	
X Other State agency		
Federal agency		
Local government University		
University		
Other		
Name of repository:Montana l	Department of Transportation	<u> </u>
Historic Resources Survey Number ((if assigned):	
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property1.810	<u> </u>	
Use either the UTM system or latitude/	longitude coordinates	
Latitude/Longitude Coordinates		
Datum if other than WGS84:		
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)		
1. Latitude: 46.627402	Longitude: -112.041720	
2. Latitude: 46.626844	Longitude: -112.041722	
3. Latitude: 46.627410	Longitude: -112.040190	
4. Latitude: 46.626820	Longitude: -112.040210	

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District	Lewis and Clark County, MT
Boundary Increase	-
Name of Property	County and State

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary increase for the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase area (cemetery) is a rectangle measuring 222 feet x 367 feet. The boundary increase is determined by the parcel of land occupied by the cemetery where it lies between North Benton Avenue on the west, Chert Place on the north, Flagstone Avenue on the south, and roughly on the east, by a two-track dirt road. The cemetery is not contiguous to the historic district. The cemetery is located in the NW¼ NW¼ of Section 18, T10N, R3W. Per the Montana cadastral, the property occupies, "Stone Meadows Subd, S18, T10N, R03W, Poor farm Cemetery COS #3160896."

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The rectangle encompasses the known boundaries of the unmarked cemetery associated with the its historic use by the Lewis and Clark County Hospital from 1890 to 1916.

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title: Jon Axline/Historian	
organization: Montana Department of Transportation	on
street & number: 2701 Prospect Avenue	
city or town: <u>Helena</u> state: <u>MT</u>	zip code: <u>59620-1001</u>
e-mail jaxline@mt.gov	
telephone: (406) 444-6258	
date: November 2023	
Property Owner: (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)	
name City of Helena	
street & number 316 North Park Ave.	telephone (406) 447-8000
city or town Helena	state MT zin code 59623

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

NPS Form 10-900

OMB Control No. 1024-0018

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District

Lewis and Clark County, MT

Boundary Increase

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Photographs

Name of Property

United States Department of the Interior

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log, All Photographs

Name of Property: Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary

Increase

City or Vicinity: Helena, Montana

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

County: Lewis and Clark State: MT

Photographer: Jon Axline

Date Photographed: October 2022 and July 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of

camera: 1 of ___.

Please see Continuation Sheets

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Lewis and Clark County, Montana

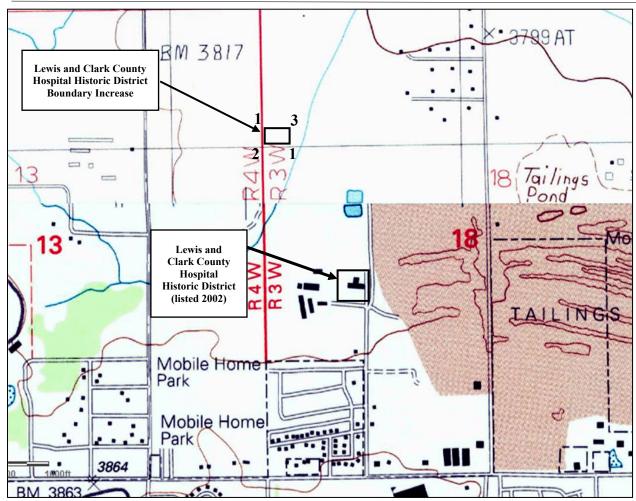
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Maps

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Location of the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase (Poor Farm Cemetery) and originally-listed Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District. Found on the USGS 7.5' Quadrangle map: Helena (1985).

1. Latitude: 46.627402 Longitude: -112.041720

2. Latitude: 46.626844 Longitude: -112.041722

3. Latitude: 46.627410 Longitude: -112.040190

4. Latitude: 46.626820 Longitude: -112.040210

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Maps

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Lewis and Clark County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Page

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Aerial view of the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase (Poor Farm Cemetery) [outlined in black box]

 1. Latitude: 46.627402
 Longitude: -112.041720

 2. Latitude: 46.626844
 Longitude: -112.041722

 3. Latitude: 46.627410
 Longitude: -112.040190

 4. Latitude: 46.626820
 Longitude: -112.040210

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Maps

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

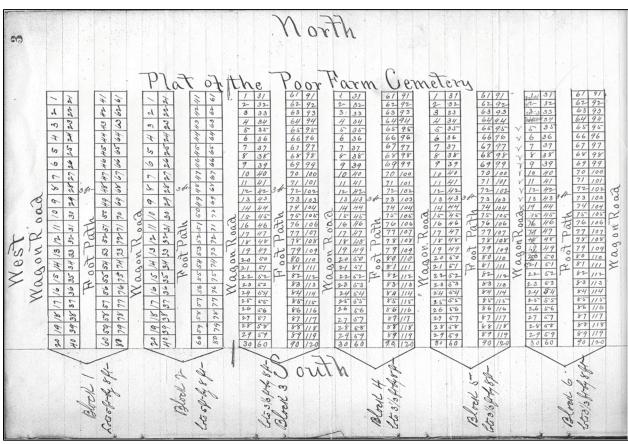
Lewis and Clark County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Undated map showing location of burial plots and access roads/footpaths at the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase (county poor farm cemetery).

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Lewis and Clark County, Montana

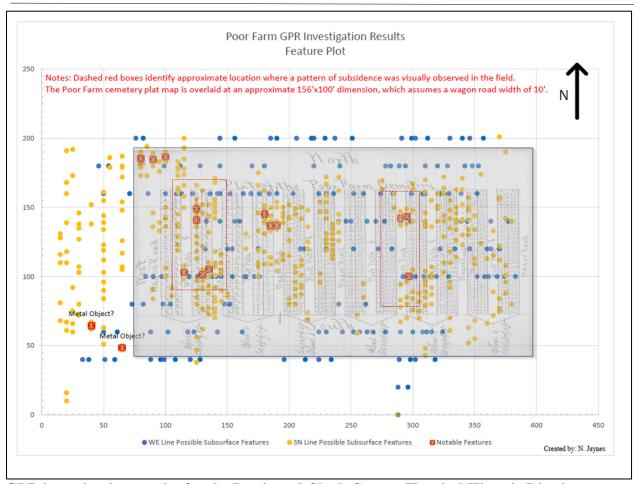
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Maps

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GPR investigation results for the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase.

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Maps

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

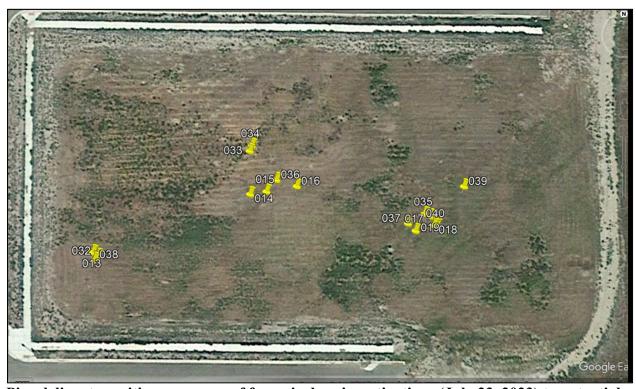
Lewis and Clark County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Pins delineate positive responses of forensic dogs investigations (July 23, 2023) to potential grave sites at the Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Lewis and Clark County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation National Register Photogrpahs Page 33

Photo Log, All Photographs:

Name of Property: Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary

Increase

City or Vicinity: Helena

County: Lewis and Clark State: MT

Photographer: Jon Axline

Date Photographed: October 2022 and July 2023



Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase. Overview, view to southwest. MT LewisAndClarkCountyHospitalHDBI 0001

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Lewis and Clark County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation National Register Photogrpahs Page 34



Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase. Overview, view to the south-southwest. MT LewisAndClarkCountyHospitalHDBI 0002.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Lewis and Clark County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase. Overview. View to south. Note burial depressions in foreground. MT_LewisAndClarkCountyHospitalHDBI_0003.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Lewis and Clark County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase. Overview along south boundary of cemetery, view to west. MT_LewisAndClarkCountyHospitalHDBI_0004.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Lewis and Clark County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation National Register Photogrpahs Page 37



Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase. Overview, view to the west. Dark green patches mark burials. MT LewisAndClarkCountyHospitalHDBI 0005.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Pugsley Bridge

Name of Property

Liberty County, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Lewis and Clark County Hospital Historic District Boundary Increase. Overview, view to northwest.

MT LewisAndClarkCountyHospitalHDBI 0006.