

**THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SEVENTH BIENNIAL REPORT ON HERITAGE
PROPERTIES, 2022 - 2023**

REPORT TO THE MONTANA PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD

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**DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES**

Serving Montanans in their communities to improve health,
safety, and well-being, and to empower independence.

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Executive Summary

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services presents this revision of the biennial report to the Montana Preservation Review Board as required by Montana Codes Annotated (MCA) 22-3-424 (4): “an act requiring state agencies and the Montana University System to biennially report to the Preservation Review Board on the status and maintenance needs of agency heritage properties.”

MCA 22-3-424 (4) outlines five reporting requirements state agencies must include in their report to the Preservation Board. The statute requires the following:

- A. A list of heritage properties managed by the agencies as those properties have been identified pursuant to this section;
- B. The status and condition of each heritage property;
- C. The stewardship efforts in which the agencies have engaged to maintain each heritage property and the cost of those activities;
- D. A prioritized list of the maintenance needs for the properties;
- E. A Record of the agency’s compliance with subsections MCA 22-3-424 (1) and (2)

In reporting on each of the two properties, we will provide the above information and supporting documents where appropriate.

A. List of the heritage properties managed by the agency.

Heritage sites administered by the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services include twenty-five state-owned heritage properties that fall under our stewardship. One site has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places and twenty-five sites are eligible.

Montana State Hospital District

The district is located in Warm Springs, Montana and includes:

- Administration Annex Building 24DL0792**
- Granary & Feed Mill 24DL0800**
- Horse Barn 24DL0801**
- Milking Barn & Creamery 24DL0803**
- Root House and Granary 24DL0804**
- Hog Shed 24DL0805**
- Hog Weaner Shed 24DL0806**
- Duplex Residence for Doctors' Quarters 24DL0808**
- Doctors' Residences 24DL0809**
- Employee Duplex Residence 24DL0810**
- Resident C – Assistant Superintendent's Cottage 24DL0811**
- Poultry House 24DL0823**
- Warehouse/Receiving Warehouse 24DL0824**
- Furniture Warehouse 24DL0825**
- Maternity and Calf Barn 24DL0826**
- Residence G – Doctor's Residence 24DL0827**
- Residence H – Dr. Hogan Cottage 24DL0828**
- Residence M--Dairyman's Cottage 24DL0829**
- Loafing Shed 24DL0838**
- Loafing Shed 24DL0839**
- Loafing Shed 24DL0840**
- Fire Hall 24DL0841**
- Main Garage 24DL0842**

Montana State Soldiers' (Veterans') Home 24FH0356 Historic District.

The Montana Soldiers' Home Historic District has been on the Register of Historic Places since April 1994 (94000385 NRIS) and is located in Columbia Falls, Montana.

B. The status and condition of each heritage property

The Montana State Hospital – Administration Annex Building is considered satisfactory and in good condition. Currently occupied as a patient store.

The Granary & Feed Mill is considered endangered and poor.

The Horse Barn is in fair condition; the building is secured, and door repaired.

The Milking Barn & Creamery are considered satisfactory and fair. (It is in use for cold storage.)

The Root House and Granary are considered endangered, and the roof is failing. MHS would like to save the building by completing a roof repair.

The Hog Shed is considered watch and fair.

The Hog Weaner Shed is considered watch and fair. (It is in use for storage of old medical and shelving equipment.)

The Duplex Residence for Doctors' Quarters is considered endangered and poor. The basement is flooded with ground water and may have to be demolished.

The Doctors' Residences are considered satisfactory and fair. (The buildings are in use.)

The Employee Duplex Residence is considered satisfactory and fair.

Resident C – Assistant Superintendent's Cottage is considered satisfactory and good. (Building is still in use.)

The Poultry House is considered watch and poor. It is still standing, and not in use.

The Warehouse is considered satisfactory and good. (It is still in use.)

The Furniture Warehouse is considered watch and poor condition. (It is not in use.)

The Maternity and Calf Barn are considered satisfactory and fair. (Now used as a carpenter shop.)

Residence G – Doctor's Residence is considered satisfactory and fair. (Still in use as a residence.)

Residence H – Dr. Hogan Cottage is considered satisfactory and fair. (Still in use as a 3-bedroom nursing dorm.)

Residence M--Dairyman's Cottage is considered satisfactory and good. (Currently not occupied.)

Loafing Shed 24DL0838 is considered satisfactory and fair. (Still in use as a plumbing shop.)

Loafing Shed 24DL0839 is considered satisfactory and fair. (Still in use as a maintenance shop.)

Loafing Shed 24DL0840 is considered satisfactory and fair. (Still in use as a paint shop.)

Fire Hall is considered satisfactory and fair. (Still in use as a mechanic's shop.)

Main Garage is considered endangered and poor. The building caught fire in Dec. of 2022.

The Montana State Soldier's (Veterans) Home HD is in satisfactory condition. The status of Old Main: Watch; Commandant's House (Hospital, Headquarters Building): Satisfactory; Service Building (Chapel): Satisfactory; Dairy Barn: Watch; Heating Plant: Endangered; Laundry (Carpentry Shop): Satisfactory. The condition of Old Main: Poor; Commandant's House (Hospital, Headquarters Building): Excellent; Service Building (Chapel): Excellent; Dairy Barn: Fair; Heating Plant: Poor; Laundry (Carpentry Shop): Good.

C. Stewardship efforts and costs

Montana State Hospital District: no improvements have been made in the past 2 years.

The Montana Soldiers' Home Historic District: no improvements have been made in the past 2 years.

D. Prioritized list of maintenance needs for the properties

Montana State Hospital – Administration Building needs continued routine maintenance to keep the property in safe working order. This will continue to be done as needed.

The Montana State Soldiers (Veterans) Home HD needs continued routine maintenance to keep the property in safe working order. This will continue to be done as needed,

E. Record of compliance with subsections MCA 22-3-424 (1) and (2)

Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center in Lewistown is now 72 years old. It was originally called the Montana Center for the Aged and was built on a 40-acre site overlooking the city of Lewistown by the State of Montana. It was first occupied in October of 1952 and directed by the Montana's Department of Institutions. Billings architect J. G. Link designed the facility. The Center is built with six large wings and a center section that has a kitchen, dining room, lounge, chapel, offices and nursing stations. The building was constructed in 1952 and provides long term care and treatment of persons challenged by mental illness. Two additions were added to the original 1952 complex in 1976. Today it functions as the Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center. The facility is a licensed 117-bed long term care facility established for persons who have a mental disorder, require a level of care not available in the community, but who cannot benefit from the intense psychiatric treatment available at the Montana State Hospital. Jon Axline has completed a Montana Historic Property Record and deemed it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The agency has decided that as a healthcare facility it is in our best interest not to submit the property as a Heritage Property (aka eligible for the National Register) at this time.

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services has not adopted administrative rules to implement the Montana State Antiquities Act (22-3-424), however it does act in compliance with rules adopted under 22-3-423.

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services biggest challenge in identifying, evaluating, and protecting state-owned heritage properties is balancing the needs to preserve heritage properties while meeting the Agency's primary mission which is to improve and protect the health, well-being and self-reliance of all Montanans. DPHHS continues to evaluate its state-owned heritage properties and how critical they are to the operation of the facilities. Of course, all buildings that do not house patients are not as critical as those that do.