NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

**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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers

other names/site number Department of Veterans Affairs, Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center

## 2. Location

street & number U.S. Highway 73 N/A not for publication

city or town Leavenworth N/A vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Leavenworth code 103 zip code 66048

## 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 [X] nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard D Pankratz DSHPO 2/23/99
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National Register.
- ☐ other, (explain:)

Veterans Affairs DDE Medical Center
Name of Property

Leavenworth Co., Kansas
County and State

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
- ☐ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☒ public-Federal

**Category of Property**
(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
- ☒ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|---|---|---|
| 75 | 23 | buildings |
| 2 | | sites |
| 3 | 1 | structures |
| 2 | | objects |
| 82 | 24 | Total |

**Name of related multiple property listing**
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

None

## 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**
(Enter categories from instructions)

Health Care/Hospital
Funerary/Cemetery

**Current Functions**
(Enter categories from instructions)

Health Care/Hospital
Funerary/Cemetery

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival
Queen Anne
Late Gothic Revival
Classical Revival

**Materials**
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation limestone
walls brick
weather board
roof asphalt
other sandstone
metal

**Narrative Description**
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Veteran Affairs DDE Medi Center
Name of Property

L enworth Co., Kansas
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria**
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [x] **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Politics/Government
Social History
Health Care/Medicine
Landscape Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1885-1943

**Significant Dates**

1885
1930
1931-33

**Significant Person**
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

James A. McGonigle (B)
Louis Curtiss (A)
H.W.S. Cleveland (landscape)

**Narrative Statement of Significance**
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibilography**
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- [ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- [ ] previously listed in the National Register
- [x] previously determined eligible by the National Register
- [ ] designated a National Historic Landmark
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

**Primary location of additional data:**

- [ ] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [x] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Name of repository:

Department of Veterans Affairs
DDE Medical Center

Veterans Affairs DDE Medical Center
Name of Property

Leavenworth Co., Kansas
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 213.97 acres

**UTM References**
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | Zone | Easting | Northing | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 15 | 337320 | 4349650 | A |
| 2 | 15 | 337690 | 4348690 | B |
| 3 | 15 | 336940 | 4348590 | C |
| 4 | 15 | 336420 | 4348720 | D |

☒ See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia H. Adams, Senior Architectural Historian

organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. date May 1993

street & number 210 Lonsdale Avenue telephone (401) 728-8780

city or town Pawtucket state RI zip code 02860

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

## Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

**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. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

The Department of Veterans Affairs, Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center (DDE/VAMC) Historic District in Leavenworth, Kansas is the former Western Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (WB/NHDVS), founded in 1885. It consists of a medical complex of residential, hospital, and support buildings, along with an expansive cemetery, in a historic landscaped, park- and campus-like setting. The 213.97-acre site is characterized by rolling terrain, tree-dotted lawns, a man-made lake, and curving roads. The historic buildings constructed between 1885 and the early 1940s are mostly well-designed and crafted examples of popular period Victorian revival styles executed in brick and stone, with a few wood-frame examples. The work of a notable local architect and builder are represented, as well as the probable work of a nationally important landscape architect. The original planning concept combined civilian and military influences in a planned rehabilitative community. The evolution of the Home into a major regional Veterans Administration medical center in the 1930s is reflected in the building scale and siting. The historic district retains excellent overall integrity of buildings and landscape. Few buildings have been demolished and few have been constructed since 1943. Located south of the town of Leavenworth, the district is roughly bounded by U.S. Highway 73 (Wilson Avenue) and the former A.T. and S.F. Railroad (west), the Missouri Pacific Railroad and Missouri River (east), Limit Street (north), and Kansas State Highway 5 (south). It contains a total of 106 properties, of which 82 historic resources contribute to the significance of the district: 75 buildings, 3 structures, 2 objects, and 2 landscape sites. The 24 noncontributing buildings were constructed after the end of the period of significance (1943). An inventory of these resources is included following the descriptive narrative. Archaeological resources are also present, including 11 documented historic sites and a number of areas with high potential to contain prehistoric and historic archaeological sites.

## SITE

The Western Branch/NHDVS occupies 213.97 acres, reduced from its original size of 640 acres. The major topographical features of the site are two high points joined by a north-south ridge parallel to the Missouri River, gently sloping on the west and more steeply angled on the east. Adjacent hilltops are occupied by the 113.15-acre Leavenworth National Cemetery in the southeast portion of the property.

## SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT

Prior to the founding of the Home, in 1830, the grounds were contained in a Delaware Indian Reservation. The earliest documented occupation, however, was the Stockbridge (Indian) Baptist Mission established in the 1844-1845. The mission included several trails, the Indian settlement, and a mission house which was sited in the approximate location of present-day Building 122, north of Lake Jeannette. Twelve burials, thought to be Indian, were found during construction of Building 122 and were reinterred in the National Cemetery.[1] Records indicate that in the 1860s through the early 1880s, the property that is now the DDE/VAMC was

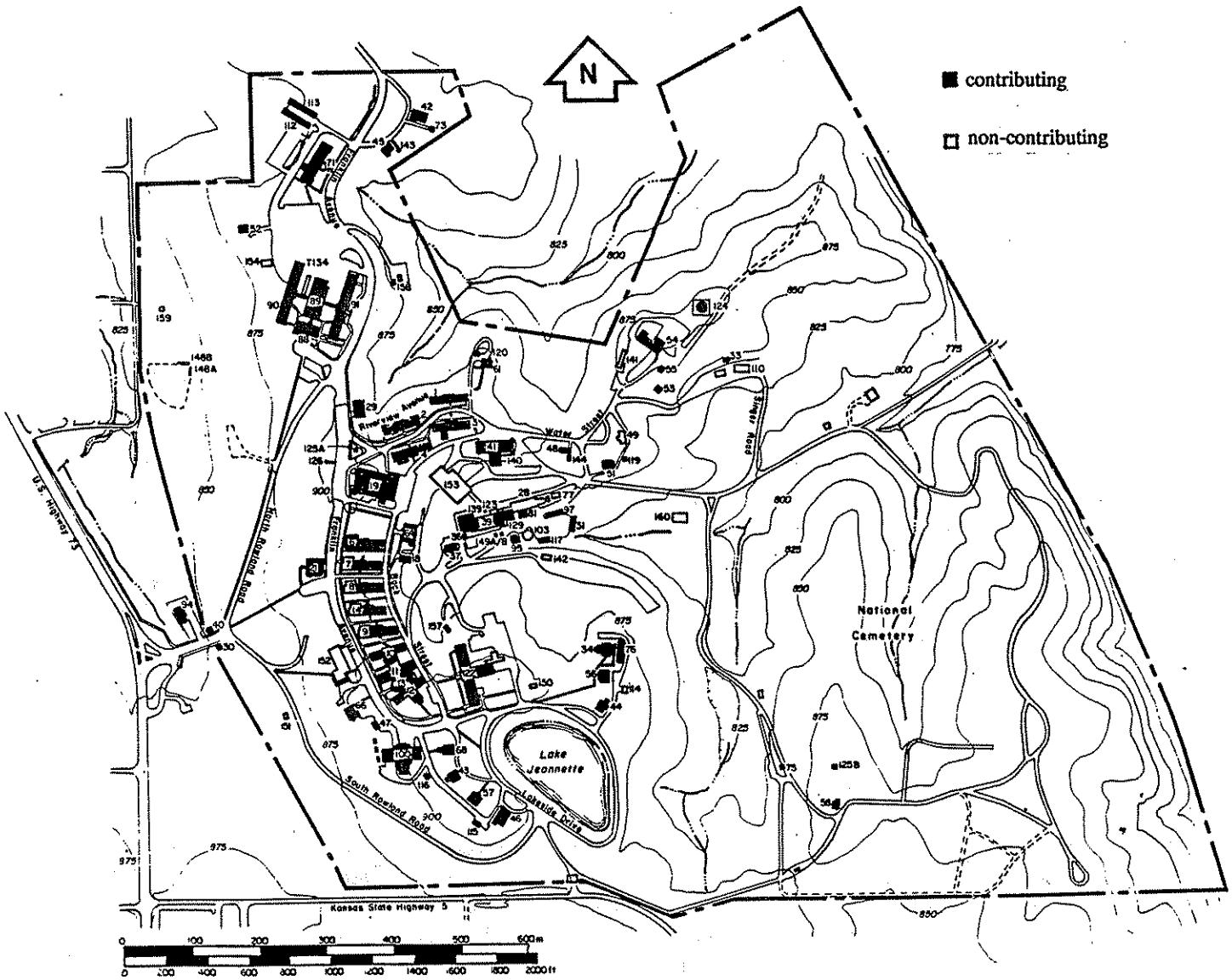
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places
# Continuation Sheet

Property name Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, Leavenworth Co., Kansas

Section number _____ 

DWIGHT D EISENHOWER VAMC



held in absentee ownership and was not improved.[2]

A contract for construction of ten brick buildings was awarded to James A. McGonigle, a Leavenworth contractor, on May 16, 1885. Work began immediately, and 17 buildings had been completed by 1886, of which 13 were identical barracks.[3] Early views show that the site was mostly open lawn dotted with trees as it is today. Construction continued through the 1880s and 1890s, forming a complex of approximately 35 buildings by 1900. Most early buildings were constructed of local limestone, brick, and terra cotta tile manufactured on the property. The Cemetery was also laid out during this period with curving roads, trees, and sweeping views of the Missouri River. The first burial occurred in 1886.

At the turn of the century, a report to the Board of Managers described the Home.

> Its general appearance from the railway station... is in every way worthy of a national institution and of the beneficent purpose it represents. For a half mile along the elevated plateau stands an imposing array of dormitory buildings of pleasing architecture, enlivened with rifts of climbing ivy and surrounded with lawns and shrubbery. The most notable object in view to the right, is the grey stone chapel, with bold and picturesque skylines, perched on the brink of its slope.... To balance this attractive feature, there is reared to the left, on the northern flank, a grand and lofty music stand of oriental splendor... Beyond the hospital and "Old Men's Buildings" at the southern end, a deep artificial lake with a fountain in the center and surrounded with grassy banks, refreshes the eyes of invalids who frequent the hospital porches.[4] (Board of Managers Report 1895)

Nearly all the historic buildings within the DDE/VAMC were standing at this time, and construction was considered to be essentially complete. The tree-dotted lawns and curving roads of the landscape appeared basically as they do today, but were scattered with popular Victorian era elements such as bandstands, fountains, a topiary globe, and flower beds. Sixty cannon acquired from military surplus lined Franklin Avenue. Funding for construction was provided by the federal government, with the exception of several buildings (Ward Memorial and Chapel) and ornamental grounds furnishings (lake, bandstands, fountains). A large portion of the outlying lands were dedicated to agriculture, including crop production and animal grazing.

Oil lamps, which proved unsatisfactory, originally illuminated the grounds, and in 1893, electric arc lights were introduced. The buildings were heated by steam and lighted by gas.

By 1900, the physical growth of the Home had stabilized, although several new buildings were erected in the first two decades of the twentieth century. In 1930, the WB/NHDVS was incorporated into the newly created Veterans Administration system. Little new construction occurred for several decades. However, the few buildings that were built between 1931 and 1939 constituted a major building campaign for a new main

hospital complex, a large barracks building, and a large nurses' quarters building. This period also witnessed reconfiguration of the entrance road to its present form.

A report on the lands and buildings in 1946 noted that the property contained 100 buildings and 725 acres: 240 acres of lawn surrounding buildings; 125 acres of open lawn (no buildings); 439 acres of cultivated, pasture, and miscellaneous land; and 46 acres in the cemetery. There were approximately three miles of paved or improved roads and approximately nine miles of gravel, cinder, or dirt roads.[5]

**PLAN**

The original site plan, including circulation patterns, location of buildings, and most likely some plantings, is thought to have been the design of landscape architect H.W.S. Cleveland. No plans are known to exist, but the project is mentioned in Cleveland's correspondence.[6] Still clearly evident (see 1897 Bird's-Eye View), the design incorporates the natural north-south ridge as the long spine of a roughly C-shape layout of roads and buildings. Franklin Avenue (originally called Front Street) and a secondary road, Back Street, follow the ridge. At the south end, Franklin curves southeast and intersects Lakeside Drive, which encircles Lake Jeannette. The lake was formed from a clay quarry used in manufacturing brick and terra cotta tile for construction of early buildings and road paving. At the northern end of the "C", Riverview Avenue intersects Franklin Avenue and curves northeast. Franklin Avenue continues north to the property boundary. The main entrance road originally ran from the west gate to the center of the C, intersecting Franklin Avenue approximately between Buildings 9 and 10. A fragment of this road is still visible near the West Gate. In the 1930s, it was altered to its current configuration. The approach road now divides just inside the gate into a north and a south alignment (North Rowland Road and South Rowland Road) which follow a gentle upward slope to join Franklin Road on the north and Lakeside Drive on the south.

The arrangement of buildings reflects clearly the original planning concept and changes as the mission of the Home and hospital planning theory changed in the twentieth century. Eight (originally nine) identical brick Georgian Colonial Revival style Domiciliary buildings (Buildings 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14; all 1885) are aligned along the ridge spine between Franklin Avenue and Back Street. The domiciliaries are oriented east-west, perpendicular to the ridge, making maximum use of the linear site and taking advantage of breezes and vistas. Domiciliaries Buildings 1, 2, 3, and 4; all 1885, are grouped along both sides of Riverview Street on the northeast curve of the "C". They were originally referred to as barracks.

Originally, the mess hall, recreation hall, administration building, and the Home director's quarters were the functions assigned to the area at the north end of the domiciliary group. These buildings and functions remain, but administration moved to a newly constructed building west of Franklin Avenue across from the domiciliaries in 1903 (Building 21), and the construction of a new main Hospital complex (Buildings 88, 89,

90, 91) in 1931-33 brought a new function to this area, previously located at the south end of the complex. Two residential buildings (Buildings 42, 1887 and Building 45, 1901) were relocated further north to their present site at that time. The area at the southern end of the domiciliary group around Lake Jeannette contained the main hospital, hospital staff residences, and the largest barracks. A Chapel was added in 1893, and Hospital functions were relocated in 1933.

Service functions and other residential structures for supply and maintenance staff are located east of the "C", as they were originally. Many service buildings are sited in a low hollow basin so as to not interfere with views from the ridge towards the river and to not compete visually with the main buildings.

**BUILDINGS**

James A. McGonigle was responsible for the initial construction at the Home.[7] No information has come to light regarding the identity of the architect. The historic buildings at DDE/VAMC are constructed mostly of brick trimmed with limestone (both smooth and quarry-face), sandstone, terra cotta tile, and concrete. Quarry-faced limestone block, high foundations with raised mortar joints are typical of the early brick buildings. Stone was reserved for rustic buildings and for selected key service buildings: the Boiler Plant (Building 39, 1896), the Stable (ca. 1895, demolished), the West Gate Guard House and Shelter (Buildings 40 and 30, both 1910), and the Cemetery Shelter (Building 58, 1921). Wood-frame construction was used from the 1890s onward, but was restricted to residential, garage, and service/maintenance buildings.

Buildings are generally one- and two-stories in height with a few exceptions. The tallest early buildings are the original three-story Hospital (1886, demolished) and the General Mess and Kitchen (Building 19, 1886). Domiciliary Services, former Barracks (Building 100, 1904) and N. P. Hospital, former Barracks (Building 122, 1939) are also three stories, while the main Hospital complex (Buildings 88, 89, 90, 91; 1931-1933) is four to six stories.

The most common roof forms are gable and hip, with one mansard roof (rear wing of Building 18; 1897). Flat roofs appear within the main Hospital complex, but otherwise exist mostly on buildings less than 50 years old (noncontributing). Original roof sheathing appears to have been either standing seam metal or slate, although tile was used on some stone buildings. The buildings are well-designed and finely crafted. For the most part, they are well maintained.

Stylistically, the buildings fall into several groups. The oldest domiciliary buildings (Buildings 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14), along with the original hospital that no longer exists, set a tone of military-like austerity in the mid-1880s. These buildings exhibit a restrained Georgian Colonial Revival style executed as multi-story structures with central blocks and flanking wings fronted with wood porches and capped with hip

roofs. This form is repeated in the Domiciliary Services, former Barracks (Building 100, 1904). The T-plan Supply Storehouse (Building 41, 1899; 1908) is a variant with a gable roof and no central block. The latest examples in this group are the Nurses' Quarters (Building 71, 1932/33) and the N. P. Hospital, former Barracks (Building 122, 1939), both academic Georgian Colonial Revival brick buildings with a gable roof and gabled pavilions.

The residential quarters buildings of the 1880s built for Home and hospital administrators (Buildings 42, 43, 44, 51, and 53; all 1887) and one duplex (Building 46, 1889) are well within the stylistic range of civilian Queen Anne style houses of the late nineteenth century with complex massing and roofs, use of mixed masonry and wood materials, and decorated, textural surface treatments. Houses built in the subsequent decades continue to follow mainstream trends, exhibiting a leaning towards simplification of form and decoration and the introduction of Colonial Revival design elements (Buildings 47, 1906; 48, 1908; 52, 1892; 61, 1900). The same applies to duplex buildings (Buildings 34, 1898; 56, 1915/16; 57,1921; and 68, 1922) and a four-unit nurses quarters building (76, 1921).

The third group is composed of ten major and prominent buildings and one complex of four buildings with unique designs and functions at the Home. Four were built in the 1880s and 1890s, and five buildings and one complex date from between 1900 and 1933.

(1) The earliest is Franklin Hall, General Mess and Kitchen (Building 19; 1886), a Romanesque Revival style brick building with two large, square, corner stair towers, tall narrow windows, and a two story iron porch, now covered over. (2) The original administration building and library, Ward Memorial Building containing the Hancock Library (Building 29, 1888) is an eclectic Queen Anne style structure of brick and stone with a turreted corner tower. The building is currently threatened by structural wind and water damage and over 10 years of vacancy. These two buildings form an important visual focus, flanking the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Riverview Avenue. (3) The third major non-hospital building constructed at the Home is the Chapel (Building 66; 1893), an imposing and eclectic Late Gothic Revival style building designed by noted Kansas City architect Louis Curtiss and highly unusual in incorporating both a Catholic and a Protestant chapel on two levels.[8] Sited on the west side of Franklin Avenue opposite the domiciliaries, the Chapel was the first building to interrupt vistas to the east. (4) Located southeast of Building 19 and sited on a terrace below Back Street, the "Dugout" Recreation Hall (Building 64; 1898) combines Gothic and Romanesque Revival style elements in a building approached by an arched bridge to the second level.

By the turn of the century, administrative requirements had outgrown Building 29 and a new facility was built on the west side of Franklin Avenue. (5) The Administration Building (Building 21, 1902/1903) incorporates classically-inspired design elements, but returns to the severity of the early buildings. (6&7) The West Gate Guard House (Building 40, 1910) and Shelter (Building 30, 1910) with flanking wing walls provide a new formal main entrance designed in a simplified rustic Renaissance Revival style and executed in stone with tile

roofs. (8) The former A.T. and S.F. Railroad station, now Police Station (Building 94, 1916), located just outside the main entrance incorporates Queen Anne elements under a broad tiled roof. (9) A rustic Renaissance Revival Cemetery Shelter (Building 58, 1921) is similar to the West Gate buildings in form, scale, and materials and features a stone porch on two sides. (10) A major new construction program instituted by the Veterans Administration when it took over the Home in 1930 resulted in the addition of a massive new main hospital complex. The Hospital (Buildings 88, 89, 90, 91; 1931-1933) is a block of four- to six-story, classically detailed brick buildings with wide overhanging cornices and a half-round columned entrance portico. They introduce a monumental scale not previously present at the Home and occupy a site originally intended for administrative residential purposes.

Historic service and maintenance buildings fall into three groups. The first consists of two large masonry buildings with coarse ornamentation, the Boiler Plant (Building 39, 1896) and the Fire Station and Garage (Building 54, 1927/1928). The second is the simple, unadorned utilitarian buildings of brick and wood, which constitute the majority of the shops, service, and storage buildings. The third is garages designed to hold from one to 15 cars, built in the 1930s. They are similar to civilian residential garages of the period, and in their expanded form, to garages constructed on military bases at that time.

Alterations to historic buildings have resulted from changes in use (i.e. barracks/domiciliaries converted to brief use as N.P. Hospital in 1944-1945), in a few cases from additions, and from window replacements. The construction of concrete handicap ramps at several buildings, most notably Building 29 and Building 66, in the 1980s introduced unsympathetic elements to the original facade. In no instance, however, has a building been altered beyond recognition, nor has its overall integrity been compromised.

Five buildings constructed in the 1880s and 1890s that no longer stand deserve mention. Domiciliary Building 5, 1886, was identical to the other buildings in this group and stood between Buildings 6 and 19 prior to its destruction by fire in the 1950s. The original main hospital (1885-1886) was designed as an expanded version of the domiciliaries and occupied the present site of Building 122 of 1939. A second building at the Home designed by Louis Curtiss was a large brick domiciliary under a massive sloping roof. It stood south of Building 12 and west of the original hospital. It was replaced by the large Domiciliary Building 100, 1904, constructed across Franklin Avenue. The Stable of ca. 1895 stood in the east part of the Home. It was a Queen Anne style building with sloping Tudor gables, Romanesque arched entrances and textured brick and stone walls. A two-story, brick Romanesque Revival Hotel and Theater building with drip molding cornice and round corner tower was constructed in 1900. The Hotel closed in 1946, and the building was demolished in 1959 and replaced with the present Theater and Library (Building 152, 1960). All the agricultural buildings (approximately six), with the exception of Building 33, a former Milk House, have been removed.

New construction since 1943 includes one ranch house (Building 49, 1955), the Theater and Library (Building

152, 1960), a Laundry (Building 153, 1978), a Maintenance Building (Building 160, ca. 1980), a Cemetery Office (No Number, 1992), mechanical structures, and small sheds.

## STRUCTURES AND OBJECTS

A variety of decorative and utilitarian structures and objects have historically been scattered around the property. Two structures of note are the small wood-frame Fire Hose Storage structure used between 1890 and 1940 and presently located on the east side of Franklin Avenue near Buildings 19 and 6, and the large steel Water Tank (Building 124; 1940) located in the northeast corner of the property. In the nineteenth century, numerous landscape elements were added, several of which remain today. These include cast iron benches with a fern motif manufactured in Leavenworth, concrete garden benches, and concrete urns and birdbaths. Presently located at the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Riverview Avenue is a large limestone monolithic Monument (Building 125A, 1936). It originally stood outside the West Gate. It was given by a former member, John Joy, as part of a bequest including the classically-inspired limestone Speaker's Stand (Building 125B, 1936) in the Cemetery. A single cannon remains from the group of 60 that lined Franklin Avenue. Manufactured in Spain in 1856, it was captured by Admiral Dewey at San Felipe near Manila. Adjacent to the cannon are other recent monuments and a steel flagpole (Building 126, ca. 1960) that replaced an earlier wood pole on the same site.

Among the structures that once graced the landscape and no longer stand were three bandstands. A small stand erected in 1887 in front of Building 19 was replaced in 1892 by a larger ornate domed structure. It was dismantled and burned in 1964 due to its deteriorated condition. An oriental influenced bandstand with an onion dome roof stood in Lake Jeannette from 1890 until it too was torn down in 1934. Two fountains/ponds also existed opposite Building 19, one of which was given by the Anheuser-Busch Company of St. Louis, Missouri in 1892. The company supplied beer to the beer hall in the recreation building (Building 64).

None of the floral planting beds survive, nor do the two greenhouses built in 1890-1895, or a large floral globe topiary, constructed of chicken wire and plants at the turn of the century. The globe stood at the intersection of Franklin and Riverview Avenues.

## LANDSCAPE

The key characteristics of the historic landscape of the Home likely designed by H.W.S. Cleveland were the open expanses of lawn scattered with trees, the broad arcs of the circulation roads, which like the placement of the buildings, responded to the undulating natural topography, and the viewsheds. Important viewsheds were established during the initial construction from the ridge (Franklin Avenue), with unobstructed vistas to

the west and east. Roads were paved with the brick and edged with hollow terra cotta curbs designed to accommodate conduits. Sections of original paving and curbing remain around Lake Jeannette and at the intersection of North and South Rowland Roads near the West Gate. The clay quarry pit used to make the brick and tile was transformed into Lake Jeannette (approximately 4 acres), an important landscape amenity, by the early 1890s.

## LEAVENWORTH NATIONAL CEMETERY

The design of the approximately 113-acre Cemetery was likely created by landscape architect H.W.S. Cleveland.[9] It follows the park-like cemetery layout popular in the late nineteenth century. The roads sweep up the hill past the Cemetery Shelter House (Building 58; 1921) and the Speaker's Stand (Building 125B, 1936) to a limestone obelisk monument at the crest of the hill. The spacious burial lawns are laid out with regular rows of similar white gravestones and planted with scattered trees. Approximately 50 acres of ridge and side slopes are developed; the remainder, comprising ravines and an east-west ridge, are undeveloped.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The first archaeological survey of DDE/VAMC was conducted in 1990.[10] The survey identified 17 sites, primarily dump/discard sites, associated with the National Home or the Veterans Administration occupation. Five sites were recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register (14Lv136, -143, -145, -149, -150). The remains of the mid-nineteenth century Stockbridge Indian settlement and mission were not located, and are presumed to have been impacted by the construction of Building 122 in 1939. This area, along with others adjacent to the Home buildings are considered to have high potential to contain buried archaeological resources.

[CONTINUED]

## DDE/VAMC LEAVENWORTH BUILDING INVENTORY

**Number, Building, Date, Contributing unless noted as NC (noncontributing)**

**1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, Domiciliary Buildings, 1886 (James A. McGonigle, builder)**
These long, narrow domiciliary buildings are the 12 (originally 13) similar red brick (6-course common bond), Georgian Revival style buildings constructed between 1885 and 1886 to house members of the Home. Building 5 was destroyed by fire in the 1950s. All face south, except Buildings 3 and 4, which face north. Buildings 1, 2, 3, and 4 are clustered along Riverview Avenue. The remainder are set in a line perpendicular to the east side of Franklin Avenue. This building type consists of a 3-story, 3-bay, hip-roof central pavilion block with identical flanking and slightly set back 2-story, 7-bay, hip-roof wings. Two-story wood porches within the hip roof and set on square posts cover the front and the ends of the wings (all but Buildings 1 and 2 are altered). The foundation and water table are of rough quarry-faced native limestone, and a smooth limestone stringcourse delineates each level of the center block. First and second story windows (center block) and first story windows (wings) are set in triple header course, segmental-arch openings. The third floor of the center section and the second story of the wings have flat-head limestone lintels. All sills are of limestone. The original windows of the main block and wings are 4/4 and 4/2 wood sash. In some cases, 6-light aluminum sash has replaced the original. The main entrance, in the center bay of the main block, has a round arch opening of four courses of header brick springing from a stringcourse. A similar, smaller entrance is located on the rear of the center block. Low gabled and clapboarded dormers are located in the roof of the center block and wings, and a brick chimney (rebuilt or replaced) rises from the center block.

The major structural alterations occurred ca. 1944. Red brick (7-course common bond), 2-story, 1 x 2-bay, flat roof, enclosed fire stair additions with flat-head 4/4, 6/6, or 9/9 wood sash windows, were added to the rear (Buildings 1 and 2) and the ends (all others). The end additions eliminated the end porch sections. At the same time, 3 x 4-bay or 2 x 4-bay, 1-story, flat-roof common room additions with segmental arch 4/2 wood sash windows were added to the rear of Buildings 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 14. Buildings 10, 11, and were connected by a series of 2-story brick connectors with open brick-pier porches (ca. 1944), and by Building 13, originally a dining hall (1908). In all cases, the original entrance (south elevation) has been replaced with a plate glass and aluminum door and sidelights, the arch tympanum has been filled in, a fire escape added (except Building 6), and the rear center block entrance altered (ca. 1971). Building 7 has a concrete and steel handicap and equipment ramp and blocked-in first floor windows on the west sing, south side.

Buildings 1 and 2, which retain intact porches, and Buildings 6 and 8, which retain all wood window sash, are the best preserved overall. The ca. 1944 additions reflect shifts in safety and care standards and possess design and materials compatible with the original 1886 construction. They will meet the National Register 50 years of age requirement in 1994, are considered to have acquired significance in their own right. The 1970s changes are unsympathetic, but do not compromise the integrity of the domiciliaries as a group.

**13, Domiciliary Building/Dining, 1908**
The Mental Health Clinic, former Dining Room, Building 13, is connected to Building 11 (north) and Building 12 (south) by small brick wings. It is a 1-story, brick, semi-octagonal structure with a hip roof and a wood porch on the west side. The entrance, under the porch, has a segmental arch opening with replacement glass and aluminum door. The windows have segmental arch openings, limestone sills, and 4/2 wood sash. The rear (east) of Building 13 has a square section with a hip roof and monitor and a later, small, brick, windowless addition.

**18, Research, former Guard House, 1897 (James A. McGonigle, builder?)**
Research, Building 18, is a T-plan brick building now painted white. It has a 3 x 2 bay main block with segmental arch windows, a center entrance on the north side (altered with brick infill and metal doors), and a pyramidal hip roof. The rear ell, sited downslope, is 4 x 2 bays capped by a mansard roof with shed roof dormers.

**19, General Mess and Kitchen, 1886 (James A. McGonigle, builder)**
Also known as Franklin Hall, General Mess and Kitchen, Building 19, is tall, 2-story, red brick, Romanesque Revival building with a main hip-roof block, square hip-roof stair towers at each corner and a rear gambrel-roof extension. A 2-story porch within the main roof slope, constructed of iron pipe and once decorated with a large eagle motif, extends across the front, and has been enclosed with fiberglass panels. With the exception of this change and an unfortunate aggressive sandblasting cleaning in the 1980s, which required repair work, the building is essentially unchanged. It rises from a quarry-face limestone foundation and sandstone sill cap to the hip roof with overhang and hip and shed roof dormers. The main block walls are buttress pier construction with paired windows set in segmental arches in each bay. At the second level, tall windows intersect the roof cornice line forming dormers in the roof slope. These are 8/8 wood sash section topped with four 9-light hinged sections. The towers have narrow brick pier construction with attenuated round-arch windows arranged to reflect the incline of the interior stairs. A decorative finial caps the largest, northwest corner tower. Other ornamentation includes limestone stringcourses, limestone block cornice, and exposed rafters. The rear kitchen extension is more utilitarian in appearance.

**21, Administration Building, 1902/03**
The classically detailed Administration Building was constructed to house functions previously located in Building 29. It is a 2-story, 5 x 5-bay building constructed of hard-fired, red brick with brick corner quoins. The foundation is quarry-block limestone, and the upper floor is contained within a prominent decked and flared hip roof with hip dormers and a wide overhanging cornice of pressed metal with decorative rafters. The facade facing east is composed of five equal bays, with a 3-bay entrance porch on rusticated brick piers and topped with a balustraded flat roof. A large castellated dormer flanked by two smaller hip dormers surmounts the porch. The windows are paired on the front and arranged in groups of one to three on the sides and rear.

**28, Laundry, M.A.T. Workshop, 1888 (James A. McGonigle, builder?)**
The former laundry, now M.A.T. Workshop is a simple utilitarian brick building, 11 x 4 bays, capped by a gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. Three large metal ventilators rise from the roof ridge. The south side has a full exposed limestone basement; the north side is one story. The regular fenestration consists of flat-head windows with limestone sills and 20-light steel sash windows with hoppers at bottom and top. The entrance with transom at western end bay of north side is rebuilt. There is a small, 1-bay, brick, hip roof extension at the east end, connected to a small corrugated metal Quonset hut (added 1947) by a metal shed. The original slate roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles; sections of brick work are reset and repointed around the windows and at the corners.

**29, Ward Memorial, 1888 (James A. McGonigle, builder)**
Built of brick on a base of local limestone and designed in the eclectic Queen Anne style, Building 29 is three stories high, capped with a cross gable roof. The use of rough textured stone trim and scalloped wood shingles in contrast with the smooth brick walls creates a rich visual effect. Grouped round arch windows, string courses, a round corner tower of wood with a conical roof, and a front porch are prominent building features. Another important feature, recently removed, was the large stained glass window depicting Abraham Lincoln that lit the stair at the south end of the building. Portions of the masonry have deteriorated due to a history of settlement and water damage. A concrete handicap ramp was added to the front of the building in the 1980s. The building has been vacant since 1982 and its future is uncertain.

**30, West Gate Lodge Shelter, 1910**
The West Gate Lodge Shelter, Building 30, is a small, square, rustic open air shelter designed as a very simple rendition of the Renaissance Revival style. Its character defining features are the uncoursed limestone ashlar walls, terra cotta covered hip roof, and wide cornice overhang with large paired brackets at each corner, and low segmental arch openings on each side. A tall, square gate post capped with a ball finial (one of a pair) is integral to the northwest corner, and a wing wall extends from southwest corner. These elements create half of the main entrance to DDE/VAMC and are mirrored by Building 40 on the north side of the entrance drive.

**31, Lumber Shed, 1893**
The Lumber Shed, Building 31, is a long, rectangular, 1-story utilitarian building under a gable roof and covered with horizontal lap-board siding. It has three large sliding doors of wood and 8-light windows. The entrance is at the north end, with a paneled and glazed door.

**33, Grounds Office, former Milk House, 1920**
The Grounds Office, Building 33 is a small, vernacular 1-story 4 x 1-bay building, of quarry block limestone (with repointed raised joints) under a large hip roof. It has brick segmental arch windows and door openings, and wood window sills. The main entrance is located on the south side under a prominent gabled hood

intersecting the main roof slope, with novelty lap siding and sawn decoration. A small stone and brick chimney rises on the west end exterior. One window is bricked in on the east end.

**34, Nurses Quarters (Four Apartments), 1898/1921**
The Nurses Quarters, Building 34, is a large brick building with irregular massing and roof. The oldest section of 1898 (east) is 1 1/2-stories with a cross gable roof, gabled dormers with modest Eastlake trim, and segmental arch windows. The larger section added to the east in 1921 is two stories under a hip roof. A prominent 2-story Colonial Revival porch with dentil cornice and modillion blocks dominates the south side.

**36, Storage Shed, 1896**
The Storage Shed, Building 36, is a small 1-story, rectangular plan, brick building with a shed roof. It has four openings on the east side: two segmental arch door openings with replacement solid doors, and two small windows. The south window is now filled with a vent duct. The north side of the building is constructed into a retaining wall.

**37, A/C Building, former Paint Shop, 1897**
The A/C Building, Building 37, is a narrow, tall brick building, 2 x 4 bays, with a hip roof. Segmental arch window openings have tile sills. The main entrance is on the west side, and an open metal roofed shed runs along the north side.

**39, Boiler Plant, 1896**
The Boiler Plant, Building 39, is a complex massing of tall 1-story and 2-story connected building masses aligned roughly west-east. Walls are of uncoursed limestone and the roofs are hipped. Trim includes limestone sills and brick header courses at the segmental arch windows. Many of the original 6/6 double hung wood sash remain. The central section containing the boilers is capped by a hip roof with a clerestory, now covered over. A rock-face limestone string course connects the window sills of the south side. Also on the south side, the original large arched boiler entrances were altered and infilled with brick and fiberglass panels in the 1970s. One central arch, also infilled with brick, remains. The northwest offset section of the building is 7 x 4 bays, capped with a hip roof. The hip roof east section, perpendicular to the boiler house, has a brick string course connecting arched window heads. A small sheet metal shed is attached to the east end. This building is adjacent to Building 139, the Boiler Chimney Stack.

**40, West Gate Guard House, 1910**
West Gate Guard House, Building 40, erected in 1910, is a small, square, rustic guard house designed as a very simple rendition of the Renaissance Revival style. Its character defining features are the uncoursed limestone ashlar walls and chimney, terra cotta covered hip roof, and wide cornice overhang with large paired brackets at each corner. Segmental arch door and window openings have heavy limestone block voissoirs. A tall, square gate post capped with a ball finial (one of a pair) is integral to the southwest corner, and a wing

wall extends from northwest corner. These elements create half of the main entrance to DDE/VAMC and are mirrored by Building 30, an open air shelter, on the south side of the entrance drive.

**41, Supply Warehouse and Office, 1899/1908**
The Supply Warehouse, Building 41, is a Georgian Revival style, T-plan 2 1/2-story building with a basement and sub-basement at the rear (south), capped with a hip roof. The main block is 16 x 4 bays. The 1908 rear addition, perpendicular to the original block, utilizes identical materials and design to the original construction. The walls are pier brick construction with paired windows in each bay and corbelling across the top. Like other buildings of the period, it has a rough faced limestone foundation with raised mortar joints. The segmental arch window openings have triple brick header rows and limestone sills. The original windows in the flathead basement openings are 2/2 wood sash, while the remainder are replacement 10-light steel sash. Several small hip dormers light the attic space. Many openings have also been bricked in. The central entrance on the north side is under a flat wood canopy on steel posts rising from a concrete loading dock. A small 1-story concrete block office stair addition was recently added to the east end of the north side.

**42, Single Quarters (Governor), 1887; moved 1930 (James A. McGonigle, builder?)**
The Governor's Quarters, Building 42, is one of a number of similar Queen Anne style houses constructed in the 1880s. It has a central rectangular mass under a hip roof, articulated by various gabled, hooded, and turreted bays creating an asymmetrical form. A full veranda on sawn posts wraps three sides, with a pediment over the front entrance. Sandstone window sills and water table enliven the lower brick level, while decorative shingles, stickwork, and brackets embellish the clapboard sheathing of the upper stories. Two tall corbelled brick chimneys rise from the roof. The central entrance under the veranda has double leaf panelled doors with glass upper panels. A tall stained glass window marks the staircase on the west side. The 2-story sun porch at rear is probably an addition. The standing seam porch roof was replaced with interlocking metal shingles and a metal roof balustrade was removed before 1960. The porch railing was replaced in 1992. Associated with Garage, Building 73.

**43, Single Quarters (Treasurer), 1887 (James A. McGonigle, builder?)**
The Treasurer's Quarters, Building 43, like its identical twin, Building 44, has a modified T-plan under a hip roof with numerous cross gables, projecting bays, and dormers creating a complex Queen Anne style design. A hip roof porch surrounds the east front and north side. A small service porch is located on the kitchen ell. The off-center entrance under the pedimented section of the front porch has double leaf panelled doors with glass upper panels. The brick first floor has flat head windows with brick, flared lintels and sandstone sills. The wood-frame, clapboarded second floor rises from an apron, and is articulated with a variety of projections and trim, including volutes, corner aprons, nailer boards, bracketed window hoods, scalloped gable shingles, and bracketed eaves. Shed and gabled dormers are located on the roof, and a brick chimney with decorative channelling and corbelling rises against the south exterior wall on the first floor. Some trim

has been removed, but much remains. Associated with Garage, Building 116.

**44, Single Quarters (Surgeon), 1887 (James A. McGonigle, builder?)**
The Surgeon's Quarters, Building 44, like its identical twin Building 43, has a modified T-plan under a hip roof with numerous cross gables, projecting bays, and dormers creating a complex Queen Anne style design. A hip roof porch surrounds the east front and north side. A small service porch is located on the kitchen ell. The off-center entrance under the pedimented section of the front porch has double leaf panelled doors with glass upper panels. The brick first floor has flat head windows with brick, flared lintels and sandstone sills. The wood-frame, clapboarded second floor rises from an apron, and is articulated with a variety of projections and trim, including volutes, corner aprons, nailer boards, bracketed window hoods, scalloped gable shingles, and bracketed eaves. Shed and gabled dormers are located on the roof, and a brick chimney with decorative channelling and corbelling rises against the south exterior wall on the first floor. Associated with Garage, Building 114.

**45, Single Quarters (Quartermaster), 1901; moved 1930**
The Quartermaster's Quarters, Building 45, is distinguished by a symmetrical hip-roof main block with projecting side polygonal window bays. The facade consists of three bays defined by brick pilasters. The overhanging roof cornice with dentils and brackets repeats in the gable pediment above the center bay. A broad porch extends across the front of the building. The central entrance under the porch possesses a round-arch five-panel door, set within a round-arch transom and wide brick molding. Flanking first floor windows are also round arch with wide brick surrounds and limestone sills. The second level facade windows are flathead openings. Flathead, round-arch, and segmental-arch windows are used elsewhere in the building. The entrance porch originally consisted only of the central section, which was screened. Paired windows above the porch have been bricked in and replaced with a smaller window. Associated with Garage, Building 143.

**46, Duplex Quarters, 1889**
Duplex Quarters, Building 46, is a symmetrical cross gable, cross-plan building of brick with frame central extensions and bays. A wood porch extends across the front and along sides; service porches are located at the rear. The twin entrances with sidelights and transoms are in the angles of the front "T". In the brick section, window openings are flathead on the first floor and segmental arch above. The wood-frame section has flathead windows. The dominant feature of the symmetrical gable end facade is an exterior channelled brick chimney at the center which rises up through gable peak. Changes to the building include a rear wood-frame addition, the replacement of the first floor front windows, and the addition of a wood handicap ramp across the front. Associated with Garage, Building 115.

**47, Single Quarters (Chaplain), 1906**
The Chaplain's Quarters, Building 47, is a small Queen Anne/Shingle Style cottage of brick and wood with a

prominent cross gable roof. Varied roof ridge heights, two brick chimneys, a shed dormer, a front polygonal bay, flared eaves lines, and a recessed entrance porch create a complex massing. Windows on the first floor are segmental arch with limestone sills. The second floor has flathead windows and a circular window above the entrance porch. The quarry limestone basement is fully exposed at the rear where a recessed screen porch is tucked into the upper level and a garage (added in 1920) is attached to the north side.

**48, Single Quarters, 1908**
Single Quarters, Building 48, is a simple 2-story block under a hip roof with exposed rafter ends at the overhang. The plain blocky massing is enlivened by the asymmetrical arrangement of windows and by grouped windows on the rear elevation. The off-center entrance, with a replacement door, is located under a simple hip-roof porch on chamfered piers running the length of the facade. Two external brick chimneys with stone caps intersect the roof overhang at each end. The shouldered east chimney is likely original. The west chimney was added. A small enclosed porch protects the rear entrance. Similar to Building 68. Associated with Garage, Building 144.

**49, Single Quarters, 1955, NC**
Single Quarters, Building 49, is a simple 1-story, gable roof ranch with an exposed basement at the rear and wide exposed clapboard sheathing. The windows are horizontal muntin 2/2 sash, grouped on the side elevations. The most prominent feature is the projecting gable center entry porch screened with fiberglass panels. A 1-car basement garage is located on the south end.

**51, Single Quarters, 1886**
Single Quarters, Building 51, is a 2-story, cross gable roofed residential building with an irregular plan. Its most distinguishing features are a broad wrap-around porch (west and north sides) on chamfered posts and decorative gable ends with staggered shingles, brackets, and bargeboards. The main entrance under the porch on the west side has sidelights and transom. A number of exterior doors have been replaced.

**52, Single Quarters, 1892**
Single Quarters, Building 52, is a very simple L-plan house with a front porch set in the angle of the L. It has wide eaves and cornice overhang with no embellishment. The basement is fully exposed on the west side.

**53, Single Quarters, 1886**
Single Quarters, Building 53, is a small, simple, T-plan, gable roofed vernacular building, one story at the front, and two stories at the rear. The foundation brick and concrete are covered by siding. The plain entrance is centered in the 3-bay front under an early 20th century porch with concrete base and four brick and wood post pier supports.

**54, Garage and Fire Station, 1927/28**
The Garage and Fire Station is an 8-bay long, brick pier building with a steel truss gable roof and three rear ells. The limestone block foundation has repointed raised mortar joints, terra cotta coping, and corner blocks. The walls between the eight apparatus bays are stepped out to meet the extra-thick foundation. Windows on the main block and the ell are segmental arch. Those on the main block have concrete sills and double or triple course red and yellow header brick lintels. The building drops down to two stories on the east end. An exterior limestone and concrete stair connects the two levels. The three rear ells have high limestone foundations and random coursed terra cotta tile brick walls. Window surrounds are brick laid in a stepped design, with the exception of one window on the west ell that is round arch with a wide limestone block lintel. Iron rings on the west ell remain from this section's original use as a stable. One ell has two garage doors installed in its north elevation.

**55, Wagon Shed and One-Car Garage, 1900**
The Wagon Shed and One-Car Garage, Building 55, is a simple 3-bay garage with a flank gable roof. The two northern bays have double-leaf hinged doors with angled corners. The building appears to retain much of its original sheathing including interlocking asphalt roof shingles, vertical boards in the gable peaks, and clapboard walls. It is in deteriorated condition.

**56, Duplex Quarters, 1915/16**
Duplex Quarters, Building 56, is a plain residential building rising from a quarry block limestone foundation to a flank gable roof with end returns and wide overhanging cornice and eaves. Openings are arranged symmetrically, reflecting two interior living units. The 4-bay facade faces west with the two entrances in the inner bays under a full porch on narrow piers. A small shed dormer with four 6-light windows is centered in the roof slope, and two small chimneys rise from the ridge. At the rear, 2-story glazed porches occupy the outer corners. The 1/1 window sash may be replacement units, and the porch appears to have been rebuilt. The house shares similarities with Buildings 57 and 68.

**57, Duplex Quarters, 1921**
Duplex Quarters, Building 57, is a simply massed residential building rising from a concrete block foundation to a hip roof with overhanging cornice with exposed rafter ends. Openings are arranged symmetrically, reflecting two interior living units. The 5-bay facade faces east with the two entrances grouped in the central bay under the gable pedimented section of a full porch on paired square posts. Two small vertical windows light the second level above the entrance. At the rear, glazed sun porches occupy the outer corners of the second level, and simple entrances flanked by grouped windows are on the first level. The simply trimmed windows are single and grouped and have a variety of multi-light glazing. The house is nearly identical to Building 68 and shares similarities with Building 56.

**58, Cemetery Rest House, 1921**
The Cemetery Rest House, Building 58, is a small rustic building of random ashlar rough faced limestone and a terra-cotta-sheathed gable roof whose deep overhang creates a porch on the south and east sides. The porch is supported on iron columns and stone piers and extends northward beyond the building to create a small seating area. The windows and door openings are round arch and segmental arch with cast concrete sills, brick lintels, and wood enframements and sash. The covered seating area contains a cast iron water fountain decorated with animals and plants motifs on four sides, surmounted by a statue of woman holding a dove. The plaque reads: "Presented by the members and officers of Western Branch NHDVS May 30, 1921". A smaller plaque indicates the maker: "V.W. Fiske Iron Works, New York. Made in USA."

**61, Single Quarters, 1900**
Single Quarters, Building 61, is a fairly simple, wood-frame, Queen Anne style, asymmetrical building with a central rounded bay and an angled corner tower. It has a hip roof, a broad front porch and grouped and single windows. Associated with Garage, Building 120.

**64, Recreation Hall, 1898**
The "Dugout", Building 64, is a symmetrically massed and eclectic Queen Anne style building, executed in brick painted white, with terra cotta tile and pressed metal trim. The 7 x 3 bay main block is capped with a hip roof, and hipped square towers flank the facade. The main entrance is via an arched brick bridge to the second level. The lower story is Romanesque Revival with an arcaded front and round arch windows. The second level has a full porch under a wide roof overhang and classically derived window trim in metal. Three gable dormers with Gothic Revival fronts rise from the roof slope above the facade. The brick walls are enlivened with pilasters, quoins, and rustication. The rear is simple, and has an enclosed porch over a multi-bay garage. The multi-light windows are wood sash; all doors have been altered.

**66, Chapel, 1893 (Louis Curtiss, architect)**
The Chapel, Building 66, is the most architecturally sophisticated and ornate building at the DDE/VAMC. Designed in the Late Gothic Revival style and constructed of brick trimmed with quarry-faced limestone and sandstone, set on a high limestone basement, the eclectic building rises to a steep gable roof. The main square entrance tower and smaller octagonal stair tower are capped with hip roofs. The interior contains an unusual arrangement, with a Protestant chapel on the upper level and a Catholic chapel on the lower level. Two-story, gothic arched, stain glassed, trefoil windows on the east and west sides depict religious and patriotic scenes and are shared by both chapels. Other prominent features include a monumental recessed arch at the north end, double leaf entrance doors with ornamental strap hinges, gargoyles, crenelation, and textural use of brick and stone, which create a visually striking building. In the 1980s, a concrete handicap entrance ramp was added to the front of the building.

**68, Duplex Quarters, 1922**
Duplex Quarters, Building 68, is a simply massed residential building rising from a concrete block foundation to a hip roof with overhanging cornice with exposed rafter ends. Openings are arranged symmetrically, reflecting two interior living units. The 5-bay facade faces east with the two entrances grouped in the central bay under the gable pedimented section of a full porch on paired square posts. Two small vertical windows light the second level above the entrances. At the rear, glazed sun porches occupy the outer corners of the second level, and simple entrances flanked by grouped windows are on the first level. The simply trimmed windows are single and grouped and have a variety of multi-light glazing. The house is nearly identical to Building 57 and shares similarities with Building 56.

**71, Administration Building, former Nurses Quarters, 1932/33**
The Nurses Quarters, Building 71, is the largest of the staff residential structures built at DDE/VAMC. It is a long rectangular brick building, measuring 19 x 3 bays under a gable roof. It has string courses, small roof dormers, central 3-bay gabled pavilions on each long elevation with entrances and shallow recessed arches, and central gabled 1-bay pavilions at each end, also with shallow arches, and round attic windows. The main entrance, with sidelights and transom, is under a flat-roof porch on paired posts. The porch railing and balustrade are metal. The Palladian-inspired tri-part window in this pavilion and the one on the opposite side of the building have fluting, a blind fan, and basket weave brick. The majority of the windows are 6/6 wood sash with cast stone sills and flat brick lintels. The dormers have round arch windows with tracery sash. Associated with Garages, Buildings 112 and 113.

**73, Single Garage, 1933**
Single Garage, Building 73, is a plain one-car garage with wood lap siding an a gable roof. The original double leaf hinged doors have been replaced with an overhead roll-type door. It is associated with Building 42.

**75, Cemetery Tool House, 1928**
The Cemetery Tool House, Building 75, is a small 2 x 1 bay building with a prominent hip roof, set on a high concrete foundation. There is a small brick exterior chimney and entrance with panelled door on the east side.

**76, Nurses Quarters-Four Apartments, 1921**
The Nurses Quarters, Building 76, is a blocky 3 x 9 bay, wood-frame building containing four apartments under a hip roof. Monumental Ionic-columned porches at either end are surmounted by small hip-roof dormers.

**77, Mason's Shop, 1917/18**
The Mason's Shop, Building 77, is a 5 x 2 bay brick building with a hip asphalt roof and exposed rafter

ends. The brick is hard-fired with rounded edges; trim is concrete. It has segmental arch windows, with concrete sills. The north side is one story; the south side has a fully exposed basement. On the north side, there is one single and one double leaf entrance, with original wood doors with lower panelled sections and six-light upper sections. On the west end, one window is bricked in, as is a circular hole originally used for a steam pipe.

**81, Pipe Shop, former Water Softening Plant, 1938**
The Pipe Shop, Building 81, is 3 x 2 bays in size with brick walls, concrete trim, and gable roof. It is a utilitarian structure with a garage door opening on the north side and half-round vent openings in each gable peak.

**88, Administration and Clinical Hospital Building, 1931/32**
Building 88 is the south-central and administrative/clinical building of the four 4-, 5- and 6-story, red brick, Classical Revival structures comprising the main hospital complex. The complex plan consists of three parallel buildings (89, 90, 91) connected by 4-story (originally 3-story) arcaded passages. Building 88 is attached at its rear to the central building (Building 89). It is 5-stories tall and measures 13 x 5 bays with a half-round classical limestone entrance portico with Ionic columns, dentil cornice, and a balustrade occupying the central three bays of the long (south) elevation. A corner stone reads " ERECTED A.D. 1931 BY THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION". Like Buildings 90 and 91, it has a rusticated first floor; limestone foundation, sillcap, string courses, and window sills; and a wide classical cornice. The flat-head windows have 1/1 replacement sash.

**89, Hospital Building, 1933**
Building 89 is the central building of the four 4-, 5- and 6-story, red brick, Classical Revival structures comprising the main hospital complex. The complex plan consists of three parallel buildings (89, 90, 91) connected by 4-story (originally 3-story) arcaded passages and an attached administrative/clinical building. Building 89 is attached at its center to Buildings 90 and 91, and at its south end to Building 88, and at the rear to several smaller structures. It is 4-stories tall (2-stories at the north, rear, end) and measures approximately 15 x 4 bays. The most simply detailed building of the group, it has a limestone string course and window sills, and a plain cornice. The flat-head windows have 1/1 replacement sash.

The east and west passages are identical. The original first and second floors have a 5-bay arcaded section composed of recessed panels containing paired flat-head windows with 6/6 wood sash and a limestone string course on the lower level and round-arch (with limestone keystone) multi-light windows on the upper level. These levels are unaltered, with original sash, patterned brickwork on the piers, and a limestone cornice with small cartouches. A flat-roof, steel, glass, and fiberglass panel addition was made in the 1970s, covering the third level and adding a fourth level.

**90, Hospital Building, 1933**
Building 90 is the western building of the four 4-, 5- and 6-story, red brick, Classical Revival structures comprising the main hospital complex. The complex plan consists of three parallel buildings (89, 90, 91) connected by 4-story (originally 3-story) arcaded passages. Building 90 is attached at its east side center to the central building (Building 89). Identical to Building 91, it is 6-stories tall and measures approximately 33 x 3 bays. Like Buildings 88 and 91, it has a rusticated first floor; limestone foundation, sillcap, string courses, and window sills; and a wide classical cornice. The flat-head windows have 1/1 replacement sash.

**91, Hospital Building, 1933**
Building 91 is the eastern building of the four 4-, 5- and 6-story, red brick, Classical Revival structures comprising the main hospital complex. The complex plan consists of three parallel buildings (89, 90, 91) connected by 4-story (originally 3-story) arcaded passages. Building 91 is attached at its west side center to the central building (Building 89). Identical to Building 90, it is 6-stories tall and measures approximately 33 x 3 bays. Like Buildings 88 and 91, it has a rusticated first floor; limestone foundation, sillcap, string courses, and window sills; and a wide classical cornice. The flat-head windows have 1/1 replacement sash. The emergency room entrance is located at the center of the east elevation on Franklin Avenue.

**94, Police Station, former A.T. and S.F. Railroad Station, 1916**
The Police Station and Information Center, Building 94, is a one-story brick building with a cruciform plan. Its most distinctive feature is its tile covered broad hip roof with wide overhangs, exposed rafter ends, and large brackets.

**95, Paint Spray Shop, former Blacksmith Shop, 1905**
The Paint Spray Shop, Building 95, is a 3 x 4-bay structure of brick pier construction, with a gable on hip roof. There is brick corbelling at the top of the recessed panels containing segmental arched windows in each bay. A 1 x 4-bay wooden shed addition is attached to the east side, and a concrete block, freestanding structure with ventilators and ducting (fan house?) is on the west side.

**97, Carpenter Shop, 1904**
The Carpenter Shop, Building 97, is a 10 x 3-bay building of brick pier construction, capped by a hip roof. Brick corbelling extends along the top of the bays between the piers above segmental-arch windows.

**100, Domiciliary Services, former Barracks, 1904**
Domiciliary Services, Building 100, built in 1904 is a 2-story, Georgian Colonial Revival T-plan building capped with a hip roof and wood cupola and nearly encircled by a 2-story wood porch. The entrance is centered in a projecting pavilion within the porch.

**103, Fuel Oil Storage Tank, ca. 1950, NC**
The Fuel Oil Storage Tank, Building 103, is a cylindrical steel tank.

**110, Storage Building (Grounds), ca. 1990, NC**
The Storage Building, Building 110, is a large gable roofed prefabricated "Astro" structure with 10 garage bays and an office section at the west end. A similar smaller structure, Building (no number) is sited to the west.

**(No number), Storage Building, ca. 1990, NC**
This Storage Building is a 3-bay gable roofed prefabricated "Astro" structure with an open south side. A similar larger structure, Building 110 is sited to the west.

**112, 15-Car Garage, 1936**
The 15-Car Garage, Building 112, is a long hip roofed garage with car bays on the north side and storage area on the south side, lower level. The doors are wood-paneled, overhead roll-type. It is similar to Building 113.

**113, 15-Car Garage, 1936**
The 15-Car Garage, Building 113, is a long hip roofed garage with car bays on the south side and crawl space on the north side. The doors are wood-paneled, overhead roll-type. It is similar to Building 112.

**114, Three-Car Garage, 1936**
The 3-Car Garage, Building 114, is a utilitarian 3-bay brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type doors. It is associated with quarters Building 44.

**115, Four-Car Garage, 1936**
The 4-Car Garage, Building 115, is a utilitarian 4-bay brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type doors. It is associated with quarters Buildings 46 and 57.

**116, Three-Car Garage, 1936**
The 3-Car Garage, Building 116, is a utilitarian 3-bay brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type doors. It is associated with quarters Buildings 43 and 68.

**117, Animal House, 1936/37**
The Animal House, Building 117, is a small utilitarian gable roofed building measuring 3 x 2 bays. A corrugated metal shed is attached to the east end.

**119, Single Garage, 1928**
The 1-Car Garage, Building 119, is a small utilitarian wood-frame garage with a gable roof and an overhead roll-type door. It is associated with quarters Building 51.

**120, Single Garage, 1928**
The 1-Car Garage, Building 120, is a small utilitarian brick garage with a hip roof and an overhead roll-type door. It is associated with quarters Building 61.

**122, N.P. Hospital, former Barracks, 1939**
The N.P. Hospital, Building 122, is a large T-plan Georgian Colonial Revival building with red brick walls, limestone and cast concrete trim, and a gable roof. The main block is 29 x 3 bays. The facade faces west with three projecting gabled pavilions. The central 5-bay pavilion contains the main entrance, while the flanking 3-bay pavilions contain secondary entrances. Other character defining features include string courses, a regular arrangement of flat-head window openings, rusticated corners on the top floor, and roundels in the gable ends and pavilions. The entrance pavilion has round arch windows on the first floor, a round arch door with a blind fan, and a blind arch arcade with flat head windows above the entrance. The building retains its significant features, despite extensive remodelling in 1992.

**123, Incinerator, 1937/38**
The Incinerator, Building 123, is a small brick utilitarian building measuring 2 x 3 bays, set on a high concrete foundation, and capped by a hip roof with a small ventilator. The north elevation has a central overhead rolling metal door at a loading bay. The east side contains an entrance with double leaf, wood paneled doors with 9-light windows.

**124, Steel Water Tank, 1940**
The Water Tank, Building 124, is a cylindrical steel tank on four tapered steel supports.

**125A, Monument (Franklin Avenue), 1936; moved 1986**
The Monument, Building 125A, is a Modernistic limestone slab set on a new granite base. It is inscribed: "The Glory of Their Deeds Lives, Erected AD 1935, Erected by the generous and thoughtful bequest of John Joy, who lived his last days here".

**125B, Speaker's Stand (Cemetery), 1936**
The Speaker's Stand, Building 125B, is a U-shaped limestone Classical Revival monument, with fluted piers and an entablature with triglyph-and-metope and modillion ornament. A speaker's podium is located at the center.

**126, Flagpole, ca. 1960, NC**
The Flag Pole, Building 126, is steel pole capped with a ball finial and set in a concrete pad footing.

**129, Engineering Work Order Office, former Tin Shop, 1928**
The Engineering Work Order Office, former Tin Shop, Building 129, is a utilitarian one-story wood and sheet metal building with a gable roof. Its is attached at its west end to Building 39 (Boiler Plant) and is built against an embankment on its north side. The exposed south side contains banks of 15-light windows, a wood garage roll-type door, and a shiplap sided office section with a glazed and paneled door at the west end. The remainder of the building is sheathed in panel-stamped metal.

**T-134, S.P.D. Storage Room, 1946/47, NC**
The S.P.D. Storage Room (former Locker Room, Building T-13), was erected as a temporary building. It is a utilitarian, long Quonset Hut of concrete and corrugated steel sheathing on the curved roof. A single flush wood door is located at the north end.

**139, Boiler Chimney Stack, 1932**
The Boiler Chimney Stack, Building 139, adjacent to the Boiler Plant, Building 39, is a tall cylindrical stack of fireproof red tile brick. It tapers as it rises and has a slight flare at the top.

**140, Storage Shed, 1948, NC**
The Storage Shed, Building 140, is a utilitarian corrugated metal shed rising from a concrete foundation to a low pitched gable roof. A small louver ventilator is in the gable ends. There are no windows, and the entrance is on the south side.

**141, Garage, 1948, NC**
The Car Storage Garage, Building 141, was erected in 1948 and later extended two bays to the south. It is an 8-bay shed structure open on the east side, with a flat shed roof. The 6-bay north section is the original section with steel frame, brick footing, and corrugated metal roof and sides. The later 2-bay south section has concrete footing, shed roof, steel and wood framing, and corrugated metal walls.

**142, Storage Building, ca. 1950, NC**
The Storage Shed, Building 142, is a small brick building with a gable roof and with concrete block in the gable peaks. There are no windows, and the entrance is on the east side.

**143, Garage, ca. 1940**
The One-Car Garage, Building 143, is a small brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type door. There is a window in each side wall and a pedestrian paneled and glazed door. The garage is associated with the Quartermaster's Quarters, Building 45.

**144, Garage, ca. 1940**
The One-Car Garage, Building 144, is a small brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type door. There is a window in each side wall and a pedestrian paneled and glazed door. The garage is associated with Single Quarters, Building 48.

**148A, East Bleachers, 1957, NC**
The East Bleachers, Building 148A, is a steel pipe and wood seat structure, identical to the West Bleachers, Building 148B.

**148B, West Bleachers, 1957, NC**
The West Bleachers, Building 148B, is a steel pipe and wood seat structure, identical to the East Bleachers, Building 148A.

**149A, Gas Meter House, 1929**
The Gas Meter House, Building 149A, is one of a pair of identical structures. Set on concrete pads with gable roofs and corrugated metal sheathing (over wood frame construction), the small shed buildings have a single door in the north wall.

**149B, Gas Meter House, 1929**
The Gas Meter House, Building 149B, is one of a pair of identical structures. Set on concrete pads with gable roofs and corrugated metal sheathing over wood frame construction, the small shed buildings have a single door in the north wall.

**150, Shelter House/Chiller Tower, 1959, NC**
The Shelter, Building 150, is a concrete open air shelter with an enclosed toilets structure on west end.

**151, Shelter, 1959, NC**
The Shelter, Building 151, is an open air shelter on steel posts with a flat roof and a cylindrical dressing room structure at the center.

**152, Theater and Library Building, 1960/62, NC**
The Theater and Library, Building 152, is a red brick building composed as a series of box-like masses of different shapes and heights, articulated with panelled brick work. A metal canopy on angled posts marks the entrance at the southeast corner.

**153, Laundry, 1978, NC**
The Laundry, Building 153, is a 2-story brick building with a flat roof. Entrance, offices, and loading bays are on the east side.

**154, Water Meter Building, ca. 1970, NC**
The Water Meter Building, Building 154, is a utilitarian box-like brick structure with a flat roof. There are no windows, and the two metal door are located on the south side.

**156, Dog Pen, ca. 1950, NC**
The Dog Pen, Building 156, is a 3 x 5-bay structure sheathed in corrugated metal siding, with a gable roof.

**157, Cooling Tower, 1976, NC**
The Cooling Tower Enclosure and Building, Building 157, is a concrete, flat-roof building and metal-sheathed cooling tower for Building 122.

**158, Cooling Tower, 1976, NC**
The Cooling Tower Enclosure and Building, Building 158, is a concrete, flat-roof building and metal-sheathed cooling tower for the main Hospital complex, Buildings 88, 89, 90, 91.

**159, Switch Gear, 1973, NC**
The Switch Gear, Building 159, consists of a pad mounted switch gear structure and a small brick, flat roof service building.

**160, Maintenance Building, ca. 1985, NC (George Butler & Associates, Architect)**
The Maintenance Building, Building 160, is composed of several gable-roofed concrete block sections, with garage door on the north side.

**160, New Domiciliary, Dietetics, and Chiller Plant, 1993-1995, NC (Wilson & Company, Architects)**
The new Domiciliary, Dietetics, and Chiller Plant, a two-story, red brick, contemporary building, being constructed to the west of the Hospital and Administration complex (Buildings 88-91), will combine the functions currently served by the Domiciliaries (Buildings 1-14), the General Mess and Kitchen (Building 19), and the Chiller Plant.

**161, Sewage Pump House, ca. 1970, NC**
This is a small utilitarian brick structure with a flat roof. Located on Singer Road.

**(No Number), Cemetery Office, 1992, NC (George Butler & Associates, Architect)**
This building is composed of three wood-frame, residential scaled, connected and staggered gable roofed sections of equal size. They are sheathed in clapboard and have 1-light casement windows.

**(No number), Cemetery Entrance Gate, 1981, NC (George Butler & Associates, Architect)**
This structure consists of random ashlar stone wing walls and gate piers spanned by a wood pergola over the

entrance drive.

**OTHER SITES/STRUCTURES**

**Fire Hose Storage structure, ca. 1890**
This is a small moveable structure used to store fire hoses between 1890 and 1940. It is a wood-frame, clapboarded structure measuring approximately 3 x 3 feet and 6 feet tall, capped with a bellcast mansard roof and a wood finial.

**Western Branch NHDVS Historic Landscape, Features, and Objects, ca. 1890 through ca. 1900**
The site plan for the Home is thought to have been designed by landscape architect H.W.S. Cleveland. The road circulation pattern, arrangement of buildings, and broad areas of lawn interspersed with trees, responds to and enhances the natural undulating topography of the landscape. Important vistas and view sheds exist along Franklin Avenue, around Lake Jeannette, towards the Missouri River on the east, and to the hills on the west. A number of features and objects integral to the historic landscape are worthy of note. Original terra cotta curbing and brick paving manufactured on-site ca. 1890 remain in the Lakeside Drive area and the former entrance drive near the West Gate. Lake Jeannette is an ornamental, manmade body of water created from the quarry pit for clay brick and tile manufacture in the 1880s. Late nineteenth century cast iron benches with a fern motif, manufactured in Leavenworth, and turn-of-the-century concrete benches, urns, and birdbaths are scattered about the landscape. A grouping of one nineteenth century cannon (of 60 that once lined Franklin Avenue), small recent granite monuments, and flags is located, along with the Flagpole, Building 126, on the west side of Franklin Avenue near the site of an earlier fountain (removed).

**Leavenworth National Cemetery, 1886**
The Cemetery, thought to have been designed by landscape architect, H.W.S. Cleveland occupies 113.15 acres of rolling land. It contains more than 18,000 graves with white marble stones arranged in orderly rows. They include veterans from the Indian wars to the present time, as well as their eligible dependents. One grave contains the remains of 12 unknown Indian bodies found during excavation for one of the Medical Center buildings. Unpaved roads curve up past Buildings 58, 75, and 125B to a tall obelisk at the highest point overlooking the Missouri River.

[END]

## SUMMARY

The Western Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (WB/NHDVS)/ Dwight D. Eisenhower Veterans Administration Medical Center (DDE/VAMC) and Leavenworth National Cemetery Historic District, Leavenworth Kansas, is significant under Criterion A in the areas of health/medicine, politics/government, and social history. The Western Branch Home is the fifth in a series of 11 branch institutions established between 1867 and 1929 and has continuously provided residential and medical care for veterans since 1886. It embodies the comprehensive federal policies and concepts of health care and rehabilitative care provided in a planned community as they originated after the Civil War and evolved into the first half of the twentieth century. In addition, the Western Branch meets Criterion C in architecture and landscape architecture for its fine group of buildings, including many excellent examples of Georgian Revival, late Gothic Revival, and Queen Anne style architecture, surrounded by a designed park-like and campus-like setting. The period of significance is defined from 1885 to 1943, beginning with the founding of the Western Branch and ending with the 50-year termination date required by the National Register.

## NATIONAL CONTEXT

At the close of the Civil War, vast numbers of disabled volunteer soldiers in need of medical and rehabilitative care were discharged. Their numbers greatly outstripped the capabilities of existing facilities and pension programs, which had been designed for the relatively small career military force. As a result, Congress passed legislation on March 3, 1865 incorporating a national Military and Naval Asylum for disabled volunteer soldiers of the Union Army.[11] The Act was a departure from traditional emphasis on the professional soldier and officially set forth the concern and commitment of the government and the population for the well-being of the civilian soldier. In 1873, the Asylum was renamed the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. During its history it was also known officially as the National Military Home, and colloquially as the Old Soldiers Home.[12]

The initial congressional Act listed 100 incorporators to oversee the National Home and included many prominent leaders in contemporary political, military, financial, publishing, religious, and abolition circles. The inability to assemble a quorum of such diverse prominent individuals, however, forced Congress in 1866 to establish a 12-member Board of Managers to conduct the business of the Home. The original managers were: President Johnson; Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton; and Chief Justice, Salmon Chase (all ex-officio), as well as nine members appointed by Congress: Generals Richard J. Ogelsby, Benjamin F. Butler, Frederick Smyth, P. Joseph Osterhaus; the Honorable Lewis Gunckel; Messrs. Jay Cooke, John H. Mortwalder, Horatio B. Stebbins, and George H. Walker.[13]

The first Home established was the Eastern Branch, at Togus, Maine, in 1867. Between 1867 and 1929, the

Home expanded to encompass ten Home branches and one sanatorium: the Northwestern Branch, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1867; the Central Branch, Dayton, Ohio, 1867; the Southern Branch, Hampton, Virginia, 1870; the Western Branch, Leavenworth, Kansas, 1885; the Pacific Branch, Santa Monica (Los Angeles), California, 1888; the Marion Branch, Marion, Indiana, 1889; the Danville Branch, Danville, Illinois, 1898; the Mountain Branch, Johnson City, Tennessee, 1901; the Battle Mountain Sanatorium, Hot Springs, South Dakota, 1902; and the Bath Branch, Bath, New York, 1929 (formerly New York State Soldiers and Sailors Home, established 1877).[14]

The Act authorized the Board of Managers to select Home locations and establish programs as they determined appropriate. Shelter was the immediate priority, but the Homes quickly developed into complete and almost self-contained planned communities. The Home facilities were far more comprehensive than those at contemporary military installations. They are considered to be the earliest and most extensive examples of federal government-sponsored and of non-religious planned communities in the country. Military models provided the basis for planning, and members (as residents were called) of the Home were governed by the Articles of War.[15]

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Integrated site planning, building design, and landscaping provided members with a full range of shelter, health care, educational, training, and rehabilitative services. Veterans were organized in companies and resided in groups of architecturally similar barracks, conveniently situated near the mess hall and the hospital. Homes included administration buildings, libraries, theaters, chapels, recreation and beer halls, bandstands, training schools, hotels for visitors, staff residences, and a range of farm, laundry, maintenance buildings, and shops. Cemeteries were located adjacent to the main building complex.

The scope of training, education, and readjustment activities offered at the Homes are thought to be the earliest federal venture into large scale rehabilitation programs. The chapels are reputed to be the first non-military construction of a religious facility by the federal government.[17]

Eligibility requirements allowed an even more significant departure from previous federal programs. Membership in the Home was based on disabilities incurred while serving in the Union Army. Thus both white and black former soldiers were equally eligible. Integration was rudimentary by today's standards, but another 80 years passed before the military forces in which these men served desegregated.

Although the Home program was conceived for disabled volunteer veterans of the Civil War, admission for veterans of other wars occurred in the first year of Home construction. The Northwestern Branch, Milwaukee opened in 1867 and allowed veterans of the War of 1812. By 1871, disabled veterans of both the War of 1812 and the Mexican War had access to any Home. In 1884, broader admission requirements were adopted, such that a veteran needed only to prove that a disability was not incurred in service against the United States.

In 1900, admission was extended to all honorably discharged officers, soldiers and sailors who served in regular or volunteer forces of the United States in any war in which the country had been engaged, who had no adequate means of support and were incapable of earning a living. Coverage was extended to those who served in undeclared wars "against hostile Indians" in 1908, and to those who served in the Philippines, China, and Alaska, in 1909.[18]

Initially, funding for operations was derived from fines and stoppages of pay for courts martial, forfeitures of pay for desertion, monies due and unclaimed for three years, as well as disability pensions for members with no dependents. Direct congressional appropriation replaced this uncertain and complicated funding system in 1875. However, the Managers continued to depend upon pension funds collected through fines, stoppages, and limits upon the amounts allotted to pensioners to prevent "squandering" until Congress forbade the practices in 1881. Cooperative funding of federal and state Homes has existed since 1888. At that time, Congress authorized Managers to make yearly payments of $100 to approved state Homes on behalf of each veteran residing there and who was eligible for admission to the federal Home. This practice continues in principle today.[19]

Military surplus provided uniforms for Home members and staff, and items such as cannon for grounds ornamentation. Agricultural products, including field crops and dairy products, filled much of the ration needs. A number of Homes developed specialized operations to manufacture goods such as knitted hose and construction bricks that were used throughout the system. Farming, manufacturing, and shop skills were an important part of rehabilitation programs. Libraries and other educational facilities were also considered critical.

By World War I, the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers had been operating for approximately 50 years with branches constructed between 1867 and 1902. Much of the initial enthusiasm and creative leadership was diminished over this half century. The War produced a greater number of veterans, at an average younger age, than the Home was equipped for. In order to fulfill current veterans needs, a new government agency, the U.S. Veterans Bureau was established. Yet even with the renewed emphasis on veterans affairs, the Home program was considered to have been reduced truly to an old soldier's final resting place and was publicly criticized for inadequate management and care.

Although expanded hospital and quarters facilities were built at several branches, the Home's future was inextricably linked to that of other veterans affairs agencies. To eliminate redundancy and confusion in services, President Hoover, with the consent of Congress, combined the National Home, the Veterans Bureau, and the Pension Bureau into a single agency, the United States Veterans Administration, on July 31, 1930. The Home briefly retained a distinct identity as the Home Service of the Veterans Administration. However, construction of new facilities by the Veterans Administration, a uniform admissions policy, and the passing away of the Civil War veterans marked the end of the National Home for Disabled Veteran Soldiers. The Homes continued in existence and were adapted to Veterans Administration programs. The Veterans Administration, as the Department of Veterans Affairs, is now part of the Cabinet.

## NATIONAL HOME FOR DISABLED VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS WESTERN BRANCH

The Western Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers was the first trans-Mississippi branch of the Home. Congress authorized its establishment in 1884, and site selection occurred when the town of Leavenworth agreed to donate 640 acres and $50,000 towards the embellishment of the grounds. Christian Delaware Indians had previously owned the land and had sold it to private parties in the late 1850s. From 1844 to 1848, a Stockbridge Indian settlement and Baptist mission occupied the property, but it was not successful and was abandoned.[20]

The decision to construct a Western Branch reflected the country's population shift westward and the greater demand for Homes due to expanded eligibility requirements and the increased age of Civil War veterans. Leavenworth's proximity to Fort Leavenworth, one of the country's key military installations, and the efforts of Mayor S.F. Neely and State Senator Alexander Caldwell were instrumental in the selection of this site. The city's financing offer required an expenditure of $120,000, with the land purchase price to be met with park bonds. Needing assistance, the city requested an appropriation of $50,000 from the State legislature, but was refused. As a result of the city's inability to raise the funds, the Home Board of Managers passed a resolution in April 1885 to permit Leavenworth to pay $5,000 per annum for ten years, discharging all previous obligations.[21]

Construction began in 1885 and consisted of 17 buildings by 1886, costing $214,875: 13 barracks, each accommodating 124 men; a general mess hall and kitchen with 1200 seats, a boiler plant, and one other building. The approximately 40 buildings erected by 1890 comprised a coherent planned community, similar to other branches of the National Home. It included barracks, mess hall and kitchen, staff housing, a chapel, an administration and library building, a hospital with a morgue, amusement halls, storehouses, shops, laundry, stable, greenhouses, agricultural buildings, and other facilities. The few buildings built in the first two decades of the twentieth century augmented these facilities, but introduced no new significant functions.

The administration also corresponded to that at other Homes. The Board of Managers appointed a Governor, who was assisted by a staff of officers: Secretary, Treasurer, Quartermaster, Commissary of Subsistence, Surgeon, Assistant Surgeon, Matron, Chaplains, and Music Director. All staff were required to live on the grounds in housing assigned according to position and marital status. The veterans were organized under a military model and were subject to the Rules and Articles of War. They wore uniforms (supplied by military surplus), lived in barracks, were grouped into companies, and marched in formation. Formal termination of the military model and the term "barracks" occurred in 1955.

The first member admitted, July 11, 1885, was Alexander Maines, formerly Private, Company A, First Rhode Island Light Artillery. A transfer from the Eastern Branch at Togus, Maine, his disabilities were listed as "Rheumatism, Fever, and Ague". By the end of the first fiscal year, membership had grown to 261 veterans. Numbers increased steadily to a peak, in 1906, of 4,119 on the roll and 5,300 cared for. Most were Civil War veterans ("the Boys in Blue"), with a few Mexican War Veterans. In 1916, 531 Civil War veterans remained, and by 1936, this number had dwindled to 13. Overall, population numbers dropped off after 1906 to a low of 3,102 cared for in 1923. The population during these years included veterans of the Spanish-American War; conflicts in Alaska, China, the Philippines, and the Mexican border; and World War I. The number of veterans of all wars cared for rose again to a high of 6,348 in the depression year of the 1930. The number of members averaged about 2,000 in the early 1930s. Typically, throughout the Home's history until the mid-twentieth century, membership was higher in winter than in summer, when warmer weather and opportunities for farm employment allowed members the chance for a temporary absence. In 1893, fully one-third of the members were foreign born. Of the 21 countries represented, the greatest numbers by far came from Ireland and Germany.[22]

Civilian employees, other than officers, numbered 45 in 1893. They included clerks, engineers, a druggist, a farmer, firemen, a florist and gardner, a matron, 19 musicians, plumbers, a surgeons assistant, a baker and women nurses. The first female nurse was employed in 1891. In 1899, there were five commissioned officers, 26 noncommissioned officers, 63 civilian employees, and 1,323 members on extra duty with pay.[23] A staff of over 500 was employed in the early 1930s.

The National Home program's mission as originally conceived and as it operated at the Western Branch from 1885 to 1944 was to provide shelter, education, training, employment, and medical care to veterans recovering from war experiences in the carefully orchestrated confines of a planned community. Members were able to work "extra duty" either with or without pay and to receive skills training and rehabilitation. Employment and training opportunities were offered in agriculture, the shops, and other facilities. The Western Branch shops in 1893 were: carpenter, blacksmith, engineer, tin, paint, printing, shoe, soap, and tailor shops. In that year, truck farm products (vegetables and fruits) and flowers valued, $9,082.90.[24] By 1900, additional shops included baking, upholstering, and horseshoeing. Members also worked in positions such as laborers, waiters, clerks, cooks, carpenters, and guards.[25]

A variety of amusements catered to residents, visitors, and the Leavenworth community, providing recreation and income for the post funds. Amusements included a beer hall, the Home store, a hotel, plays, band concerts, billiard tables, boating on Lake Jeannette, and a large library with newspapers, magazines, and books.[26] The Ward Memorial Building (Building 29), which contained the library and billiard room along with the Home's main administrative offices, was funded under a bequest in the will of a London banker, General Horatio Ward. Ward was originally from Virginia and left monies for the National Home system. The managers used the funds to erect recreational and cultural buildings and other amenities, which might not justify expenditure of public funds, at many of the branches. Both the South Branch near Hampton, Virginia and the Northwestern Branch in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for example, constructed Ward Memorial Theaters. The Ward-funded buildings were individually designed for each Home branch and therefore are not necessarily similar in design.[27]

The extensive grounds planted with cool shade trees and bright floral beds, and Lake Jeannette where the professional and highly regarded Home band performed each weekend, had a wide appeal. The Home gardeners in the decades at the turn of the century were Carl Kline Sr. and Carl Kline, Jr., who resided in Building 52. A baseball league was also organized in 1900 and played at a diamond located northeast of the West Gate. E.F. Brown, Inspector General for NHDVS noted at the turn of the century, that the "Western Branch is a pleasure ground... visited by thousands who are profuse in their admiration of the Home."[28]

In addition to practical training and recreational activities, the Western Branch monitored improvements and repairs of buildings and grounds, laundry and post office activity, discipline, subsistence (meals), sanitary conditions, temperance, opportunities for religious worship, and hospital facilities, as well as health, death, nationality, occupation or trade, and other statistics of the members. These categories were summarized in the Annual Reports of the Board of Managers. In 1893, it was noted that 3,367 members could read and write, while 402 could not. The former group was 35 percent native born, and the latter was 64 per cent foreign born. The Chapel, with a total seating capacity of 475, offered Sunday services for both Protestant and Catholic members which were generally well attended. Discipline infractions reported typically were restricted to general disorderliness and drunkenness by less than ten per cent of the membership. Three nourishing and substantial meals were provided in the mess hall each day. Sanitary regulations required the men to bath once a week and maintain a clean wardrobe.

In the 1890s, temperance became a concern and a controversial issue at the Western Branch, reaching national attention. Alcoholic beverages were available in Leavenworth and at the popular Home beer hall which sold 5% alcohol beer purchased from the Anheuser Busch Company. It was modelled after the Central Branch beer hall of 1886, which was found to have a marked effect in reducing drunkenness among its members. In 1892, the Keeley "Gold Cure", an intravenous remedy for alcohol and drug addiction was introduced to the Home. The Keeley Institute at the Western Branch graduated over 1,500 members and became a lucrative fixture, with profits going to Home improvements, before doubts about its legitimacy and

complaints of conflict caused a Congressional investigation and closure of the Institute in 1897. The Board of Managers eventually closed the beer hall in the 1920s under the pressure of temperance groups and Prohibition.[29]

Mental and physical health care and special facilities for the old and infirm, and for handling the deceased were important features of the Home. The hospital complex overlooking Lake Jeannette included the main hospital building with five wards (demolished 1933), two hospital annexes, an insane asylum, and a morgue. The older members resided in the barracks close to the hospital, with a separate smaller dining hall connected to the barracks. The hospital treated both inpatients and outpatients, as well as members and nonmembers of the Western Branch.

The final resting place for Home members was the Cemetery. Leavenworth National Cemetery originated in 1886 as the Western Branch, NHDVS Cemetery. The National Cemetery System had begun on November 19, 1865 with the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery by President Abraham Lincoln. However, the National Home cemeteries remained part of their Home branch until 1973, when an act of Congress placed them and other VA cemeteries in the National Cemetery system.[30]

With the incorporation of the Western Branch, NHDVS, along with the other National Home Branches, into the newly formed Veterans Administration in 1930, increased emphasis was placed on medical care. The new General, Medical and Surgical main hospital was begun in 1931, the year following 1930, when a record number of veterans were cared for. Completed in 1933, it cost nearly one million dollars and was finished by the VA, as the contractor's bid was too low to finish the work. At the same time, the Veterans Bureau closed its hospital in Kansas City, Missouri and transferred patients and staff to the new Leavenworth hospital.[31] In 1936, the name of the Home was officially changed to Wadsworth in honor of Col. C.W. Wadsworth, who was for many years the General Treasurer of the National Home.

During World War II, 155 German prisoners of War were housed in Barracks 5. They undertook much of the remodelling done in this period at the station.[32] The dominant activity at the Home remained the domiciliaries until the end of 1944, when the Veterans Administration authorized its conversion to a neuropsychiatric hospital. All residents were transferred and the barracks were remodelled and renovated with new brick-enclosed fire stairs, dayroom additions, and several connector wings with porches. In 1946, however, a change in official VA policy caused the conversion plan to be dropped. The station was reassigned as a home and hospital with particular emphasis on medical programs. It was formally designed a VA medical center in 1946, and from that date medical programs, rather than home programs have predominated.[33]

Military terminology was discontinued in 1955, and in 1971, due to a Post Office address change, the station became known as the Veterans Administration Center. Shortly thereafter, the name Dwight D. Eisenhower/

Veterans Administration Medical Center was adopted.

The DDE/VAMC's present mission as a modern medical facility is to care for veterans of all ages, with a specialization in geriatric care. All but the most complicated medical and surgical specialities are covered in-house, or referred to a consultant staff or to Kansas City hospitals. The hospital provides residency practicum programs for medical students at Kansas University and dental and ophthalmology students at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. To augment the existing facilities, a large new domiciliary will be erected in 1993 west of and connected to the main hospital complex.

The architecture of the historic district is striking both for its rich variety and visual coherency as a group. Similarity of materials, scale, and, to a great degree, design, link the diverse built fabric. Most of the buildings can be classified as excellent examples of their type and period. Among the most architecturally notable buildings are the group of 12 originally identical, well proportioned, designed, and crafted Georgian Revival style domiciliaries of 1885-1886. Not all identical, but clearly distinguishable as a group, the approximately one dozen single quarters and duplex quarters built between 1887 and 1922 share many similarities with substantial middle class civilian domestic architecture in the decades around the turn of the century. Although the some building designs are standardized, and buildings similar in concept to many of the Leavenworth buildings appear at other Homes, the architecture at VAMC is unique within the system. Only the main Hospital of 1931-1933 has a twin, in this case found at the Hospital at the Dayton, Ohio Home.

Among the most important and prominent individual buildings is the handsome Romanesque Revival General Mess and Kitchen, completed in 1886. Emphatically institutional and monumental, it is one of the first group of buildings constructed at the Home and the earliest major building to be designed in a style other than the Georgian Revival. The Ward Memorial, former administration building of 1898, introduced the Queen Anne style to nonresidential architecture at the Home. It displays the rich textural use of materials and eclectic mix of design elements that are hallmarks of the Queen Anne. It shares similarities, albeit at a larger scale, with the contemporary residences built for the administrators of the Home, many of whom had offices in this building.

Perhaps the most outstanding building, and certainly one of the most remarked upon, is the Chapel of 1893. An excellent example of the Late Gothic Revival style, executed in brick and stone with immense stained glass windows, it was considered to be an early example of combining Protestant and Catholic chapels on two levels under one roof. The architect, Louis Singleton Curtiss (1865-1924) was a colorful, eccentric, and talented pioneering designer based in Kansas City, Missouri from the late 1880s until his death. Born in Belleville, Ontario, Canada, Curtiss may have studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He migrated to Kansas City about 1887 where he worked for several years in the highly regarded firm of Adriance Van Brunt before entering a ten year partnership (1889-1899) with Frederick C. Gunn. The Chapel at the Home

was one of the firm's first commissions. In 1893, the same year as the Queen Anne style Home Chapel, their classically inspired design for the Missouri State Building was erected at the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The partners' work included hotels, courthouses, and churches in Kansas and Missouri and as far afield as Texas and West Virginia. Upon the dissolution of the partnership, Curtiss went on to a distinguished individual career designing residences, commercial buildings -- notably the Baltimore Hotel for the Corrigan Brothers Realty Company, Kansas City, MO (1898-1899) -- and more than 30 railway depots, restaurants and hotels for the Santa Fe Railroad and Fred Harvey, in Kansas, New Mexico, Texas, and Missouri.[34]

During his early years in Kansas City, Curtiss resided in an apartment near 13th and Cherry Streets. However, in 1908 he moved to a new apartment above his office in the Studio Building, a building he designed and constructed at 1118 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri.[35] His contributions to turn of the century architecture design and technology included the Boley Building of 1908 in Kansas City, the earliest known example of metal-and-glass, curtain-wall construction in the country. It may also have been the first to use rolled-up steel sections instead of built-up sections for the structural frame columns. He pioneered in the application of reinforced concrete and in the use of suspended steel building structures, such as the two-story building at 1105 Magee Street, Kansas City, MO.[36] Stylistically, Curtiss's design repertoire ranged from the Classical Revival, Romanesque, and Queen Anne styles most apparent in his earlier works, to reflect the influence of the Arts and Crafts Movement and the Prairie School of architecture, as illustrated by the massive steel and reinforced concrete Bernard Berrigan House (1912-13) at 1200 West 5th Street in the Country Club district of Kansas City, MO.[37] The emphasis on use and celebration of new construction materials also became a major theme much of his commercial architecture of the early twentieth century, as exemplified by the buildings mentioned above. The Chapel of the WB/NHDVS in Leavenworth thus stands as an important early example of the work of one of the most prominent regional architects at the turn of the century. Its bold use of materials, scale, and ornamentation presages the innovative character of Curtiss's later outstanding work. Architectural drawings for the building survive in the Kansas Collection, University of Kansas Libraries.

The contractor hired to undertake much of the early construction at the Home was James A. McGonigle (1834-1925), a prolific, well known, and highly respected Leavenworth builder considered to be the foremost contractor in Kansas.[38] McGonigle was responsible for many buildings erected in the Leavenworth area and throughout the western part of the country in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. His employment by the managers of the National Home underscored their intent to employ high quality materials and services in the creation of a home for veteran soldiers. The initial contracts covered 17 buildings, including the 13 original domiciliaries, the first hospital, and the General Mess and Kitchen (Building 19). McGonigle oversaw not only the construction, but apparently the manufacture of bricks used in construction. As many as 50,000 bricks per day were fabricated of clay excavated from what later became Lake Jeannette.[39]

McGonigle was born at Hagerstown, Maryland where he apprenticed and worked as a house joiner before migrating to Leavenworth, Kansas in 1857. He began his own small contracting business prior to serving as first lieutenant in Company H of the First Kansas Volunteers in the Civil War. Badly wounded at the battle of Wilson's Creek, McGonigle resigned his commission and returned to Leavenworth. In 1864, he married Margaret Gilson. McGonigle served as a member of the city council in 1859-60 and 1865, as well as being a member of the second state legislature which met in Topeka, January 1862.[40] In 1924, McGonigle became ill and was admitted to the hospital, which he had constructed, at the Home; where he died of heart failure, February 27, 1925.

James A. McGonigle was one of the mid-west's most important contractors in the major settlement boom of the late nineteenth century. More than 2,300 structures from Illinois to Wyoming are attributed to him.[41] A Kansas City Star article of 1914 described him as the "dean of American building contractors."[42] Most of his buildings were masonry and later steel and concrete, with classically inspired designs and large proportions requiring great engineering skill and craftsmanship. Locally, McGonigle's firm constructed the earliest buildings at St. Mary's College, Leavenworth; Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church and Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (1864; destroyed by fire 1961), north Leavenworth; the bishop's residence adjoining the cathedral; Leavenworth Union Depot (1878); buildings at Fort Leavenworth; and numerous of the city's largest residences, including 714 South Broadway (NR 1977). His own Queen Anne style mansion at 420 Broadway is remarkably similar to some of the residences he built at the Home, notably buildings 42, 43, and 44. Among his other notable projects were Machinery Hall and three other buildings at the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago (1893); 15 railroad depots from Missouri to Wyoming (including St. Louis, Kansas City, Atchison, and Denver); facilities for the Santa Fe Railroad and Fred Harvey restaurants; as well as private office buildings, state and federal buildings in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Iowa, Texas, and Colorado.[43] McGonigle may have also constructed the Chapel, designed by architect Louis Curtiss, at the Home (Building 66, 1893). In light of the convergence of later Curtiss and McGonigle railroad related projects, it is entirely possible that an early working relationship developed in part through construction of the Chapel at the Western Branch Home. McGonigle was joined in the business by this son, and the firm of James A. McGonigle & Son was responsible for 30 reinforced steel concrete buildings at Fort Crockett, Galveston, Texas and the interior finish for the Denver Mint Building.[44]

The classically derived design approach that characterized the Georgian Revival style remained the predominant architectural vocabulary used at the Home well into the twentieth century. The most important of the twentieth century buildings is the main Hospital complex of 1931-33, an imposing group of similar Classical Revival style buildings. Designed in-house by the VA, and similar to the hospital at the Dayton, Ohio Home, they are a good and early example of multiple-story U-plan or H-plan hospital design, reflecting new understandings of disease and new approaches to scientifically efficient stacked floor plans, as well as being handsome and well-crafted buildings.[45]

The historic designed landscape that forms the setting for both the buildings and Leavenworth National Cemetery within the historic district is an important, although not well documented, example of the work of famous nineteenth-century landscape architect based in the midwest, Horace William Shaler Cleveland (1814-1900).[46] Born in Massachusetts, H.W.S. Cleveland collaborated with noted eastern designers Robert Morris Copeland, Frederick Law Olmsted, and Calvert Vaux before settling in Chicago in 1869. A pioneer in landscape architecture in the frontier states, Cleveland's philosophy advocated developing designs that worked in harmony with the existing natural landscape. These principles were explicated in his book Landscape Architecture as Applied to the Wants of the West in which he stated that landscape architecture was "the art of arranging land so as to adapt it most conveniently, economically, and gracefully to any of the varied wants of civilization".[47]

Cleveland's projects included cemeteries, residential suburbs, parks, resorts, campuses, and many institutional developments in the midwest and the eastern seaboard. Three projects are known in Kansas. The Western Branch Home was Cleveland's third Kansas commission, following Highland Cemetery in Junction City (1870), one of the state's earliest "Rural" or Romantic cemeteries, and a plan for the statehouse grounds in Topeka (1871), of which only the planting plan survives and the extent of execution is unclear.[48] His Leavenworth design integrates the romantic and picturesque aesthetic with reference to the irregular natural topography and practical concerns of institutional layout. The long ridge-like area of the natural topography disallowed a rectilinear arrangement of buildings. Instead they are set atop the ridge in a roughly crescent layout and oriented across the ridge. This layout afforded residents sweeping views of the valleys below. The bold linear form used here is similar to Cleveland's State Training School in Red Wing, Minnesota of the 1880s, also designed to take advantage of river valley views. In other instances, however, where land forms dictated, Cleveland's institutional site plans are more traditional and rectilinear (e.g. Shattuck School, Faribault, Minnesota and Mt. Pleasant Treatment Center, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa).[49]

Unfortunately, little documentation exists in Cleveland papers on the Soldiers Home project. The only known references to the Home are two mentions in correspondence and an 1891 listing of projects, all on file at the Library of Congress.[50] Although recognized by scholars of landscape architecture history as one of the most important figures in American design at the turn of the century, no comprehensive inventory and analysis of Cleveland's work has yet been published.

The DDE/VAMC has provided a home environment and medical care to over 150,000 veterans during its more than 100 years of existence. Changes in appearance and operation have been inevitable in this long history of continuous use in service to the country's veterans. In most cases, modifications and new construction have occurred due to expanding or shifting patient care programs, a critical need for more modern specialized facilities, or alteration in recreational interests (reflecting national trends). Despite these changes, DDE/VAMC continues to accurately represent its original design and important later developments before 1943. The predominantly brick buildings, arranged on curving roads through tree dotted lawns create

the restful park- and campus-like setting originally intended.

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Geographical Data

UTMs continued

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|---|---|
| E | 15.336250.4349030 |
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| G | 15.336010.4349280 |
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| J | 15.336350.4349800 |
| K | 15.336350.4349950 |
| L | 15.336660.4349950 |
| M | 15.336660.4349650 |

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the historic district contain approximately 405 acres, encompassing the 292 acres of the former Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Veteran Soldiers and the 113 acres of the Leavenworth National Cemetery which today comprise the Department of Veterans Affairs, Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the historic district coincide with the present-day Dept. of Veterans Affairs property. The original land grant from the town was 640 acres. This was expanded to 700 acres in the late nineteenth century, and then reduced once in 1971 by deaccession of peripheral land to the U.S. Justice Department, and again in the 1980s by deaccession of peripheral land on the north to the town of Leavenworth. The current boundaries encompass all the surviving historic buildings, structures, objects, the historic landscape, and the cemetery.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers
Department of Veterans Affairs Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center
Leavenworth,
Leavenworth County,
Kansas

All Views:
Photographer and Date: Virginia H. Adams, Spring 1993
Location of Negatives: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

1. Ward Memorial, Building 29, looking NE

2. Chapel, Building 66, looking SW

3. Surgeon's Quarters, Building 44, looking NE

4. Domiciliary 2, looking NW

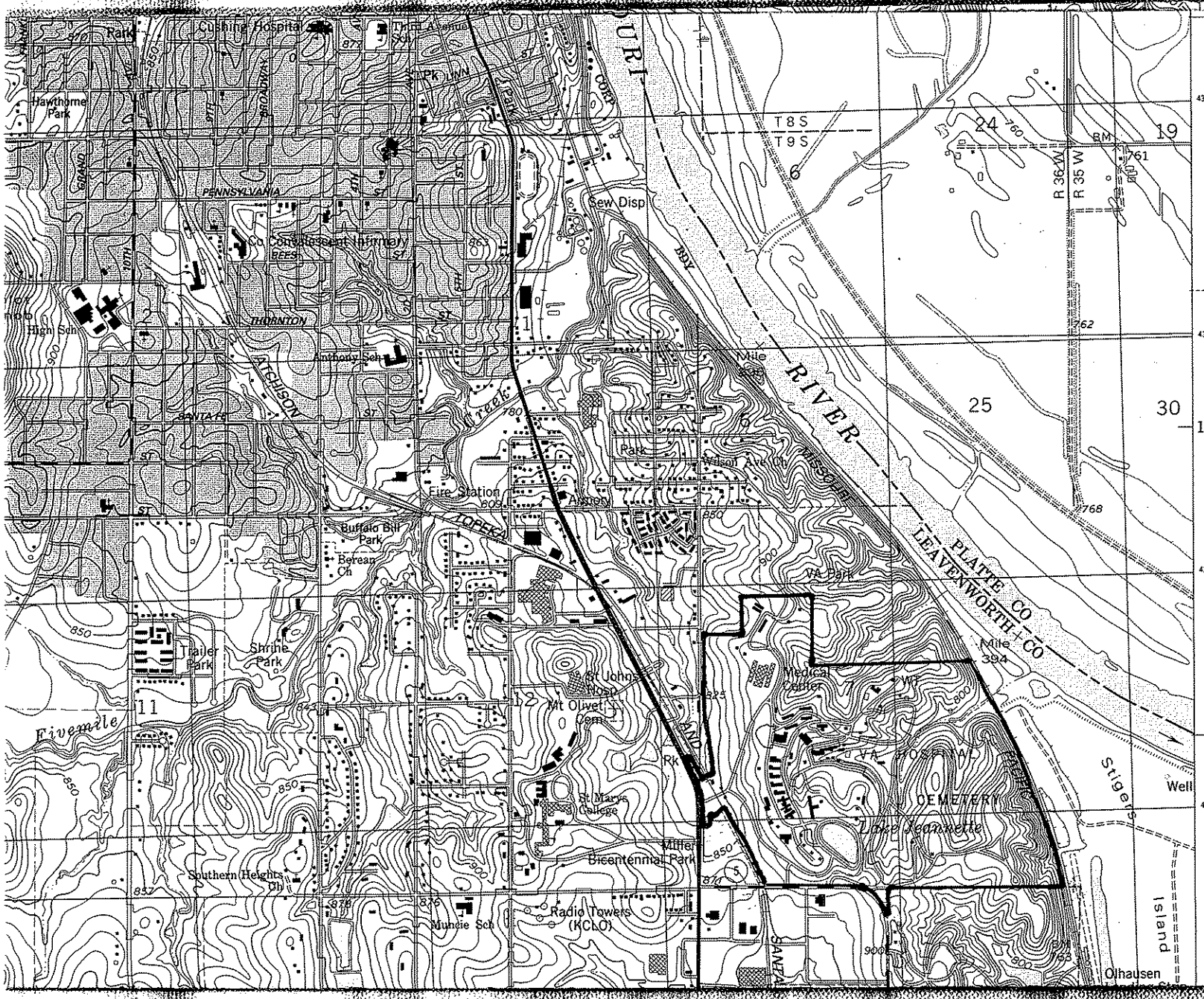
5. Domiciliary 6, looking NE

6. Hospital, Buildings 88, 89, 90, 91, looking NW

7. Duplex Quarters, Building 68, looking W

8. Boiler Plant, Building 39, with Boiler Chimney Stack, No. 139, and (left to right) Buildings 153, 4, 3, 41 in background; Buildings 149A and 149B in foreground. Looking N

9. Leavenworth National Cemetery, with (left to right) Speakers' Stand, Building 125B, and Cemetery Rest House, Building 58, looking NE




Western Branch, NHDVS
Leavenworth
Leavenworth Co,
Kansas

A. 15.337320.4349650
B. 15.337690.4348690
C. 15.336940.4348590
D. 15.336420.4348720
E. 15.336250.4349030
F. 15.336170.4348980
G. 15.336010.4349280
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