1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers

Other Name/Site Number: Department of Veterans Affairs, Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center

Designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior June 17, 2011

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 4101 S. 4th Street Not for publication:

City/Town: Leavenworth Vicinity: NA

State: Kansas County: Leavenworth Code: 103 Zip Code: 66048

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property	Category of Property
Private:	Building(s):
Public-Local:	District: X
Public-State:	Site:
Public-Federal: X	Structure:
Tribal Lands:	Object:

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing		Noncontributing	
buildings	53	buildings	40
sites	2	sites	0
structures	2	structures	11
objects	1	objects	4
Total	58	Total	55

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 58

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing:

4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ____ 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 ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Signature of Certifying Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ Entered in the National Register
___ Determined eligible for the National Register
___ Determined not eligible for the National Register
___ Removed from the National Register
___ Other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic: Health Care	Sub: Hospital
Domestic	Institutional Housing
Funerary	Cemetery
Current: Health Care	Sub: Hospital
Domestic	Institutional Housing
Funerary	Cemetery

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne, Late Gothic Revival
LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival, Classical Revival

MATERIALS:
Foundation: Stone (limestone)
Walls: Brick; Wood (weatherboard)
Roof: Asphalt, Metal
Other: Stone (sandstone)
Metal

Summary

In Leavenworth, Kansas, is the former Western Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (NHDVS or Home), founded in 1885. It is today known as the Department of Veterans Affairs, Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center (DDE/VAMC). The Home is located south of town, and the district is roughly bounded by U.S. Highway 73/Wilson Avenue and the former Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad to the west; by the Missouri Pacific Railroad and Missouri River to the east; Limit Street on the north; and Kansas State Highway 5 on the south.

The Western Branch of the NHDVS is nationally significant under NHL Criterion 1 as a property that is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to our past; and NHL Theme IV, shaping the political landscape: governmental institutions, under the area of Health/Medicine. The Western Branch is an outstanding representation of the development of a national system of medical and residential benefits for disabled veterans. The NHDVS was the first national system to provide such benefits to volunteer soldiers and as such is a precursor to the modern system of veterans' benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Established in 1885, the Western Branch of the NHDVS represents the network of veterans' benefits that began growing rapidly after the Civil War and became increasingly important in terms of medical care to veterans after 1900. The property also represents the goals of the NHDVS Board of Managers to create attractive, well-designed institutions that would provide a dignified home for disabled veterans.

The Western Branch NHDVS historic district consists of a nearly 214-acre medical complex of residential, hospital, and support buildings, along with an expansive 164-acre cemetery, in a historic landscaped, park- and campus-like setting. The site is characterized by rolling terrain, tree-dotted lawns, a man-made lake, and curving roads. The site is reduced from its original size of 640 acres. The historic buildings constructed between 1885 and the early 1900s 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 is represented, and the site design is attributed to 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.[1]

The Western Branch is an outstanding example of branch facilities developed by the NHDVS, exhibiting a high degree of integrity in location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association. A large number of original buildings survive. The cohesive design has not been greatly impacted by post-1930s development, which has been largely located to the northwest, out of most major viewsheds. Additionally, the relatively large number of noncontributing resources represents very small support buildings that do not visually intrude upon the historic district. Several of the major buildings have intact or generally intact interiors. As a result, the campus in its entirety, along with the cemetery, strongly reflects the branch's original aesthetic vision and institutional goals. Alterations to historic buildings have resulted from changes in use (i.e. barracks/domiciliaries converted to brief use as a 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 façade. In no instance, however, has a building been altered beyond recognition, nor has its overall integrity been compromised. The largest and newest construction on the property is the New Domiciliary and Dietetics

[1] Western Branch resources constructed between 1930 and 1955 are identified as noncontributing for the NHDVS NHL period of significance; they are, however, contributing resources to a national period of National Register significance for the greater history of the Veterans Administration. See Adams; Angela C. Shearer to Ross R. Freeman, March 7, 2005, copy held by National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office; and Jennie Chinn and Patrick Zollner, Kansas State Historic Preservation Office, to Dena Sanford, April 18, 2007, National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office.

(Building 160 #2). While this building is large, it does not greatly intrude into the historic setting, as it is located at the bottom (north) of the main ridge of the complex, and is not visible from the historic core of the campus, or from the cemetery.

Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.[2]

The Western Branch contains a total of 113 properties, of which fifty-eight historic resources contribute to the significance of the district: fifty-four buildings, one structure, two sites, and one object. Thirty-seven of the forty noncontributing buildings were constructed after the end of the NHDVS period of national significance (1885–1930). Two historic buildings were moved immediately after the period of significance. Eleven structures and four objects are also noncontributing. An inventory of these resources is included following the descriptive narrative. Archaeological resources are also present, including seventeen documented sites, five of which were recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register. In addition, a number of areas adjacent to the NHDVS buildings have high potential to contain prehistoric and historic archaeological sites. Resources that do not contribute to the significance of the NHL district may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or for determination of eligibility.

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 Leavenworth National Cemetery in the southeast portion of the property. 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 Horace William Shaler (H. W. S.) Cleveland. No plans are known to exist, but the project is mentioned twice in Cleveland's correspondence.[3] Still clearly evident, 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.

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. A single cannon remains from a group of 60 that once lined Franklin Avenue.

[2] Section 7 is adapted from Virginia H. Adams, "Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1999, and Historic American Buildings Survey No. KS-55, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers Western Branch," 1993. The original text has been updated and some corrections have been included.

[3] Professor of Landscape Architecture Nancy J. Volkman has commented on the dearth of direct information about the original design. Cleveland mentioned the project in cursory statements in his correspondence, with no indication of the level of his involvement. In June 1888, Cleveland wrote to his friend William Folwell, asking Folwell to accompany him on a visit to the Kansas soldiers home. In addition, an 1891 edition of Modern Cemetery includes an advertisement for Cleveland and Sons, listing the home as one of his projects. The site design also bears a striking similarity to another institutional 1880s site design by Cleveland, the Minneapolis Training School in Red Wing, Minnesota. Nancy J. Volkman, "Landscape Architecture on the Prairie: The Work of H.W.S. Cleveland," *Kansas History*, 10 no. 2 (Summer 1987): 106-110.

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 that replaced an earlier wood pole on the same site.

The NHDVS building arrangement has remained largely unaltered by subsequent development. As in 1886, eight (originally nine) identical brick barracks (Buildings 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14) are aligned along the ridge spine between Franklin Avenue and Back Street.[4] The barracks are oriented east to west, perpendicular to the ridge, making maximum use of the linear site and taking advantage of breezes and vistas. The identical barracks Buildings 1, 2, 3, and 4 are grouped along both sides of Riverview Street on the northeast curve of the "C". Originally, the dining, administration, recreation, and staff housing functions were placed in buildings to the area at the north end of the barracks group. The area at the southern end of the barracks group—around Lake Jeannette—contained the main hospital, hospital staff residences, and the largest barracks. Service functions and other residential buildings for supply and maintenance staff were located east of the "C," as they are today, 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.

Newer construction located at the periphery reflects changes in the Home's mission as it related to an evolution in hospital planning theory in the twentieth century. In 1903, administration moved to the newly constructed Building 21 west of Franklin Avenue, across from the barracks. The 1931-1933 construction of a new main hospital complex, (Buildings 88, 89, 90, 91) reoriented medical services to the northwest corner of the site from its original location at the south end of the complex. The governor's quarters (Building 42) and the quartermaster's quarters (Building 45) were relocated to their present site at that time.

Leavenworth contractor and builder James A. McGonigle was responsible for the initial construction at the Western Branch. No information has come to light regarding the identity of a specific architect. The historic buildings are constructed mostly of brick trimmed with limestone (both smooth and quarry-face), sandstone, terra cotta tile, and concrete. Quarry-faced limestone block and high foundations with raised mortar joints are typical of the early brick buildings. Stone was reserved for support buildings and for selected key service buildings: the 1896 boiler plant (Building 39), the ca. 1895 stable (demolished), the 1910 west gate guard house and shelter (Buildings 40 and 30), and the 1921 cemetery shelter (Building 58). Wood-frame construction was used from the 1890s onward, but was restricted to residential, garage, and service/maintenance buildings.

In form, buildings are generally one and two stories in height with a few exceptions. The tallest early building is the three-story 1886 Franklin Hall (Building 19), which served as the general mess and kitchen. The 1904 and 1939 barracks (Buildings 100 and 122, respectively) are also three stories, while the 1931-1933 hospital complex is four to six stories. The most common roof forms are gable and hip. 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, but several are beginning to suffer from neglect.

Stylistically, the buildings fall into several groups. The oldest 1885 barracks buildings set a tone of military-like austerity in the mid-1880s. Similar to the Army's standardized plans of the time produced by the Quartermaster General, the Western Branch barracks have central blocks and flanking wings fronted with two-tier wood porches. The porches served as corridors and facilitated ventilation.[5] Little stylistic ornamentation was used on

[4] Today identified by the DDE/VAMC as domiciliaries or inpatient buildings, for the purpose of this document, they will be identified by their historic name, "barracks."

[5] Paul Chattey, Horace Foxall, Flossie McQueen, Cynthia Neilsen, Mary Shipe, Terri Taylor and Jamie Tippett, "Context Study of the United States Quartermaster General Standardized Plans, 1866-1942," U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Technical Center of Expertise for Preservation of Structures and Buildings, November 1997, 237. This report provides a lengthy discussion of the evolution and improvements in Army design. Given the Western Branch's proximity to Fort Leavenworth (in the

the barracks; however, an aspect of the Queen Anne style can be seen in the tall, narrow windows while the barracks' solid massing, pitch-faced stone foundations, and low hip roofs are more evocative of Richardsonian Romanesque. This form is repeated in barracks 100. The 1899 T-plan supply storehouse (Building 41) is a variant with a gable roof and no central block. The latest examples in this group are the 1932/1933 nurses' quarters (Building 71) and the barracks 122, both academic Georgian Colonial Revival brick buildings with a gable roof and gabled pavilions.

The 1887 residential quarters buildings constructed for Home and hospital administrators (Buildings 42, 43, 44, 51, 53) and one 1889 duplex (Building 46) are well within the stylistic range of civilian Queen Anne style buildings of the late nineteenth century. This is represented by complex massing and roof forms, 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 Shingle Style elements, as with the 1906 chaplain's quarters (Building 47), and Colonial Revival design elements on quarters built in 1900 and 1908 (Buildings 61 and 48, respectively). The same applies to the 1898 nurses quarters (Buildings 34), two duplex quarters built in 1915/1916, 1921 and 1922 (Buildings 56, 57 and 68) and the 1921 four-unit nurses quarters (Building 76).

The popularity of prevailing architectural trends is represented in a number of prominent resources built over time at the Home. Franklin Hall is a Romanesque Revival style brick building that serves as an important visual focus at the intersection of Franklin and Riverview Avenues. Near the original 1888 administration building and library, Ward Memorial (Building 29), is an eclectic Queen Anne style structure of brick and stone with a turreted corner tower. After 1893, a Protestant/Catholic chapel anchored the southern end of the original barracks row. This Building 66 is an imposing and eclectic Late Gothic Revival style building designed by noted Kansas City architect Louis Curtiss and his partner, Frederick C. Gunn. Sited on the west side of Franklin Avenue opposite the barracks, the chapel was the first building to interrupt vistas to the east from the main entrance. Five years later, southeast of Building 19 and sited on a terrace below Back Street, the "Dugout" recreation hall (Building 64) is an excellent example of the Châteauesque style.

The administration Building 21 reflects the eclecticism of early 20th century styles, as do the 1910 stone west gate guard house and shelter (Buildings 40 and 30). Providing a new formal main entrance, the two buildings' Mission style is reflected in tiled hipped roofs and wide overhanging eaves. The 1916 former Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe (ATSF) Railroad station, now police station (Building 94), also incorporates the Mission style. The Spanish Eclectic style is represented in the 1921 cemetery shelter (Building 58), which is similar to the west gate buildings in form, scale, and materials, but without the broad overhanging eaves. A major new construction program instituted by the Veterans Administration resulted in the addition of the massive new main hospital complex in 1931-1933 that incorporated classical detailing on its 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. The location of the hospital away from the core historic collection of buildings lessens its impact on the district.

Historic service and maintenance buildings fall into two groups. The first consists of two large masonry buildings with coarse ornamentation: the 1896 boiler plant (Building 39), and the 1927/1928 fire station and garage (Building 54). The second type is the simple, unadorned utilitarian buildings of brick and wood, which constitute the majority of the shops, service, and storage buildings.

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same community), it is highly likely that the barracks design was borrowed from that Army post, and that contractors worked at both properties. No mention has been found of architects involved in the design of Army buildings during the late nineteenth century. See Bethany Grashof, *A Study of United States Army Family Housing, Standardized Plans 1866-1940*, vol. 1, Center for Architectural Conservation, College of Architecture, Georgia Institute of Technology (U.S. GPO: May 1986), 4.

Five buildings constructed in the 1880s and 1890s but since demolished deserve mention. A barracks (Building 5) built in 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 1885/1886 three-story, brick main hospital (razed 1933) was designed as an expanded version of the barracks and occupied the present site of Building 122. A second building at the Home designed by Louis Curtiss was a large brick barracks with a massive sloping roof. It stood south of Building 12 and west of the original hospital. It was replaced in 1904 by the large barracks Building 100, constructed across Franklin Avenue. A ca. 1895 stable 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). All the agricultural buildings (approximately six), with the exception of the former milk house (Building 33), have been removed.

Among the structures that once graced the landscape but are no longer standing 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 exotic 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 64. None of the floral planting beds survive, nor do the two greenhouses built in 1890-1895, and 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.

The following description of resources is organized by building numbers assigned by the Veterans Administration/Department of Veterans Affairs. In some instances, the DDE/VAMC uses the word “Building” for resources that will be identified in this nomination as structures.

CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

Buildings 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 Barracks 1885-1886 (Bldg. 11: 1887) Contributing

These long, narrow barracks buildings are the twelve (originally thirteen) similar red brick (six-course common bond), buildings constructed by James A. McGonigle mostly 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 remainders are set in a line perpendicular to the east side of Franklin Avenue. This building type consists of a three-story, three-bay, hip-roof central pavilion block with identical flanking and slightly set back two-story, seven bay, hip-roof wings. Roofing material is asphalt shingle. Two-story wood porches are set 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 quarry-faced native limestone, and a smooth limestone stringcourse delineates each level of the center block. Tall and narrow, the first- and second-story windows (center block) and first-story windows (wings) are set in openings finished with a triple header course, segmental-arch. 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 four-over-four and four-over-two wood sash. In some cases, 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 interiors of the barracks are relatively

intact. The central block contains stairs, offices, lavatories, and section leader's rooms. The wings are open plan on each floor.

The largest structural alterations occurred ca. 1944. There are two-story, enclosed fire stair additions of red brick (seven-course common bond), 1 x 2 bays, with flat roofs. Windows in the stair enclosures were added to the rear of Buildings 1 and 2, and to the ends of all other barracks. They are flat-head four-over-four, six- over-six, or nine-over-nine wood sash windows. The end additions eliminated the end porch sections. At the same time, 3 x 4 bay or 2 x 4 bay, one-story, flat-roof common room additions with segmental arch four-over-two wood sash windows were added to the rear of Buildings 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 14. Additional work ca. 1944 included construction of two-story brick additions between Buildings 10, 11, and 12. These additions featured open porches and brick piers. Building 13 (1908), originally a dining hall, was connected to Buildings 11 and 12 with small, one-story additions. 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 wing, south side. Building 12 has a recently added two-story entrance on the south side, built of brick veneer and fixed, smoke glass windows.

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. The 1970s changes are unsympathetic, but do not compromise the integrity of the barracks as a group. The barracks are currently vacant but are under a 75-year lease with the Eisenhower Ridge Association for their rehabilitation and reuse. A variety of uses are planned for buildings included in the lease, including offices, college classrooms and veterans housing.

Building 13 Auxiliary Mess Hall/Dining 1908 Contributing

Building 13 is connected to Building 11 (north) and Building 12 (south) by small brick wings and built with the same materials as its neighbors. The wings appear original. The building contains elements of the Georgian Colonial Revival style. It is a one-story, brick, semi-octagonal building 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 four-over-two wood sash. Decorative elements are restricted to the corner joints and shallowly-inset panels in the walls above the porch roof. There are also six-over-six windows. The rear (east) of Building 13 has a square section with a hip roof and monitor and a later, small, brick, windowless addition. The interior has been refinished and is vacant. Building 13 is included in the 75-year lease with the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 18 Guard House 1897 Contributing

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 west side (altered with brick infill and metal doors), and a pyramidal hip roof covered in wood shingles and displaying aspects of Italianate and Second Empire styles. The rough quarry-faced limestone foundation has tooled corner quoins. Windows are six-over-six. The rear ell, sited downslope, is 4 x 2 bays capped by a mansard roof with shed roof dormers. The building is vacant but is included in the 75-year lease with the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 19 Franklin Hall/General Mess and Kitchen 1886 Contributing

Built by James A. McGonigle, Franklin Hall is a tall, two-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 two-story porch within the main roof slope, constructed of iron pipe and once decorated with a large eagle motif, extends

across the front (west side), 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 intact. It rises from a quarry-face limestone foundation and sandstone sill cap to the hip roof with overhand and hipped and shed roof wall dormers. The main block walls are buttress pier construction with two-over-two paired windows set in segmental arches in each bay. At the second level, tall eight-over-eight windows continue through the roof cornice line to the dormers, which feature four sets of nine-light hinged windows. 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 roofing material is asphalt shingle. The rear kitchen extension is more utilitarian in appearance.

The interior retains its open plan and large porch/hall space on each floor, as well as finishes and fixtures. The main dining hall is on the first floor and is supported by two rows of riveted iron posts and pipe columns. A dance hall is on the second floor and has a raised stage at the east end. Iron columns support the second floor. The building is used for storage and is included in the 75-year lease with the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 21 Administration Building 1902/03 Contributing

The administration building was constructed to house functions previously located in the Ward Memorial Building. Its stylistic influences reflect the eclecticism of the early twentieth century, drawing on the castellated pediment seen in Tudor styles, and the hipped roof with flared eaves and corner quoins of French Eclectic and Italian Renaissance design. The administration building is a one and one-half story, 5 x 5 bay building constructed of hard-fired, red brick. The foundation is quarry-block limestone, and the upper floor is contained within a prominent decked and flared truncated hip roof with hip dormers and a wide overhanging cornice of pressed metal with decorative rafters. The roof material is asphalt shingle. The façade facing east is composed of five equal bays, with a three-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 one-over-one windows are paired on the front and arranged in groups of one to three on the sides and rear. The first floor has been refinished, but original finishes remain on the second floor. There is a pressed metal ceiling in the main hall space. The building continues to be used as office space.

Building 28 Laundry 1888 Contributing

The Laundry was possibly built by James A. McGonigle, and 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 arched windows with limestone sills and twenty-light steel sash windows with hoppers at bottom and top. The entrance with the transom at the western end bay of the north side is rebuilt. There is a small, one-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. The building is vacant.

Building 29 Ward Memorial Building 1888 Contributing

Built of brick on a base of local limestone by James A. McGonigle and designed in the eclectic Queen Anne style, Building 29 is two and one-half stories high, capped with a cross gable roof covered in asphalt shingle. The use of rough textured stone and scalloped metal shingles in contrast with the smooth brick walls creates a rich visual effect. Grouped round arch windows are on the second floor and in the gable ends. String courses, a round corner tower of wood with a conical roof, and a front porch are prominent building features. Gabled wall dormers appear on the north wing. The primary entrance is on the west side, sheltered by the large porch which

is supported by slender columns arranged in sets of two. Another important feature, removed in the early 1990s, was the large stained glass window depicting Abraham Lincoln that lit the stair at the south side of the building. The window is on display in Building 160 (#2). On the interior, the top floor contained the Hancock Library, operating in the building until 1960. The main floor held the offices of the home's administrators. The lower level contained a billiard room and a barber shop. While original finishes remain, 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, but it is included in the 75-year lease with the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 31 Lumber Shed 1893 Contributing

The lumber shed is a long, rectangular, one-story utilitarian building under a gable roof covered in asphalt shingle. The building has horizontal lap-board siding and three large sliding doors of wood. Above these are three eight-light windows. The entrance is at the north end, with a paneled and glazed door. The interior is unfinished, and is divided into several storage bays. The building has always served as ancillary storage.

Building 33 Milk House 1920 Contributing

Building 33 is a small, vernacular, one-story, 4 x 1 bay building, of quarry-face limestone under a large hip roof. The joints have been repointed and have a raised profile. Windows are four-over-four, and windows and doors have segmental arches. 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. The roof material is asphalt shingle. Building 33 is now a grounds and transportation office.

Building 34 Nurses Quarters 1898/1921 Contributing

The nurses' quarters is a large brick building with irregular massing and roof. The oldest section of 1898 (east) is one and one-half stories with a cross gable roof covered in asphalt shingle, 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 two-story Colonial Revival porch with dentil cornice and modillion blocks dominates the south side. The 1921 section interior has a center hall with a large staircase. This building has been rehabilitated and leased by the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 36 Storage Shed 1896 Contributing

The storage shed is a small one-story, rectangular plan, brick building with a shed roof covered in asphalt shingle. 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. It is used for storage.

Building 37 Paint Shop 1897 Contributing

This narrow two-story brick building has 2 x 4 bays, with a hip roof covered in asphalt shingle. Segmental arch window openings have tile sills. Windows are six-over-six. The main entrance is on the west side, and an open metal roofed shed runs along the north side. Building 37 is used as a paint shop.

Building 39 Boiler Plant 1886 Contributing

The boiler plant is a complex massing of tall one-story and two-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 six-over-six 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 continues to be used as it was originally intended and is adjacent to Building 139 (a structure), the boiler chimney stack.

Building 40 West Gate House 1910 Contributing

The west gate house, erected in 1910, is a small, square, rustic guard house designed as a simple rendition of the Mission style. Its character defining features are the irregular course limestone rubble 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 voussoirs. 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 the 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. The building is currently a guard house.

Building 41 Quartermaster Supply House 1899/1908 Contributing

The quartermaster warehouse is a Georgian Colonial Revival style, T-plan two and one-half 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 two-over-two wood sash, while the remainder are replacement, two-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 one-story concrete block office stair addition was recently added to the east end of the north side. The building serves as office space.

Building 42 Governor's Quarters 1887; moved 1930 Contributing

The governor's quarters 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 flat arches on the first-floor windows and water table enliven the lower level of pitched-faced stone in regular courses. 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 paneled doors with glass upper panels. A tall stained glass window marks the staircase on the west side. The two-story sun porch at rear is probably an addition. The interior has a large entrance/stairhall and formal rooms on the first floor. The porch railing was replaced in 1992. The associated garage is Building 73. The residence was moved in 1930 when preparations for the construction of the new Veterans' Administration hospital began one-quarter mile to the east. It is considered contributing according to NHL Exception 2, as the

design is largely unchanged, and it continues to represent the most important administrative residence at the NHDVS. It is used as a meeting center.

Building 43 Treasurer's Quarters 1887 Contributing

The treasurer's quarters, 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 northeast front and northwest side and features turned columns. 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 paneled doors with glass upper panels. The brick first floor has flat arch, one-over-one 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, which is covered in asphalt shingles; standing seam metal is on the porch. A brick chimney with decorative channeling and corbelling rises against the south exterior wall on the first floor. The interior includes a large entrance/stair hall and an angled brick fireplace. Some trim has been removed, but much remains. Building 43 is associated with a garage, Building 116. The building has been rehabilitated and is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association as lodging.

Building 44 Surgeon's Quarters 1887 Contributing

The surgeon's quarters, 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 southeast and southwest sides. 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 paneled doors with glass upper panels. The foundation is pitch-faced stone in regular courses. The first floor is brick with flat arch windows 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 channeling and corbelling rises on the northwest exterior wall. The interior includes a large entrance/stair hall and an angled brick fireplace. Building 44 is associated with a garage, Building 114. Building 44 has been rehabilitated and is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association as lodging.

Building 45 Quartermaster's Quarters 1901; moved 1930 Contributing

The quartermaster's quarters is a two and one-half story brick building with a shallowly projecting central bay. Brick pilasters define the central bay. A broad porch extends the full length of the front. 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. On the second floor, a simple entablature serves as a continuous window lintel. Windows are typically one-over-one. 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. The foundations are limestone, and the roof material appears to be asphalt shingle. On each rear corner are polygonal window bays. Building 45 is associated with a garage, Building 143. The quartermaster's quarters were moved in 1930 when preparations for construction of the new Veterans' Administration hospital complex began one-quarter mile to the east. It is considered contributing according to NHL Exception 2, as the design is largely unchanged, and it continues to represent one of the most important administrative residences at the NHDVS. The building continues to be used as a residence.

Building 46 Commissary of Subsistence and Senior Assistant Surgeon's Quarters 1889 Contributing

This duplex quarters originally housed the commissary of subsistence and the senior assistant surgeon. It is a two and one-half story symmetrical cross gable, cross-plan building of brick with frame central extensions and bays. The roof material is asphalt shingle and the foundation is limestone. A wood porch extends across the front and along sides; frame service porches are located at the rear. The façade faces northeast; the twin entrances with sidelights and transoms are in the angles of the front "T." In the brick section, window arches are flat on the first floor and segmental arch above. The wood-frame section has flathead windows. Windows are one-over-one. The building carries four chimneys. The dominant feature of the symmetrical gable end façade is an exterior channeled brick chimney at the center of the façade 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. Building 46 is associated with a garage, Building 115. The building has been rehabilitated and is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 47 Chaplain's Quarters 1906 Contributing

The chaplain's quarters is a small, one and one-half story 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. The roof covering is asphalt shingle. Windows on the first floor are segmental arch with limestone sills. Windows are one-over-one. The second floor has 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. This building is used as an insulator shop.

Building 48 Single Quarters 1908 Contributing

This residence is a simple two-story rectangular block under a hip roof with exposed rafter ends at the overhang. It has a Queen Anne style with Colonial Revival elements, and the plain massing is enlivened by shingle siding, a continuous second-story window lintel, an asymmetrical arrangement of windows and by grouped windows on the rear elevation. The off-center entrance is located under a simple hip-roof porch on chamfered piers running the length of the façade. The front door is not historic. 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, building 48 is associated with a garage, Building 144. This building has been rehabilitated and is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 51 Single Quarters 1886 Contributing

This is a Queen Anne style, two-story, cross gable roofed residential building with an irregular plan. The roof is hipped with asphalt shingles, the walls are clad in clapboard, and the foundation is sandstone block. Windows are two-over-two sash, although a living room window has been changed out to a picture window. Its most distinguishing features are a broad wrap-around porch on the west and north sides; the porch roof is supported on chamfered posts. There are decorative gable ends with staggered shingles, brackets, and bargeboards. The main entrance under the porch on the west side has sidelights and a transom. A number of exterior doors have been replaced. The building is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 53 Single Quarters 1886 Contributing

This is a small, vernacular building with elements of the Greek Revival style in its massing. The foundation is brick and concrete and is covered by siding. It has a T-plan, gable roof and is set on a slope so that there is one

story at the front, and two stories at the rear. The plain entrance is centered in the 3-bay front, and sheltered by a heavy, early twentieth-century porch featuring four wood columns on brick piers. The porch floor is concrete. The walls are covered with asbestos shingle, and windows are one-over-one and one-over-two sash. It is used as offices for administration of grounds.

Building 54 Garage and Stable 1927/28 Contributing

Built to house both horse-drawn and gasoline-powered firefighting equipment, the garage and stable is an eight-bay-long, brick pier building with a steel truss gable roof and three rear ells. The quarry-face 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. The main block and the ell have segmental arch openings for six-over-six and four-over-four wood sash windows. 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. It was modified in 1946 when horses were no longer used. The basement stable was discontinued and the space converted to an auto mechanic shop. A dispatcher office and a bunk room for fire fighters were created. One ell has two garage doors installed in its north elevation. The building appears to have been built on the foundation of the earlier stable. It is now used as a fire station.

Building 56 Duplex Quarters 1915/16 Contributing

This is a two-story frame residential building with Colonial Revival design elements. The building rises from a quarry block limestone foundation to a side gable roof with end returns and wide overhanging cornice and eaves. The roof covering is asphalt shingle. Openings are arranged symmetrically, reflecting two interior living units. The four-bay façade faces west with the two entrances in the inner bays under a full porch on narrow piers. A small, shed dormer with four six-light windows is centered in the roof slope, and two small internal chimneys rise from the ridge. At the rear, two-story glazed porches occupy the outer corners. The one-over-one window sash may be replacement units, and the porch appears to have been rebuilt. The house shares similarities with Buildings 57 and 68. This building has been rehabilitated and is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 57 Duplex Quarters 1921 Contributing

This is a simply massed, two-story residential building with Colonial Revival design elements. Framed with clapboard siding and corner boards, it rises from a concrete block foundation to a truncated hip roof with overhanging cornice with exposed rafter ends. The roof covering is asphalt shingle. Openings are arranged symmetrically, reflecting two interior living units. The five-bay façade faces northeast with the two entrances grouped in the central bay under the gable pedimented section of a full porch on paired square posts. The porch roof is standing seam metal. 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, including six-over-six sash. The house is nearly identical to Building 68 and shares similarities with Building 56. The building has been rehabilitated and is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 58 Cemetery Rest House 1921 Contributing

The Cemetery Rest House shows a Spanish Eclectic design influence. It is a small 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 multi-light windows and French door openings are round arch and segmental arch with cast concrete sills, brick lintels, and wood enframements and sash. Considered part of the rest house design, the covered seating area contains a cast iron water fountain decorated with animal and plant 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."

Building 61 Single Quarters 1900 Contributing

This is a fairly simple, two-story, wood-frame residence is built in a combination of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. It is asymmetrical with a central rounded bay and an angled corner tower. It sits on a quarry block limestone foundation, is sided in clapboard, and has a hip roof covered in asphalt shingle. A broad front porch faces south. The one-over-one sash windows are single and grouped in twos. Building 61 is associated with a garage, Building 120. It is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 64 Recreation Hall 1898 Contributing

One of three nineteenth-century main recreational buildings for the NHDVS, the recreation hall is a Châteauesque style building set on a quarry block limestone foundation. It is set into a steeply sloping site. It features the style's characteristic steeply pitched roof, and presents a roofline with many vertical elements including the steeply gabled and ornamental dormers with pinnacles. The roof is clad in wood shingles. The building is 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 façade. On the lower story towers, the bricks are designed to resemble rusticated ashlar, and are incorporated into the window arch voussoirs. On the second floor, the same brick treatment is used to create corner quoins. Access to the main entrance is via an arched brick bridge to the second level. The second level has a full porch under a wide roof overhang and classically derived window trim in metal. The lower story features an arcaded front and round arch windows. The rear is simple and has a full-width enclosed porch with a shed roof over a multi-bay garage. The multi-light windows are wood sash; all doors have been altered. On the interior, the upper level has been remodeled and partitioned. The north end of the building now contains a credit union, and the south end contains a post office. The building today is popularly called the "Dugout," because of the lower-level, open recreational space. The Dugout has a pressed metal ceiling, plaster walls, and linoleum floor. Bowling alleys built in 1946 are located in the rear enclosed porch section. The building is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 66 Chapel 1893 Contributing

The chapel is the most architecturally sophisticated and ornate building at the former Western Branch. Designed by Kansas City architect Louis Curtiss and his partner Frederick C. Gunn in the Late Gothic Revival style, the Chapel has also been referred to as Immanuel Church. Constructed of brick trimmed with quarry-faced limestone and sandstone and set on a high limestone basement, the eclectic building rises to a steep gable roof. The roof is covered in metal shingle in a shield pattern. The main square entrance bell tower, located on the northeast corner, carries a hip roof with widely flaring eaves. A smaller octagonal stair tower with a stepped parapet is on the southwest corner. Although the building is referred to as the chapel, the interior contains two separate chapels, Protestant on the upper level and Catholic on the lower level. The building is sited on a steep slope, and the lower Catholic chapel has full daylight on the west side. A three-story gothic arch with stone

voussoirs provides entrance for the Catholic chapel, which also has a modern, one-story gabled entrance shelter. Two-story, gothic arched, stain glassed, trefoil windows on the east and west sides depict religious and patriotic scenes. The window on the east side (Protestant chapel) is accented with limestone voussoirs. The glass includes a panel with a graphic carrying the initials "W.B.N.H.D.V.S." A rose window is on the south side (Protestant chapel). The interiors of both chapels are intact, with the Protestant Chapel sparely ornamented, with cast metal geometric window/door trim, acoustical tile ceilings and blank plaster walls. Furnishings are blond oak benches, altar screens, pulpits, etc. The Catholic chapel interior is much more elaborately detailed, with a coffered metal ceiling, statuary, stations of the cross, and stained glass windows on the west side. Other prominent features include a monumental recessed arch at the north end, double leaf entrance doors with ornamental strap hinges, gargoyles, crenellation, 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. The building continues to be used as a chapel.

Building 68 Duplex Quarters 1922 Contributing

This is a simply massed two-story residential building with Colonial Revival elements rising from a concrete block foundation to a truncated hip roof with overhanging cornice and exposed rafter ends. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The duplex is frame with clapboard siding and corner boards. Openings are arranged symmetrically, reflecting two interior living units. The five-bay façade 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, eight-light 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 are a variety of six-over-six, four-over-four, eight-over-eight and one-over-one. The house is nearly identical to Building 57 and shares similarities with Building 56. The building has been rehabilitated and is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 75 Cemetery Tool House 1928 Contributing

This is a one-story building of frame construction with a prominent hip roof. The walls are clad in clapboard, and the roof is asphalt. Built into a steeply sloping site, the cemetery tool house is set on a tall concrete foundation. Windows are one-over-one sash. There is a small brick exterior chimney on the south side and entrance with paneled door on the east side. The building continues to be used for tool storage.

Building 76 Nurses Quarters 1921 Contributing

This is a rectangular 3 x 9 bay, wood-frame building with Colonial Revival style elements. It was built as an annex to Building 34, along with two other nursing quarters in the same cluster. The foundation is quarry block limestone, with a cement coating. Walls are sided in clapboard, and windows are six-over-six sash. The roof is hipped and covered in asphalt shingle. The most distinguishing characteristic of the nurses quarters are monumental Ionic-columned porches at the north and south ends, surmounted by small hip-roof dormers. There are four apartments inside; the second-floor apartments and the first-floor apartment on the north were refinished in 1946. Building 76 has been leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 77 Dry Cleaning Building 1917/18 Contributing

The dry cleaning building is a 5 x 2 bay brick building built into a sloping site. The north side is one story; the south side has a fully exposed basement. The foundation is quarry block limestone coated with cement. Building 77 has a hipped roof with exposed rafter ends and is covered with asphalt shingles. The brick is hard-fired with rounded edges; trim is concrete. It has segmental arch window lintels, six-over-six sash windows, and concrete sills. On the north side, there is one single and one double leaf entrance, with original wood doors with

lower paneled 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. The building is now used as a mason shop.

Building 94 Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Station 1916 Contributing

Replacing an earlier building on the site, Building 94 is a one-story, Mission style brick building with a cruciform plan. Its most distinctive feature is its tile covered broad hip roof with wide overhangs, exposed rafter ends, and enormous brackets. Windows are diamond pane-over-one wood sash, with limestone sills. The foundation is limestone. There are two brick interior chimneys, one at the northwest end, one at the southeast end. The interior has been refinished as office space with a reception area at the southeast end. Building 94 is now used as offices.

Building 95 Blacksmith Shop 1905 Contributing

Building 95 is a one-story, 3 x 4-bay structure of brick pier construction with a gable on hip roof. The roof covering is asphalt shingle. The foundation is concrete. Each bay is distinguished by shallow brick pilasters; there is also brick corbelling at the top of each bay, above segmental arched window openings containing four-over-four sash windows. A 1 x 4-bay wood shed addition is attached to the east side; an overhead paneled door opens on the north side. There is a concrete block, freestanding structure with ventilators and ducting on the west side. Building 95 is presently used as a paint building.

Building 97 Carpenter Shop 1904 Contributing

Building 97 is a one-story 10 x 3-bay building of brick bearing wall construction. It has a quarry block limestone foundation, and a hip roof covered with asphalt shingles. Shallow brick pilasters divide the bays. Brick corbelling extends along the top of the bays between the pilasters. Each bay contains a segmental-arch opening containing a six-over-six window with a limestone sill. The building continues to be used as a carpenter shop.

Building 100 Barracks/Hospital Annex 1904 Contributing

Building 100 is a two-story, Georgian Colonial Revival T-plan building on a limestone foundation and capped with a hip roof with wood cupola. The roof material is asphalt shingle. The barracks is nearly encircled by a two-story wood porch. The north-facing entrance is centered in a projecting pavilion within the porch. Windows are four-over-four sash, and the building has brick enclosed stairwells at the east and west wing ends. The design is similar to the neighboring barracks in the use of red brick and two-story porches. The interior has been remodeled. The building has also been used as an annex to the original hospital (no longer standing), a tuberculosis ward in 1911, and was converted to a neuro-psychiatric hospital in 1944–1945. It was returned to use as a barracks in 1947. It is now leased to the Leavenworth School District.

Building 119 Garage 1928 Contributing

The single car garage is a small utilitarian wood-frame garage with a gable roof and an overhead paneled door on the west side. The foundation is concrete, the siding is shiplap, and the roof covering is asphalt shingle. It is associated with quarters Building 51. It is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 120 Garage 1928 Contributing

This single car garage is a small utilitarian brick building with a hip roof and an overhead roll-type door. The foundation is concrete, there are eight-light hinged windows on the north and south sides; the garage door opens

to the east. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. It is associated with quarters Building 61. The garage is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 129 Tin Shop 1928 Contributing

The former tin shop is a utilitarian, one-story wood and sheet metal building with a gable roof. It 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 paneled overhead garage 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. The roof is steel frame covered with asphalt. It is now used for offices.

CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

Structure 30 West Gate Lodge 1910 Contributing

The west gate lodge is designed in the Mission style. Its character-defining features are the irregular coursed rubble limestone 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 the 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. The single interior space reflects its building materials. It continues to serve as a shelter.

(No Number) Fire Hose Storage ca. 1890 Contributing

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.

CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS

(No Number) Soldiers Monument 1919 Contributing

The Soldiers Monument is a limestone obelisk set on a pedestal base. The obelisk is located at the highest point of the cemetery overlooking the Missouri River. The obelisk was erected in 1919, and bears the inscription, “In Memory of The Men Who Offered Their Lives in Defense of Their Country.”

CONTRIBUTING SITES

Landscape and Road System ca. 1888-1900 Contributing

The site plan for the Home is thought to have been designed by landscape architect H.W.S. Cleveland. The key characteristics of the landscape—the broad arcs of the circulation roads, the open expanses of lawn scattered with trees, and the arrangement of buildings—respond to and enhance the natural undulating topography of the landscape. They also respond to important viewsheds. Important vistas and view sheds exist along Franklin Avenue, with unobstructed vistas to the west and east. Other views focused on 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, hollow 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. The curbing was designed to accommodate conduits. Some modifications have been made to the entrance drive. Lake Jeannette is an ornamental, manmade body of water of approximately four acres, and was 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 objects, including one nineteenth-century cannon (of 60 that once lined Franklin Avenue), the 1936 monuments, and flags is located, along with the Flagpole, on the west side of Franklin Avenue near the site of an earlier fountain (removed).

Leavenworth National Cemetery **1886** **Contributing**

The Leavenworth National Cemetery, attributed to landscape architect, H.W.S. Cleveland, occupies 164 acres of rolling land. It follows the park-like cemetery layout popular in the late nineteenth century. Approximately 50 acres of ridge and side slopes are developed; the remainder, comprising ravines and an east-west ridge, are undeveloped. Mature trees are scattered about the cemetery. The road sweeps up the hill past the cemetery rest house (Building 58), and the rostrum (Building 125B), to a 1919 limestone obelisk monument at the crest of the hill, the highest point overlooking the Missouri River. The spacious burial lawns are laid out with regular rows of white marble stones; there are more than 18,000 graves present. 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 Native American bodies found during excavation for one of the Medical Center buildings. There are six Medal of Honor recipients buried in the cemetery: Private William W. Burritt (Civil War); First Lieutenant (then Corporal) Daniel A. Dorsey (Civil War); Sergeant John S. Durham (Civil War); Sergeant William Garrett (Civil War); Musician (then Private) John Gray (Civil War); and First Sergeant John H. Shingle, (Indian Campaigns). Within the cemetery are a number of site features, including six cast-iron plaques that predate 1930. The plaques feature verses of the poem “Bivouac of the Dead.” There is also a cast metal plaque bearing the Gettysburg Address. A modern addition includes the carillon plaza located between the road and Section 19. Within the plaza is the carillon tower, benches and a dedication monument. The most recent monument installed commemorates the “Fighting Fourth” Marines. Other buildings within the cemetery include the Cemetery Rest House (Building 58), the Tool House (Building 75), a Cemetery Office (no number), and a maintenance facility (Building 160).

The cemetery is considered contributing according to NHL Exception 5, as it derives primary significance from its importance to the history of the NHDVS.

NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

Building 49 **Single Quarters** **1955** **Noncontributing**

This residence is a simple one-story, gable roof ranch with an exposed basement at the rear and wide exposed clapboard sheathing. The windows are horizontal muntin two-over-two sash, grouped on the side elevations. The most prominent feature is the projecting gable center entry porch screened with fiberglass panels. The entry is on the west side. A one-car basement garage is located on the south end. The building is noncontributing because it was constructed after the period of significance. The building is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 55 **Shed** **ca. 1990** **Noncontributing**

According to the 1999 National Register nomination, Building 55 was a gabled frame wagon shed. The current one-story building appears modern, and the historic building was demolished according to the DDE/VAMC building inventory list. It has metal siding, is three bays wide, and the two northern bays have double-leaf, hinged doors with angled corners. The roof is gabled.

Building 71 Nurses Quarters 1932/33 Noncontributing

The nurses quarters is a three-story, rectangular brick building, measuring 19 x 3 bays under a gable roof. It has central three-bay gabled pavilions on each long elevation with entrances and shallow recessed arches, and central gabled one-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 six-over-six wood sash with cast stone sills and flat brick lintels. There is a dominant belt course dividing the basement and the first floor, and a second continuous lintel for the third-floor windows. The dormers have round arch windows with tracery sash. Building 71 is associated with two garages, Buildings 112 and 113. It is used for administration offices. The building is noncontributing because it was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 73 Single Garage 1933 Noncontributing

Building 73 is a plain one-car frame garage with wood lap siding and a gable roof. The original double leaf-hinged doors have been replaced with an overhead roll-type door. Eight-light windows are located on the north and south sides. It is associated with Building 42. The building was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 81 Water Softening Plant 1938 Noncontributing

Building 81 is 3 x 2 bays in size with brick walls and a gable roof with asphalt shingles. It sits on a concrete foundation and has six-over-three sash and hopper windows with concrete lintels. It is a utilitarian structure with a modern overhead garage door opening on the north side and half-round vent openings in both gable peaks. It continues to be used as the water softening plant. The building was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 88 Administration and Clinical Hospital Building 1931/32 Noncontributing

Building 88 is the south-central and administrative/clinical building within the four four-, five-, and six-story, red brick, Classical Revival structures comprising the main hospital complex. The complex plan consists of three parallel buildings (89, 90, 91) connected by four-story (originally three-story) arcaded passages. Building 88 is attached at its rear to the central building (Building 89). It is five-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. Windows with flat arches have one-over-one replacement aluminum sash. The building was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 89 Hospital Building 1931-1933 Noncontributing

Building 89 is the central building of the red brick Classical Revival structures comprising the main hospital complex. The complex plan consists of three parallel buildings (89, 90, 91) connected by four-story (originally three-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 four-stories tall (two-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 one-over-one replacement aluminum 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 windows with flat arches. Windows are six-over-six wood sash. A limestone string course appears 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. The building was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 90 Hospital Building 1931-1933 Noncontributing

Building 90 is the western building of the red brick, Classical Revival structures comprising the main hospital complex. The complex plan consists of three parallel buildings (89, 90, 91) connected by four story (originally three story) arcaded passages. Building 90 is attached at its east side center to the central building (Building 89). Identical to Building 91, it is six 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 one-over-one replacement aluminum sash. The building was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 91 Hospital Building 1931-1933 Noncontributing

Building 91 is the eastern red-brick building Classical Revival buildings comprising the main hospital complex. The complex plan consists of three parallel buildings (89, 9, 91) connected by four story (originally three story) arcaded passages. Building 91 is attached at its west side center to the central building (Building 89). Identical to Building 90, it is six 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 windows with flat arches have one-over-one replacement aluminum sash. The emergency room entrance is located at the center of the east elevation on Franklin Avenue. A modern glass entrance canopy has been installed on the east side. The building is noncontributing because it was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 110 Storage Building (Grounds) 1984 Noncontributing

Building 110 is a large gable roofed prefabricated “Astro” steel 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. The building was constructed after the period of significance.

(No Number) Storage Building ca. 1984 Noncontributing

This unnumbered storage building is a 3-bay gable roofed prefabricated “Astro” steel structure with an open south side. A similar larger structure, Building 110 is sited to the west. It was built after the period of significance.

Building 112 Garage 1936 Noncontributing

Building 112 is a long, brick, hip roofed garage with fifteen car bays on the north side and storage area on the south side, lower level. The foundation is concrete and the roof is covered in asphalt shingle. The doors are wood-paneled, overhead roll-type. It is similar to Building 113, and provided car spaces for residents of the nurses quarters (Building 71). It was built after the period of significance.

Building 113 Garage 1936 Noncontributing

This garage is a long, brick, hip roofed garage with fifteen car bays on the south side and crawl space on the north side. The foundation is concrete and the roof is covered with asphalt shingle. The doors are wood-paneled, overhead roll-type. It is similar to Building 112, and provided car spaces for residents of the nurses quarters (Building 71). The garage was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 114 Garage 1936 Noncontributing

This three-car garage is a utilitarian, three-bay brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type doors. The foundation is concrete and the roof is covered with asphalt shingle. It is associated with the surgeon's quarters (Building 44). The garage was built after the period of significance. It is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 115 Garage 1936 Noncontributing

This four-car garage is a utilitarian, four-bay brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type doors. The foundation is concrete and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. It is associated with duplex quarters Buildings 46 and 57. The garage was built after the period of significance. It is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 116 Garage 1936 Noncontributing

The three-car garage is a utilitarian three-bay brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type doors. The foundation is concrete and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. It is associated with the treasurer's quarters Buildings 43 and duplex quarters Building 68. The garage was built after the period of significance. It is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 117 Animal House 1936/37 Noncontributing

The Animal House is a small, one-story, utilitarian gable roofed brick building measuring 3 x 2 bays. It has a concrete foundation, windows are eight-light wood frame and the roof is covered with asphalt shingle. A corrugated metal, gabled shed is attached to the east end. The Animal House was constructed after the period of significance. It is currently used for flammable storage.

Building 122 Barracks 1939 Noncontributing

This former barracks 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. It has a concrete foundation, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are one-over-one replacement aluminum sash. The façade faces west with three projecting gabled pavilions. The central five-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 original features, despite extensive remodeling in 1992. The building is noncontributing because it was constructed after the period of significance. The building has been converted for use as a nursing home and for psychiatric care.

Building 123 Incinerator 1937/38 Noncontributing

The incinerator is a small, one-story brick utilitarian building measuring 2 x 3 bays. It is set on a high concrete foundation, and capped by a hip roof with a small ventilator. The roof is covered in asphalt shingle. The north elevation has a central loading bay with a metal overhead rolling door. The loading bay is flanked by 20-light metal sash windows with hoppers. The east side contains an entrance with double leaf, wood paneled doors and the same type of window. The building was constructed after the period of significance. It still performs its historic use of trash disposal.

Building 140 Storage Shed 1948 Noncontributing

Building 140 is a utilitarian building sided in corrugated metal and built on a concrete foundation. It has 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. It is built within the rear ell section of the main supply building (Building 41). It is used for storage.

Building 141 Garage 1948 Noncontributing

This garage is an eight-bay structure open on the east side, with a flat shed roof. The original six-bay north section is the original portion with steel frame, brick footing, and corrugated metal roof and sides. A later two-bay south section has concrete footing, shed roof, steel and wood framing, and corrugated metal walls. The garage was built after the period of significance. It continues use as a garage.

Building 142 Storage Building 1950 Noncontributing

The storage shed is a small brick building with a gable roof with concrete block in the gable peaks. It has a concrete foundation, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingle. There are no windows, and the entrance is on the east side. It is near the fuel oil storage tank (structure 103). The building was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 143 Garage 1954 Noncontributing

This single car garage is a small brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type door. The foundation is concrete, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingle. There is one nine-light window in both the northeast and southwest sides, and a pedestrian paneled and glazed door on the southwest wall. The garage is associated with the quartermaster's quarters, Building 45. The garage was built after the period of significance.

Building 144 Garage 1954 Noncontributing

The single car garage is a small brick structure with a hip roof and overhead roll-type door. The foundation is concrete, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingle. There is one nine-light window in both the east and west walls, and a pedestrian paneled and glazed door on the west side. The garage is associated with quarters Building 48. It was constructed after the period of significance. It is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 149A Gas Meter House 1929 Noncontributing

The gas meter house 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 building has a single door in the north wall. Although the DDE/VAMC building list identifies a construction date of 1929, the materials and roof

line appear to have changed since completion of the National Register nomination. The building is now considered noncontributing to this nomination.

Building 149B Gas Meter House 1929 Noncontributing

The gas meter house 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 building has a single door in the north wall Although the DDE/VAMC building list identifies a construction date of 1929, the materials and roof line appear to have changed since completion of the National Register nomination. The building is now considered noncontributing to this nomination.

Building T150 Medical Records 1985 Noncontributing

Building T150 is an addition to Buildings 89 and 91 and is outside the period of significance.

(No Number) Cemetery Office 1992 Noncontributing

This building, designed by George Butler and Associates, is composed of three wood-frame, residential scaled, connected and staggered gable roofed sections of equal size. They are sheathed in clapboard and have single pane casement windows. The roof is covered in asphalt shingle. The building has a concrete foundation. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 152 Theater and Library 1960/62 Noncontributing

The theater and library is a steel and concrete structure clad in red brick veneer. It is designed as a series of box-like masses of different shapes and heights, articulated with paneled brick work. It has a concrete foundation and a flat roof. A metal canopy on angled posts marks the entrance at the southeast corner. The Theater and Library Building combined recreational functions previously housed in the Ward Memorial Building and Franklin Hall. It was constructed after the period of significance. Building 152 is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Building 153 Laundry 1978 Noncontributing

The laundry is a two-story brick building with a flat roof. It has a concrete foundation, and windows are one-light with hoppers. It is one of the largest of the service buildings, and incorporated laundry functions previously housed in Building 28. The entrance, offices, and loading bays are on the east side. It was constructed after the period of significance. It continues to function as a laundry.

Building 155 Water Meter Building 1970 Noncontributing

The water meter building is a utilitarian, one-story box-like brick structure with a flat roof. There are no windows, and the two metal doors are located on the south side. It was constructed after the period of significance. It continues to function as a water meter building.

Building 157 Cooling Tower 1976 Noncontributing

The cooling tower enclosure and building is a concrete, flat-roof building and metal-sheathed cooling tower for Building 122.

Building 158 Cooling Tower 1976 Noncontributing

The cooling tower enclosure and building is a concrete, flat-roof building and metal-sheathed cooling tower for the main Hospital complex, Buildings 88, 89, 90, 91.

Building 159 Switch Gear 1973 Noncontributing

The switch gear consists of a pad mounted switch gear structure and a small brick, flat roof service building.

Building 160 Maintenance Building 1995 Noncontributing

Building 160 was designed by George Butler and Associates and is a one and one-half story building composed of several gable-roofed concrete block sections, with a garage door on the north side. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 160 (#2) New Domiciliary & Dietetics 1993-1995 Noncontributing

The two-story domiciliary and dietetics building is a reinforced concrete building veneered in red brick, designed by Wilson and Company, Architects. It was constructed to the west of the Hospital and Administration complex (Buildings 88-91), and combines the functions previously served by Buildings 1-14, Building 19, and the Chiller Plant. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 161 Chiller Plant 1995 Noncontributing

The new chiller plant was constructed in 1995 and is outside the period of significance.

Building 161A Sewage Pump House ca. 1970 Noncontributing

This is a small utilitarian brick structure with a flat roof. It has a concrete foundation. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 162 Generator Building 1995 Noncontributing

The generator building was constructed as part of the new domiciliary and dietetics building. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 163 Terminal Building 1995 Noncontributing

Building 163 is a modern addition to Building 90 and is outside the period of significance.

NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

Structure 103 Fuel Oil Storage Tank ca. 1950 Noncontributing

The fuel oil storage tank is a cylindrical steel tank constructed after the period of significance.

Structure 124 Steel Water Tank 1940 Noncontributing

The water tank is a cylindrical steel tank on four tapered steel supports. It sits on a concrete pad. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Structure 125B Cemetery Rostrum 1936 Noncontributing

The rostrum is located in the Leavenworth National Cemetery and is a U-shaped limestone Classical Revival monument. It has fluted piers and an entablature with triglyph-and-metope and modillion ornament. A speaker's podium is located at the center. It was designed in-house by W. Talbain, Chief of the VA's Technical Division in Washington, D.C. The rostrum, as with the John Joy Monument, was erected at the bequest of former Home member, John Joy. Rostrums such as this structure provided a platform for speeches and other events. Both were constructed after the period of significance.

Structure 139 Boiler Chimney Stack 1932 Noncontributing

The boiler chimney stack, adjacent Building 39, is a tall cylindrical stack of fireproof red tile brick. It is supported by a concrete foundation. It tapers as it rises and has a slight flare at the top. It was built by the Custodis Construction Company, Inc., of New York and Chicago. It replaced an original 1888 chimney, and is outside the period of significance.

Structure 148A East Bleachers 1957 Noncontributing

The east bleachers are a steel pipe and wood seat structure, identical to the West Bleachers, Building 148B.

Structure 148B West Bleachers 1957 Noncontributing

The west bleachers are a steel pipe and wood seat structure, identical to the East Bleachers, Building 148A.

Both bleachers were erected after the period of significance.

Structure 150 Shelter House/Chiller Tower 1959 Noncontributing

Building 150 is a concrete open air shelter with an enclosed toilets structure on the west end. It is set on a concrete foundation. The roof is wood frame with metal cladding. It provides service for Building 122. It was constructed after the period of significance. It is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Structure 151 Shelter 1959 Noncontributing

Building 151 is an open air shelter on steel posts with a flat roof and a cylindrical dressing room structure at the center. It sits on a concrete pad foundation. It was constructed after the period of significance. It is leased to the Eisenhower Ridge Association.

Structure 156 Dog Pen 1963 Noncontributing

Building 156 is a 3 x 5-bay structure sheathed in corrugated metal siding, with a gable roof. It sits on a concrete foundation. It was constructed after the period of significance. It is now used as a recycling center.

(No number) Cemetery Entrance Gate 1981 Noncontributing

This structure, designed by George Butler and Associates, consists of random ashlar stone wing walls and gate piers spanned by a wood pergola over the entrance drive.

(No number) Carillon Tower 2000 Noncontributing

The tower is located in the Leavenworth National Cemetery, and is an open metal work tower from which hang three bells of differing sizes. It was donated by the American Veterans organization (AMVETS).

NON-CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS

125A John Joy Monument 1936; moved 1986 Noncontributing

The monument is a Modernistic limestone slab set on a new granite base. It was originally located outside the main entrance to the Home, and moved to its current location on Franklin Avenue in 1986. W. Talbain, Chief of the VA's Technical Division in Washington, D.C., designed the monument. 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."

126 Flagpole ca. 1960 Noncontributing

The flag pole is a steel pole capped with a ball finial and set in a concrete pad footing. It replaced a 125-foot wood flag pole erected in 1934 at the same location.

(No Number) Cemetery Flagpoles (2) unknown Noncontributing

Located near the Cemetery Shelter House (Building 58) the flagpoles fly the United States flag and the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Flag.

(No Number) "Fighting Fourth" Monument 2002 Noncontributing

This recently installed monument is dedicated to the World War II Marines commemorating their actions in the Pacific Theater.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The first archaeological survey of DDE/VAMC was conducted in 1990. The survey identified 17 sites, primarily dump 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 destroyed 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. These sites are not included within the resource count, as they have not yet been listed on the National Register.

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Nationally: X Statewide:__ Locally:__

Applicable National Register Criteria:	A X B__ C X D__
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):	A X B X C__ D X E__ F__ G__
NHL Criteria:	1
NHL Exceptions:	2 and 5
NHL Theme(s):	IV. Shaping the Political Landscape 2. governmental institutions
Areas of Significance:	Politics/Government; Health/Medicine; Architecture; Landscape Architecture; Social History
Period(s) of Significance:	1885–1930
Significant Dates:	1885
Significant Person(s):	N/A
Cultural Affiliation:	N/A
Architect/Builder:	James A. McGonigle, builder Louis Curtiss, architect Frederick D. Gunn, architect H. W. S. Cleveland, landscape architect
Historic Contexts:	National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers

State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

Statement of Significance

A full discussion of the national significance of the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (NHDVS) is provided in the associated document, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers National Historic Landmark Context Study." The study establishes the history and evolution of the property type and provides a preliminary assessment of the National Historic Landmark (NHL) eligibility of the eleven NHDVS branches established across the country between 1865 and 1930. The study determined which of the eleven retained the highest integrity and represented most fully the development of veterans benefits in the United States, the commitment of the Board of Managers to honoring disabled veterans, and the original architectural and landscape designs.

The NHDVS represented a policy of veterans' benefits that directly influenced the development of a national system for veteran health care in the United States. The NHDVS was a notable departure from the previous focus on care for professional soldiers and officially set forth the concern and commitment of the federal government for the well-being of the civilian soldier. The history of the NHDVS can be organized into five phases. Phase One, 1865–1870, includes the formation of the NHDVS by Congress, the organization of the Board of Managers, and the establishment of the first four branches. During Phase Two, 1871–1883, the institution's operations continued to develop, and growth occurred at the individual sites. During Phase Three, 1884–1900, the system expanded to include four new branches. In Phase Four, 1900–1917, two new branches were created and the system increasingly focused attention on the medical needs of veterans. Phase Five, 1918–1930, saw the impact of World War I, the establishment of the final NHDVS branch, and the incorporation of the NHDVS into the newly created Veterans Administration.

The NHDVS branches were designed for a variety of reasons and functions over a broad period of time and evolved in response to specific changes in NHDVS policies. Such policies are physically reflected in the campuses. No one property has survived fully intact from one period, but some branches retain pivotal and important resources that are associated with specific periods. The Western Branch NHDVS is one of four branches nominated for NHL designation. The period of significance for the Western Branch is 1885 to 1930. It represents Phases Three through Five, beginning with expansion of the NHDVS after an 1884 policy change that dramatically broadened the standards for admission to the NHDVS and created a demand for additional facilities.

The Western Branch of the NHDVS is nationally significant under NHL Criterion 1 as a property that is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to our past; and NHL Theme IV, shaping the political landscape: governmental institutions, under the area of Health/Medicine. The Western Branch is an outstanding representation of the development of a national system of medical and residential benefits for disabled veterans. The NHDVS was the first national system to provide such benefits to volunteer soldiers, and as such, is a precursor to the modern system of veterans' benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Established in 1885, the Western Branch of the NHDVS represents the network of veterans' benefits that began growing rapidly after the Civil War and became increasingly important in terms of medical care to veterans after 1900. The property also represents the goals of the NHDVS Board of Managers to create attractive, well-designed institutions that would provide a dignified home for disabled veterans.

The Western Branch complements three other properties submitted for NHL consideration, under separate nominations, and representing distinct aspects of the NHDVS history:

- The Northwestern Branch, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was established in 1866 and opened in 1867. The Northwestern Branch represents all phases of the NHDVS history from the origins of the system and its evolution into the twentieth century. The Northwestern Branch was one of three original NHDVS facilities, and it retains the oldest buildings in the system. It also retains a largely intact picturesque landscape. It is particularly significant in representing the beginning of the network of veterans' benefits that began growing rapidly after the Civil War, and became increasingly important in terms of medical and geriatric care after 1900. The Northwestern Branch was the first NHDVS branch to institute such innovations as employing professional female nurses, and providing separate quarters for elderly members, inspiring similar changes in the operations of other branches. The physical development at the Northwestern Branch also influenced the way in which subsequent branches were designed. The period of significance for the Northwestern Branch is 1866–1930;

- The Mountain Branch, in Johnson City, Tennessee, was established in 1901 and opened in 1904. The Mountain Branch represents Phases Four and Five, a time of increased attention to medical care. The Mountain Branch reflects the attendant changes to the NHDVS after Spanish American War veterans were granted admission to the homes, and after particular conditions to which veterans of that war were susceptible, particularly yellow fever and tuberculosis. The Board considered the location particularly suitable for tuberculosis patients due to its climate. The Mountain Branch's symmetrical plan and uniform architectural style represent a departure from earlier branches, many of which included a variety of architectural styles and grounds designed in a picturesque or romantic style. The period of significance for the Mountain Branch is 1901–1930;

- The Battle Mountain Sanitarium, in Hot Springs, South Dakota, was established in 1902 and opened in 1907. Battle Mountain Sanitarium was the only NHDVS branch to be established as an independent medical facility, rather than a facility designed primarily as a residential institution. Battle Mountain Sanitarium utilized the waters from nearby mineral springs to treat musculoskeletal conditions; the high, dry atmosphere eased respiratory ills. The primary complex features a prominent administration center connected to an innovative hospital complex that placed wards in rectangular spokes. It outstandingly represents Phases Four and Five and the evolution of the NHDVS from a primarily residential system to one offering extensive medical services to veterans. The period of significance for Battle Mountain Sanitarium is 1902–1930.

The Western Branch is an outstanding example of the branches developed by the NHDVS Board of Managers, exhibiting a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Newer development tends to be located outside of the core area, and the majority of noncontributing resources are small, providing little intrusion into the historic scene. The Western Branch was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1999 at the national level of significance for its associations with the broader history of the Department of Veterans Affairs. The period of significance for the 1999 nomination is broader than the period of significance for this NHL nomination.

National Historic Landmark Criteria Exception 2 is applied since the governor's and the quartermaster's quarters have been moved but are considered contributing as their designs are largely unchanged and they continue to represent the most important administrative residences at the NHDVS. Under NHL Exception 5, the Leavenworth National Cemetery was established in 1886 on the grounds of the Western Branch and is primarily significant as part of the NHDVS historical development.

Establishment, Design, and Construction

The Western Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers was the first branch of the NHDVS constructed west of the Mississippi River and the first to be established after the 1884 change in policy that allowed veterans with non-service related disabilities to enter the institution. The location was important because by the early 1880s, more than 350,000 veterans lived in western states and territories far removed from existing NHDVS branches. Beginning in 1883, the Grand Army of the Republic began lobbying Congress to build an NHDVS facility in the West, and in July 1884, Congress appropriated money for a Western branch to be located in Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, or Nebraska. A spirited competition followed, with localities in Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa particularly determined to become the site of the newest NHDVS facility.[6]

In order to compete with other sites under consideration, the city of Leavenworth agreed to donate fifty thousand dollars and to use park bonds to purchase and donate land that was once part of the Delaware Indian Reservation. The site had been the location of the Stockbridge (Indian) Baptist Mission, established in 1844–1845. The mission included several trails, the Indian settlement, and a mission house sited in the approximate location of present-day Building 122, north of Lake Jeanette. The Delaware sold the property to private parties in the 1850s. The original property encompassed 640 acres on a rolling landscape immediately west of the Missouri River. Besides the offer of cash and land, the Board of Managers was influenced in its choice by the proximity of Fort Leavenworth, an important military installation, and by the efforts of state senator Alexander Caldwell and Leavenworth Mayor S. F. Neely. The establishment of the Western Branch was a victory for the town of Leavenworth. On September 27, 1884, after a telegram brought word that the site had been chosen, a city official ordered all church and school bells rung and all fire whistles blown. That evening, nearly one thousand men representing local organizations paraded to Senator Caldwell's home in celebration. Speeches marked the occasion, as it was considered so important to the growing city. Yet one more barrier to success remained: Leavenworth appealed to the state legislature for $50,000 to make the cash payment, but that body refused to make the appropriation and the city could not meet its obligation. However, the Board of Managers allowed the city to pay five thousand dollars per year for ten years.[7]

Between 1885 and 1890, some forty buildings were constructed at the site, including fourteen Georgian Revival style barracks; Franklin Hall—a Romanesque Revival kitchen and mess hall with the capacity to seat twelve hundred people; a Georgian Revival hospital (demolished) overlooking an artificial lake; a greenhouse (demolished); a Romanesque Revival hotel and theater (demolished); Ward Memorial Hall—a Queen Anne style administrative and library building; the laundry; and officers and staff housing. Most of the main buildings were constructed of brick, much of it manufactured on the grounds from a large deposit of clay discovered during the excavation for the original hospital. The clay was also used to produce materials for road paving and curbs. For a short time, the Board of Managers ran the brick plant as a profit-making business, but in 1890 discontinued brick and curbing manufacture except to meet the needs of the branch.[8]

Contractor James A. McGonigle was responsible for the construction of the seventeen original buildings constructed in the late 1880s, including thirteen barracks, the first hospital, and Franklin Hall. He was awarded

[6] Patrick J. Kelly, Creating a National Home: Building the Veterans' Welfare State, 1860–1900 (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1997), 180-181.

[7] Suzanne Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers: Assessment of Significance and National Historic Landmark Recommendations," (National Council on Public History and National Park Service, Midwest Region, 2007), 48-49; Adams, "Western Branch," 8/4; Historic American Buildings Survey, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers Western Branch (HABS No. KS-55), 5-6; Department of Veterans Affairs, *Commemorative History*: *100th Anniversary 1885-1985, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Leavenworth Kansas* (Leavenworth Kansas: Veterans Administration Center, [1985]), n.p.

[8] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 49; Adams, "Western Branch," 8/4.

the contract on May 16, 1885, and had completed the original buildings by 1887. No architect for the buildings has been identified. Born in Maryland in 1834, McGonigle arrived in Leavenworth in 1857 where he began a small contracting business. He served in the First Kansas Volunteers during the Civil War and returned to Leavenworth after being wounded. He resumed his business operations and was elected a city councilman and a state legislator. By the 1880s, McGonigle was well-known as a contractor in the region. He is credited with building more than 2,300 structures in the trans-Mississippi West. In Leavenworth, these included buildings at St. Mary's College, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Union Depot, and structures at Fort Leavenworth. He built a portion of the Kansas State Capitol, and Creighton College in Omaha, Nebraska. McGonigle built four buildings at the 1893 World Columbian Exposition in Chicago, fifteen railroad depots, Santa Fe Railroad and Fred Harvey facilities, private homes and office buildings, and state and federal structures. His own home at 420 Broadway in Leavenworth is remarkably similar to some of the branch's residences, notably Buildings 42-44. He may have constructed the Western Branch Chapel, designed by Louis Curtiss. McGonigle's son eventually joined him in the contracting business and as James A. McGonigle and Son they constructed thirty buildings at Fort Crockett in Texas and the interior of the Denver Mint. McGonigle died in the Western Branch hospital in 1925.[9]

The original plan of the Western Branch grounds, including circulation patterns, location of buildings, and some plantings, is attributed to nationally known landscape architect Horace William Shaler (H.W. S.) Cleveland. A native of Massachusetts, Cleveland worked with well-known landscape designers including Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux early in his career, before relocating to Chicago in 1869. He designed major parks and private landscapes throughout the Midwest, including Highland Park in Illinois (1869). After moving to Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1886, he completed the Twin Cities metropolitan park system (1872–1895), the campus landscape for the University of Minnesota (1892), and the park and boulevard system in Omaha, Nebraska (1892). Cleveland's design philosophy and the picturesque aesthetic of the time are expressed in the Western Branch's broadly curving tree-lined roads, informal arrangement of buildings, and large open areas with groups of trees and shrubs. The design complemented the rolling topography of the site and reflects Cleveland's belief in working in harmony with the existing natural landscape, a belief he addressed in his book *Landscape Architecture as Applied to the Wants of the West.* The Western Branch campus was centered on the imposing Franklin Hall. The main buildings, including "Barracks Row," made up of the fourteen brick barracks, were sited in a crescent shape on a ridge where they could command views of the grounds, the Missouri River area to the east, and rising hills to the west. The ridge-top location also allowed the buildings to take advantage of cooling breezes. Service and support buildings were located below the administration and barracks complex, to the east, while a large brick hospital anchored Barracks Row to the south. It overlooked Lake Jeannette, a lake created from the crater formed by clay removal for bricks. Lake Jeannette was named for the daughter of a Surgeon General whose home sat on its shore. The lake served as an entertainment and recreational center as well as a source of ice for the branch, and other staff residences were grouped nearby. Branch florists and gardeners, including Carl Kline, Sr. and Carl Kline, Jr., who were civilian employees at the branch at the turn of the century, cared for the grounds and designed and nurtured colorful floral beds and displays.[10]

Additional significant construction occurred between 1891 and 1900, when the Late Gothic Revival chapel, the Châteauesque style recreation hall, the quartermaster supply house, the gardener's quarters (demolished), and original nurses' quarters were built. The construction of these nurses' quarters in 1898 marked the incorporation

[9] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers,"49; a fuller description of some of McGonigle's work is found in Adams, "Western Branch," 8/9-10; HABS No. KS-55, 11, 13; *Kansas a Cylopedia of State History, Embracing Events, Institutions, Industries, Counties, Cityies, Towns, Prominent Persons, etc.,* vol. 3, part 1 (Chicago: Standard Publishing Company, 1912), 425-428.

[10] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 49; Adams, "Western Branch," 8/11; HABS No. KS-55, 11; The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., with Robert Olson and Associates Architects and Warren Jagger Photography, Inc., "Historic Preservation Plan, Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center," properties recorded by Virginia H. Adams, 1993, (HPP), n.p. The report is not paginated; references to individual properties will be by number or name.

of female nurses into the operations of the branch. A number of physical plant structures were also built, including the paint shop, boiler plant, and lumber shed.[11]

The Western Branch gained its most striking building during this period when the imposing Late Gothic Revival chapel designed by Kansas City architect Louis Singleton Curtiss and his partner Frederick C. Gunn was completed in 1893. The brick and sandstone chapel also referred to as Immanuel Church, featured two-story stained glass windows on two sides and gargoyles on the bell tower. The chapel was built to contain separate spaces for two congregations, Protestant and Catholic; a model followed in the design of chapels at several other branches.[12]

Curtiss was a colorful, eccentric, and talented pioneering designer based in Kansas City, Missouri from the 1880s until his death in 1924. Curtiss was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1865, and may have studied at the Êcole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He undertook commissions with fellow Canadians, the Corrigan Brothers Realty Company. He arrived in Kansas City about 1887 where he worked as a draftsman for the firm of Adriane Van Brunt before entering into a ten-year partnership with Frederick C. Gunn in 1889. The Western Branch chapel was one of the partners' first commissions. They also designed the Missouri State building for the 1893 Columbian Exposition, and hotels, public buildings and churches in several states. After leaving the partnership, Curtiss designed houses, commercial buildings, courthouses, and churches, as well as many railroad stations, restaurants and hotels for the Santa Fe Railroad and the Fred Harvey Company, which served tourists traveling the railroad. 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. Curtiss became a pioneer in the use of innovative construction materials, including reinforced concrete and suspended steel. One of the most prominent regional architects at the turn of the century, Curtiss' works were developed in a range of architectural styles, including Classical Revival Romanesque, Queen Anne, Arts and Crafts and Prairie School, as well as the Gothic Revival style employed in the Western Branch chapel. Curtiss died in 1924.[13]

By 1900, the branch contained about thirty-five buildings, most of them constructed of limestone and brick. The Board of Managers praised its appearance as a representation of the purposes of the institution: to provide housing and care for disabled veterans in gracious, well-designed settings that would present a dignified presence to both residents and the public. The Western Branch was considered essentially complete at that time, although the early years of the twentieth century would bring further construction.[14]

Operations and Development

Alexander Maines became the first member of the Western Branch when he was transferred from the Eastern Branch at Togus, Maine, on July 11, 1885. Maines had served with Company A of the First Rhode Island Light Artillery, and his disabilities were recorded as ague, rheumatism, and fever. Other veterans were admitted shortly after the branch's establishment and housed in temporary facilities while construction of the permanent buildings was proceeding. By the end of the first fiscal year, membership at the Western Branch reached 261.[15]

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[11] HPP, Buildings 18, 31, 34, 36, 37, 39, 41, 46, 52.

[12] Other such dual denomination buildings were constructed at the Northwestern, Southern, Pacific, Marion and Danville branches. The Central Branch combined services in one church prior to the construction of its Catholic Church.

[13] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers,"49; Adams, "Western Branch," 8/8-10; Wilda Sandy and Larry K. Hanks, *Stalking Louis Curtiss* (Kansas City, Missouri: Ward Parkway Press, 1991), 12, 14, 29, 35.

[14] HABS No. KS-55, 14.

[15] Adams, "Western Branch," p. 8/5; Gjore Mollenhoff, "Veterans Administration Medical Center," National Register of Historic Places Inventory—[Determination of Eligibility], September 29, 1980, n.p.

The Western Branch was governed and operated in the same style as earlier NHDVS facilities. A Governor was the chief administrative officer, assisted by a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Quartermaster, a Commissary of Subsistence, a Surgeon, an Assistant Surgeon, a Matron, Chaplains, and a Music Director. Initially, all civilian staff were required to live on the grounds, and the officers resided in large and well-appointed homes built in the Queen Anne style. The veterans were governed by the Articles of War, dressed in military surplus uniforms, and were organized into companies. They lived in barracks, ate in a mess hall, and marched in formation. Disciplinary problems were usually restricted to disorderliness and drunkenness.[16]

As at other branches, men at the Western Branch were given opportunities to work and receive training in trades. By 1900, shops employing members included carpentry, blacksmithing, engineering, tinsmithing, painting, printing, shoe-making, soap-making, tailoring, baking, upholstering, and horseshoeing. Men could work on the branch's farm, which in that year produced vegetables, fruits and flowers valued at over nine thousand dollars. They also worked as waiters, clerks, cooks, or guards. Civilian employees filled other jobs, including engineers, farmers, florists and gardeners, musicians, and nurses. Women nurses were employed beginning in 1891 at the Northwestern Branch. As residents aged and were no longer able to perform many of the functions important to the branch's operations, the numbers of civilian employees increased.[17]

Development of the facility between 1900 and 1910 reflect its operations and the increasing need for civilian staff. A quartermaster's quarters was completed in 1901 (Building 45), a chaplain's quarters in 1906 (Building 47), and a single quarters (Building 48) in 1908. The single quarters was probably built to house employees rather than medical staff. Other construction during the period included a new barrack (Building 100), a dining room (Building 13), and a west gate house (Building 40). A new administration building (Building 21) was finished in 1903, and the former administrative space in the Ward Memorial Building was converted to service as the branch's library. A carpenter's shop and blacksmith shop (Buildings 97, 95) were constructed in 1904 and 1905, and the quartermaster supply house (Building 41) was expanded in 1908.[18]

The 1900–1910 development period also marked the peak years of the Western Branch's pre-World War I population. The annual average of veterans present at the Western Branch reached a high of 2,793 in 1905, when aging Civil War veterans were in residence at all NHDVS facilities and new veterans of the Spanish-American War and the action in the Philippines were creating a demand for residential and medical facilities. By 1910, that number fell to 2319, and by 1920, the average number of veterans present had fallen to 1754. Little new construction occurred between 1910 and the end of World War I, with the exception of a new duplex quarters (Buildings 56) constructed in 1915–1916, and the dry cleaning shop (Building 77) in 1917–1918. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad built a railroad depot (Building 94) to serve the branch in 1916.

The return of World War I veterans stimulated a new burst of development at the branch. Staff housing, including a new nurses quarters (Building 76), and new duplexes (Building 57, 68), which provided increased housing for a larger staff needed to care for the returning veterans. In addition, the 1898 nurses' quarters was expanded. Several garages were built, reflecting the increased use of private automobiles. A tin shop and a milk house (Buildings 129, 33) were added during this period. The most dramatic change occurred in 1930, as the tenure of the NHDVS was coming to a close. In 1930, the Veterans' Administration began preparing for the construction of a new, multi-level hospital complex (Buildings 88–91). The governor's quarters and the

[16] Adams, "Western Branch," 8/5-6.

[17] Adams, "Western Branch," 8/5; HPP, App. B; Department of Veterans Affairs, *Commemorative History*, n.p.; HABS No. KS-55, 7.

[18] HPP, Buildings 13, 21, 30, 41, 45, 47, 48, 95, 97.

quartermaster's quarters (Buildings 42, 45) were moved to the northeast to make way for the hospital. The original hospital was demolished after the new hospital was completed.[19]

Recreation, Entertainment, and Visitors at the Western Branch

The NHDVS branches provided entertainment and recreation for their members as well as for members of nearby communities. At Leavenworth billiard tables were available in an addition to the recreation building and the basement held a bowling alley. The library provided books, magazines, and newspapers. The Queen Anne-style Ward Memorial Building held a library and meeting area as well as space for administrative offices. In 1887, citizens of St. Louis, at the 21st encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, presented the Western Branch with the use of a large stained glass window depicting Abraham Lincoln, which was installed in the Ward building. After the chapel was constructed, Protestant and Catholics could attend regular services there. The Home Band performed regular band concerts at bandstands near the dining hall and the lake, as well as providing music at funerals and daily retreat and reveille. Bandstands were built in front of Franklin Hall and in Lake Jeannette. Both would be razed by the mid-1960s. Lake Jeannette was a popular place for picnicking, boating, fishing, and ice-skating. A baseball league was organized in 1900 and games played on a field northeast of the grounds.[20]

When the Western Branch was established, the local newspaper predicted it would combine with Fort Leavenworth and other public sites to make the city one of the country's major tourist attractions. Although the Western Branch never rivaled other, more prominent tourist sites, after ten years of its existence it entertained more than 150,000 visitors in one twelve month period. By the turn of the century, the Western Branch was described as a pleasure ground visited by thousands, and an eleven-room hotel on the site served guests. The two-story, Châteauesque brick hotel also contained a theater and store (it was later torn down and replaced with the current theater and library (Building 152). The rolling, landscaped grounds offered walks under shade trees and colorful flower beds. One of the major attractions was the "World," a large globe topiary created by gardener Carl Kline Sr., made of chicken wire, wood slats, and evergreen plants. The display was the subject of many postcards. Sixty cannon were placed along Franklin Avenue and provided further variety. Electric arc lights replaced oil lamps on the grounds in 1893. A trolley line ran from Fort Leavenworth through town and to a stop in front of the kitchen and mess hall, linking two of the city's most prominent attractions.[21]

Many of Western Branch veterans depended on alcohol for recreation and relaxation, as did members of all of the branches. At the Western Branch, a collection of saloons and gambling houses, collectively called the "Klondike," developed off-premises to cater to veterans. The issue of alcohol use among the veterans was a constant problem before the Board of Managers. The success of beer sales at the Northwestern and Central Branches in reducing off-campus drinking and drunkenness and misbehavior in general encouraged officials at the Western Branch to set up a beer hall in the 1880s which sold beer produced by Anheuser Busch Company Beer. The beer hall was originally in the basement of one of the barracks; after the Recreation Hall was constructed in 1898, the beer hall was relocated there in a space popularly called the "Dugout." An early photograph shows the interior of the beer hall in the "Dugout," the branch's recreation building. Men in uniform

[19] "Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1923," Department of Veterans Affairs Central Library, Washington, D. C. (DVACL), [47]:the table of NHDVS population numbers has been copied from another source and added to in handwritten figures; HHP, Buildings 33, 34, 42, 45, 54, 56, 57, 58, 68, 76, 77, 88, 89, 90, 91,94, 119, 120, 129.

[20] Adams, "Western Branch," 8/6; *Commemorative History,* n.p.; The Ward Building was funded by a bequest from Horatio Ward, a native of Virginia who became a successful banker in London. The money Ward left was used by NHDVS managers to provide amenities for the NHDVS branches that public funds could not provide. Gjore J. Mollenhoff and Karen Ronne Tupek, "Ward Memorial Hall," National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, September 6,1984, 8/1.

[21] Kelly, *Creating a National Home*, 182-183; HPP, App. B.; *Commemorative History,* n.p; HABS No. KS-55, 13-14.

are clustered around tables holding steins of beer; white-aproned waiters stand in the background. A Western Branch chaplain noted that the beer hall seemed to be the only place that members gathered and socialized with each other. Thus the hall addressed not only the veterans' desire for alcohol, but also their need for companionship.

The Board of Managers and individual branch officers continued to search for more comprehensive solutions to the problems presented by alcohol, including treatment offered by the popular late nineteenth-century Keeley Institute. The Western Branch's governor, Alexander J. Smith, himself a Keeley program participant, brought the Keeley cure to the Western Branch in the early 1890s and the Board of Managers subsequently approved the use of the cure at all the branches. Participants undergoing the cure received doses of a secret formula based on gold salts and also participated in the Keeley League, which held regular meetings and conventions. Although hundreds of Western Branch members and other men in the area joined the Keeley League, some veterans at the branch as well as people in the community were deeply offended by the operation. The controversy peaked when an opponent of the Keeley League set off a dynamite explosion at the governor's residence in an apparent attempt to murder him. The controversy led to a Congressional investigation in 1896. The Keeley Institute's activities at the Western Branch were terminated a year later.[22]

Medical Care at the Western Branch

The construction of a large hospital at the Western Branch signified the Board of Manager's commitment to care for veterans disabled by injury, disease, or age. The large five-ward hospital (demolished) was built on the north shore of the lake and could accommodate about four hundred patients. Two-story high balcony porches around the building provided fresh air and sunshine for the men. Two hospital annexes, an annex for mental patients, and a morgue completed the hospital complex. The Western Branch also constructed a combination or "old man's" barracks near the hospital, which allowed elderly men access to their own mess. The Western Branch began employing female nurses as an experiment in 1891 and by 1898 they were a permanent part of the staff. After 1900, the increasing number of veterans suffering from respiratory diseases and the general awareness of the dangers of tuberculosis led the Western Branch to convert a barracks built in 1904 (Building 100) to a tuberculosis ward.[23]

Following World War I, increased need for medical facilities to treat new veterans led to modernization and new construction at most of the NHDVS branches. At the Western Branch, water systems in the hospital and its annexes were rebuilt, the main hospital was remodeled and equipped to deal with general medical and surgical cases, and the annexes were prepared for general as well as tuberculosis cases, although tuberculosis facilities apparently were underutilized. Additional quarters were constructed to provide housing for added medical staff.[24]

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[22] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 49-50; Department of Veterans Affairs, *Commemorative History,* n.p.; Dwight D. Eisenhower Veterans Administration Medical Center, Medical Media Department Files, Photograph; Mark Edward Lender and James Kirby Martin, *Drinking in America: A History* (New York: The Free Press, 1982, 122-124 Cetina, 437, 441-442, 450, Adam, "Western Branch," 6-7.

[23] *Western Branch National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers*, n.d., n.p., Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center, Department of Veterans Affairs, Archives; Department of Veterans Affairs, *Commemorative History,* n.p.; Adam, "The Western Branch," 87; HHP, Building 100.

[24] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 50; "Annual Report of the Board of Managers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1922," DVACL, n.p.

Transitions under the Veterans Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs

At the end of the 1929–1930 fiscal year, the Western Branch was slightly over 644 acres in size, operated a dairy, and cultivated 120 acres in oats, corn, forage crops, orchards, vineyards, and flowers. The property held sixty-six buildings, including fourteen brick barracks, a brick hospital, a tuberculosis annex, and fifty-one additional buildings, most of them brick. During that year the Western Branch served an average of 2,987 men. Between 1931 and 1939, a major building program resulted in a new four-to-six-story Classical Revival style hospital complex constructed in the northwest corner of the campus, new barracks buildings, and nurses' quarters. Another hospital was completed in 1939 at the southern end of the campus. The population of the branch was boosted in the mid-1930s when a Veterans' Bureau Hospital in Kansas City was closed and its patients and staff transferred to the new hospital in Leavenworth. In 1936, the facility was officially named Wadsworth in honor of Colonel C. W. Wadsworth, a member of the NHDVS Board of Managers and an official with the new Veterans Administration. During World War II, about 150 German prisoners of war lived in Barracks 5 and assisted in the building program. In the mid-1940s, the branch was re-designated a neuropsychiatric hospital, but within a short time its status was again changed to a residential and medical unit. In 1946, the facility was officially designated a Veterans Administration medical unit and by that time it held one hundred buildings. In the 1970s, the former Western Branch became the Dwight D. Eisenhower Veterans Administration Medical Center. In 2005, the Eisenhower Ridge Association, led by Pioneer Group, Inc. of Topeka, Kansas, signed a 75-year enhanced use lease with the Department of Veterans Affairs. The lease allows for the rehabilitation of 38 buildings on the campus.[25]

Cemetery

The cemetery was established at the Western Branch in 1886 and its first burial occurred in that year. Located to the west of the buildings and separated from them by a sloping grade, the cemetery's design is attributed to H. W. S. Cleveland and follows the park-like cemetery layout popular in the late nineteenth century. Like other cemeteries at NHDVS branches, the Western Branch cemetery features a relatively large monument in a prominent location: the obelisk honoring veterans was erected by the NHDVS in 1919. Other NHDVS developments included the construction of a rest house in 1921 and a tool house in 1928. Jurisdiction over the cemetery was transferred to the National Cemetery Association in 1973.[26]

Conclusion

The Western Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers outstandingly represents the development of veterans' benefits in the United States, the commitment by the federal government and the public to care for and honor those veterans, and the use of architecture and landscape architecture to express that commitment. The historic buildings and landscape retain high integrity and reflect the historic site plan by H. W. S. Cleveland. The Western Branch was the first branch established west of the Mississippi River and the first branch established after the NHDVS expanded admission standards in 1884; as such, the Western Branch represents the broadening of veterans' benefits and the NHDVS Board of Managers attempts to provide institutions for veterans in locations across the country.

[25] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 50; HABS No. KS-55, 14; Adam, "The Western Branch," 8/7-8; Department of Veterans Affairs, *Commemorative History,* n.p.; Christy Davis, "VA Turns Over Keys to Historic Buildings," *Kansas Preservation* 27 (September-October 2005), 9-10.

[26] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 50.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

__ Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_X_ Previously Listed in the National Register.
__ Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.
__ Designated a National Historic Landmark.
_X_ Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey: # KS-55
__ Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
__ Other State Agency
_X_ Federal Agency
__ Local Government
__ University
__ Other (Specify Repository):

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: 378 acres

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
A	15	336160	4350015
B	15	336340	4350170
C	15	336625	4350165
D	15	337310	4349850
E	15	337780	4348680
F	15	336390	4348930
G	15	336150	4349200
H	15	336135	4349370

Verbal Boundary Description:

The historic district contains approximately 378 acres, encompassing nearly 214 acres of the former Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (both owned and leased out by the VA), and the 164 acres of the Leavenworth National Cemetery which today comprise the Department of Veterans Affairs, Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center. This boundary is marked in red on the accompanying map marked “Western Branch.”

Boundary Justification:

The boundary of the historic district coincides with the present-day Department of Veterans Affairs and National Cemetery properties. 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 de-accession of peripheral land to the U.S. Justice Department, and again in the 1980s by de-accession of peripheral land on the north to the town of Leavenworth. The current boundary encompasses all the surviving historic buildings, structures, objects, the historic landscape, and the cemetery associated with the Western Branch NHDVS.

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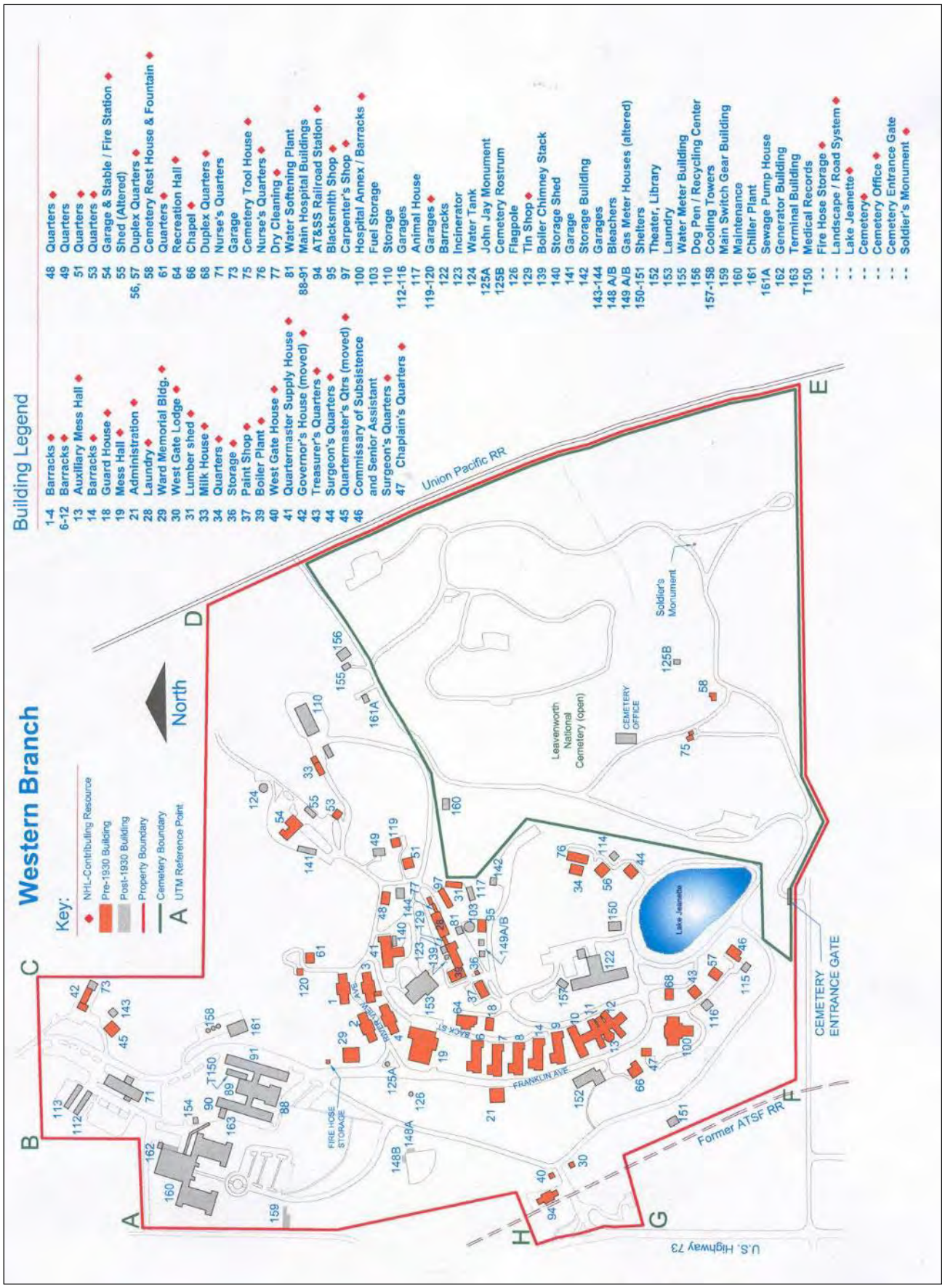
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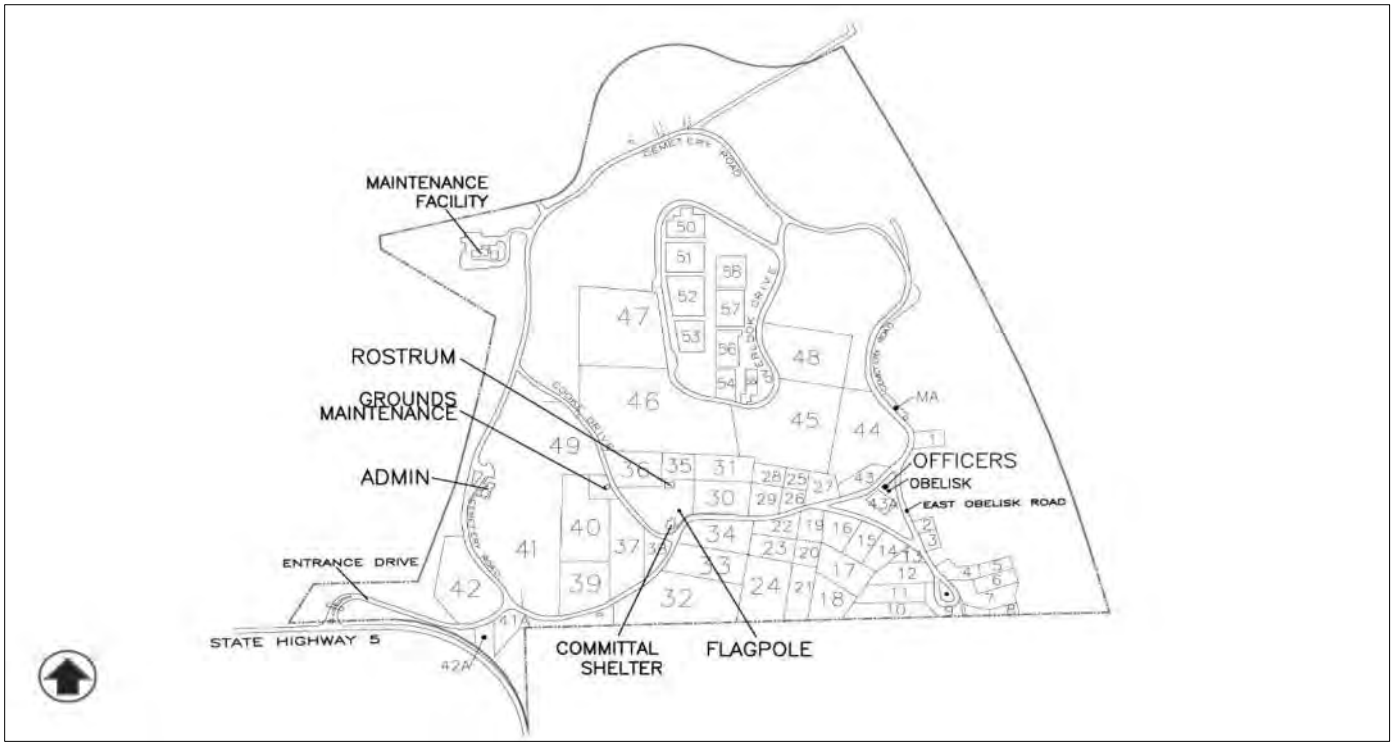
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DESIGNATED A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK


Western Branch
Key:
NHL-Contributing Resource
Pre-1930 Building
Post-1930 Building
Property Boundary
Cemetery Boundary
A UTM Reference Point
North
Building Legend
1-4 Barracks
6-12 Barracks
13 Auxiliary Mess Hall
14 Barracks
18 Guard House
19 Mess Hall
21 Administration
28 Laundry
29 Ward Memorial Bldg.
30 West Gate Lodge
31 Lumber shed
33 Milk House
34 Quarters
36 Storage
37 Paint Shop
39 Boiler Plant
40 West Gate House
41 Quartermaster Supply House
42 Governor's House (moved)
43 Treasurer's Quarters
44 Surgeon's Quarters
45 Quartermaster's Qtrs (moved)
46 Commissary of Subsistence and Senior Assistant Surgeon's Quarters
47 Chaplain's Quarters
48 Quarters
49 Quarters
51 Quarters
53 Quarters
54 Garage & Stable / Fire Station
55 Shed (Altered)
56, 57 Duplex Quarters
58 Cemetery Rest House & Fountain
61 Quarters
64 Recreation Hall
66 Chapel
68 Duplex Quarters
71 Nurse's Quarters
73 Garage
75 Cemetery Tool House
76 Nurse's Quarters
77 Dry Cleaning
81 Water Softening Plant
88-91 Main Hospital Buildings
94 AT&SS Railroad Station
95 Blacksmith Shop
97 Carpenter's Shop
100 Hospital Annex / Barracks
103 Fuel Storage
110 Storage
112-116 Garages
117 Animal House
119-120 Garages
122 Barracks
123 Incinerator
124 Water Tank
125A John Jay Monument
125B Cemetery Rostrum
126 Flagpole
129 Tin Shop
139 Boiler Chimney Stack
140 Storage Shed
141 Garage
142 Storage Building
143-144 Garages
148 A/B Bleachers
149 A/B Gas Meter Houses (altered)
150-151 Shelters
152 Theater, Library
153 Laundry
155 Water Meter Building
156 Dog Pen / Recycling Center
157-158 Cooling Towers
159 Main Switch Gear Building
160 Maintenance
161 Chiller Plant
161A Sewage Pump House
162 Generator Building
163 Terminal Building
T150 Medical Records
-- Fire Hose Storage
-- Landscape / Road System
-- Lake Jeanette
-- Cemetery
-- Cemetery Office
-- Cemetery Entrance Gate
-- Soldier's Monument
Union Pacific RR
Leavenworth National Cemetery (open)
CEMETERY OFFICE
Soldier's Monument
Lake Jeanette
CEMETERY ENTRANCE GATE
FRANKLIN AVE
BACK ST
FIRE HOSE STORAGE
Former ATSF RR
U.S. Highway 73
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H



Cemetery Map – Feb 2002



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Barracks #2, #1, #3 and #4 on Riverview Ave.) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to east. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Rear of Barracks # 6, #7, #8, #14, #9 on Back Street) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to south. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Barracks #11 and #12 on Franklin Ave.) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to northeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Barracks #11, Dining Hall #13, Barracks #12 on Franklin Ave.) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to east. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Barracks/Hospital Annex #100 on Franklin Ave.) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to south. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Barracks #100 and Chaplain's Quarters #47) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to south. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Protestant and Catholic Chapel #66) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to east. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Franklin Hall #19, General Mess Hall and Kitchen on Franklin Ave.) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to southeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Ward Memorial Hall #29, Barracks #2 in background) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to southwest. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Administration #21on Franklin Ave.) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to southwest. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Recreation Hall #64) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to northeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Boiler Plant #39, Storage Building #36 to left, rear of Mess Hall #19 in background) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to northwest. Photograph by Dena Sanford, 2009.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: View to power plant, service complex; Laundry #28 in foreground; Tin Shop #129, Boiler Plant #39, Boiler Chimney Stack #139) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to west. Photograph by Dena Sanford, 2009.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Governor's Quarters #42) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to northeast, Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Quartermaster's Quarters #45) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to northeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Surgeon's Quarters #44) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to north. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Entrance Gates, West Gate House #40, and West Gate Lodge #30) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to north. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



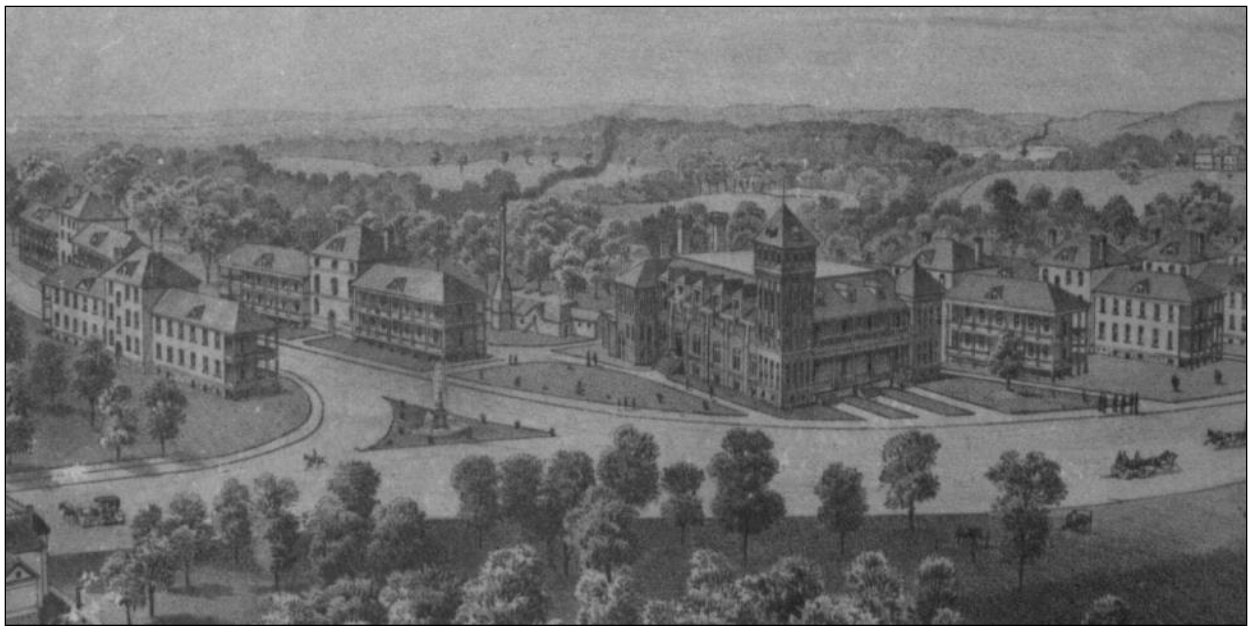
WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Depot #94) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to northwest. Photograph by Dena Sanford, 2009.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Hospital #88 - #90) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to northwest. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



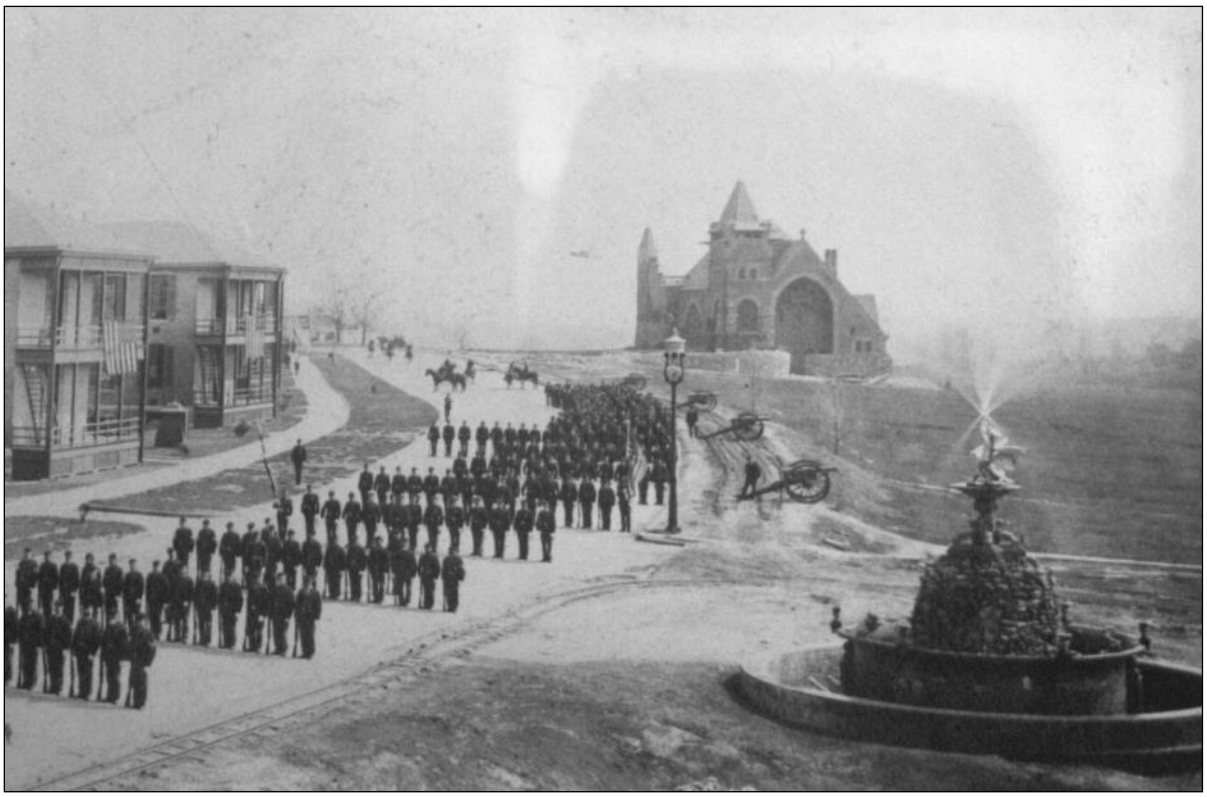
WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Cemetery with Western Branch in background) 4101 S. 4th Street, Town of Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, KS. View to west. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.



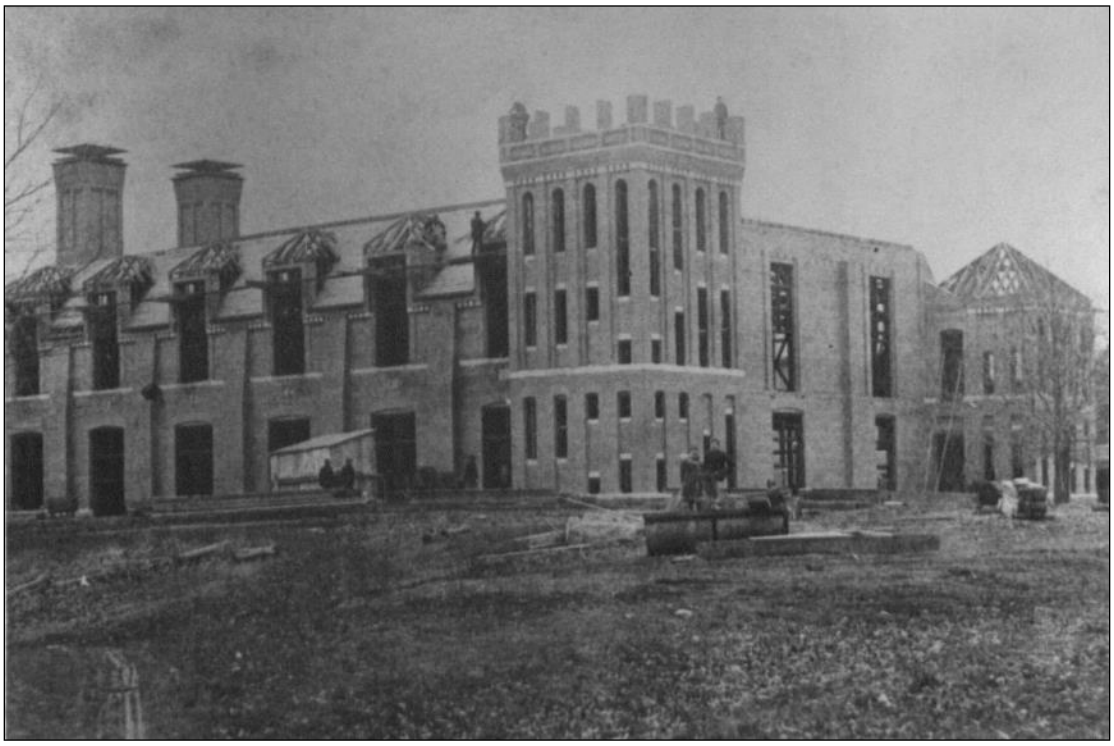
BIRDSEYE VIEW OF WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS SHOWING BARRACKS #2-#7, FRANKLIN HALL #19, AND POWER PLANT #39. Drawing by Unknown, ca. 1890. View to southwest. Image courtesy Department of Veterans Affairs.



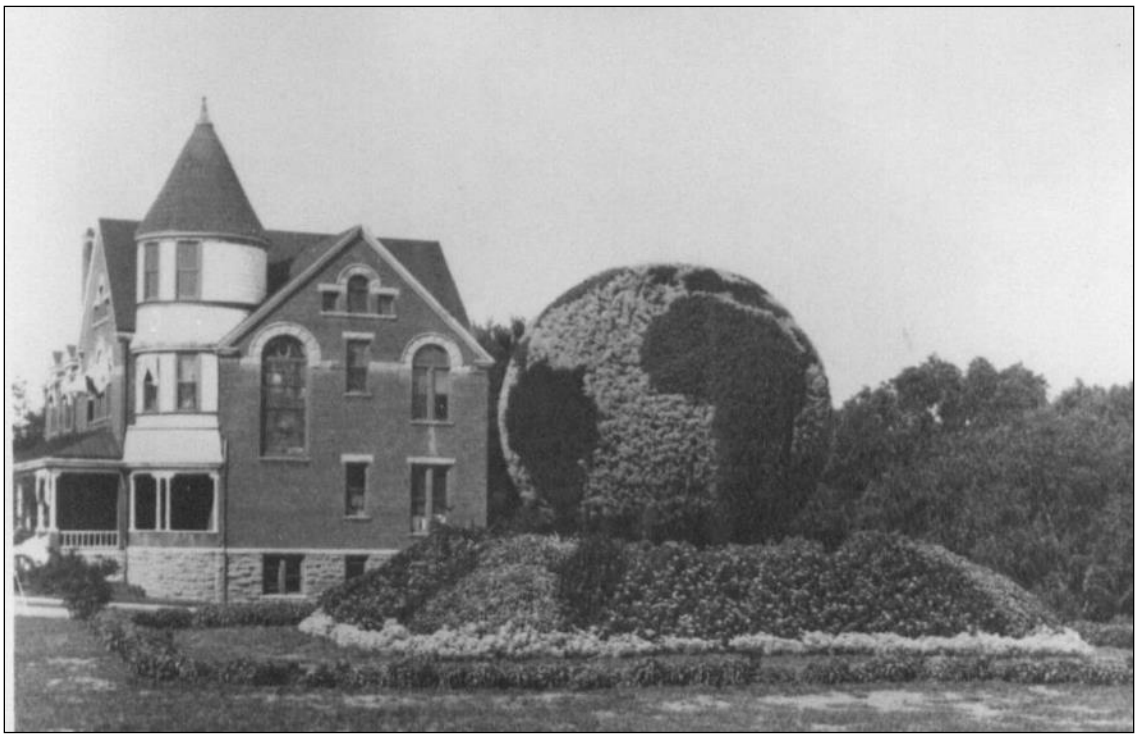
WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS SHOWING WARD MEMORIAL HALL #19, BARRACKS #2, #4, FRANKLIN HALL #19, AND BANDSTAND (gone) Photograph by W. H. Jones, 1909. View to south. Image courtesy Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, DLC/PP-1909:43825.



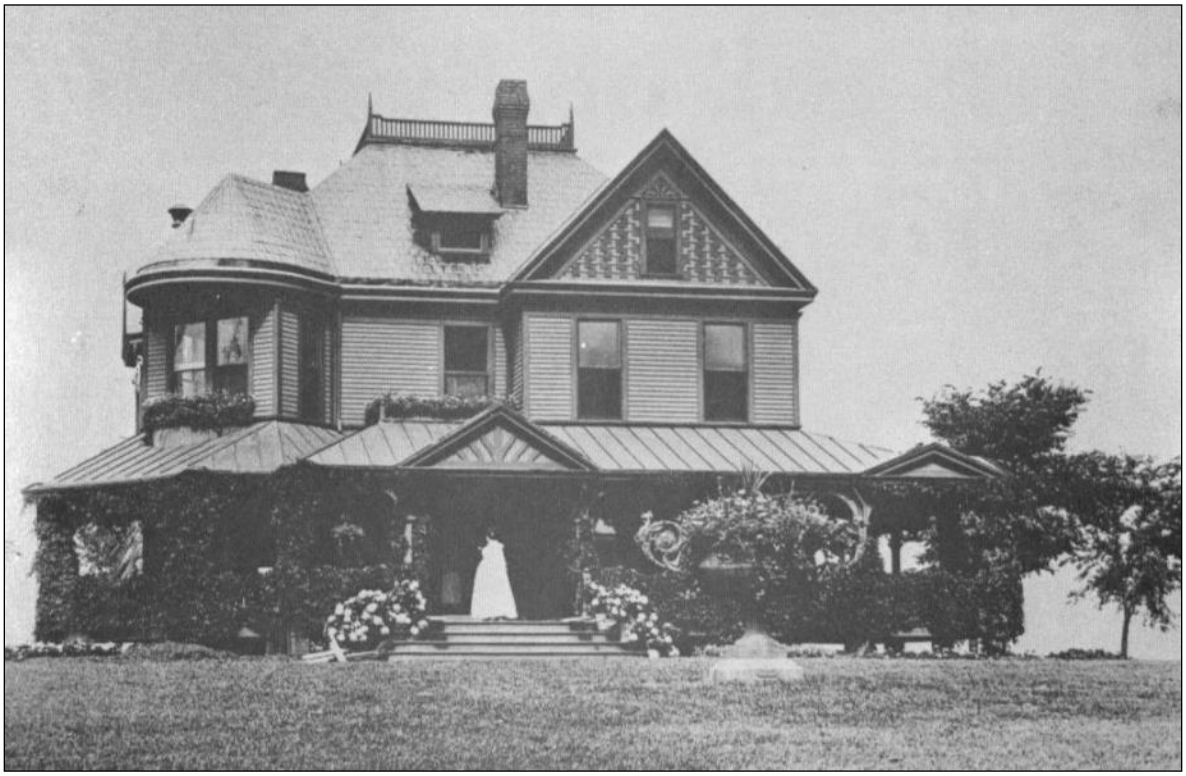
WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS SHOWING BARRACKS #6, #7, CHAPEL #66, AND FOUNTAIN (gone) Photograph by: Unknown, ca. 1890. View to south. Image courtesy Department of Veterans Affairs.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS FRANKLIN HALL #19 UNDER CONSTRUCTION. Photograph by Unknown, 1886. View to southwest. Image courtesy Department of Veterans Affairs.



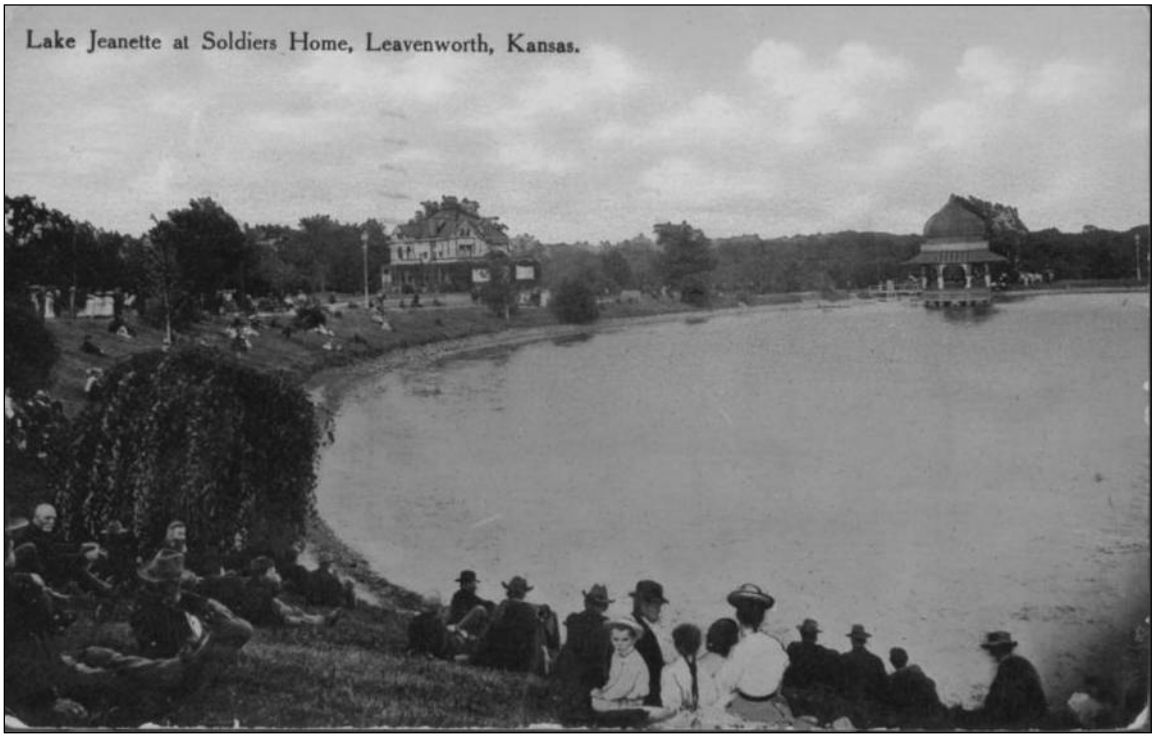
WESTERN BRANCH WARD MEMORIAL HALL #19 AND FLORAL GLOBE DISPLAY (gone). Photograph by Unknown, 1886. View to north. Image courtesy Department of Veterans Affairs.



WESTERN BRANCH GOVERNOR'S QUARTERS #42. Photograph by Unknown, ca. 1890. Image courtesy Department of Veterans Affairs.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS, RECREATION HALL #64 INTERIOR. Photograph by Unknown, 1886. Image courtesy Department of Veterans Affairs.



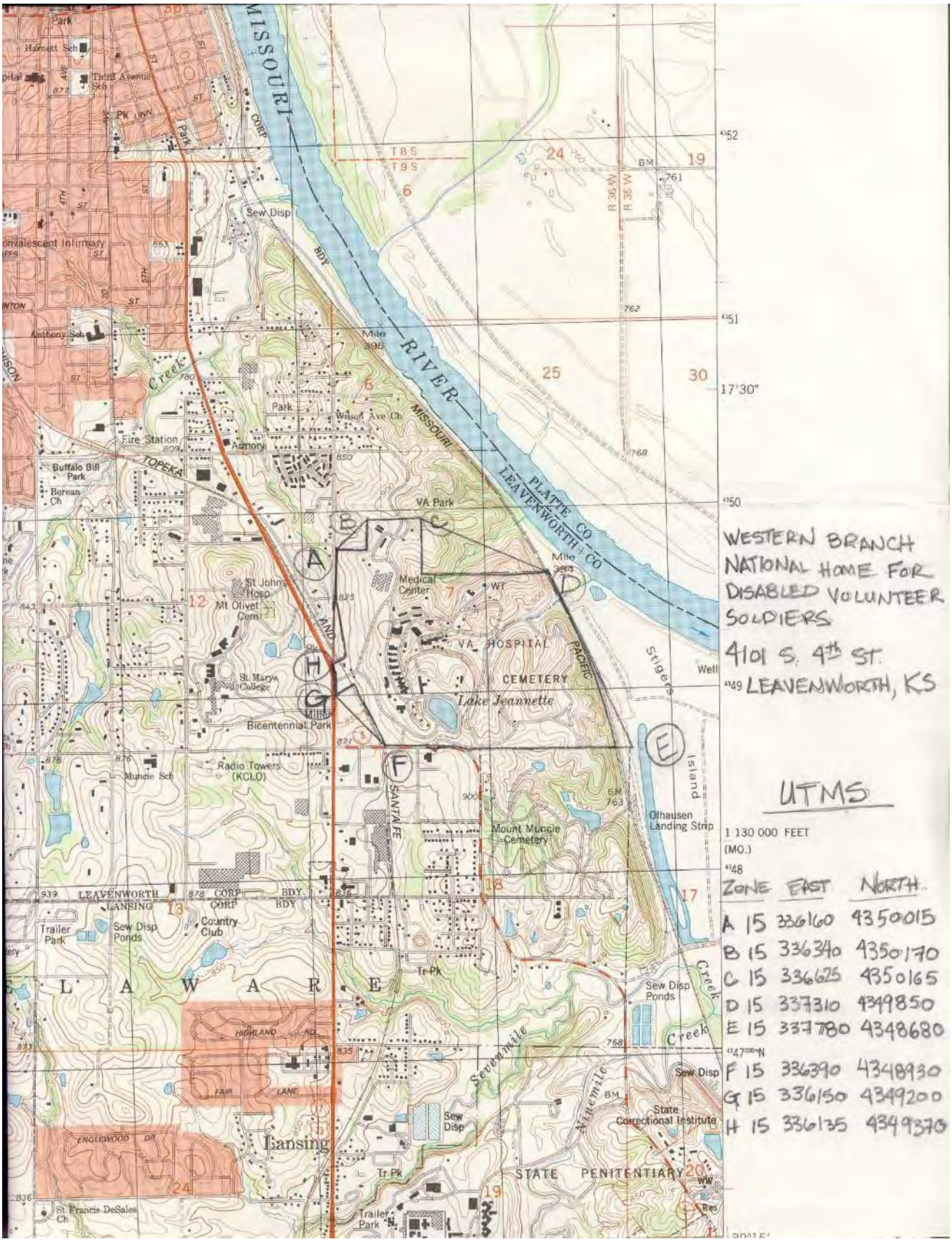
WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS LAKE JEANNETTE, BANDSTAND AND PIER (gone) AND SURGEON'S QUARTERS #44. Photograph by Unknown, 1900-1919. View to west. Image courtesy Kansas Historical Society, Kansas Memory, #100506.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS, AERIAL VIEW. Photograph by Unknown, ca. 1938. View to north. Image courtesy Department of Veterans Affairs.



WESTERN BRANCH NHDVS AERIAL VIEW (BANDSTAND IS CROSSED OUT AT FAR LEFT) Photograph by Unknown, ca. 1959. View to northwest. Image courtesy Department of Veterans Affairs.



USGS Map of Location