United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name				
historic Rosebud	County Deacon	ess Hospital		
and/or common	Rosebud Coun	ty Hospital		
2. Locati	on			
street & number	N. 17th Ave		_	not for publication
city, town Forsyth	1	vicinity of	congressional district	Eastern
state Montana	code	30 county	Rosebud	<b>code</b> 087
3. Classif	ication			
district	public private both	Status  X occupied  unoccupied  work in progress Accessible  yes: restricted  yes: unrestricted  no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainmentX government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
name Rosebud	of Propert			,
street & number	Rosebud County	Courthouse		
city, town Fors		vicinity of	state	Montana
5. Locati	on of Lega	Description	on	
courthouse, registry o	f deeds, etc. Ros	ebud County Co	urthouse	
street & number				
city, town Fors	yth		state	Montana
6. Repres	entation in	n Existing	Surveys	
title None		has this pro	perty been determined ele	egible? yes _x_ no
date			federal state	e county loca
depository for survey	records			
city, town			state	<del></del>

7. Descriptio	)П	n
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Condition  excellent deteriorated good ruins fair unexposed	Check oneX unaltered altered	Check one  X original site moved date
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Erected in 1920-1921, the Rosebud County Deaconess Hospital, the first hospital in the County, provided the eastern territory of Montana with a medical facility for which it was in great need. With its 21 beds and surgery room, the service provided was well worth the tax increase created by the \$90,000.00 construction cost. The two story structure, with a daylight basement, has seen few changes in its appearance both externally and internally since its formal dedication on April 21, 1921.

The main floor is reached by walking a flight of exterior stairs through its classical entrance and finely detailed wood pediment into a ceramic tiled vestibule. The main floor consists of the reception/lobby area, the superintendents office, restrooms, kitchen facilities, eleven patient rooms, and a solarium with exposure to the east, south and west.

All operating facilities and remaining patient rooms are designed into the 4,000 square feet of the second floor. Laundry, storage, and mechanical hardware utilize the majority of remaining space in the basement. The floors are connected vertically through a ramp system nosing out of the east elevation.

Stone medallions are inset into the masonry between the main floor and second floor windows emphasizing the horizontal symmetry of the building. The shade created by the wood shingled hip roof creates a definite contrast with the red brick with raked joints layed in an English bond.

Changes in the exterior of the building, since its construction, are easily noted due to the contrast of materials available in the 1920's and today. These changes include spotted locations of unit air conditioners protruding from windows, aluminum storm windows attached to original double hung wood units, and an aluminum tubed fire exit on the south elevation. The changes in the addition are sympathetic to the original structure and do not compromise its integrity.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899X 1900–	archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement		science sculpture .X. social/ humanitarian theater
_X 1900-	Çemmunications	industry invention	politics/government	transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1919	Builder/Architect Mc I	ver, Cohagen & Ma	rshall. Arch

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Rosebud County Deacones: Hospital, built in 1921 is significant for its historic associations with the settling of Rosebud County and Eastern Montana. Although the Architectural Design and the masonry construction were common for this time period in this sector of Montana, (viz. Georgian Revival), the structure's historical significance is stated in its function as one of the earliest medical facilities for the settlers of this rugged North West Country.

#### CRITERIA A - LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

Hospitals were constructed in Glendive, Montana and Miles City, Montana prior to 1920. Forsyth, Montana, the county seat of Rosebud County and location of the Rosebud County Deacones Hospital is forty miles from Miles City. For the available modes of transportation in the early 1900's, forty miles meant a minimum of one full day's travel over rough Montana terrain.

Even in 1979 a trip of that distance and time means the difference of life and death. It is easy to comprehend the relief of Rosebud County settlers when they began to plan through the Methodist Church, a medical facility that would aid them in dealing with day-to-day emergencies.

In April of 1919, efforts of planning had begun to pay off. Two bonds, totaling \$90,000.00 were put before the people and approved. Four Montana Architects had been asked to submit plans and estimates to the County Commissioners. The Billings, Montana, Architectural Firm of McIver, Cohagen and Marshall was selected.

Plans having been prepared and bids let, construction for the facility began in the Spring of 1920. Within ten days after the hospital's formal opening on April 25, 1921, seven patients had been admitted for treatment and surgery. Documented emergencies of appendicitis, broken bones, and birth during these first few days reaffirmed to all the need of such a facility.

From the opening day the hospital served a dual function. One of a medical/emergency facility and second, one of a training school for nurses. This was the beginning of what would grow to become Rosebud County's present Hospital and Nursing home and represents one of the most complete facilities of its kind within Montana. The Rosebud County Deacones Hospital, then, is symbolic of the professional maturity the county and state had attained with regard to medical care by the end of World War I.

- Book Board of Forsyth, Montana, <u>They Came and Stayed</u>, (c) 1977, Publisher West Printing any Lithograph
- Publisher West Printing any Lithograph

  2. The Forsyth Times Journal (newspaper), dates of April 24, August 21 of 1919 and April 21, 28 May 5, 12 of 1921.

1919 and April 2					9436 2
10. Geographic	cal Data	•			
Acreage of nominated property Quadrangle nameForsyth UMT References		_	UTM NOT Quadrar	VERIFIED  ngle scale	:24000
	21 5 340 thing	B Zone	Easting	Northing	_
C	<u> </u>	D F		]	
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Verbal boundary description a	nd justification				
Lot 10 through 18 of NW4SW4 Sec. 13, T.6		st Forsyth	Addition, F	Forsyth, MT	
List all states and counties for	properties overlap	ping state or co	ounty boundarie	es	
state	code	county	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	code	
state	code	county		code	
11. Form Prepa	red By				
name/title Jim Burns, F	Project Archi	tect			
organization Coxwell Arch	itects	da	ate August	1, 1978	
street & number 3111 lst	Ave North	te	lephone 406	-245-0947	
city or town Billings,		st	ate Montan	a	
12. State Histo	ric Prese	rvation (	Officer (	Certificati	ion
The evaluated significance of this p	property within the sta	te is:			
national	stateX	_ local			
As the designated State Historic Pr 665), I hereby nominate this proper according to the criteria and proced	ty for inclusion in the dures set forth by the	National Register Heritage Conserva	and certify that it ation and Recreati	has been evaluated	w 89–
State Historic Preservation Officer	signature Edine	Le Ulnie	n for t	en Norte	
itle State Historica	Preservation	Officer	date	9-1-79	
			10000000000000000000000000000000000000		

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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With the passing years the hospital was operated by many different organizations, and until 1959, was operated by the Lutheran Hospital and Homes Society of Fargo, North Dakota. It was during their administration that the Nursing Home Addition was connected to the North side of the original hospital and the combined complex was dedicated in 1958.

In 1959 the Rosebud Treasure Hospital Association was incorporated to give Rosebud County and neighboring Treasure County a completely homeowned and operated hospital and nursing home complex. It was at this time that citizens of both counties began to recognize a need for a replacement for the original hospital and on November 4, 1973 a new hospital was dedicated and ready for occupancy.

Rosebud County residents should be credited with keeping up with the times and health need of the community.

The original Rosebud County Hospital is presently being occupied by various county departments. It is the conern of the Rosebud County commissioners and citizens that this building remain as an activ facility of their community. Future plans for the structure includes the renovation of a portion of the interior into a doctor's clinic keeping the facility a function of its original intent.

FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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3. Blueprints and Specs. by McIver, Cohagen and Marshall, Architects Forsyth Public Library