

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 23 1982
DATE ENTERED APR 1 1982

**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 THE OLD BOULDER CITY HOSPITAL

AND/OR COMMON

Wellsprings-Retreat House & Conference Center of the Anglican (Episcopal) Sisters of Charity

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 701 Park Place

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Boulder City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Nevada-at-large

STATE Nevada VICINITY OF CODE 32

COUNTY Clark CODE 003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Anglican Sisters of Charity

STREET & NUMBER 701 Park Place

CITY, TOWN Boulder City N/A VICINITY OF

STATE Nevada 89005

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clark County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 200 Carson Avenue

CITY, TOWN Las Vegas STATE Nevada 89101

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE none

DATE
___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Boulder City Hospital was built in 1931 to serve the needs of the Six Companies, Inc. employees who were constructing Boulder Dam. It was built as an astylar, functional structure, designed to compliment the stuccoed, arcuated public and commercial buildings that comprised the city's master plan. It was actively used as a medical facility for the major part of forty years and currently serves as a retreat for the Episcopal Sisters of Charity. It is in good condition and retains a high degree of integrity in its unaltered context.

Oriented to the northwest, the building is located on the top of Block 8, on a hill on the northeast side of town. The heavily landscaped grounds afford a dramatic view of Lake Mead to the north, and the Eldorado Valley to the south.

Beginning as one story on the northwest, the complex becomes two stories on the slope and falls away on the southeast elevation. Originally in the shape of a modified L, the structure is now basically U-shaped (see sketch).

The walls are built of stucco-covered brick and are enclosed by tile-covered, low pitched, hipped and gabled roofs. Single and paired six over six double hung sliding sash windows dominate the earliest wings, while vertically proportioned "modern" metal sliding sash characterize the latest addition.

It was determined early that the facilities as built in 1931 were insufficient to carry the patient load. Therefore, in 1933 the southwest wing was doubled in length and a two-story porch with attached shed roof added to the southern end. This brought the capacity up to 60 beds.

The hospital continued providing service till 1935 when the Six Companies closed the hospital after the dam was completed. In 1938, the National Park Service took over the building and used it till 1941. The U.S. Health Service re-opened the facility for medical use in 1943 to care for war casualties. They remodeled the building and it is believed that it was at this time that a pavilion was added to the main entrance and a secondary entrance cut into the 1933 addition.

In 1949, the Bureau of Reclamation took control, and operated the hospital till 1954. After that date, the city was forced to take over the hospital's operation. It is supposed that the western-most wing and new entrance and lobby were added before 1954, as the city had few resources to maintain the facility.

The interior spatial arrangements and detailing are little changed from the original. The Sisters of Charity adapted their needs to the extant interior configurations after they purchased the complex in the late 1970's. However, cosmetic interior rehabilitation has occurred.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1931/1933/1938/1943/1976 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Six Companies/unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Boulder City Hospital is significant because of the vital humanitarian role it played during the construction of Hoover (Boulder) Dam.

When work began on the dam, the closest medical services were in Las Vegas, 24 miles away over unpaved "washboard" roads. The structure was not built by the government, which had planned and owned the city on the Boulder Canyon Project Federal Reservation. As the U.S. Public Health Service couldn't afford it, and the Bureau of Reclamation hadn't budgeted for it, the Six Companies, Inc. builders of the dam, were asked to construct the health facility.

The original 20 bed hospital was completed in the fall of 1931. Almost immediately, an addition was required to handle the burgeoning patient load. Completed in 1933, this addition increased the number of beds to 60. During the four years and five months that the hospital operated under the Six Companies, it was a very busy place. At its peak, the hospital employed a staff of 25. Statistics compiled in 1936, the year after Six Companies completed the dam and closed the hospital, reflect the essential services that had been performed:

- 22,600 men had been examined before hiring
- 152,912 cases cared for in out-patient program
- 78,600 cases of major injury or ailment cared for
- 2,709 patients admitted to hospital
- 2,035 fractured bones treated
- 5,530 injuries required reporting to Industrial Commission

After it closed in 1935, the citizens of Boulder City were not able again to use the hospital until 1943. Between 1938 and 1941, the National Park Service occupied the building for office and museum spaces. By December 1943, the U.S. Public Health Service had re-opened the facility to participate in the war effort. They remodeled the interior and used the hospital till 1949, when the Bureau of Reclamation took control. This lasted until 1954, when, after losing money, the government gave Boulder City citizens the option of take over or closure. Remembering the eight year history when they had to travel to Las Vegas for any treatment, the citizens rallied and raised the necessary funds for maintenance and operation.

The hospital was condemned in the early 1970's when a new hospital was built south of town, but was subsequently purchased by the Episcopal Sisters of Charity, who began renovation of the structure into a retreat house called "Wellspring", a use which is maintained today.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

ADDED NOT VERIFIED

Las Vegas Review Journal, Sherman R. Frederick, April 21, 1979.
 McBride, Dennis. In the Beginning...A History of Boulder City, Nevada.
 Boulder City Chamber of Commerce, 1981.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY -10 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1	6 9 5 6 6 0	3 9 8 3 6 2 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The designated project sits on a mound facing and bounded by Park Place on the north, and is further bounded by Avenue 1 on the east, Arizona Street on the south and Utah Street on the west. Within this overall area there are the following intrusions not part of this nomination. One residence; the only residence facing Park Place and three residential units facing Utah Street—all abutting against the "hospital".
 Deed of Trust Lots One (1) and Two(2) in Block Eight (8) according to the Block Plat of Boulder City, Nevada, dated 7/15/69 No. X-300-460.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	N/A	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Mr. J. Charles Smith, President Board of Trustees, James Hamrick Nevada SHPO

ORGANIZATION Convent of the Sisters of Charity DATE June 12, 1980

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 7991 TELEPHONE 293-4347

CITY OR TOWN Incline Village STATE Nevada 89450

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Djimi Rodden

TITLE SHPO

DATE February 4, 1982

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

William H. Braithwaite
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: *Patricia Andrus*
 707/ KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 4/1/82

DATE 4/1/82

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

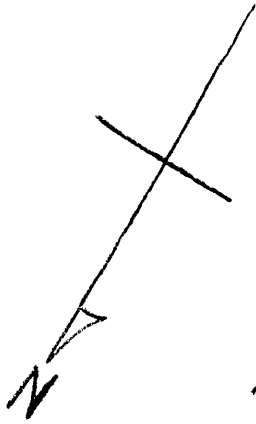
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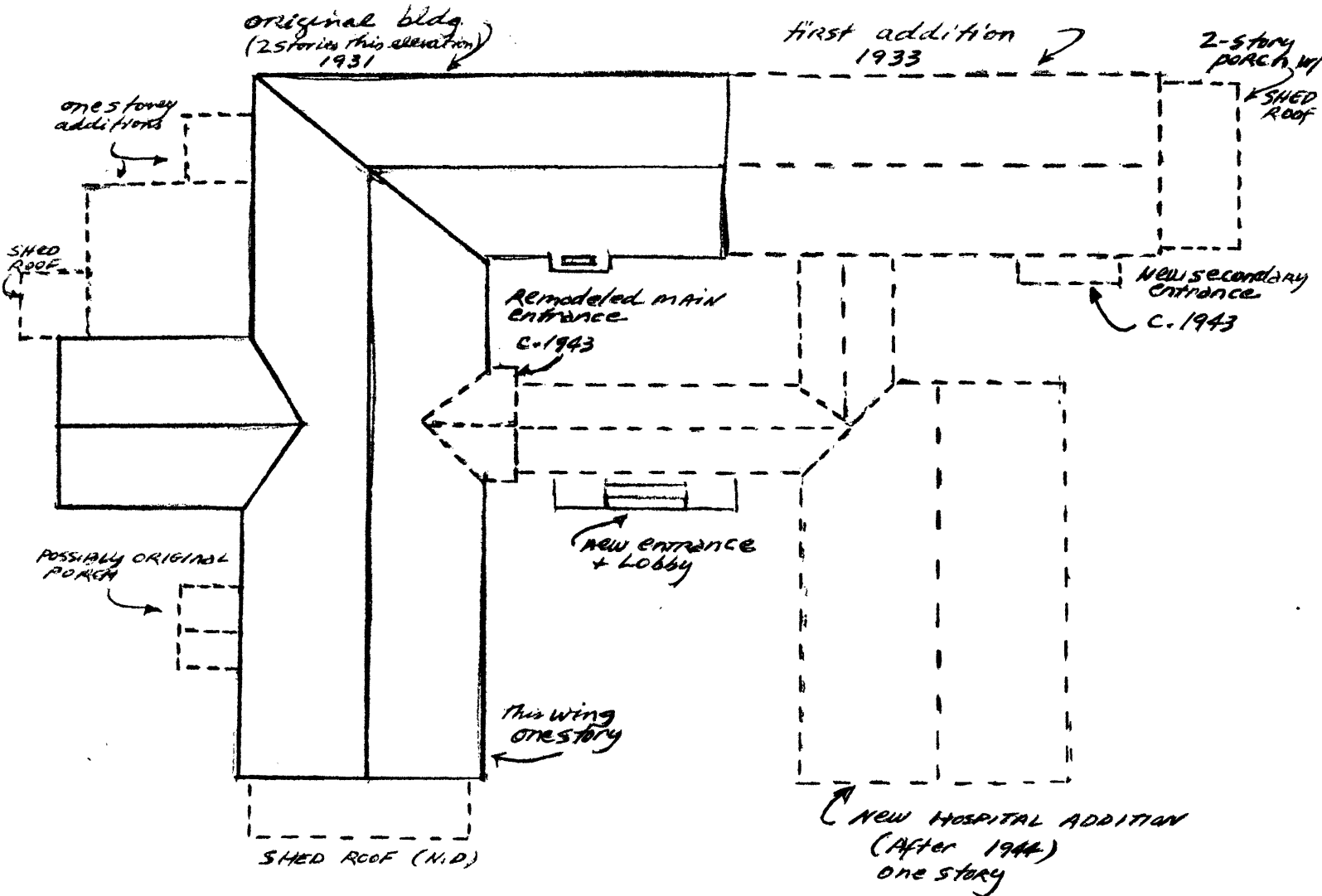
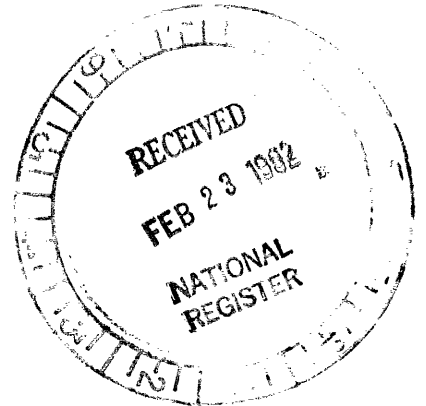
CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

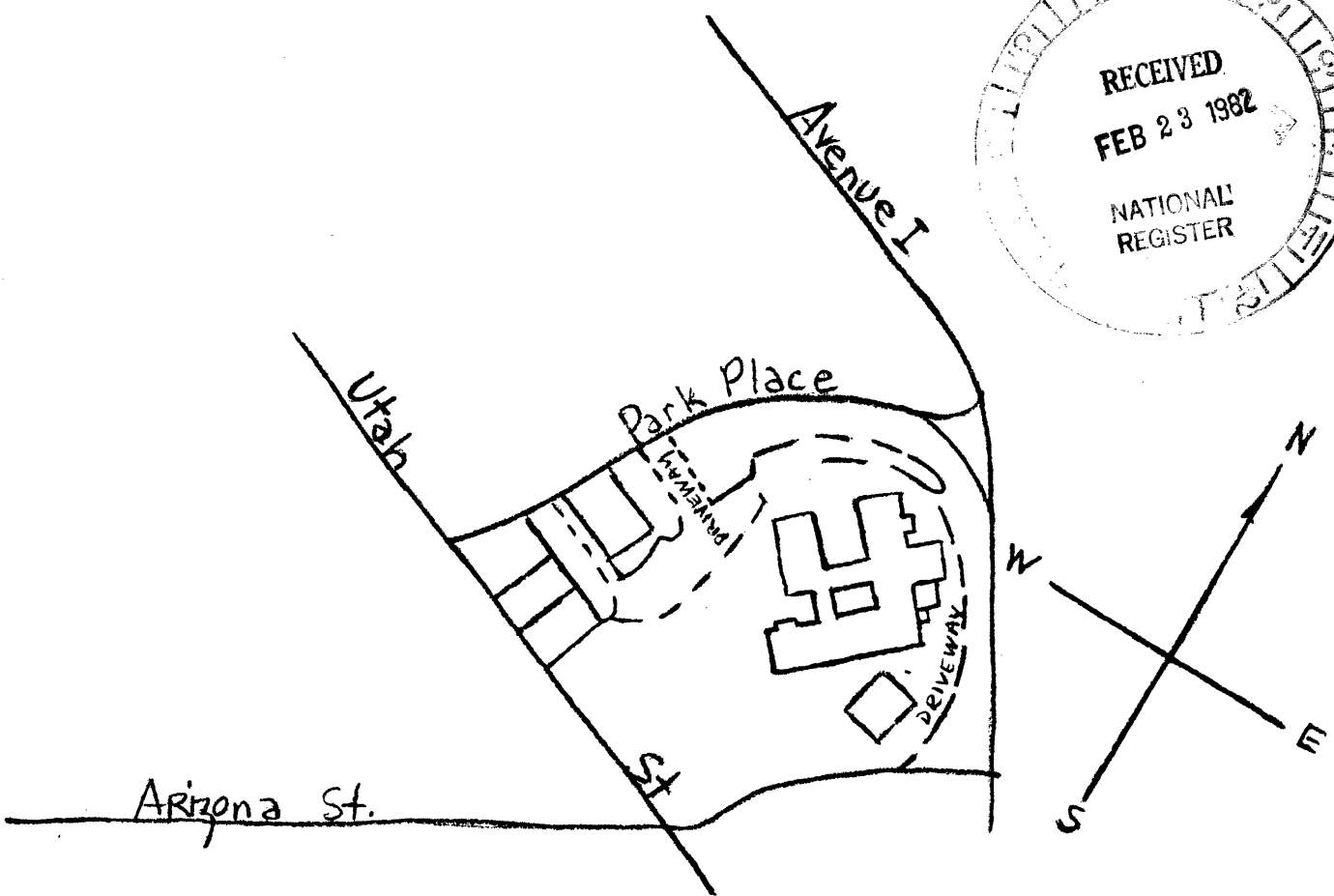
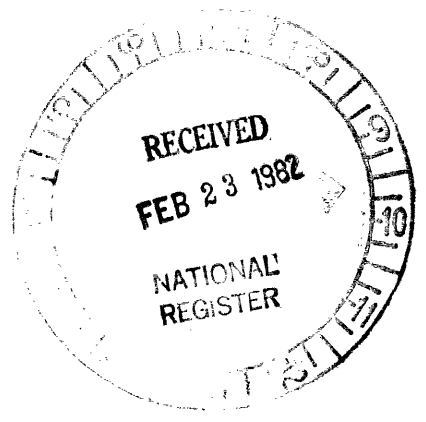
During the construction of the dam, only 84 work-related deaths occurred. Given the 40 million man hours invested in the dam, this is a very low figure. The importance and humanitarian value of the hospital's contribution to the building of the dam was immense and should be recognized by the National Register.



BUILDING HISTORY

Boulder City Hospital





SITE PLAN

Boulder City Hospital

Boulder City, Nevada