# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

#### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 98000866

Property Name: Maple View Sanitarian

County: Fayette State: Iowa

<u>none</u> Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Ullan Anda July 21, 1998 Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

<u>Section 6. Historic Function</u>. "Recreation and Culture/museum" is, hereby, dropped as a historic function since this use lies outside the period of significance.

<u>Section 8. Period of Significance</u>. The period of significance is, hereby, amended to read "1903 to 1951" to correspond to the facility's period of historic use and significant association with local medical care in the early 20th century.

Beth Foster of the Iowa State Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

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**DISTRIBUTION:** 

National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

Dct. 1990)	MAY 1 4 1998 No. 10024-0018
inited States Department of the Interior	
lational Park Service	Scop
National Register of Historic Places	
Registration Form	RECEIVED 2280
his form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual prop lational Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 1) y entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property b rchitectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categor ntries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typ	6A). Complete each item by making "x" in the appropriate box o being documented, enter "NA""for "not applicable." For functions ries and subcategories from the instructions. Flace additional
. Name of Property	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
nistoric name Maple View Sanitarium	•
	North II and
other names/site number <u>Community Hospital - Good S</u>	ayette County Historical Center
2. Location	
street & number 100 North Walnut Street	N/A D not for publication
city or town West Union	N/A vicinity
state Iowa codeIA countyFayet	te code 065_ zip code 52175_
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, a request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standar Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements s	rds for registering properties in the National Register of tet forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
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. Maple View Sanitarium Name of Property

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... 1915 - J

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Fayette County, Iowa County and State

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5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)         Category of Property (Check only one box)		Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)		
🗵 private	I private I building(s)		Noncontributing	
public-local	☐ district	1	. 0	buildings
public-State public-Federal	□ site □ structure			
			······································	
•		1	0	•
Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not part	roperty listing of a multiple property listing.)	Number of c in the Natior	ontributing resources nal Register	s previously liste
N/A		O		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		
HEALTH CARE/ hospital		RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum		
HEALTH CARE/senitarium		EDUCATION/library		
RECREATION AND CU	LTURE/museum			
				•
		······································		
	······································	<b></b>		
	<u></u>			······································
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories fr	om instructions)	
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS		foundation <u>STONE/limestone</u>		
		walls B	RICK	
:		roofS	YNE THICS/rubber	
		otherMETAL/steel		
· · ·		otherM	ETAL/STEEL	

### Name of Property

Fayette County, Iowa County and State

8.	Stat	ement	of S	ignif	icance

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

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

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

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- **C** a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- □ F a commemorative property.
- **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibilography

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

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

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

Primary location of additional data:

- **X** State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- □ Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- X Other

Name of repository:

Fayette County Historical Center

1903

Period of Significance

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH/MEDICINE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Significant Dates

1903

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

<u>N/A</u>

**Cultural Affiliation** 

Architect/Builder

ARCHITECT/unknown

BUILDER/Whitmore, Dr. Frank Beach

And I	County and State
0. Geographical Data	
creage of Property Less than one	
ITM References Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	
1 1.5 59.76.20 47570.20 Zone Easting Northing 2 1	3     Zone  Easting    4     See continuation sheet
<b>Verbal Boundary Description</b> Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
Boundary Justification Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Laura M. Janssen, President	
organization <u>Fayette County Helpers Club &amp;</u> Historical Society	date <u>September 23, 1997</u>
street & number 7623 J Avenue	telephone (319)637-2349
city or town Arlington	
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps	
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the pro-	operty's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having	large acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of the pro	operty.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	
name Fayette County Helpers Club & His	storical Society
street & number 100 North Walaut	telephone(319)422-5797
	_ stateIowa zip code _52175

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properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

### **Overview**

The Fayette County Historical Center (formerly known as Maple View Sanitarium) is located on lot 11, in block 10, West Union, IA, on the northeast corner of Walnut and Elm Streets and across the street from the town square. The town square containing the county court house is located on a knoll, and visible for several miles from each direction. Most of the buildings today surrounding the town square are of the 1800 era or early 1900 commercial buildings, as well as two churches dating 1867 and 1913, a 1930 school and the Historical Center on the southeast corner. (See Exhibit A for 1929 plat of the town square and surrounding buildings.) The court house located in the beautifully landscaped town square overlooks the Historical Center which stands in its original location. (See Exhibit B for present day bird's eye view of West Union.)

Built in 1903 by Dr. Frank Beach (F.B.) Whitmore as the first county hospital, "Maple View Sanitarium" would not only accommodate 12 to 15 patients, operating room, and office but also a general store on the north half of the first floor. The idea of receiving medical care at a hospital was new to the public and not well received. With Dr. Whitmore's decision to be a missionary in China, the hospital closed in 1905. From that time until 1914 the building was used for retail businesses, professional offices and apartments. In 1914 the Nurses' Benevolent Association bought the building under the auspices of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. The building again became the home for the hospital with the public showing a personal interest. By 1920 the city fathers, realizing the importance of the hospital, bought the building and retained it as a Community Hospital under supervision of the city government with contributions from county citizens and organizations. In 1951 the Community Hospital was moved to a new building at a new location. The Good Samaritan Society purchased the building and managed a nursing home until 1973 when it was no longer financially feasible to comply with the new state laws.

In 1973 the Fayette County Bicentennial Committee organized a county-wide historical society desiring to establish a county museum. In cooperation with the Fayette County Helpers Club (senior citizens), the Historical Society obtained the building in 1975 to house Fayette County documents and historical artifacts. The senior citizens from the county actively contributed and helped to maintain the museum as well as used the facilities as a meeting place which continues to the present day.

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple View Samitarium West Unica, Fayette County, Iowa

The building, located on a corner lot gently sloping from west to east, is 62.3 feet deep and 50 feet wide built in early 20th century style, common to commercial buildings of that period. The designer of this red brick rectangular structure highlighted the building with horizontal lines, then dramatically played off two oriels, a corner curved window and a side bay window, finishing the top of the building with a attractive tile pent roof above the cornice. It has two full stories and a full basement; all floors originally had entrances on the east and the west. The west basement door is the only entrance no longer existing. The exterior of the building is almost unchanged from 1903 except for the modification of the general store windows and the placement of the steel fire escape on the west side.

The rooms on all three floors have accommodated many functions from general store, hospital oriented rooms, chapel, lobby, and offices just to name a few. Many Fayette County citizens can relate to an experience in this building.

### Detailed Description of the Exterior

As one views the building from the west Walnut Street main front entrance, one looks at the first floor area and sees a carefully placed band of vertical bricks over three arched windows and two arched doors. The band carries the eye to a corner door which is surrounded with heavily rusticated limestone. Originally the north half was designed for a store with large windows, later the store front windows were replaced with windows and a door to match the south half and the space was filled with brick of a slightly different color. The three second floor windows and two doors are connected with a horizontal limestone band at their base followed with a wider band of dark and light color bricks creating a basket weave appearance with a single protruding horizontal line of brick bordering the bottom of the weave and directly above the windows and doors. The pent tile roof above the metal cornice is supported with one decorative corner bracket on the northwest corner and the large oriel on the southwest corner. Large dentils of light colored brick give mock support to the cornice and roof. A wide sidewalk, handicap parking and no steps makes the building accessible to most everyone.

The corner oriel has a large curved glass window surrounded with impressive neoclassical ornaments pressed in metal. Starting at the base of this large projecting bay, one sees leaves of acanthus and spear-shaped designs. Directly below the window, wreaths are connected with garlands and flowers. On each side of the window, fancy v-shaped scrolls are pressed in the metal above and below a single wreath. The main portion of the design

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

is in the band directly above the window. In the middle of the wide band is a shield-like object that could be construed to look like a grotesquely carved face. On each side of this design are two cherub figures, one cherub appears to be spearing a fish, the other figure is spearing a mythological figure that has a wild animal face or maybe it represents Satan with wings. The main characters of this design are intertwined with vines and leaves. The top or frieze portion repeats the acanthus leaves over two protruding metal ribs that encircle the oriel.

The south side of the building has an adjacent sidewalk and street. The horizontal lines created on the front of the building are repeated on the south side in the band of vertical bricks connecting five first floor curved top windows and the basket weave, limestone, single brick lines connect the six second floor rectangular windows. Then a nice surprise-another eye-catching oriel! The designer graced the second floor with a large three-window bay projecting from the side wall supported by a corbel. The bay is covered with metal similar to the corner oriel but its plain appearance provides an interesting contrast to the ornate embellishments of the corner oriel. The mock brackets, cornice and pent roof are a continuation of the front side, but the expected large decorative bracket for the southeast corner to match the north west corner is omitted.

The east or back side of the building faces a small lawn and alley. Originally the decor on this wall consisted of wooden steps leading to decks on each floor; these deteriorated necessitating their removal. At present the wall appears barren with only stairs to the two first floor entrances and no accessibility to the two second floor doors. Due to the slope of the lot, the back wall also has two ground level doors to the basement, a convenience for utilizing this lower level.

It is interesting to find the designer expressed creativity again with horizontal lines on the north side of the building, which is in close proximity to a adjoining building. Seven layers of bricks are laid side by side, then one row of bricks is laid end to end giving the appearance of horizontal lines or strips, unlike the other walls.

### Description of the Interior

Despite the changes made to support the different functions of the building, much of the original floor plan remains. The designer gave this building a central-hall plan with the usual open staircase and rooms on each side of the hall on first and second floor. The

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

central supporting wall was constructed as a fire wall; the steel fire door is still in place on the second floor. On each side of the fire wall there is a stairway, front and rear, "according every means of safety" (1). Although still present, the rear stairway is not used.

The first floor rooms have received a modest change for meeting area, offices and rest rooms. To the right of the front entrance, the Fayette County Historical Society and Genealogical Office continues to be resplendent with the 1903 ornate pressed metal wall and fourteen foot ceiling. Original moldings frame the windows and doorways, with transoms throughout most of the building. Also to the right of the hall is the Genealogical Library, room rented to DOT (Dept. of Transportation) and Heritage Room (historical records). To the left of the central hall is a spacious meeting room and kitchen. (See Exhibit D)

The second floor has remained basically the same as constructed for a hospital. The spacious feeling of the first floor continues on the second floor with two central rooms surrounded by 15 various sized rooms. The nine and one half foot ceiling and skylights (a 1917 modernization) add to the spaciousness not suspected from the outside. Especially attractive is the southwest room with the corner oriel and two large windows and the room with the large bay of three windows on the south. Evidence of the second floor being a part of a hospital can be seen in the numbered rooms as well as the call system box in the central hall at the top of the stairs. In 1975 the upstairs rooms became home to a newly organized Fayette County Museum. (See Exhibit E)

The basement is divided into three rooms with limestone block exterior walls. In 1914 it was recognized "as exceptionally fine, being dry, light and airy" (2). One large room on the north houses the agricultural exhibit for the Museum. The rooms on the south are presently used for storage and utilities. The basement has two ground level entrances on the east with windows on the south presently closed. The west stairwell and entrance was discontinued, date unknown.

In 1934 a hand operated freight elevator was installed. In 1992 the elevator was replaced with a limited access electric elevator making the building handicap accessible to all three floors.

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Maple View Samitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iewa

#### Summarv

Although necessary remodeling has been done to accommodate modernization, the building has retained much of the original floor plan and the exterior architecture "designed to be compatible with other brick buildings near the court house square" (3) reveals a variety of interesting and historically important details. The location of the building across from the southeast corner of the Fayette County Court House Square gives the Fayette County Historical Center the same prominence and convenience in 1997 as it gave the first Fayette County Hospital, "Maple View Sanitarium" in 1903.

The future of the building will be preserved and secured through extending the use of the genealogical department, the museum of historical artifacts and improving the community center room which is used for many activities. Plans to redecorate and make this room more desirable are being discussed, thus highlighting the building's importance to the community and demanding it's perservation.

Expansion of the museum is on the list of possibilities for the building's future.

### Endnotes

1. West Union Argo-Gazette, March 10, 1915

2. West Union Argo-Gazette, September 14, 1914

3. Waterloo Courier, 1974

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa



# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

EXHIBIT B Maple View Sanitarium Bird's Eye View of West Union



Heritage Room

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

North

EXHIBIT D First Floor Plan



Presting room Desting room Historical Society Genealsgical Diffee

Fayette County Historical Center 1997

Community Hospital 1947-1951

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

EXHIBIT E Second Floor Plan



Fayette County Historical Center <u>1997</u>

Community Hospital 1947-1951

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa



### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple View Samitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

#### Statement of Significance

The building known as the Fayette County Historical Center meets criterion A for listing on the National Register of Historic Places because from the time of its construction in 1903 until 1973 when its function made the transition to a museum, its history reveals the evolving story of public acceptance to a new concept, receiving medical treatment at a hospital, and then elderly being cared for in a nursing home.

Ahead of his time in the midwest, Dr. F.B Whitmore had a vision that caring for the medical needs of people could be administered more professionally at a specific location. He carried out his vision in 1903 by using his own resources to build the "Maple View Sanitarium". Although the building was attractive and had the latest medical equipment for the time, the area doctors were not ready for that step into the future and did not support the concept of a hospital. If an operation were required, it was performed in the doctor's office. Mothers preferred to have their babies at home and the home was considered the place to be for the last days of a person's life. By 1915 the attitude toward hospitals had started to evolve, and the community leaders were beginning to realize a hospital was the door to better medical care. They supported the Nurses' Benevolent Association in their effort to bring a hospital to the area encouraging citizens to take a personal interest by paying a scription of \$100 each. The newspaper stated it was -"an inducement to avail themselves of its privileges" (4). Another news item indicated the trend toward centralized medical care by reporting the association purchased equipment "some of which has not been delivered because of the great demand for all hospital equipment and supplies in Europe" (5).

Again closure threatened the hospital but by 1920 the city fathers knew it was a necessity for the area. The idea of the city purchasing the hospital for the area had to be sold to the public. Several doctors that used the facilities gave their professional viewpoints encouraging the public to support the hospital. Two examples: Dr. C.D. Mercer "The rates as charged are about half what it would cost to have a serious illness in your home with a private nurse in attendance. Especially is this true of surgical and obstetrical work. Physicians charge mileage in the country and no matter how urgently you may need him he may be delayed by snow or mud." (6); Dr. T.A. King "Modern methods of diagnosis and treatment and the increasing difficulty of doing these things in the home, compel us to provide for such an institution"(6). The community hospital became a reality. Organizations adopted rooms, contributing furnishings as curtains, sheets, dresser scarfs, towels, etc. Benefits were held as "Hospital Day" in 1921; a donation party for example where people brought "any kind of vegetables or fruit, either fresh or canned, jam, jellies, table or tray furnishing or anything that can be used to add to the comfort of the sick"(7).

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Maple View Sanitarium West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

The evolution of medical care is also demonstrated in the history of this building. Early personnel often had many responsibilities. They not only treated and cared for the patients but were responsible for cleaning, repairing, maintaining the heating plant, and "keeping the hospital cellar well stocked with canned vegetables"(8). "Working 24 hours a day when necessary"(8).

The evolution of the medical profession in Fayette County is evident in the museum room designated as the "Health Room". Surgical instruments, dental equipment, eye examining tools and the evolution of the wheel chair are just a few of the items demonstrating the time-line of the building serving as a hospital up to 1951. In addition a medical library was established during those years.

The history of this building tells the transition from the country doctor and his early medical services to doctors cooperating to provide the latest medical expertise to their patients. By 1951 this progression was carried out in new facilities, with this building becoming one of the first nursing homes for the area which operated until 1973.

### Endnotes

4. West Union Argo-Gazette, March 30, 1916

5. West Union Argo-Gazette, March 10, 1915

6. West Union Argo-Gazette, March 20, 1920

7. West Union Argo-Gazette, October 27, 1921

8. West Union Argo-Gazette, December 3, 1936

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### Major Bibliographical References

West Union Argo, November 15, 1902-1910 West Union Gazette, 1901-1916 West Union Argo-Gazette, 1917-1939 The Union, West Union, Iowa, 1920-1997 The Register, Oelwein, Iowa, May 2, 1986 Waterloo Courier, 1974 Fayette County Helpers Club and Historical Society, <u>Out of the Midwest, A Portrait Fayette County, Iowa, 1976</u> Fitch, George W., <u>Fayette County, Iowa 1910</u> Sanborn Map Company, West Union February 1929

Oral interviews with: Ruth Brooks Chamberlain, Community Hospital nurse 1947-1951 Fayette County Helpers Club members, senior citizens recollected their hospital experiences. Frances Graham, Fayette County Historical Center Administrator John W. Graham, historian

### Verbal boundary description

Lot 11 in Block 10 at the corner of Elm and Walnut Streets, West Union, Fayette County, Iowa

### Verbal boundary justification

The Maple View Sanitarium has historically been associated with this property.

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Maple View Sanitarium Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_14 West Union, Fayette County, Iowa Photograph key The following items are common to all photographs: 1. Maple View Sanitarium 2. Fayette County, Iowa Photograph #1 3. Unknown 4. ca.1904 5. Unknown 6. South side, looking northeast Photograph #2 3. Unknown 4. ca. 1920 5. Unknown 6. West side, looking northeast Photograph #3 3. Miriam Colvin 4. August 14, 1997 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. West and south side, looking northeast 3. Laura Janssen Photograph #4 4. January 1997 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. West side, looking east Photograph #5 3. unknown 4.1939 5. unknown 6. West side, looking east Photograph #6, #7, & #8 3. Laura Janssen 4. June 1997 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. Corner oriel, looking east and northeast Photograph #9 3. Miriam Colvin 4. August 14, 1997 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. Corner door, looking northeast

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Maple View Sanitarium Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_15\_\_\_ West Union, Fayette County, Iowa Photograph #10 3. Miriam Colvin 4. August 21, 1997 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. Bay window, looking northeast Photograph #11 3. Miriam Colvin 4. January 1997 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. South side - looking north Photograph #12 3. Miriam Colvin 4. 1993 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. East side, looking northwest Photograph #13 3. Miriam Colvin 4. 1993 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. North side, looking southeast Photograph #14 3. Miriam Colvin 4. August 14, 1997 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. Bay window, looking north Photograph #15 3. Laura Janssen 4. September 1997 5. 100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. Central hallway, looking east Photograph #16 & #17 3. Miriam Colvin 4. August 21, 1997 5.100 N. Walnut Street, West Union, Iowa 6. Pressed metal wall covering-office, looking northeast