

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Montana	
COUNTY: Ravalli	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.30.0013	DATE 10/15/70

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Canyon Creek Laboratory of the U. S. Public Health Service

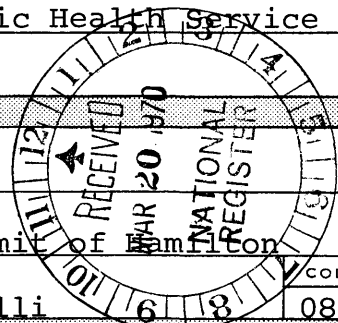
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
The Ricketts Memorial Museum

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
T6N R21W, Sect. 26 (NE 1/4)

CITY OR TOWN:  
3/4 of a mile west of the western city limit of Hamilton

STATE Montana	CODE 25	COUNTY: Ravalli	CODE 081
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments See <u>Attachment.</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Dr. William L. Jellison

STREET AND NUMBER:  
504 South Third Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hamilton

STATE: Montana	CODE 25
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Ravalli County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hamilton

STATE: Montana	CODE 25
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
State Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: Sept., 1968  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Montana Fish and Game Department

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Sam Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN:  
Helena

STATE: Montana	CODE 25
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Montana	COUNTY: Ravalli	ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.30.0013	DATE 10/15/70
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FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Brick structure (see attached) school, converted to laboratory. Condition, excellent.

The local Neighborhood Youth Corps has supplied attendants each summer.

The grounds, building, and exhibits are being gradually improved. There are flower beds, three fish ponds, and sprinkler system.

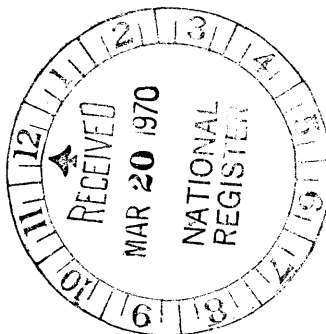
The exhibits feature not only the laboratory work, but include Indian artifacts and costumes, natural science, work of local artists, and Lewis and Clark history.

There is no comparable museum facility in the country.

Some effort is being made through Public Health Service channels to secure financial help for this project. Our representatives in Congress have been kept informed of developments but have not been requested to take any action.

The museum project is listed as Project #100 under the local Resources Conservation and Development Program and has the active support of this agency.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1921

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

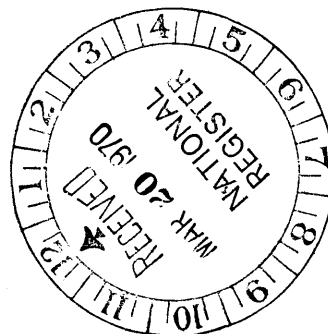
- |                                         |                                               |                                              |                                          |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             |                                              |                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                |                                              |                                          |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Background information regarding this building is of historical importance. It was originally constructed in 1894 and used as a schoolhouse. Twenty-seven years later, from 1921 to 1928 Dr. R. R. Parker and his staff from the Montana State Board of Entomology and the U. S. Public Health Service occupied this old building about one mile west of Hamilton, Montana. This group engaged in the study and control of spotted fever, a serious and often fatal disease prevalent in Montana and about 10 other Western States. While at this laboratory, the Spencer-Parker vaccine for spotted fever was developed and other important studies on ticks and tick-borne diseases were started (tick-borne tularemia, tick paralysis).

Before vaccine was available, about 400 cases of spotted fever had occurred in the Bitterroot Valley and over 250 of these were fatal. After vaccine came into use only one death was recorded in the Valley in persons who had taken the vaccine, and this was a professional laboratory worker. Similar results from the vaccine were experienced elsewhere in the Rocky Mountain region. Before a vaccine was developed there were six cases of spotted fever in research workers in Montana laboratories and others; all were fatal. Since vaccine became available there have been over 30 cases in laboratory workers with only one death recorded. The work done at this laboratory was a significant part of the medical history of the West.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN LABORATORY, A Brief History of its Growth and Research Activities, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and United States Public Health Service publications

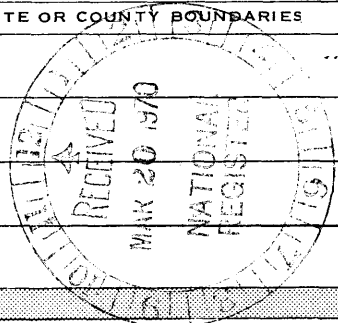
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	46	15	15
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	114	10	49
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



NO 11700  
FR

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Robert A. Murray, Historic Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Montana Fish and Game Department DATE: Sept., 1968

STREET AND NUMBER: Sam Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN: Helena STATE: Montana CODE: 25

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Wesley R. Woodgerd  
 Title State Liaison Officer  
 Date March 17, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connally  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date OCT 15 1970

ATTEST:

William J. Schmitz  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date OCT 12 1970



Supplement to Statement of Significance

The work at Hamilton, Montana, has been the basis of a book "Fighting Spotted Fever in the Rockies" by Eleanor Gaskins Price (1947), for a movie, "Green Light", and for numerous articles in magazines and newspapers.

In 1928, the laboratory work was moved from the Canyon Creek site to a new building on the edge of Hamilton. The laboratory has grown from one building to a complex of many units with a physical plant value of approximately \$3,000,000 value. It has a staff of over 160 workers. It enjoys a world wide reputation for work on arthropod borne diseases, virus studies and other medical research.

For many years tourists were taken through the laboratory even to rooms where work was in progress. Now tourists are limited to the library and a small museum room and are not encouraged. Professional visitors are received for brief or extended visits.

The restriction on visitors was not a lack of hospitality, but was made because of the danger of infection from some of the diseases being studied including typhus, Q fever and tularemia.

For this reason it appeared desirable to have a public museum where history and work of the laboratory could be exhibited. The Canyon Creek Laboratory seemed most appropriate for this purpose.

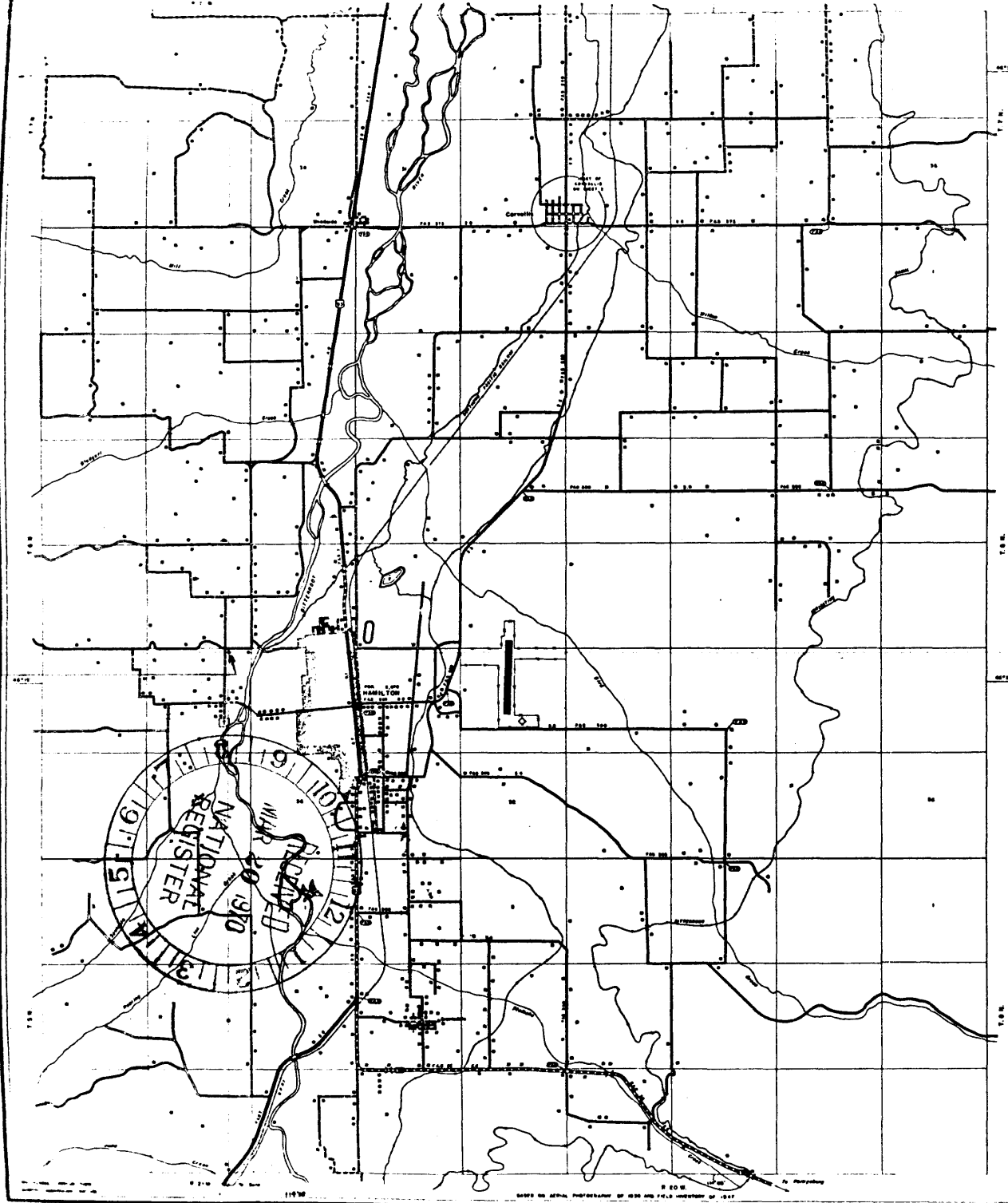
The building was acquired in 1966, and the first year was spent in cleaning up the building and grounds. Displays and pictures were borrowed from the Laboratory and from other sources and installed.

The museum has been open to the public for three summers, 1967, 1968, and 1969. No admission has been charged. No "tourist material" has been on sale.

Submitted by Dr. William Jellison

N. LAT: 46° 15' 15"  
CANYON CREEK LABORATORY

CANYON CREEK LABORATORY W. LONG: 104° 10' 49"



- NATIONAL STATE BOUNDARY LINE
- COUNTY BOUNDARY LINE
- RESERVATION BOUNDARY LINE
- TOWNSHIP LINE
- SECTION LINE
- CONTINENTAL DIVIDE
- PRIMARY STATE ROAD 1912
- PROJECTED ROAD
- UNIMPROVED ROAD
- GRADED AND DRAINED ROAD
- SOIL SURFACED ROAD
- GRAVEL OR STONE NOT GRADED OR DRAINED
- GRAVEL OR STONE GRADED AND DRAINED
- OIL PAVEMENT SURFACED ROAD
- BITUMINOUS ROAD LOW TYPE
- PAVED ROAD
- ROAD TO BE OPEN WHEN DISTANCES ARE SHORT
- HIGHWAY BRIDGE
- SMALL BRIDGES CLOSELY SPACED
- ARCH BRIDGE
- HIGHWAY TUNNEL
- FERRIS WHEEL/TOLL
- PASS WITH NAME AND ELEVATION
- U.S. HIGHWAY
- STATE HIGHWAY
- FEDERAL AID PRIMARY SYSTEM
- FEDERAL AID SECONDARY SYSTEM
- END OF FEDERAL AID DESIGNATED ROUTE
- DAM WITH ROAD
- DAM WITHOUT ROAD
- INTERMITTENT STREAM
- NARROW STREAM
- WIDE STREAM
- IRRIGATION CANAL WITH FLOW DIRECTION
- LAKE OR RESERVOIR
- RESERVOIR WITH DAM
- DRY/LAKE LAND
- MARSH
- SLACKED
- PROMINENT POINT WITH NAME AND ELEVATION
- RAILROAD
- RAILROAD STATION
- RAILROAD TUNNEL
- RAILROAD ABOVE
- RAILROAD BELOW
- PRIVATELY OWNED RAILROAD
- AIR ROUTE WITH OPERATING COMPANY
- ARMY, NAVY, OR MARINE CORPS FIELD
- COMMERCIAL OR MUNICIPAL AIR FIELD
- LANDING AREA OR STRIP
- AIRWAY LIGHT BEACON
- STATE CAPITAL
- COUNTY SEAT
- OTHER TOWNS AND VILLAGES
- UNINCORPORATED CITY OR VILLAGE
- FARM LOT
- DWELLING
- GROUP OF DWELLINGS
- COMBINED DWELLING AND SMALL BUSINESS
- SEASONAL DWELLING
- GROUP OF SEASONAL DWELLINGS
- CHURCH
- CEMETERY
- CHURCH WITH CEMETERY
- SCHOOLHOUSE
- SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT
- GROUP OF SMALL BUSINESSES
- GRAIN ELEVATOR
- FACTORY OR INDUSTRIAL PLANT
- SEASONAL INDUSTRY
- BEET DUMP
- TOWNHALL OR COMMUNITY HALL
- RURAL POST OFFICE WITH NAME
- DWELLING AND POST OFFICE
- BUSINESS AND POST OFFICE
- BUSINESS, DWELLING, AND POST OFFICE
- BARN
- WARE
- OIL OR GAS WELLS
- OIL TANK
- GAS TANK
- GROUP OF GAS AND OIL STORAGE TANKS
- BARRAGE OR PUMPING STATION
- PICKUP GROUND
- CAMP GROUND
- HOT SPRINGS
- RANGER STATION
- FISH HATCHERY
- GAME FARM
- SOFT GROUND OR COUNTRY CLUB
- ATHLETIC FIELD
- FARMGROUNDS OR RACETRACK
- CAMP OR LODGE
- STOCKPENS OR LANDING PEN
- U.S. PORT OF ENTRY
- POWER PLANT
- RADIO STATION AND CALL LETTERS
- HIGHWAY BARBER
- FORT OR ARMY CAMP
- STATE COURTESY STATION
- AIRPORT WITH SURFACED RUNWAYS



# GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP RAVALLI COUNTY MONTANA

PREPARED BY THE  
MONTANA STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
IN COOPERATION WITH  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS  
DATA OBTAINED FROM  
STATE-WIDE HIGHWAY PLANNING SURVEY

SCALE  
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

1947

APPROVED AUG. 1, 1947  
REVISED DEC. 1, 1947  
SHEET 25, SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET OF 3 MAP SHEETS AND 1 SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET

GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP RAVALLI COUNTY MONTANA

NOTE: LAT-LONG MEASUREMENT WAS MADE FROM UNDISTORTED ORIGINAL MAP.

Form 0-301  
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

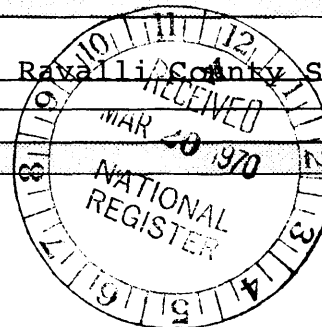
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Montana	
COUNTY Ravalli	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.30.0013	DATE 10/15/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Canyon Creek Laboratory of the U.S. Public Health Service AND/OR HISTORIC: The Ricketts Memorial Museum			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
T6N R21W, Sect. 26 (NE $\frac{1}{4}$ )			
CITY OR TOWN:			
3/4 of a mile west of the western city limit of Hamilton			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Montana	25	Ravalli	081
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:			
Mont. State Highway Dept. County Maps, Ravalli County Sheet 2A			
SCALE: 11/16 inch = 1 mile			
DATE: 1947 Revised 1959			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			







Form 10-301  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Montana	
COUNTY Ravalli	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.30.0013	DATE 14/5/76

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Canyon Creek Laboratory of the U.S. Public Health Service			
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Ricketts Memorial Museum			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
T6N R21W, Sect. 26 (NE1/4)			
CITY OR TOWN:			
3/4 of a mile west of the western city limit of Hamilton			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Montana	25	Ravalli	081
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:			
USGS Hamilton, Montana; Idaho			
SCALE: 1:250,000			
DATE:			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			