

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received DEC 19 1984
date entered JAN 18 1985

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

1. Name

historic Barrett Hospital

and/or common Old Barrett Hospital

2. Location

street & number Chapman and South Atlantic Streets, n/a not for publication

city, town Dillon n/a vicinity of

state Montana code 030 county Beaverhead code 001

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Beaverhead County

street & number Courthouse

city, town Dillon n/a vicinity of state Montana

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clerk and Recorder's Office

street & number Beaverhead County Courthouse

city, town Dillon state Montana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Dillon Historic Resource Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980-1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Montana Historic Preservation Office

city, town 225 North Roberts Street Helena state Montana

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Barrett Hospital stands alone on seven-and-a quarter acres of land on the edge of the community it was built to serve. It is a rectangular three-storied brick building, with two main floors, a basement, and an attic floor. The first and second floors housed single patient rooms and four wards, an office, and reception room. A maternity ward and nursery (first floor) and a surgical suite (second floor) have features distinctive to their original function. On the south was built a large sunroom. The basement originally held the kitchen, dining room, and mechanical equipment. The gabled roof with dormer windows provided light to the nurses' living quarters there. ✓

An electric elevator gave service to the basement, first and second floor. An adjacent small stairwell links these floors and continues to the attic.

Most of the windows are double-hung with 6/6 sash. There are three round windows on the attic floor and six dormer windows in the gable roof. The two attic windows on the north are arched. There is also one arched window over the main north entrance. The interior double doors are marked by a seven-paned transom window that is flanked by multi-paned side-lights. Three such doorways define the main and solarium entrances. One doorway on the second floor opens onto the solarium roof. Many of the original glass globe ceiling fixtures are intact.

The front entrance is decorated with a terrazzo and patterned floor tile. Ornamental iron handrails flank the entrance stairs and cover the windows above the entrance. Decorative brick arches span the main floor windows and a deep arch with windows surmounts the main entrance. Other exterior decoration is found in the double row of white glazed brick which serves to delineate the ground floor from the daylight basement. Wooden purlins are articulated at the gables and eaves.

No outbuildings presently exist. Landscaping efforts in 1932 contributed the large evergreens and rows of trees and hedges on the property. The grounds are now separated from farmland by an interstate highway access road. The present hospital and clinic facility are on adjacent property. A block away stands Western Montana College whose 1897 Main Hall and 1907 classroom addition are clearly visible. The nearby residential area holds the oldest homes in Dillon, most of which were built in the two decades preceding the construction of Barrett Hospital.

Through the years, some alterations were made to the building. In 1946, public donors contributed to the remodeling of an obstetrics ward and a maternity ward came to occupy the former sunroom. Glass brick replaced the original windows in the sunroom and the surgical area. The emergency room was moved to the basement. In 1959 a fire escape was added on the west side of the building. By 1965 this building failed to meet federal and state safety recommendations and in 1971 its hospital function was moved into newer quarters. Except for a brief occupancy as an alcoholic treatment center, the building has been abandoned. Windows and doors are presently boarded up to prevent further vandalism or decay.

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On January 7, 1921, Margaret Roe, the sister of Joseph Shineberger, met with Martin Barrett and A.L. Stone, president of the State Bank. They filed articles of incorporation as the Barrett Hospital Association, with the aim of finding a suitable location for building the hospital that had been specified in Shineberger's trust.

Major financial contributions to Barrett Hospital included Shineberger's bequest of \$25,000 which, through its trust investment, had grown to \$39,283.67. Margaret Roe supplemented this so that the initial endowment totalled \$50,000. Martin Barrett added \$100,000. The old brewery provided the location for the new hospital, and the seven acre tract of land was donated to the Barrett Hospital Association by the State Bank. The First National Bank contributed x-ray equipment and many individuals made further donations. Among the acknowledged benefactors were the Methodist Sunday School children who provided jams, jellies, and canned goods.

Construction contracts for the hospital were let on May 11, 1922, at the cost of \$71,659 to build, plumb, and wire the new building. The firm of Hamill and Swanstrum of Bozeman was the general builder and Fred Willson of Bozeman, the architect. The cornerstone was laid on August 11, 1922. Dr. Pinkerton of Utah, chief surgeon of the Oregon Short Line railroad, inspected the facility during its construction. Mr. Hamill spoke to local organizations about the plans. Barrett Hospital was dedicated on June 9, 1923.

Hospital policy was determined by its two major benefactors. In his will, Shineberger specified that the hospital should be non-sectarian, non-political, and non-denominational. Barrett added that the hospital would have no professional staff of lawyers, doctors, or preachers and would thereby, in the words of the newspaper, be "protected against sectarian, political, or fraternal society domination". Of the benevolent institution, it said, "...the principal object is to help the poor. Any funds that may accumulate from the hospital, or the endowment fund, shall be given to the worthy, needy, and sick, as citizens of Beaverhead County." A nursing superintendent coordinated the hospital services, directed by the hospital board. The board was composed of the persons holding the office of the president of the State Bank, the judge of the district court, the mayor of the City of Dillon, the chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, and a member of the community who was appointed by Martin Barrett.

Although Barrett Hospital was preceded by several homes which served as general hospitals and as lying-in hospitals, it was the first hospital building as such in Dillon. It received community support, and in turn served the community for almost fifty years. Despite the expectation of surplus funds from its operations, six months after the hospital's opening, rumors about its imminent closing because of monthly deficits were publically countered by the chairman of the board, who announced the appointment of a finance committee. In some years, annual campaigns were held to raise money for the upkeep and indebtedness. Community involvement also contributed to improvements of the hospital. In 1932, for instance, three hundred volunteers planted a shelterbelt of trees, built a fence around the property "to keep out stock", and landscaped the grounds with evergreens, grass, flowers, and hedges. Other public donations contributed

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to renovations of the hospital. Among them, the M and M Club refurbished a room in 1948; the solarium was converted into a maternity ward; a fire escape was added in 1959; non-explosive surgical lights were installed in 1965. But in December 1965, and administrative committee issued this statement:

The hospital is undergoing a crisis; our facilities need improvement to insure full participation in federal and state hospital programs and to assure the hospital patrons adequate hospital services.

A fund drive to build a new hospital began in 1969, and two acres of land adjacent to the old Barrett Hospital were secured. Local residents created a hospital district and passed a bond issue. In March, 1971, the new hospital, Barrett Memorial, opened to serve the community. Without renovation, the vacated building found use until 1976 as an alcohol treatment center, and has since then remained empty. The old hospital building, which had been constructed by Dillon area pioneers and subsidized thereafter by local philanthropists had proudly "existed through the use of private funds and without the assistance of tax help". The Barrett Hospital is a landmark of the community and a tribute to its private initiative in providing for the welfare of its citizens.

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History of Montana, 1739-1885, Edited by M.A. Leason. Chicago; Warner, Beers and Co.,
1885. Pp. 983, 1000.

Progressive Men of Montana, Pp. 27-28, 412-414.

Dillon Tribune-Examiner, Feb. 18, 1972.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1923

Builder/Architect Hamill and Swanstrum, Bozeman/

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Fred Willson, Bozeman

Barrett Hospital was the first hospital in Dillon that was designed and erected for that purpose. Built on the edge of town, the city streets were extended to accommodate the site. Local benefactors donated to its construction, furnishing, general operation, and to improvements during its nearly half-century of operation. The building is significant as a reminder of the commitment of the citizens of Dillon to providing for the medical needs of all in the community and for its association with two of Beaverhead County's earliest pioneers, Joseph Shineberger and Martin Barrett. These men were the major organizers and contributors to the hospital construction fund.

The son of a farmer, Martin Barrett was born in County Mayo, Ireland in 1840. His widowed mother, with nine children, immigrated to America in 1847, to a village in Ontario, Canada. Martin served an apprenticeship to a tanner and currier, but in 1859 he moved to St. Joseph, Missouri, and from there drove a freight wagon in a wagon train to Salt Lake City and back. In 1861-62 he engaged in mining in Colorado. In 1863, he formed a partnership with Joseph Shineberger and drove a mule team to Montana. While Shineberger continued his mining efforts in Alder Gulch, Barrett began raising stock on a ranch at Horse Prairie in Beaverhead County. This was his home for over forty years until he moved into Dillon in 1912. He served in the territorial legislature beginning in 1879 and was a stockholder in the State Bank of Dillon.

Joseph Shineberger was born in Philadelphia in 1836 to a soap and candlemaker. After brief employment in a shovel factory, Shineberger in 1859 headed west for the gold country in Colorado, California, and New Mexico. In 1862 he met Martin Barrett, and together they set out for the Salmon River mines in Idaho. While on their way there, word reached them of a gold discovery at Grasshopper Creek in Montana. They changed their destination and arrived in Bannack in July, 1863. While Barrett claimed land in Horse Prairie, Shineberger staked out a mining claim there and in Alder Gulch. He ran a freight wagon between the mining operations in southwestern Montana and Salt Lake City, and in 1868 took up cattle and sheep ranching near Red Rock. He was a stock holder in the State Bank of Dillon until his death in 1908.

The partnership of these two pioneers, Barrett and Shineberger, continued after the latter's death, and their common efforts were instrumental in the establishment of Barrett Hospital. In his will, Joseph Shineberger gave the sum of \$25,000 for the building of a hospital in Dillon. He specified that the money was to be held in trust at the State Bank until other contributions should bring the sum to \$90,000, an amount he considered sufficient to build a hospital (\$40,000) and to endow it (\$50,000), so that it might be "maintained without being a burden to either Dillon or to the county". The newspaper reported that a close friend of Shineberger's, presumably Martin Barrett, was also prepared to make a \$25,000 gift to the hospital fund. However, fifteen years passed before Shineberger's dream was realized.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Dillon Tribune Sept. 4, 1908 & Aug. 19, 1927; Sept. 18, 1908; Jan. 5, 1923, June 8, 1923.,
Feb 9, 1923; May 12, 1922, June 9, 1922, Aug. 18, 1922, Jan 26, 1923,
June 15, 1923; Sept. 18, 1908, Feb 2, 1923; Nov 16, 1923, Feb 26, 1926, May 5, 1932,
Dec. 10, 1965. Georgiana Andersen and Helen Schaffner of Dillon
(See Continuation Sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property 7½ acres

Quadrangle name Dillon West Quadrangel, Montana, Beaverhead County Beaverhead County
Quadrangle scale 7.5 minute series

UTM References

A

1	2	3	7	1	0	9	0	5	0	0	7	1	1	5
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

(See Continuation Sheet)

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 Charlene Loge

organization _____ date May 13, 1984

street & number 615 South Pacific telephone (406) 683-4344

city or town Dillon state Montana

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 *Marvella Sheffy*

title SHPO date Nov 19, 1984

For NPS use only

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

entered in the
National Register

date 1/18/85

J. Andrew Byer
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date _____

Chief of Registration

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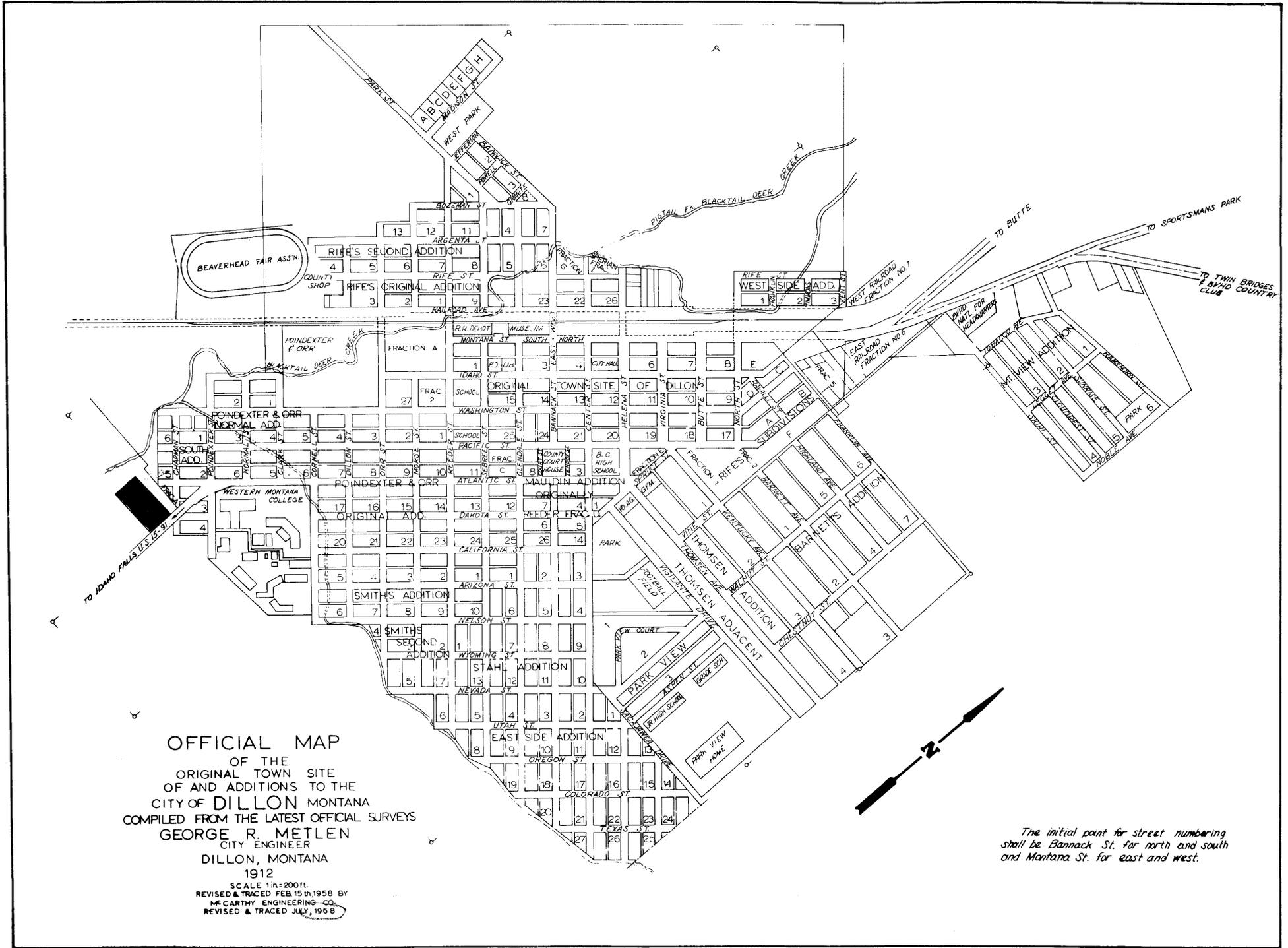
Item number 10

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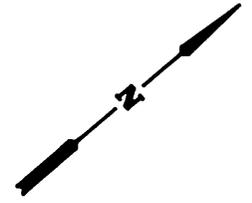
VERBAL BOUNDARY

Old Building:

Beginning at Northeast corner of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 24, T7S, R9W, M.P.M.,
thence running West 1320 feet;
thence running North 260 feet;
thence running East 796.7 feet;
thence running South 50 feet;
thence running East 523.3 feet;
thence running South 210 feet to point of beginning and containing 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres in
NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ said Section 24.



OFFICIAL MAP
 OF THE
 ORIGINAL TOWN SITE
 OF AND ADDITIONS TO THE
 CITY OF **DILLON** MONTANA
 COMPILED FROM THE LATEST OFFICIAL SURVEYS
GEORGE R. METLEN
 CITY ENGINEER
 DILLON, MONTANA
 1912
 SCALE 1 in = 200 ft.
 REVISED & TRACED FEB 15 1958 BY
 MCCARTHY ENGINEERING CO.
 REVISED & TRACED JULY, 1968



The initial point for street numbering shall be Bannack St. for north and south and Montana St. for east and west.