NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

1048

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280
AUG - 8 2000
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name **Saline County Poor Farm**

other names/site number **Poor Farm/Saline Creek Pioneer Museum**

2. Location

street & number **1600 Feazel Road** _____Not for publication

city or town **Harrisburg** _____vicinity

state **Illinois** code **IL** county **Saline** code 165 zip code **62946**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William L. Latham ISHPO 7-28-00
Signature of certifying official Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____ _____
State or Federal agency and bureau American Indian Tribe

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
____ entered in the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
____ determined eligible for the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
____ determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
____ removed from the National Register	_____	_____
____ other (explain):	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

___ private
_**X**_ public-local
___ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

___ building(s)
_**X**_ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
__**2**___	__**0**__	buildings
__**1**___	__**0**__	sites
__**0**___	__**0**__	structures
__**0**___	__**0**__	objects
__**3**___	__**0**__	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register **N/A**

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Institutional Housing
Domestic/Secondary Structure
Funerary/Cemetery

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/Museum
Funerary/Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation **Stone**

Roof **Asphalt shingle**

Walls **Brick**
Wood

other **Wood (Porches)**

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Narrative Description

The Saline County Poor Farm is located on the south end of Harrisburg, Illinois at 1600 Feazel Street. The site originally contained 175 acres, but was sold off until the present 3.46 acres is all that remains of the historic property. This acreage now contains the main brick poor farm house, a storage building and the poor farm cemetery. The Poor House is of a modified Italianate design and was constructed in 1877. The Poor House along with the Storage Building sit on 2.06 acres. The cemetery that is located diagonally across Feazel Street sits on roughly 1.40 acres. The cemetery has over time been called McCormick Cemetery, Pauper Cemetery and Dorrisville Cemetery. The Saline County Poor Farm is a discontiguous district because the cemetery is geographically separated from the poor farm buildings, but both retain their historic significance and integrity.

Exterior of the Poor House

The historic main façade of the Poor House faces north toward what is today Barnett Street. The area historically associated with the Poor Farm between the house and South Street is now occupied by a housing development. The parking area for the Poor Farm is now located off Feazel Street making the west façade the most visible façade. The Poor House is a 2 ½ story brick building with a stone foundation and hipped roof with asphalt shingles. A well-matched addition was constructed to the west of the original building in circa 1904 doubling the size of the building. A center chimney is visible along the roofline. Both the north façade and the south façade have large porches running almost the length of the building. All windows are wooden 2/2 double hung, except the basement windows and one window on the second story, west façade. All windows have segmental arched lintels and stone sills.

The north façade has ten openings. There are three equally spaced windows on the first floor with a door on either side of the center window. Both doors are wood and have a transom. The second story has five windows directly above each of the first floor openings. One of the windows on the second floor was converted into a door, probably for use as a fire escape. This side of the house has a one story porch with Doric columns, simple railings, wooden stairs and is covered at the base with lattice.

The east façade of the Poor House has six openings in a solid brick wall—two on the first story, two on the second story and a window and coal shoot door at the basement level. The basement window is a fixed pane with six lights. The openings are located directly above or below one another.

The south façade has thirteen openings. Due to the slope of the property, the bottom floor has been excavated so that it is about three feet below ground level with entrances directly into the basement from outside. The basement level has two doors and three windows. The first floor is reached by walking up a set of stairs to the raised porch. The porch on this side of the house has a similar railing to the porch on the opposite side of the house, but the columns are more decorative turned posts rather than Doric columns. The first floor has two windows on either end that are outside the porch and two doors with a window between them under the porch. The doors are both wood and have transoms. The second story has four equally spaced windows.

The west façade of the Poor House, which is now the most visible entrance from the street, has eight windows. The first floor has two windows closer to either end of the building with no middle window. The second floor has three equally spaced windows. The middle window is 1/1 double hung rather that 2/2. The basement level has three window openings. Two on either end have segmented arches and six lights. The center window has a flat lintel with a multi divided light window. Two chimneys are visible along this side of the building.

Interior of the Poor House

Inside the Poor House, the rooms are arranged by function. The interior spaces are very simple in detail with plain wood trim and wainscoting in certain rooms. The first floor was designated for the superintendent and his family and has six rooms. The west end of the building is a large open room referred to today as the meeting room. This space was originally divided by a wall. The east side is composed of smaller rooms. A staircase leads from the meeting room on the first floor to the hallway on the second floor. The second floor was a sleeping area for the poor and has eight small rooms and a stair hall. Many rooms on this floor can only be reached by going through other rooms. The same staircase that leads upstairs also leads down from the first floor to the basement. In the basement is a kitchen, utility/furnace room and a few other rooms now

used for displays and storage. The basement was used to feed the occupants, although one room was also a stable later converted to a work room. The basement has six rooms.

Storage Building

The Storage Building across from the south entrance of the Poor House is thought to be a laundry house/meat and miscellaneous storage facility. Its date cannot be determined, but it is thought to be constructed at the same time the 1904 addition was added to the 1877 brick Poor House. The Storage House is a gable roof, one and a half story, frame structure with a small overhanging porch on the north side. It is covered with wood vertical board and batten siding that is painted red. The north side of this building faces the south side of the Poor House. A concrete patio or walkway links the two buildings. The building is entered on the north side by either of two doors that lead into what is not the curio shop. The east and west ends of the building have one double hung window and the south side has no openings.

Poor Farm Cemetery

The Poor Farm Cemetery consists of roughly 1.4 acres on a rectangular shaped lot located in the southwest corner of Barnett and Feazel Streets. The cemetery has approximately twenty-one stones still stand, mostly scattered, and there are indications of numerous graves without markers. Most of the markers are limestone, but a few sandstone and concrete markers exist. Some markers are simple rectangles with no names or dates. Other markers have names with no dates and some have names and dates that were written free form in wet concrete. A list from 1980 of markers and information about the Dorrisville Cemetery (also the Poor Farm Cemetery) is attached as Appendix A. This list clearly indicates more than twenty-one stones. This would seem to indicate that even more have disappeared since 1980.

Changes of the Saline County Poor Farm

Changes have occurred over time to the Saline County Poor Farm buildings and property. In 1904, an addition was added to the 1877 building. Some changes made since 1904 include the following: a door was sealed on the first floor and a wall was

removed to increase space, a boiler was added in 1948 with a vented chimney up the middle of the buildings and two chimneys were roofed over on the east side. Most of the outbuildings associated with the farm are gone and much of the surrounding property sold off geographically separating the cemetery from the remaining buildings.

In 1961, several buildings were moved onto the site including an old jail, a Quaker Church, a one room school, a log caretaker's cabin, a long general store, a log two story house, a log saddle bad cabin, a blacksmiths shop and a log barn with a thrashing floor. The log cabins date to circa 1840-1850. The person responsible for moving the buildings onto the site was John Allen, author of the book, Legends and Lore of Southern Illinois. At the time Allen moved the buildings to the Saline County Poor Farm site, he was curator of the Southern Illinois Museum, as well as the Saline County Museum.

The buildings moved to the site and placed around the existing Poor Farm House and Storage Building do not contribute to the significance of the Saline County Poor Farm. They also do not detract from the historic integrity of this property. Originally the 175-acre poor farm contained several outbuildings including "pest houses." The "pest houses" were buildings that housed people who had contagious diseases. The "pest houses" and the original cabins that first made up the poor farm are a reminder that there were a mix of buildings on the site. The Poor Farm House and Storage Building, along with the Poor Farm Cemetery, convey the historic significance of the Saline County Poor Farm and retain their integrity

8. Statement of Significance

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

__X_ 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.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Social History

Period of Significance **1877-1950** Significant Dates **1877**
1904

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Winterberger, A., Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Statement of Significance

The Saline County Poor Farm is locally significant for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with county government efforts to promote the welfare of the local poor from 1877 when the existing Poor House was built to 1950, the fifty year cutoff for significance to the National Register. County Poor Farms were the predominate method of dealing with the poor, elderly and handicapped. The Saline County Poor Farm represents a method of dealing with social problems during a time when there was very little money for social welfare.

Southern Illinois was permanently settled first on the Mississippi River by French speaking people starting in 1699, and on the Ohio River by English speaking people starting about 1775. The Saline Springs, named for salt yielding springs along the Saline River, were a major attraction to the new United States Government because salt was necessary for food and tanning hides, and a source of tax revenue noticed by President Thomas Jefferson. Settlements along the rivers included Shawneetown on the Ohio and Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Fort de Chartress, provided points of departure for pioneers looking for land along the Kaskaskia and Goshen Trail. Illinois became a state in 1818. Inland settlements soon sprang up and when the transmigrated culture become more organized, Counties were Saline County was created from Gallatin County in 1847 and was the 99th out of the 102 countries founded in Illinois[1]

[1]Saline County Genealogical Society. *The History of Saline County,* p.1

As early as 1819, the Illinois General Assembly enacted legislation concerning care for the poor. Prior to this time the common method of preventing starvation, deprivation, and exposure to the elements was to "let them out" to individuals who would provide necessary care.[2]

This procedure was formalized by the Pauper Bill of March 5, 1819, which commanded County Commissioners Courts to appoint two overseers of the poor for each township within the county. To be placed on the "poor book" of the township, it was necessary that the overseers establish, first, the need for care, and second, that the person had been a resident of the county for at least a year. When these two factors had been established, their names were then placed on the "poor book" by order of two justices of the peace.[3]

Each year the paupers were "sold" to the lowest bidder. Notice of "letting" of paupers was published in public places ten days prior to the bidding, and the sale was conducted on the steps of the courthouse, and the low bidders took charge of the welfare of the pauper for the following year.[4] Guardians of the poor were guaranteed the pauper's labor in return for food and shelter, plus a stipend from the county for taking care of the individual. Any guardian who mistreated his charge usually had one half his stipend withheld by the court.[5] Care of the mentally ill, elderly, or handicapped by family members (at the expense of the county) was generally accepted. It was not unusual for family members to support each other in this manner.

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[2]Saline County Genealogical Society, *Records of the Poor-Saline County Illinois*, Transcribe and indexed by Mrs. Rebecca Schnook and Mrs. Mary Brim. p.iii

[3] Ibid p. iii

[4] Ibid p. iii

[5] Ibid p. iii

By 1839, most of the poor were under the care of individuals, with the county reimbursing the guardian in proportion to the paupers ability as a laborer. In the case of the elderly, ill and handicapped persons the court set the reimbursement rate according to the amount of care needed to sustain those persons.[6]

As stated in the Green County Almshouse National Register Application:

> The almshouse system of public welfare was introduced to Illinois in 1839 through state legislation. The almshouse was a locally administered facility, and the decision to develop this type of relief system was left to the county. In 1840, Morgan County became the first to adopt the almshouse system. By 1880, all but eight counties had established an almshouse (Boone, Clark, Crawford, Edwards, Ford, Gallatin, Jasper and Pope). By 1903 only two counties had not developed the almshouse system of indoor relief (Boone and Pope).[7]
>
> Counties which elected to develop an almshouse-based relief system allocated the necessary funds and either constructed a building to be used specifically as an almshouse or purchased an existing building and converted it to an almshouse. Most counties located their almshouse (or poor house) in a rural setting and purchased land to be farmed by pauper labor. Thus, the poor house became regionally known as the poor farm, or county farm.[8]

When Saline County was formed from Gallatin County in February 1846, overseers of the poor were appointed as directed under the bill of 1819. Sixteen years later, in 1863, the Saline County Commissioners in keeping with the 1839 legislation, proposed that a farm be purchased so that the large number of poor on the rolls would be housed comfortably and with only one

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[6] Ibid p. iii
[7] Greene County Almshouse application for National register of Historic Places Section 8, p.3
[8] Ibid Section 8, p.3

overseer. A special tax was levied on all taxable property in Saline County for the year 1863, the amount being one-fourth of one percent on each hundred dollars of valuation of taxable property.[9] In Saline County the method of dealing with indigenous paupers who were no longer able to take care of themselves, included first in "farming" them out and then through the use of log "poor houses" and finally in the construction of the Saline County Poor House in 1877.

On the 20th of May 1863, Saline County purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land from Kinchen and Gaithy Odum for the sum of fourteen hundred two dollars and fifty cents. This land was the proposed site for the new county farm.[10] Log buildings were constructed and an overseer appointed to superintend the facility. As reported in the Greene County Almshouse application to the National Register of Historic Places:

> In 1870, the Illinois State Board of Public Charities was organized to monitor all forms of indoor relief. Although county almshouses were locally; administered, they were subjected to an annual review. The condition of the "special classes" was an immediate concern of the State Board of Public Charities. As early as 1870, the Board suggested the insane be transferred from the county farms to state institutions.[11]

A report issued by the Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities of the State of Illinois and dated December 1870, describes the Saline County Poor farm (or almshouse) as follows:

> The Saline County Almshouse is a cheap log building, but may be made quite comfortable. The inmates appear to be well cared for. The keeper receives the use of the farm and $100 for each pauper per annum.[12]

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[9] Saline County Genealogical Society, loc. cit. p.iii
[10] Ibid., p.iii
[11] Green County Application for National Register of Historic Places, loc. cit. section 8 p.4.
[12] Saline County Genealogical Society, p. v.

In June 1872, the records indicate that smallpox was rampant in the county. It was during this time that local historians believe that a "pest house" was built on the northeast corner of the yard, although there are no records to verify it. The pest house was a four room, square building where sick individuals were sent to either recover or die. During the smallpox epidemic those people who had already had the disease were pressed into service to nurse the sick at the farm. According to the son of the last overseer of the poor house, the pest house building was moved to another location in Harrisburg. [13]

By the latter part of 1876, it became necessary for the county to provide a new building on the site of the poor farm. The log buildings were rotting away, so it was decided that a new house for the county poor would be built. This time it would be made of brick. On January 31, 1877, the County paid A. Winterberger $1,250 as a first installment on the construction of the new building. In May the final payment was made of $1,000, then $50 for another cistern, $5 for a table for the paupers, and $10 for "extras" on the house. [14]

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[13] Ibid., p.v
[14] Ibid., p.v

Records of the Board of Public Charities from 1900 to 1906 indicated that conditions at the Saline County Poor Farm were far from ideal. The buildings were not in good condition and the farm was not run in the best manner.[15] In 1910, the State Board of Administration and Charities Commission (the successor organization to the State Board of Public Charities) in a report about the poor farm in Saline County stated:

> Men and women are not separated in any way. One feeble minded woman became pregnant over a year ago through intercourse with an inmate who had a bad case of asthma. They went away and were married. In less than four months they were both back. A child was born. It is now one year old and the woman is again pregnant. Another woman is at the farm with an illegitimate child of one year. At the time of inspection, one girl of twenty-five, who had a bad case of consumption, occupied a room with her mother and father. The father is crippled on account of work in the mines. The bed bugs are plentiful. The keeper says all inmates get mad and refuse to work part of the time. [16]

In 1917, counties were authorized to establish poor houses jointly with other counties. However, the Saline County Poor Farm continued to serve only Saline County. Legislation in 1919 required county poor farms to change their names to county homes; the county home law was renewed in 1935 and again in 1945. The Public Assistance Code was passed in 1948 and made relief of the indigent a function of newly established county departments of welfare. Under this code, counties were forbidden from placing destitute, but physically healthy individuals in county homes and were authorized to care only for the infirm or chronically ill.[17]

Records of the Saline County Board of Supervisors indicate that the Poor Farm Committee reported on an occasional basis to the county supervisors during the years of operation of the poor farm. . In July 1950, a report was made about the play ground investigations at the poor farm; this appears to be the last report of the committee regarding the poor farm. The Saline County Poor Farm remained open into the 1950s.[18]
[18]

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[15] Report of the State Board of Public Charities, 1900-1906.
[16] Report of the State Board of Administration and Charities Commission, 1910.
[17] Turnbaugh, 1984, p. 311.
[18] Proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors, 1897-1950.

David J. Rothman in his book entitled, The Discovery of the Asylum: Social Order and Disorder in the New Republic states:

The spread of almshouses through the villages, towns, and cities of antebellum America at once established a uniformity of practice and a diversity of conditions. Institutionalization became the standard public response to the problem of poverty, but officials enacted the program with a wide variety of skill, sympathy, and diligence. A benevolent overseers of the poor was sometimes able to comfort a small group of dependents by carefully maintaining a handful of rooms and setting a decent table. But where administration rather casual oversight was necessary, where more was required than a good heart, the results were generally unsatisfactory. One finds in these circumstances the clearest evidence of the gap between the ideal and the reality of the almshouse..... Through the 1870's and 1880's and well into the 1890's, most forums proclaimed the superiority of indoor relief over outdoor relief. Practically every participant in the national conference on charity and correction, as well as economists and social critics, voiced their approval. It was not until the progressive era that the consensus reached in the Jacksonian period on the proper treatment of the poor began to splinter.[19]

The Saline County Poor Farm is a reflection of America's social policy regarding the poor in the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century. Its importance to the local community and Saline County should be recognized and the remaining buildings and cemetery preserved.

[19] Rothman, David J. The Discovery of the Asylum: Social Order and Disorder in the New Republic. (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1971), pp.202-205.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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
___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other

Name of repository

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.46

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	E363180	N4175550	3	__	_____	_____
2	16	E363030	N4175640	4	__	_____	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

Bibliography

Cemeteries, Saline County, Illnois (City of Harrisburg), Volume V, pp. 249-250

County Commissioners' Record 1847-1850 Volume A

County Court Record 1867-1873 Book D

County Commissioners Report 1874-1880

Green County Almshouse Application for National Register of Historic Places

The History of Saline County 1847-1997 Saline County Genealogical Society

Records of the Poor-Saline County Illinois, Saline County Genealogical Society

Report of the State Board of Administration and Charities Commission, Illinois Journal Printing Office, 1909-1917.

Report of the State Board of Public Charities, Illinois, Illinois Journal Printing Office, 1871-1909.

Rothman, David J. The Discovery of the Asylum: Social Order and Disorder in the New Republic. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1971.

Saline County Commissioners Record 1880-1887 Book B

Saline County. Proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors, 1897-1950.

Turnbaugh, Jr., Roy C. A Guide to County Records in the Regional Archives. State of Illinois: The Illinois State Archives, 1984.

Verbal Boundary Description
Saline County Poor House and storage building

A part of the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 21, Township 9 South, Range 6 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Saline County Illinois, and more specifically described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast Corner of the SE 1/4 of Section 21, Township 9 south, range 6 East, and run west on the landline 921 feet to a point, thence south 345.2 feet to the SW Corner of the Saline County housing Authority tract on the East right of way line of County Highway 11, for a place of beginning, thence South 3 degrees-29 minutes east 310 feet, thence west parallel with the land line 305 feet to the place of beginning, containing 2.06 acres, more or less.

Cemetery Description

A part of the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 21, Township 9 South, Range 6 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Saline County, Illinois, and more specifically described as follows:

Commencing at the NW corner of the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 21, T9S, R6E of the 3rd PM run south on the land line 138.1 feet, thense east 10.0 feet to the point of beginning located on the east right-of-way line of Holland Street, thence east 198.0 feet, thence south 280.0 feet, these west 198.0 feet to said right of way line, thece north 280.0 feet along said right-of-way line to the point of beginning, containing 1.27 acres more or less.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of this discontiguous district include the Saline County Poor House and Storage Building and the cemetery located across Feazel Street to the west and north of the home. These buildings and cemetery represent the property that was historically associated with the Saline County Poor Farm and retain their integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title **John O'Dell, Board Member**

organization **Saline County Historical Society** date **March 28, 2000**

street & number **114 Winkleman Road** telephone **618/252-6789**

city or town **Harrisburg** state **Illinois** zip code **62946**

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:
Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Saline County Poor Farm House and Storage Facility

name **Paul Emery, President, Harrisburg Township Park District**

street & number **501 Denison** telephone

city or town **Harrisburg** state **Illinois** zip code **62946**

Saline County Poor Farm Cemetery

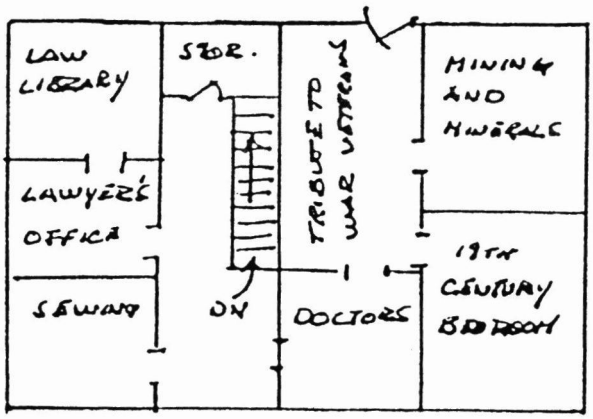
name **Kermit Coffee, Saline County Board Chairman**

street & number **County Courthouse, Main and Poplar** telephone

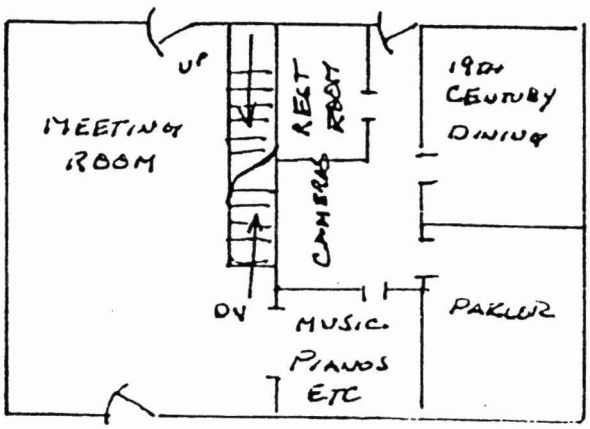
city or town **Harrisburg** state **Illinois** zip code **62946**

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate 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.).

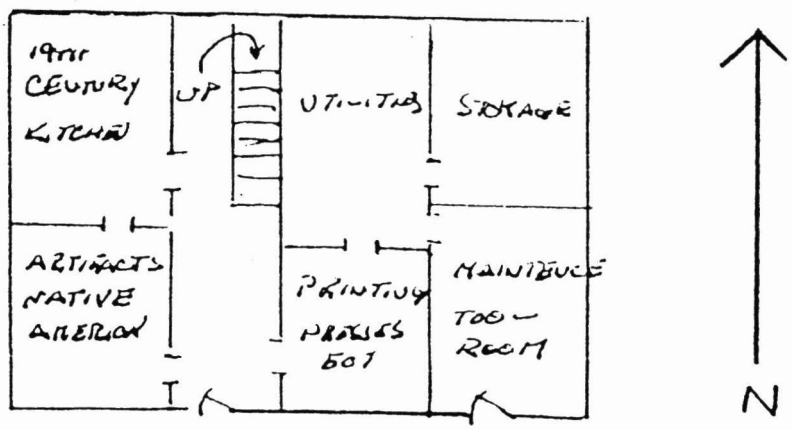
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



Second Floor

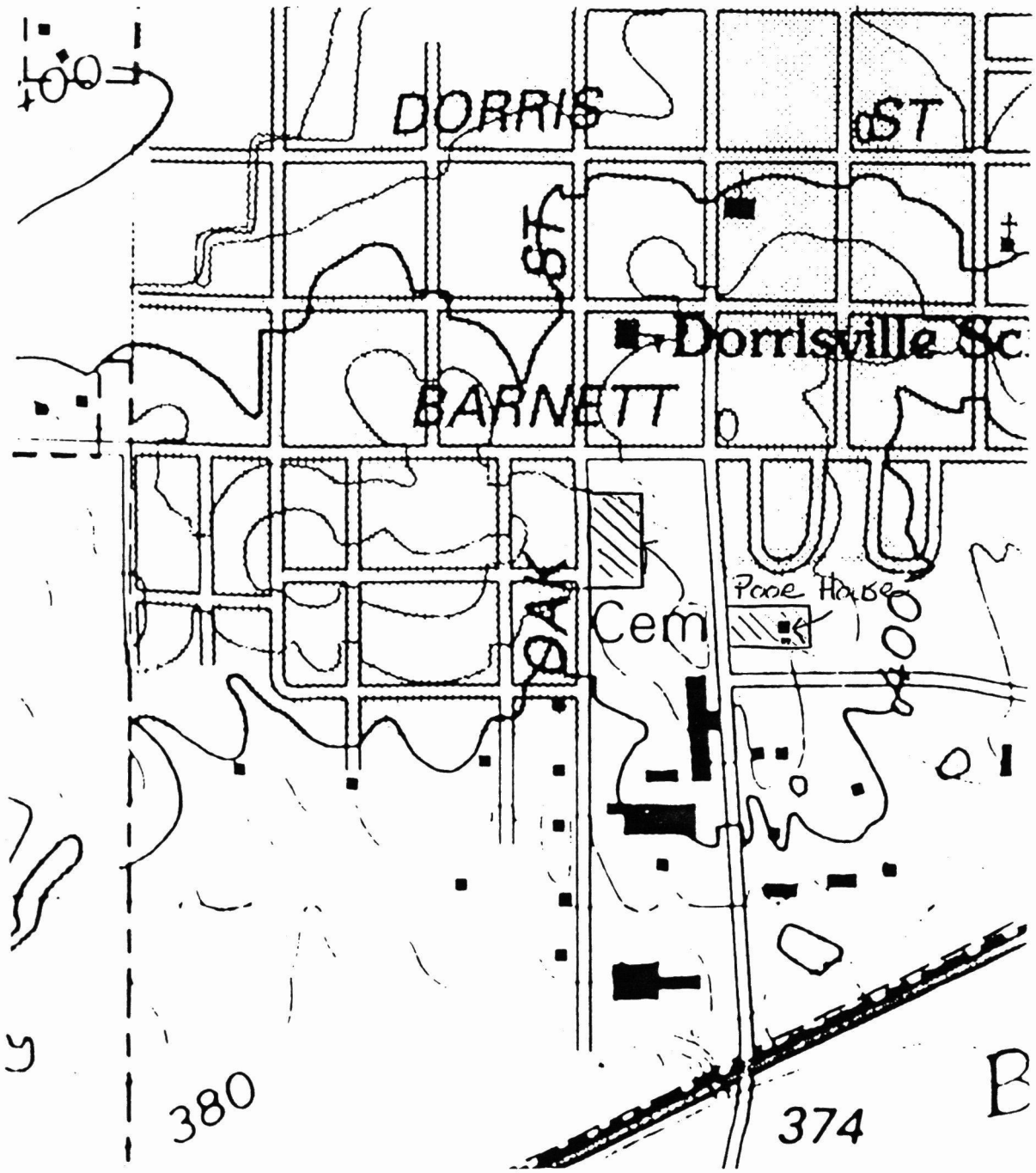


First Floor

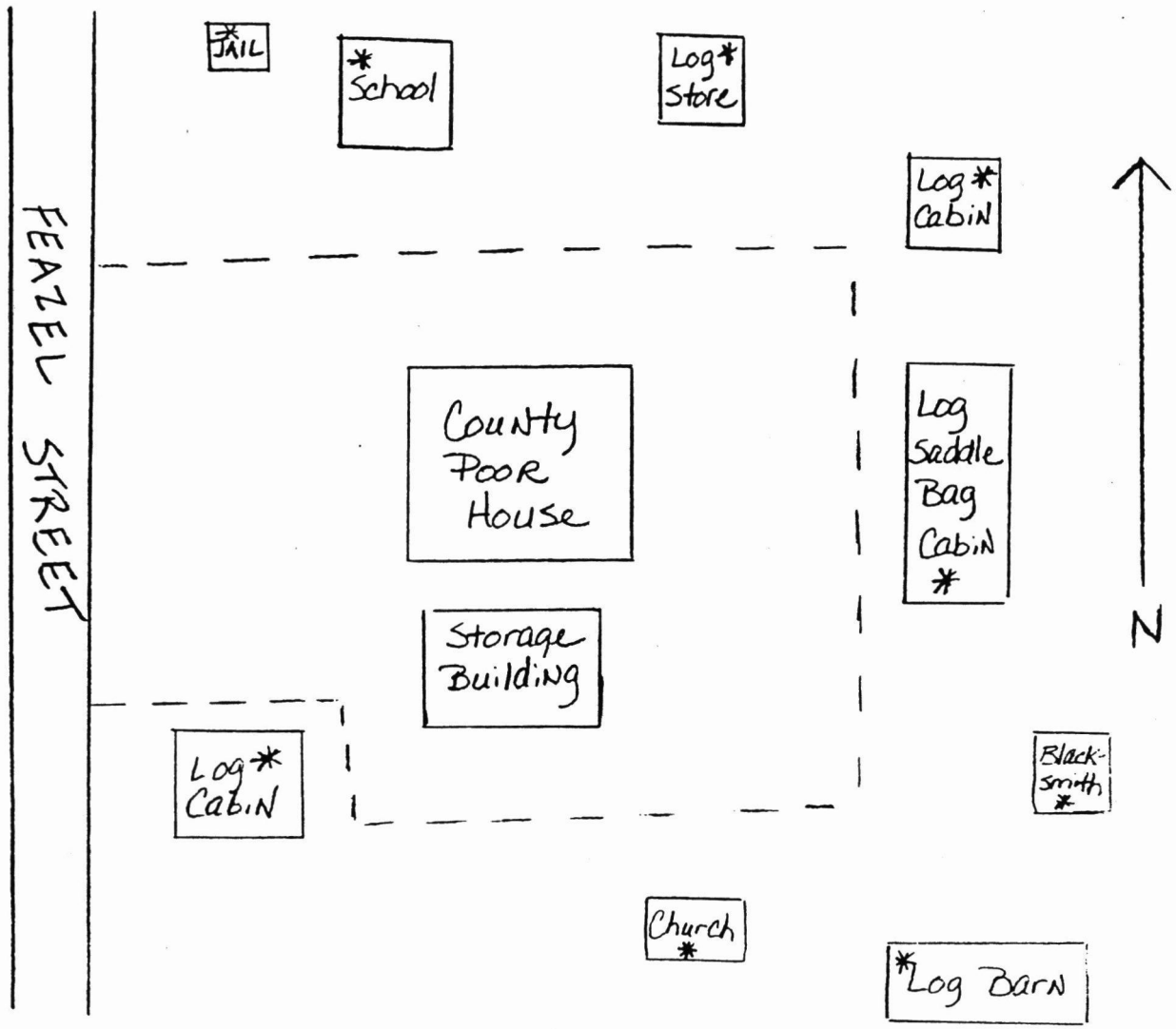


Basement

Floor Plans of Saline County Poor Farm House.



Harrisburg, IL quadrangle, U.S.G.S map showing the location of the Saline County Poor Farm House and Storage Building and the Poor Farm Cemetery.



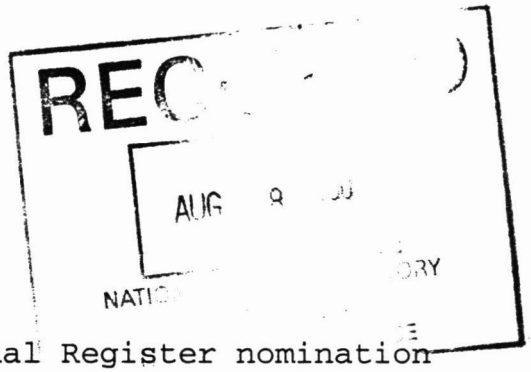
Site Plan showing Saline County Poor House and Storage Building. The buildings marked with an asterisk (*) are buildings moved to the property in 1961. Dashed line marks boundaries of site.

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507 • (217) 782-4836 • TTY (217) 524-7128

July 30, 2000

Ms. Beth Boland
National Register Program
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Beth:

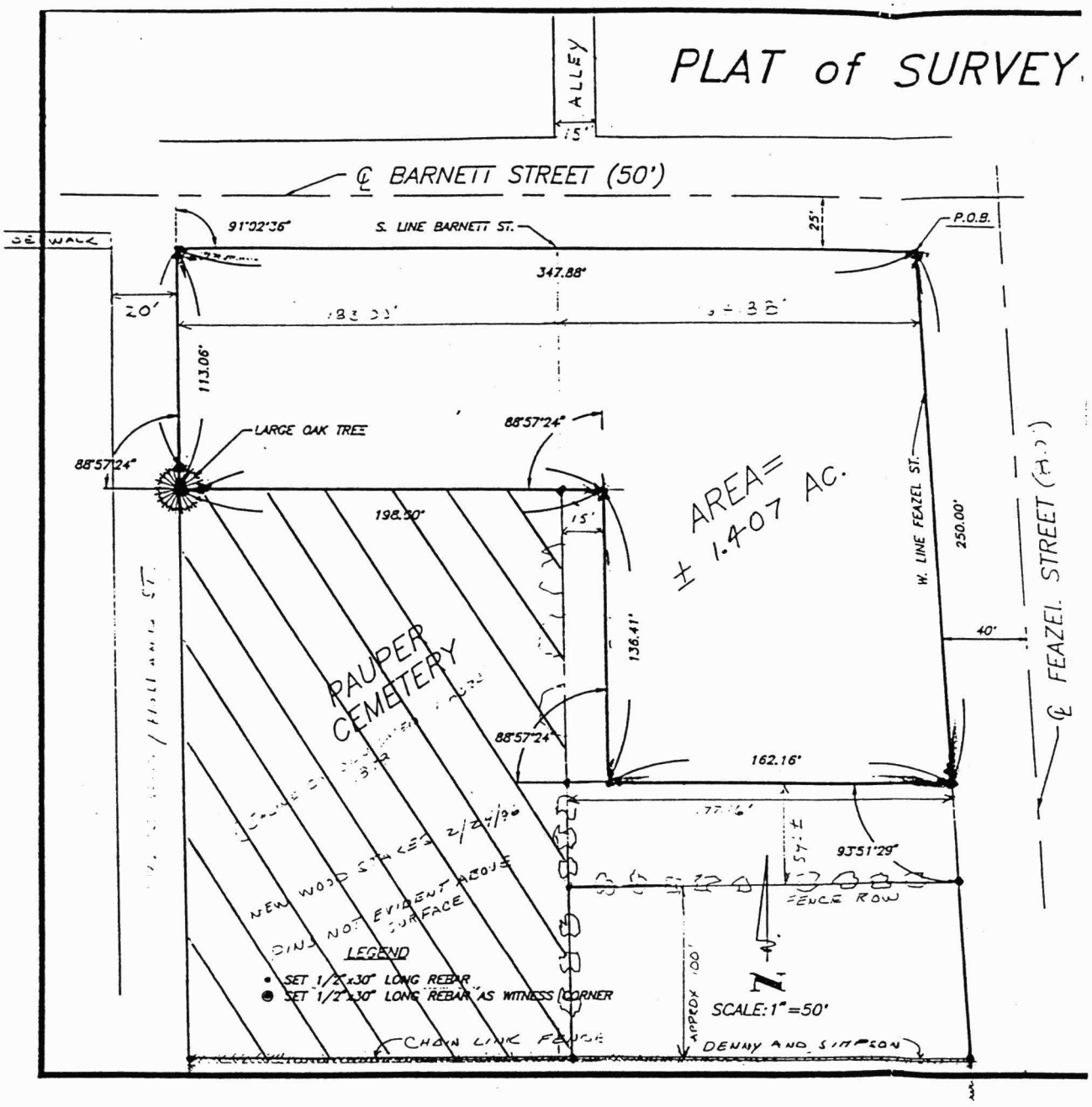
Enclosed please find the National Register nomination materials for the Saline County Poor Farm which was recommended for nomination by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council and nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Ann V. Swallow
Survey & National Register
Coordinator

encl.



Plat of Survey showing the Pauper Cemetery (Poor Farm Cemetery). Diagonal lines mark the boundaries of the cemetery.

Appendix A
Dorrisville Cemetery, Also Poor Farm Cemetery
List of Markers
From "Cemeteries—Saline County, Illinois", Volume V

DORRISVILLE CEMETERY, HARRISBURG TOWNSHIP, SALINE COUNTY, ILLINOIS. SW¼ SW¼ SECTION 21, 7S R6E. Located South of West Barnett Street and East of South Holland Street and West of the Saline County Historical Society Museum.

Recorded in no particular order. Stones are scattered and there are indications of numerous graves without markers.

Concrete marker - no data

ANGLIN, Ardell 1902 - 1943

FLEMMINGS, Mary Jane - Mother 1873 - 1949

BEAL, Peggie Ann No dates

BEAL, C. F. No dates

BEAL, Mollie 1875 - 1953
Charles 1871 - 1947

HAMPTON, Edward d. 14 July 1876 Age 67 y 5 m 4 d
Mary d. 7 May 1878 Age 53 y 9 m 1 d

Two parts of stones - no data

BEAL, Mamie No dates
Henry No dates

BEAL, Zachariah Co G 31 Ill Inf

One stone - nothing legible

WOODSON, Della M., Dau of W. W. & A. d. 20 July 1887 Age 16 m
Alice, Wife of W. W. d. 18 May 1888 Age 26 y 8 m 2 d

JOHNSON, Irena, Wife of Thos. d. 28 Apr 1890 Age 21 y 1 m 3 d

DEMPSEY, Hiram Co D 29 Ill Inf

Sandstone - no data

O'NEAL, Baby June 5 Dec 1938

6 Concrete Blocks as markers - no data

POTTS, Ruth 30 May 1900 - 11 Feb 1953

SLATON, Lavine 1881 - 1948
Andy 1877 - 19__

DEMOS, Louis, Born in Greece 1884 - 1967

COLLINS, Doris Jean, Dau of John & Leland 2 Dec - 5 Dec 1930

BAIN, Gertrude 23 Feb 1922 - 5 Mar 1922

MORRIS, Maggie 1891 - 1931 Union Co-Operative marker

BROWN, Verba C. 3 Aug 1926 - 15 May 1928
Floyd J. Jr. B&D 23 Aug 1935 (Year covered with cement and not certain)

SLATEN, Hazel B., Dau of A.S. & L.S. 27 Oct 1919 - 27 Nov 1920

HURD, Irvin 12 Apr 1928 - 20 June 1945 (Year dates not certain)

HURD, John Roland 13 Nov 1945 - 14 Nov 1945

NEELY, Olious 2 Feb 1932 Ill Pvt Co 3 Pioneer Inf

WILLIAMS, John Co G 6th Ill Vol Cav 9 July 1845 - 25 Feb 1907

MITCHELL, Clara Hedger 30 July 1886 - 1 Jan 1956

YOUNG, Peter d. 4 Feb 1979 Age 85 y 9 m 19 d Gibbons Funeral Home marker

MALIN, Charles 11 Feb 1918 - 24 Jan 1978

COLEMAN, Baby Boy B&D 24 June 1978 Gaskins Funeral Home marker

HARVOT, Christine d. 31 Dec 1978 Age 58 y 1 m 8 d Gibbons Funeral Home marker

SANDERS, Una Childers d. 29 Feb 1976 Age 81 y Gaskins Funeral Home marker

FORD, Russell W. 12 Nov 1913 - 9 Jan 1978

4 Concrete Markers - data not legible

One large white stone is down and nothing legible on three sides I can see. Too large to turn over.

Old white stone - nothing legible

THOMPSON, M. 1847 - 1929 (Concrete marker)

McCORMICK, John N. 20 Dec 1835 - 18 July 1887

2 Pieces of an old stone - nothing legible

Part of a stone - no data

T. B. (Four metal pieces with letters only. Two pieces with T.B. and two pieces
C. B. with C. B.)

BEAL, Ellie Logan No dates (Concrete marker)

Old gray stone - nothing legible

This cemetery was recorded 27 Jan 1975 by Glenda Kay Unsell of Harrisburg, Ill. She recorded the following names which I did not locate:

THORD, Martha d. 13 Aug 1943

THORD, John No dates

GOLD, Martha A., Wife of Josiah d. 19 Jan 1892

DALTON, Everett d. 24 Feb 1974 Age 56 y

EASTMAN, Glen 14 Jan 1897 - 12 Jan 1973

TIPTON, Silas 1859 - 1936

Recorded 21 October 1980 by John V. Murphy.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

RECEIVED
NOV - 9 2000
Preservation Services

RECEIVED 2280
DEC 8 2000

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Saline County Poor Farm

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Saline

DATE RECEIVED: 8/08/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/21/00
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/06/00 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/22/00
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00001048

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	Y	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Return

REVIEWER Boland DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 9/21/00

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments (Y)/N see attached SLR Y/N

Saline County Poor Farm
Saline Co., Illinois

National Register Comments:

The Saline County Poor Farm appears to meet National Register Criterion A for its associations with county government efforts to promote the welfare of the local poor. As you know, however, the Register requires stability and longevity for the core documentation for listed properties. For that reason, we require black and white to be processed on black and white paper. Even when photographs are take with black and white film, color processing does not provide adequate assurance of the desired degree of permanence because the long-term stability of color papers is uncertain. Fiber-based paper is preferred, but resin-coated papers also are acceptable (see National Register Bulletin 16, pp. 63--64).

Once the photographs for this house have been reprinted, the National Register will be happy to review this nomination again.

Recommendation: ____SLR ____Return **Action:** ___SLR ✓ Return ___None

DOCUMENTATION ISSUES—DISCUSSION SHEET

STATE NAME: IL **COUNTY NAME** Saline **RESOURCE NAME** Saline County Bor FARM

REFERENCE NO. 00-1048 **MULTIPLE NAME** _____

Solution:

PROBLEM: color photograph paper - nomination says building more to the property - including wood pole to not detract from the resource ??

RESOLUTION:

SLR: ___Yes ____No

DATABASE CHANGE:

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

1048

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280
AUG - 8 2000
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name **Saline County Poor Farm**

other names/site number **Poor Farm/Saline Creek Pioneer Museum**

2. Location

street & number **1600 Feazel Road** _____Not for publication

city or town **Harrisburg** _____vicinity

state **Illinois** code **IL** county **Saline** code 165 zip code **62946**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William L. Latham ISHPO — 7-28-00
Signature of certifying official — Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official — Date

_____ _____
State or Federal agency and bureau — American Indian Tribe

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
✓ entered in the National Register	Beth Boland	1/22/01
___ See continuation sheet.		
____ determined eligible for the National Register		
___ See continuation sheet.		
____ determined not eligible for the National Register		
____ removed from the National Register		
____ other (explain):		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

___ private
_**X**_ public-local
___ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

___ building(s)
_**X**_ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
__**2**___	__**0**__	buildings
__**1**___	__**0**__	sites
__**0**___	__**0**__	structures
__**0**___	__**0**__	objects
__**3**___	__**0**__	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register **N/A**

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Institutional Housing
Domestic/Secondary Structure
Funerary/Cemetery

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/Museum
Funerary/Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation **Stone**

Roof **Asphalt shingle**

Walls **Brick**
Wood

other **Wood (Porches)**

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Narrative Description

The Saline County Poor Farm is located on the south end of Harrisburg, Illinois at 1600 Feazel Street. The site originally contained 175 acres, but was sold off until the present 3.46 acres is all that remains of the historic property. This acreage now contains the main brick poor farm house, a storage building and the poor farm cemetery. The Poor House is of a modified Italianate design and was constructed in 1877. The Poor House along with the Storage Building sit on 2.06 acres. The cemetery that is located diagonally across Feazel Street sits on roughly 1.40 acres. The cemetery has over time been called McCormick Cemetery, Pauper Cemetery and Dorrisville Cemetery. The Saline County Poor Farm is a discontiguous district because the cemetery is geographically separated from the poor farm buildings, but both retain their historic significance and integrity.

Exterior of the Poor House

The historic main façade of the Poor House faces north toward what is today Barnett Street. The area historically associated with the Poor Farm between the house and South Street is now occupied by a housing development. The parking area for the Poor Farm is now located off Feazel Street making the west façade the most visible façade. The Poor House is a 2 ½ story brick building with a stone foundation and hipped roof with asphalt shingles. A well-matched addition was constructed to the west of the original building in circa 1904 doubling the size of the building. A center chimney is visible along the roofline. Both the north façade and the south façade have large porches running almost the length of the building. All windows are wooden 2/2 double hung, except the basement windows and one window on the second story, west façade. All windows have segmental arched lintels and stone sills.

The north façade has ten openings. There are three equally spaced windows on the first floor with a door on either side of the center window. Both doors are wood and have a transom. The second story has five windows directly above each of the first floor openings. One of the windows on the second floor was converted into a door, probably for use as a fire escape. This side of the house has a one story porch with Doric columns, simple railings, wooden stairs and is covered at the base with lattice.

The east façade of the Poor House has six openings in a solid brick wall—two on the first story, two on the second story and a window and coal shoot door at the basement level. The basement window is a fixed pane with six lights. The openings are located directly above or below one another.

The south façade has thirteen openings. Due to the slope of the property, the bottom floor has been excavated so that it is about three feet below ground level with entrances directly into the basement from outside. The basement level has two doors and three windows. The first floor is reached by walking up a set of stairs to the raised porch. The porch on this side of the house has a similar railing to the porch on the opposite side of the house, but the columns are more decorative turned posts rather than Doric columns. The first floor has two windows on either end that are outside the porch and two doors with a window between them under the porch. The doors are both wood and have transoms. The second story has four equally spaced windows.

The west façade of the Poor House, which is now the most visible entrance from the street, has eight windows. The first floor has two windows closer to either end of the building with no middle window. The second floor has three equally spaced windows. The middle window is 1/1 double hung rather that 2/2. The basement level has three window openings. Two on either end have segmented arches and six lights. The center window has a flat lintel with a multi divided light window. Two chimneys are visible along this side of the building.

Interior of the Poor House

Inside the Poor House, the rooms are arranged by function. The interior spaces are very simple in detail with plain wood trim and wainscoting in certain rooms. The first floor was designated for the superintendent and his family and has six rooms. The west end of the building is a large open room referred to today as the meeting room. This space was originally divided by a wall. The east side is composed of smaller rooms. A staircase leads from the meeting room on the first floor to the hallway on the second floor. The second floor was a sleeping area for the poor and has eight small rooms and a stair hall. Many rooms on this floor can only be reached by going through other rooms. The same staircase that leads upstairs also leads down from the first floor to the basement. In the basement is a kitchen, utility/furnace room and a few other rooms now

used for displays and storage. The basement was used to feed the occupants, although one room was also a stable later converted to a work room. The basement has six rooms.

Storage Building

The Storage Building across from the south entrance of the Poor House is thought to be a laundry house/meat and miscellaneous storage facility. Its date cannot be determined, but it is thought to be constructed at the same time the 1904 addition was added to the 1877 brick Poor House. The Storage House is a gable roof, one and a half story, frame structure with a small overhanging porch on the north side. It is covered with wood vertical board and batten siding that is painted red. The north side of this building faces the south side of the Poor House. A concrete patio or walkway links the two buildings. The building is entered on the north side by either of two doors that lead into what is not the curio shop. The east and west ends of the building have one double hung window and the south side has no openings.

Poor Farm Cemetery

The Poor Farm Cemetery consists of roughly 1.4 acres on a rectangular shaped lot located in the southwest corner of Barnett and Feazel Streets. The cemetery has approximately twenty-one stones still stand, mostly scattered, and there are indications of numerous graves without markers. Most of the markers are limestone, but a few sandstone and concrete markers exist. Some markers are simple rectangles with no names or dates. Other markers have names with no dates and some have names and dates that were written free form in wet concrete. A list from 1980 of markers and information about the Dorrisville Cemetery (also the Poor Farm Cemetery) is attached as Appendix A. This list clearly indicates more than twenty-one stones. This would seem to indicate that even more have disappeared since 1980.

Changes of the Saline County Poor Farm

Changes have occurred over time to the Saline County Poor Farm buildings and property. In 1904, an addition was added to the 1877 building. Some changes made since 1904 include the following: a door was sealed on the first floor and a wall was

removed to increase space, a boiler was added in 1948 with a vented chimney up the middle of the buildings and two chimneys were roofed over on the east side. Most of the outbuildings associated with the farm are gone and much of the surrounding property sold off geographically separating the cemetery from the remaining buildings.

In 1961, several buildings were moved onto the site including an old jail, a Quaker Church, a one room school, a log caretaker's cabin, a long general store, a log two story house, a log saddle bad cabin, a blacksmiths shop and a log barn with a thrashing floor. The log cabins date to circa 1840-1850. The person responsible for moving the buildings onto the site was John Allen, author of the book, Legends and Lore of Southern Illinois. At the time Allen moved the buildings to the Saline County Poor Farm site, he was curator of the Southern Illinois Museum, as well as the Saline County Museum.

The buildings moved to the site and placed around the existing Poor Farm House and Storage Building do not contribute to the significance of the Saline County Poor Farm. They also do not detract from the historic integrity of this property. Originally the 175-acre poor farm contained several outbuildings including "pest houses." The "pest houses" were buildings that housed people who had contagious diseases. The "pest houses" and the original cabins that first made up the poor farm are a reminder that there were a mix of buildings on the site. The Poor Farm House and Storage Building, along with the Poor Farm Cemetery, convey the historic significance of the Saline County Poor Farm and retain their integrity

8. Statement of Significance

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

__X_ 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.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Social History

Period of Significance **1877-1950** Significant Dates **1877**
1904

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Winterberger, A., Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Statement of Significance

The Saline County Poor Farm is locally significant for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with county government efforts to promote the welfare of the local poor from 1877 when the existing Poor House was built to 1950, the fifty year cutoff for significance to the National Register. County Poor Farms were the predominate method of dealing with the poor, elderly and handicapped. The Saline County Poor Farm represents a method of dealing with social problems during a time when there was very little money for social welfare.

Southern Illinois was permanently settled first on the Mississippi River by French speaking people starting in 1699, and on the Ohio River by English speaking people starting about 1775. The Saline Springs, named for salt yielding springs along the Saline River, were a major attraction to the new United States Government because salt was necessary for food and tanning hides, and a source of tax revenue noticed by President Thomas Jefferson. Settlements along the rivers included Shawneetown on the Ohio and Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Fort de Chartress, provided points of departure for pioneers looking for land along the Kaskaskia and Goshen Trail. Illinois became a state in 1818. Inland settlements soon sprang up and when the transmigrated culture become more organized, Counties were Saline County was created from Gallatin County in 1847 and was the 99th out of the 102 countries founded in Illinois[1]

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[1]Saline County Genealogical Society. *The History of Saline County,* p.1

As early as 1819, the Illinois General Assembly enacted legislation concerning care for the poor. Prior to this time the common method of preventing starvation, deprivation, and exposure to the elements was to "let them out" to individuals who would provide necessary care.[2]

This procedure was formalized by the Pauper Bill of March 5, 1819, which commanded County Commissioners Courts to appoint two overseers of the poor for each township within the county. To be placed on the "poor book" of the township, it was necessary that the overseers establish, first, the need for care, and second, that the person had been a resident of the county for at least a year. When these two factors had been established, their names were then placed on the "poor book" by order of two justices of the peace.[3]

Each year the paupers were "sold" to the lowest bidder. Notice of "letting" of paupers was published in public places ten days prior to the bidding, and the sale was conducted on the steps of the courthouse, and the low bidders took charge of the welfare of the pauper for the following year.[4] Guardians of the poor were guaranteed the pauper's labor in return for food and shelter, plus a stipend from the county for taking care of the individual. Any guardian who mistreated his charge usually had one half his stipend withheld by the court.[5] Care of the mentally ill, elderly, or handicapped by family members (at the expense of the county) was generally accepted. It was not unusual for family members to support each other in this manner.

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[2]Saline County Genealogical Society, *Records of the Poor-Saline County Illinois*, Transcribe and indexed by Mrs. Rebecca Schnook and Mrs. Mary Brim. p.iii

[3] Ibid p. iii

[4] Ibid p. iii

[5] Ibid p. iii

By 1839, most of the poor were under the care of individuals, with the county reimbursing the guardian in proportion to the paupers ability as a laborer. In the case of the elderly, ill and handicapped persons the court set the reimbursement rate according to the amount of care needed to sustain those persons.[6]

As stated in the Green County Almshouse National Register Application:

> The almshouse system of public welfare was introduced to Illinois in 1839 through state legislation. The almshouse was a locally administered facility, and the decision to develop this type of relief system was left to the county. In 1840, Morgan County became the first to adopt the almshouse system. By 1880, all but eight counties had established an almshouse (Boone, Clark, Crawford, Edwards, Ford, Gallatin, Jasper and Pope). By 1903 only two counties had not developed the almshouse system of indoor relief (Boone and Pope).[7]
>
> Counties which elected to develop an almshouse-based relief system allocated the necessary funds and either constructed a building to be used specifically as an almshouse or purchased an existing building and converted it to an almshouse. Most counties located their almshouse (or poor house) in a rural setting and purchased land to be farmed by pauper labor. Thus, the poor house became regionally known as the poor farm, or county farm.[8]

When Saline County was formed from Gallatin County in February 1846, overseers of the poor were appointed as directed under the bill of 1819. Sixteen years later, in 1863, the Saline County Commissioners in keeping with the 1839 legislation, proposed that a farm be purchased so that the large number of poor on the rolls would be housed comfortably and with only one

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[6] Ibid p. iii
[7] Greene County Almshouse application for National register of Historic Places Section 8, p.3
[8] Ibid Section 8, p.3

overseer. A special tax was levied on all taxable property in Saline County for the year 1863, the amount being one-fourth of one percent on each hundred dollars of valuation of taxable property.[9] In Saline County the method of dealing with indigenous paupers who were no longer able to take care of themselves, included first in "farming" them out and then through the use of log "poor houses" and finally in the construction of the Saline County Poor House in 1877.

On the 20th of May 1863, Saline County purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land from Kinchen and Gaithy Odum for the sum of fourteen hundred two dollars and fifty cents. This land was the proposed site for the new county farm.[10] Log buildings were constructed and an overseer appointed to superintend the facility. As reported in the Greene County Almshouse application to the National Register of Historic Places:

> In 1870, the Illinois State Board of Public Charities was organized to monitor all forms of indoor relief. Although county almshouses were locally; administered, they were subjected to an annual review. The condition of the "special classes" was an immediate concern of the State Board of Public Charities. As early as 1870, the Board suggested the insane be transferred from the county farms to state institutions.[11]

A report issued by the Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities of the State of Illinois and dated December 1870, describes the Saline County Poor farm (or almshouse) as follows:

> The Saline County Almshouse is a cheap log building, but may be made quite comfortable. The inmates appear to be well cared for. The keeper receives the use of the farm and $100 for each pauper per annum.[12]

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[9] Saline County Genealogical Society, loc. cit. p.iii
[10] Ibid., p.iii
[11] Green County Application for National Register of Historic Places, loc. cit. section 8 p.4.
[12] Saline County Genealogical Society, p. v.

In June 1872, the records indicate that smallpox was rampant in the county. It was during this time that local historians believe that a "pest house" was built on the northeast corner of the yard, although there are no records to verify it. The pest house was a four room, square building where sick individuals were sent to either recover or die. During the smallpox epidemic those people who had already had the disease were pressed into service to nurse the sick at the farm. According to the son of the last overseer of the poor house, the pest house building was moved to another location in Harrisburg. [13]

By the latter part of 1876, it became necessary for the county to provide a new building on the site of the poor farm. The log buildings were rotting away, so it was decided that a new house for the county poor would be built. This time it would be made of brick. On January 31, 1877, the County paid A. Winterberger $1,250 as a first installment on the construction of the new building. In May the final payment was made of $1,000, then $50 for another cistern, $5 for a table for the paupers, and $10 for "extras" on the house. [14]

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[13] Ibid., p.v
[14] Ibid., p.v

Records of the Board of Public Charities from 1900 to 1906 indicated that conditions at the Saline County Poor Farm were far from ideal. The buildings were not in good condition and the farm was not run in the best manner.[15] In 1910, the State Board of Administration and Charities Commission (the successor organization to the State Board of Public Charities) in a report about the poor farm in Saline County stated:

> Men and women are not separated in any way. One feeble minded woman became pregnant over a year ago through intercourse with an inmate who had a bad case of asthma. They went away and were married. In less than four months they were both back. A child was born. It is now one year old and the woman is again pregnant. Another woman is at the farm with an illegitimate child of one year. At the time of inspection, one girl of twenty-five, who had a bad case of consumption, occupied a room with her mother and father. The father is crippled on account of work in the mines. The bed bugs are plentiful. The keeper says all inmates get mad and refuse to work part of the time. [16]

In 1917, counties were authorized to establish poor houses jointly with other counties. However, the Saline County Poor Farm continued to serve only Saline County. Legislation in 1919 required county poor farms to change their names to county homes; the county home law was renewed in 1935 and again in 1945. The Public Assistance Code was passed in 1948 and made relief of the indigent a function of newly established county departments of welfare. Under this code, counties were forbidden from placing destitute, but physically healthy individuals in county homes and were authorized to care only for the infirm or chronically ill.[17]

Records of the Saline County Board of Supervisors indicate that the Poor Farm Committee reported on an occasional basis to the county supervisors during the years of operation of the poor farm. . In July 1950, a report was made about the play ground investigations at the poor farm; this appears to be the last report of the committee regarding the poor farm. The Saline County Poor Farm remained open into the 1950s.[18] [18]

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[15] Report of the State Board of Public Charities, 1900-1906.
[16] Report of the State Board of Administration and Charities Commission, 1910.
[17] Turnbaugh, 1984, p. 311.
[18] Proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors, 1897-1950.

David J. Rothman in his book entitled, The Discovery of the Asylum: Social Order and Disorder in the New Republic states:

The spread of almshouses through the villages, towns, and cities of antebellum America at once established a uniformity of practice and a diversity of conditions. Institutionalization became the standard public response to the problem of poverty, but officials enacted the program with a wide variety of skill, sympathy, and diligence. A benevolent overseers of the poor was sometimes able to comfort a small group of dependents by carefully maintaining a handful of rooms and setting a decent table. But where administration rather casual oversight was necessary, where more was required than a good heart, the results were generally unsatisfactory. One finds in these circumstances the clearest evidence of the gap between the ideal and the reality of the almshouse..... Through the 1870's and 1880's and well into the 1890's, most forums proclaimed the superiority of indoor relief over outdoor relief. Practically every participant in the national conference on charity and correction, as well as economists and social critics, voiced their approval. It was not until the progressive era that the consensus reached in the Jacksonian period on the proper treatment of the poor began to splinter.[19]

The Saline County Poor Farm is a reflection of America's social policy regarding the poor in the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century. Its importance to the local community and Saline County should be recognized and the remaining buildings and cemetery preserved.

[19] Rothman, David J. The Discovery of the Asylum: Social Order and Disorder in the New Republic. (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1971), pp.202-205.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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
___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other

Name of repository

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.46

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	E363180	N4175550	3	__	_____	_____
2	16	E363030	N4175640	4	__	_____	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

Bibliography

Cemeteries, Saline County, Illnois (City of Harrisburg), Volume V, pp. 249-250

County Commissioners' Record 1847-1850 Volume A

County Court Record 1867-1873 Book D

County Commissioners Report 1874-1880

Green County Almshouse Application for National Register of Historic Places

The History of Saline County 1847-1997 Saline County Genealogical Society

Records of the Poor-Saline County Illinois, Saline County Genealogical Society

Report of the State Board of Administration and Charities Commission, Illinois Journal Printing Office, 1909-1917.

Report of the State Board of Public Charities, Illinois, Illinois Journal Printing Office, 1871-1909.

Rothman, David J. The Discovery of the Asylum: Social Order and Disorder in the New Republic. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1971.

Saline County Commissioners Record 1880-1887 Book B

Saline County. Proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors, 1897-1950.

Turnbaugh, Jr., Roy C. A Guide to County Records in the Regional Archives. State of Illinois: The Illinois State Archives, 1984.

Verbal Boundary Description
Saline County Poor House and storage building

A part of the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 21, Township 9 South, Range 6 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Saline County Illinois, and more specifically described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast Corner of the SE 1/4 of Section 21, Township 9 south, range 6 East, and run west on the landline 921 feet to a point, thence south 345.2 feet to the SW Corner of the Saline County housing Authority tract on the East right of way line of County Highway 11, for a place of beginning, thence South 3 degrees-29 minutes east 310 feet, thence west parallel with the land line 305 feet to the place of beginning, containing 2.06 acres, more or less.

Cemetery Description

A part of the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 21, Township 9 South, Range 6 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Saline County, Illinois, and more specifically described as follows:

Commencing at the NW corner of the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 21, T9S, R6E of the 3rd PM run south on the land line 138.1 feet, thense east 10.0 feet to the point of beginning located on the east right-of-way line of Holland Street, thence east 198.0 feet, thence south 280.0 feet, these west 198.0 feet to said right of way line, thece north 280.0 feet along said right-of-way line to the point of beginning, containing 1.27 acres more or less.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of this discontiguous district include the Saline County Poor House and Storage Building and the cemetery located across Feazel Street to the west and north of the home. These buildings and cemetery represent the property that was historically associated with the Saline County Poor Farm and retain their integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title **John O'Dell, Board Member**

organization **Saline County Historical Society** date **March 28, 2000**

street & number **114 Winkleman Road** telephone **618/252-6789**

city or town **Harrisburg** state **Illinois** zip code **62946**

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:
Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Saline County Poor Farm House and Storage Facility

name **Paul Emery, President, Harrisburg Township Park District**

street & number **501 Denison** telephone

city or town **Harrisburg** state **Illinois** zip code **62946**

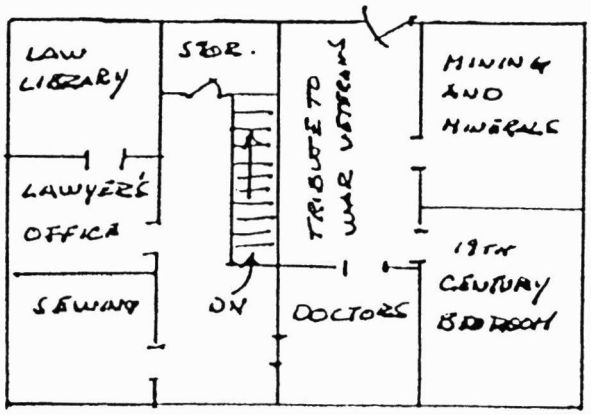
Saline County Poor Farm Cemetery

name **Kermit Coffee, Saline County Board Chairman**

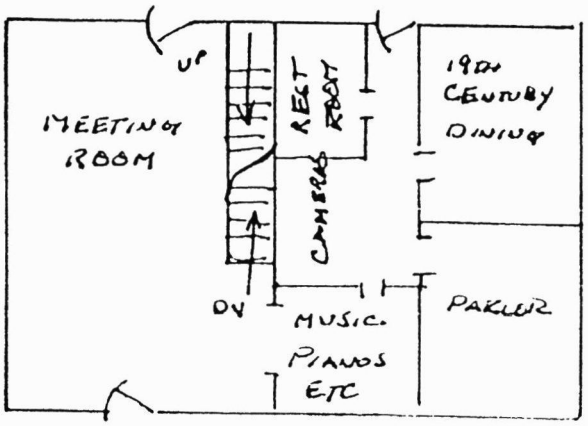
street & number **County Courthouse, Main and Poplar** telephone

city or town **Harrisburg** state **Illinois** zip code **62946**

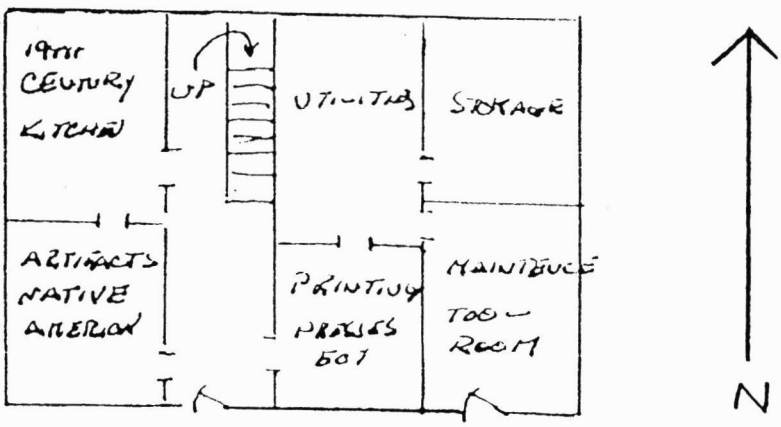
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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 the 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.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



Second Floor

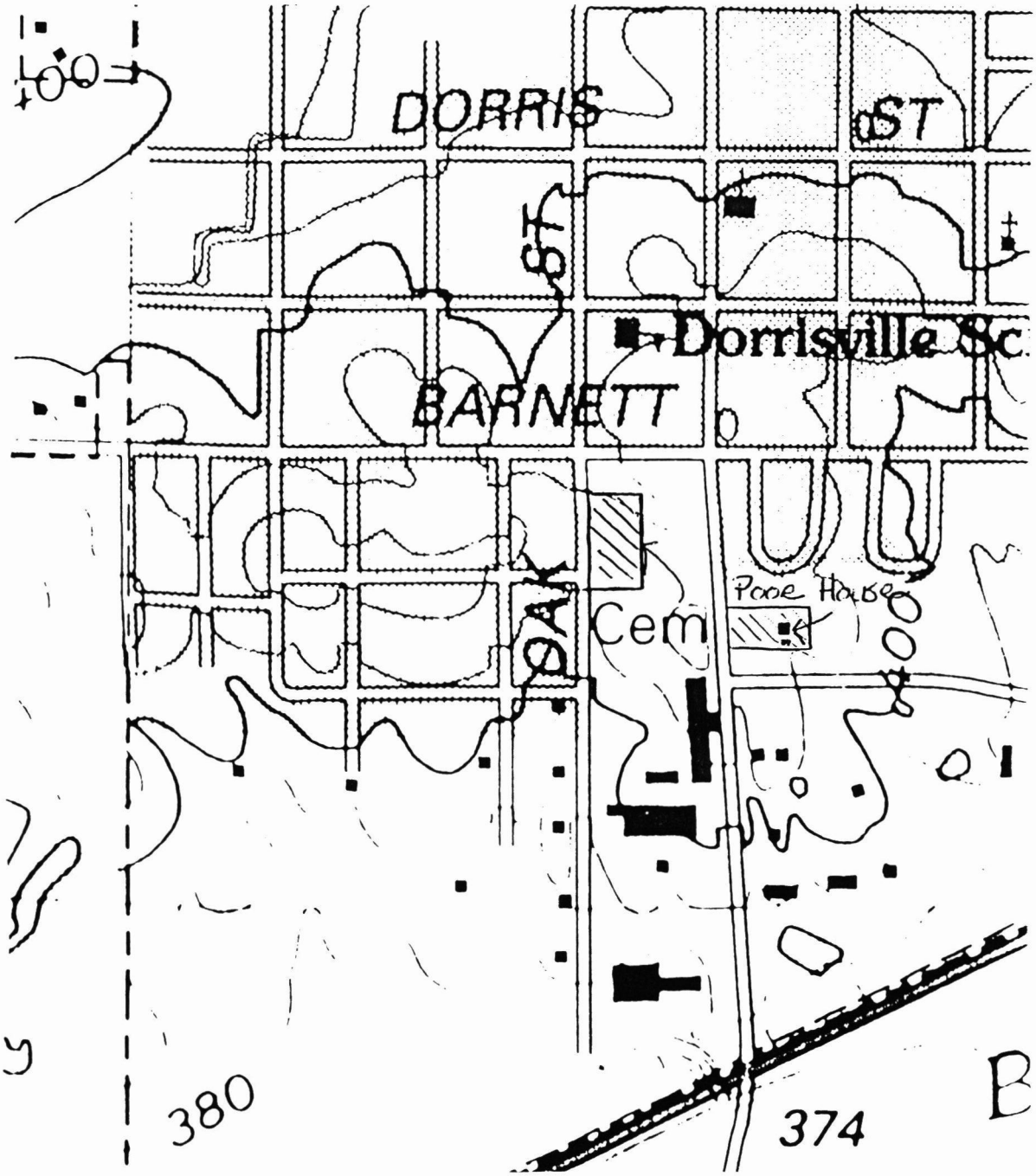


First Floor

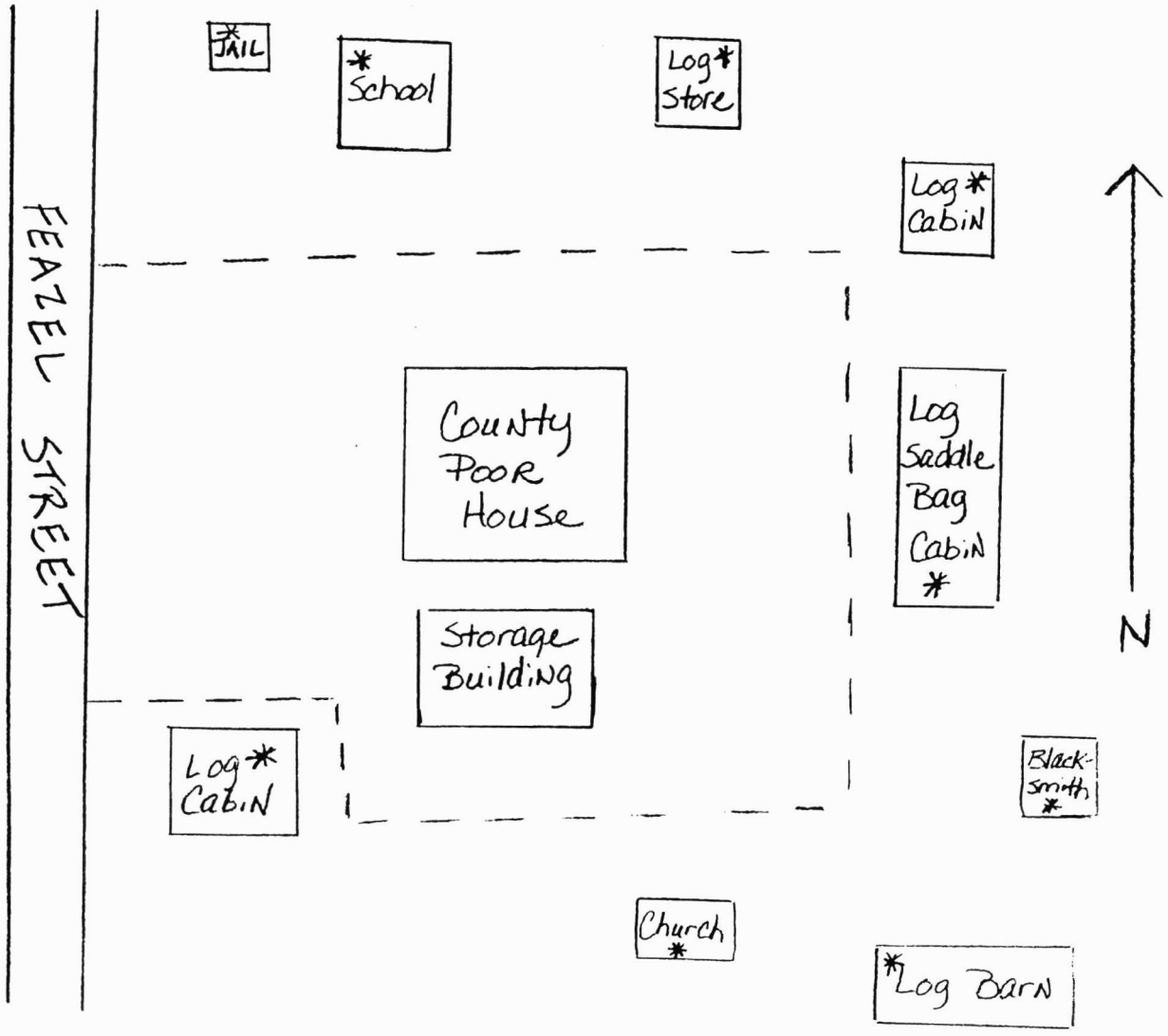


Basement

Floor Plans of Saline County Poor Farm House.



Harrisburg, IL quadrangle, U.S.G.S map showing the location of the Saline County Poor Farm House and Storage Building and the Poor Farm Cemetery.



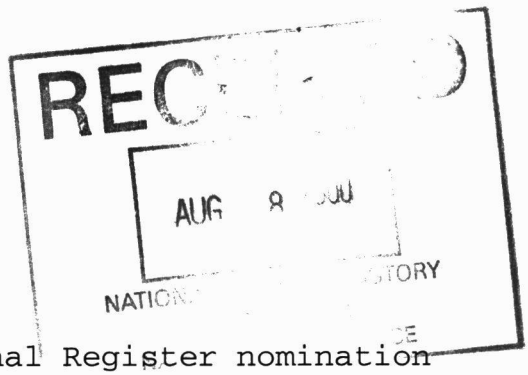
Site Plan showing Saline County Poor House and Storage Building. The buildings marked with an asterisk (*) are buildings moved to the property in 1961. Dashed line marks boundaries of site.

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507 • (217) 782-4836 • TTY (217) 524-7128

July 30, 2000

Ms. Beth Boland
National Register Program
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Beth:

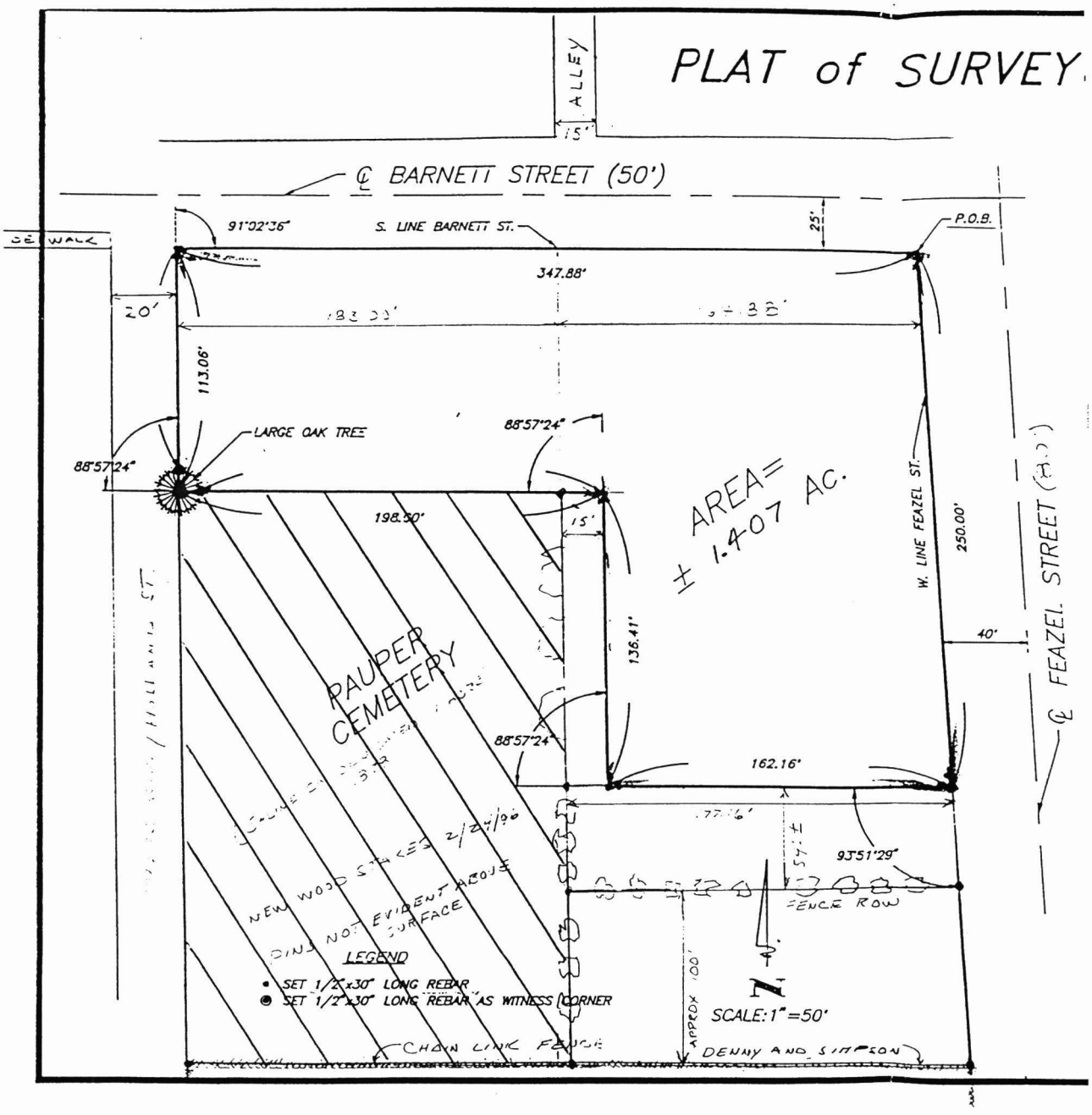
Enclosed please find the National Register nomination materials for the Saline County Poor Farm which was recommended for nomination by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council and nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Ann V. Swallow
Survey & National Register
Coordinator

encl.



Plat of Survey showing the Pauper Cemetery (Poor Farm Cemetery). Diagonal lines mark the boundaries of the cemetery.

Appendix A
Dorrisville Cemetery, Also Poor Farm Cemetery
List of Markers
From "Cemeteries—Saline County, Illinois", Volume V

DORRISVILLE CEMETERY, HARRISBURG TOWNSHIP, SALINE COUNTY, ILLINOIS. SW¼ SW¼ SECTION 21, T9S R6E. Located South of West Barnett Street and East of South Holland Street and West of the Saline County Historical Society Museum.

Recorded in no particular order. Stones are scattered and there are indications of numerous graves without markers.

Concrete marker - no data

ANGLIN, Ardell 1902 - 1943

FLEMMINGS, Mary Jane - Mother 1873 - 1949

BEAL, Peggie Ann No dates

BEAL, C. F. No dates

BEAL, Mollie 1875 - 1953
Charles 1871 - 1947

HAMPTON, Edward d. 14 July 1876 Age 67 y 5 m 4 d
Mary d. 7 May 1878 Age 53 y 9 m 1 d

Two parts of stones - no data

BEAL, Mamie No dates
Henry No dates

BEAL, Zachariah Co G 31 Ill Inf

One stone - nothing legible

WOODSON, Della M., Dau of W. W. & A. d. 20 July 1887 Age 16 m
Alice, Wife of W. W. d. 18 May 1888 Age 26 y 8 m 2 d

JOHNSON, Irena, Wife of Thos. d. 28 Apr 1890 Age 21 y 1 m 3 d

DEMPSEY, Hiram Co D 29 Ill Inf

Sandstone - no data

O'NEAL, Baby June 5 Dec 1938

6 Concrete Blocks as markers - no data

POTTS, Ruth 30 May 1900 - 11 Feb 1953

SLATON, Lavine 1881 - 1948
Andy 1877 - 19__

DEMOS, Louis, Born in Greece 1884 - 1967

COLLINS, Doris Jean, Dau of John & Leland 2 Dec - 5 Dec 1930

BAIN, Gertrude 23 Feb 1922 - 5 Mar 1922

MORRIS, Maggie 1891 - 1931 Union Co-Operative marker

BROWN, Verba C. 3 Aug 1926 - 15 May 1928
Floyd J. Jr. B&D 23 Aug 1935 (Year covered with cement and not certain)

SLATEN, Hazel B., Dau of A.S. & L.S. 27 Oct 1919 - 27 Nov 1920

HURD, Irvin 12 Apr 1928 - 20 June 1945 (Year dates not certain)

HURD, John Roland 13 Nov 1945 - 14 Nov 1945

NEELY, Olious 2 Feb 1932 Ill Pvt Co 3 Pioneer Inf

WILLIAMS, John Co G 6th Ill Vol Cav 9 July 1845 - 25 Feb 1907

DORRISVILLE - 2

MITCHELL, Clara Hedger 30 July 1886 - 1 Jan 1956

YOUNG, Peter d. 4 Feb 1979 Age 85 y 9 m 19 d Gibbons Funeral Home marker

MALIN, Charles 11 Feb 1918 - 24 Jan 1978

COLEMAN, Baby Boy B&D 24 June 1978 Gaskins Funeral Home marker

HARVOT, Christine d. 31 Dec 1978 Age 58 y 1 m 8 d Gibbons Funeral Home marker

SANDERS, Una Childers d. 29 Feb 1976 Age 81 y Gaskins Funeral Home marker

FORD, Russell W. 12 Nov 1913 - 9 Jan 1978

4 Concrete Markers - data not legible

One large white stone is down and nothing legible on three sides I can see. Too large to turn over.

Old white stone - nothing legible

THOMPSON, M. 1847 - 1929 (Concrete marker)

McCORMICK, John N. 20 Dec 1835 - 18 July 1887

2 Pieces of an old stone - nothing legible

Part of a stone - no data

T. B. (Four metal pieces with letters only. Two pieces with T.B. and two pieces
C. B. with C. B.)

BEAL, Ellie Logan No dates (Concrete marker)

Old gray stone - nothing legible

This cemetery was recorded 27 Jan 1975 by Glenda Kay Unsell of Harrisburg, Ill. She recorded the following names which I did not locate:

THORD, Martha d. 13 Aug 1943

THORD, John No dates

GOLD, Martha A., Wife of Josiah d. 19 Jan 1892

DALTON, Everett d. 24 Feb 1974 Age 56 y

EASTMAN, Glen 14 Jan 1897 - 12 Jan 1973

TIPTON, Silas 1859 - 1936

Recorded 21 October 1980 by John V. Murphy.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Saline County Poor Farm

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Saline

DATE RECEIVED: 12/08/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/22/01
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00001048

DETAILED EVALUATION:

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept-A

REVIEWER Boland DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 1/22/01

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701–1507 • (217) 782–4836 • TTY (217) 524–7128

December 5, 2000

Ms. Beth Boland
National Register Program
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Boland:

Enclosed please find the resubmitted National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for the Saline County Poor Farm in Saline County, Illinois. The nomination was return to our office at the end of September 2000 because the photographs did not meet National Register standards. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Tracey A. Sculle

Tracey A. Sculle
Acting National Register and Survey Coordinator

enclosure

Printed on Recycled Paper


$500 REWARD
RING BELL
for
CARETAKER

SOUTHWEST SIDE

Saline County Poor Farm

Saline Co. IL

O'Dell, J.

11/2000

1



SOUTHEAST SIDE

Saline County Poor Farm
Saline Co. IL
O'Dell, J.
11/2000
2



NORTH SIDE

Salvo County Poor Farm
Salvo Co. IL

J. O'Dell
11/2000
3



EAST SIDE

Sabine County Poor Farm

Sabine Co. TX

O'Dell, J

11/2000

4


SOD DEMAND

WEST SIDE

Salvia County Poor Farm

Salvia Co. IL

J. O'Dell

11/2000

5



NORTH WEST
CORNER

Saline County Poor Farm
Saline Co. IL
J. O'Dell
11/2000

6



Salina County Fair Carnley Salina Co. LOOKING EAST SL

J. O'Dell

11/2000

7



Dakin County Poor Farm
Cemetery
Dakin Co, IL
LOOKING SOUTH

J. O. Dell
11/2000
8



Saline County Poor Farm
Cemetery

LOOKING SOUTHEAST
TOWARD POOR HOUSE

Saline Co. IL
J. Oldell
11/2000
9



Saline County Poor Farm
Saline Co, IL
J. O'Dell
11/2000

LOOKING ~~SOUTH~~
NORTH EAST

OVER MOST OF PAUPER
CEMETERY



Salvia County Poor Farm

Salvia Co. IL

J. O'Dell
11/2000

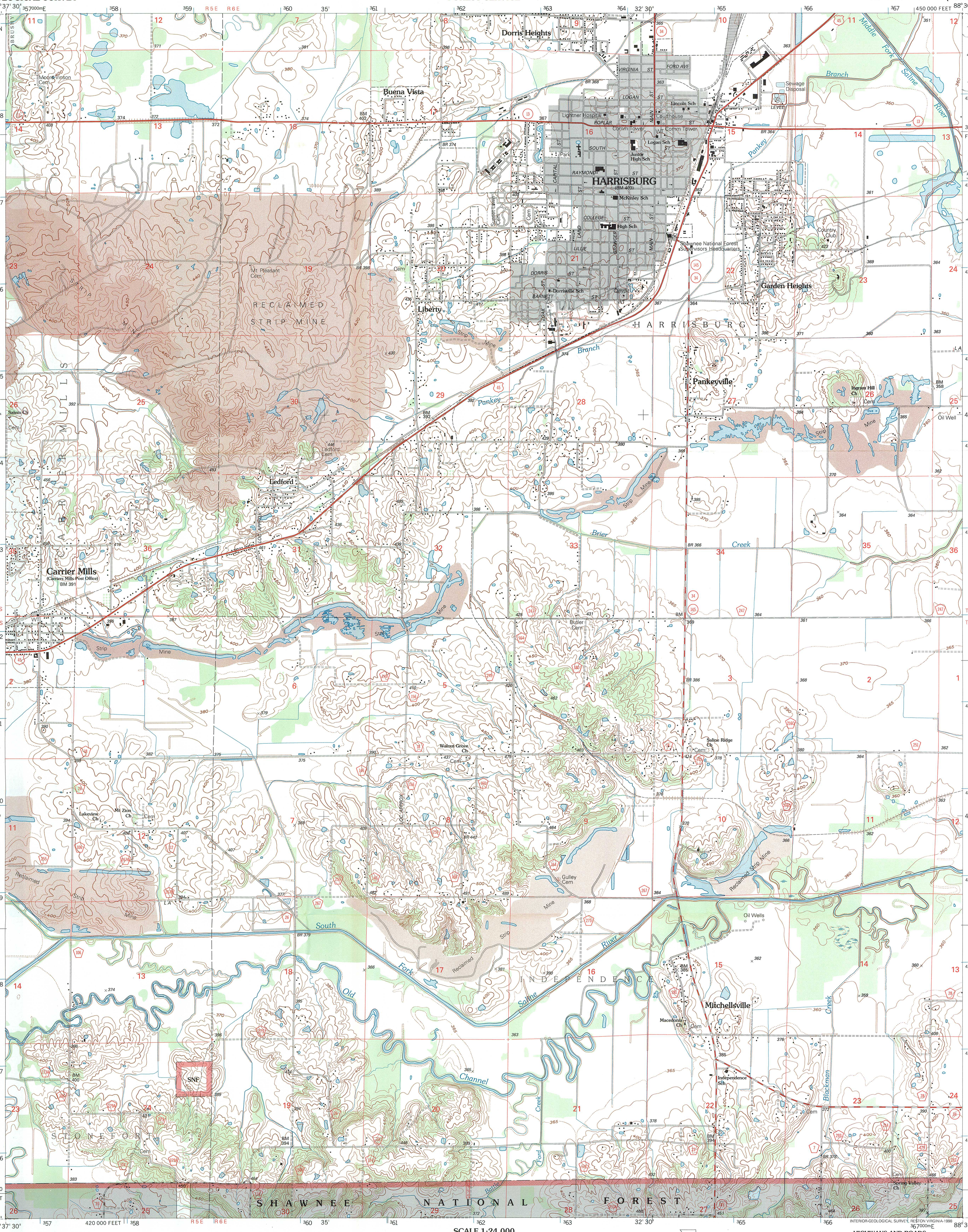
Detail of stone in cemetery

11

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

HARRISBURG QUADRANGLE
ILLINOIS-SALINE CO.
7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Saline County
Poor Farm

Saline County, IL

Zone 16

1. E 363180
N4175550

2 E 363030
N4175640

SCALE 1:24 000

MILES
FEET
KILOMETERS
METERS

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048

Produced by the U.S. Geological Survey
Revised by the U.S. Forest Service

Topography compiled 1959. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1993
Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1996. Partial field check by U.S. Forest Service 1996

North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 10 000-foot ticks: Illinois coordinate system, east zone (Transverse Mercator)
Blue 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator ticks, zone 16

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software

Non-National Forest System lands within the National Forest
Inholdings may exist in other National or State reservations

This map is not a legal land line or ownership document. Public lands are subject to change and leasing, and may have access restrictions; check with local offices. Obtain permission before entering private lands

MN
GN
0°56'
17 MILS
0°

UTM GRID AND 1997 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

ILLINOIS
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1	2	3
4		5
6	7	8

1 Harco
2 Galatia
3 Eldorado
4 Carrier Mills
5 Rudement
6 Stonefort
7 Eddyville
8 Herod

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLES

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
AND ILLINOIS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS 61820
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

HIGHWAYS AND ROADS

Interstate 5
U. S. 101
State 79
County 6
National Forest, suitable for passenger cars 105 61
National Forest, suitable for high clearance vehicles 105
National Forest Trail 384

Primary highway ....
Secondary highway ....
Light-duty road
Composition: Unspecified ....
Paved ....
Gravel ....
Dirt ....
Unimproved; 4 wheel drive 4WD
Trail ....
Gate; Barrier ....

HARRISBURG, IL
1996
NIMA 3259 II NE - SERIES V863

ISBN 0-607-91364-9