

United States Department of the Interior
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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building

Other names/site number: Rehabilitation Building; Rehabilitation Unit;

DHR site no. 119-5006

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 281 Bagley Circle

City or town: Marion State: VA County: Smyth

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national X statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B ___ C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____	_____
Signature of commenting official:	Date
_____	_____
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ___ entered in the National Register
- ___ determined eligible for the National Register
- ___ determined not eligible for the National Register
- ___ removed from the National Register
- ___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
-

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Site

Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH CARE: sanitarium

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

WORK IN PROGRESS

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Classical Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Stone, Metal, Concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building is located at 281 Bagley Circle in Marion, Smyth County, Virginia, on the campus of what is now known as the Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute. The classically-inspired one-story building of brick, stone, and concrete construction was built in phases in 1937-39, as indicated by historical sources and 1930s construction drawings by the architect, Eubank & Caldwell. The building is linear in form, over 300 feet in length, and oriented east-west along a ridge with a north-facing front elevation. Exterior features include round-arched and square-headed windows and entries, parapeted gables with lunettes, and slate and metal roofing. The interior features an axial corridor which links together the three parts of the building: the east wing, placed in service in 1937; the west wing, placed in service in 1939; and a connecting kitchen element in service in 1937. Plaster wall and ceiling finishes and terrazzo or composition tile floors are typical, and there are multiple original steel-framed French doors and fanlights. Each wing has a large south-facing "sun porch," the one in the east wing with a row of glass-fronted bedrooms and other spaces opening onto it. The building is adjoined by asphalt-paved parking lots on the south and north sides, the south parking lot paving coming up to the foundation, the north parking lot separated from the building by a narrow lawn area. The approximately 2.91-acre nominated area drops away on the east, allowing for a full-height walk-in basement at that end, and is bordered by woods and a bluff overlooking

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the Middle Fork of the Holston River, a tributary of the Tennessee/Mississippi system. The setting is parklike on the south side, with a swale planted with evergreen and deciduous specimen trees, and is open and field-like on the north side with a garden plot and portable prefab garden shed. Part of the north field, which adjoins early- to mid-twentieth-century non-hospital residential neighborhood to the north, is slated for redevelopment as a parking lot in the near future. To the west is Bagley Circle, a ring road that encloses the core area of the hospital complex, and in that direction are views of important hospital buildings like the 1887 Henderson Building (NRHP 1990) and the 1941 Auditorium Building. The Tubercular Building's site is at some remove from the hospital core reflecting its use for the treatment of an infectious disease and the need to isolate its occupants from the general hospital population. The Tubercular Building, which is a contributing building and the only resource in the nominated area, stands at approximately 2200 feet above sea level.

Narrative Description

Building Exterior

The building consists of two long wings connected by hyphens to a center kitchen. The wings, which have hip-and-gable roofs with cross gables capping each end, are virtually identical in plan and elevation, except that the east wing has a full basement story under its east end. The kitchen has a gable roof arranged so that the ridge is perpendicular to the principal axis formed by the two wings. The overall appearance of the building is of a long, slender mass punctuated by gables, with three gables grouped together at the center like front-gabled houses on a Dutch canal. On the south elevation the south kitchen gable end occupies the same plane as the two gables that flank it, whereas on the north elevation the north kitchen gable end is recessed behind the plane of the flanking gables.

The roof is sheathed in slate shingles with metal flashing, except over the south-side sun porches where the roofing is metal. Cylindrical metal ventilators rise from the hip-roof planes on the south side and from the ridge of the kitchen gable. Also rising from the ridge of the kitchen gable is a brick chimney. The roof has heavy molded metal cornices on its non-gable sections, except across the south elevation where there are roof overhangs supported by sawn wood brackets.

The building is constructed of load-bearing brick laid in 1:5-coures common bond. The foundation consists of large quarry-faced limestone blocks with a top course of bush-hammered blocks with beveled top edges (the limestone is identified as locally sourced in the 1930s drawings). Smooth buff-colored Indiana limestone is used for the sills and lintels of the square-headed windows, for the sills and impost blocks of the round-headed windows, and for the sills of the gable lunettes. Indiana limestone is also likely used for the surrounds of round-arched openings on the north elevation that are shown as entries in construction drawings but were completed as windows instead. The surrounds are delicately molded in the arches and have flat pilaster-like jambs with molded caps.

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The brick rises to corbeled cornices on the non-gable elevations. The corbeling is treated as individual block-like elements rather than continuous runs. The building's ten gables—four on each wing, two at the two ends of the kitchen—have gable parapets. These are peaked, their upper edges detailed with soldier-course borders with concrete copings. At their bottom ends the parapets flare out on each side, the flaring created by corbeling out from the corners below. The peaked and flared gable parapets are a design legacy of the hospital's original 1885-87 main building (as discussed in Section 8), and the form of the parapets capping the narrow gable ends of the kitchen and narrow facade projections at the ends of the wings contribute to the building's Dutch appearance.

The original steel window sashes were replaced with one-over-one anodized aluminum sashes in the 1970s. The fanlights of the round-arched windows and entries were replaced with metal panels at the same time, and the entry doors were replaced with metal-framed plate-glass doors with single sidelights. The only original steel window elements to survive on the exterior are the radial muntin sashes in the lunettes and certain small steel-sash basement windows. The east end basement has a walkout entry with a steel door. The west end has a paneled door at the bottom of a stairwell to access the crawlspace, which features an axial excavation called a pipe trench in 1930s drawings. Two former entries on the south gable end of the kitchen were bricked up.

The north elevation has a single entry into the hyphen that connects the kitchen to the west wing. The entry has a concrete stoop and steps with metal railings with alternating plain and twisted balusters. The south elevation has four entries. Two are into the hyphens that connect the kitchen and wings, reached by concrete walkways that slope up from the edge of the parking lot. The two other entries are at the midpoints of the two wings. They open onto non-original concrete loading docks with pipe railings.

Building Interior

The building has a double-loaded corridor plan with an axial corridor along which rooms are arranged on both sides, except where the corridor connects to the kitchen where it has doors and windows opening to the outside (where it connects on each side of the kitchen the corridor segments can be described as hyphens). The corridor ends at large rooms (described as wards in the 1930s plans) at the east and west ends. The principal spaces in each wing are the sun porches that span from gable end to gable end on the south sides (in one 1938 drawing the east wing sun porch is referred to as a "day room"). The sun porches have an underlying formal symmetry, however the part of the east wing sun porch adjoining the corridor is taken up by bedroom cubicles and a basement stair (all described below). The west wing sun porch is divided laterally by a row of square columns. These support square concrete beams and cross beams that create a structural grid overhead. The beams support the plaster-finish concrete slab of the ceiling.

The floors of the sun porches are finished with terrazzo of white and dark gray marble chips (mostly white) in a gray matrix (this color mix is standard throughout the building). Darker terrazzo with dark gray chips in a gray matrix forms a border around the rooms and around the bases of the columns in the west sun porch. The dark borders rise a short way up the

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walls/columns as a baseboard treatment. The corridor has a similar dark border/baseboard treatment. At the center of the back or corridor wall of the west sun porch is a round-arched doorway containing steel-framed French doors and a fanlight with radial steel muntins. Similar doors and/or fanlights appear throughout the building. A 1936 construction drawing refers to “4” cinder block partitions” in the building.

The east wing sun porch is divided crosswise by partitions that were added in 1938 or 1939 to create a vestibule which connects through to the corridor behind the sun porch. The sun porch has the same square columns, ceiling grid, and terrazzo floor finish as the west wing sun porch, but the columns are incorporated into the fronts of the bedroom cubicles that fill the space between the columns and the back wall (two of the bedrooms were redesignated as nurse and doctor offices in 1938). The front of each bedroom or office cubicle consists of a wide two-panel steel door, a steel-framed window with a casement sash, a paneled bulkhead under the window, and a tall steel-framed transom. Some of the bedroom/office doors have glazed upper panels. The wide doorways would have allowed beds to be wheeled in and out of the rooms, the glazing admitted natural light from the sun porch, and the casements aided ventilation.

In recent years some of the east wing sun porch bedroom/office spaces had a shop-like function; one is hung with a sign reading “Gizmo Trinkets” and others are painted with mottos having to do with books (“The Reading Place”) and Christmas. The space at the east end of the row of bedrooms contains the basement stair and has on the front a window with two steel-framed casement sashes with textured glass (described as “obscure glass” in the construction drawings). The stair is concrete with a pipe handrail, different from the greenstone treads and risers called for in a 1936 drawing. The building’s windows were to have greenstone sills as well; whether the stone was installed and later removed or never installed is unknown.

At the ends of the sun porches in both wings are rooms described as wards in the construction drawings. The rooms have three-bay fronts consisting of doorways flanked by steel-framed obscure-glass casement windows with transoms (one of these spaces in the east wing has a recent painted sign depicting a coffee cup and the word “cafe;” one of the spaces in the west wing was originally used as a doctor office, treatment room, and locker room). A non-historic kitchen with wood base and wall cabinets was created in a room on the north side of the west wing.

The original kitchen has been stripped of its counters and cabinets but retains decorative vents and two service rooms at the south end. One of these rooms, a pantry, has wooden shelves raised on wooden counters; the other was historically used to store fuel (the pantry and fuel room were switched at the time of construction). Bathrooms have high white tile wainscots. A number of the building’s single-panel steel doors have round peep holes at eye level (the peep holes are smaller than shown in 1930s drawings). Some spaces retain pendant fluorescent light fixtures of Art Deco design that may be original. Some radiators are covered with grilles with a classical imbricated pattern. A likely original Schaeffer Bros. Co. (Chicago) fire alarm is mounted on a wall in the west wing.

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Integrity Analysis

The Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building retains good overall integrity. The building remains at its original location and its immediate and more distant setting are much as they were during the period of significance, with the largely historic-period buildings of the hospital campus visible to the west and an early/mid-twentieth-century residential neighborhood visible over a field to the north. The building is flanked on its north and south sides by narrow parking lots which, given the staffing needs of the Tubercular Building and the hospital in general, presumably existed in some form at the beginning of the period of significance and more assuredly existed by the end of the period in the 1960s. (Construction of a new parking lot in the field to the northwest of the building was anticipated at the time of writing in January 2023.) The building possesses good exterior integrity in that it retains its historic design, materials, and workmanship. This is especially evident in the decorative brickwork and stonework, slate roof shingles, and gable lunettes. The principal exterior integrity loss is the replacement of the original steel-framed windows, fanlights, and entries after the period of significance. The building also possesses good interior integrity with little alteration to primary spaces such as the sun porches, sun porch bedrooms/offices, axial corridor, and wards. Plaster wall and ceiling finishes, terrazzo floors, and most interior steel-framed French doors, fanlights, and solid doors remain in place. The building conveys a sense of the particular period of time during which it was built and gained its historic associations. The building possesses integrity of association in that it is directly linked to the historical developments that formed it.

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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.)

- 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 grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH/MEDICINE

Period of Significance

1937-1969

Significant Dates

1937

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Eubank & Caldwell (architects)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Summary

The Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building was built in 1937-39 to provide tuberculosis care for mental health patients at the Southwestern State Hospital in Marion, Smyth County, Virginia. The hospital, known today as the Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute, opened in 1887 as one of Virginia's four historic-period mental health care hospitals. The classically-inspired brick and stone Tubercular Building was designed by the Roanoke, Virginia, architectural firm Eubank & Caldwell to harmonize with adjacent hospital buildings. Built as two wings connected by a kitchen, the building exterior features quarry-faced limestone foundations, round-arched and square-headed windows and entries, and parapeted gables with lunettes. Each wing centers on a sun porch where tuberculosis patients recuperated, and the east wing also has glass-fronted bedrooms opening onto the sun porch. The building's relatively isolated siting reflects the need to isolate its occupants from the general hospital population. The Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the Health/Medicine area of significance as an important state healthcare facility. The period of significance extends from 1937, the year a portion of the building was placed in service, until 1969, the year tuberculosis care use of the building was discontinued. The Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building is eligible at the state level of significance.¹

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Historic Context and Health/Medicine Area of Significance

The Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building historically served as an important component of Southwestern State Hospital, the principal health care facility serving Southwest Virginia's white population during the historic period (the first African American patient was

¹ In addition to its individual eligibility, the Tubercular Building is classifiable as a contributing building in a potential Southwestern State Hospital Historic District, proposed in 1991 as "significant under criterion A for its association with the treatment of the mentally ill in Virginia" (Land and Community Associates, "Survey of State-owned Properties"). A number of individuals assisted with the preparation of this report, foremost among them architect William Huber, the main point of contact, whose research on the Tubercular Building contributed to the architectural and historical discussions. Also of assistance were Smyth County Clerk of Court John Graham; Rachel H. Pennington, Master Deputy Clerk, Smyth County Circuit Court; Jennifer Fichthorn, MPH, Project Coordinator Rural Opioids Technical Assistance Through Virginia Cooperative Extension; architect Ivan Huber; the staff of the Marion Public Library; and Michael Pulice and Lena Sweeten McDonald with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and James Gabbert with the National Park Service.

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admitted in 1967). Southwestern State Hospital was the fourth Virginia colonial/state mental hospital to be established, the first being Eastern State Hospital in Williamsburg (1773, for whites), followed by Western State Hospital in Staunton (1828, for whites) and Central State Hospital in Petersburg (1885, for blacks). Legislative efforts to establish a mental hospital to serve Southwest Virginia's white population and to alleviate overcrowding in the state's other white hospitals gathered momentum in the early 1880s. Care outside of an urban setting was deemed optimal for mental health patients and an appropriately rural location on the southern outskirts of Marion was selected for what was initially known as the Southwestern Lunatic Asylum. By mid-1885 the Louisville, Kentucky, architectural firm McDonald Brothers had designed the facility's main building, afterward known as the Henderson Building. Completed in 1887, the massive four-story brick edifice was soon expanded by the addition of three-story side wings. Among the many decorative features of the eclectic Victorian/classical building and its wings were flared gable parapets, possibly a Dutch influence. The motif was used for subsequent hospital campus buildings including the 1937-39 Tubercular Building.²

A percentage of the hospital's patients inevitably suffered from tuberculosis, which was widespread in the general population in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Tuberculosis was recognized as infectious at the time, and in 1908 Commissioner of State Hospitals J. M. Bauserman acknowledged the need for the state's mental care facilities to isolate sufferers from the general patient population. Bauserman reported in September 1908 the completion of "two pavilions for the tuberculous patients" at Western State Hospital and a "camp for male tuberculous patients" at Eastern State Hospital. In 1908-09 funds were appropriated for the construction of two frame cottages for tubercular patients at Southwestern State Hospital. At the time, fifty tubercular patients were described as "distributed over practically every ward" at Southwestern State Hospital. The cottages, though sometimes described as two buildings, were probably a single linked building, as suggested by a 1912 report that referred to them as the "tubercular building."³

By the mid-1930s the ca. 1908 tubercular building was considered obsolete and the Virginia General Assembly appropriated \$44,000 "for the construction of a two-unit pavilion to replace the old, inadequate Tubercular Building." A June 30, 1937, report by Southwestern State Hospital Superintendent Dr. George A. Wright described work in progress on the new building:

There was considerable delay in the work on this structure by reason of our failure to receive windows, the shipment of which was delayed for more than three months.

² Salmon and Vosmik, "Henderson Building," 8.0-8.1; Miller, "Brief History," 3, 20; Lee, *Buildings of Virginia*, 461; Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 283.

³ "History" (Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute website); Bauserman, *Sixth Report of the Commissioner of State Hospitals for the Insane*, 4-6; Bauserman, *Seventh Report of the Commissioner of State Hospitals for the Insane*, 7-8; King, *Twenty-fifth Annual Report of the Southwestern State Hospital*, 51. The 1912 report refers to a second story being added to the ca. 1908 tubercular building (King, *Twenty-fifth Annual Report of the Southwestern State Hospital*, 31). During the same period management pushed for the construction of a sanitary cow barn with cement floors to protect patients from contaminated milk that might spread tuberculosis.

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Therefore bricklaying in this particular climate could be carried on only during unusual periods throughout the winter, however, the first unit has been completed and will be ready for occupancy after the heating and water connections have been made. We propose to transfer our female patients [out] of the old Tubercular Building to this unit and the male patients to a department of the Davis Clinic and continue the work on the other unit when additional funds have been made available for that purpose.

Wright described the decommissioning of the old tubercular building and the construction of the new one as eliminating “our remaining fire hazard.” On June 30 the following year, Wright’s replacement Dr. Joseph R. Blalock reported: “The first unit of the tubercular pavilion has already been completed and the foundation, along with much of the limestone work, of the second unit has now been finished.” In 1939 the building was variously described as the “Tubercular Pavilion” and “two modern tuberculosis Pavilions,” the latter nomenclature reflecting the building’s two-part form, and it was reported, “These two buildings provide 130 beds for tubercular patients.” Architect Bill Huber notes that the building’s slender linear proportions would also have promoted ventilation, and the building’s relative remoteness from the other hospital buildings would have served to isolate the infectious patients who lived there from the general hospital population.⁴

For the design of the new building the hospital tapped the Roanoke architectural firm Eubank & Caldwell, consisting of principals Beaufort N. Eubank and James A. W. Caldwell. Hospital work was among the firm’s first commissions upon its founding ca. 1920, and in the 1920s the firm undertook work in Marion. The firm designed an addition for the Southwestern State Hospital in 1931. Eubank & Caldwell’s construction drawings suggests the east wing of the building, described in May 1936 as “Tubercular Building ‘A,’” was built first. The wing may have been intended for female patients, but in September 1938 the 1936 plans were revised to reflect occupancy by both male and female patients. This was done by adding a vestibule at the south entrance to divide the continuous sun porch in half; a partition to divide the dining room; and other partitions and doorways. Most or all of the partitions remained in place after the west end (Building B) was completed and placed in service (it is unknown whether the east wing continued in mixed male/female use once the west wing was completed).⁵

⁴ Wright, *Fiftieth Annual Report*, 9-10 Blalock, *Fifty-first Annual Report*, 78; Henry, *One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Annual Report*, 31; Eubank & Caldwell Tubercular Building drawings; Huber, “Rehab Building, Southwestern State Hospital.” The year 1940 is given for completion of the building in some accounts, but it appears to have been fully operational by the end of 1939. The 1940 date may refer to the building’s dedication.

⁵ Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 133-135. The framing plan in Drawing 6 shows a partition at the west corridor entrance to the kitchen that suggests the east wing and kitchen were temporarily walled off from the (unfinished) west wing. Related to the composite conceptualization of the building are the numbers painted on the arches over the unrealized east and west wing north entries, respectively four and six, which presumably relate to a former hospital-wide numbering system. The central linking kitchen was assigned number five, painted on the impost block of a window arch.

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At the time Eubank & Caldwell designed the Tubercular Building, the practice of tuberculosis sanatorium design was well advanced. T. B. Kidner with the National Tuberculosis Association Advisory Service described the basic principles in a 1921 article for *Architectural Review*. A central tenet was ample ventilation, which could be provided by “cure” or “rest” porches for daytime use and “sleeping porches” for nighttime use. Kidner noted the growing popularity of the term “pavilion” for the facilities, with its connotation of airiness, and he emphasized the necessity of quickly transferring a patient who suffers a hemorrhagic relapse to a warm room through a doorway wide enough to accommodate a wheeled bed. This may explain the form of the east wing bedrooms with their wide doorways opening to the sun porch, and suggests the sun porch windows were kept open in cold weather, as was the practice in the private home sleeping porches of the era. Kidner advocated for greater privacy for patients, but that was an unachievable luxury in a state hospital setting.⁶

The building’s many windows indicate a concern for ventilation but they also served to admit abundant natural light. This may reflect the period belief that sunlight has a germicidal effect. Sunlight was also used to treat tuberculosis directly in a treatment known as light therapy or heliotherapy. In the 1930s, physicians in such tuberculosis treatment centers as Tucson and Colorado Springs urged the use of heliotherapy in the pages of *Diseases of the Chest*, the journal of the Federation of American Sanatoria, itself based in sunny Los Angeles and El Paso. One physician noted that apart from any direct physiological effect, sunlight had beneficial psychological effects on tubercular patients. Natural light was also important for basic interior functionality during the early twentieth century, when artificial lighting was still rudimentary, though the presence of early and potentially original fluorescent light fixtures in the Tubercular Building indicates a modern approach to interior illumination.⁷

Diet was also considered important in the treatment of tuberculosis, and that may in part explain the Tubercular Building’s on-site kitchen (distance of the building from the rest of campus would also be an explanation and was perhaps the main consideration). Special diets were devised; one, the Gerson-Sauerbruch or Gerson-Sauerbruch-Hermanadorfer Diet, in use in the 1930s, involved high vitamin content and salt restriction. The diet called for the consumption of large quantities of fruit juices, raw fruit, salads, and cod liver oil (one 1930s commentator noted cod liver oil was “not exactly the cure in tuberculosis it was once thought to be”). In addition to tuberculosis-specific architectural features like the sun porches and sun porch bedrooms, and the possibly tuberculosis treatment-related dedicated kitchen, Southwestern State Hospital’s management placed a premium on fireproofing, and that is reflected in the concrete floors and ceilings of the Eubank & Caldwell design. The concrete ceilings, for example, separated the living areas from the flammable wooden roof construction.⁸

On December 15, 1969, tuberculosis treatment in the Tubercular Building ceased and in February 1970 the facility reopened as the Rehabilitation Unit (also known as the Rehabilitation Building), offering Activities of Daily Living (ADL) training for patients. A period source

⁶ Kidner, “Sanitoria for Tubercular Cases,” 17-24.

⁷ Kibler and Watson, “Place of the Sun,” 18-20; Masten, “Sunlight in Tuberculosis,” 9.

⁸ Wolf, *Human Fuel*, 209-212.

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defined ADL for the severely disabled as including dressing, transfers, and hygienic care, and for the less disabled as shopping, housekeeping, and home maintenance. Another period definition of ADL included feeding, bathing, and dressing. Improvements to the building were made in 1978-79 and in 1989 the rehabilitation function was discontinued with the opening of the Bagley Building. Thereafter the Tubercular Building was used for staff training and storage. The state fire marshal had an office in the west end of the east wing in the early 2000s. The building, currently used for storage, is being studied for a new use as the Appalachian Center for Hope, a residential drug treatment center.⁹

⁹ Bill Huber personal communication; Atelsek et al, "Long-term Institutional Care," III-87, V-10; Crooks, "Long-term Care Facility Administration," 131-19; "Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute Walking Tour Guide," 14.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building
Name of Property

Smyth County, Virginia
County and State

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Wilson, Goodridge. *Smyth County History and Traditions*. Kingsport, Tn.: Kingsport Press, 1932.

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Wright, George A. *Fiftieth Annual Report of the Southwestern State Hospital of Virginia*. Richmond: Division of Purchase and Printing, 1937.

Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building
Name of Property

Smyth County, Virginia
County and State

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR site no. 119-5006 (also site no. 119-0004-005)

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approximately 2.91 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 36.834390 Longitude: -81.509400

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The historic boundary of the nominated area is based on a "Plat Showing a Part of the Southwestern State Hospital," dated January 3, 2023 (January 17, 2023 revision), which is drawn at a scale larger than 1" = 200'. The boundary cuts through one of the two non-original loading docks on the south side of the building. The true and correct historic district is shown on the attached Aerial View Detail, which has a bar scale of 1" = 188'.

Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building
Name of Property

Smyth County, Virginia
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is the result of a recent survey designed to differentiate the Tubercular Building from the rest of the hospital complex for the purposes of rehabilitation. The boundary includes the Tubercular Building and a modern portable prefab garden shed (which is too insubstantial for inclusion in the Section 5 resource list).

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: J. Daniel Pezzoni
organization: Landmark Preservation Associates
street & number: 6 Houston Street
city or town: Lexington state: Virginia zip code: 24450
e-mail: gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net
telephone: (540) 464-5315
date: January 21, 2023

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building
Name of Property

Smyth County, Virginia
County and State

Photo Log

Name of Property: Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building

City or Vicinity: Marion County: Smyth State: Virginia

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: January 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 13

South side showing kitchen (center gable), View facing northeast.

2 of 13

South and west sides. View facing northeast.

3 of 13

East and north sides. View facing southwest.

4 of 13

North side showing kitchen (center gable). View facing south.

5 of 13

Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building (second building from left) as seen from the vicinity of the Henderson Building at the center of the hospital campus. View facing east.

6 of 13

West wing sun porch.

7 of 13

Fronts of bedrooms facing onto east wing sun porch.

8 of 13

East wing bedroom interior.

9 of 13

East wing window over basement stair.

10 of 13

East wing front of a ward.

11 of 13

Kitchen.

12 of 13

West wing axial corridor.

Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building
Name of Property

Smyth County, Virginia
County and State

13 of 13

West wing early or original fluorescent light fixtures.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.



Legend

County Boundaries

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Southwestern State Hospital
Tubercular Building
Town of Marion
Smyth County, VA
DHR No. 119-5006-0004

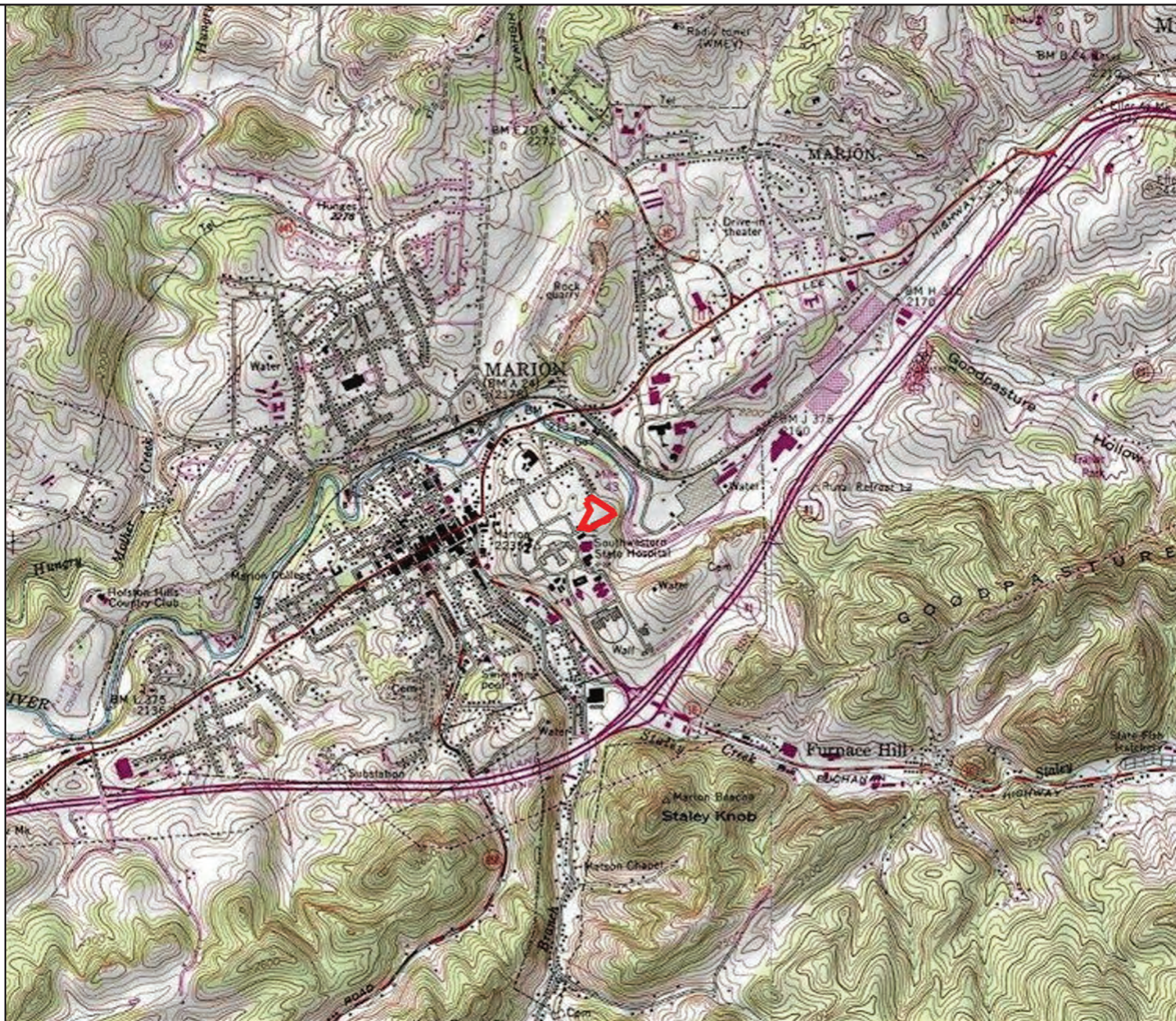
Historic Boundary



Feet



1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet



Title:

Date: 5/18/2023

DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

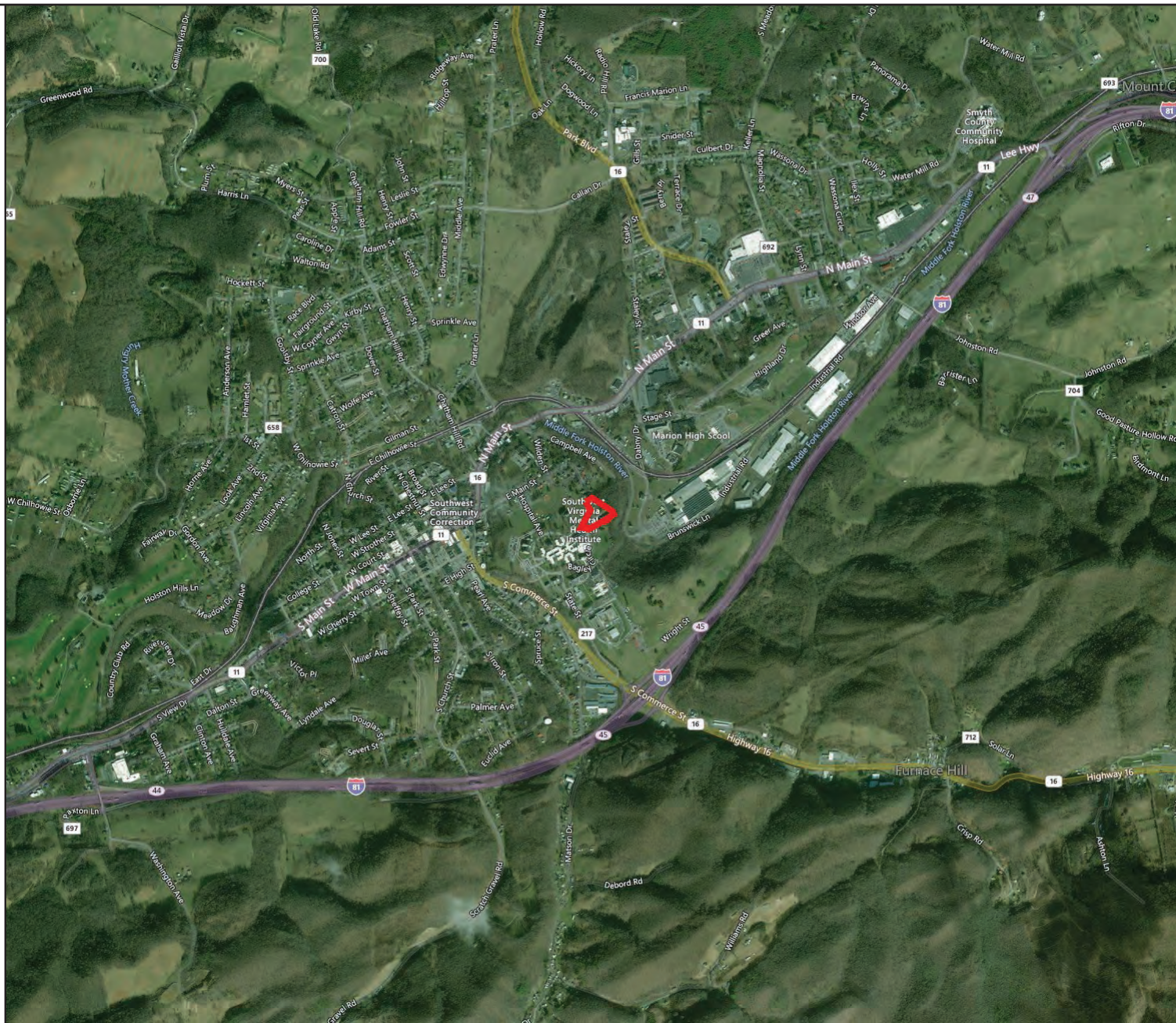
Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.



Legend

County Boundaries

AERIAL VIEW - VICINITY
Southwestern State Hospital
Tubercular Building
Town of Marion
Smyth County, VA
DHR No. 119-5006-0004



Historic Boundary



Feet



1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet

Title:

Date: 5/18/2023

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Legend

 County Boundaries

**Southwestern State Hospital
Tubercular Building
Town of Marion
Smyth County, VA
DHR No. 119-5006-0004**

 **Historic Boundary**



Feet

0 100 200 300 400
1:4,514 / 1"=376 Feet



Title:

Date: 4/28/2023

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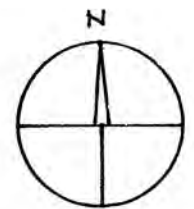
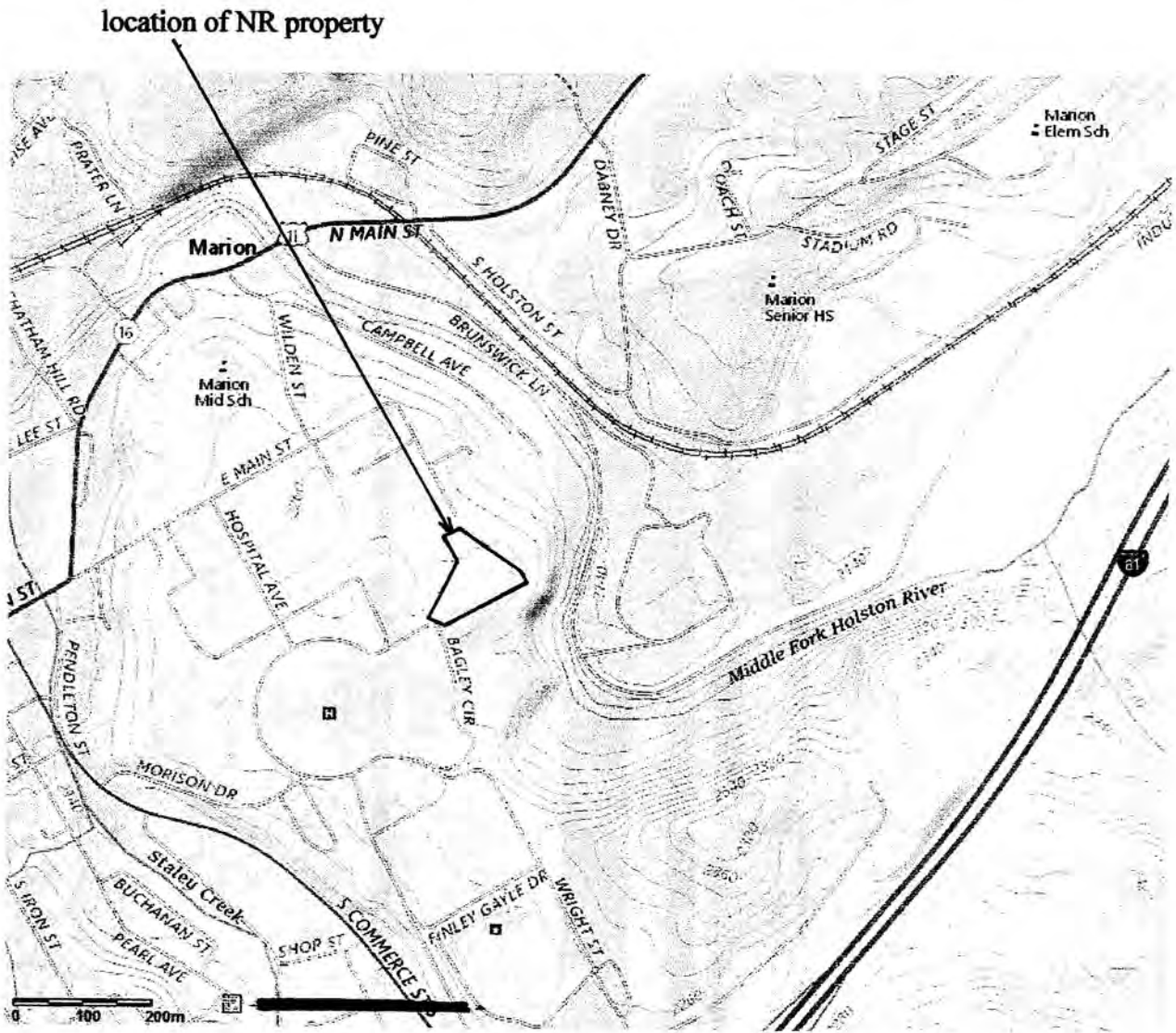
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Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building

281 Bagley Circle, Smyth County, Virginia, DHR ID# 119-5006

National Register of Historic Places Location Map

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates: Latitude: 36.834390 Longitude: -81.509400





Legend

 County Boundaries

AERIAL VIEW - DETAIL
Southwestern State
Hospital Tubercular
Building
Town of Marion
Smyth County, VA
DHR No. 119-5006-0004

 **Historic Boundary**



Feet

0 50 100 150 200

1:2,257 / 1"=188 Feet



Title:

Date: 5/18/2023

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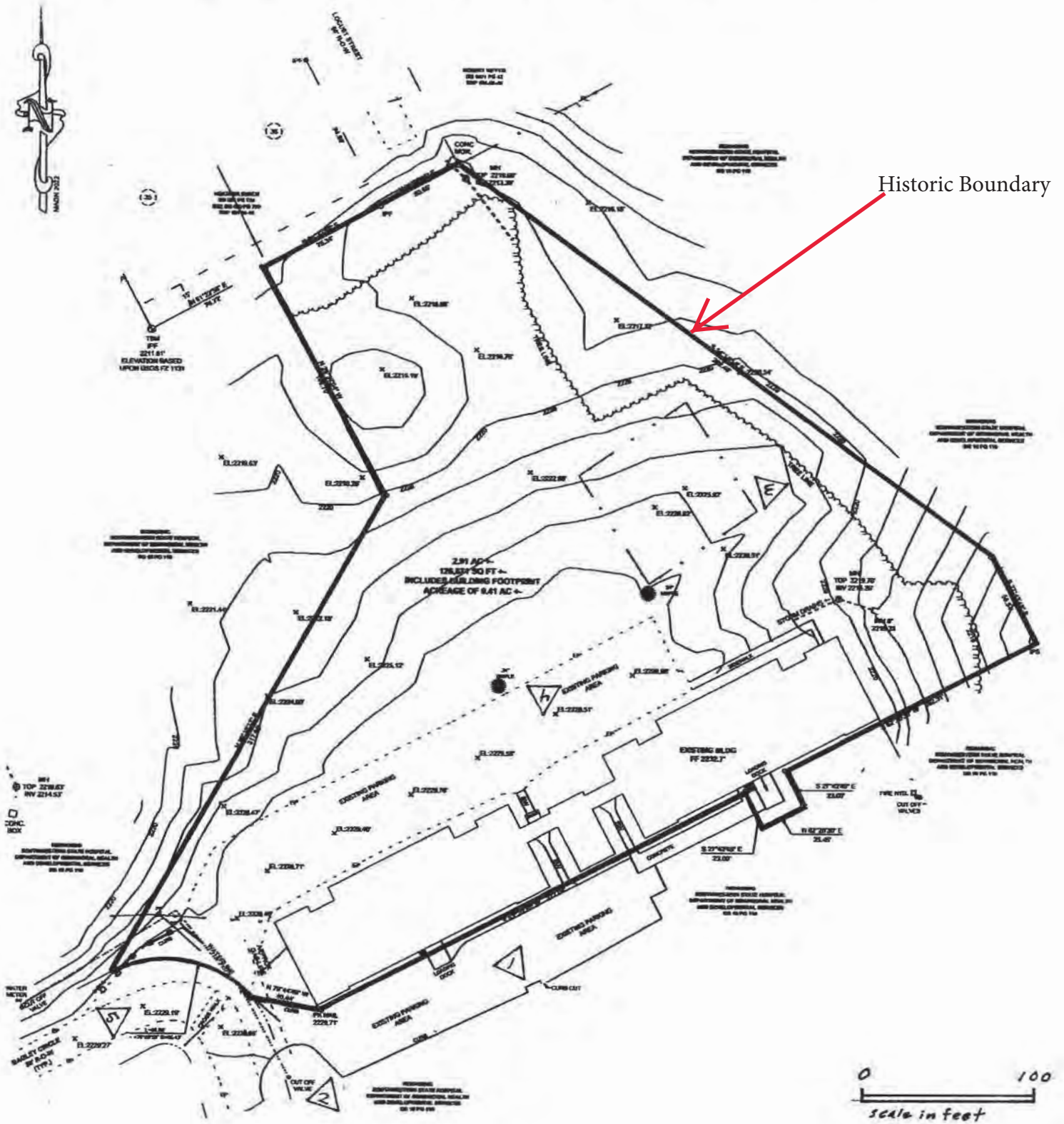
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Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building

281 Bagley Circle, Smyth County, Virginia, DHR ID# 119-5006

National Register of Historic Places Boundary Map, Sketch Map/ Photo Key (exterior views)

Triangular markers indicate number and direction of view of nomination photos and are keyed to the photo log in the report. Map adapted from: Robbins, B. "Plat Showing a Part of the Southwestern State Hospital" (January 3, 2023; January 17, 2023 revision).



TOPOGRAPHIC MAP DETAIL VIEW

Relationship of the Tubercular Building to the Main Body of the Southwestern State Hospital Campus

Southwestern State Hospital Tubercular Building

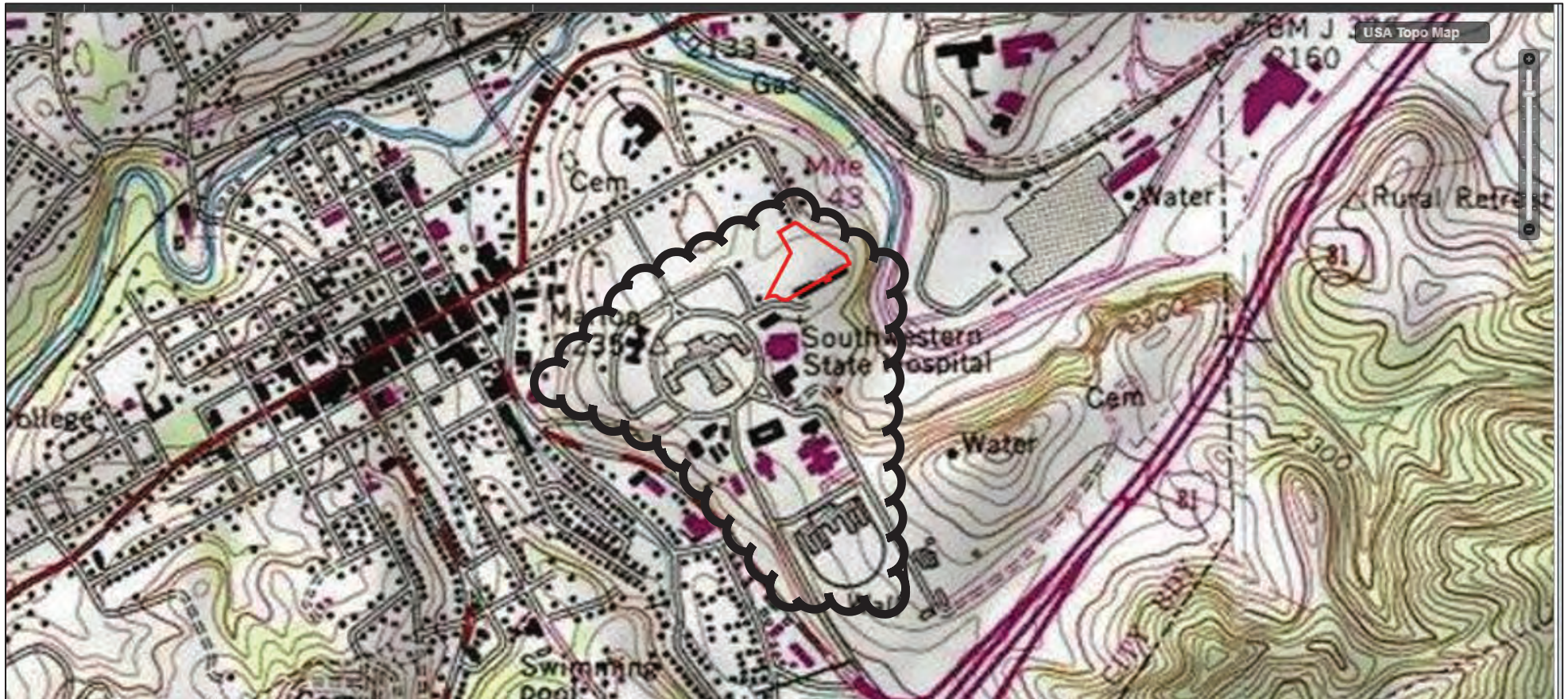
Town of Marion, Smyth County, VA

DHR No. 119-5006-0005

 Historic Boundary



Hospital Campus (approximate)





Legend

County Boundaries

AERIAL VIEW WITH LABELS

Southwestern State Hospital

Tubercular Building

Town of Marion

Smyth County, VA

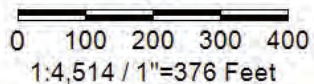
DHR No. 119-5006-0004



Historic Boundary



Feet



Title:

Date: 5/18/2023

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Merry Chris

book

NO SMOKING

The Reading Room

Gloria Vinkley

BRAW











