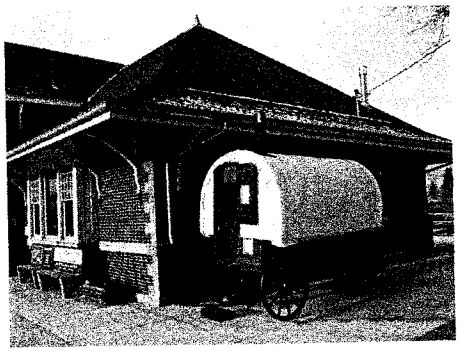
In 1989, the Union Pacific Railroad donated the Depot at 125 S Montana St. Built in 1909, it was a passenger and freight depot for the Oregon Short Line Railroad. The building has been restored through the efforts of Beaverhead County, the Museum Association, numerous grants, donations, and memorials.

The Sheepherder's wagon is still a familiar site in Beaverhead County. This one was donated by the Hansen Livestock Company. This wagon was built in the early 1900's and was used until 1975.



- Open Year-round
- Museum Displays are authentic works
- Historian research

The mission of the Beaverhead County Museum is to collect and preserve the natural, physical, and human history of Beaverhead County Montana, and to ensure that this history is made accessible to all people.

History of the Museum

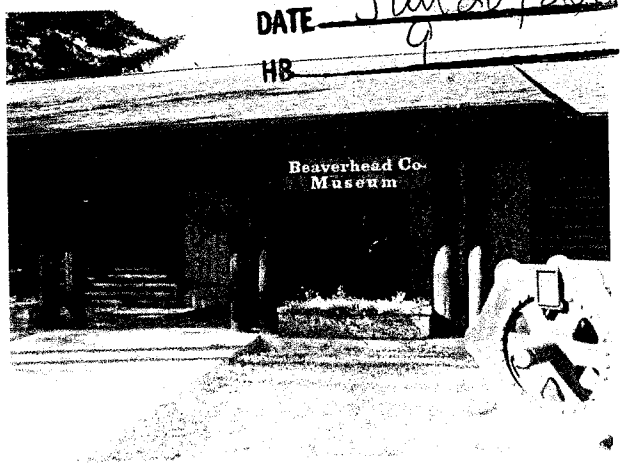
The Museum Complex started with just one building in 1950. It was expanded in 1967 when Western Montana College donated Torrey Lodge which was constructed in the 1930s as a weekend retreat for the Women's Athletic Association of Montana State Normal College. In 2006 the Whitworth farmhouse was donated and moved to be the Research Center.

The Museum complex now includes a restored 1909 Union Pacific Depot, a one-room schoolhouse, a one-room log cabin, a unique outhouse and sheepherder's wagon. The Depot houses an Audubon award winning bird exhibit, a diorama of the Lewis and Clark expedition and an in progress H O train exhibit.

The Depot Theatre, a part of the Depot building, hosts a variety of productions throughout the year.

Beaverhead County Museum

EXHIBIT 6
DATE Jan 20, 201
HB 9

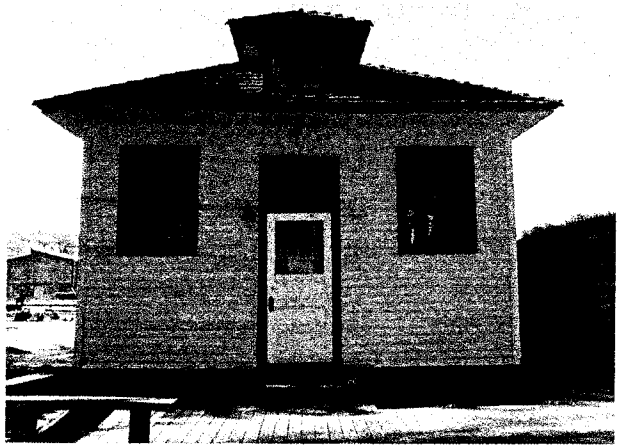


The Hamilton Fountain was built in1907 by Mrs. Jane Hamilton in memory of her husband, Thomas. It was erected so that people, and all sizes of animals, would have a place to get a fresh drink of water.

Keeping Beaverhead County History Alive

15 South Montana Street
Dillon, Montana

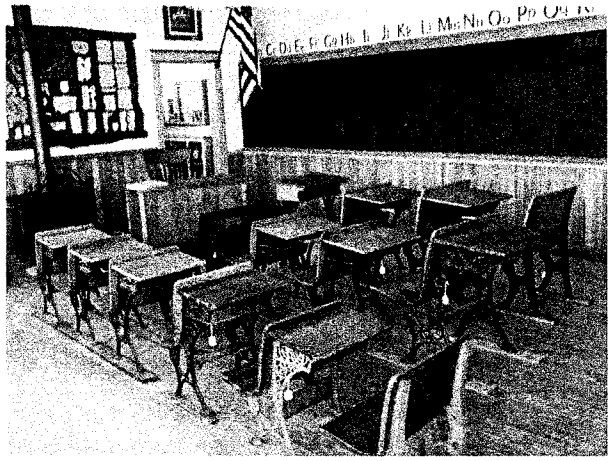
Telephone 406-683-5027
E-Mail bvdhmuseum@bmt.net
www.beaverheadcountymuseum.com
Office hours: Monday - Friday 9am—5pm

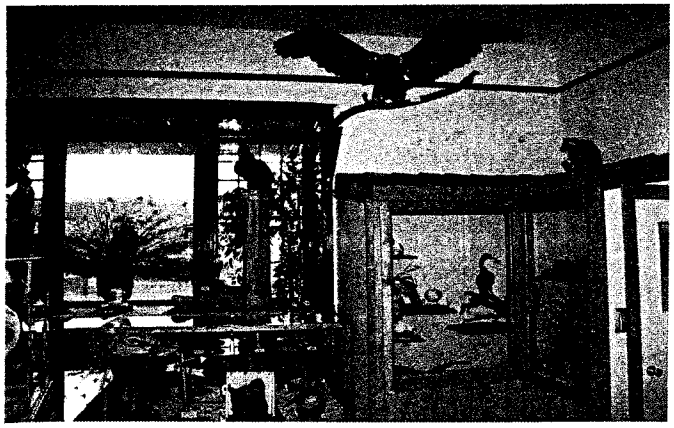


Argenta School House

The Argenta School house was built about 1910. It was donated to the Beaverhead County Museum in 2001. It was moved to the Museum grounds through the efforts of the Museum Association, funded by grants, memorials and generous donations.

School was held continuously for about 100 years in the school district before it was abandoned in 1971.





Birds of Beaverhead County

A local resident, bird enthusiast and taxidermist extraordinaire, Dennis Jones is solely responsible for the collecting, mounting and cataloging of each bird. He designed the display room featuring display cases and special painting, of the room.

Lewis and Clark Diorama

The diorama depicts an event of August 8, 1805, when Lewis wrote that "The Indian woman recognized the point of a high plain to our right." The Beaver's Head is located about 14 miles northeast of Dillon on the Beaverhead River.

Original Museum Building

This building was built in 1950 by the members of the local chapter of the DAR for the sole purpose of housing their collection with the financial assistance of the community . The majority of the artifacts are housed here and in the attached Torrey Lodge. The collection, donated by interested patrons and descendants of original pioneer families, depicts Beaverhead County from prehistory through post World War II.

The library, archives and research materials are available to the public in the newly added Research Center. Staff is available to assist researchers.