OLD PRISON MUSEUMS

Educators Kit

Old Prison Museums Lesson Plans

Second-Class Prisoners: Questions & Answers

1. How many buildings were specifically constructed for women prisoners on the site of the Old Prison Museum Complex?

Three.

2. List the different crimes that female inmates were convicted of.

The list includes murder, manslaughter, grand larceny, assault, burglary, forgery, bigamy, robbery and arson. Plus 'luring a man to his death'.

3. Why was the women's prison moved in 1959?

The area was converted into maximum-security.

4. Name the first female inmate housed at the prison in Deer Lodge?

Felicite Sanchez.

5. What was her crime and sentence?

She was convicted of manslaughter and her sentence was three years.

6. What year did the Montana Legislature pass a budget to fund a temporary women's prison, and where was it located?

During the 1981 legislative session, funding to house 41 women offenders was budgeted. The State chose a vacant nurses' dormitory on the Warm Springs State Hospital campus as a temporary site.

7. List the different locations that women inmates were housed in from 1959 to 1982.

- **1959 to 1963 - Over the warden's garage (behind his house).**
- **1963 to 1966 - The old laundry building.**
- **1966 to 1970 - Basement of the guards' quarters.**
- **1970 to 1977 - At Warms Springs (the site of the State mental hospital) and various out-of-State prisons.**
- **1977 to 1982 - The Missoula and Billings Life Skills Training Center, out-of-State prisons in California, West Virginia and Nebraska, and County jails in Missoula, Powell, Gallatin and Lake counties.**

8. In what city is the current Montana Women's Prison located?
Billings.
9. What programs are offered to women in prison?
There are educational, vocational and parenting program that inmates can take part in. Volunteers staff the parenting program, where women can learn prenatal skills, infant care, adolescent behavior, and more.
10. Name the warden of the Territorial Prison when the first female inmate was sent to Deer Lodge.
Warden Bolkin.