

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER,  
BUILDING 8  
(Nurses Quarters)  
Old State Route 13 West  
Marion  
Williamson County  
Illinois

HABS No. IL-1155-C

HABS  
ILL,  
100-MAR,  
1-C-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
Department of the Interior  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, Colorado 80255

HABS  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
MARION, ILLINOIS VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER  
BUILDING 8  
(Nurses Quarters) HABS No. IL-1155-C

PART 1: PROJECT INFORMATION

Location: Old State Road 13 West (South Main Street at Seventh) on the west edge of Marion, Illinois

Quad: Marion Illinois

UTM: Building 1: 16/327622/4176830  
Building 2: 16/327622/4176790  
Building 8: 16/327762/4177005  
Building 13: 16/327761/4176741

Date of Construction: 1940-1942 (Modified in 1971-1973 & 1978)

Present Owner: United States Veterans Administration  
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Present Use: Veterans Administration Medical Center

Significance: A typical example of Veterans Administration neuro-psychiatric hospital construction using the "Architectural Set" of drawings for a campus complex setting, the Marion, Illinois VA Medical Center is significant because of its rare use of Egyptian Revival architectural decoration.

Historian: Robert A. Ryan  
Dennett, Muessig, Ryan & Associates, Ltd.  
February 1989

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PART 2: HISTORY OF THE MARION, ILLINOIS VETERANS ADMINISTRATION  
MEDICAL CENTER

See HABS No. IL-1155 for general historical  
information.

PART 3: DESCRIPTION OF THE MARION, ILLINOIS VETERANS  
ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, BUILDING 8

Building 8; Nurses Quarters

Building 8 is currently used as the Medical Center's psychiatric hospital. It is located to the northeast (and in front of) the main hospital, and can be reached by a sidewalk from the main parking lot and the hospital building. Originally designed as one element of a four building residential complex, it has a separate access road and parking lot.<sup>33</sup> The Nurses Quarters building is a two-story, flat-roofed, rectangular building (78' x 40') with a large one-story entry porch on its north facade. It has a raised concrete basement, with small top-hinged metal windows, and, like the rest of the complex, has stucco finished walls over brick.

The one-story rectangular porch, located on the north facade, has lotus leaf motif cornice. The center three bays, where the porch is attached, project slightly from the main wall surface. The building has a lotus leaf cornice all around, with an additional panel containing a series of circular ornaments located on center of both the north and south elevations. Although the color scheme differs, these polychrome panels echo those on the wings of the hospital building (see HABS IL-1155C-1 & 2 and HABS IL-1155A-3, 4 & 6). The architraves and cornice of the rear (south) entry door are also decorated with polychrome terra cotta in a unique Egyptian style (see HABS IL-1155C-3). One original incandescent fixture can be found fixed to the south wall to the east of the door.

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<sup>33</sup>The Nurses Quarters were constructed on the south side of an oval parking area. Two "Officers Duplex Quarters", were planned for the east and west sides of the parking loop, with a projected third one situated to the north. See the Plot Plan, Original Construction Drawing 1R (HABS IL-1155-5) for original intent for this area of the grounds. None of these other buildings was constructed.