

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, BUILDING NO.
4
200 East Beach Boulevard
Gulfport
Harrison County
Mississippi

HABS MS-269-L
HABS MS-269-L

HABS
MS-269-L

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

CONTINUED TREATMENT QUIET BUILDING DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, GULFPORT MEDICAL CENTER (Building No. 4)

HABS No. MS-269-L

Location: East Beach Blvd, Gulfport, Harrison County, MS

Significance: The Gulfport Medical Center, originally referred to as Gulfport Veterans Neuropsychiatric Hospital, is among the earliest Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals designed from a modern prototype plan and health care delivery philosophy. Building 4 is part of the first group of five buildings on the site that form the original hospital complex.

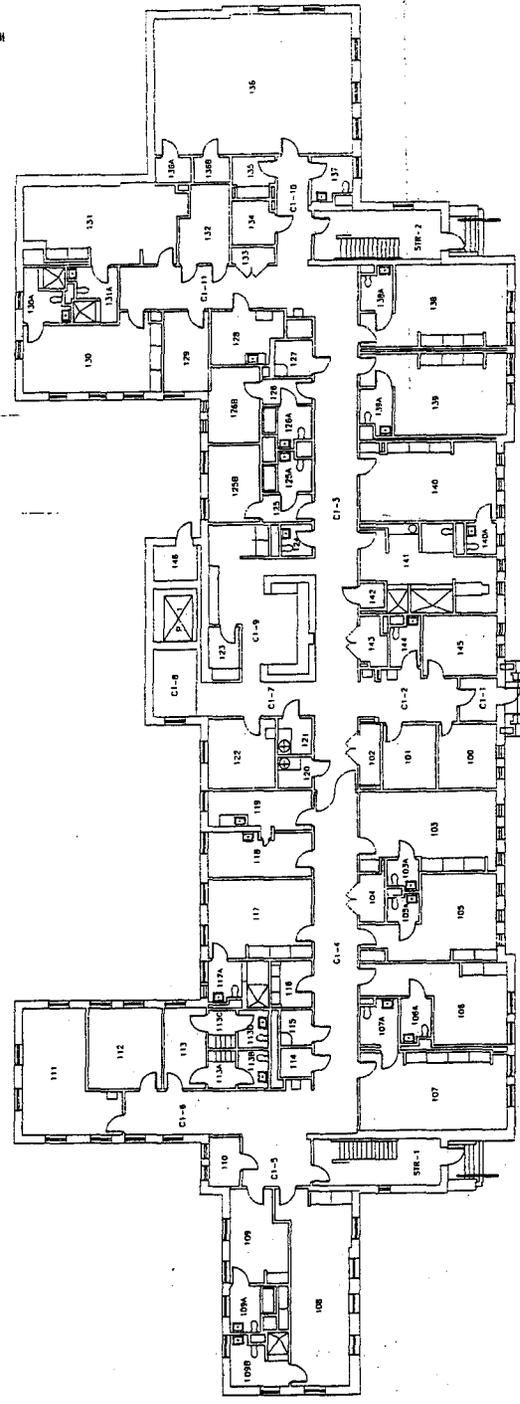
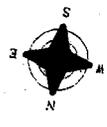
Description: Building 4 faces due east toward the main campus lawn, adjacent to Building 1. A two story building containing 29,908 square feet, its style might be termed neoclassical, best expressed by its symmetry and the giant order pilasters that appear in the primary façade. Constructed of reinforced concrete and hollow block, the original exterior wall finish was stucco, with door and window trim of cast concrete, and tile roof. Building 4 originally contained two large day rooms, and a screened porch on the first floor, and multiple-bed wards and a screened porch on the second floor.

This building was updated several times to meet changes in medical practice, and as a result the original fiber and significance of the interior no longer exist. Exterior walls and trim are now completely covered in Dryvit cladding. Original divided light wood sashes have been replaced with anodized aluminum insulated windows. Open wards and screened porches have been subdivided into 2-4 bed rooms. The interior is currently being gutted for future re-use.

History: Gulfport Buildings 1-5 were designed and constructed by the Department of the Navy in 1923, but was soon thereafter transferred to the Veterans Bureau. In 1921 the newly established Veterans Bureau had initiated a massive construction campaign to produce prototype buildings that would promote the latest practices in medicine and psychiatry. With campus-like sites on the outskirts of towns, the fifty properties derived from this prototype, built in the 1920's, 30's and early 40's, constituted the "Architectural Set." Although built by the Navy, with plans that did not yet conform completely to the new standard designs, Buildings 1-5 represent some of the earliest examples of a coherent design philosophy within the Veterans Bureau. The VA vacated the Gulfport Medical Center in 2005, just prior to Hurricane Katrina, which heavily damaged the site.

Sources: Original construction and subsequent alteration drawings, Gulfport Veterans Administration Medical Center.
Kathleen Schamel, Historic Preservation web pages, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, <http://www.va.gov/facmgt/historic/>

Historian: Joseph E.B. Elliott, contract photographer and historian, 2008.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

ROOM #	DESCRIPTION
100	ROOM, NURSE'S OFFICE
101	ROOM, NURSE'S OFFICE
102	ROOM, NURSE'S OFFICE
103	ROOM, NURSE'S OFFICE
104	ROOM, NURSE'S OFFICE
105	ROOM, NURSE'S OFFICE
106	ROOM, NURSE'S OFFICE
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158	ROOM, NURSE'S OFFICE

Department of
Veterans Affairs

Office of Facilities

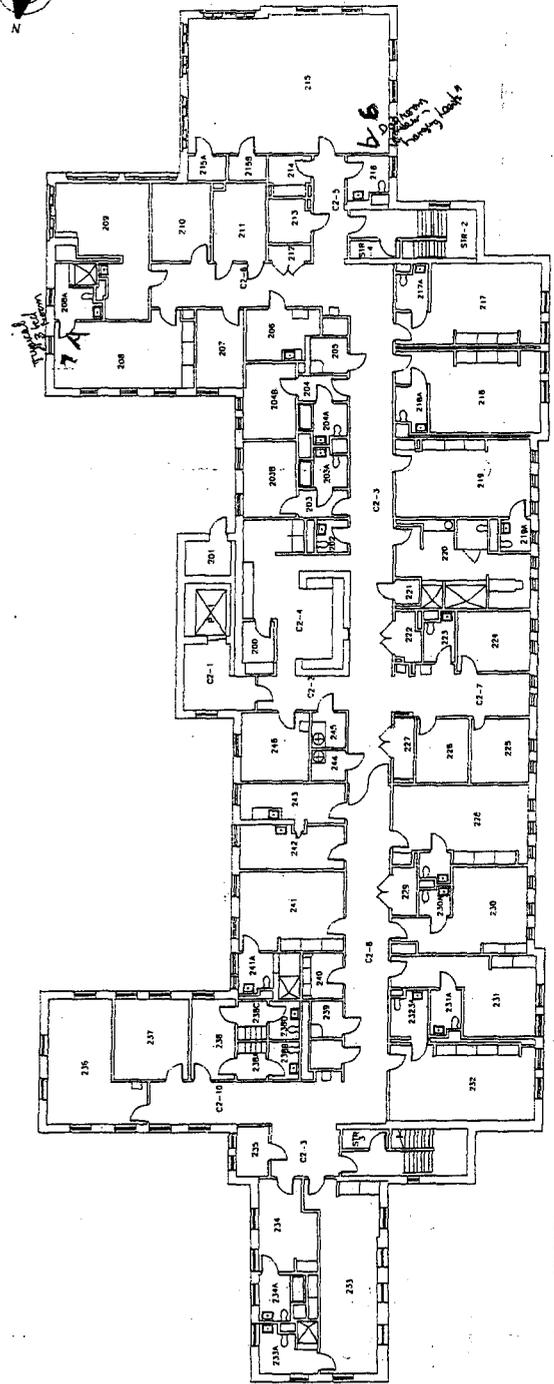
Date: 8/13/78
Sheet No: A-1
Scale: 1/8"=1'-0"

**VAMC GULFPORT
FIRST FLOOR**

Drawing No: C1-1
VAMC GULFPORT, MS

Approved: _____
Project Manager: _____
Architect: _____

1/ACB/04-1 DWG



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

ROOM #	DESCRIPTION	ROOM #	DESCRIPTION
200	MEDICATION PREPARATION	225	FOUR CLOSET OFFICE
201	EQUIPMENT STORAGE	226	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE
202	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	227	THREE BED ROOM
203	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	228	THREE BED ROOM
203A	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	229	THREE BED ROOM
204	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	230	ELECTRICAL CLOSET
205	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	231	TWO BED ROOM
206	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	231A	PRIVATE TOILET
207	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	231B	PRIVATE TOILET
208	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	232	THREE BED ROOM
209	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	233	THREE BED ROOM
210	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	234	THREE BED ROOM
211	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	235	THREE BED ROOM
212	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	236	THREE BED ROOM
213	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	237	THREE BED ROOM
214	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	238	THREE BED ROOM
215	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	239	THREE BED ROOM
215A	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	240	THREE BED ROOM
216	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	241	THREE BED ROOM
217	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	242	THREE BED ROOM
218	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	243	THREE BED ROOM
219	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	244	THREE BED ROOM
220	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	245	THREE BED ROOM
221	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	246	THREE BED ROOM
222	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	247	THREE BED ROOM
223	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	248	THREE BED ROOM
224	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	249	THREE BED ROOM
225	WHEELCHAIR & UTILITY STORAGE	250	THREE BED ROOM

Department of Defense
OFFICE OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Date: 8/17/88
Sheet No: **A-1**

Project No: 04-2
Drawing Title: **VAMC GULFPORT SECOND FLOOR**

Author: [Blank]
Appr: [Blank]

V/1040/GC-2 DWG