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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. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name Montgomery Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District  
Other names/site number Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System - West Campus / NA

### 2. Location

street & number 215 Perry Hill Road NA not for publication  
city of town Montgomery  vicinity  
State Alabama code AL county Montgomery code 101 zip code 36109

### 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

Kathleen Schenck 2/10/12  
Signature of certifying official Date  
FPO VA  
Title State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property     meets     does not meet the National Register criteria.  
Elizabeth M. Brown 1 February 2012  
Signature of commenting official Date  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Al. Historical Commission  
Title State or Federal agency and bureau

### 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
- private

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only **one** box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- building(s)
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
10	8	buildings
0	0	sites
1	6	structures
1	0	objects
12	14	<b>Total</b>

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

United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE / hospital  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE / hospital  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
 (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals /  
 Colonial Revival / Classical Revival  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
 (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Concrete  
 walls: Brick  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 roof: Slate  
 other: Stone  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### **Summary Paragraph**

The Montgomery Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital Historic District, currently known as the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System, West Campus in Montgomery, Alabama, is located at 215 Perry Hill Road. The historic district is found to the east of Perry Hill Road, approximately 3.5 miles east of downtown Montgomery, the seat of government in Montgomery County and the Alabama state capital. The historic district is situated on a rise to the south of Atlanta Highway. The original and continuing mission of the facility is to provide health care to veterans of the United States. The hospital was constructed as a general medical and surgical hospital, and the historic district continues to reflect the characteristics of this particular property sub-type of Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) boundary contains approximately 40 acres with twenty-six resources. Twelve resources are considered as contributing to the historic district, with the majority of these resources classified as buildings. Contributing resources include those that retain integrity and were utilized and/or constructed by the hospital during the historic district's period of significance (1939–1950). Half of the fourteen noncontributing resources are smaller buildings and structures, including maintenance, service, and utility buildings, constructed after 1950 that do not visually impact the larger contributing resources or the spatial configuration of the historic district, and relationships between the contributing resources remain intact. Modifications to the historic district in the last twenty years include substantial additions to the main hospital building (Resource 1, constructed 1940) and the construction of Resource 5, a warehouse (1999). The campus setting of the historic district is located on a rise overlooking Perry Hill Road and contains mature vegetation, curving drives, Colonial Revival and Classical Revival style buildings with brick exteriors creating a cohesive architectural campus.

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### **Narrative Description**

The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is located on a rise within a campus setting. The campus originally consisted of approximately 138 acres but has been reduced over the years to its current size of approximately 50 acres. The NRHP historic district encompasses approximately 40 acres of the existing property. Second Generation Veterans Hospitals originally constructed as general medical and surgical hospitals, such as the Montgomery VA Hospital, were located on smaller tracts of land and closer to communities than other sub-types of veterans hospitals. The reduction in land ownership is a common trait among Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, as land that was determined surplus was removed from the VA's ownership.

The buildings of the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District are arranged in three clusters according to function: the central core group, the residential quarters, and the maintenance/utility group. The residential quarters group is usually distanced from the central core group to allow employees privacy from the workplace.

The buildings located within the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District share similarities with other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals in both original function and architectural style/decoration. The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District has a monumental main building (Resource 1, 1940) that serves as the focal point of the historic district. The monumentality of the building speaks to its prominence within the historic district, both visually and functionally. The buildings constructed within the period of significance exhibit the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural styles that were both locally and nationally popular at the time. A hierarchy of ornamentation was developed within the historic district according to the building's use by the public. The main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) exhibits the most decorative elements of those within the historic district. The dining hall building, such as Resource 4 (1940) at the Montgomery VA Hospital, is customarily located to the rear of the main building.

See Continuation Sheet 7.1.



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Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospitals often were initially constructed without additional patient care buildings aside from the main building. Such is the case at the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District, as no additional buildings or additions to the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) were constructed until after the period of significance. The central core group includes two buildings built during the period of significance: the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) and the dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940). These two buildings are connected by an enclosed corridor (Resource B, 1940). Also serving as a focal point of the historic district is the flag pole (Resource 19, 1940), located directly in front of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) within the front lawn.

The residences located within the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District are very similar, if not identical, to those located at other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. Unlike most Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, there is no manager's residence within the historic district. The manager's residence is always a detached single-family residence. An officers duplex quarters (Resource 8, 1940) is found in the east portion of the historic district at the end of the residential drive. The nurses' quarters (Resource 7, 1940), a dormitory with a rectangular main block, is located along the same residential drive to the west of the officers' duplex quarters (Resource 8, 1940). These two residences are oriented to the north-northwest toward a lawn across the residential drive. This lawn has mature trees, and a parking lot has been created in a portion of the lawn. The attendants' quarters (Resource 6, 1940) is located to the southwest of the nurses' quarters and is oriented to the west. Although the attendants' quarters is not located along the residential drive with the duplex and nurses' quarters, the three residences do form a distinct grouping of buildings. The residences all exhibit Colonial Revival architectural ornamentation. Parking lots have been added to the rear of the three residences, and the Montgomery Veterans Affairs Credit Union building (Resource A, 2001) has also been introduced to this group.

The original maintenance/utility buildings of the historic district are located in the southeast corner of the historic district and south of the residential group. Four of the maintenance/utility buildings dating to the period of significance are oriented to a common drive (Resources 12, 13, 14, and 21, all 1940). A fifth building, the storage building (Resource 20, 1940), is located near the rear elevations of the storehouse and engineering shops building (Resources 12 and 13, both 1940). The original maintenance/utility buildings include the storehouse, engineering shops building, boiler house, storage building, and engineering storage building (Resources 12, 13, 14, 20, and 21, all 1940).

Buildings and additions to buildings dating to the period of significance continued to be constructed within the historic district after the period of significance. Many of these noncontributing buildings were constructed in the maintenance/utility group or to the rear of the central core group. Additional modifications include an addition to the dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940) and substantial additions to the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) dating to 1993. The original main entrance to the hospital from Perry Hill Road remains but has been altered to accommodate a new primary entrance drive located to the south of the original entrance drive. A lane parallel to Perry Hill Road has also been added along the slope extending down from the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) as part of the newer primary entrance drive. It's apparent that this new primary entrance drive was constructed after 1979, since it does not appear on a 1979 map of the facility.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.

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### Current Physical Character of the District

The property boundary contains approximately 50 acres, of which approximately 40 acres are included in the NRHP historic district boundary. Perry Hill Road serves as the western boundary, and fencing encompasses the north, east, and a portion of the southern NRHP historic district boundary. That portion of the property not included in the NRHP boundary is located in the southern and southwestern sections of the property. This long, rectangular portion of the hospital property includes two large buildings that were constructed after the period of significance: the Veterans Affairs Regional Office building (1994) and the regional office file storage building (2004). A large parking lot fills the area between the two buildings. The southern NRHP boundary excludes these two buildings and the parking lot, with the NRHP historic district boundary extending along the southern edge of the drive that loops along the southern portion of the central core of the campus. A parking lot is located to the north and baseball fields to the northeast of the historic district. A residential area is found to the east of the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District, and to the south is a densely wooded area that appears to have some residential development.

The original buildings of the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District were designed by the Construction Service of the VA.<sup>2</sup> The original campus design remained intact throughout the period of significance, with only the addition of Quonset huts and the replacement of the water tower prior to 1959. Other additions to the facility were not constructed until the early 1980s. The facility was originally constructed as a general medical and surgical hospital within the sub-types of Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The buildings reflect the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles utilized at the majority of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals throughout the nation. The facade of Resource 1, the main hospital building (1940), exhibits the most abundant decorative elements of the buildings within the historic district. The residential quarters utilize decorative elements to a lesser degree, while the maintenance and utility buildings display little, if any, ornamentation.

The historic district is arranged into three clusters of buildings grouped by original function, with areas to the east, north, and west within the historic district remaining in lawns. Mature trees are found in the lawn in front of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) and within the residential and maintenance/utility groups. The topography slopes to the south and west, with the central group of buildings situated on the highest point within the historic district. The central group of resources is composed of the main building (Resource 1, 1940), the dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940), the flag pole (Resource 19, 1940), and a Quonset hut utilized for storage (Resource T-25, 1956). The main hospital building and the dining hall building (Resources 1 and 4, both 1940) are connected by a corridor (Resource B, 1940) exhibiting a brick exterior and windows. More recent buildings, usually smaller in scale than the original buildings, are also located within the central core group. These structures include cooling towers (Resources 45, 1983; 46, 1983; and 48, 1992), a warehouse (Resource 5, 1999), a warehouse for prosthetics (Resource 40, 1983), and an incinerator (Resource 44, 1986). The main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) has substantial additions that were constructed to the east and west of the building in 1993. The main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) is oriented to the north rather than to the west to Perry Hill Road. Even though the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) is not oriented to the adjacent road, the building with its location on the rise continues to dominate the landscape of the historic district.

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<sup>2</sup> United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.

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The second group of buildings associated by function is the residential quarters, located to the east/southeast of the central core group. The quarters group is comprised of the attendants' quarters, nurses' quarters, and an officers' duplex (Resources 6, 7, and 8, all 1940). Two of the quarters, the nurses' and officers' duplex quarters (Resources 7 and 8, both 1940), are located along a lane with a loop at the terminus, while the attendants' quarters (Resource 6) is oriented to the drive that encompasses the central core of the historic district. Resource T-35 (1956) is a Quonset hut that has been converted to a garage for the residences. Resource T-35 (1956) is located to the south of the officers' duplex quarters (Resource 8, 1940). The credit union building (Resource A) was constructed in 2001 and is situated within the residential group to the north of the attendants' quarters (Resource 6, 1940). Mature vegetation, including trees and shrubbery, and the orientation of the nurses' and officers' duplex quarters (Resources 7 and 8, both 1940) assist in obscuring the Montgomery Veterans Affairs Credit Union building (Resource A, 2001) and the Quonset hut garage (Resource T-35, 1956) from the residential group. Resource 6, the attendants' quarters (Resource 1940), also has mature vegetation surrounding the building, but it is clearly visible from the central core group of the historic district. Normally the quarters of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals were situated to enable employees to easily walk to work but were distanced from the medical buildings to provide a more private setting.

The third group of buildings is comprised of the maintenance and utility buildings supporting the facility. The majority of the maintenance/utility buildings are situated in the southeastern portion of the historic district. The original buildings of this group are oriented to one another along a common drive, including the storehouse, engineering shops building, and the boiler house (Resources 12, 13, and 14, all 1940). The storage building and engineering storage building (Resources 20 and 21, both 1940) are closely associated with this initial group of maintenance/utility buildings. Later buildings constructed to the east and northeast of the original maintenance/utility buildings include Quonset huts, such as Resources T-27 and T-28 (both 1956). The water tower (Resource 16), constructed in 1958, is also located within the maintenance/utility group.

Modifications to the landscape have taken place within the historic district. Resources that are no longer extant include the gate and pump house that was adjacent to Perry Hill Road and the original main entrance to the historic district, and the incinerator, located in the maintenance/utilities group. The original main entrance at Perry Hill Road and the northwest corner of the historic district has become a secondary entrance, since a new entrance was constructed to the south of the original entrance. This new entrance extends to the east to a new lane that extends to the north to the original main entrance drive and curves to the southeast and east to join the previously existing loop road around the central core of the historic district. The new entrance and drive were constructed after 1979. The original entrance drive has been reconfigured so that the drive traverses the edge of the northern property line to an enlarged parking lot. Portions of the original entrance drive remain intact directly to the front of Resource 1, the main hospital building (1940), and where the drive extends to the northwest to Perry Hill Road. Parking lots have been enlarged to the south of the residential group, northeast of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940), and east of the warehouse (Resource 5, 1999) in the central core group of buildings.



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Individual Resource Inventory

The numerical designations, dates of construction, and information concerning the historic and current use of the following resources were provided by the facility's Engineering Department.<sup>3</sup> The numerical designations of the resources were assigned at the time of their construction by the VA. The letter and numerical designation for resources, such as Resource T-25 (storage Quonset hut, 1956), was assigned by the VA, with the letter "T" usually denoting a building or structure that was originally considered temporary rather than a permanent building. The letter designations were provided by the surveyors for resources without construction dates or numerical labels. All resources that were present during the period of significance and that retain integrity are considered contributing resources.

Minor resources that are not substantial in size and scale were not included in the resource count. Resources that were not designated in the resource count include underground structures, electric transformers, prefabricated storage buildings, and metal storage tanks.

The period of significance and assessment of contributing and noncontributing resources for this nomination are based on the historic district's significance within the historic contexts developed in the United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). Resources constructed after 1950, and thus considered noncontributing within this nomination, may possess significance under themes not fully developed as part of the MPDF. Resources located within the medical center campus may be eligible or contributing for other associations or contexts under National Register Criteria A–D, or recent buildings/structures may be eligible under Criteria Consideration G, for resources of exceptional importance that are less than 50 years of age.

Resource #	Date of Construction	Contributing (C)/ Noncontributing (N/C)	Historic or Current Use
1	1940	C	Main Hospital Building
4	1940	C	Dining Hall Building
5	1999	NC	Warehouse
6	1940	C	Attendants' Quarters
7	1940	C	Nurses' Quarters
8	1940	C	Officers' Duplex Quarters
12	1940	C	Storehouse
13	1940	C	Engineering Shops Building
14	1940	C	Boiler House
16	1958	NC	Water Tower
19	1940	C	Flag pole
20	1940	C	Storage Building
21	1940	C	Engineering Storage Building
40	1983	NC	Prosthetics Warehouse
41	1983	NC	Covered Patio
44	1986	NC	Incinerator Building
45	1983	NC	Cooling Tower

<sup>3</sup> United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.

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46	1983	NC	Cooling Tower
48	1992	NC	Cooling Tower
T-25	1956	NC	Storage Quonset Hut
T-27	1956	NC	Paint Shop Quonset Hut
T-28	1956	NC	Engineering Storage Quonset Hut
T-35	1956	NC	Garage Quonset Hut
T-39	1956	NC	Equipment Shed
A	2001	NC	Montgomery Veterans Affairs Credit Union Building
B	1940	C	Connector between Resources 1 and 4

**Resource 1. Main Hospital Building. 1940. Contributing building.**

The main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940), oriented to the north, is located in the central core group of buildings. The building is designed in the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles that characterize the majority of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. At general medical and surgical hospitals, such as the Montgomery VA Hospital, the main building served many functions. These multi-functional buildings could house administration and clinical offices, patient wards, therapy services, and surgical facilities.

The main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) is a large four-story, thirteen-bay, H-shape building on a raised basement with substantial additions to the east and west elevations. The original block of the building has four-story, gable-roof return wings on raised basements extending from both the facade and rear elevations. A wing addition is located on the west elevation of the building attached by a modern connector, and an additional connector on the east elevation of the building connects to another addition, with both additions dating to 1993. The original main pedestrian entry is centered on the first story within a five-bay, flat-roof projection extending from a five-story, five-bay, gable-roof, central entry pavilion featuring parapeted gables. The recessed, arched, double-leaf entry is filled with original doors and a fanlight with a decorative grill. The projecting, flat-roof entry section is constructed of banded stone and exhibits decorative stone entry and window surrounds, pilasters, a broken pediment containing an eagle, and a stone balustrade on the flat roof. The central entry is accessed by stone steps with concrete or stone outer railings featuring a decorative cap. Metal railings are found on the interior portions of the stairway. The central projecting pavilion of the main block features different window surrounds for the central three bays on each story of the building: on the second story are stone surrounds with keystones; on the third story are stone surrounds with bracketed sills below and broken pediments with finials above; the fourth story windows exhibit stone surrounds with keystones and decorative Greek ears; and on the fifth story are bracketed sills, stone surrounds, and blind arches containing decorative panels. The fifth story is located above a concrete or stone stringcourse that follows the cornice line of the main building and also features a large rectangular vent in the center flanked by two small, narrow windows. Within the pediment of the central pavilion is a blind medallion with keystones flanked by decorative stone swags. The main block of the building features a concrete or stone cornice and belt-course and eight-over-eight snap-in grid replacement windows with brick jack arches and keystones. Basement windows are visible throughout. Semi-circular arched dormers are located on the roof slopes on all elevations of the building. Some of the dormers feature four-over-four snap-in grid replacement windows while others have been filled with vents. The facade elevations of the facade return wings contain stone window surrounds on the first story with a cornice above the window, stone jack arches with keystones on the second and third story



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windows, and stone surrounds with keystones and bracketed sills on the fourth story. The central window on the fourth story features a heavier surround as well as a broken pediment with a finial. The pediment of each facade return wing contains a bull's-eye with keystones filled with vents. Five course common bond brick and brick quoins are also featured on the main block of Resource 1, the main hospital building. The rear elevation and rear return wings of the main block have similar details as the facade elevation and the facade's return wings. The rear elevation contains a similar, slightly projecting center pavilion to the one found on the facade elevation; however, on the rear of the building a six-story, flat-roof extension is attached to the west elevation of the central pavilion. The central rear wing continues as a five-story, flat-roof section. A six-and-one-half-story, flat-roof, narrow addition is positioned in the corner between the six-story extension and the main block of the building. This narrow addition appears to date to after 1979. The rear central extension and the tall, narrow addition exhibit similar features, including a concrete or stone stringcourse and beltcourse, brick jack arches with keystones, and blind arches above the uppermost windows on the five-story extension. All of the bays on the six-and-one-half-story addition have been enclosed with brick. The basement is fully exposed between the west rear return wing and the rear central wing/projection. A connector (Resource B, 1940) leading to the dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940) is attached to the rear of the central five-story wing. Several additional pedestrian entry bays are located around the building.

On the west end of the main block is a full-height, flat-roof, wing addition constructed in 1993 and connected to the main block by a flat-roof connector. The north and south elevations of the wing contain towers constructed with low pyramidal roofs constructed in similar materials to mimic the original building. They feature a raised, banded concrete or stone basement, five course common bond brick, brick quoins, semi-circular dormers with vents, concrete or stone window sills, lintels, and surrounds, some of which feature decorative Greek ear detailing. The windows contain primarily nine-light snap-in grid sashes, some of which are filled with vents or are designed to be filled with brick to continue the fenestration pattern. The flat-roof connector is clad in brushed metal panels and features three bays per floor with single-light windows. The connector also exhibits concrete courses between each level and a single-leaf pedestrian entry with metal door on the basement level. The west elevation of the addition features a full-height, flat-roof central projecting entry pavilion constructed of brick with similar styling as the corner towers. It features a recessed entry with sliding-glass doors. A single-story, flat-roof arcade supported by square concrete columns spans nearly the width of the west side elevation. Between the central entry pavilion and the corner towers are the same brushed metal panels as are used for the connector to the original west return wing.

A larger addition with detailing similar to the western addition is located to the east of the east return wing of the original block of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940). This addition was constructed in 1993, at the same time as the west addition to Resource 1. The east addition extends from the east elevation of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) and is connected by a flat-roof, brushed metal-panel clad connector nearly identical to the connector to the west addition. The east addition, with a larger footprint than the west addition, is clad in metal panels and set on a raised stone or concrete foundation. The north (facade) elevation features a two-story stone or concrete projecting entry pavilion with a double-leaf pedestrian entry. The entry is sheltered by a flat-roof covered walkway. To the front of the walkway is a slightly taller, pyramidal-roof, concrete canopy. The canopy is supported by square concrete columns. At the northwest and northeast corners of the addition, as well as in the central portion of it, are pyramidal roof towers constructed with similar characteristics to the original block of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940). These towers are similar to the towers found on the west addition. The east elevation of the addition resembles the brushed metal-clad portion on the facade elevation, including the connectors to the original block. The east elevation recesses

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back several times behind a single-story concrete or stone portion, making up the majority of the east elevation's primary wall plane. A pyramidal-roof, concrete canopy similar to the one on the facade of the east addition shelters the east entry bay. The entry contains paired metal and glass pedestrian doors. The rear elevation of the eastern addition exhibits similar features as the east and north elevations of the addition. Several pedestrian entries and a concrete loading dock are located on the rear. A number of vents are found along the rear elevation of the addition.

**Resource 4. Dining Hall Building. 1940. Contributing building.**

The dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940) oriented toward the north, is located within the central core group of buildings directly south of Resource 1, the main hospital building (1940). Originally housing the kitchen and dining hall functions, Resource 4 (1940) currently houses the kitchen operations of the facility. The dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940) is a tall, single-story, five-bay building on a raised basement oriented to the north. The building is made up of three blocks connected by hyphens. The two blocks at the north and south ends of the building are side-gable blocks with three arched windows on the east and west elevations, and bull's-eye vents are found in the apex of the gables. The central block features a gable-roof with gabled parapet walls exhibiting false chimneys. A two-story, flat-roof, enclosed connector (Resource B, 1940) attaches to the east portion of Resource 4's facade and connects the building to the rear of Resource 1, the main hospital building (1940). The west portion of the facade's upper story features arched windows. The lower portion of the facade is covered by a shed-roof brick walkway. Windows with twelve-over-twelve snap-in grid replacement sashes are found on the north, south, and west elevations, and six-over-six snap-in grid windows are found on the basement level. Additional features found on all elevations include five-course common bond brick, concrete or stone on the raised basement level, a concrete or stone water table and cornice, concrete or stone sills, brick quoins, brick arches with keystones over the north and south elevation windows, jack arches with keystones on the west elevation of the central block, and stone or concrete arches with keystones on the east and west elevations of the side-gable roof blocks.

The rear elevation contains a single-leaf entry with a metal door accessible via a metal staircase. Three additional double-leaf entries with metal doors are located on the basement level of the rear elevation. The entry on the first story and the only entry in the basement not sheltered by the metal staircase are both found beneath flat-roof metal awnings. Several single-story, flat-roof additions are located on the east elevation of the dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940). These additions contain windows with six-over-six snap-in grid sashes and exhibit five-course common bond brick, a metal cornice, and a concrete water table. Several of the openings on the additions have been enclosed with vents. A number of additional pedestrian and vehicular entries are also located within these eastern additions.

**Resource 5. Warehouse. 1999. Noncontributing building.**

The warehouse (Resource 5, 1999) is located centrally within the historic district, south of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940), the main hospital building. This warehouse is a gable-oriented metal building set on a poured concrete foundation. A single pedestrian entry is located on the east elevation. On the same elevation is a concrete loading dock sheltered by a flat-roof metal awning supported by metal posts. A vehicular entry with a metal overhead door is located on the building above the loading dock. The building is clad in metal panels.

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**Resource 6. Attendants' Quarters. 1940. Contributing building.**

The attendants' quarters (Resource 6, 1940), oriented to the west, is located east of the central core group of buildings within the residential group of buildings. The attendants' quarters currently contains administration offices. The attendants' quarters (Resource 6, 1940) is a two-and-one-half-story, seven-bay (w/w/w/d/w/w/w), side-gable building featuring a full-height elevator enclosure on the rear elevation. The building's massing and decorative elements are similar to resources originally serving as nurses'/attendants' quarters at other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospital campuses. The facade elevation contains a central main entry with a replacement door, five-light transom, and wood door surround. The entry is located beneath a flat-roof porch with paired Tuscan columns, Tuscan pilasters, a wide cornice, dentil molding, and a balustrade on the roof. Three hip-roof dormers with vinyl or weatherboard siding are located on the facade roof slope. Colonial Revival-style characteristics exhibited by Resource 6 include symmetrical facade fenestration; denticulated wood cornice; brick quoins; water table; cornice returns; and brick jack arches. The windows throughout the building contain six-over-six snap-in grid replacement sashes, brick jack arches, and concrete or terra cotta sills. Both the north and south elevations feature three bay openings on the first and second stories and an arched window in the gable. On the north elevation, the central bay on the second level contains a pedestrian entry with a metal door. It is accessible via a metal fire-escape staircase. The rear of the building exhibits similar features to the facade elevation. The central entry is located within a pedimented wood door surround; however, the pediment has been partially covered by a flat-roof porch that extends out over both the central entry and the elevator entry area. The porch is supported by square columns with poured concrete footers. The three hip-roof dormers on the rear slope of the roof are similar to those on the facade elevation, except the windows have all been totally or partially enclosed to accommodate vents. An additional pedestrian entry is located in the basement level of the rear elevation. The entry contains a metal replacement door. The roof of the attendants' quarters (Resource 6, 1940) is sheathed in asphalt shingles, and the exterior features four-course common bond brick.

**Resource 7. Nurses' Quarters. 1940. Contributing building.**

Resource 7, oriented to the north, is located in the eastern portion of the historic district. Originally serving as the nurses' quarters, the building is included within the residential group. The nurses' quarters (Resource 7, 1940) currently contains engineering and business offices. Resource 7 is a two-story, ten-bay (w/w/w/w/w/d/d/w/w/w), hip-roof building with slightly projecting gable-roof extensions on both the facade and rear elevations and a mechanical enclosure on the rear. The facade elevation contains a central main entry filled with a paneled replacement door, leaded glass sidelights, and a fanlight. The entry is located beneath a flat-roof porch with Tuscan columns, pilasters, a wide cornice, and dentil molding. Three hip-roof dormers with vinyl or weatherboard siding are located on the facade roof slope. Colonial Revival characteristics exhibited by the nurses quarters include symmetrical facade fenestration; denticulated wood cornice; brick quoins; cornice returns; and brick jack arches. The building also features a stone water table, and the open pediments in all four gable-roof projections contain round vents with keystones. The windows throughout the building contain six-over-six snap-in grid replacement sashes, brick jack arches, and concrete or stone sills. Both the side elevations feature three bays on the first and second stories. On both ends the central bay contains a pedestrian entry with a replacement door. They are sheltered by flat-roof porches with denticulated cornices and supported by Tuscan columns and pilasters. The east elevation also features an additional pedestrian entry in the central bay on the second story. It is accessible via a metal staircase that passes through a cut-away portion of the flat-roof porch. The second story entry contains a metal replacement door and is sheltered



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by a metal flat-roof supported by metal supports. The rear of the building exhibits similar features to the facade elevation. The central entry, containing a similar door as the facade entry and a five-light transom, is located within a pedimented wood door surround with a denticulated cornice. The three hip-roof dormers on the rear slope of the roof are similar to those on the facade elevation. An elevator door is located on the rear wall to the east of the central entry. It is located beneath the overhang of the mechanical enclosure. Two additional pedestrian entries with metal doors are located in the basement level of the rear elevation. The building's exterior is clad in four-course common bond brick beneath a roof sheathed in asphalt shingles.

**Resource 8. Officers' Duplex Quarters. 1940. Contributing building.**

Resource 8, oriented to the northwest, is located in the eastern portion of the historic district in the residential group of buildings. Originally serving as officers' duplex quarters, this building currently contains business offices for the medical center. The officers' duplex quarters (Resource 8, 1940) is a two-story, six-bay (w/d/w/w/d/w), side-gable duplex quarters with a slightly projecting hip-roof extension to the rear and a single-story, flat-roof enclosed porch on each gable end. The facade contains two pedestrian entries with door surrounds filled with replacement doors, leaded glass sidelights, and fanlights. The surrounds feature wood panel reveals, open pediments, and dentil molding. The front porches and steps are constructed of brick with metal railings. Four hip-roof dormers clad in vinyl or weatherboard siding and filled with vents are located on the facade roof slope. Colonial Revival style characteristics exhibited by Resource 8 include symmetrical facade fenestration; denticulated wood cornice; wood soffits; cornice returns; and brick jack arches. The windows throughout contain four-over-four and six-over-six snap-in grid replacement sashes, brick jack arches, and stone sills. Both side elevations have two bays and exterior chimneys visible above the single-story flat-roof enclosed porches. The single-story former porches are clad in stretcher bond brick and exhibit soldier course brick above the windows. The rear elevations of the former side porches each contain a single-leaf pedestrian entry with metal door. The porches no longer retain their original wood balustrades along the roofs or their Tuscan columns. The rear of the main block contains two pedestrian entries, each with a replacement door located beneath a shed-roof porch supported by square brick columns and pilasters. The shed-roof porch roofs are sheathed in slate shingles. A centered, hip-roof rear extension has two bays with paired windows sheltered by metal awnings. Three-light replacement basement windows are visible on the building's rear elevation. The exterior has five-course common bond brick and also features a brick water table around the main block of the building. The roof of the officers' duplex quarters (Resource 8, 1940) is sheathed in asphalt shingles.

**Resource 12. Storehouse. 1940. Contributing building.**

The storehouse (Resource 12, 1940) oriented to the south, is located in the southeast portion of the historic district in the maintenance and utility group of buildings. This single-story, eight-bay (w/w/d/w/w/d/w/w), side-gable building is similar to Resource 13, the engineering shops building (1940). The facade elevation contains two vehicular bays with metal overhead doors. These bays are accessible by a poured concrete loading dock spanning nearly the entire width of the facade. The loading dock is sheltered by a flat-roof metal overhang supported by metal posts. The windows on the facade elevation exhibit six-over-six snap-in-grid replacement sash windows with poured concrete sills. A former pedestrian entry has been enclosed with brick. The east elevation contains five windows with sashes similar to those on the facade, while the west end elevation contains only three windows, two of which have been filled with vents. The rear elevation of the storehouse (Resource 12, 1940), partially banked into a hillside, exhibits eight window openings with

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replacement three-over-three-light sashes over concrete sills. The building is clad in five-course common bond brick, features a wood soffit and cornice, and a roof clad in slate shingels. Three ridge ventilators are also visible on the building's roof.

**Resource 13. Engineering Shops Building. 1940. Contributing building.**

The engineering shops building (Resource 13, 1940), oriented to the south, is located in the southeast portion of the historic district in the maintenance and utility group of buildings. This is a single-story, nine-bay (d/d/d/d/d/w/w/d), side-gable building similar in overall features to Resource 12, the storehouse (1940). All nine bays on the facade elevation were originally vehicular bays, though four have since been enclosed with concrete blocks surrounding paired metal pedestrian doors, and two have been enclosed with concrete blocks below ribbons of three windows with six-over-six snap-in grid replacement sashes. The three remaining vehicular bays contain replacement metal overhead doors. Both side elevations exhibit several types of windows and some bays that have been enclosed with brick. The rear elevation, partially below grade, features thirteen windows. A number of the rear windows have various sash types, and a few have been enclosed to accommodate vents and air-conditioning units. The engineering shops building has a five-course common bond brick exterior and is supported by a poured concrete foundation. The roof is sheathed in slate shingles and features three ridge ventilators.

**Resource 14. Boiler House. 1940. Contributing building.**

The boiler house (Resource 14, 1940) oriented to the northeast, is located in the southeast portion of the historic district within the maintenance and utility group of buildings. Resource 14 is a two-story, four-bay (d/ww/w/ww), flat-roof building featuring a single-story section extending from the southeast elevation. The facade elevation contains three large six-light metal replacement windows with vents along the main block. The single-story extension has a pedestrian entry with a glass door and three-light window along the facade. The entry is sheltered by a flat-roof metal porch supported by metal posts. The main block features three vents projecting through the roof and a concrete parapet cap on the outer walls. The northwest elevation contains four windows with multi-light replacement sashes and a single-leaf entry. The rear elevation features a fully exposed basement. Several types of replacement windows are featured on the rear of the boiler house. A double-leaf entry with metal doors is also found on the rear elevation, providing access into the basement of the building. The building, set on a slightly raised poured concrete foundation, has an exterior of five-course common bond brick and features a brick soldier course around the main block just above the windows.

**Resource 16. Water Tower. 1958. Noncontributing structure.**

The water tower, (Resource 16, 1958) is located in the southeast portion of the historic district within the maintenance and utility group of buildings. This structure has four supports with both horizontal bracing and vertical x-bracing for additional stability. The metal supports rest on poured concrete footers. The tank at the apex of the tower has a metal, conical roof. A metal pedestrian walkway with a metal railing is located along the lower portion of the tank.

**Resource 19. Flag pole. 1940. Contributing object.**

The flag pole (Resource 19, 1940) is located in front of Resource 1, the main hospital building (1940), within the central core group of buildings. It is centered within an area of highly manicured shrubbery. The octagon-shaped base of the flag pole, similar in size and construction to those at other Period II Second

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Generation Veterans Hospitals, is constructed of poured concrete. A short concrete pathway extends from the driveway in front of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) to the flag pole (1940).

**Resource 20. Storage Building. 1940. Contributing building.**

This storage building (Resource 20, 1940), currently used as the lock shop, is located centrally within the maintenance and utility group of buildings in the southeast portion of the historic district. It is a small, shed-roof, one-story brick building set on a poured concrete foundation. The building also features a wood soffit and wood fascia boards. The facade, oriented to the southwest, contains a centered pedestrian entry with a metal door. A window located to one side of the door has been enclosed with brick. The rear and northwest elevations contain one window with metal sashes and a poured concrete sill. Two additional window openings flanking the existing window on the rear have been enclosed with brick. The exterior features five-course common bond brick, and the roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles.

**Resource 21. Engineering Storage Building. 1940. Contributing building.**

This engineering storage building (Resource 21, 1940) oriented toward the northeast, is located in the maintenance and utility group of buildings. It is a small, single-story, side-gable building. The facade and rear elevations contain six-light wood casement windows with concrete sills. A single-leaf entry with a metal replacement door is also located on the building's facade elevation. Resource 21, the engineering storage building (1940), was built with a modified five-course common bond brick pattern set on a poured concrete foundation. It features a wood soffit and fascia boards and a roof clad in asphalt shingles.

**Resource 40. Prosthetics Warehouse. 1983. Noncontributing building.**

The prosthetics warehouse (Resource 40, 1983), oriented to the north, is located within the central core group of buildings. The prosthetics warehouse is situated west of Resource 4, the dining hall building (1940), and partially wraps around the southwest corner of Resource T-25, a storage Quonset hut (1956). The prosthetics warehouse is a single-story, flat-roof, irregularly massed building. The facade elevation features an off-centered entry with sliding glass doors located within a banded brick and concrete vestibule enclosed with tall, narrow windows. The vestibule also features a poured concrete gabled parapet. The facade (north) and west elevations contain recessed windows set within soldier brick window surrounds. Brick quoins are found on the northwest and southwest corners of the building. The south elevation features a vehicular bay opening that has been partially enclosed and contains a recessed pedestrian entry with metal door. The southern portion of the east elevation contains an additional pedestrian entry with metal doors. A poured concrete ramp connects a concrete loading dock to the entry. A flat-roof metal porch shelters both the loading dock and ramp. The building features a five-course common bond brick exterior.

**Resource 41. Covered Patio. 1983. Noncontributing structure.**

The covered patio (Resource 41, 1983) is located in the northwest portion of the historic district, north of the central core group of buildings. It is situated within a grassy area that also contains several small monuments and benches. Resource 41, the covered patio, is a small, hip-roof shelter open on all four sides. The floor of the structure is comprised of a poured concrete deck. The enclosed storage units on the south elevation feature banded brick above raised concrete foundations. Both storage enclosures contain double-leaf entries on the inside walls. The roof, clad in asphalt shingles, features a wide cornice and is supported by Tuscan columns on three sides and two enclosed brick storage units on the south elevation.



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**Resource 44. Incinerator Building. 1986. *Noncontributing building.***

The incinerator building (Resource 44, 1986) is located near the central core group of buildings slightly southwest of Resource 5, the warehouse (1999). The incinerator is a small, flat-roof building with an exterior of five-course common bond brick. The building features a metal cornice and brick quoins. A single-leaf entry with a metal door is located on the west elevation, and a secondary entry with paired metal doors is located on the east elevation. Several vents are also visible on the building.

**Resources 45, 46, & 48. Cooling Towers. 1983, 1983, and 1992. *Noncontributing structures.***

The cooling towers (Resources 45 and 46, both 1983; and 48, 1992) are located in a row north of Resource 5, the warehouse (1999), in the central core group of buildings. They are all metal utility structures set on raised concrete piles. They are connected by a walkway that spans across the top of all three cooling towers and is flanked by metal railings.

**Resource T-25. Storage Quonset Hut. 1956. *Noncontributing building.***

The storage Quonset hut (Resource T-25, 1956) is located at the northeast corner of Resource 40, the prosthetics warehouse (1983), in the central core group of buildings. It is a building composed of two corrugated metal Quonset huts connected by a flat-roof central portion. A single-story, flat-roof concrete block addition extends to the west of the Quonset huts, connecting the storage Quonset hut (Resource T-25, 1956) to Resource 40 (the prosthetics warehouse, 1983). An additional flat-roof extension, clad in metal panels, is located on the roof of the concrete block addition. Both feature slightly raised central roofs. The Quonset huts are clad in corrugated metal panels. The facade (north) elevation features plywood cladding recessed within the end of the building. The eastern Quonset hut contains a single-leaf sliding-glass door, while the western Quonset hut contains a single-leaf entry with a metal door with three windows. A third single-leaf pedestrian entry with a metal door is located on the facade of the concrete block addition. The entry is flanked by small metal windows. The western Quonset hut is much longer than the eastern one and features an additional pedestrian entry with a metal door beneath a shed-roof metal awning on its east elevation. A ribbon of ten metal windows beneath corrugated metal awnings is also located on the east elevation.

**Resource T-27. Paint Shop Quonset Hut. 1956. *Noncontributing building.***

The paint shop Quonset hut (Resource T-27, 1956) is located in the southeastern portion of the historic district within the maintenance and utility group of buildings. It is situated adjacent to the water tower (Resource 16, 1958). The paint shop Quonset hut (Resource T-27, 1956) is a corrugated metal Quonset hut set on a concrete block knee-wall with a poured concrete or concrete block knee wall at both end elevations. The north elevation contains a centered, double-leaf entry with five-panel doors, while the south elevation contains paired metal doors with four two-light windows above and one east of the entry. The corresponding window on the other side of the entry has been enclosed. The east elevation features three windows, and the west elevation features four windows. The original fourth window on the east elevation has been enclosed. All of these windows contain six-light sashes beneath shed-roof corrugated metal awnings. Some of these windows have been painted over. The roof of the Quonset hut features a raised central portion extending the length of the building, and a large vent is visible piercing the top of the east elevation near its intersection with the raised roof portion.

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**Resource T-28. Engineering Storage Quonset Hut. 1956. *Noncontributing building.***

The engineering storage Quonset hut (Resource T-28, 1956) is located in the southeast portion of the historic district within the maintenance and utility group of buildings. It is situated directly to the east of Resource T-27, the paint shop Quonset hut (1956). The building is a corrugated metal Quonset hut very similar in features to Resource T-27. Both of the windows flanking the double-leaf entry on the south elevation of the engineering storage Quonset hut (Resource T-28, 1956) have been enclosed, and the windows above the doors on that same elevation feature three eight-light sashes. None of the windows on the side elevations have been enclosed.

**Resource T-35. Garage Quonset Hut. 1956. *Noncontributing building.***

The garage Quonset hut (Resource T-35, 1956) is located in the east portion of the historic district within the residential group of buildings. Resource T-35 is a corrugated metal Quonset hut with an open northwest elevation featuring five vehicular bays. The building is set on a raised concrete block foundation and features metal vertical supports set in poured concrete piers between each vehicular bay, except on the southwest elevation, where the metal extends to grade. A shed-roof carport, with vehicular bays on both the southwest and southeast sides, is found on the building's southeast elevation. The carport extension is clad in corrugated metal and metal panels.

**Resource T-39. Equipment Shed. 1956. *Noncontributing structure.***

The equipment shed (Resource T-39, 1956) is located in the southeastern portion of the historic district within the maintenance and utility group of buildings. The equipment shed (Resource T-39, 1956) is a single-story, shed-roof equipment shed oriented to the southeast. The roof and three elevations are clad in metal panels. The facade is partially enclosed but also features a section that creates a gable-roof form that has two open sides for parking equipment and storage.

**Resource A. Montgomery Veterans Affairs Credit Union Building. 2001. *Noncontributing building.***

The Montgomery Veterans Affairs Credit Union building (Resource A, 2001), oriented to the west, is located in the residential group of buildings. The credit union building (Resource A, 2001) is a single-story, nine-bay, side-gable building featuring a large gable-roof entry porch. The facade's centered double-leaf entry is sheltered by the porch, which is supported by aluminum columns. The windows throughout the building have twelve-light snap-in grid sashes. A drive-through window is featured on the building's south elevation beneath a shed-roof metal awning, and an additional pedestrian entry with a metal door is located on the rear elevation. The building's roof is sheathed in metal.

**Resource B. Connector between Resources 1 and 4. 1940. *Contributing structure.***

Extensive connectors were never constructed within the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District, making the connector between the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) and the dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940) the only example for this historic district. This connecting corridor (Resource B, 1940) is located in the central core group of buildings, connecting Resources 1 and 4. It is a flat-roof, single-story enclosed corridor on a fully raised basement. The connector features a concrete cornice and concrete water table, brick quoins, five-course brick construction, and six-over-six snap-in grid windows with concrete sills. A pedestrian entry with a metal door is located on the basement level of the east elevation. The entry is accessible via a concrete stairway with metal railings and concrete side walls.

**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)

Property is:

- 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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Politics/Government \_\_\_\_\_
- Health/Medicine \_\_\_\_\_
- Architecture \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1939–1950  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

NA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

NA  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

NA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Construction Service, Veterans Administration  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the construction of the facility in 1939 and extends through 1950, the termination date for the period of significance as stated in the United States Second Generation Veterans Hospital Multiple Property Documentation form. The contributing resources of the historic district all date to the period of significance. These buildings and the campus setting relate to the historic district's basic identity as a Period II general medical and surgical hospital sub-type within the Second Generation Veterans Hospital typology. Buildings constructed after 1950 no longer continue the design philosophies developed and utilized by the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

NA



**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is significant as an excellent, intact example of a Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospital. The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) at the state level under Criterion A in the areas of Politics and Government, because of the importance placed on securing the federal facility and its impact on the local community and veterans throughout the state. The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is also eligible under Criterion A at the state level in the areas of Health and Medicine because of the physical evidence the historic district provides concerning health care offered to veterans of the state, primarily veterans of World War I and World War II. This property is also eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the state level, because the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is an excellent example of a Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospital incorporating elements of classical revival architectural styles that were nationally popular in the early to mid-twentieth century. The historic district also exhibits standardized building designs that were incorporated into the campuses of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. Construction on the Montgomery VA Hospital began in 1939, and the facility was initially designated a general medical and surgical hospital serving veterans in southern and central Alabama. The historic district continues to retain characteristics of this sub-type of hospital. The use of nationally popular architectural styles creates a cohesive design for the historic district and its groupings of buildings. The use of revivalist architecture, especially for the main building, reflects the importance of the VA and its mission to provide medical care to the nation's veterans. Revivalist architecture, such as the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles, was utilized for many federal buildings constructed in the first half of the twentieth century to exhibit patriotism through the use of stylistic elements associated with the early history of the United States and to reflect the permanence of the institutions contained within the buildings. The period of significance and assessment of contributing and noncontributing resources for this nomination are based on the historic district's significance within the historic contexts developed in the United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). Resources constructed after 1950, and thus considered noncontributing within this nomination, may possess significance under themes not fully developed as part of the MPDF. Resources located within the medical center campus may be eligible or contributing for other associations or contexts under National Register Criteria A–D, or recent buildings/structures may be eligible under Criteria Consideration G, for resources of exceptional importance that are less than 50 years of age.

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

**Areas of Significance:** Criterion A

Politics and Government

The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of Politics and Government at the state level because the selection of the site of the hospital was partially determined by the political influences of the local community to acquire the federal hospital and its substantial economic contributions to the local and state economy. Local boosters promoted the Montgomery site to accommodate a general medical and surgical hospital for veterans. Local community leaders were instrumental in acquiring the veterans hospital for Montgomery. These influential leaders included members of the hospital committee, whose mission was to acquire the hospital for the city.

See Continuation Sheet, page 8.14.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

See Continuation Sheet, page 8.18.

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The hospital committee included members such as the mayor of Montgomery; a local commissioner, Colonel William P. Screws, who represented the chamber of commerce and veterans groups; Senator Lister Hill; and organizations such as the chamber of commerce and the American Legion.<sup>4</sup> The construction of the hospital provided employment to laborers and skilled craftsmen. The wages and supplies purchased during the construction provided an economic stimulus to the local economy. The hospital opened as a combined center housing both the hospital facilities and the VA regional office, which was moved from Tuscaloosa, Alabama. According to a newspaper article, the regional office "controlled all regional activities of the State of Alabama."<sup>5</sup> After twenty years of service, the Montgomery VA Hospital had served approximately 60,000 veterans. In 1960 the hospital employed a staff of 325 members and had an annual payroll of over \$1.6 million.<sup>6</sup> The active involvement of local business and political leaders promoting the area for the location of a federal veterans general medical and surgical hospital led to the selection of Montgomery as the site for the medical facility, and the hospital continued to serve as an economic engine to the local economy throughout the period of significance.

Health/Medicine

The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of Health and Medicine at the state level because of the role the Montgomery VA Hospital played in the mission of the federal government through the VA to provide quality health care to the nation's veterans, primarily those who served in World War I and World War II. Thousands of veterans from central and southern Alabama received subsidized general medical and surgical care during the period of significance that they may not have received if the federal government had not provided such treatment for them. Upon the selection of the site in Montgomery for the location of the hospital, Dr. B. F. Austin, state commander of the American Legion stated, "There are more than 100 veterans in Alabama who have applied for and are now awaiting hospitalization. Many others need to be in the hospital and will take advantage of space provided in the new facility that has been awarded to Alabama."<sup>7</sup> Veterans hospitals, including the Montgomery VA Hospital, were constructed utilizing the latest in building materials, designs, and equipment to offer up to date facilities to veterans living within Alabama. Operating rooms were placed on the top floor of the main building (Resource 1, 1940) to reduce the noise and number of people with access to the area. Various medical offices and clinics were originally located in the main hospital building. The Montgomery VA Hospital had a capacity of 268 beds in mid-1941.<sup>8</sup> By mid-1945 the hospital's capacity increased to 329 beds.<sup>9</sup> On June 30, 1947, the total capacity of the Montgomery VA Hospital was 300 beds. At that time 278 patients had been admitted to the hospital, including: 230 general medical and surgical patients; forty-three neuropsychiatric patients; and five

<sup>4</sup> "Gratification Over Victory Voiced by Leaders," *Alabama-Montgomery Journal*, April 29, 1938, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>5</sup> "Montgomery VA Hospital Serves 60,000 in 20 Years," *Montgomery Advertiser*, July 21, 1960, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> "Gratification Over Victory Voiced by Leaders," *Alabama-Montgomery Journal*, April 29, 1938, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>8</sup> *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1940* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1941): 108.

<sup>9</sup> *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1945* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1946): 126.

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tuberculosis patients.<sup>10</sup> By 1969 the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) included an emphysema clinic and two doctor's offices on the second floor, while the first floor contained the director's office, accounting and finance sections, offices for the chief nurse, social work, prosthetics, the chaplain, and space for the chapel, hydrotherapy, thermotherapy, and corrective therapy.<sup>11</sup> The statewide level of significance for the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is evidenced by its role as a regional medical center that provided general medical and surgical care. The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District continues to serve as a physical reminder of medical care provided by the federal government through the VA to veterans throughout the period of significance.

**Areas of Significance:** Criterion C

Architecture

The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the state level as an excellent example of a Period II Second Generation Veterans general medical and surgical hospital utilizing the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural styles. The Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles were nationally popular during the period of significance, which suggests a strong national pride following World War I and continuing beyond the Second World War. This architectural style was the most prevalent style utilized for the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, and the Montgomery VA Hospital is an excellent example of the use of the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles within this typology. As a sub-type of the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, the general medical and surgical hospitals have distinct characteristics that differ from those of other sub-types of Period II veterans hospitals. These character defining features of the general medical and surgical hospital sub-type include a smaller campus size usually situated near an urban area, denser grouping of the central core and maintenance/utility clusters that usually place the two groups into close proximity to one another (which is not the case at the Montgomery facility), a monumental administration/main building, only one (if any) additional patient ward buildings aside from the main building, and less use of natural contours and lengthy formal entrance drives in the design of the campus. The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District includes a number of these characteristics shared with many of the Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The monumental main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) with its five-story central pavilion serves as the focal point of the historic district. The Montgomery VA Hospital also utilized standardized designs employed by the federal government for veterans hospitals constructed from the late 1920s through 1950. Similar, if not identical, buildings can be found at other Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, such as the residential quarters buildings (Resources 6, 7, and 8). The landscape design includes mature vegetation and curvilinear and linear drives and sidewalks that group the buildings into three distinct clusters based on similar functions.

**Integrity**

As a historic district eligible under both Criteria A and C, the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District should retain a high degree of integrity of the resources' physical characteristics, including materials,

<sup>10</sup> *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1947* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1948): 96.

<sup>11</sup> United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.



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workmanship, and design, and more ephemeral characteristics related to the historic district as a whole, such as location, setting, association, and feeling. Design refers to both the individual resources and the historic district as a whole. Although the resources within the historic district do not have to be individually exceptional, the resources and the historic district as a whole have to continue to reflect the spatial patterns and associations of the hospital campus dating to the period of significance. To retain integrity under Criterion A, the individual resources must retain those character-defining features that are necessary to convey their role in the mission of the federal government, through the VA, to provide general medical and surgical care to veterans throughout the state. These features are often found in the overall form, massing, and scale of the buildings and their relationship to one another within the historic district. To retain integrity under Criterion C, the individual resources must retain those character-defining features identified with the design of the specific building type and hospital sub-type as defined in the MPDF. This includes those features required under Criterion A, as well as noteworthy stylistic details and historical materials.

The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District continues to serve as a medical facility and retains much of its original appearance dating to the period of significance during which the contributing resources were constructed. Contributing buildings retain most of their character defining details, especially those exhibiting Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural elements. The historic district has lost few buildings/structures dating to the period of significance. Additions and new buildings have been constructed that impact the integrity of certain resources and the historic district. The majority of resources erected during the period of significance and the historic district retain integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling.

The landscape of the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is a very important characteristic in its original design. Alterations to the campus design within the historic district include the loss of buildings dating to the period of significance, such as the radial chimney that was associated with the boiler house (Resource 14, 1940) and the gate and pump house (1940). It is unclear if the water tower/tank (Resource 16, 1958) has been replaced or if it was just constructed at a later date than the original buildings within the historic district. The loss of the gate and pump house (1940) diminishes the characteristics of setting and design, since it was the first building encountered upon entering the historic district. The loss of the radial chimney also diminishes the characteristics of setting and design, because with its height it was probably a recognizable landmark for the facility. Parking lots are located to the northeast of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940); to the east, south, and southeast of the residential quarters (Resources 6–8, all 1940); and to the east, southeast, south, and southwest of the warehouse (Resource 5, 1999). The size and number of parking lots have increased over time, and while the parking lots increase the amount of paved surfaces within the historic district, thus impacting integrity of setting and design, they continue to provide the open spatial configuration associated with the historic district's early design. The addition of a new main entrance drive along Perry Hill Road also diminishes the integrity of design and setting for the historic district. The new main entrance drive alters the original internal circulation pattern through the historic district. The original main entrance remains in use, although its alignment has also been changed; this drive now extends along the north boundary of the historic district to a parking lot to the northeast of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940). A portion of the original entrance drive remains in front of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) between the main hospital building and the flag pole (Resource 19, 1940). The new entrance drive also provides a ceremonial entrance as the visitor travels uphill within the historic district from Perry Hill Road. Although the new main entrance and the realignment of the original main entrance drive diminish the integrity of setting and design for the historic district, the original drive remains in use and continues to provide a ceremonial entrance to the

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historic district. Because of its location at the bottom of the hill along Perry Hill Road and vegetation near the historic district buildings at the top of the hill, the new entrance drive is not directly visible from the central core group of campus buildings.

Changes to existing buildings within the historic district include replacement windows, enclosed or partially enclosed windows for smaller openings, replacement doors, enclosed porches, and additions. The replacement windows on most of the buildings appear to mimic the original double-hung sashes but have snap-in grids rather than true divided lights. Enclosing and partially enclosing window openings to accommodate smaller windows and the use of replacement doors diminish integrity of design and materials. Enclosing the porches of the officers' duplex quarters (Resource 8, 1940) impacts the design, materials, and workmanship of the resource, but the overall massing and scale of the building continue to reflect the period of significance. Although the replacement windows, doors, enclosed/partially enclosed windows, and enclosed porches all diminish the characteristics of design, materials, and workmanship, they do not significantly diminish these characteristics of the buildings, and the resources continue to contribute to the significance of the historic district. While none of these individual changes substantially diminish integrity and may be insignificant in themselves, these modifications can cumulatively have a major impact on the integrity of the resources and the historic district as a whole. Even with these cumulative modifications, the resources continue to contribute to the historic district. The interiors of the majority of historic district buildings, although not fully investigated, appear to have lost integrity because of alterations made over time to adapt them to other purposes and because of changing standards in medical care.

The introduction of buildings and additions to the historic district setting after the period of significance also diminishes integrity of design and setting, especially buildings or additions with large footprints or massing. Half of the buildings/structures added to the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District after the period of significance are small and do not interrupt the original spatial qualities of design or setting, nor do they visually impact the larger contributing resources. These small, noncontributing buildings/structures added to the historic district after the period of significance include: Resources 41 (covered patio, 1983), 44 (incinerator building, 1986), 45, 46, 48 (cooling towers, 1983, 1983, and 1992), A (credit union building, 2001), and the Quonset huts (Resources T-25, T-27, T-28, and T-35, all 1956). The warehouse building dating to 1999 (Resource 5) has a large footprint, but its single-story massing and location to the rear of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) mitigate its impact to the historic district's integrity of design and setting. The flat-roof additions to the east elevation of the dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940) are sympathetically designed to reduce their impact with the use of brick exteriors and concrete water tables, although with flat roofs they are clearly identifiable as late-twentieth-century additions. The additions dating to 1993 along the east and west elevations of Resource 1, the main hospital building (1940), are visibly connected to the original portion of Resource 1 by recessed, brushed metal corridors with single-light glass windows, and the facade and rear elevations of the original portion of Resource 1 (main hospital building) remain clear from the additions. The facade's metal-panel clad, recessed connectors clearly separate the original mass from the later additions. The additions to Resource 1 substantially increase the original footprint of the building, with the additions flanking the return wings that extend to the same facade wall plane as the original return wings. The wing additions flanking the original facade return wings were sympathetically designed to include Colonial Revival and Classical Revival elements similar to those of the original block of Resource 1. But the brick clad portions of the additions are towers with the metal cladding between them creating a different design than the solid brick cladding of the original block of the building. In overall scale, cladding, and decorative elements, the facades of the east and west additions and the west elevation are similar and sympathetic to the original block of



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Resource 1. The massing, windows, metal-panel cladding, and canopies accessed by vehicular drives that are used to shelter entries for patients indicate that construction of the addition occurred in the later years of the twentieth century. While the additions diminish the integrity of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940), the building continues to retain its character-defining architectural details dating to the period of significance, continues to function as the focal point of the historic district, and retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district. The prosthetics warehouse (Resource 40, 1983) is a noncontributing resource located south-southwest of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940). The massing, flat roof, and windows of this building clearly reflect its construction in the late twentieth century, and it does not detract appreciably from the setting or design of the central core group of buildings. None of the additions or buildings/structures introduced to the historic district after the period of significance redirect the attention from the monumental main building that continues to serve as the focal point of the historic district. Noncontributing resources do not substantially interrupt the original spatial design or setting of the historic district. The cumulative effect of these buildings and additions constructed after the period of significance diminishes integrity of design and setting. Even with the modifications, the historic district retains a high level of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling to convey the significance of the historic district. The historic district continues to communicate its sense of time and place as a hospital constructed during the period of significance and its connection to other veterans hospitals of this typology.

#### Historical Narrative

Montgomery, Alabama, had been chosen for the site of a new Veterans Administration hospital by April 1938. Members of a committee that worked toward the federal government's construction of a veterans hospital in the state capital expressed their thanks to the many people involved with the process in a newspaper article dated April 29, 1938. Two organizations that actively pursued the hospital were the local chamber of commerce and the state chapter of the American Legion. The hospital site had been chosen but title had not yet been transferred to the federal government.<sup>12</sup> The acreage chosen for the hospital was known as the Flowers site, located near the community of Dalraida. The majority of the land, located south of the Atlanta Highway, was owned by James D. Flowers. Smaller tracts were also involved in the property chosen for the veterans hospital. The federal government purchased approximately 138 acres for nearly \$41,000. It was expected that once the title to the property had been transferred and cleared, work would begin on the architectural drawings and site plans for the Montgomery VA Hospital.<sup>13</sup> The fiscal year-end annual report of the VA, dated June 30, 1938, indicates that a new general medical and surgical hospital with a capacity of 250 beds was to be constructed in Montgomery, Alabama. The funding for the hospital may have been included in the Public Works Administration Appropriation Act for 1938. The contract for construction of the Montgomery VA Hospital had not been released by the end of the fiscal year.<sup>14</sup>

A drawing of the facade of Resource 1, the main hospital building (1940), was published in one of the Montgomery newspapers in November 1938. The illustration was presented to a member of the American

<sup>12</sup> "Gratification Over Victory Voiced by Leaders," *Alabama-Montgomery Journal*, April 29, 1938, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>13</sup> "Hospital Site Deal Given Final Okeh," *Montgomery Advertiser*, May 17, 1938, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>14</sup> *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1938* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1938): 15.



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Legion that served on the local hospital committee by Louis H. Tripp, director of the VA Construction Services. According to the newspaper article, the hospital was to be oriented toward Perry Hill Road. The main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) was actually constructed with its facade oriented to the north and with Perry Hill Road to the east. The article states that "bids would be asked as soon as the location of a strip of the Perry Hill Road had been established."<sup>15</sup> The reasons for the reorientation of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) to the north rather than facing Perry Hill Road are unclear. The complex was expected to contain the main building, a boiler plant, and three other buildings. Six quarters buildings for staff members and their families were to have been constructed on the campus. The regional VA offices located in Tuscaloosa were expected to be relocated to the main building on the campus of the Montgomery VA Hospital. Requests for construction bids for the hospital were expected to be advertised in the first months of 1939.<sup>16</sup>

Construction was in progress on the Montgomery VA Hospital by the end of the 1939 fiscal year (June 30, 1939) according to the VA's annual report. The general medical and surgical hospital was to have a capacity of 269 beds. The expected completion date of the hospital was late August 1940.<sup>17</sup> The construction drawings for the main hospital building (Resource 1) have the VA stamp in the corner with revisions dated April 1939. The first floor of Resource 1, the main hospital building, contained the lobby, two elevators, a service elevator, offices, conference room, mail room, and rooms for hydrotherapy, corrective therapy, and thermotherapy. The operating rooms were located on the fifth floor of the building.<sup>18</sup>

The estimated completion date for the veterans hospital at Montgomery, Alabama, was July 15, 1940, according to the 1940 fiscal year-end annual report. The expected capacity of the hospital remained the same as the prior year-end report, 269 beds.<sup>19</sup> The hospital officially opened on November 1, 1940, receiving its first patient that day. The hospital manager indicated that the facility would not be fully operational for another week to ten days, as some equipment had yet to be installed. Also, only 75 percent of the staff were on-site, with the remainder expected to arrive at the facility in the near future.<sup>20</sup>

Resources within the campus by the end of 1940 include the main hospital building (Resource 1); the kitchen/dining hall (Resource 4); attendants' quarters (Resource 6); nurses' quarters (Resource 7); duplex quarters for officers (Resource 8); a storehouse (Resource 12); engineering shops building (Resource 13); a boiler house (Resource 14); a small building currently known as the lock shop that was previously utilized for storage (Resource 20); a small building currently used for engineering storage (Resource 21); and the flag pole (Resource 19). A plot plan of the site indicates those buildings constructed and the locations of buildings for future expansion. A water tower (shown as Resource 16) and a radial brick chimney for the boiler house are indicated near the maintenance/utility group of buildings. One building, which was never constructed, is

<sup>15</sup> "Architect Visualizes Veterans Hospital Here," unknown Montgomery newspaper, November 24, 1938, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>16</sup> "Architect Visualizes Veterans Hospital Here," unknown Montgomery newspaper, November 24, 1938, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>17</sup> *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1939*, (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1939): 12.

<sup>18</sup> United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>19</sup> *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1940* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1941): 12.

<sup>20</sup> "Vet Hospital Opens Doors," *Alabama-Montgomery Journal*, November 1, 1940; "Veterans Hospital Open for Patients," *Montgomery Advertiser*, November 1, 1940.

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shown across the drive from Resource 12 (the storehouse) among the maintenance/utility group. Two potential H-shape buildings for patients are depicted to the north and northeast of Resource 4, the dining hall building. A building, probably a recreation/auditorium building, is shown to the south of the dining hall building (Resource 4). The recreation/auditorium building and two H-shape buildings were never constructed, but are shown on the plot plan and would have been connected to the dining hall building (Resource 4, 1940) by covered or enclosed corridors. Two additional quarters, a duplex and manager's residence, are also shown as possible future projects located to the northeast of Resource 8, the officers' duplex quarters (1940).<sup>21</sup>

By the end of 1944 the Montgomery VA Hospital was experiencing crowded conditions, and certain administrative units had moved to offices in downtown Montgomery. The first floor of the attendants' quarters (Resource 6, 1940) had also been appropriated for office space. At the time, only ten staff members were living in the attendants' quarters (Resource 6, 1940).<sup>22</sup> The VA regional office, which had moved into the main hospital building (Resource 1) at Montgomery when it opened in 1940, was transferred to downtown Montgomery in 1947.<sup>23</sup> Quonset huts were added to the campus in the mid-1950s, probably to alleviate over crowded conditions.<sup>24</sup>

In 1960 the Montgomery VA Hospital celebrated twenty years of service to the veteran community. The original tract of 138 acres had been decreased to 70 acres as land had been deemed surplus and was transferred from VA ownership. The hospital continued to be designated a general medical and surgical facility with capacity expanded to 285 beds. One hundred beds were utilized by the surgical department, while the remaining capacity was for general medical patients. The hospital had served more than 60,000 patients over the twenty year period and at the time employed 325 staff members. Physical plant improvements taking place or recently completed in 1960 included the replacement of the three elevators in the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) and conversion of the boiler house (Resource 14, 1940) to natural gas from coal. An aerial photograph of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940) from a 1960 newspaper article depicts the Quonset huts (Resource T-25) located to the rear of the main hospital building.<sup>25</sup>

An undated brief history of the Montgomery VA Hospital, apparently written in the late 1970s, states the campus had decreased in size to 57 acres. Air conditioning had been added to the facility's offices and patient areas by the late 1970s. Portions were cooled by central air conditioning, while other sections had window units. At the fiscal year end of 1978, the hospital had serviced more than 43,000 outpatient visits and 2,800 inpatients.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>21</sup> United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>22</sup> "New Building Will Relieve Jam at Veterans Hospital," *Montgomery Advertiser*, December 7, 1944, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>23</sup> "Montgomery VA Hospital Serves 60,000 in 20 Years," *Montgomery Advertiser*, July 21, 1960, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>24</sup> United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>25</sup> "Montgomery VA Hospital Serves 60,000 in 20 Years," *Montgomery Advertiser*, July 21, 1960, located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>26</sup> "A Short History of Veterans Administration Medical Center, Montgomery, Alabama," located in the files of the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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In 1983 a prosthetics warehouse (Resource 40) was constructed to the southwest of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1940). Two substantial additions were constructed to the west and east elevations of the main hospital building (Resource 1) in 1993. Four-story sections of the addition are connected to the original block of the main hospital building (Resource 1) through connections with metal exteriors. The addition has two covered entrances, one serving the emergency room and a second as the main entrance to the Montgomery facility. The Veterans Affairs regional office was constructed at the southwest corner of the property, along Perry Hill Road, in 1994. A building housing the credit union (Resource A) for employees of the facility was constructed in 2001 near the residential quarters. In 2005 a warehouse serving as a storage facility for the regional office was constructed in the southern portion of the property.<sup>27</sup>

Statewide level of significance for Montgomery, Alabama, VA Hospital Historic District:

The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is significant at the statewide level as an example of a late 1930s-early 1940s, Period II, Second Generation Veterans Hospital exhibiting Classical Revival and Colonial Revival decorative ornamentation that also illustrates the evolution in the design of main buildings at Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. Three Second Generation Veterans Hospitals are located in the state of Alabama: Tuskegee; Tuscaloosa; and Montgomery. Each of the three veterans hospitals exemplifies the evolution in the design of main buildings for Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The Tuskegee VA Hospital represents an example of an early 1920s (Period I) Second Generation Veterans Hospital with later, Period II buildings that illustrate the evolution of veterans' neuropsychiatric hospital building design. The Tuscaloosa VA Hospital Historic District is the only example in Alabama of a fully developed, early 1930s Period II general medical and surgical hospital that was later converted to a neuropsychiatric Second Generation Veterans Hospital exhibiting Classical Revival and Colonial Revival detailing. The Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District is the only example in Alabama that has a monumental main building (Resource 1, 1940) dating to the late 1930s-early 1940s that illustrates the evolution in the design of Second Generation Veterans Hospitals main buildings. The Montgomery VA Hospital's main building exhibits larger massing that is found at many of the later Second Generation Veterans Hospitals dating to the late 1930s and continuing through to 1950. While not identical to other main buildings dating to the late 1930s through the 1940s, the larger massing in comparison to earlier main buildings may be found at Second Generation Veterans Hospitals at Bath, New York (1937); Fayetteville, North Carolina (1939); Fargo, North Dakota (1945); and Lebanon, Pennsylvania (1947). Buildings similar or nearly identical in design to the staff quarters and maintenance/utility buildings at the Montgomery VA Hospital Historic District may be found at other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals throughout the nation.

<sup>27</sup> United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.



**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

See Continuation Sheet 9.22.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Dept of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation  
Name of repository: Office

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Approximately 40 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>570892</u>	<u>3582499</u>	3	<u>16</u>	<u>571274</u>	<u>3582437</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>16</u>	<u>570974</u>	<u>3582432</u>	4	<u>16</u>	<u>571270</u>	<u>3582313</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (describe the boundaries of the property)

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the polygon in solid black lines on the aerial map on page 25. The boundary is also indicated by a polygon on the USGS Willow Springs, Alabama, topographic quadrangle map. The UTM reference points, stated in NAD 27, are provided above and on Continuation Sheet 10.23, as well as on the USGS topographic quadrangle map. The boundary begins at the northwest corner of the property, at a fenceline adjacent to Perry Hill Road northwest of the northwest entrance to the historic district at UTM N 3582499, E 570892. The National Register boundary extends along the fenceline to the southeast approximately 370 feet to UTM N 3582432, E 570974 before continuing to the east along the fenceline approximately 945 feet to a corner to UTM N 3582437, E 571274. The boundary then extends to the south approximately 395 feet to a corner of the fenceline to UTM N 3582313, E 571270, then to the east approximately 670 feet to the northeast corner of the historic district to UTM N 3582321, E 571459. The boundary then extends to the south approximately 920 feet to the southeast corner of the historic district to UTM N 3582029, E 571464, then extends to the west along the southern property line approximately 610 feet to UTM N 3582031, E 571285, then to the north approximately 255 feet to UTM N 3582110, E 571287 to the south edge of the southern lane than encompasses the central core of the historic district, then along the southern edge of this lane extending to the west-northwest for approximately 300 feet to UTM N 3582130, E 571213, then continuing along to the west along the south edge of the lane approximately 360 feet to UTM N 3582130, E 571121, then continuing to the west-northwest approximately 85 feet to UTM N 3582134, E 571084, then continuing along the south edge of the lane to the west-northwest approximately 125 feet to UTM N 3582151, E 571044, then extending along the southern edge of the lane to the northwest approximately 225 feet to UTM N 3582183, E 570996, then extending to the west along the north edge of a drive that leads to the VA Regional Office building for approximately 300 feet to the east edge of Perry Hill Road to UTM N 3582185, E 570903, then north along the east edge of Perry Hill Road for approximately 1,030 feet to the beginning point containing approximately 40 acres.

**Boundary Justification** (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The entire property of the Montgomery VA Hospital is approximately 50 acres. The National Register of Historic Places nomination boundary contains approximately 40 acres, excluding approximately 10 acres in the southern portion of the

property that contains two buildings with large footprints constructed in 1994 and 2004 and a large parking lot between the two buildings. Within the National Register historic district boundary are the resources historically associated with the hospital campus. Also included in the historic district boundary are twelve contributing and fourteen noncontributing resources to the historic district. Perry Hill Road serves as the west boundary, and Goodwyn Junior High School and baseball fields are located to the north of the historic district. To the east of the historic district is residential development, and to the south is a wooded area that also includes residences. The historic district boundary was determined in order to exclude modern intrusions in the southern portion of the hospital property.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Trent Spurlock/Architectural Historian & Ann Marie P. Doyon/Architectural Historian  
organization Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. date December 9, 2011  
street & number 151 Walton Avenue telephone 859-252-4737  
city or town Lexington state KY zip code 40508  
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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### Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets 24–26**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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### Photographs:

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Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

See Continuation Sheet 27.

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications 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.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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- Alabama-Montgomery Journal.* "Gratification Over Victory Voiced by Leaders." April 29, 1938. Located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.
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- Montgomery Advertiser.* "Hospital Site Deal Given Final Okeh." May 17, 1938. Located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.
- Montgomery Advertiser.* "Montgomery VA Hospital Serves 60,000 in 20 Years." July 21, 1960. Located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.
- Montgomery Advertiser.* "New Building Will Relieve Jam at Veterans Hospital." December 7, 1944. Located in the vertical files of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.
- Montgomery Advertiser.* "Veterans Hospital Open for Patients." November 1, 1940.
- United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Files of the Engineering Department, Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System – West Campus, Montgomery, Alabama.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Montgomery Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District

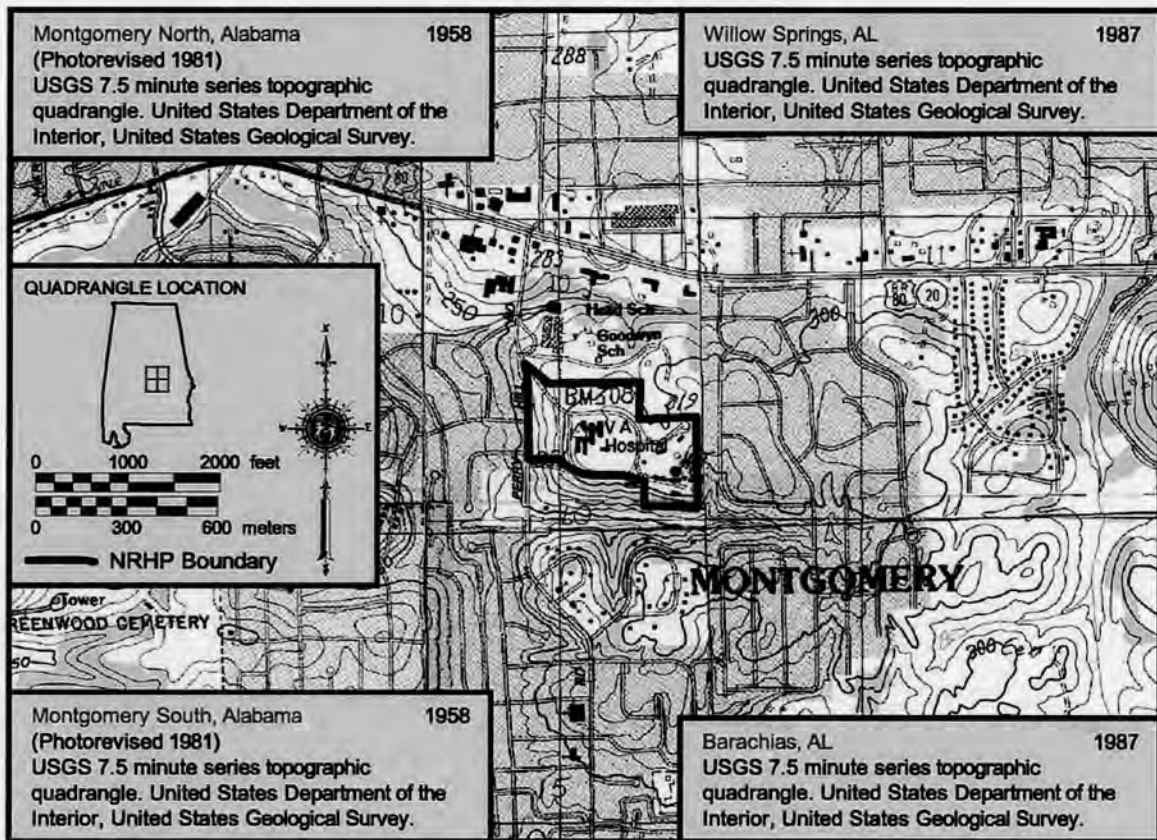
Montgomery County, Alabama

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)  
United States Second Generation Veterans' Hospitals

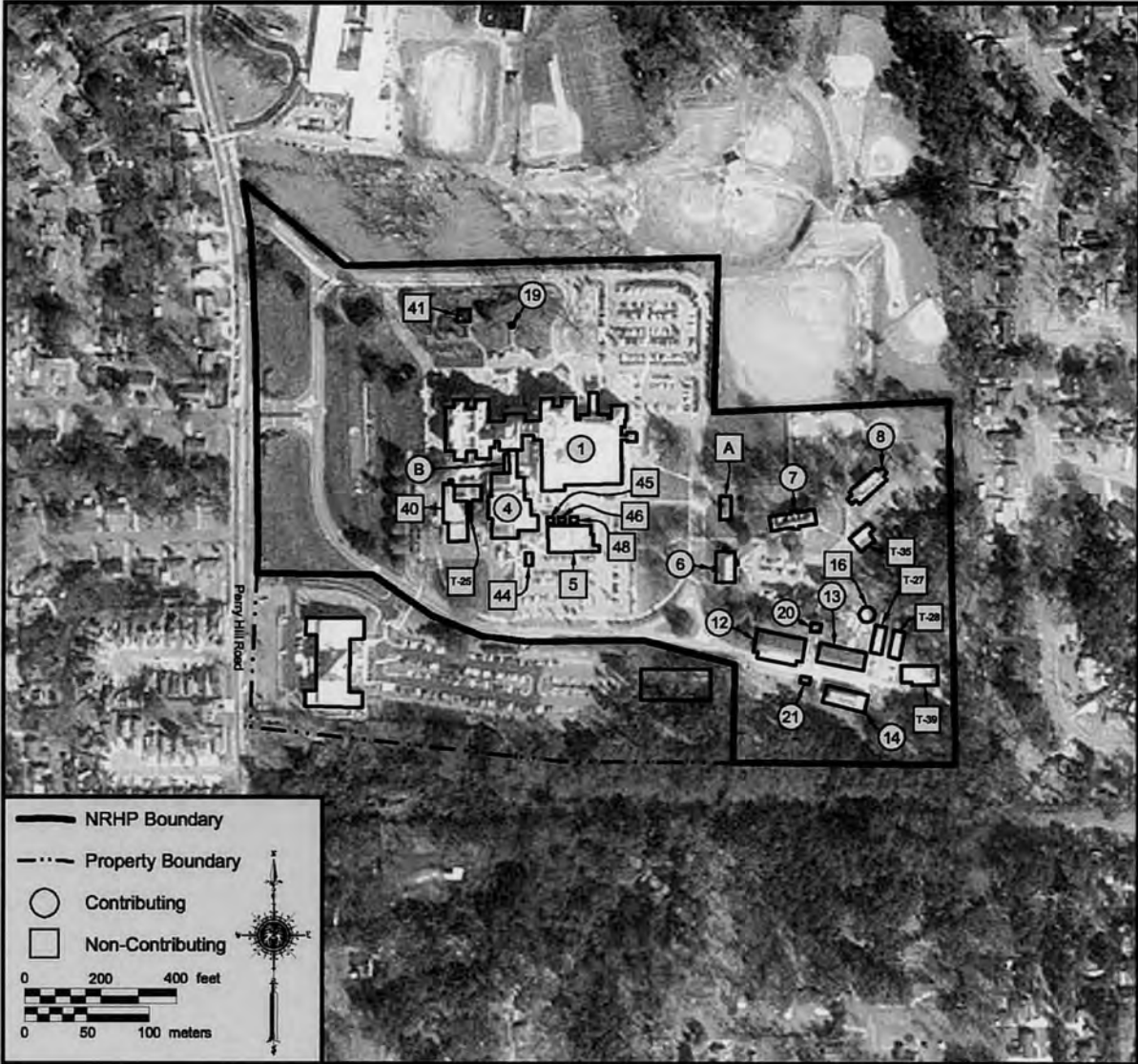
Section number 10 Page 23

UTM References (continued)

5	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>571459</u> Easting	<u>3582321</u> Northing	10	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>571121</u> Easting	<u>3582130</u> Northing
6	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>571464</u> Easting	<u>3582029</u> Northing	11	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>571084</u> Easting	<u>3582134</u> Northing
7	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>571285</u> Easting	<u>3582031</u> Northing	12	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>571044</u> Easting	<u>3582151</u> Northing
8	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>571287</u> Easting	<u>3582110</u> Northing	13	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>570996</u> Easting	<u>3582183</u> Northing
9	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>571213</u> Easting	<u>3582130</u> Northing	14	<u>16</u> Zone	<u>570903</u> Easting	<u>3582185</u> Northing

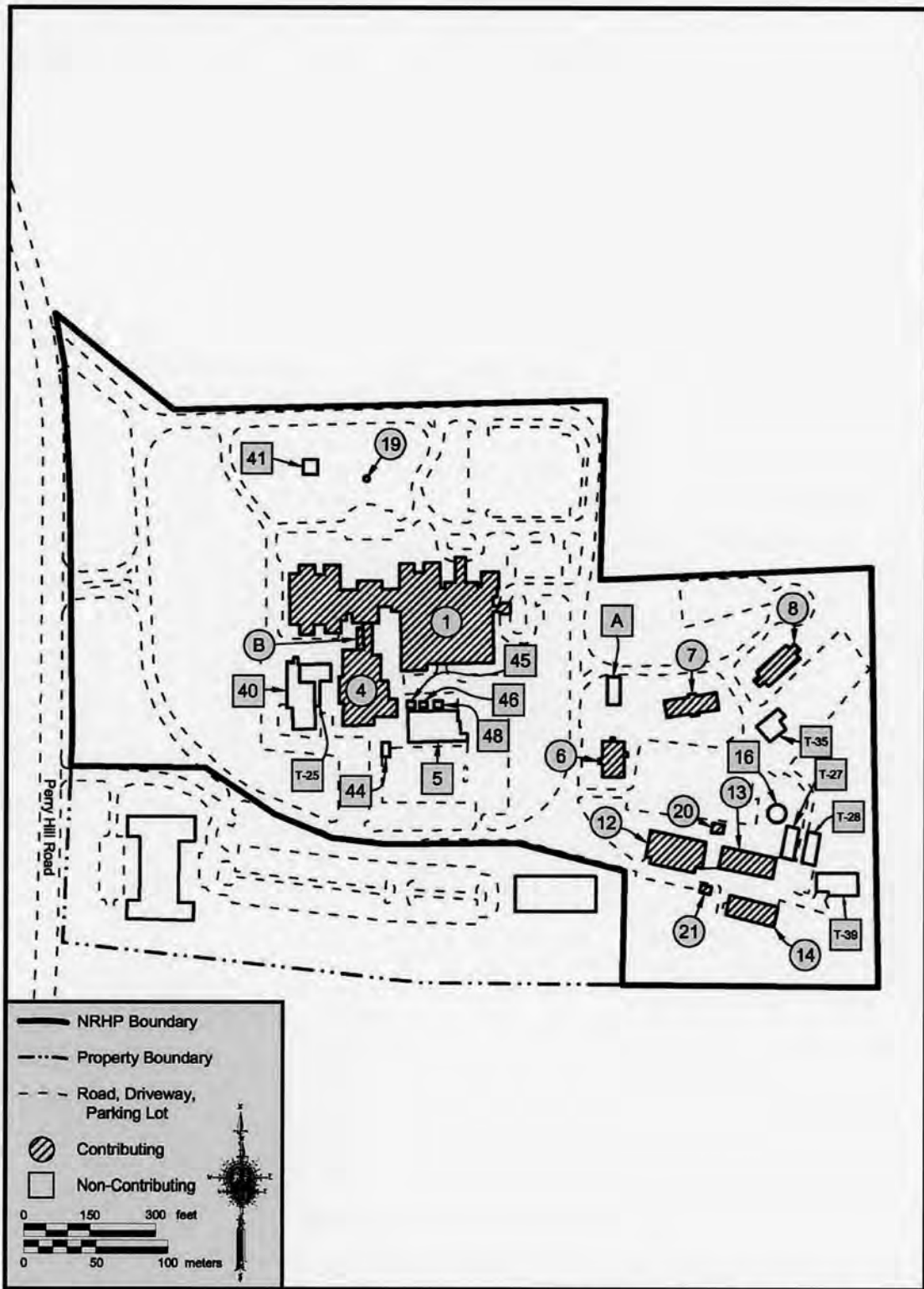


1958 (Photo revised 1981) Montgomery North, Alabama, 1987 Willow Springs, Alabama, 1987 Barachias, Alabama, and 1958 (Photo revised 1981) Montgomery South, Alabama 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle maps showing National Register boundary.



Aerial map indicating National Register boundary, contributing and noncontributing resources.





Sketch map indicating National Register boundary, contributing and noncontributing resources.

**National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Montgomery Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District

Montgomery County, Alabama

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)  
United States Second Generation Veterans' Hospitals

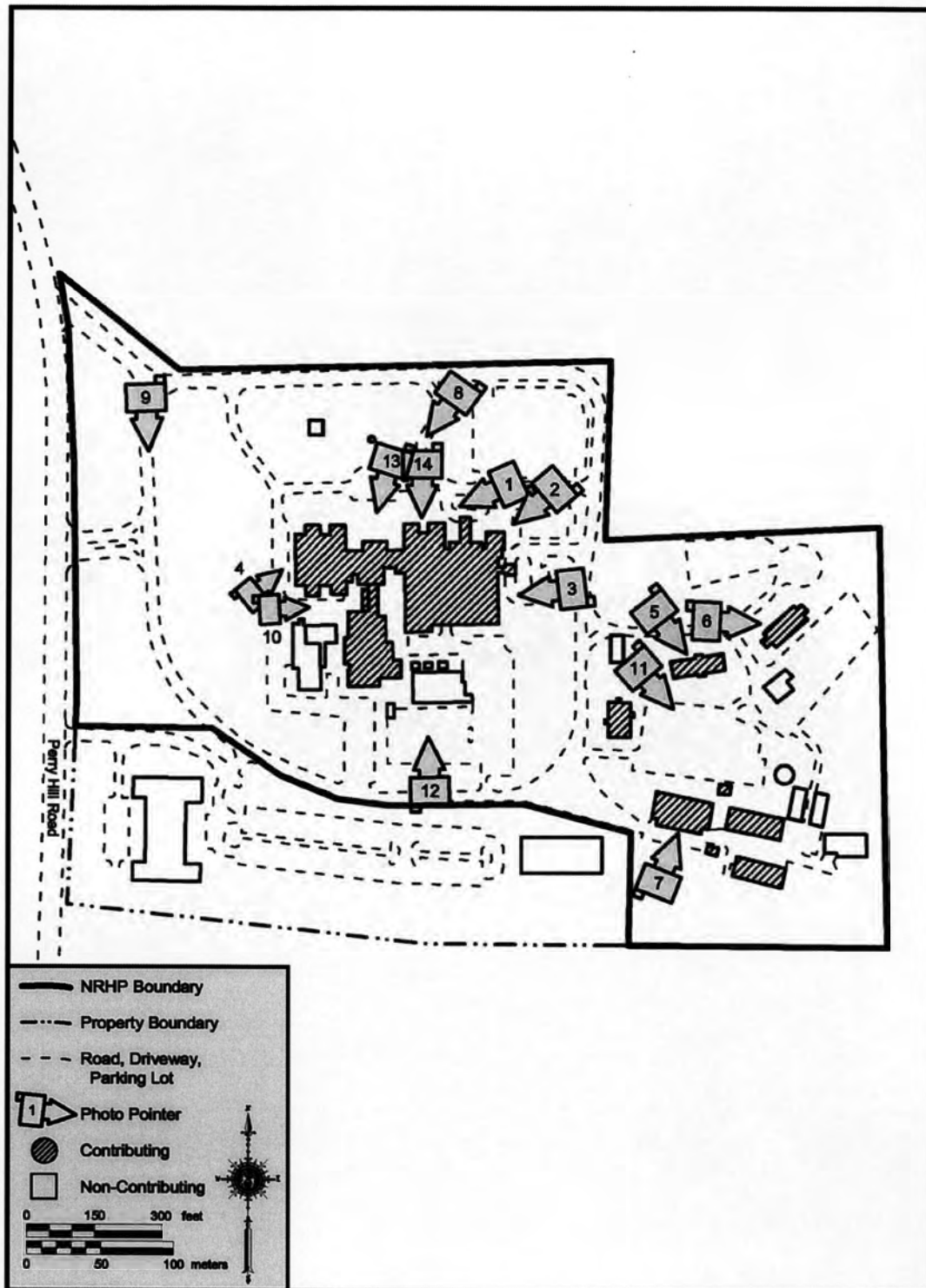
Photographs

Page 27

**Photograph Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property: Montgomery Veterans' Administration Hospital (same for all photos)  
City, County, State: Montgomery, Montgomery County, Alabama (same for all photos)  
Photographer: Kathryn M. Joseph and Trent Spurlock (same for all photos)  
Photo date: November 7-8, 2008 (same for all photos)  
Original Negative: N/A (submitted compact disc, same for all photos)

1. East and facade elevations of Resource 1. View looking southwest.
2. East and facade elevations of addition to Resource 1. View looking southwest.
3. East elevation of addition to Resource 1. View looking west.
4. West elevation of addition to Resource 1. View looking northeast.
5. Facade and west elevations of Resource 7. View looking southeast.
6. Facade and southwest elevations of Resource 8. View looking east-southeast.
7. Facade of Resource 12 with Resource 16. View looking north-northeast.
8. View from north drive to the south-southwest looking to facade of Resource 1.
9. View to south along new main entrance drive from near original entrance drive.
10. View to east with Resources 1, B, 4, and 40.
11. View to southeast with Resources T-35, 16, and 13.
12. View to north-northwest with Resources 4, 44, 1, and 5.
13. View to southwest of original facade portion of Resource 1.
14. View to south of Resource 1 east return wing facade and addition.



Sketch map indicating locations of photographs corresponding to those of the Photograph Continuation Sheet.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Montgomery Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME: United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals

STATE & COUNTY: ALABAMA, Montgomery

DATE RECEIVED: 2/10/12      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/02/12  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/19/12      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/28/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000141

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    3/19/12 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



At - Montgomery County - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospital / MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital - 0001





AL - Montgomery County - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospitals MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital - 0002





AL - Montgomery County - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospitals MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital - 0003



Al. Montgomery county - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospitals - Mrs. Montgomery VA Hospital - 0004





Al-montgomery county - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospital, MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital - 0005



At - Montgomery county - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospital MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital - 0006





Ala. Montgomery County - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospitals (MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital) - 0007



AL. montgomery county - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospitals MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital - 0008

EPSON

EPSON

EPSON

EPSON





Al-montgomery County - 2nd Generation Veterans (hospitals MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital) - 0009



At- montgomery County- 2nd Generation Veterans Hospital MPS- montgomery VA Hospital\_001 a





AL - montgomery County - 2nd Generation Veterans (Hospital) CMPS - Montgomery VA Hospital - 0011



Al Montgomery county - 2nd Generation Veterans Hospital MPS - Montgomery VA Hospital - 0012



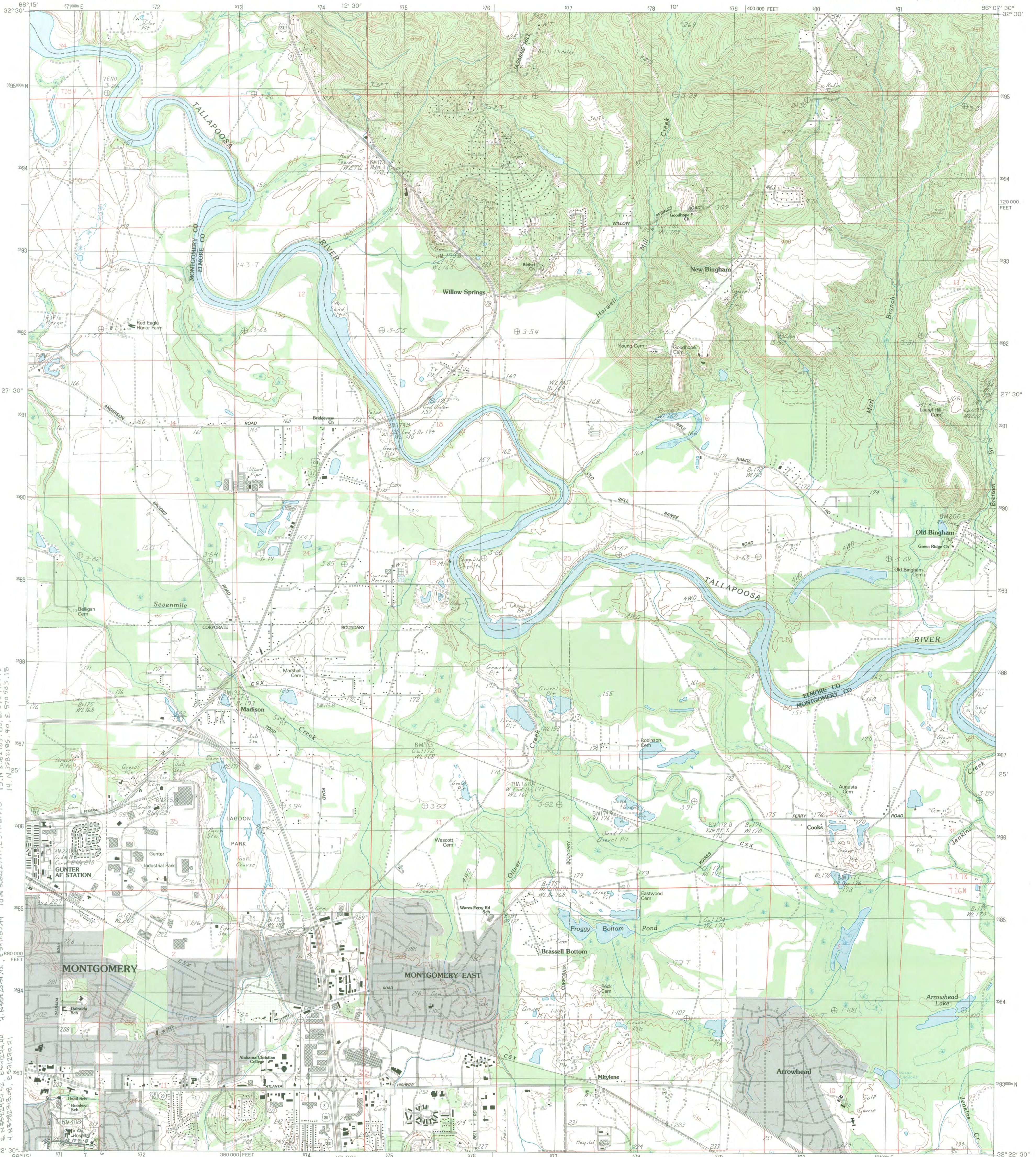


Al-Montgomery County-2nd Generation Veterans Hospitals MPS-montgomery VA Hospital- 0013



AL-Montgomery County-2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Veterans Hospitals MPS- Montgomery VA Hospital- 0014

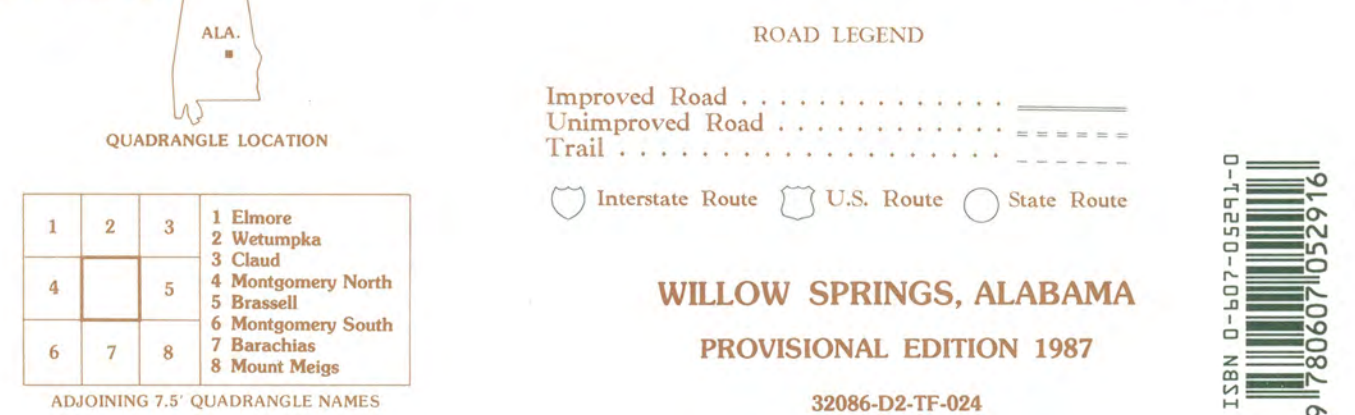
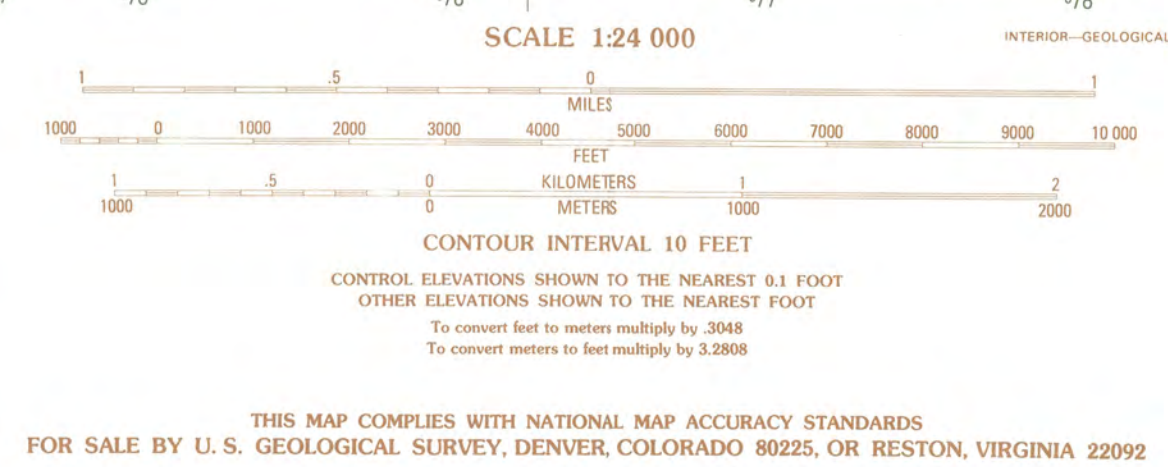




11. N 358 2134.65 E 571 084.21  
12. N 358 2151.10 E 571 694.50  
13. N 358 2183.83 E 570 996.46  
14. N 358 2195.40 E 570 963.18

PRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
CONTROL BY THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
CONTROL FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN 1978  
FIELD CHECKED 1986. MAP EDITED 1987  
PROJECTION TRANSVERSE MERCATOR  
GRID: 1000-METER UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR ZONE 16  
1800-FOOT STATE GRID TICKS ALABAMA EAST ZONE  
UTM GRID DECLINATION 07°30' EAST  
1987 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION 07°30' EAST  
VERTICAL DATUM NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
HORIZONTAL DATUM 1983 NORTH AMERICAN DATUM  
To place on the predicted North American Datum of 1983,  
move the projection lines as shown by dashed corner ticks  
(12 meters south and 4 meters west)  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of any  
Federal and State reservations shown on this map  
Gray tint indicates area in which selected buildings are shown

**PROVISIONAL MAP**  
Produced from original  
manuscript drawings. Infor-  
mation shown as of date of  
field check.



ISSN 0-607-05291-0  
9 780607 052916





**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**Office of Construction & Facilities Management**  
**Washington DC 20420**



February 10, 2012

Paul Loether, Director  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street NW  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Paul:

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is pleased to submit the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nominations for our medical centers at Tuscaloosa, Montgomery, Tuskegee, Canandaigua, Batavia, and Lexington. These are individual nominations under our 2<sup>nd</sup> generation VA hospital multiple property cover.

If you have questions regarding these nominations, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at 202-632-5529.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen".

Kathleen Schamel,  
Federal Preservation Officer