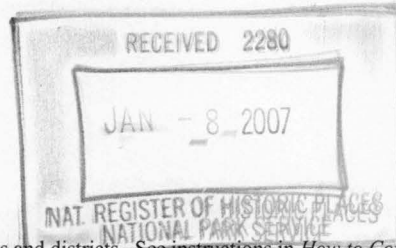


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Army & Navy General Hospital Historic District

other names/site number Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center

2. Location

street & number 105, 200, 417, 421, & 425 Reserve Street

☐ not for publication

city or town Hot Springs

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

county Garland

code 051

zip code 71901

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐  
does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant

☒ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments)

*Catherine MacArthur*  
Signature of certifying official/Title

1/3/07  
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☒ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.

☐ removed from the National  
Register.

☐ other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*for Daniel J. Vivian*  
Signature of the Keeper

2/9/07  
Date of Action

Name of Property

County and State

**5. Classification****Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private  
☐ public-local  
☒ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

26

5

buildings

sites

structures

objects

26

5

Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

N/A

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

0

**6. Function or Use****Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE: hospital

DOMESTIC: institutional housing

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE: hospital

DOMESTIC: institutional housing

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

EDUCATION: school

**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTUREY REVIVALS:  
Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival, French ColonialLATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN  
MOVEMENTS/Commercial Style, Craftsman**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Cast concrete, brick

walls Brick, terra cotta, wood, concrete, metal.

roof other, asphalt, wood, concrete

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS SECTION 7

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### SUMMARY

In 1882, Dr. A. S. Garnett and Colonel S. L. Fordyce hosted a party for Illinois Senator John A Logan. Garnett and Fordyce convinced Logan to spearhead an effort to establish an Army and Navy General Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas. After returning to Washington D.C., Logan proposed an amendment to the Army Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year 1882, providing \$100,000.00 for the construction of an Army and Navy Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas. On 20 May 1886, President Grover Cleveland signed the executive order establishing the Army and Navy General Hospital.

The Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District is situated on the southern slope of Hot Springs Mountain and immediately east of Bathhouse Row which lines the east side of Central Avenue. The northern boundary is lined with many varieties of naturally occurring trees common to this area. The majority of the southern border is Reserve Street. On the 10 acres there is a mixture of styles and age of buildings, including the Spanish Revival style of the two main buildings, the hospital which is a six story yellow brick structure and the Army Nurses Quarters which is a three story structure of similar construction. Both buildings were built in 1933. There are also French Colonial influenced brick apartments for staff built in the 1920s and several duplex units for hospital staff. Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century commercial style buildings and wooden barracks with Traditional, Colonial, and Craftsman influence are also a major part of the building plan. The three most recent buildings were built in 1974 and are of an Industrial/Commercial style of reinforced concrete. All buildings are located in a park-like setting with connecting walkways, concrete streets and a multitude of concrete and stone retaining walls. Most of the buildings in good shape and all are in use for one purpose or another. Many of the buildings are currently used for storage. In addition, Building 2 (GA0363) was a bowling alley, and later the Non-Commissioned Officers building, and the lanes and manual pinsetters are still intact and operable. After many years of service to military patients, the facility, under the probability of closing was converted into the facility that it is today, the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center.

The following first set of numbers 1 through 31 designate the location on the map of building and resource numbers. The second number (example: Building #57) refers to the building identification number from the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center building and grounds map dated 1990.

#### #1 Building #57 GA0362 c.1930 (C)

This two story wooden structure lies at the eastern tip of the property. It is built on a tall poured concrete foundation with a large concrete porch toward the west end of the building on the south side. It has steps on each side of the porch and there are two entry doors. There is a wide hip-style eave with exposed rafters around the entire perimeter of the building at each cornice and the roof is gabled with a small centrally located gable monitor. A large buttressed concrete retaining wall surrounds most of the building as does a concrete drive and sidewalk. The structure has equally-spaced double-hung windows with eight-over-eight lights and wooden screens over each window.

#### #2 Building #58 GA0363 c.1935 (C)

This building is a white two story gable front structure with weatherboard siding built on a tall concrete foundation to accommodate the slope of the land. It was originally built as an 8-lane bowling alley, and the equipment and lanes are still in very good condition although the building now serves as overflow storage. The side windows are symmetrically placed with paired six-over-six double-hung windows and a single window of same style between each pair. The three side windows on the west portion of the building are set slightly higher than the others indicating a higher internal floor. Each window and door has a wooden shed-style awning above. The south side porch is a metal platform with balustrade and metal steps off each side. There is an elaborate series of terraced concrete steps, ramp and stone retaining wall at the east entry and along the southern elevation of the building. The stone retaining wall also has a double bay garage structure built into it with the roof being covered with the continuous slope of grass.



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**#3 Building #59 GA0364 c.1935 (C)**

This building is currently used for storage and is in reasonably good shape. It is a single story gable front structure originally on concrete piers. Each end has a centrally located set of double wooden entry doors with a window on each side. There is a gable monitor slightly more toward the eastern portion of the building. The siding is a combination of weatherboard and novelty siding. Equally spaced double-hung six-over-six windows are located both sides on the eastern half of the structure. Wooden shed awnings cover the end windows and front doorway and there is a single doorway on the south west side of the building. The ancillary structure is a four bay sod roof garage unit built into the hillside with a large stone retaining wall on each side of it.

**#4 Building # 55 GA0365 c.1974 (NC)**

This is one of three buildings on this property of similar style and construction. It was built around 1974 and is used for classrooms and workshop areas. Both front and rear entrances are recessed with sliding glass automated doors with the front entrance being halfway below grade. The rear entrances are on two levels with the upper ones connected to the northern slope by an elevated concrete walkway. The building itself is a modern industrial commercial building of reinforced concrete walls that have vertical concrete fins equally spaced around the entire perimeter of the structure. The roof is flat with rolled asphalt and tar buildup. There is a metal rollup door at the east end of the building and concrete drive and walkways all around. There is also a large concrete retaining wall along the north side of the building.

**#5 Building # 54 GA0366 c.1974 (NC)**

This is the second of three similar buildings finished in 1974. It also has reinforced concrete walls, protruding vertical concrete ribs equally spaced and has an elevated walkway supported by large concrete piers connecting the upper doors on the north side of the building. There is a rollup metal door at the east end of the building and a much larger one with small dock entrance at the west end of the building. The front of the building has a recessed automated sliding glass entrance which is partially below grade on the south side. The roof is flat with rolled asphalt and tar buildup and has a concrete overhang that is sagging slightly in the middle on the north side. It is designated to be bid out for repair estimates. The building currently houses classrooms and work areas.

**#6 Building #52 GA0367 c.1935 (C)**

Building number 52 is a long gable front single story structure with a small gable monitor towards the west end. At the front entrance, the gable roof transitions smoothly into a hip style overhang that runs around the entire circumference of the building. The rafters are exposed and the building has a Craftsman influence. The front double doors are centrally located with a concrete access ramp and have a double-hung six-over-six window on each side. The same style window is evident on both the north and south elevations of the building, the major difference being that the majority of them are in pairs. There are two small additions, one on the south side somewhat centrally located and a small gable projection at the northwest corner. The ancillary structure is a four-bay garage unit built into the hillside and bordered by a stone retaining wall. The 1990 property map produced by the Rehabilitation Center lists this as a storm shelter.

**#7 Building #19 GA0368 c.1930 (C)**

This structure is a wooden frame unit with a red tile hip style roof. It is built on a slope over a poured concrete foundation. Three walls are of horizontal board siding on the ends and south side, while the north side has five large side-hinged double wooden doors that span the entire length. This was probably used as a repair shop or carriage house originally, and now is probably used for storage.

**#8 Building #38 GA0369 c.1935 (C)**

This is the maintenance storage building. It is a frame, one story, long rectangular structure that has ribbed metal covering the original siding which was most likely weatherboard. It sits on a slope over a poured concrete foundation and has a single door entrance on each end with a four-over-four double-hung window beside it and a metal shed awning over the doors. There are four large sliding garage doors suspended from overhead the tracks and a rearward sloping flat roof which is covered with ribbed metal.



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Next to the building is a large metal chimney that sits on a concrete pad. This is on the north side of a concrete foundation that appears to have been part of a large wood or coal fired furnace system.

**#9 Building #53 GA0370 c.1974 (NC)**

This structure is a very large and made of reinforced concrete. It has a single metal door near center on the north or front side of the building. There are four large overhead doors on the west side of this and three large overhead doors on the east side of the main entrance. The building has large vertical concrete fins from ground to roofline on the three remaining sides. The roof is flat with concrete overhang and a built up tar surface. It was built in 1974 and is currently used as a body and fender shop. It was apparently built over an earlier site because an old brick foundation can be seen near center at the rear of this building.

**#10 Building #16 GA0371 c.1962 (C)**

This building is a one and a half story brown brick building with full basement. The main level has entrances on the north side on the upper slope. It has end parapets on the gable roof in the French Colonial style and two hip roof dormers on each side of the composite shingled roof. The majority of the windows are of the large industrial metal-frame awning-style with most of them having ten lights per horizontal row. The east end lower level has centrally located double wooden doors with nine lights in each. It is accessed by a concrete ramp. The other end of the building has an overhead garage door in the south corner and a large concrete retaining wall from the center northward. On top of this is a small utility type shed. There is also an upper door and a metal porch with a raised metal walkway which reaches over to the higher portion of the ground on the north side. The north side of the building also has a concrete ramp near the east end that services a double bay entrance door which also has a large shed style roof. The end parapets have concrete coping. There are classrooms on all floors.

**#11 Building #12 GA 0372 c.1960 (C)**

This brown brick building is two stories high with French Colonial style end parapets which have concrete coping. It is of the same industrial/commercial style as the building immediately east of it (GA0371). This structure also has the very large industrial multi-pane awning-style windows in metal frames. There is a concrete porch and double door entrance at the northeast corner along with an extended concrete dock with a utility shed and concrete steps running down to the lower level. A large brick chimney is seen on the south elevation of the building and the west end has a large irregular-shaped concrete dock that bisects the end profile. The dock services a large set of double doors with a wooden shed awning overhead. In addition to the utility shed this building has two smaller ancillary structures both of which are built into the hillside and use the concrete retaining wall as structural elements. One is a shed-like structure of concrete, with wooden doors and flat roof slightly above the top of the retaining wall. The other is a small gable-roof building that has as its south foundation the retaining wall. It is also built into the upper slope and the ground is at roofline on the north side. The building was and is used for laundry and is currently also used for classrooms.

**#12 Building #34 417 Reserve GA0373 c.1932 (C)**

417 Reserve is a brown brick duplex, side-gabled with a large centered gable projection extending to the rear. It was built for staff housing, is in very good condition and serves the same purpose today. The building is mostly traditional but with some Adam influence. All doors and windows have round arch hoods with three rows of end course bricks set vertically and stone sills. The windows are simple wooden one-over-one, double-hung units and adorn the building in a very symmetrical fashion. The central brick porch with steps on each side leads to the two main entrances to the building, and a wooden shed canopy covers the porch. A small wraparound addition with a flat roof is at each of the rear corners, although there is no documentation to determine if these were original or added later. Behind the unit across the concrete drive is a five-bay brick garage with gabled roof. It is the ancillary structure and is used by this unit and the two duplexes directly to the east of this one.

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**#13 Building #36 421 Reserve GA0374 c.1933 (C)**

421 Reserve is identical to the building to the east. It is a modern two and a half story mixed tone yellow brick structure with a medium pitch, side-gable roof that has four gabled dormers at the front elevation and a large shed dormer that spans the width of the roof. Two centrally located front doors, one for each unit, have small gable roofs. The first level in back is built into the hillside, so consequently ground level in back starts at the second floor. All windows are wooden six-over-six double-hung, with six equally-spaced windows on the front of the second story and one smaller window and a door near each end in the back for each of the two units. A concrete wall runs along the back edge of the building with steps leading down to the front at each side. There is a common front lawn that has a decorative wrought iron fence the entire length of the Center's property along Reserve Street. The duplex was and is currently use for staff housing.

**#14 Building #37 425 Reserve GA 0375 c.1933 (C)**

425 Reserve is the same design as the one directly west of it (421 Reserve). It is a modern two and a half story yellow brick duplex with brick of various darker tones randomly mixed in. The side gable roof is moderately pitched and has four gable dormers in front and one large shed dormer with four windows in back. The duplex is built into the slope of the hillside so the second floor is at ground level in back. The front entrances are centrally located, one for each unit with a small wooden gable roof over the entry area. All windows are six-over-six wooden double-hung units, equally spaced in front and asymmetrically placed at each end. Each of the two rear entrances are near the end of the building with one small window near the middle of the structure. A concrete retaining wall runs along the back edge of the building and concrete steps traverse down the side to the front ground level. There is lawn and sidewalk in front and a decorative metal fence that separates the property from Reserve Street. The building currently serves as staff housing.

**#15 Building #11 GA0376 c.1933 (C)**

The building listed as Building 11 on the 1990 Rehabilitation Center grounds map is the heating plant and auto mechanics training area. It is a large two story red brick structure on concrete foundation with a very large, round, external chimney rising about forty feet above the roofline. The roof is side gabled and has end parapets in a French Colonial design. The nature and use of the building falls into the category of Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Industrial/Commercial, the east end of the building is filled with the massive metal-frame awning-style windows that are so prevalent on these types of buildings. There is a flat-roof brick addition at each end of the building and the rear elevation is relatively plain, except for three awning windows, a double-door entrance and two single doors. The front has a double-door entrance near each end and three large awning windows. A concrete retaining wall runs along the rear of the building with steps on the west side leading down to the front lower level. Three large round chimney/vents are equally spaced along the peak of the roof.

**#16 Building #2 Ross Hall GA0377 d.1933 (C)**

Ross Hall was originally a residence for Army nurses, and now it houses female clients. It is a beautiful T-shaped three story yellow brick structure over a concrete foundation in the Spanish Revival style. The center portion of the building is actually four stories with a central roof-house with a hip-style red-tile roof. This connects to a colonnade with a red-tile gable roof which extends along the east wing of the building and terminates at another small structure with a hip tile roof. The main roof of the building is flat with parapet all around. The sides of the parapet have equally-spaced decorative terra cotta panel insets. Three small balustrade balconies can be seen on the fourth floor at the front of the building. The main front entrance is very elaborate, with a massive round arch that has square columns with Corinthian capitals and large finials on top of that. The keystone and detail above the arch are particularly ornate. Four wide, brick pilasters extend upward to the fourth floor. The western entrance is also round arched but much smaller and minimal in detail. In front of the building is a massive stone wall that marks the boundary between the Center property and Reserve Street.



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**#17 Building #17 GA0378 c.1933 (C)**

This is a small single story side gable yellow-brick structure with red tile roof. It was originally a garage with four overhead bay doors facing due east. The most southern of these four doors has been framed in and retrofitted with a traditional entry door. Two six-over-six double-hung windows are symmetrically placed in the south end and one similar window is placed centrally in the north end. The rear door is blocked by a wooden access ramp that reaches the back of Ross Hall. Part of the addition to the neighboring building also obstructs access to the overhead door on the north of this building. This building is currently the grounds shop.

**#18 Building #22 GA0379 c.1933 (C)**

This is a simple front gable garage with red-tile roof. It faces south and has two metal flat-roof additions that project forward from the garage opening on the west end. This is the Center's paint shop and the two additions are the spray booths. There is a single entry door on the south half of the east end of the building and a six-over-six, double-hung, wood-frame window on the other half. The west end has a similar window mounted centrally and the back, or north side of the building has no window at all. The brick is predominately yellow with darker colors randomly incorporated into the design.

**#19 Building #14 GA0380 c.1933 (C)**

This is the Maintenance and Property office, a one and a half story red-brick building over a concrete full-basement foundation. As with most of the buildings on the Center's property, access is at two ground levels because of the vast network of retaining walls and terraced roadways. The construction is of a common twentieth-century commercial design with a side gable roof with wide end eaves and exposed end beams. The windows and doors have round arch tops and the windows are wood-frame, six-over-six, double-hung style. The building itself is in good condition and has two double-door entrances and two single entrances which have been boarded over on the north side, an end door accessed by a concrete porch and steps to the west. The south side lower level has several doors and windows the entire length and the upper story has eight windows that span the width, including four of them in double sets.

**#20 Building #40 Gas Station GA0381 d.1936 (C)**

The gas station on this property is a small brown-brick structure. The large overhang portion of the hip roof is self supporting, however there are two large wooden brackets at the side junctures for aesthetics. The building is built into the hillside at the rear, and there is a stone retaining wall on each side about halfway forward. The wood-framed windows are double-hung with six-over-six lights in each one. The front has a central single-entry door with an equally-spaced window on each side. The building apparently still serves part of its original function.

**#21 Building #25 GA0382 d.1908 (NC)**

The original part of this building is of red brick in the Craftsman style. It is a gable front single-story structure with wide eaves, exposed end beams and exposed side rafters with decorative end cuts. The west end of the building has a set of large wooden doors in a round arch frame and brick opening. It was built in 1908 as a stable housing ten animals and four vehicles. Later it was used as a garage and now houses the welding training area. The window openings are tall and narrow, containing four-over-four, wooden-frame, double-hung windows. An extension of the original roofline and building footprint towards the north and the addition to the east of a new metal structure doubles the original space. Although the metal addition detracts from the look of the building, the feel of the original style can still be seen and appreciated. A ribbed metal roof covers both the original structure and the addition. The north side of the building now is very close to a concrete retaining wall.

**#22 Building #26 GA0383 c.1930 (C)**

Building #26 is one of two large duplexes that are nearly identical with Traditional and Colonial Revival influences. This one is built predominately of red brick with vast, open, wraparound porches on the first floor and a framed-in screened porch on the second floor that is of the same size as below. There is a long framed and screened porch at the second floor in the rear and a brick



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bay projection at the east and west end of the building. The massive wraparound and brick pillared porches lead the eye upward to four pedimented dormers in the front. Two large gable additions at the rear run parallel to each other and perpendicular to the main roofline, a large brick chimney is at the junction of the three roofs. This duplex is built on a rather steep slope and has a concrete retaining wall at each side about halfway down the slope. There is also a smaller wall at the bottom of the slope and concrete steps from the upper to lower level at each side. It was built to house the hospital staff and serves the same purpose today.

**#23 Building #27 GA0384 c.1930 (C)**

This building sits next to Building #26 and is identical to it. Traditional and Colonial Revival are the style influences, and it is built of red brick and has two large framed-in and screened sleeping porches. One of them wraps around the front on the second floor and the other runs full length along the rear also on the second floor. The building is two and a half stories and built upon a slope so that the rear entrance is at the second story level. The ground level in front has a large wraparound open porch with ten large brick pillars supporting the upper floors sleeping porch. Four pediment-style dormers can be seen equally spaced along the front roofline and two large parallel gable additions project to the north on the backside of the building. Each unit has a large bay window constructed of brick. The main windows in the building are two-over-two double-hung in wood framing, while the enclosed porches have one-over-one double-hung windows in sets of threes all around the porch. A concrete retaining wall and concrete steps leading to the lower level can be seen along the east and the west side. It was originally built for staff housing and still serves that purpose.

**#24 Building #43 GA0385 c.1915 (C)**

Building #43 is a large brown-brick duplex that has some Craftsman influence in style. It is two and a half stories tall with a full basement on a concrete foundation. There is a continuous beltcourse of brick the full circumference of the structure every ten rows. The building can be entered at both levels because it is built on a steep slope and there is a substantial concrete retaining wall allowing access at all levels. The two main entrances are centrally located at the second story level on the north (front) side of the building. The door openings are round-arched with Palladian windows above the doors. The windows are wood-frame, six-over-six, and double-hung. Four hip-roof dormers with revealed rafters line the north elevation of the roof and two tall brick chimneys set between them. A large L-shaped projection to the rear on each unit creates an inner semi-enclosed porch area for each unit which is tied together with a large concrete patio with steps leading down at each side to the lowest level. It is currently used for staff housing.

**#25 Building #15 Water Reservoir GA0386 c.1910 (C)**

This is one of the original water reservoirs. It is a massive buttressed concrete structure with an A-frame style building on top. The frame portion appears to have a central entrance door in the west end and appears to have been screened in at the top portion. There were two small gable monitors along the roof, but now they are just a framework. This structure has been abandoned for quite some time, probably since the water tank just east of it was built to replace it. The tank is in good shape and is probably still in use, but this structure is now unusable.

**#26 Building #29 Nurse Corps Home GA0387 d.1914 (C)**

This building, actually two buildings connected together by an elevated enclosed mezzanine was the original home to the Army Nurse Corps. They are both constructed of red brick, three and a half story for the front structure and two and a half for the rear structure.

The primary building influence is French Colonial and the main building has a small single-story structure at each end, one flat roof, the other hip roof. The first floor brick colonnaded porch that runs the length of the building has been enclosed with large wooden door sets and the upper porch has been framed in and windows added. The wood-frame double-hung windows have four-over-two lights and can be seen in symmetrical fashion along the third floor front elevation. There are also five gabled dormers on both sides of the roof. Metal fire escape stairs are at each end on each floor. The rear building is also of red brick and has round-arch openings for window and doors, the windows are three-over-two lights in double-hung casings. It has four gable dormers on

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each side but are smaller than the front building. Both structures have parapets at each gable end and the rear building has a large shed addition at the south end. On the grounds are many old playground structures, (horses, see saws, slides, etc.) These units now serve as guest housing.

**#27 Building #35 Hospital Ward GA0388 c.1920 (C)**

This multiple unit housing building is a three story red-brick structure over a concrete foundation. The apartments were built shortly after WW1 as a hospital ward. It currently houses Center staff and has various classrooms. It is a very large side-gable structure with three equally-spaced cross-gable projections in front with end parapets. The style influence is French Colonial. The three-story brick projection, which is now an entrance, was probably added at a much later date. The front porches consist of brick colonnades with three arched openings in each section. The two porches above each of these were originally open but have been enclosed for quite some time now. The rear of the building has three large external brick chimneys and equally-spaced, three-over-one, wood-frame, double-hung windows. There are also open porches on the north end that have been modernized and an elevated walkway that connects the second floor porch with the hillside past the water tank and onto the rear street. The water tank is the second of two large tanks on the property. There are also metal balconies at back with metal steps reaching ground level. The south entry is covered by a small hip style roof supported by two round columns on piers.

**#28 Building #41 Army/Navy Guardhouse GA0389 c.1920 (C)**

The Army/Navy Guardhouse was built near the end of the First World War and has had several uses over the years. It is a small one-story brown-brick structure with a large concrete porch on a poured concrete foundation. The porch is covered by a pediment gable roof supported by four ionic columns. The roof is composition shingles and the windows are double-hung with six-over-six, three-over-three, and nine-over-two lights. The building is in good condition, and is currently being used as a publications office. It had served as the hospital chapel for several years previously.

**#29 Building #100 GA0390 c.1940 (C)**

This is a bit of an unusual structure in that it was built as a two level garage, yet has the look of a small dwelling. It is of yellow brick with darker ones interspersed, built over a concrete foundation. The design is modern, the gable roof is composition shingle with a small line of tile along the peak, and a small finial-like feature at each end. The east end on the upper level has a large double-bay opening with no doors, while the lower level has two opposing double-door bays at opposite ends of the structure. The west door faces north while the one on the eastern half faces south. A small entryway with a hip roof has been added on the southwest portion of the lower level with a shallow angle wood-gable carport attached to that. The ancillary structure is another two-level garage, across the driveway. It is of red brick with the upper double bay facing east and the lower double bay facing west.

**#30 Building #1 105 Reserve Army/Navy General Hospital GA0391 d.1933 (C)**

This beautiful six-story structure sits at the base of the southern slope of Hot Springs mountain, and is visible from almost any point in the city. Its Spanish Revival design gives it a commanding presence; it was built in 1933 and replaces a much smaller structure that had several wards connected by walkways. It is built of steel beams and yellow brick over a concrete foundation. It is an L-shaped building with one wing to the north, one to the east, and another bisecting the shape at the rear and running to the northeast. The roofs are mostly flat with tar buildup, and there are parapets all around with detailed, symmetrically-spaced, terra cotta panels. There is also an elegant entry center front, which is one story and has a flat roof, limestone walls, flat Corinthian style pilasters, a large, amazingly detailed flat metal canopy, and stone steps. The front part of the building is seven stories high with an elaborate mission-style tower and dome at the center of that. Four large brick pilasters with a window on each floor between them, rise to meet the base of the tower. Three balustrade balconies are seen at the uppermost windows below the tower. The sixth floor of the east wing was originally an open sun deck, but has been mostly enclosed in later years. A large stone retaining wall is at the west and south boundary of the property and runs parallel to Reserve Street on much of the southern border. Terraced steps lead to the building from the southwest corner at Reserve Street and the entry driveway about fifty yards further east is marked by two

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free-standing square columns that have features and symbols carved in relief. The building is now used for administrative offices, classes, physical rehabilitation, and other related functions.

**#31 Building #6 200 Reserve GA0392 c.1960 (NC)**

This building at 200 Reserve is the only one that is separated by a city street from the main campus. It is an L-shaped split level Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial structure with a flat tar buildup roof. It sits on a poured concrete foundation, has a small single-bay loading dock in front on the north side, and a large concrete dock and ramp system spanning the entire length of both of the rear walls. The windows are one-over-one double-hung in metal frames and placed asymmetrically, some of them in pairs. There are three entryways on the north side with metal doors, two single, one double. The building sits by itself in the northwest corner of the block. The entire block is contained in a chain-link fence with barbed wire on top. The streets that surround the building are Reserve Street to the north, Cottage Street to the west, Spring Street on the south and Pleasant Street on the east. It is now a thrift store and work activity center.

### INTEGRITY

Despite alterations and changes that have occurred throughout the years, as a cohesive group of 31 buildings, the Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District adequately conveys a sense of time and place as it displays integrity of location, setting, design, feeling, association, workmanship and materials. Visually, the Army and Navy General Hospital continues to remain an integral part of the historic fabric of downtown Hot Springs' landscape and it remains an important component of the town's rich history that hinges on the famous hot springs.



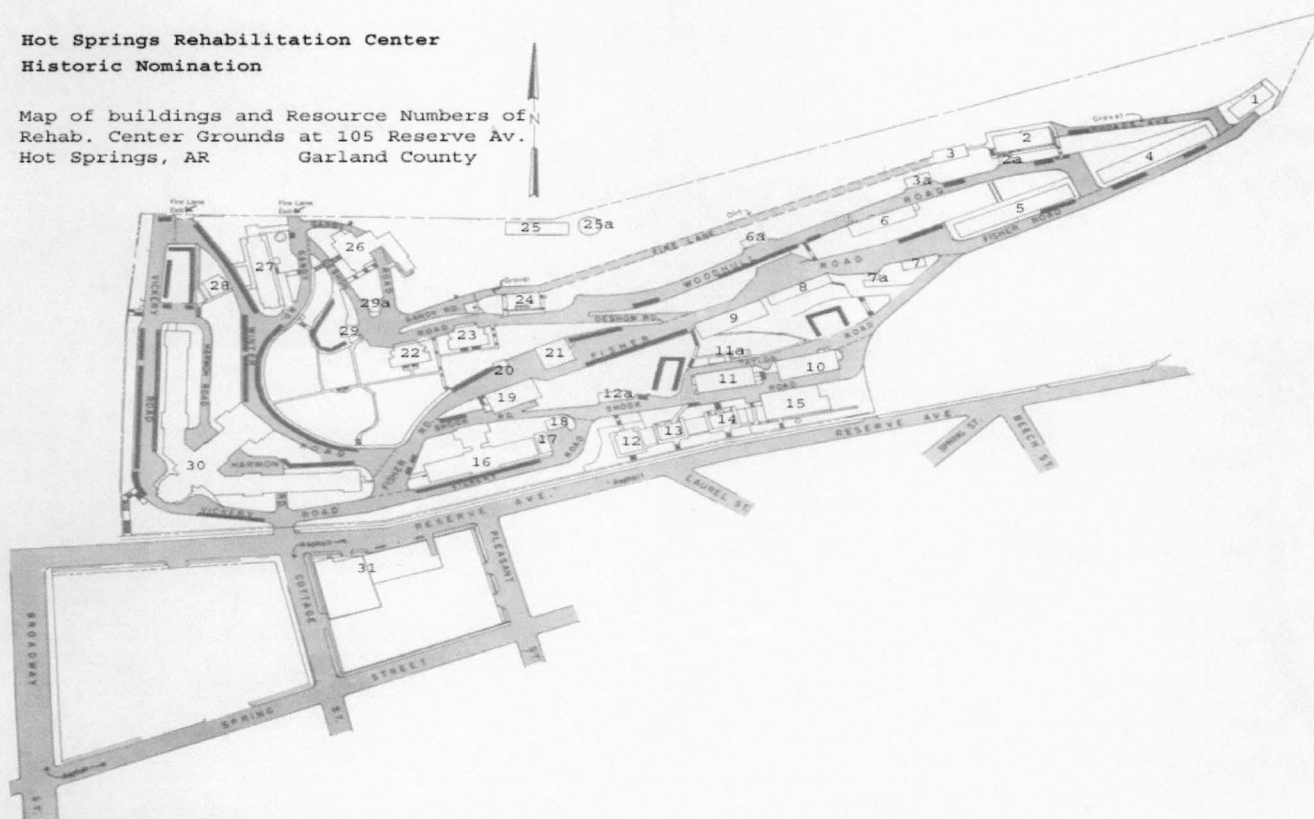
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### Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center Historic Nomination

Map of buildings and Resource Numbers of  
Rehab. Center Grounds at 105 Reserve Av.  
Hot Springs, AR Garland County



Bldg.#	GA#	Address	Status	Bldg.#	GA#	Address	Status
1	0362	105 Reserve#57	C	17	0378	105 Reserve#17	C
2	0363	105 Reserve#58	C	18	0379	105 Reserve#22	C
3	0364	105 Reserve#59	C	19	0380	105 Reserve#14	C
4	0365	105 Reserve#55	NC	20	0381	105 Reserve#40	C
5	0366	105 Reserve#54	NC	21	0382	105 Reserve#25	NC
6	0367	105 Reserve#52	C	22	0383	105 Reserve#26	C
7	0368	105 Reserve#19	C	23	0384	105 Reserve#27	C
8	0369	105 Reserve#38	C	24	0385	105 Reserve#43	C
9	0370	105 Reserve#53	NC	25	0386	105 Reserve#15	C
10	0371	105 Reserve#16	C	26	0387	105 Reserve#29	C
11	0372	105 Reserve#12	C	27	0388	105 Reserve#35	C
12	0373	417 Reserve	C	28	0389	105 Reserve#41	C
13	0374	421 Reserve	C	29	0390	105 Reserve#100	C
14	0375	425 Reserve	C	30	0391	105 Reserve#1	C
15	0376	105 Reserve#11	C	31	0392	200 Reserve	NC
16	0377	105 Reserve#2	C				

**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** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS SECTION 8**

**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 SHEETS SECTION 9**

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

**Levels of Significance** (local, state, national)

**NATIONAL**

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

**HEALTH/MEDICINE**

**ARCHITECTURE**

**EDUCATION**

**Period of Significance**

**1877-1956**

**Significant Dates**

**Construction: 1908; 1915; 1930-36**

**History: 1877-1956; 1939-1944; 1943; 1943-44**

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

**N/A**

**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

**N/A**

**Architect/Builder**

**UNKNOWN**

**Primary location of additional data:**

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☒ Other State Agency (Arkansas Rehabilitation Services)
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government (City of Hot Springs)
- ☒ University (Library, University of Arkansas – Fayetteville)
- ☒ Other (Hot Springs Historical Museum)

Name of repository:

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### SUMMARY

Sited on a hill, overlooking downtown Hot Springs, Arkansas, Garland County, is the Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District comprised of 31 buildings sited on approximately 10 acres. The imposing hospital building, designed in the Spanish Revival Style with subtle Art Deco influences, and its associated structures are being nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places with **national significance**. They are being nominated under **Criterion C** as the hospital's architecture and design is representative of building trends occurring during the construction of military hospitals during the 1930s. The collection of buildings are also being nominated with **national significance** under **Criterion A** because of their association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of military medical history – specifically in the treatment of poliomyelitis and arthritis, both of which were treated with the hot water supplied by the naturally occurring hot springs. The Army and Navy General Hospital, not only treated military personnel from around the world but it also served as a training school for both servicemen and servicewomen practicing various facets of medicine in all parts of the world.

### ELABORATION

The Army and Navy General Hospital, located in Hot Springs, Arkansas, has an interesting and important history that dates back to 1887, when the military built the first Army and Navy General Hospital and designated it as the *first general* hospital established during peacetime. There are numerous reasons why this history of this hospital is significant on a national level, one of those being that it is the only military hospital whose location was chosen solely because of its proximity to hot springs or “healing waters.” Also, in the history of the military, this hospital is the only one ever built under the direction of both the Army and the Navy to accommodate both branches of personnel. Although the aforementioned things distinguish it from other hospitals, it is the contributions that the Army and Navy General Hospital made to military medicine, primarily during WWII, that remain part of the hospital's legacy, thus making it significant on the national level. During the 1940s, the hospital was designated the Army Arthritis Center for the entire Army and was the first medical center selected for the treatment of poliomyelitis, due in part to the fact that the hospital had the first therapeutic pool for soldiers, filled with warm water from the springs. The hospital was also a premier training hospital for personnel being disseminated throughout the world. It was one of the first four hospitals chosen as a technical school in 1939; in 1943, it was host to the first Medical Department Enlisted Technicians School established for members of the Women's Army Corp. The 1933 building was designed in the Spanish Revival Style, with subtle Art Deco influences, and it remains an imposing presence in downtown Hot Springs today. It is one of the finest examples of the Spanish Revival style as applied to a government building in all of Arkansas, and it is one of the more ornate military hospitals still standing in the United States that dates back to the 1930s.

### Nineteenth-Century U.S. Military Hospital History

In 1775, the government established the Continental Army and Continental Navy. In 1818, the Army created the office of Surgeon General to oversee the medical treatment of soldiers. At this time, hospitals were simply rooms or buildings at an existing post. However, during and after the Civil War, the need for hospitals increased due to sickness, disease, and injuries. It was after the Civil War that the army began constructing hospitals that fell in to one of two categories: post hospitals and general hospitals. Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the Army constructed post hospitals at most forts throughout the United States. As the Army grew and progressed in the medical field it began building general hospitals to better care for the increased number of soldiers suffering from rare or serious illnesses. General hospitals evolved from a series of temporary wartime hospitals to a system of permanent general hospitals.<sup>3</sup> After the Civil War, the Army began constructing permanent hospitals as described in the *National Historic Context for Department Of Defense Installations, 1790-1940*:

<sup>3</sup>Christopher Goodwin and Associates. “National Historic Context for Department of Defense Installations, 1790-1940,” Vol. II, (prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, July 1995), pgs. 103-105.



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The overwhelming medical needs of the Civil War resulted in the construction of buildings that were designed specifically as Army general hospitals to care for all soldiers regardless of unit. The army utilized a "pavilion" type of hospital, which consisted of wards that were physically separated from one another and connected by corridors or covered walkways because doctors mistakenly believed that diseases were transmitted through "vapors"... By the close of the war, the Army had 204 general hospitals with a total of 136,994 beds.<sup>4</sup>

The history of the naval hospital system is similar to that of the Army. In 1787, Congress authorized a Marine Hospital Fund to care for Navy personnel and the Merchant Marine; and in 1811, the Navy authorized a separate hospital fund. The Navy began building hospitals in the 1820s, typically locating them near major ports oftentimes in cities near the naval shipyards.<sup>5</sup> During the nineteenth century, the Navy commissioned professional architects such as John Haviland and William Strickland to design the hospitals. Most of the very early naval hospitals were designed in the block plan, corridor plan, or the pavilion plan. By 1894, the Navy had twelve hospitals containing 823 beds.<sup>6</sup> It was during this era of hospital construction that the Army and the Navy created the first peacetime general hospital at Hot Springs, the only such hospital ever created through a partnership between the War Department and the Department of the Navy.<sup>7</sup>

### 1887 Army and Navy General Hospital (1887- 1932)

After the Civil War, sick and wounded from both armies sought the healing properties of the hot springs in what is now Hot Springs, Arkansas. In 1882, General John A. Logan, a Civil War veteran and U.S. Senator (1871-1877; 1879-1886), visited the hot springs for medicinal purposes under the supervision of Doctor A. S. Garnett. Garnett was a former Navy surgeon and practicing doctor in Hot Springs at the time. Garnett had long been an advocate of establishing an Army and Navy Hospital at Hot Springs, and was able to successfully convey this idea to prominent businessmen in the community and most importantly to General Logan. Colonel S. W. Fordyce, also a supporter of the idea, hosted a dinner party in honor of Logan before he left Hot Springs. Businessmen and politicians attended the party and were able to express to Logan their vision of an Army and Navy Hospital at Hot Springs. At the time of his departure, Logan felt that Hot Springs was an "ideal location for and institution of this character." After returning to Washington D.C., Logan proposed an amendment to the Army Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year 1882, providing \$100,000.00 for the construction of an Army and Navy Hospital at "the Government Reservation at or near Hot Springs."<sup>8</sup> Congress had set aside this

<sup>4</sup>Ibid. 105.

<sup>5</sup> The oldest identified extant hospital building constructed by the Navy appears to be the Naval Asylum (1833), located in Philadelphia, PA, designed by architect William Strickland in the Greek Revival style (NR Listed 1972). Damaged by fire in 2003, the Asylum has been remodeled for use as condominiums. The oldest identified extant general hospital building (not to be confused with a post hospital) constructed by the Army appears to be Letterman General Hospital (ca. 1900), located within the Historic Presidio National Park of San Francisco (NHL). The hospital ward has been rehabilitated and is now part of the Thoreau Center (NHL Listed 1962). Goodwin & Associates, 106-107; "Up from the Ashes: U. N. Naval Asylum Survives Years of Neglect, Two Fires," [http://www.southphillyblocks.org/photos\\_essays/navyhome/](http://www.southphillyblocks.org/photos_essays/navyhome/); "Thoreau Center for Sustainability," [http://www.thoreau.org/Photos/Photos\\_B/photos\\_b13.htm](http://www.thoreau.org/Photos/Photos_B/photos_b13.htm)

<sup>6</sup>Goodwin & Associates, 106-107.

<sup>7</sup>The facility was intended for the joint use of both services but it was always under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of War until 1957, when it transferred to the Army. Goodwin & Associates, 105; Carl Enna, "Standing Tall Through the Years: A History of HSRC," *The Counselor* (Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center Newspaper), August 2004, 17.

<sup>8</sup>Martin A. Eisele, Untitled, Date unknown. Frederick W. Cron, "Hot Springs' Military Hospital: The Army and Navy Opened One Hundred Years Ago," *The Record* 28 (1987): 83-84; and Carl Enna, "Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center," *The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*, <http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=2236>.

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land or "reservation" on 20 April 1832 to protect the hot springs and their surroundings, known as Hot Springs National Park.<sup>9</sup> The Army Appropriation Act of June 30, 1882 (chapter 254, 22 Stat. 121), provided:

That \$100,000 be, and hereby is, appropriated for the erection of an Army and Navy Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas, which shall be erected by and under the direction of the Secretary of War, in accordance with plans and specifications to be prepared and submitted to the Secretary of War by the Surgeons General of the Army and Navy; which hospital, when in a condition to receive patients, shall be subject to such rules, regulations, and restrictions as shall be provided by the President of the United States: Provided further, that such hospital shall be erected on the government reservation at or near Hot Springs, Arkansas.<sup>10</sup>

It was at this time that the army created the first peacetime general hospital, the Army and Navy General Hospital, at Hot Springs, Arkansas.<sup>11</sup> The military selected the firm of Smithmeyer and Peltz, architects in Washington, D.C., to draft the plans. After the Civil War, the government had appointed John L. Smithmeyer as Superintendent of government buildings in the south. Smithmeyer completed the plans for the hospital in February 1884. Smithmeyer designed the hospital to reflect the Swiss Chalet style and to accommodate a maximum of 100 patients. The building was made of red brick, slate and wood. Beginning in February 1884, Captain J. W. Jacobs, Constructing Quartermaster, oversaw the construction of the hospital.<sup>12</sup>

Since its conception, one of the major focuses of the Army and Navy General Hospital has been the use of thermal waters to treat rheumatic diseases. In *Infectious Diseases and General Medicine*, Dr. Richard Smith notes, "The Army and Navy General Hospital, the Army's oldest general hospital, was chosen because of its past history and excellent facilities. The adjacent Hot Springs which, since 1887, had been a mecca for rheumatic personnel of the Army, was a natural choice." In the 1968 manuscript, *Army Medical Specialist Corps*, Emma Vogel notes that the hospital "utilized the therapeutic properties of the mineral hot springs in that area".<sup>13</sup> Since the origination of the idea to construct a hospital, the hot springs played an integral part in site selection for the hospital, as well as in the way in which many of the injured or sick soldiers were treated. The 1887 hospital continued to serve the military until it was replaced by a new, modern hospital in 1933.

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<sup>9</sup>On March 4, 1921, Congress changed the name to Hot Springs National Park. Hot Springs National Park (HSNP) comprises approximately 5,450 acres, within which approximately 47 hot springs emerge from the Hot Springs sandstone. James C. Petersen and David N. Mott. Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, Water Resources Scoping Report, (Water Resources Division/NPS/Department of the Interior/Fort Collins-Denver-Washington, 2002), 1,5-6, NPS/NRWRD/NRTR-2002/301.

<sup>10</sup>U.S. Supreme Court, *ARLINGTON HOTEL CO. v. FANT*, 278 U.S. 439 (1929), [http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/prINTER\\_FRIENDLY.pl?page+us/278/439.html](http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/prINTER_FRIENDLY.pl?page+us/278/439.html)

<sup>11</sup>Goodwin & Associates, 106.

<sup>12</sup>Cron, 86; "American Architect's Biographies," (Society of Architectural Historians), <http://www.sah.org/oldsite06012004/aame/bios.html>

<sup>13</sup> Dr. Richard T. Smith, M.D. "Chapter XVIII: Rheumatic Diseases," Chapter XVII in Vol. II: Infectious Diseases and General Medicine, ed. Lt. Gen. Leonard D. Heaton, Col. John B. Coates, Jr. and W. Paul Havens, Jr., Internal Medicine in WWII Series (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1963), 480; Col. Emma Vogel, "Physical Therapists Before World War II (1917-1940)," Chapter III in Army Medical Specialists Corps, ed. Col. Robert S. Anderson, Col. Harriet S. Lee, and Lt. Col. Myra L. McDaniel (Washington, D.C.: U. S. Government Printing Office), 55.



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### Early Twentieth Century U.S. Military

After the turn of the century, army hospitals continued to follow the pavilion-type plan of nineteenth-century general hospitals with the addition of only three more general hospitals (Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.; Letterman General Hospital, Presidio of San Francisco, California; Fort Bayard General Hospital, and Fort Bayard, New Mexico). Due to the influx of wounded and sick soldiers from WWI, the army expanded its general hospital system to eight general hospitals. In the 1930s, the army began changing their hospital designs as doctors' understanding of epidemiology began to change. Once doctors begin to understand that bacteria caused disease transmission, and the importance of antiseptics, they implemented a new design – the tower hospital plan.<sup>14</sup>

The consolidated, tower hospital plan minimized the distances between wards, resulting in savings of staff time and infrastructure, i.e. lighting and heating ducts. The new hospital plan type was developed in the United States; the first example was the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, New York, started in 1928. The military quickly adopted this civilian precedent. In 1936, the Surgeon General ordered military planners to develop plans for a new hospital building, with all wards concentrated in a single building, at Fitzsimons.<sup>15</sup>

Fitzsimons General Hospital (Aurora, Colorado) and Brooke General Hospital (Fort. Sam Houston, Texas) were designed in the Art Moderne style that was a popularized by architects designing public buildings in the 1930s. During this time, the Navy too was expanding its hospital system.<sup>16</sup>

Between 1893 and 1913, the Navy remodeled many of its older hospitals. New hospitals were designed to handle the extensive expansion of bed capacity in times of emergency. Architects were still designing some of the hospitals based on the pavilion plan. However, between 1900 and WWI, the Navy adopted another type of plan, the "Type Naval Hospital Plan". The general premises of this plan consisted of a main hospital; a contagious disease hospital; a power, laundry, and disinfecting plant; and quarters. The general arrangement of the building resembled a "T" with a central administration block flanked by two ward wings, and the operating wing towards the rear, with Solariums incorporated into the plan. Just as the army did during the 1930s, the navy adopted the more modern concept of hospital design – the consolidated, multi-story plan. The Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland is an example of this.

### 1933 Army and Navy General Hospital (1933-1960)

Following World War I and the passage of the World War Veterans' Act of 1924, which required the Army, Navy and other departments of the military to assist the Veterans' Bureau with hospitalization, the need for a modernized and enlarged hospital in Hot Springs continued to grow. In 1925, the average number of patients was 193 and in 1929, there were 239 patients (the 1887 hospital was originally equipped to handle between 80 and 100 patients). In 1929, the commanding officer of the Veterans' Bureau recommended that the War Department and the Veterans' Bureau build a new hospital, each paying for its own share of the cost.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>14</sup>Goodwin and Associates, 105-106.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid., 106.

<sup>16</sup>Ibid.

<sup>17</sup>The present day Veterans' Administration (VA) has had numerous names throughout the years; however, its origins date back to 1636 when the Pilgrims passed a law that stated that disabled soldiers would be supported by the colony. After the Civil War, many state veterans' homes were established to provide incidental medical and hospital treatment for all injuries and disease, whether or not of service origin. By 1930, the VA had 54 hospitals. "A Brief History of the VA," [www.va.gov/facmgt/historic/Brief\\_VA\\_History.asp](http://www.va.gov/facmgt/historic/Brief_VA_History.asp); Cron, 88.



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Congress, in the Act of June 18, 1930, appropriated \$450,000 for the reconstruction of the hospital. To this, the Veterans Administration added something over a million dollars from the hospital funds appropriated to it by the act of December 29, 1929. The Act of June 18, 1930, provided that the exterior design of the new hospital should be approved by the National Park Service. ...The hospital grounds were increased in 1931 by assignment of 9.15 acres of park land adjoining it on the east. This brought the total area of the hospital reservation to 24.24 acres.<sup>18</sup>

In 1930, Congress appropriated \$1,500,000 for the construction of a new hospital. By December of 1931, the military had appointed Captain Edward M. George constructing quartermaster. In an article published in the Arkansas Gazette, 13 December 1931, a drawing of the building was referenced as was a description of the future Army and Navy Hospital:

The structure, will be of the reinforced concrete type, veneered with a light color face brick, trimmed with white stone, and ornamented with ornamental bronze. It will have a central tower 12 stories high, standing 189 feet above the roadway at the main entrance. Surrounding the tower will be the head house, 40 feet wide and 120 feet long and eight stories high. Directly in the rear of the tower will be the center wing, six stories high, 40 feet wide and 130 feet long. There also will be two wings, one parallel with Reserve avenue and the other parallel with Central avenue, each 40 feet wide and 240 feet long and each wing six stories high, 40 feet wide and 130 feet long. The entire structure will contain approximately 200,000 feet of floor space. The two side wings will be equipped with heliotherapy decks on the roof and contain about 16,000 square feet of floor space. Complete Housing Arrangements: The building will house all administrative activities, the technical service required for the operation of a general hospital, and all other necessary features. The hospital will have a capacity of 412 beds. Screened porches on the street side of the side wings will be available to all wards and rooms. The openings from wards and rooms to porches will be French doors. Four elevators will be installed. There will be a hydrotherapy pool on the first floor, 10 feet wide and 20 feet long. Provision will be made throughout for the piping of both hot and cold domestic water and hot and cold mineral water. ...The hospital will be equipped with the best materials and latest features throughout, Captain George said. Marble, tile and terrazzo will be used freely, he said. All the rooms pertaining to any one service or department will be master-keyed. All rooms will be master-keyed by floors, and every lock in the building will be master-keyed to one key.<sup>19</sup>

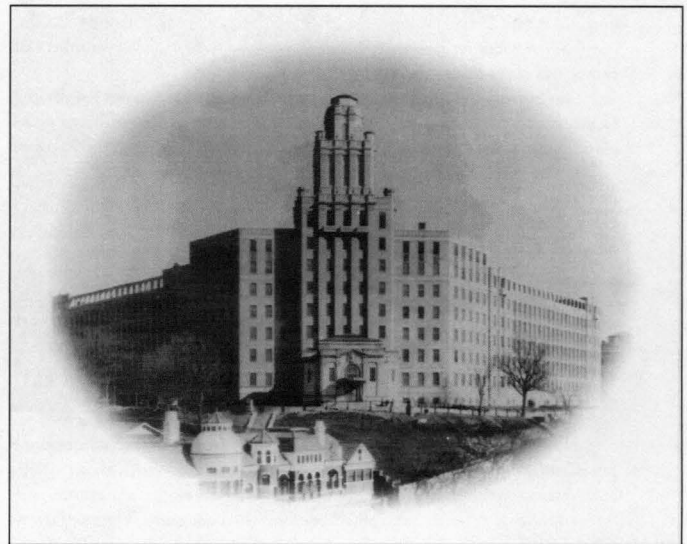
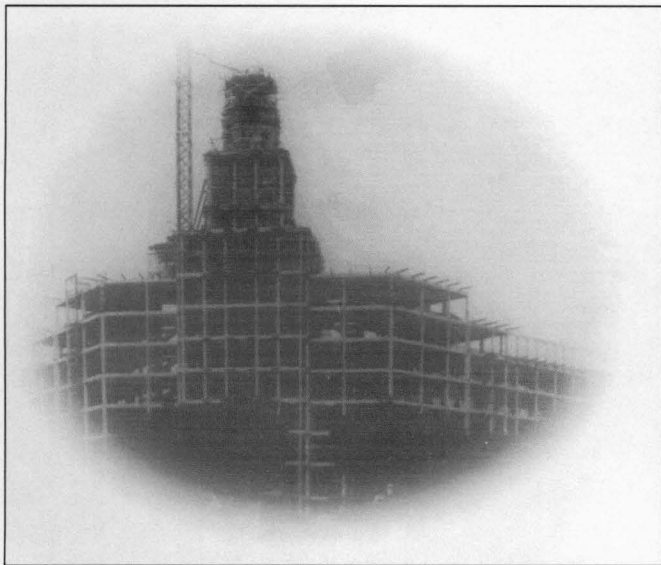
<sup>18</sup>Ibid. 88-89.

<sup>19</sup>"To Receive Bids for New Hospital," Arkansas Gazette, 13 December 1931.

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The War Department awarded the National Construction Company of Washington, D.C. the bid for the construction of the hospital. The company appointed J.D. Copeman, Superintendent of Construction. The groundbreaking occurred 31 March 1932. Personnel and companies that contributed to the construction of the hospital included: foundation - Bellows-McClay Company of Dallas, TX; plumbing - Wallace Plumbing of Dallas, TX; concrete supplier - Ed Mooney of Hot Springs, AR; inspectors - D. Rogers Troutt, Detective C. N. Buckalew, Edward C. Ellenbrook, Joe King, and Gilbert Kopplin; plastering contractor - Elwood E. Schwerls; painting superintendent - W. W. Dempsey; Steamfitter - F. A. Bennett; plumber - C. J. Campbell; electricians - E. L. Luben and Albert Bennett; glazing contractor - J. P. Mills; insulation contractor - S. L. Jones; pipe contractor - Gentry Jones; hardware superintendent - E. L. Files; timekeepers - J. J. Everett, H.A. Campbell; Campbell Metal Works; and Alabama Marble Company.<sup>20</sup> To date, the architect of this building, which obviously appears to be architect-designed, has yet to be identified. It is possible that the architect was from the Washington D.C. area, under the employment of the War Department, hired to work on various U.S. military projects. It is also, possible that the military hired a local architect to draft the plans. However, unless the appropriate documentation is found, these are only hypothesis.

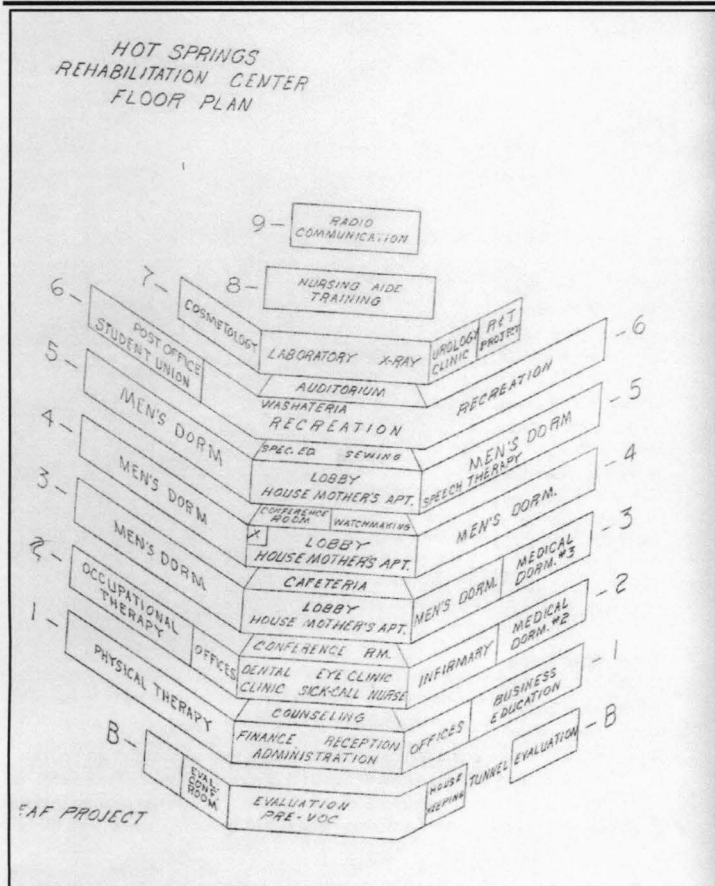
It is also important to note that during construction of the Army and Navy General Hospital, the "east annex" or nurses' quarters, also known as Ross Hall, was also under construction for \$160,000.00. The building was designed in the Spanish Revival style to compliment the Army and Navy General Hospital. Henry B. Ryan of Chicago, IL, served as general contractor. Gus Solberg served as general superintendent of construction, T. A. Walker was in charge of the materials and office, and Fred Fisher was in charge of the brick, terra cotta and stone used on the project which was in architectural harmony with the new Army and Navy General Hospital. Construction on the nurses' quarters was completed in December of 1933.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>20</sup> "Work to Start on New Hospital Now," New Era (Hot Springs), 28 March 1932; "Government to Take Over New Hospital Today," Sentinel-Record (Hot Springs), 20 September 1935.

<sup>21</sup> "Will Complete 'Nurses' Home by Christmas," Sentinel-Record (Hot Springs), 26 November 1933.

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In October 1933, the new Army and Navy Hospital opened as an imposing landmark in the heart of downtown Hot Springs. According to a history of the building by Carl Enna, the layout of the hospital was as follows. The morgue was housed in the rock and concrete basement, which also made it a perfect bomb shelter, the first in Garland County. The 1<sup>st</sup> floor was the medical ward for men and children. The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor was the general mess hall, whereas, the 4<sup>th</sup> floor served as the officer's mess hall. The operating rooms, considered at the time to be the finest in the South, were located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. Also located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor was a library and an outdoor theater where first-run movies were shown two to three times per week. There was also a sundeck on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. Patients received body massages and physical therapy treatments in the halls of the north wing on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. The 7<sup>th</sup> floor housed an observation gallery overlooking the 6<sup>th</sup> floor operating rooms. The 7<sup>th</sup> floor was home to X-Ray and the radium treatment area. Obstetrics was located on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor along with the VIP Penthouse for retired officers. The 9<sup>th</sup> floor was home to KANH, the Army/Navy Radio Station that broadcast four different types of programs that were distributed throughout the hospital. The radio station used pillow speakers, a unique technology for the time.<sup>22</sup>

The hospital was equipped with the most modern equipment and could accommodate approximately 500 patients. During the 1940s the influx of patients grew exponentially. Normally, the hospital averaged seventeen admissions per day; and approximately three- to four-hundred patients per month. WWII

was the busiest time in the hospital's history as soldiers from the battle zones were sent to the hospital for rehabilitation and for rest and relaxation. In June 1945 alone, the hospital admitted 1,800 patients. In 1945, to better accommodate the influx of patients and staff, the government purchased the old Eastman Hotel (no longer extant) for use as an annex to the hospital. A newly constructed enclosed breezeway connected the hospital to the Eastman giving the facility much needed space. A number of Americans of notoriety visited the hospital complex: General John (Black Jack) Pershing, for therapy on numerous occasions; actor/singer, Al Jolson; baseball player, Jo DiMaggio; pianist, Eddie Duchin; band leader, Kay Kyser; actor, Alan Ladd; and Helen Keller.<sup>23</sup>

The hospital was not only a place for treating wounded soldiers but also a place for training military personnel. To the rear of the hospital there was a technicians' school where personnel received medical, surgical, dental, and other technical training. In 1939, The Surgeon General provided a blueprint for accelerating the training of enlisted technicians known as the Protective Mobilization Plan of 1939. The Army and Navy General Hospital was one of four hospitals where a technical school was established during the initial

<sup>22</sup>Carl Enna, "Standing Tall Through the Years: A History of HSRC," The Counselor, A Publication of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, September 2004, pg. 10.

<sup>23</sup>Carl Enna, (September 2004), pgs. 9-10; Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center: A Past of Service A Future of Progress, In house 2004, no page number.



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thirty-day mobilization period. Each school had ten days to implement large-scale training, offering courses in six enlisted specialties: laboratory, X-ray, dental, pharmacy, medical and surgical technicians. Throughout WWII, the army continued to expand its technical training programs in special schools, established solely for that purpose, and in existing hospitals. The program at the Army and Navy General Hospital was one of the smaller training programs and was the first to close in 1944, followed by four others that fall.<sup>24</sup>

On 9 September 1943, the Army established the first Medical Department Enlisted Technicians' School for members of the Women's Army Corps at the Army and Navy General Hospital. The women were housed in facilities that had been used for three years by the school for male technicians. Housing was remodeled to meet the standards established by the Women's Army Corps. When possible qualified WAC personnel replaced male instructors. One report stated, "During the summer of the conversion, the WAAC was able to make available to The Surgeon General less than two hundred individuals a month, for technical training at the Army-Navy General Hospital." Some of the women attending the training sessions were being trained to be physical therapy technicians. One report stated, "Many WACs have graduated from the Army and Navy General Hospital as Medical Technicians and have taken their added knowledge to their posts of duty in the station, region and general hospitals throughout the country." Women received training as medical, surgical, X-ray, dental and medical laboratory technicians. Personnel at the Army and Navy General Hospital were responsible for developing the program guide that insured standardization throughout all existing and future WAC technical schools. Recruiting intensified during the summer of 1944. Due to increased enrollment, the facilities at the Army and Navy General Hospital became inadequate since there was no room to expand and to accommodate the increasing number of WAC personnel; the training facility was moved to Wakeman General Hospital.<sup>25</sup>

### Hydrotherapy

During WWII the hospital became one of national importance due to the medicinal properties of the thermal waters used to treat various illnesses and injuries. It was the use of these thermal water that were an important to the 1887 hospital and that make this 1933 hospital one of national significance. One floor of the hospital was equipped with "the most modern bath, vapor cabinets, underwater pool, whirlpool equipment, as well as Hubbard tubs, to administer the hydrotherapy treatment given at the institution, which featured the use of steaming waters from the natural hot springs, from which this city and park take its name."<sup>26</sup> In the manuscript *Army Specialist Corps* published for the Office of the Surgeon General Department, the hydrotherapy program at the hospital is described as follows:

As did the old hospital before it, the new hospital utilized the therapeutic properties of the mineral hot springs in that area. The hydrotherapy section included the first therapeutic pool in the Army. It was patterned after the one at Warm Springs, GA., and was equipped with weighted tables and chairs and an

<sup>24</sup>Robert J. Parks, "Medical Department United States Army In World War II: Medical Department, United States army Medical Training in World War II," (Washington, D.C.: Office of the Surgeon General, Department of the Army, 1974), 213, 221; "Formal Opening of Big Buileing Set for Today" (sic.), The Sentinel-Record (Hot Springs), 5 December 1943.

<sup>25</sup>The Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC) Bill passed Congress 15 March 1942. The WAAC were later called Women's Army Corps (WAC) with the passage for the WAC Bill passed by Congress 1 July 1943, which gave women full military status. The summer of 1943 was known as the "conversion" period. "Distribution, Versatility and Excellence of WACS Serving with Army Service Forces," 1944 (?), (U.S. Army of Military History's Historical Manuscripts Collection, serial number 2-2.1 BC), 2, 4; Mattie E. Treadwell, "The Women's Army Corps," (Washington D.C.: Center of Military History, United States Army, 1954); reprint, Washington D.C.: Center of Military History, United States Army, 1991, 339, (page references from the reprint edition); "Women in the Military," [www.mscd.edu/~history/camphale/wim\\_001.html](http://www.mscd.edu/~history/camphale/wim_001.html); Parks, 236-238.

<sup>26</sup>Alta Smith to Bud, 31 October 1953, letter at the Garland County Archives, Hot Springs.

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overhead carriage for conveying a chair or litter into the pool. Physical therapists used the pool to great advantage in giving underwater exercise to patients with arthritis.<sup>27</sup>

Warm Springs, Georgia, was originally a resort town built around hot springs; after falling in to a state of disrepair, it gained notoriety once again after frequent visits by polio-stricken Franklin D. Roosevelt. In 1927, Roosevelt founded the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, a hospital for people with polio. Here the hot springs were used to fill pools and tubs to treat polio-stricken patients. In many ways Hot Springs and Warm Springs were similar in that both were resort towns that benefited from near-by hot springs. Although other hospitals would eventually offer hydrotherapy as a form of treatment, the Army and Navy General Hospital could boast of being the *only* military hospital whose waters came from natural thermal features that were used to fill the *first* therapeutic pool in an Army hospital.<sup>28</sup>

### *Poliomyelitis*

During WWII, the Army and Navy General Hospital was THE largest center for treating adults afflicted with infantile paralysis in the country.<sup>29</sup>

...[the hospital] offered spa therapy for patients with arthritis and poliomyelitis. **It was the only center designated for the treatment of poliomyelitis** (emphasis added). Both the main hospital and Eastman Annex (formerly a resort hotel) provided thermal baths. Included was a hydrotherapeutic pool equipped with exercise tables. Most of the poliomyelitis patients were in the subacute or convalescent phase, having been transferred to Army and Navy General Hospital **from points all over the world** (emphasis added). Reports from this hospital describe the treatment as a modified Kenny method which included moist hot packs, baths, and underwater and reeducational exercise. Prevention of contractures and fatigue was emphasized.<sup>30</sup>

### *Arthritis*

On 17 December 1943, the Army designated the Army and Navy General Hospital as the first **Army Arthritis Center** for the treatment of chronic arthritis. The Army chose this hospital because of its past history and because of its excellent facilities. The Army felt that the hot springs made this hospital "a natural choice." Doctors diagnosed sixty-five percent of the arthritic patients admitted to the hospital as having rheumatoid arthritis, fibrositis, or osteoarthritis. The primary goal of the hospital was not to cure (as there was no cure) but to provide relief of pain and maintenance of normal joint range motion, using physical therapy and hydrotherapy. The following chart shows the total admissions, as well as the admissions for rheumatic diseases at the hospital from 1941-1945.

<sup>27</sup>Vogel, "Physical Therapists Before World War II (1917-1949)," 55.

<sup>28</sup>"Warm Springs Georgia," <http://www.warmspringsga.com/warmsprings.htm>.

<sup>29</sup> "Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center: A Past of Service A Future of Progress," no page number.

<sup>30</sup> Emma E. Vogel, Col., Lt. Col. Mary S. Lawrence, and Mjr. Phyllis R. Strobel, "Professional Services of Physical Therapists, World War II," Chapter VIII in *Army Medical Specialist Corps*, ed. Col. Robert S. Anderson, Col. Harriet S. Lee, and Lt. Col. Myra L. McDaniel (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1968), 254-56.

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Year	Total Admissions	Rheumatic Diseases	
		Number	Percent
1941	907	584	64.4
1942	985	516	52.4
1943	1,930	556	28.8
1944	4,868	3,105	63.8
1945	6,041	3,542	58.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>14, 731</b>	<b>8,303</b>	<b>57.0%</b>

Note that after being established as the Army's first rheumatism center in December of 1943, the amount of personnel being admitted to the hospital for arthritis-related illnesses increases dramatically. Having established a rheumatism center in a large general hospital provided varied medical and surgical specialties that were necessary for proper knowledge and complete treatment of rheumatic diseases.<sup>31</sup>

### Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center

In the early 1950s, efforts were made to close the hospital. On 20 October 1952, the military announced the closure of the Army and Navy General Hospital. There were several factors that possibly influenced the decision to close the Army and Navy General Hospital in Hot Springs, among those: the movement by the federal government to close down or downsize military operations throughout the country; the declining number of active-duty service men after WWII; the fact that the facility was not located on or near a Navy or Army base; the enrollment of veterans in the Veterans' Administration hospital system; and the discovery an Army-wide administration of the Salk Vaccine in 1956, which "almost eliminated the patient with acute paralytic poliomyelitis from Army hospitals". On some occasions the government began deeding over former military installations, airports, training facilities, etc. to state and local governments, thus allowing for alternative uses for these infrastructures. Throughout the 1950s, the hospital operated on a year-to-year basis. After much fighting and lobbying to keep the institution open, the Army and Navy Hospital began phasing out operation in 1959 to meet the final closing date, April 1, 1960.<sup>32</sup>

On April 1, 1960, the federal government "gifted" the Army and Navy General Hospital to the state of Arkansas; Governor Orval Faubus accepted the deed to the complex on behalf of the state. Faubus then gave the deed to A. W. Ford, Arkansas Commissioner of Education and Don Russell, Director of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services. On 3 January 1961, after a year of renovations, the former military hospital opened under the new name, the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center. By August 1961, 160 students were enrolled at the Center. Twenty-six courses were offered and 135 of the group were in training. Among the first vocational training courses were upholstery, woodworking, general mechanics, automobile painting and body and fender repair, special education, sewing and tailoring, custodial, appliance repair, food service, radio-TV repair and radio-TV communications.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>31</sup>Smith, 477-480.

<sup>32</sup>Carl Enna, "Standing Tall Through the Years: A History of the HSRC (Part II)," The Counselor (A Publication of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services), October 2004, pg. 11; "Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center: A Past of Service A Future of Progress," no page number; Bonnie Eddens, "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow?," The Student Echo (Special Edition of the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center Paper) pg. 3; Mary Freeze, "Professional Services and Activities of Physical Therapists April 1947 to January 1961," Chapter XVII in Army Medical Specialist Corps, ed. Col. Robert S. Anderson, Col. Harriet S. Lee, and Lt. Col Myra L. McDaniel, (Washington D.C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1968), 559.

<sup>33</sup> "Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center: A Past of Service A Future of Progress," no page number; Eddens, pgs 6-7.



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In 1971, HSRC was one of three institutions in the country selected to participate in a research project sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Dr. George Hassard was the project director of the research experiment that consisted of the development of a "slight switch" for use by individuals having limited or no use of arms and legs. In 1972, the HSRC admitted its first students from outside of the United States, four deaf students from the Virgin Islands enrolled. In 2004, the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center began to evaluate what they would offer in vocational education with an eye toward change. The goal is two-fold: to offer courses where the training turns out candidates who are competitive in the most in-demand occupations in today's job market and to make spending on training more cost-effective.<sup>34</sup>

### SIGNIFICANCE

This nomination of the Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District (presently the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center) in Hot Springs, Arkansas, recognizes an ensemble of 31 historic buildings constructed from 1908 to the present, and the evolution of the property since the construction of the first hospital in 1887. Of the 31 structures, 26 (83.87%) are contributing, and 5 (16.13%) are non-contributing. The oldest extant building dates to 1908 while the majority of the buildings have construction dates spanning 1933 to 1974. The buildings styles include: Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial, Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century Industrial/Commercial, Modern, French Colonial, and Spanish Revival. In its place of prominence, towering 10 stories above Reserve Street and Broadway Street, the Spanish Revival-inspired Army and Navy General Hospital anchors the entire district. The legacy of using the hot springs for therapeutic purposes for the treatment of military personnel precedes the construction of the first hospital in 1877. Although the architecture of the hospital is impressive, its significance lies in the contributions that the Army and Navy General Hospital complex has made to military medicine. Within the military, the hospital was at the forefront in the treatment of arthritis and poliomyelitis. Military personnel fighting in various theaters in WWII were treated at the hospital for the aforementioned ailments as well as other physical and emotional injuries. The hospital was also nationally significant as a teaching school, as it was one of the first schools to teach men and women in various military medical disciplines before sending them out to various locations around the country.

This nomination seeks to create a new historic district containing approximately 10 acres east of Central Avenue, south of Hot Springs Mountain Road, north of Reserve Street, including one block immediately south of Reserve with Cottage Street, Spring Street, and Pleasant Street as the western, southern, and eastern borders of that block respectively. It is with **national significance** that the Army and Navy General Hospital and associated buildings are being nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under **Criteria A and C**.

\*Unless noted otherwise, all photos are from the "Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center: A Past of Service a Future of Progress."

<sup>34</sup>Ibid.

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**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property Approximately 10 acres**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>495120</u>	<u>3819100</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>15</u>	<u>495720</u>	<u>3819210</u>

3	<u>15</u>	<u>495720</u>	<u>3819130</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>15</u>	<u>495490</u>	<u>3819020</u>

☒ See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**SEE CONTINUATION SHEET SECTION 10****Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**SEE CONTINUATION SHEET SECTION 10****11. Form Prepared By**name/title Ron Lutz (CLG consultant) and Kara Oosterhous (Heritage Resource Consultant)organization For the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 6/10/05 (resubmitted 12/12/06)street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center St. telephone 501.324.9184city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets****Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's locationA **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street &amp; number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

### UTM REFERENCES (Continued)

5	15 495490E / 3818970N
6	15 495300E / 3818920N
7	15 495330E / 3818830N
8	15 495250E / 3818800N
9	15 495220E / 3818900N
10	15 495130E / 3818900N

### BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This nomination seeks to create a new historic district containing approximately 10 acres known as the Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District. The district is located in "Unplatted Hot Springs," the Southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 33, Township 2 South, and Range 19 West, the tax parcel number assigned to this property is **parcel 500503000003** and the **property ID number is 50967**. Enclosed is a map provided by the assessor's office at a scale of 1"= 300 feet (a map drawn to 1"=200 was not available).

The district is basically a peninsula (with the exception of 200 Reserve Street), surrounded by Hot Springs National Park on three sides; portions of the park lie to the north, east and west of the district boundaries. Reserve Street runs parallel to the southern boundary; Vickery Road runs parallel to the western boundary; and portions of Gandy Road, a fire lane, and Grover Avenue run parallel to the northern boundary; while sections of Fisher Road and Taylor Road run parallel to the eastern boundary. However, none of these roads, with the exception of Reserve Street mark the actual boundary line, thus making the boundary difficult to describe in narrative form. Generally speaking, the district lies east of Central Avenue, south of Hot Springs Mountain Road, north of Reserve Street, including one block immediately south of Reserve with Cottage Street, Spring Street, and Pleasant Street as the western, southern, and eastern borders of that block respectively.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary selected is determined by the geography of the land upon which the Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District sits, as well as the land owned by the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center that was originally associated with the Army and Navy General Hospital and supporting buildings. The buildings in this nomination are all currently owned and operated by the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center, whose official address is 105 Reserve Avenue. The entire property is gated and secured as one unit with the exception of the building at 200 Reserve. That building occupies an entire block immediately to the south across Reserve Avenue. It is also a fenced and secured property. This is the block immediately to the east of the U.S. Post Office on which the Eastman Hotel previously sat. When the Eastman Hotel was still standing, it had been used as an annex to the Army and Navy General Hospital, but when the Post Office was built, the ownership of the land transferred to the Post Office and is no longer part of HSRC property. Only the block of 200 Reserve Avenue is now part of Center property. As stated above, the district is a peninsula (with the exception of 200 Reserve Street), surrounded by the Hot Springs National Park to the north, east and west. The boundary contains approximately 10 acres of what remains of the original land set aside by the Army and Navy for the original hospital complex, as well as any other additions or land cessions that may have been made to the property throughout the years. The boundary contains a cohesive group of 31 buildings that possess integrity and support and convey the significance of the Army and Navy General Hospital, which serves as the focal point of the entire district.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Army and Navy Hospital

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Garland

DATE RECEIVED: 12/19/05      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/11/06  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/26/06      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/01/06  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05001590

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

\_\_\_ACCEPT \_\_\_RETURN \_\_\_REJECT \_\_\_\_\_DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Return. Please see attached  
Comments.*

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

REVIEWER Daniel Vivian

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE (202) 354-2252

DATE 1/31/06

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.



**The United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Evaluation/Return Sheet**

Property Name: Army and Navy Hospital  
Garland County, Arkansas

Reference Number: 05001590

**Reason for Return:**

This nomination is being returned for technical and substantive errors. While the information provided suggests that the property may meet the National Register criteria for listing, the historic context does provide adequate information to determine the appropriate level of significance. In addition, our review identified a number of technical errors that should be corrected before resubmitting the nomination.

**Significance**

The nomination states that the property was the "first federal military hospital in the country" but provides little information to support this assertion (Sec. 8, p. 1). In fact, this claim seems highly questionable. At the minimum it requires qualification; ideally, it should be supplemented with contextual information on the history of military hospitals. It is our understanding that the Naval Department developed a network of hospitals during the early national and antebellum periods that presumably served active-duty military personnel. Here in Washington, D.C., for example, the Navy used a rented building at the Navy Yard as a hospital from 1811 to 1843, and from 1866 to 1906 it used as a hospital a building at 921 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., that remains extant today. Consequently, it is not clear that the property historically known as the Army and Navy Hospital was the first federal military hospital in the nation. Where did active-duty military personnel receive medical care prior to the establishment of the Army and Navy Hospital? Where did Army service personnel receive care? Where did Navy personnel go for medical treatment? Was the Army and Navy Hospital established to provide a specific type of medical treatment for service personnel? We recommend that the statement of significance be revised to address these questions and to include an overview history of military hospitals in the United States. This overview should be based on credible sources, preferably scholarly work on military hospitals. Without a well-documented context, it will be impossible to determine if the

property is significant in a national context.

In seeking to develop a stronger historic context, it may also be useful to include information on the history of the Veterans' Administration. As you may be aware, this agency traces its origins to the late eighteenth century and grew significantly in the immediate aftermath of the Civil War. While not responsible for providing medical care for active military personnel, it would appear to be relevant because of its close historic ties to the military hospital system. Particularly in the decades following the Civil War, the Veterans' Administration underwent a major expansion with the establishment of National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers across the United States. The first of these facilities was established in Togus, Maine, in 1866, and ten more were built by 1907. Given these circumstances, did the activities of the Veterans' Administration influence the Army and Navy Hospital in any way? Was the design of the original Army and Navy Hospital similar to any of the soldiers' homes built that were built during the same era? In establishing the facility, did Major George C. Latta and the other military officials involved look to the Veterans' Administration as a model for administrative and/or operational purposes? Consideration of these questions, and any others which arise through a review of the relevant literature, may assist in developing the historic context.

#### Technical Issues

Since receiving the nomination, Josie Fernandez, the superintendent of Hot Springs National Park, has contacted our office about the street name provided for the property. Under Section 2 of the registration form and throughout the nomination, the street on which the property is located is referred to as "Reserve Avenue." The staff at Hot Springs National Park, however, believe that "Reserve Street" is the correct name. We recommend that the street name be checked to ensure that the correct name is provided in the nomination.

Under Section 8 of the registration form, "state" is indicated as the recommended level of significance. This contradicts the claim of national significance listed under Section 3 and described in the narrative statement of significance. Please revise the nomination so that all references to the recommended level of significance are consistent.

Also under Section 8 of the registration form, "d. 1908-1956" is given as the period of significance and as the entry for significant dates. It is unclear what the "d." is intended to indicate or if this is simply a typo. Circa dates are acceptable if exact dates cannot be determined and should be indicated with the abbreviation "ca." For the significant dates, the dates given should correspond with the year(s) of important events, associations, construction, or alterations. Based on the information provided, it appears that 1908, 1914, 1920, and 1932-1935 should be listed as significant dates to reflect the construction of major buildings on the property.

The photographs submitted with the nomination are not archival because they have been printed on color (chromogenic) photographic paper. This paper does not meet the National Register photodocumentation standards. At present, we accept two types of photographs: 1) conventional black-and-white prints on resin-coated (RC) or fiber based paper, or 2) black-and-white prints made from digital images using an ink and paper combination that independent laboratory testing has determined to have an anticipated longevity of 75 years or longer. A list of ink and paper

combinations that have been shown to meet this standard can be found on our website at: [www.cr.nps.gov/nr/policyexpansion.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/policyexpansion.htm). We recommend that the nomination be resubmitted with photographs that meet the National Register photodocumentation standards.

The verbal boundary description is inadequate. Only under certain conditions (when the boundary of the nominated property corresponds to a polygon, section lines, or contour lines) may a boundary drawn on a USGS topo quad map be substituted for the verbal boundary description. In the case of this nomination, none of those conditions seem to apply. We recommend that the verbal boundary description be revised. The boundary must either be described in narrative form or referenced by a legal tax parcel. Alternatively, a site map drawn to a scale of at least 1" = 200 feet may be used in place of a narrative description.

We hope you find these comments useful in revising the nomination. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. You may reach me at (202) 354-2252 or by email at <Dan\_Vivian@nps.gov>. We appreciate the opportunity to review this nomination and look forward to receiving a revised version.

Daniel Vivian, Historian  
National Register of Historic Places

January 31, 2006



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Garland

DATE RECEIVED: 1/08/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/21/07  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05001590

DETAILED EVALUATION:

\_\_\_ACCEPT \_\_\_RETURN \_\_\_REJECT \_\_\_\_\_DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District is significant statewide as an important medical facility and for its Spanish Revival-style architecture. Also known as the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center, the property played a significant role in treating poliomyelitis and arthritis from 1877 to 1956. Located near healing springs, the existing hospital was built in 1933 in a Spanish Revival style with Art Deco influences. Its design is representative of the trends that shaped the construction of military medical buildings during the 1930s. Although the nomination claims the property to be nationally significant, this is not justified by the information provided. Today, the district reflects the history of health care and architecture in Arkansas and retains integrity from its period of significance.

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

TELEPHONE

DISCIPLINE

DATE

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





ARMY + NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING NORTHWEST FROM PLEASANT + RESERVE STREETS

PHOTO "A"





ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

421 & 425 RESERVE ST.

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING NORTHWEST AT SOUTH & EAST FACADES OF 421 & 425 RESERVE ST.

PHOTO "B"







ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BUILDING #27-GAS STATION

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
LOOKING NORTHEAST AT THE SOUTH & WEST ELEVATIONS

PHOTO "C"





ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT  
ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL  
105 RESERVE ST.

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT THE REAR ELEVATIONS OF THE HOSPITAL  
PHOTO "D"





ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BUILDING #16 - ROSS HALL

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING NORTHEAST AT THE WEST & SOUTH FACADES

PHOTO "E"







ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING SOUTHEAST FROM BUILDING #27

PHOTO "F"



ARMY + NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BUILDING #15

GARLAND COUNTY, AR

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING NORTH AT THE SOUTH FACADE

PHOTO "G"





ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

HOSPITAL WARD-BUILDING #27

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
LOOKING NORTH AT THE WEST & SOUTH ELEVATIONS

PHOTO "H"





ARMY + NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARMY + NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL

105 RESERVE ST.

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING NORTHEAST AT THE SOUTH & WEST ELEVATIONS

PHOTO "I"



ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL

105 RESERVE ST.

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING NORTHEAST AT FRONT ENTRANCE AT THE JUNCTION OF THE SOUTH & WEST  
ELEVATIONS

PHOTO "J"





ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BUILDING #24-DUPLEX

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT NORTH & EAST ELEVATIONS

PHOTO "K"







ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BUILDING #21

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING NORTHEAST AT WEST & SOUTH ELEVATIONS

PHOTO "L"





ARMY & NAVY GENERAL HOSPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

#4 CLASSROOMS

GARLAND COUNTY, ARKANSAS

RON LUTZ

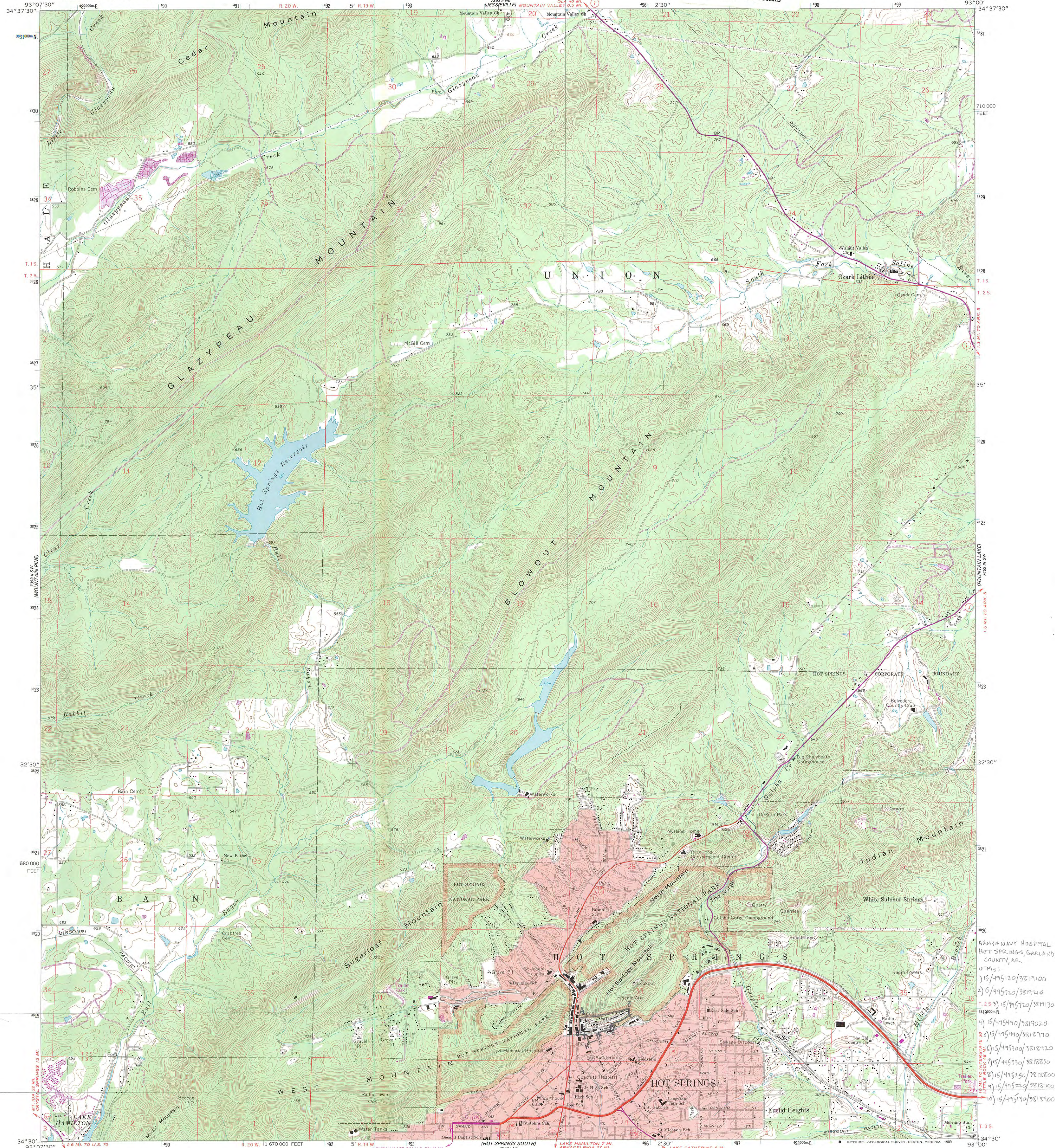
JANUARY 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

LOOKING SOUTHEAST AT THE NORTH ELEVATION

PHOTO "M."





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1966

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1976. This information not field checked

UTM GRID and 1976 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,  
move the projection lines 8 meters south and  
16 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

SCALE 1:24 000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty Light-duty  
Medium-duty Unimproved dirt

U. S. Route State Route

HOT SPRINGS NORTH, ARK.  
34093-E1-TF-024

1966  
PHOTOREVISED 1976  
DMA 7353 II SE—SERIES V884

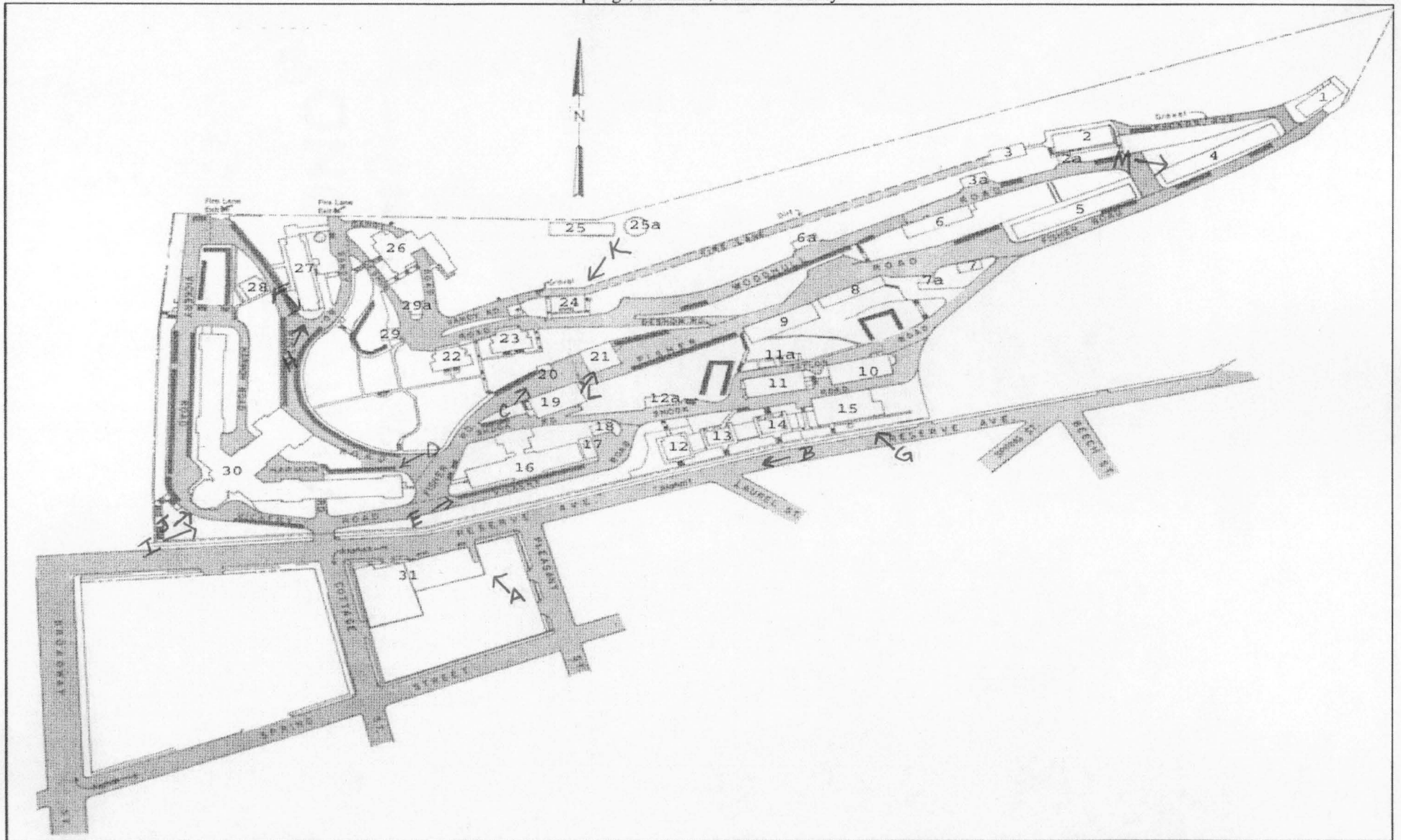


## Army and Navy General Hospital Historic District – PHOTOGRAPH KEY

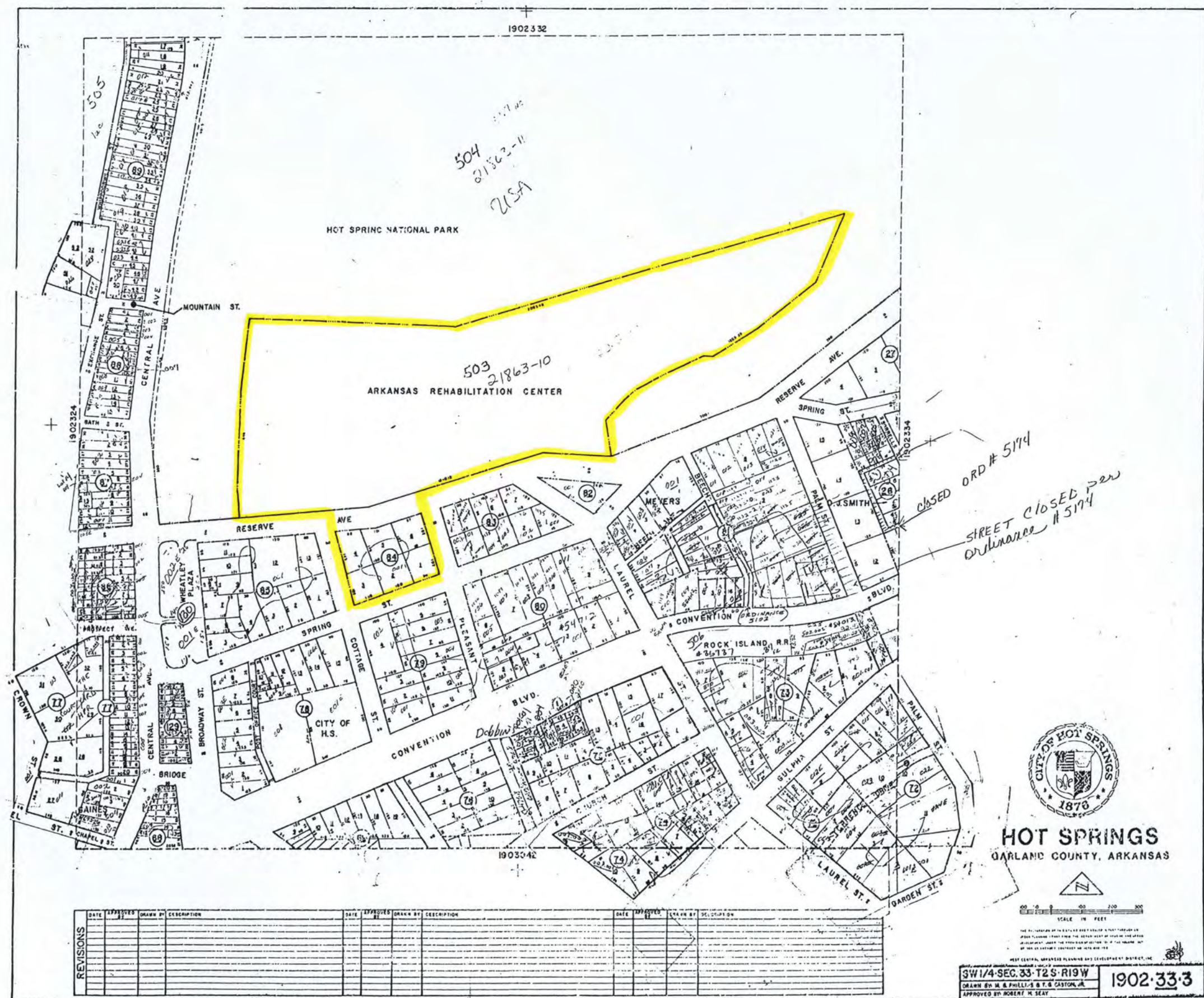
\*Numbers identify the location of the resources within the district

\*Letters correspond to photographs and the place from which they were taken.

Hot Springs, Arkansas, Garland County











## The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor  
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



### Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
(501) 324-9880  
fax: (501) 324-9184  
tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail:

[info@arkansaspreservation.org](mailto:info@arkansaspreservation.org)

website:

[www.arkansaspreservation.org](http://www.arkansaspreservation.org)

An Equal Opportunity Employer



December 7, 2005

Dr. Janet Matthews  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
8th Floor  
1201 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Army & Navy Hospital – Hot Springs, Garland County,  
Arkansas

Dear Dr. Matthews:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

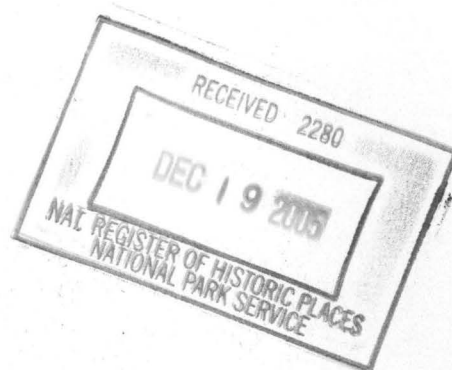
If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure





John W Roberts  
01/30/2006 05:11 PM  
EST

To: Dan Vivian/WASO/NPS@NPS  
cc:  
Subject: Fw: Army and Navy Hospital National Register Nomination

Dan --

As discussed.


-- John

John W. Roberts, Acting Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
and National Historic Landmarks Program  
National Park Service  
phone: (202) 354-2009

----- Forwarded by John W Roberts/WASO/NPS on 01/30/2006 05:11 PM -----



John W Roberts  
01/30/2006 05:04 PM  
EST

To: Josie Fernandez/HOSP/NPS@NPS  
cc: Ron Cockrell/Omaha/NPS@NPS, Alexis  
Abernathy/Contractor/NPS@NPS  
Subject: Re: Fw: Army and Navy Hospital National Register Nomination 

Josie --

Thanks for providing the correct address for the Army & Navy Hospital in Hot Springs. Before we can change the address in the official database, however, we will have to go back to the Arkansas SHPO. The original documentation from the Arkansas SHPO says "Reserve Avenue" rather than "Reserve Street," and, under our regulations, we can only change that if we are so advised by the SHPO -- so we will bring this to the SHPO's attention, and then make the necessary corrections.

Thanks again for letting me know about this.

-- John

John W. Roberts, Acting Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
and National Historic Landmarks Program  
National Park Service  
phone: (202) 354-2009

Josie Fernandez



Josie Fernandez  
01/30/2006 12:23 PM  
CST

To: John W Roberts/WASO/NPS@NPS  
cc: Ron Cockrell/Omaha/NPS@NPS  
Subject: Fw: Army and Navy Hospital National Register Nomination

John,  
Regarding the nomination of the former Army and Navy Hospital here in Hot Springs, the address in the Federal Register is incorrect  
The correction is in bold below. Reserve is a street not an avenue.  
Josie

---

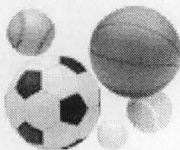
Josie Fernandez

Superintendent  
Hot Springs National Park  
Phone: 501-623-2824  
Fax: 501-624-1037  
www.nps.gov/hosp

ARKANSAS

Garland County: Army and Navy Hospital, 105, 200, 417, 421 and 425 Reserve **Street.**, Hot Springs,  
05001590

----- Forwarded by Josie Fernandez/HOSP/NPS on 01/30/2006 12:20 PM -----




Ron Cockrell

01/30/2006 10:54 AM  
CST

To: Josie Fernandez/HOSP/NPS@NPS

cc: Dale Moss/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Diane East/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Lisa  
Garvin/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Mark Blaeuer/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Sharon  
Shugart/HOSP/NPS@NPS

Subject: Re: Army and Navy Hospital National Register Nomination 

You're welcome. That's a valid comment that should be made.

Nominations such as this one are published in the **Federal Register** as part of a public review period (I assume it's 30 days). Comments are to be sent to John W. Roberts, Acting Chief, NR/NHL Program, in WASO. The fax number for comments is 202-371-6447, and he's probably accessible via Lotus Notes as well.

RON

Josie Fernandez



Josie Fernandez

01/30/2006 10:36 AM  
CST

To: Ron Cockrell/Omaha/NPS@NPS

cc: Dale Moss/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Lisa Garvin/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Mark  
Blaeuer/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Sharon Shugart/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Diane  
East/HOSP/NPS@NPS

Subject: Re: Army and Navy Hospital National Register Nomination 

Thanks for the heads up. Also, does it make a difference that the actual name is really Reserve **Street?**

---

Josie Fernandez  
Superintendent  
Hot Springs National Park  
Phone: 501-623-2824  
Fax: 501-624-1037  
www.nps.gov/hosp

Ron Cockrell



Ron Cockrell

01/30/2006 10:12 AM

To: Josie Fernandez/HOSP/NPS@NPS

cc: Dale Moss/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Lisa Garvin/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Mark





Blaeuer/HOSP/NPS@NPS, Sharon Shugart/HOSP/NPS@NPS  
Subject: Army and Navy Hospital National Register Nomination

FYI--

In the January 11 **Federal Register** on page 1770, there's the following notice of Pending National Register of Historic Places Nominations:

**ARKANSAS**

Garland County: Army and Navy Hospital, 105, 200, 417, 421 and 425 Reserve Ave., Hot Springs,  
05001590

I'll let you know when the Keeper accepts and "lists" this property.

RON COCKRELL  
Senior Historian  
Midwest Region



## The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor  
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



### Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street

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(501) 324-9880

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tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail: [info@arkansaspreservation.org](mailto:info@arkansaspreservation.org)

website:

[www.arkansaspreservation.org](http://www.arkansaspreservation.org)

An Equal Opportunity Employer



January 3, 2007

Dr. Janet Matthews  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
8th Floor  
1201 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Army & Navy General Hospital Historic District – Hot  
Springs, Garland County, Arkansas

Dear Dr. Matthews:

We are enclosing for your review the revised nomination for the above-referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure