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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name: Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center
other names/site number: Biloxi VAMC

2. Location

street & number: 400 Veterans Avenue
city or town: Biloxi
state: Mississippi code: MS county: Harrison

not for publication ___
vicinity ___
code: 047 zip code: 39531

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 forth 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.)

Karen Rome-Tejeda, Federal Preservation Officer 8/3/01
Signature of certifying official Date

Department of Veterans Affairs
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.)

Kenneth H. P. Paul Oct. 22, 2001
Signature of commenting or other official Date

DEPUTY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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 Edson H. Beall 2/14/02
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: public-Federal

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

Category of Property: district

Contributing	Noncontributing	
17	11	buildings
2	0	sites
0	0	structures
1	0	objects
20	11	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Health Care: hospital
 Health Care: sanitarium
 Funerary: cemetery
 Defense: military facility
 Health Care: medical/business office
 Domestic: single family dwellings
 Landscape: garden

Current Functions:

Health Care: hospital
 Health Care: sanitarium
 Funerary: cemetery
 Defense: military facility
 Health Care: medical/business office
 Domestic: single family dwellings
 Landscape: garden

7. Description

Architectural Classification(s): Colonial Revival

Materials:

foundation: brick, stone, and concrete
 roof: slate and composition shingle
 walls: brick, stone, and vinyl siding

Narrative Description:

See Continuation Sheets

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Description

The Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) is a large complex situated in a peaceful campus-like setting on the Back Bay of Biloxi. The medical center was created to provide long-term care for veterans of World War I. The complex is architecturally unified by the use of the Southern Colonial Revival style, which was chosen to compliment existing architecture in the neighboring community.

The period of historic significance for the complex is 1932-1951. Construction of the Biloxi VAMC began in 1932, and the facility opened in 1933. The last building considered contributing to the historic district was constructed in 1937; however, the complex continued to serve veterans throughout its historic period (fifty years prior to this nomination).

There are four geographically distinguishable areas in the complex. The master plan for the Biloxi VAMC grouped the most imposing three, four, and five story patient care, domiciliary, and administration buildings around a circular landscaped public green at the north of the complex in close proximity to the bay. Residential quarters for the Director, nurses, and support staff were constructed in the same Southern Colonial Revival style and placed west of the main complex around a smaller oval green space that mirrored the larger public green. Smaller support buildings in these areas that provided storage, electrical, and sewage functions were also constructed in the same style to provide a cohesive architectural style and to unify public spaces throughout the complex. Engineering support buildings were located on the southwest side of the complex. This is the only section of the Biloxi VAMC that did not utilize the Southern Colonial Revival style. The engineering area was physically and architecturally isolated from the main complex since patients, residents, and visitors did not frequent these support buildings. This departure from the selected style is atypical of other VA medical centers. Few historic buildings remain in the engineering complex, and those that are still extant have been significantly altered and no longer retain integrity; therefore, this area has been excluded from the proposed historic district boundary. The fourth distinct area in the complex is the Biloxi National Cemetery located at the southeast end of the center. Early design plans for the Biloxi VAMC included a cemetery that was

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to be anchored by a chapel, which was never constructed. While a majority of the graves at this cemetery are recent, its location is in keeping with the original 1930s design of the facility. In the area of the cemetery, several non-contributing modern buildings have been constructed to provide administrative offices and covered gathering areas for visitors.

The landscape design of the Biloxi VAMC was developed in the early 1930s and fully evolved over the years as new buildings were constructed. The Veterans Administration built the self-sufficient facility in the manner of a campus and accommodated living quarters, a hospital, support buildings, recreational facilities and dining halls. Established after World War I during a time when Americans longed for a peaceful, bucolic way of life, the landscape architecture and design of this complex reflected this era's nostalgia for a more simple time. Soft, flowing curvilinear lines and idyllic outdoor spaces were common themes made popular by the City Beautiful movement and are reflected in the Beaux Arts design of the VAMC campus.

The streets on the VAMC campus were laid-out in a curvilinear fashion, with the buildings informally placed in a pastoral setting. The gently curving boulevards and comfortable, tree-lined streets lend to the visually peaceful campus and reflect both the culture of the time and the use of the facility. The original buildings are casually centered around a large public green, a typical design feature of the time. The entire campus has a cohesive sense of order.

Generally, the campus is a park-like open space with flowing lines, large, grassy open spaces, green lawns and trees. Formal elements are introduced where appropriate. The entrance to the campus is a formal oak-lined allee that forms a processional drive. The campus includes a second formal processional drive to the cemetery. The long, straight drive is anchored at one end by a monumental obelisk and on the other by the Biloxi National Cemetery. The placement of this formal element is deliberately off axis with the hospital buildings and the associated domiciliary buildings. The public green has formal pedestrian circulation elements. Sidewalks are axial with the façades of the buildings and bisect each other at their center. The introduction of the formal elements into an otherwise informal setting is a typical approach and serves to physically express the relationship between the original main hospital building and recreation building.

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The historic landscape of this facility remains an important feature of the Biloxi VAMC today.

The Biloxi VAMC was the only medical complex constructed by the VA in the Southern Colonial Revival Style. The main buildings are the best examples of this style in the complex. Building 1, the Main Hospital, is the largest and most imposing historic building in the complex with 21 bays. Five stories in height, its Southern Colonial Revival style is characteristic of many buildings in the district. It is constructed of brick with common bond coursing that is now painted and has three prominent front gabled bays with slightly recessed hyphens reminiscent of the colonial five-part Palladian plan. Building 1 has a modified T-shape plan formed by the five-story wing (north), a smaller two-story wing (south) in the front, and a wing connecting the two.

The façade of the five-story wing that faces the bay has a three-story columned portico. The gabled pediment of the portico has a lunette window and a classical balustrade above the entablature. Bays at both ends of the building have elliptical windows with elaborate tracery and keystone details in the eaves. A water table and arcade created by a series of arches differentiates the first story of the main hospital building from the *piano nobile*. A symmetrical divided flight of stairs with elaborate cast iron railings leads up to the second floor entrance where sidelights, fanlights, and blind arches with keystone details emphasize the three entrance doors. Simple pilasters separate full-story colonnades on the top four stories. These colonnades have been enclosed with glass windows but still retain original iron balcony railings. Keystones and lintels emphasize the original 6/6 double-hung sash windows. Attic vents are disguised as louvered eyebrow dormers.

The two-story wing in front of the Main Hospital (Building 1) has a side gabled roof and is constructed of brick with common bond coursing that is now painted. A symmetrical divided flight of stairs leads to the second floor, which has a full height one-story portico, square columns, and a pediment with an elliptical window in the tympanum. Original 6/6 double hung sash windows are present and second story windows have a transom with three lights above each of them. All windows have stone lintels and flat arches with keystones above them. A water table separates the two stories.

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The two main domiciliary buildings (Buildings 2 and 19) were constructed in 1933 and 1937 respectively. Like the main hospital building, they both have 21 bays and are constructed in the Southern Colonial Revival style with common bond brick coursing that is now painted. The first floors of these three-story buildings are pronounced with a water table and arcade created by a series of arches. Gable ends have either lunette windows or elliptical windows with elaborate tracery. Simple pilasters separate full-story colonnades on the top two floors. These colonnades have been enclosed with modern glass windows but still retain original iron balcony railings. Keystones and lintels emphasize window openings. Attic vents are disguised as louvered eyebrow dormers.

The gatehouse (Building 12) was constructed in 1933 at the entrance to the VAMC. The gatehouse is a one-story cross gable brick building with three bays on the façade that faces Pass Road. Stone lentils and flat arches with keystones emphasize original 6/6 double-hung sash windows. There is a blind arch on the front façade and gable returns on all four sides. The original exterior door has nine lights over two panels and a copper roofed hood on consoles. The entrance to the complex is surrounded by cast and wrought iron fencing anchored by a series of decorative brick posts. A formal allee lined with live oak trees begins at the entrance gate and terminates after the Biloxi National Cemetery. At this point, the roads and landscaping becomes informal and curvilinear in contrast to the entrance allee.

Building 5 was constructed in 1933 and originally used as residential quarters for staff nurses. Now used as a domiciliary, the two-story building has a hipped roof and simple pilasters that separate full-story colonnades on both floors. These colonnades have been enclosed with glass windows but still retain original iron balcony railings.

The Director's quarters (Building 6) was constructed in 1933 on the western side of the complex in the residential area. Built in the Southern Colonial Revival Style, the Director's House is a simple two-story ell-shaped residence with an enclosed two-tier side porch. Two brick chimneys protrude from the slopes of the hipped roof. A pedimented frontispiece emphasizes the original recessed door, which is topped by an elliptical fanlight. Hooded arches are present above the original first floor 15/15 double-hung sash windows, and storm windows cover the first floor windows and the second story 6/6 double-hung sash windows. Original wrought-iron railings are present on the

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enclosed side porch and the ground-level window balconies. Modern vinyl siding has obscured the original clapboards. A detached hip-roofed garage (Building 22) that was constructed in the same year is present at the rear of this residence.

The two duplex quarters (Buildings 7 and 8) were constructed in 1933 on the western side of the complex in the residential area. Built in the Southern Colonial Revival style, the duplexes are simple two-story hip-roofed residences with enclosed two-tier side porches. Brick chimneys protrude from the slopes of the roofs, and gabled dormers are present on the front facades. Partial-width shed-roofed entry porches, supported by square wood columns, are present on the front facades. Rear shed-roof porches have been enclosed. Storm windows cover the original 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows. Original wrought-iron railings are present on the enclosed side porches. Vinyl siding covers the original clapboards.

The sewage pump house (Building 11) was constructed in 1933. Dependency buildings such as this were designed by the VA to reflect the architectural style used throughout the rest of the medical campus. This pump house is a good example of how the agency designed support buildings to visually blend in and create a cohesive complex of buildings. The pump house is a small one-story side gabled building constructed of brick with common bond coursing that is now painted and identical to coursing used in major buildings in the complex. Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash with pronounced lintels. Devoid of architectural decoration, this building's simple design reflects its utilitarian function but is still visually compatible with the high style Southern Colonial Revival buildings within the VAMC complex.

The dining hall (Building 21) was constructed in 1937 to serve the hospital and domicularies. The entrance to the dining hall faces the bay and has a classical temple-front façade. Constructed of brick with common bond coursing that is now painted, the hall is distinguished by a one-story, flat-roofed verandah with paired square support columns under a classical entablature. The dining hall's front gable has an elliptical window in the tympanum and a series of clerestory windows. Original 6/6/6 triple-hung sash windows are present.

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The recreation building (Building 17) is a two-story T-shape building with nine bays that is constructed of brick with common bond coursing that is now painted. The side gables have decorative gable returns with a classical entablature. The front entrance wing is pronounced with blind arches around the paired 6/6 double-hung sash windows. The recessed front door is emphasized by a shell-patterned arch above and decorative sidelights on both sides. A Doric entablature above the door is formed with a repeating pattern of triglyphs and metopes. Both sides of the building have a large two-story Palladian style window with an elaborate elliptical fan and keystone above. The rear one-story wing repeats the arches on the front wing in the form of a colonnade with recessed arched windows that allow maximum light into the recreation area. Attic vents mimic louvered eyebrow dormers.

The Credit Union (Building 18) is a two-story building with one-story flanking wings. Originally used as a guardhouse, the building has been converted into a banking facility and administrative offices. The three-bay brick building, which is now painted, has an entrance with square fluted pilasters beneath a pediment and a flat transom above the front door. Original 6/6 double-hung sash windows are present with the exception of one that has been enclosed with an automated teller machine.

The two Staff Quarters (T-48 and T-49) are both modest side gabled wood framed ranch houses built in 1948 and 1949 respectively. Devoid of architectural details, they have been clad in vinyl siding and have original 6/6 double-hung windows. While these two dwellings would not be considered individually eligible, they are considered contributing elements of the VAMC.

BUILDING REGISTRY

<u>Building #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>(Non)Contributing</u>
1	1932	Main Hospital	C
2	1933	Domiciliary #1	C
3	modern	Outpatient Clinic	NC
4*	modern	Double Ended Substation	NC
5	1933	Domiciliary #3	C
6	1933	Director's Quarters	C

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<u>Building #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>(Non)Contributing</u>
7	1933	Duplex Quarters	C
8	1933	Duplex Quarters	C
11	1932	Sewage Pump House	C
12	1933	Gate House	C
17	1935	Recreation Building	C
18	1937	Credit Union	C
19	1937	Domiciliary #2	C
20	modern	Building #2 Chiller Unit	NC
21	1937	Domiciliary Mess Hall	C
22	1933	One Car Garage	C
23	1937	Two Car Garage	C
24	1937	Two Car Garage	C
34	unknown	Cemetery Memorial/Obelisk	C
53	1960	Administration Building	NC
54	1960	Medical Rehabilitation	NC
55	1960	Bus Stop Shelter	NC
56	modern	Rest Shelter	NC
57	modern	Replacement Canteen	NC
58*	modern	Uninterrupted Power System	NC
59*	modern	Padmount Transformer	NC
60*	modern	Oxygen Storage	NC
61*	modern	Switching Station	NC
62-66*	modern	Transformer	NC
68*	modern	Transformer	NC
69*	modern	Emergency Electrical System	NC
73*	modern	Padmount Transformer	NC
74	modern	Pathological Waste Storage	NC
75*	modern	Double Ended Substation	NC
76*	modern	Double Ended Substation	NC
77*	modern	Double Ended Substation	NC
80	modern	Vending Machine Shelter	NC
81	modern	Barber Shop/Canteen	NC
83	modern	Building 19 Chiller Units	NC

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<u>Building #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>(Non)Contributing</u>
84*	modern	Padmount Transformer	NC
90*	modern	Emergency Electrical System	NC
T-48	1948	Staff Quarters	C
T-49	1949	Staff Quarters	C

* Because these minor structures are not substantial in size and scale, they are not included in the resource count. These modern structures are extremely small in scale and contain electrical wiring and other equipment necessary for operation of the facility. They do not detract from the National Register eligibility of the proposed historic district.

The Biloxi National Cemetery is considered a contributing site within the proposed Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center Historic District. The overall landscape of the facility contributes to the character and design of the complex and is also considered to be a contributing site.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- 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.

Areas of Significance

Architecture, Politics/
Government, Health/Medicine

Period of Significance

1932-1951

Significant Dates

1932, 1933

Criteria Considerations:

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- 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.

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation(s)

N/A

Architect/Builder

United States Veterans Administration

Narrative Statement of Significance: See continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

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Significance

At the recommendation of General Frank T. Hines, Director of the Veterans Bureau, and with the authorization of the 71st Congress, the City of Biloxi transferred approximately 800 acres of land to the Veterans Bureau in 1931 for the purpose of erecting a veterans medical care facility. Ground was broken in 1932, and the facility opened on August 10, 1933 featuring a 150-bed hospital and a 350 bed domiciliary. The first admission was Captain Jephtha P. Marchant, a veteran of the Spanish American War.

Significant primarily under National Register Criterion C because of its distinctive Southern Colonial Revival style, the Biloxi VAMC is also eligible under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Architecture, Politics/Government, Health/Medicine, and Military.

Established by Congress in 1865, the first federal medical facilities for surviving veterans in the United States were known as the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. By 1902, nine such homes were in operation across the nation where military veterans could retire and receive medical care. By the end of World War I, these facilities proved inadequate to cope with returning soldiers and their healthcare needs. Under the direction of Charles R. Forbes, the Veterans Bureau was created in 1921 to solve this problem and took over operation of the existing Public Health Service Hospitals in order to expand and improve services. In 1931, the expanding Veterans Bureau was renamed the Veterans Administration and leadership of the agency was passed to General Frank T. Hines.

The Veterans Bureau's first Director of Construction, Col. Louis H. Tripp began to develop a prototype plan and health care delivery philosophy for a new generation of hospitals. A wide variety of architectural styles and facades were to be used on the exterior of the same structural designs and floor plans for buildings intended to serve the same or similar functions. These common prototypes were adapted to each specific site as were the exterior architectural styles that were chosen by region. The exterior façade of each medical complex was determined by local architectural styles and traditions and included: Georgian Revival, Tudor Revival, Art Deco, Spanish

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Colonial Revival, Italian Renaissance Revival, and even Egyptian Revival. The use of standard designs was not a new concept in government. The manner in which standard designs were used for these medical facilities however, was a new and innovative use of standardized design plans. As medical care advanced, a universal prototype plan was developed to successfully deliver a broad range of services in 50 sites across the nation. The Biloxi medical facility is one of fifty centers across the United States that were built in the 1920's, 30's and early 40's according to this prototype plan. Together, these medical centers form the Architectural Set of VA hospitals that illustrate the agency's concept in the delivery of health care for veterans.

In the Architectural Set of VA hospitals, variations on exterior architectural styles were approved at the highest levels of the agency. This illustrates the VA's conscious policy to visually blend in and appear as a part of the host community. The distribution of various styles across the country reflects an appreciation of local history, architectural preferences, and tradition. The site particular style was always carried through to the staff and director quarters, as well as the engineering and support buildings. In response to WWII casualties, a massive building effort ensued to increase capacity. These newer facilities reflected modern design principles and resulted in larger unadorned structures, bringing an end to the agency's policy of custom tailoring each medical facility to reflect regional architectural history.

The reasons for selecting Biloxi as a site for the VAMC are not documented, but this location met several of the agency's criteria for site selection. First, the Federal government already owned approximately 375 acres of land in Biloxi that was occupied by the Coast Guard and known as the Naval Reserve Park. This land, together with approximately 400 adjacent acres donated by the City of Biloxi, was selected for the site of the medical facility. Secondly, because this location was not in close proximity to a large metropolitan area, the site provided a quiet and peaceful locale preferred for a medical/retirement community. Situated between the Gulf Coast and the Back Bay of Biloxi, this locale provided an attractive and healthy environment. Furthermore, Beauvoir, the National Historic Landmark and last home of Jefferson Davis, is located in close proximity to the facility. For many years prior to the opening of the Biloxi VAMC, Beauvoir operated as a soldier's home for retired Civil War veterans.

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The Biloxi VAMC opened on August 10, 1933 featuring a hospital (Building 1) with 150 beds and one domiciliary (Building 2) that could house 350 residents. Other buildings constructed prior opening and during the first year of operation include the nurses quarters (Building 5), the Director's quarters with a one-car garage (Buildings 6 and 22), two duplex quarters (Buildings 7 and 8), a storehouse (Building 9), the engineering office (Building 10), a sewage pump house (Building 11), and the gate house (Building 12). These buildings were the minimum necessary to operate the medical center.

After World War II the Veterans Administration frequently constructed additional patient care buildings at their existing facilities to accommodate an influx of veterans. Also, many brand new medical center complexes were constructed to care for WWII veterans. Because other facilities were constructed or enlarged, the medical center at Biloxi was not expanded. Some new construction has occurred at the Biloxi VAMC, but this was not a result of WWII.

While the Biloxi VAMC contains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, many alterations to the complex have occurred. Throughout time, several support buildings and residences have been demolished, new unsympathetic modern construction has occurred, a concrete helicopter-landing pad has been placed in the center of the public green, and many buildings have been clad in vinyl siding. The most conspicuous modern intrusion is Building 3, a large and architecturally incompatible outpatient clinic that has recently been constructed in the heart of the main medical complex.

As buildings have been air conditioned, porches have been enclosed to provide additional space for hospital beds. As a result of repeated changes to the interiors of the buildings, the original fiber and significance of the interiors no longer exists. Health care concepts and safety codes for institutional health care facilities have undergone a constant evolution. As a result, the interiors of these buildings have been altered frequently to meet each of these changing regulations.

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Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center, Library, Engineering and photograph archives and records. Ronald Junkin, Chief Engineer. Biloxi, MS.

Burgess, Nancy L. "Fort Whipple/Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center Historic District, Prescott, Arizona." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, June 1999.

Field, Cynthia R. "The Nation Builds for Those Who Served: An Introduction to the Architectural Heritage of the Veterans Administrations." Museum Script co-sponsored by the Veterans Administration and the national Building Museum, 1980.

Mollenhoff, Gjore J. "Veterans Administration Medical Center Historic District." National Register of Historic Places Determination of Eligibility, 1980.

Quinn, Michael C., and Maxson, Peter Flagg. "Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District, Waco, TX." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, June 1994.

Veterans Administration, Office of Facilities Management. "Architectural Set Medical Centers (50 Properties)." http://www.va.gov/facmgt/historic/Arch_Set.asp. March 2000.

Veterans Administration, Office of Facilities Management. "Inventory of Historic VA Facilities." http://www.va.gov/facmgt/historic/Inventory_Home.asp. April 2000.

Veterans Administration, Office of Facilities Management. "Mississippi." <http://www.va.gov/facmgt/historic/mississi.asp>. April 2000.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: The Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center contains approximately 124.6 acres and the Biloxi National Cemetery contains approximately 54.2 acres.

UTM References:

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A)	16	312770	3366640
B)	16	313680	3366640
C)	16	313680	3365050
D)	16	312750	3365050

Verbal Boundary Description See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Alan R. Durham, Senior Historic Preservation Planner

organization: PBS&J

street & number: 5665 New Northside Drive, Suite 400

city or town: Atlanta

state: GA

date: May 15, 2001

telephone: (770) 933-0280

zip code: 30328

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 location.

A 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(s)

name: Department of Veterans Affairs

street & number: 810 Vermont Ave., NW

city or town: Washington, DC

state:

telephone: (202) 565-5680

zip code: 20420

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 20503.

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Biloxi, Mississippi

The original 800 acres of land originally transferred to the Federal government for the construction of the Biloxi VAMC are no longer owned by the Veterans Administration. Large areas of the medical facility have been transferred to the Keesler Air Force base, which surrounds the medical complex to the east and west. Because the historic boundary is no longer in tact and several areas on the periphery of the complex contain modern intrusions, significant alterations, and a loss of integrity, a visual boundary is recommended to exclude these areas from the historic district. For areas that retain integrity and contribute to the historic district, the recommended boundary corresponds to the current legal property line. Please refer to Figures 1 and 2 for the boundary depiction.

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

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Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center
Biloxi, Mississippi

Description of Photographs:

Photograph Number 1

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking north showing the gatehouse (Building 12) at the entrance to the complex.

Photograph Number 2

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking north showing the live oak-lined allee at the entrance to the complex.

Photograph Number 3

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking south at the obelisk on the south end of the cemetery allee.

Photograph Number 4

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking east showing the Biloxi National Cemetery.

Photograph Number 5

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking north showing the tree lined cemetery allee.

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

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Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center
Biloxi, Mississippi

Description of Photographs (Continued):

Photograph Number 6

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking north showing the front façade of the main hospital (Building 1)

Photograph Number 7

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking south showing the façade of the main hospital (Building 1) which faces the Back Bay of Biloxi.

Photograph Number 8

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking south showing a portion of the domiciliary (Building 2).

Photograph Number 9

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking south showing a portion of the domiciliary (Building 19).

Photograph Number 10

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

View looking southeast showing the façade of the dining hall (Building 21).

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center
Biloxi, Mississippi

Description of Photographs (Continued):

Photograph Number 16

Photographer: Alan R. Durham

Date of Photograph: August 1, 2001

Location of Original Negative: PBS&J, Atlanta, GA

Oblique view looking southwest showing one of two similar duplex quarters (Building 8).