

Alexandria Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District
 Name of Property

Rapides Parrish, Louisiana
 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 the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
8	11	buildings
1	0	sites
7	25	structures
1	0	objects
17	36	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

United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals

18

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH CARE / hospital

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH CARE / hospital

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Other / French Colonial

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals / Classical Revival

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Stucco

roof: Terra Cotta

other: _____

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Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

This amendment replaces the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination listed in 1986 by changing the name of the historic district, clarifying the address, revising the count of contributing and noncontributing resources, extending the period of significance, adding a new area of significance, and expanding the historic district boundary. The name of the historic district is changed within this additional documentation form to the Alexandria Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital Historic District to indicate the name of the facility during the period of significance.¹ The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is located at 2495 Shreveport Highway, in Rapides Parish, approximately 3 miles northeast of downtown Alexandria, Louisiana. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is currently known as the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and is located in a campus setting with much of the medical center's property undeveloped. The overall medical center property includes a large open lawn between the central group of buildings and Shreveport Highway and wooded areas and stands of mature trees along the sides and rear of the property. The original mission of the hospital was to provide general medical, surgical, neuropsychiatric, and tuberculosis care to veterans, and the surviving campus preserves the general characteristics of these property sub-types. The polygon-shaped property contains approximately 150 acres; the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District comprises approximately 117 acres of the total tract. The historic district includes single- and multiple-story buildings, the majority of which were constructed with stucco exteriors in the French Colonial style with Classical Revival influences. Thirty-five of the seventy-one resources are considered contributing. Contributing resources include those that retain integrity sufficient to convey the historic district's significance and that were utilized and/or constructed during the historic district's period of significance (1929–1950). The majority of the noncontributing resources are those constructed after 1950, with the most notable examples including the Chapel (Resource 45, 1987) and the Nursing Home Care Unit (Resource 46, 1988). Located to the rear of the larger contributing buildings or within the group of maintenance/utility buildings, the majority of noncontributing resources are not visible from the front of the linear alignment of the historic district's major buildings. Nine of the thirty-six noncontributing resources are smaller buildings and structures constructed after 1950 that do not visually impact the larger contributing resources; relationships between the contributing resources remain intact.

Narrative Description

The review of the Alexandria Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center NRHP nomination is part of a project sponsored by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office to create a cover document for hospitals primarily serving World War I and World War II veterans and constructed by the federal government in the first half of the twentieth century. The project also included surveying forty-three medical centers with resources dating to this period to determine if they were eligible for listing in the NRHP and if so, to nominate them to the NRHP. These hospitals are referred to as Second Generation Veterans Hospitals by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office. The United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) was accepted by the National Park Service in January 2012. The Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center was included in the project because of its construction date of 1929. Although the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center was listed in the NRHP in 1986, it was incorporated within the overall project to determine if alterations since its listing have significantly impacted the historic district and to prepare an additional documentation nomination if the campus retained sufficient integrity to remain listed in the NRHP. The result is this additional documentation and boundary increase nomination for the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District. This nomination includes a change to the name of the facility to better reflect its name during the period of significance, additional information pertaining to the resources within the historic district and the history of the site, and a minor expansion of the historic district boundary. The historic

¹ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; Gjore J. Mollenhoff, Historic Preservation Officer to Mr. George Parsons, Director, VA Medical Center, October 28 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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district boundary was expanded to include the Nurses' Quarters (Resource 17), which was not included in the original nomination, and to extend the historic district to the property boundary to the rear of the residential quarters rather than the arbitrary boundary utilized in the original nomination.

See continuation sheet (7.1)

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Politics/Government
- Health/Medicine
- Architecture
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1929-1950

Significant Dates

NA

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Construction Division, U.S. Veterans Bureau
Construction Service, U.S. Veterans Administration

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

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Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance for the Alexandria VA Hospital extends from 1929 to 1950, the termination date for the period of significance as stated in the United States Second Generation Veterans Hospital Multiple Property Documentation form. The period of significance begins with the construction of the hospital and continues through 1950, the date of the last federal veterans hospital constructed utilizing the design philosophies developed for Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. Buildings constructed after 1950 no longer relate to the design philosophies developed for the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

NA

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

The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is significant at the state level of significance as an excellent, intact example of a Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospital initially constructed to serve as a general medical and surgical, neuropsychiatric, and tuberculosis hospital. The state level of significance of the Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana), under Criterion A within the areas of Social History and Health/Medicine, and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture has previously been recognized by the historic district's listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1986. The name of the historic district is changed within this additional documentation form to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District to reflect the name of the facility during the period of significance. Although the original nomination states the historic district is significant under Criterion A under Social History, this area of significance has been removed from this additional documentation nomination because of insufficient information to support this area of significance. An additional area of significance recognized in this additional documentation form for the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is under Criterion A in the area of Politics/Government at the state level of significance because of the intense campaign effort on the part of local and state organizations to preserve the location of the veterans hospital in Alexandria. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District continues to be eligible under Criterion A in the area of Health/Medicine at the state level of significance, as stated in the original nomination, because of the mission of the federal government, through the VA, to provide health care to veterans of World War I and World War II. It is also a rare example of a Second Generation Veterans Hospital to initially offer three primary types of care to veterans: neuropsychiatric, tuberculosis, and general medical and surgical. Second Generation Veterans Hospitals normally specialized in only one of these treatments. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District continues to remain eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the state level of significance because it is an intact and singular example of a Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospital incorporating the French Colonial architectural style with influences of the Classical Revival style. In the original 1986 nomination the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office stated the Alexandria VA Hospital was an excellent example of early twentieth-century eclectic architecture that exhibited the French Colonial style. At the time of the original nomination it was thought the Alexandria VA Hospital was the only example in the state of a large complex of buildings within an architecturally cohesive campus setting exhibiting the eclectic French Colonial style. Since 1986 another large complex utilizing the French Colonial architectural style, the Barksdale Field Historic District located in Bossier Parish, Louisiana, was listed in the NRHP. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is also eligible under this additional documentation nomination under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the state level of significance because it exhibits examples of standardized building designs that were developed for Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, although the examples within this campus utilize the eclectic French Colonial architectural style. As stated in the original nomination, the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District continues to be significant at the state level under Criterion C for Architecture because it utilized planning principals developed for Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, including the separation of functions (patient care, staff residences, and maintenance/utility buildings), the creation of a nearly enclosed courtyard, and the internal circulation patterns within the historic district.

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Louisiana) was originally listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1986. The name is changed within this additional documentation NRHP form to the Alexandria Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital Historic District to better indicate the name utilized for the facility during the period of significance. The period of significance for the Alexandria VA Hospital extends from 1929 to 1950. The period of significance begins with the construction of the hospital and continues through 1950, the date of construction for the last federal veterans hospital utilizing the design philosophies developed for Second Generation Veterans Hospitals.

See Continuation Sheet (8.38)

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See Continuation Sheet (8.44)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

See Continuation Sheet (9.54)

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 117 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>553323</u>	<u>3469309</u>	10	<u>15</u>	<u>553924</u>	<u>3468654</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>15</u>	<u>553437</u>	<u>3469266</u>	11	<u>15</u>	<u>553700</u>	<u>3468497</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

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3	<u>15</u>	<u>553757</u>	<u>3469016</u>	12	<u>15</u>	<u>553365</u>	<u>3468484</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>15</u>	<u>553788</u>	<u>3469050</u>	13	<u>15</u>	<u>553367</u>	<u>3468612</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
5	<u>15</u>	<u>553771</u>	<u>3469096</u>	14	<u>15</u>	<u>553221</u>	<u>3468913</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
6	<u>15</u>	<u>553814</u>	<u>3469131</u>	15	<u>15</u>	<u>553172</u>	<u>3468943</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
7	<u>15</u>	<u>553880</u>	<u>3469054</u>	16	<u>15</u>	<u>553183</u>	<u>3468985</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
8	<u>15</u>	<u>553942</u>	<u>3469109</u>	17	<u>15</u>	<u>553131</u>	<u>3469066</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
9	<u>15</u>	<u>554061</u>	<u>3468692</u>		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the historic district has been expanded in this additional documentation form from the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria) NRHP nomination listed in 1986. The boundary increase is limited to the area around the Nurses' Quarters (Resource 17, 1929) and extending the historic district boundary to the property boundary to the rear of the residential quarters (Resources 18–22). The Nurse's Quarters (Resource 17) and the small area encompassing this building included within the historic district boundary is currently owned and occupied by the U.S. Forest Service. The historic district boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the irregular polygon in solid black line on a portion of the Alexandria, Louisiana, topographic map on page 57. The historic district boundary is also indicated by an irregular polygon on the enclosed USGS Alexandria, Louisiana, topographic quadrangle map. The UTM reference points, stated in NAD 27, are provided above and on the enclosed USGS topographic quadrangle map. The historic district boundary begins on the south side of Rigolette Road at UTM E 553323 N 3469309 and extends approximately 660 feet to the southeast along the south side of the road to its intersection with Shreveport Highway (U.S. 71) to UTM E 553437 N 3469266. It then continues approximately 1,040 feet to the southeast along the southwest side of the right-of-way of Shreveport Highway to UTM E 553757 N 3469016. The historic district boundary then crosses the highway to the northeast along a drive in front of Resource 17 (Nurses' Quarters) for approximately 160 feet to UTM E 553788 N 3469050, then follows the outside edge of the drive approximately 60 feet to UTM E 553771 N 3469096, then extends approximately 65 feet to the northeast near the northwest elevation of the Nurses' Quarters (Resource 17) to UTM E 553814 N 3469131. The boundary then extends approximately 225 feet to the southeast along the rear of the Nurses' Quarters (Resource 17), between the Nurses' Quarters and a large building located outside the historic district, to the property boundary of the medical center at UTM E 553880 N 3469054, then follows the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center's property boundary to the northeast approximately 105 feet to UTM E 553942 N 3469109, then extends approximately 1,240 feet to the southeast along the property line to UTM E 554061 N 3468692. The boundary then extends approximately 400 feet to the southwest to UTM E 553924 N 3468654. The boundary then crosses Shreveport Highway and continues southwest along the south edge of the southern entrance drive into the medical center's property for approximately 890 feet to UTM E 553700 N 3468497. The historic district boundary then extends west approximately 1,050 feet to the western property boundary of the medical center at UTM E 553365 N 3468484, where the historic district boundary then extends north approximately 390 feet along the medical center's property boundary to a point approximately 255 feet west of the Maintenance Storage Building (Resource 165) at UTM E 553367 N 3468612. The

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historic district boundary then follows the property line approximately 1,100 feet northwest to UTM E 553221 N 3468913, then extends approximately 170 feet to the northwest along the property line to near the northwest corner of the Warehouse Annex (Resource 136T) at UTM E 553172 N 3468943. The historic district boundary follows the property line as it extends to the north-northeast, near the northwest elevation of the Warehouse Annex (Resource 136T) for approximately 210 feet to UTM E 553183 N 3468985. The historic district boundary then follows the western property boundary approximately 310 feet to the northwest to UTM E 553131 N 3469066, then extends approximately 825 feet to the northeast to the beginning, containing approximately 117 acres.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The present historic district boundary expands the historic district boundary established in the original 1986 Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria) National Register of Historic Places nomination. The historic district boundary for the original nomination in 1986 was approximately 100 acres, while the current historic district boundary is comprised of approximately 117 acres of the approximately 150 acres currently administered by the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The expansion of the historic district was necessary to include the Nurses' Quarters (Resource 17) and to extend the historic district to the property boundary located to the rear of the residential quarters (Resources 18-22). The only resource included within the expanded portion of the historic district boundary is the Nurses' Quarters. This resource was not included within the historic district boundary of the 1986 nomination. The Nurse's Quarters is currently owned and occupied by the U.S. Forest Service. The Nurses' Quarters was an integral part of the historic district during the period of significance. The slight expansion of the historic district to the rear of the residential quarters (Resources 18-22) allows the historic district boundary to follow the property boundary of the medical center. There is no development or resources within this slight area of expansion, only mature trees. By following the current property line to the rear of the residential quarters, the historic district boundary will no longer follow an arbitrary line utilized for the boundary in the original nomination form. The areas to the south of the current historic district were excluded from the historic district boundary because they are undeveloped, heavily wooded, and contain only one building that dates to the period of significance, and it no longer retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance. The southern portion of the medical center's property located to the west of Shreveport Highway contains mature trees and Elk's Lake, which appears to have been completed after the original 1986 nomination. While significantly smaller than the historic property boundary because of land transfers and the exclusion of the undeveloped southern portion of the property, the irregularly-shaped historic district includes the majority of resources historically associated with the hospital. The boundary also includes the main entrance drive and its associated landscape.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patrick Thompson, Architectural Historian; Holly Higgins, Architectural Historian; S. Alan Higgins, Architectural Historian; and Trent Spurlock, Architectural Historian

organization Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.

date August 7, 2012

street & number 151 Walton Avenue

telephone 859-252-4737

city or town Lexington

state KY

zip code 40508

e-mail _____

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets 57-61**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

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

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

See Continuation Sheet (62)

Property Owner:

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

name _____
street & 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 listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
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Alexandria Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District
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The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is located on level to rolling topography in a campus setting. The property originally consisted of over 400 acres² but has been reduced over the years to its current size of approximately 150 acres. The historic district boundary encompasses approximately 117 acres of the total property. The historic district contains open, park-like spaces; mature trees and vegetation; linear and curvilinear drives; and the main patient care and administrative buildings are positioned along a ridge in the center of the property. The historic district is located on both sides of Shreveport Highway, with the residential group of buildings to the east and the majority of buildings located on the west side of the highway. The address for the medical center listed in the 1986 original nomination, the Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places Nomination (NRHP), was simply indicated as the "VA Medical Center."³ To better clarify the address, its location was changed in the address line of this nomination to 2495 Shreveport Highway in Rapides Parish.

The irregularly-shaped historic district boundary begins on the south side of Rigolette Road and extends approximately 660 feet to the southeast along the south side of the road's right-of-way to its intersection with Shreveport Highway (U.S. 71). It then continues approximately 1,040 feet along the southwest right-of-way of Shreveport Highway after which it then crosses the highway along a drive in front of Resource 17 (Nurses' Quarters, 1929) and follows the outside edge of the drive before it extends to the northeast near the northwest elevation of the Nurses' Quarters. The Nurse's Quarters building is currently owned and occupied by the U.S. Forest Service. The historic district boundary then extends to the southeast near the rear elevation of the Nurses' Quarters to the property boundary of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, then follows the medical center's property boundary to the northeast and then approximately 1,240 feet to the southeast. The historic district boundary then extends to the southwest and crosses Shreveport Highway and follows the south edge of the southern entrance drive across the medical center's property and continues to the southwest then west to the western property boundary. The historic district then follows the property line to the northwest then extends to the northeast to the beginning point.

Resources are referred to by their original name, if known, throughout this nomination. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is one of the few Second Generation Veterans Hospitals where information pertaining to racial segregation of medical services for African American veterans has been identified. Resource 9 was initially constructed in 1929 to serve African American patients and was originally designated by the Veterans Bureau as the Colored Infirmary Building.⁴ Evidence of racial segregation of patient care during the period of significance for the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals has also been identified at three other facilities: Tuskegee, Alabama; North Little Rock, Arkansas; and Roanoke, Virginia. Racial segregation of medical care at VA hospitals ended in 1954, as is stated in a brief newspaper article from the July 1954 *New York Times* that includes the single sentence: "The Veterans Administration announced today that segregation of the races had been eliminated in veterans hospitals."⁵

In the 1850s the State of Louisiana wanted to establish the Louisiana State Seminary in Rapides Parish. The Louisiana State Seminary and Military Academy opened in January 1860. The school was closed for the duration

² Deed of Donation from the State of Louisiana to the United States of America, May 28, 1928. Rapides Parish Conveyance Book 154, Page 601, and Donation Book 2, Page 216, located in the files of the Public Affairs Office, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

³ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places-Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁴ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

⁵ "Veterans Hospitals End Bias," *New York Times*, July 29, 1954.

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

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of the Civil War in 1863 when the lack of students and the invasion of the area by Union armies made regular classes untenable. The school reopened in 1865, but the main building burned in 1869 and the seminary moved permanently to Baton Rouge, where it became the foundation of Louisiana State University.⁶ In 1905 the original seminary site became a state militia training camp, "Camp Stafford." The U.S. Public Health Service took over the Camp Stafford hospital buildings in 1919 and began operating a tuberculosis hospital in the camp's temporary wooden buildings. The hospital was transferred to the Veterans Bureau in 1922. The Veterans Bureau closed the hospital and removed the temporary buildings. The first group of permanent buildings, including the Administration, Infirmary, Neuropsychiatric, Colored Infirmary, Dining Hall, and two Tuberculosis Buildings (Resources 1, 2, 3, 9, 4, 5, and 6, all 1929), and the necessary utility buildings were constructed by the time the new hospital was dedicated on January 31, 1930.⁷ The new hospital differed from the previous facility in that it accepted tubercular, general medical, surgical, and neuropsychiatric patients, whereas the previous facility served only tuberculosis patients. Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals that were designated as tuberculosis hospitals often had patients separated into three types of buildings depending on the severity of their illness: infirmary, semi-infirmary, and ambulant. The two Tuberculosis Buildings (Resources 5 and 6, both 1929) within the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District are simply indicated as tuberculosis buildings on the original plans, so these buildings may have served combined functions in the treatment of tuberculosis patients.⁸ Porches are aligned along the first and second floors of the rear elevations of Resources 5 and 6. The Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929) may also have served tuberculosis patients, as porches are found along portions of the rear elevation, although this is speculative.

The Alexandria VA Hospital shares a characteristic common to Second Generation Veterans Hospitals constructed from the late 1920s to 1950 (also referred to as Period II): a physical separation of buildings by general function. The administration and patient care buildings are located in the central core group of buildings. The residential group is distanced from the central core group to afford the resident staff privacy. The maintenance/utility group are sited in a way to be somewhat obscured from view of the patients and visitors.

The central core group at the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District includes the Administration, Infirmary, Neuropsychiatric, Colored Infirmary, Dining Hall, and two Tuberculosis Buildings (Resources 1, 2, 3, 9, 4, 5, and 6, all 1929); a Recreation Building (Resource 8, 1940); and a larger Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950). The residential quarters at the Alexandria VA Hospital are located across Shreveport Highway and include the Nurses' Quarters, Manager's Quarters, three Officer's Duplex Quarters, and an Apartment House Building (Resources 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, all 1929). The Nurse's Quarters Building is currently owned and utilized by the U.S. Forest Service. The utility/maintenance buildings are concentrated south of and downhill from the central core group of buildings. A secondary entrance to the historic district from Shreveport Highway is located northeast of the Colored Infirmary Building, and a third entrance drive is located east/southeast of the Nursing Home Care Unit. Although closed at the time of the survey, this newly paved drive was to open for traffic in the Spring of 2010.

The buildings of the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District constructed during the period of significance (1929–1950) appear to have been designed and to have had construction overseen by the Veterans Bureau's

⁶ "History of the Veterans Administration Hospital, Alexandria, Louisiana," September, 1953, located in the files of the Public Affairs Office, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

⁷ "U.S. Veterans' Hospital Dedicated Here," *Alexandria Daily Town Talk*, January 31, 1930: 1.

⁸ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

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

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Construction Division and the VA's Construction Service.⁹ The architects of the Veterans Bureau and VA apparently drew on the historic architecture of French Louisiana for inspiration, creating designs that exhibit French Colonial characteristics and influences of Classical Revival style. The architectural designs reflect the region's historic building traditions, which influenced the Veterans Bureau and VA's architects during the period of significance.

The most significant additions to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District during the period of significance were the construction of the Recreation Building (Resource 8) in 1940 and the larger Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7) beginning in 1948. The \$5 million Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7) was nearly completed by mid-1950.¹⁰ Buildings and additions continued to be constructed within the historic district after the period of significance, such as the Chapel (Resource 46, 1988) and the Nursing Home Care Unit (Resource 45, 1987) near the south end of the campus and the Police Modular Building (Resource 142T, 1987) in the central courtyard. Large parking lots have been constructed within the historic district after the period of significance, particularly southwest of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7) and west and east of the Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929). Several structures and buildings dating to the period of significance have been removed from the historic district and areas adjacent to the historic district: the personnel garage (probably 1931) that was located behind the Nurses' Quarters (Resource 17) and the animal house, barn, and corral (circa 1920s) that were located south of the maintenance/utility group. Additional temporary buildings constructed after 1946 were later removed, which appear to have been constructed after World War II within the interior of the courtyard.

The VA originally owned approximately 400 acres associated with the Alexandria VA Hospital, providing acreage for future growth. Much of this acreage was simply undeveloped and does not appear to have been used for therapeutic agricultural programs, as were found at other facilities. As with other Second Generation Veterans Hospitals during the 1950s and 1960s, the Alexandria VA Hospital transferred ownership of property determined to be surplus to other entities. Approximately 150 acres on the east side of Shreveport Highway were transferred in various tracts, mostly to private ownership, including 13 acres to the U.S. Forest Service on which the Nurse's Quarters is located. Another 17 acres on the west side of the highway were transferred in two different tracts—one on the north end and the other on the south end of the property—and a 55-acre tract southwest of the maintenance/utility buildings was deeded as a separate tract. Additional acreage was probably transferred during this time as well. The Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center property currently includes approximately 150 acres, with the historic district comprised of approximately 117 acres.

Currently the area surrounding the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center property is being utilized mainly for commercial and residential purposes. The areas on both sides of Shreveport Highway north and south of the medical center have suburban, residential development inter-mixed with small-scale commercial developments. The U.S. Forest Service owns the former Nurses' Quarters building (Resource 17, 1929) on the northeast side of Shreveport Highway. The former Nurse's Quarters building is currently utilized by the U.S. Forest Service for offices. The Nurses' Quarters building was not included within the original 1986 nomination's NRHP boundary. Although the reason for this is unclear, it could have been omitted from the original NRHP

⁹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁰ James E. Wenzig, "A Brief History of the VA Hospital," 2010(?), located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana; *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1950* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1951), 276.

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boundary because the VA did not own the building at the time.

Thirteen buildings/structures were included in the list of resources in the 1986 NRHP nomination that no longer exist or are located outside the NRHP boundary designated for this nomination. Buildings/structures that were located within the NRHP boundary in 1986 but are no longer extant include: the Electrical Equipment Building (former Building 36, 1977); Antenna Tower (former Building 37, 1977); Well House #12 (former Building 103, 1939); the original Incinerator Building (former Building 137, 1950); a Bus Shelter (former Building T-140, 1958, has been replaced with a prefabricated bus shelter); an Air Conditioning Transformer (former Building 149, 1964); two Emergency Generators (former Buildings 155 and 157, both 1972); and a Storage Building (former Building T-47, 1919). Two Gas Meter Houses (Buildings 105, 1958; and T-141, 1958), both of which are demolished, were located outside the historic district boundary. Two structures listed in the 1986 NRHP nomination remain extant but are located outside the historic district boundary. One such structure is the Sewer Screen Building (Building 109), which according to the 1986 NRHP nomination was constructed in 1941. This building appears to have been replaced since 1979, as it does not appear to be the same building as depicted in a 1979 photograph of the structure. Well House #14 (Building T-111, 1939 or 1950 depending on the source), is located to the southeast of the Apartment House Building (Resource 22) and is outside the historic district boundary. This concrete block, nearly flat-roof building has been abandoned and is in deteriorated condition.

The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District boundary closely follows the boundary of the 1986 NRHP nomination, other than the inclusion of the Nurses' Quarters building and extending the former NRHP district boundary from the rear of the residential quarters buildings to the property line. The majority of the historic district boundary follows the existing property line, including the west, north, and eastern portions of the boundary. The southern portion of the historic district boundary follows the south side of the southern entrance drive and the southwest corner follows the property's fence line. The historic district boundary follows the property boundary, fence lines, and manmade features such as the southern entrance drive. The revised NRHP boundary appears to closely follow the portions of the campus enclosed by a chain link fence depicted on a building location plan map dated 1942 and revised to 1947. The Nurses' Quarters is also included within a woven wire fence on the 1942 map, along with an associated garage that is no longer extant.¹¹ The portion of the historic district modified from the previous arbitrary boundary located to the rear of the residential quarters was altered for this nomination to follow the tree-lined property boundary. The NRHP boundary was determined by utilizing that portion of the campus that was historically utilized for the medical care of veterans and the support services required for the operation of the facility. The number of noncontributing resources (36) is slightly greater than contributing resources (35), although nine of the noncontributing resources are smaller buildings or structures that minimally impact the setting and design of the historic district and do not interrupt the spatial relationships between the contributing buildings dating to the period of significance. Other than the Nursing Home Care Unit and the Chapel (Resources 45 and 46), the majority of the noncontributing resources are located to the rear of the central core group of resources or within the maintenance/utility group of buildings and are not visible from the front of the facility facing Shreveport Highway.

Individual Resource Inventory

Throughout this nomination the resources are referred to by their original function, if known. The dates of construction and details regarding the former use of the following buildings are from the NRHP nomination dated

¹¹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

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1986 and from information provided by the medical center's facilities management department.¹² Information on the current uses of the resources was provided by the facilities management department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.¹³ The numerical designations of the resources were assigned at the time of their construction by the Veterans Bureau and the VA. The "circa" dates of construction and letter designations were provided by the authors for resources without construction dates or numerical labels. All resources that were present during the period of significance and that retain integrity are considered contributing resources.

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

Resource #	Date of Construction	Contributing (C) / Noncontributing (NC)	Original or Current Use
1	1929	C	Administration Building
2	1929	C	Infirmary Building
3	1929	C	Neuropsychiatric Building
4	1929	C	Dining Hall
5	1929	C	Tuberculosis Building
6	1929	C	Tuberculosis Building
7	1950	C	Tuberculosis Building
8	1940	C	Recreation Building
8A	2006	NC	Retail Store
9	1929	C	Colored Infirmary Building
10T	Circa 1980s	NC	General Mechanics Supervisor Office
11A	Circa 1950s	NC	Fire Pump House
13	1929	C	Storehouse
14	1929	C	Boiler House
15	1931	C	Garage
16	1942	C	Laundry Building
17	1929	C	Nurses' Quarters Building (currently owned by the U.S. Forest Service)
18	1929	C	Manager's Quarters
19	1929	C	Officers' Duplex Quarters
20	1929	C	Officers' Duplex Quarters
21	1929	C	Officers' Duplex Quarters
22	1929	C	Apartment House Building
24	1976	NC	Electrical Switchgear Station
38	1980	NC	Emergency Generator
39	1980	NC	Emergency Generator

¹² G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹³ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

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Resource #	Date of Construction	Contributing (C) / Noncontributing (NC)	Original or Current Use
40	1988	NC	Emergency Generator
42	1980	NC	Emergency Generator
45	1987	NC	Nursing Home Care Unit
46	1988	NC	Chapel
50	1988	NC	Greenhouse
82	1939	C	Booster Pump House
83	1929	NC	Ground Reservoir
84	1929	C	Water Tower
85	Circa 1980s	NC	Fire Reservoir
86	1929	C	Flag Pole
91	Circa 1930s-1940s	NC	Barbecue Shelter at Quarters
95	1931	C	Three-car Personnel Garage
101	1931	C	Three-car Personnel Garage
102	1931	C	Six-car Personnel Garage
110	1939	C	Water Well #13
115T	1946	NC	Grounds Equipment Storage
117T and 120T	1946	NC	Paint Shop and Paint Storage
136 & 136T	1950 and circa 1970s	NC	Warehouse and Warehouse Annex
138	1995	NC	New Incinerator Building
142T	1987	NC	Police Modular Building
144	1929	C	Chlorinating House Building
147 and 148	1964	NC (2 resources)	Air Conditioning Plant and Chiller Towers
149T	Circa 1980s	NC	Recreation Hut
156	1972	NC	Radio Tower
161	1993	NC	Automated-Tell Machine (ATM) and Shelter
162	1990	NC	Medical Gas Storage Building
165	1997	NC	Maintenance Storage
167	1996	NC	Gazebo
168	1987	NC	Radio Tower
169	1999	NC	Gazebo (opposite Resource 142T)
A	1929	C	Main Entrance Drive
B	1929	C	Gate Posts
C	Circa 1990s	NC (2 resources)	Covered Walkways (between Resources 2, 142T, 6, 8, & 7)
D	Circa 1990s	NC	Covered Walkway (between Resources 7, 46, & 45)
E	Circa 2000s	NC	Modular Storage Building
F	2010	NC	Electric Switchgear Building
G	Circa 2000s	NC	Square Picnic Shelter
H	1929	C (6 resources)	Connecting Corridors (between Resources 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 9)
I	Circa 1955	NC	Connecting Corridor (between Resources 3 & 9)

Resource 1. Administration Building. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 1 was constructed as the Administration Building in 1929 and continues to fulfill its original function. The Administration Building, oriented to the northeast, is located in the central core group of buildings. The two-story, seventeen-bay, hip-roof building was constructed in the French Colonial style with Classical Revival elements. Revivalist architectural elements include a symmetrical facade, projecting entrance pavilion, quoins, and panels with swag details. The building has a three-bay central projecting entrance pavilion and three-bay, hip-roof projections at each end of the facade and rear elevations.

The three-bay projecting entrance pavilion has a central, double-leaf entry filled with aluminum-frame glass replacement doors. The entry is flanked by windows filled with three-light replacement sashes: two-light fixed sashes in the upper section and a single-light awning sash in the lower section. Similar replacement sashes are found in windows throughout the building. These replacement sashes were in place in 1979 prior to the original

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listing in the NRHP in 1986.¹⁴ The entry is sheltered within a recessed rusticated loggia with three arched bays. A set of concrete steps provides access to the facade's porch and a second set from the porch to the entry. The second-floor central bay of the entrance pavilion is currently filled with four-light replacement sashes, which were in place in 1979 prior to the original listing in the NRHP in 1986.¹⁵ This bay originally was filled with a set of French doors¹⁶ that opened onto a small metal balcony. The balcony has been retained. The triangular pediment has a wood cornice and an oculus window filled with a fixed replacement sash. The building exhibits a stucco exterior.

The three-bay, two-story, hip-roof end projections are additions to the building dating to 1936.¹⁷ The second-floor, central bays of the hip-roof projections exhibit a panel with swag detail. A belt course between the first and second floors encompasses the building. The five-bay, left (southeast) elevation has a set of concrete stairs that descends to a single-leaf basement entry filled with a metal door. The right (northwest) elevation has two bays on either side of a Connecting Corridor (Resource H, 1929) that enters the building at the first floor in the center of this elevation. An exterior walkway along the top of the Connecting Corridor enters the building at the second floor. The upper level's walkway is sheltered by a standing-seam metal roof supported by round metal columns.

The rear (southwest) elevation of the Administration Building exhibits a centered three-bay, slight projection with a central, single-leaf entry filled with an aluminum-frame glass replacement door (similar to the replacement door in place at the time of the original 1986 nomination), sidelights, and transom surmounted by an arched pediment. The projection's pediment has a wood cornice and is pierced by an oculus filled with a vent. A set of concrete stairs and a concrete ramp that extends nearly the length of the building provide access to the rear entry.

Two arched dormers are located on the facade and rear roof slopes, with the rear dormers filled with vents. The facade dormers have arched windows with single-light, double-hung replacement sashes. The Administration Building is supported by a raised concrete basement foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 2. Infirmary Building. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 2 was constructed in 1929 as the Infirmary Building, and it currently includes clinics, the library, and administrative offices. This resource was denoted as the General Medical and Surgery Building in the 1986 NRHP nomination.¹⁸ The Infirmary Building, oriented to the northeast, is located to the northwest of the Administration Building (Resource 1). The four-story, twenty-one-bay, hip-roof, elongated H-shape building was constructed in the French Colonial style with Classical Revival elements. The building has a four-story, three-bay central projecting entrance pavilion and three-story, flat-roof, three-bay facade and rear wings that contribute to the building's overall H-shape.

¹⁴ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁵ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁶ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁷ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁸ G. W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places-Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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The centered, three-bay projecting entrance pavilion has a central, single-leaf entry filled with a replacement aluminum-frame glass door, sidelight, and transom. Similar replacements filled the entry in 1979, prior to the historic district's listing in the NRHP.¹⁹ The entry has a stucco surround with pilasters and a cornice and is flanked on each side by windows filled with three-light replacement sashes, like those found on the Administration Building (Resource 1, 1929). Similar replacement sashes are found in windows throughout the building and appear in photographs of the Infirmary Building dating to 1979.²⁰ The entry is sheltered by an Art Nouveau-inspired overhanging canopy with a metal frame and green glass inserts. A facade courtyard enclosed by a metal fence and gates between the facade wings has been replaced by the current parking lot and patient drop-off area at the facade entry.²¹

The building exhibits a stucco exterior with a rusticated first floor. Between nearly all the second- and third-floor windows are panels with swag details. The side elevations exhibit three-story, flat-roof former porches that are six bays wide and one bay deep. The porches have been enclosed with sashes similar to those found throughout the Infirmary Building and are sheltered by aluminum-frame, contemporary awnings. The Connecting Corridor (Resource H, 1929) from the Administration Building (Resource 1, 1929) enters the Infirmary Building at the ground floor in the left (southeast) side corner. The left (southeast) elevation exhibits a small, projecting concrete loading dock sheltered by a flat roof and square metal columns. The corridor from the Neuropsychiatric Building (Resource 3, 1929) enters the Infirmary Building on the right (northwest) elevation near the center of the former porches at the first, second, and third floors.

The four-story, three-bay, centered rear projection has a double-leaf entry filled with aluminum-frame glass replacement doors. The three windows of the second floor along the facade and rear projections are surmounted by arched hoods. The central window of the second floor of the rear projection exhibits a rectangular balcony with metal railings flanked by urns. The windows of all four floors within the central projection to the right of the central rear entry have been enclosed. A projecting cornice encompasses the building above the third-floor windows. The tympanum of the triangular pediments above the fourth floor of the facade and rear central projections are each filled with an identical intricate design of an open clamshell with floral swags and garlands. The facade pediment is flanked by urns. The central rear entry is sheltered by the roof of the covered walkway (Resource C, circa 1990s) between the Infirmary Building and the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 6, 1929). Several windows on the rear elevation have been enclosed. A mansard roof projects from the rear slope of the roof above the central rear pediment. The mansard roof features oculus windows at regular intervals filled with multiple-light sashes. The facade and rear hip-roof slopes are pierced by two stucco chimneys or air vents on either side of both elevations' central projections. Hip-roof dormers are also found at regular intervals along both the facade and rear roof slopes. The dormers are filled with single-light, double-hung replacement sashes or vents. The Infirmary Building is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 3. Neuropsychiatric Building. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 3 was constructed as the Neuropsychiatric Building in 1929, and it is currently used for clinical support and a women's clinic. According to the 1986 NRHP nomination this resource was the Medical Administration and Mental Hygiene Clinic.²² The Neuropsychiatric Building, oriented to the northeast, is located

¹⁹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

²² G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National

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northwest of the Infirmary Building (Resource 2, 1929). The three-story, thirteen-bay, hip-roof, rectangular building exhibits the French Colonial style with Classical Revival elements. Revivalist architectural elements include a symmetrical facade, a projecting facade pavilion, quoins, a rusticated first floor, panels with swag details, and a stucco exterior.

The facade's three-story, three-bay, hip-roof, central projecting pavilion has a central, double-leaf entry filled with replacement aluminum-frame glass doors with a transom. Similar replacements filled the entry in 1979, prior to the historic district's listing in the NRHP.²³ The entry is flanked by windows filled with three-light replacement sashes similar to those found on the Administration Building (Resource 1, 1929). Similar replacement sashes are found in windows throughout the building and appear in photographs of the Neuropsychiatric Building dating to 1979.²⁴ A water table encompasses the building above the ground floor. The entry is currently sheltered by a large canvas awning supported by metal columns. The central, second-floor bay was originally an arched window, but it has been partially infilled to accommodate replacement sashes. This window exhibits a small metal balcony and a projecting keystone detail flanked by two rosette elements. Between the second- and third-floor windows of the facade projecting pavilion are panels with swag details. The entrance pavilion is surmounted by a triangular pediment with a cornice.

The Connecting Corridor (Resource H, 1929) from the Infirmary Building (Resource 2, 1929) enters Resource 3 in the central bay of the left (southeast) elevation at the first, second, and third floors. It is flanked on each side by single bays. The Connecting Corridor (Resource I, circa 1955) from the Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929) enters the building in the center of the right (northwest) elevation. A small projecting loading dock sheltered by a flat roof is located in the right (northwest) corner. The second- and third-floor windows of the right elevation have been resized for single-leaf entries filled with metal doors; the third floor is accessed by metal stairs.

The three-story, three-bay, hip-roof rear central wing exhibits a centered, double-leaf entry filled with aluminum-frame glass doors and a transom. The ridgeline of the roof is pierced by two stucco chimneys or air vents. All four elevations of the roof are pierced by arched dormers at regular intervals. The dormers are filled with single-light, double-hung replacement sashes or vents. Some retain their original arched sashes. A shed-roof dormer pierces the roof to the right of the rear central wing and is filled with a vent and an air conditioner. The Neuropsychiatric Building is supported by a concrete foundation and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 4. Dining Hall. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 4 was constructed in 1929 as the Dining Hall, and it continues to function as a kitchen and for food service at the present time. The Dining Hall is oriented to the southeast toward the courtyard and is located south-southwest of the Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929). The Dining Hall is composed of a hip-roof main block and three flat-roof sections to the rear. The single-story, seven-bay (d/w/w/w/w/w/d), hip-roof, irregularly-shaped building on a raised basement was constructed in the French Colonial style with Classical Revival elements. Revivalist architectural elements include a symmetrical facade, quoins, a rusticated basement, stucco exterior, and a cornice with modillions. The basement along the facade is partially below grade but is fully visible

Register of Historic Places—Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

²³ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

²⁴ Ibid.

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along the rear elevation. The two hip-roof, projecting entrance vestibules each exhibit double-leaf entries filled with replacement metal doors and single light transoms. The doors and transoms appear to have been replaced after 1979, although it is unclear if they were replaced when the historic district was listed in the NRHP in 1986.²⁵ Each entry exhibits an arched pediment, and above that, a multiple-light oculus. The raised basement windows are filled with louvered vents or single-light, double-hung replacement sashes that may have been introduced after 1979. The first-floor windows are filled with replacement sashes similar to those found on the Administration Building (Resource 1, 1929). Similar replacement sashes are found in the majority of windows throughout the building, and appear to have been in place in a photograph dating to 1979.²⁶ The facade roof slope of the main block is pierced by three arched dormers with windows filled with paired eight-light casement sashes. The side elevation roof slopes of the main block are pierced by chimneys or air vents. The roof of the main block of the building is sheathed in terra cotta tiles. The building exhibits a stucco exterior and a water table that encompasses the building above the raised basement. The northeast elevation exhibits a three-story, single-bay tower addition, possibly for an elevator. This addition appears in a 1979 photograph of the Dining Hall.²⁷ The Connecting Corridor (Resource H, 1929) from the Neuropsychiatric Building (Resource 3, 1929) enters the building near the right (southeast) facade corner, adjacent to the three-story tower, at the basement and first-floor levels.

A single-story with a fully exposed basement, two-bay, flat-roof wing is found on the northeast portion of the rear elevation. It exhibits two paired windows along the basement level. Former windows on the first floor appear to have been enclosed. The wing has a parapet along its flat roof. A second wing along the rear elevation is a central projecting, flat-roof wing that is composed of a single story on a fully exposed raised basement. Windows along the rear elevation of the central rear wing appear to have been enclosed. The curving Connecting Corridor (Resource H) from the Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929) enters the Dining Hall in the center of the central rear wing at the basement level. The central, single-leaf entry covered by the Connecting Corridor is filled with a replacement metal door. The area to the right of the central rear wing exhibits an "L"-shaped loading dock. The dock is accessed by two single- and one double-leaf entries. The double-leaf entry and one of the single-leaf entries are filled with single-light, replacement metal doors. The remaining single-leaf entry is filled with a solid metal replacement door. The concrete dock is sheltered by a series of projecting, ribbed metal roofs supported by square metal posts. The two-story Connecting Corridor (Resource H) from the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 5, 1929) enters Resource 4 at the basement and first-floor levels in the center of the flat-roof southwest elevation. The Dining Hall is supported by a concrete foundation.

Resource 5. Tuberculosis Building. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 5 was constructed in 1929 as a Tuberculosis Building, and it is currently used for administrative offices including engineering, environmental management, and financial operations. At the time of the 1986 NRHP nomination the building contained administration, engineering, and building management services.²⁸ The Tuberculosis Building, oriented to the northeast toward the courtyard, is located southwest of the Neuropsychiatric Building (Resource 3, 1929). The two-story, twenty-three-bay, hip-roof, rectangular building

²⁵ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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was constructed in the French Colonial style with Classical Revival elements. Revivalist architectural elements include a symmetrical facade, quoins, a stucco exterior, a rusticated basement, and panels with swag details. The building exhibits a central, three-bay entrance pavilion. The central, double-leaf entry is filled with aluminum-frame glass replacement doors and a transom. The entry, accessed by a set of double-return concrete stairs, is flanked by windows filled with single-light, fixed replacement sashes. The second-floor central windows of the entrance pavilion and the south hip-roof projection exhibit a decorative hood detail. The second-floor, central, single-leaf entry has been filled with a replacement window sash. Flanking the former entry are narrow windows filled with single-light replacement sashes. The former second-floor entry has a cantilevered balcony partially supported by corbels and a metal railing. The entrance pavilion has a triangular pediment and a belt course and water table encompass the building. The majority of the windows throughout the building are filled with single-over-single-light, double-hung replacement sashes. The original multi-light, double-hung and casement window sashes filled the window openings in 1979, according to photographs.²⁹ It is unclear if the replacement sashes had been installed prior to the listing of the Alexandria VA Hospital in the NRHP in 1986.

The building has two three-bay, hip-roof projections at the right and left ends of the facade and rear elevations. The second-floor windows of the facade projections exhibit a small projecting balcony with corbel supports and metal railings. The Connecting Corridor (Resource H, 1929) from the Dining Hall (Resource 4, 1929) enters the building at the basement and first floor in the center of the right facade projection. The right side (northwest) elevation has four bays, and the left side (southeast) has three. The seventeen bays of the rear (southwest) elevation were originally nearly all porches with screens, as Period II tuberculosis Second Generation Veterans Hospitals normally have numerous porches for patients to receive fresh air and natural light.³⁰ The former porches of the right and left ends of the rear elevation's hip-roof projections now exhibit windows, while the former porch bays between them are filled with tripartite windows. They all retain their original metal railings. Two partially below-grade, single-leaf entries to the basement level are filled with metal doors. The Connecting Corridor (Resource H, 1929) and covered walkway from the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 6, 1929) enters the building at the basement and first and second floors at the southwest corner of the right (southeast) elevation. The facade and rear roof slopes are pierced by arched dormers with windows filled with louvered vents and arched windows at regular intervals. The Tuberculosis Building (Resource 5) is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 6. Tuberculosis Building, 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 6 was constructed in 1929 as a Tuberculosis Building, and it is currently used for administrative offices. At the time of the 1986 NRHP nomination it was known as the Nursing Home Care Building.³¹ The Tuberculosis Building, oriented to the northeast toward the courtyard, is located southeast of another Tuberculosis Building (Resource 5, 1929). The three-story, nine-bay, hip-roof, central main block of the building decreases in height to two-story, eight-bay side extensions with flat roofs. The building has a raised basement. The Tuberculosis Building was constructed in the French Colonial style with Classical Revival elements. Revivalist

²⁹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

³⁰ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

³¹ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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architectural elements include a symmetrical facade, quoins, stucco exterior, a rusticated basement, panels with swag details, and window hoods.

The building exhibits a central, nine-bay, slightly projecting entrance pavilion. The central, single-leaf entry is filled with a horizontal-sliding, aluminum-frame glass replacement door. The entry was originally accessed by a set of double-return concrete stairs, but one side has been converted into a concrete ramp. The entry is flanked by windows filled with replacement sashes set within a recessed arch. The majority of windows throughout the facade and side elevations of the building are similar to the three-light replacement sashes found on the Administration Building (Resource 1, 1929), and appear to have been in place in a photograph dating to 1979.³² The second- and third-floor windows of the entrance pavilion are delineated by rusticated quoins. The windows on the second floor have either flat or segmental arched window hoods. On either side of the nine-bay entrance pavilion and continuing along the flat-roof side extensions is a wood cornice that encompasses the building. Between the first- and second-floor windows of the facade and side elevations are panels with swag details. The facade and rear elevations exhibit a three-bay, flat-roof projection at both ends. The building has a stucco exterior and is encompassed by a water table.

The nineteen-bay southwest (rear) elevation, like that of the adjacent Tuberculosis Building (Resource 5, 1929), was nearly exclusively porches, especially on the first and second floors. The former porches have been enclosed with windows or pairs of windows but retain their original metal railings. The majority of the windows along the rear elevation are filled with replacement single-over-single-light, double-hung sashes. These former porch openings originally were filled with screens, but have been resized to accommodate the replacement sashes. These replacement sashes, or similar ones, appear to have been installed by 1979.³³ Period II tuberculosis Second Generation Veterans Hospitals normally have numerous porches for patients to receive fresh air and sunshine as part of their health care regimen. The center first- and second-story bays of the main block exhibit projecting balconies with metal railings. The former entries have been infilled with windows centered within each space. The walk-out basement along the rear elevation exhibits three single-leaf entries. Two are filled with replacement metal doors and one includes a four-light transom. The third door is filled with a horizontal-sliding, aluminum-frame glass door.

The flat roof of the right (northwest) extension of the building exhibits a prefabricated metal structure. The rear slope of the central section's hip roof is pierced by a small shed-roof dormer with two windows filled with four-light, fixed sashes. Four air vents pierce the roof immediately to the left of the dormer. The hip roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles. The Connecting Corridor (Resource H, 1929) enters the building at the basement and first and second floor of the right side (northwest elevation).

Resource 7. Tuberculosis Building, 1950. *Contributing building.*

Resource 7 was constructed in 1950 as the Tuberculosis Building, and it currently is utilized as the main outpatient clinic. At the time of the 1986 NRHP nomination it was known as the General Medical Building.³⁴ The Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7), oriented to the northeast, is located south of the Administration Building

³² United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places—Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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(Resource 1, 1929). The four-story, twenty-five bay, flat-roof, H-shape building was constructed with French Colonial style influences and Classical Revival elements. Revivalist architectural elements include a symmetrical facade, rusticated quoins, stucco exterior, panels with swag details, and window hoods. The facade exhibits a five-story central block with a pyramidal hip roof that decreases in height to a four-story, flat-roof, three-bay, central projecting entrance pavilion; projecting rear wing; and three-bay facade and rear wings perpendicular to the main block of the building.

The projecting entrance pavilion exhibits a double-leaf entry filled with replacement, paired aluminum-frame glass doors and a transom. The entry is sheltered by a small projecting porch with a concrete roof supported by curved concrete walls. The interior of the porch narrows around the entry, drawing visitors inside. The entry is currently also sheltered by a canvas awning supported by metal supports. The windows throughout the original block of the building are filled with three-light replacement sashes similar to those found on the Administration Building (Resource 1, 1929). These replacement sashes, or similar ones, appear to have been installed by 1979.³⁵ A stringcourse above the ground floor encompasses the facade and side elevations of the building. All the second-floor windows of the facade and side elevations have hoods. The three bays of the projecting entrance pavilion's second, third, and fourth floors are delineated by rusticated pilasters. The central window of the second floor has a surround with a broken pediment exhibiting a pineapple finial. A projecting, stucco cornice encompasses the building. The parapet of the entrance pavilion has a panel that exhibits a "V" over an "A" on a shield flanked by swags and flat roundels. Other than the previously mentioned details, the remainder of the facade has minimal ornamentation.

The original side elevations have seventeen bays. Some former windows have been enclosed and others have been resized for single-leaf entries. The single-leaf entry into the building on the right side (northwest elevation) from the covered walkway leading from the Recreation Building (Resource 8, 1940) is filled with a replacement horizontal-sliding, aluminum-frame glass door. A large single-story addition, with a portion extending to two stories that appears to contain mechanical equipment, encompasses the majority of the left (southeast) elevation. This addition appears to have been constructed after the 1986 listing of the historic district in the NRHP. A single- or two-story projection originally extended from the southeast (left side) elevation of the Tuberculosis Building. It is unclear if this projection was incorporated into the addition or if it was removed for the addition. The current addition has a much larger footprint than the original projection, as the addition extends along the majority of the left side (southeast elevation) of the original main block and it also projects further to the southeast than the original projection.³⁶ The outpatient clinic's southeast addition exhibits along its northeast elevation and a portion of the southeast elevation rustication similar to the first floor of the main block of the building. The clinic is oriented to the southeast and has two double-leaf entries filled with aluminum-frame glass doors with sidelights. The windows to the right of the entry are filled with ribbons of single-light fixed sashes. This elevation is partially sheltered by a loggia supported by square concrete columns. The entry and vehicular drive-through is sheltered by a canopy with a flat roof supported by banded concrete columns. A second canopy (without a drive-through) shelters the ambulance entrance.

A two-story, flat-roof section located southwest of the southeast rear return wing dates to the original construction of Resource 7 and appears to have housed an auditorium. The southwest elevation of this section

³⁵ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

³⁶ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

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exhibits two double-leaf entries filled with replacement metal doors and a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door that steps down into the basement. The previously described addition extends along and obscures the northeast elevation of the auditorium section of the building that dates to the period of significance.

The central rear wing has four-story, flat-roof additions along both side (northwest and southeast) elevations. These two additions, that appear to have been constructed after the historic district was listed in the NRHP in 1986, have considerably widened the rear central wing. The original block of the rear central wing exhibited numerous windows along the side elevations prior to the construction of the two additions. Approximately three vents serve as the only fenestration currently along the northwest and southeast elevations of the central rear wing. The rear elevation of the central rear wing is dominated by a large oculus. A basement loading dock projects from the rear elevation between the central rear and northwest rear wings. The dock is accessed by single- and double-leaf entries filled with metal doors and by garage bays filled with metal overhead doors. A single-story addition with a basement projects from the rear elevation of the northwest rear wing. This addition also appears to date to after the listing of the historic district in the NRHP in 1986.³⁷ The Tuberculosis Building is supported by a concrete basement foundation.

Resource 8. Recreation Building. 1940. *Contributing building.*

Resource 8 was constructed in 1940 as the Recreation Building and it continues to fulfill its original function. At the time of the 1986 NRHP nomination this was known as the Recreation Building and Canteen.³⁸ The Recreation Building, oriented to the northwest toward the courtyard, is located in the central core group of buildings north of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950). The three-story, nine-bay, flat-roof building was constructed with Classical Revival style elements. Revivalist architectural elements include a symmetrical facade, quoins, stucco exterior, a rusticated first floor, panels with swag details, balusters within the parapet, and window hoods.

The building exhibits three-story, three-bay, flat-roof projections at each end of the facade and rear elevations. The single-leaf entry on the left side (northeast) projection of the facade is filled with an automatic, aluminum-frame glass door. The adjacent windows are filled with multiple-light, double-hung sashes that appear to be original. Similar sashes are found in windows throughout the building. The double-leaf entry on the right side (southeast) projection of the rear elevation is filled with bi-fold, aluminum-frame glass doors. Both the facade and rear center sections of the building exhibit a central, double-leaf entry filled with replacement aluminum-frame glass doors and transoms. The remaining projections each have single-leaf entries filled with replacement metal doors.

The central section of the building, which includes the auditorium on the second floor, has five arched windows delineated by rusticated pilasters. The windows are filled with ten-light, double-hung sashes. The left side (northeast elevation) exhibits a three-bay central projection with windows along the second floor filled with six-over-six-light, double-hung sashes and six-light transoms. The third level has windows with three-light, double-hung sashes. The right side (southwest) elevation exhibits a rectangular fourth story extending over the stage of the auditorium and a central, double-leaf entry to the backstage area. The entry, accessed by a set of metal

³⁷ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

³⁸ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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stairs, is filled with wood doors. The Recreation Building is supported by a concrete basement.

Portions of the interior of the Recreation Building appear to retain integrity. The lobby, with its double L staircase exhibiting metal balustrades and wood railing, appears to retain integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. The second-floor auditorium retains its fluted pilasters, wainscot, decorative window casings and door surrounds, and wide cornice. The auditorium retains its stage that continues to serve its original function.

Resource 8A. Retail Store. 2006. Noncontributing building.

Resource 8A was constructed in 2006 as the hospital's Retail Store and it currently retains that use. The Retail Store is oriented to the northeast and is located between the Recreation and Tuberculosis Buildings (Resources 8 and 7, 1940 and 1950, respectively). The single-story, single-bay modular building is located immediately adjacent to the entry into the southeast corner of the Recreation Building. The building's double-leaf entry is filled with aluminum-frame glass doors. The entry is sheltered by a porch with a flat roof supported by metal posts adjacent to the sheltered walkway between the Recreation and Tuberculosis Buildings. The building exhibits an exterior clad in ribbed metal. The rear elevation has a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door. The Retail Store has a flat roof and the foundation is hidden by skirting.

Resource 9. Colored Infirmary Building. 1929. Contributing building.

The initial designation for Resource 9 was the Colored Infirmary Building, as it was originally constructed to serve African American veterans. The building currently contains psychiatric services for patients. At the time of the 1986 NRHP nomination this building was vacant.³⁹ The Colored Infirmary Building, oriented to the southeast, is located northwest of the Neuropsychiatric Building (Resource 3, 1929). The two-story, twenty-two-bay, hip-roof building on a raised basement was constructed in the French Colonial style. Architectural elements include a symmetrical facade, quoins, a rusticated basement, and stucco exterior. The building includes a slightly off-center central rear wing that was part of the original construction. Additions were constructed along each side elevation that included three-bay facade and rear hip-roof projections in 1936.⁴⁰

The original, first-floor central entrance has been enclosed, although it appears to have been open in a 1979 photograph.⁴¹ A Connecting Corridor (Resource I) between Resource 9 and the Neuropsychiatric Building (Resource 3, 1929) across the drive terminates at the landing in front of the former central entrance, under which is an entry to the basement. The basement entry is accessed by a set of concrete stairs that descends under the original entry porch. The windows flanking the former central entrance are filled with three-light replacement sashes similar to those found on the Administration Building. Similar replacement sashes are found throughout the building. A 1979 photograph indicates the Colored Infirmary Building retained its original casement and double-hung sashes at the time. It is unclear if the windows were replaced prior to the 1986 listing of the building as a contributing resource to the historic district.⁴² The second-floor windows of the original block along the facade retain their original metal grilles. The building exhibits a stucco exterior and a belt course and water table

³⁹ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁴⁰ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

⁴¹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁴² Ibid.

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that encompass the building.

The side elevations have seven bays. The right side (northeast elevation) exhibits a single-story, gable-roof, projecting entrance vestibule at the basement level. It was sympathetically constructed in the original style of the building. The glass-enclosed vestibule is sheltered within the gable-roof projection, which also includes a porch over the entry. The double-leaf entry is filled with automatic, horizontal-sliding, aluminum-frame glass doors. The rear projections at each end of the building exhibit a two-story, single-bay, hip-roof addition, possibly containing stairs for egress from the building. They each have a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door. These two additions were sympathetically designed in the original style of the building.

The basement is fully exposed along the rear elevation. The three-bay, central rear wing is longer than the hip-roof projections at either end of the rear elevation. The rear central wing has a gable roof with a triangular pediment pierced with an oculus window. This window is filled with a multiple-light, fixed replacement sash. The central bay of the basement level is a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door. There were originally porches between the rear hip-roof projections and the central rear wing. To the right of the central rear wing are four two-story, arched porch bays that are filled with multiple-light fixed sashes, and they retain their original metal railings. The former two-story, flat-roof porch that projected from the rear elevation to the left of the rear central wing has been removed. A Connecting Corridor (Resource H) from the Dining Hall (Resource 4, 1929) enters the building at the basement level near the center of the left side (southwest elevation). The facade and rear roof slopes, including the roof slopes of the rear central wing and side elevations, are all pierced at regular intervals by arched dormers. Some of the dormers exhibit windows filled with pairs of eight-light casement sashes, and others are filled with louvered vents. The Colored Infirmary Building is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 10T. General Mechanics Supervisor's Office. Circa 1980s. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 10T, a trailer, was added to the historic district circa 1980s and currently is used as the General Mechanics Supervisor's Office. The General Mechanics Supervisor's Office, oriented to the north, is located in the maintenance/utility group of buildings, immediately north of the Storehouse (Resource 13, 1929). The single-story, three-bay rectangular building has an off-center, single-leaf entry filled with a single-light metal door. The entry is sheltered by a frame porch with a shed roof sheathed in ribbed metal and supported by square wood posts. The windows are filled with single-light, horizontal-sliding sashes. Similar sashes are found in windows throughout the building, which exhibit a ribbed metal exterior. The General Mechanics Supervisor's Office is supported by a foundation hidden by skirting and has a slightly arched roof.

Resource 11A. Fire Pump House. Circa 1950s. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource 11A was constructed circa 1950s as the Fire Pump House and it continues to serve its original function. The Fire Pump House, oriented to the northeast, is located southeast of the Water Tower (Resource 84, 1929). This building has a number of water valves along one elevation, possibly for fire hoses, and its location adjacent to the Water Tower may facilitate the flow of water in case there is a fire on the campus. The single-story, single-bay square building was constructed in a utilitarian manner. The off-center, double-leaf entry is filled with metal doors. The building exhibits a ribbed metal exterior. The right side (northwest elevation) exhibits a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door and a louvered vent. The Fire Pump House is supported by a concrete slab foundation and has a flat roof.

Resource 13. Storehouse. 1929. *Contributing building.*

Resource 13 was constructed in 1929 as the Storehouse, but it currently is utilized for maintenance shops. At

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the time of the 1986 NRHP nomination this building served as the Maintenance Shops Building.⁴³ The Storehouse, oriented to the east, is located in the maintenance/utility group of buildings to the immediate south of the General Mechanics Supervisor's Office (Resource 10T, circa 1980s). The single-story, ten-bay, side-gable, rectangular building was constructed with minimal ornamentation but with materials that were complementary to the style applied to the buildings in the central core group. A concrete loading dock projects from the facade. Opening onto the loading dock are two single-leaf entries (one exhibiting a transom) and two double-leaf entries with multiple-light transoms, all filled with replacement metal doors. The doors have been replaced since 1979. A former single-leaf entry that also had a transom has been enclosed.⁴⁴ One bay is filled with a louvered vent, and the facade windows are filled with six-light, double-hung replacement sashes. Similar replacement sashes are found in windows throughout the building. The upper sashes of two windows are filled with vents. A former window appears to be enclosed. The building exhibits a stucco exterior.

The right side (north elevation) has four windows. The left side (south elevation) has a bay filled with a louvered vent, and two windows are partially enclosed for air-handling equipment. The rear elevation has two double-leaf entries with transoms and six windows. The ridgeline of the roof is pierced with three ventilators. A roof projection with clay tile coping may indicate that the south section of the building was constructed as an addition, although it appears in a 1979 photograph.⁴⁵ The Storehouse is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 14. Boiler House. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 14 was constructed in 1929 as the Boiler House and it continues to serve its original function. The Boiler House, oriented to the east, is located within the maintenance/utility building complex south of the Storehouse (Resource 13, 1929). The two-story, five-bay, side-gable building was constructed in a utilitarian manner but using materials that were complementary to the style applied to the buildings in the central core group. An off-center, single-leaf entry is filled with a metal door and a single-light transom. One facade window is filled with a multiple-light, factory window with three, eight-light awning sashes. Three other facade windows are filled with pairs of similar windows. Similar sashes are found in windows throughout the majority of the building. The building exhibits a stucco exterior.

The right (north) end of the building exhibits two large windows at the first-floor level and four smaller windows along the second floor. The five-bay rear elevation has a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door and a single-light transom. A large fuel tank is located near the northwest rear corner. The rear entry and an adjacent work and break area are sheltered by a shed-roof porch supported by square metal columns. The left (south) elevation has a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors that is sheltered by an overhanging roof that extends from the new Incinerator Building (Resource 138, 1995), which is adjacent. Three vents pierce the ridgeline of the roof. Two noticeable modifications to the Boiler House since a 1979 photograph are the loss of the adjacent chimney stack and the introduction of three tall vents with conical caps that pierce the facade roof slope.⁴⁶ The Boiler

⁴³ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁴⁴ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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House is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 15. Garage. 1931. *Contributing building.*

Resource 15 was constructed in 1931 as the hospital's Garage. At the time of the 1986 NRHP nomination this building served as the Fire Station, and it continues to be utilized for this function.⁴⁷ The Garage, oriented to the northeast, is located southeast of the Laundry (Resource 16, 1942). The single-story, nine-bay, side-gable, rectangular building was constructed with minimal ornamentation but using materials that were complementary to the style applied to the central core group of buildings. The building exhibits a stucco exterior. Originally a ten-bay garage, four former garage bays have been enclosed or resized. The garage bays are filled with metal overhead doors. The right side (northwest elevation) has two windows and a single-leaf entry filled with a metal replacement door with a transom. The windows are filled with six-light awning sashes over six-light fixed sashes. Similar sashes are found in windows throughout the building. Similar windows are depicted in a 1979 photograph of the northwest gable end of the building.⁴⁸ The rear elevation has a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door and two former windows that have been resized, one for a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors and another for a garage bay filled with an overhead door. Paired windows are also located along the rear elevation. A large flat-roof, metal carport has been constructed along the rear elevation. The carport is supported by square metal posts. The ridgeline of the building's roof is pierced by five ventilators. The Garage is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 16. Laundry Building. 1942. *Contributing building.*

The Laundry Building was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP Nomination listed in 1986. The Laundry Building has been reclassified as a contributing resource to the historic district because it was an integral part of the historic district during the period of significance and the alterations since the period of significance do not significantly diminish integrity of the resource.⁴⁹

Resource 16 was constructed as the Laundry in 1942 and continues to serve its original function. The Laundry Building is oriented to the southwest and is located north of the Garage (Resource 15, 1931). The single-story, seven-bay, rectangular building was constructed in a utilitarian manner but using materials that were complementary to the style applied to the buildings dating to the period of significance. The building has a stucco exterior. A concrete loading dock extends along the majority of the facade elevation. The loading dock is sheltered by a projecting flat-roof porch supported by square metal posts. The facade has two garage bays filled with metal overhead doors and a single-leaf entry filled with a replacement metal door and a transom. The single or paired windows are filled with six-light, metal, double-hung sashes. Similar sashes are found in windows throughout the majority of the building. The facade and left side (northwest elevations) intersect to exhibit a truncated corner with two windows. The building was originally rectangular in shape, but a 1948 addition on the

⁴⁷ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁴⁸ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁴⁹ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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left side (northwest) created an overall truncated L-shape.⁵⁰ A recent rear addition with a flat roof has been constructed to give the building its current rectangular shape. This recent addition was constructed after the 1986 listing of the historic district in the NRHP. A variety of mechanical equipment projects from the roof of the addition. A small, single-bay, flat-roof projection on the rear elevation exhibits a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door. The Laundry Building is supported by a concrete foundation and has a gable roof sheathed in terra cotta shingles.

The recent flat-roof addition is located to the rear of the Laundry Building and is not visible from the facade or left side (northwest elevation) of the building. Of the portions of the building dating to the period of significance, the facade, two side elevations (including the 1948 addition), and the rear portion of the 1948 addition continue to be visible, with the flat-roof porch sheltering the loading dock as the most noticeable recent change. Another alteration that has taken place since a 1979 photograph is the removal of large metal vents and pipes that projected through the roof and rear elevation of the 1948 addition. The removal of these vents and pipes allows the 1948 addition to be clearly viewed in its form when constructed. Although the Laundry Building was determined to be noncontributing to the historic district in the original 1986 nomination, it has been reclassified as a contributing resource in this additional documentation form because the alterations, including the rear addition, do not significantly diminish the characteristics of the resource's integrity dating to the period of significance, and it continues to contribute to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.

Resource 17. Nurses' Quarters Building. 1929. Contributing building.

The Nurses' Quarters Building was not included within the historic district boundary in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register Nomination listed in 1986. It appears the Nurses' Quarters Building was not incorporated into the original NRHP boundary because the building was not owned at the time by the VA. As part of the historic district boundary increase, the Nurses' Quarters Building is included as a contributing resource to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District within this additional documentation form because it was an integral part of the historic district during the period of significance. The Nurses' Quarters Building is currently owned by the U.S. Forest Service and utilized for offices.

Resource 17, constructed in 1929 as the Nurses' Quarters Building, is oriented to the southwest. This building is located in the residential group of buildings northwest of the Manager's Quarters (Resource 18, 1929) on the northeast side of Shreveport Highway. The three-story, seventeen-bay (w/w/w/w/w/w/w/d/w/w/w/w/w/w/w), hip-roof building was constructed in the French Colonial style with Classical Revival elements. Architectural elements exhibited by the building include a symmetrical facade, quoins, and panels with swag details. The building has a three-story, three-bay, central projecting entrance pavilion. The single-leaf entry is filled with an aluminum-frame glass replacement door, sidelights, and transom. The adjacent windows were originally filled with doors but are currently filled with single-light, fixed replacement sashes. Other windows are filled with two-light replacement sashes consisting of a fixed upper sash over either a single-light hopper or awning sash. Similar replacement sashes are found in windows throughout the building. The second-floor windows of the entrance pavilion exhibit small metal grilles or balconies. Between the second- and third-floor windows of the entrance pavilion and the central three windows of the rear elevation are panels with swag details. Simple flat panels are located below the remaining second- and third-floor windows along the facade and rear elevations.

⁵⁰ 1942 and 1959 Plot Plans, located in the files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana; United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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The three-bay side elevations were originally three-story, arched porches with flat roofs and a balustrade along the roof. Each porch has been partially enclosed, and metal stairs for egress have been constructed between the floors in the remaining open section. A connecting corridor to a U.S. Forest Service building shelters the central bay of the seventeen-bay (w/w/w/w/w/w/d/w/w/w/w/w/w/w/w) rear elevation. Several former windows have been enclosed, and small vents project from them. The central window above the rear connecting corridor exhibits a small metal grille. The Nurses' Quarters Building is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in composition shingles. The building retains its original footprint and many of its original architectural features, especially along the facade elevation. The alterations to the side porches, the enclosed windows, and the corridor from the U.S. Forest Service building do not significantly impact the building's integrity. The building retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.

Resource 18. Manager's Quarters. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 18 was constructed in 1929 as the Manager's Quarters, and it currently retains its original residential function. The Manager's Quarters, oriented to the southwest, is located in the residential group of buildings and southeast of the Nurses' Quarters Building (Resource 17, 1929). The two-story, three-bay (w/d/w), hip-roof building was constructed in the French Colonial style. Architectural elements exhibited by the building include a symmetrical facade, hip-roof, quoins, and a stucco exterior. The central, double-leaf facade entry is filled with eight-light wood doors and a fanlight. The windows flanking the entry are filled with four-light, double-hung replacement sashes. Similar replacement sashes are found throughout the building. Originally the building had paired casements with a transom filling the windows.⁵¹ The entry is accessed by a hip-roof porch with its roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. The porch roof is supported by round metal posts with decorative metal details. The porch is enclosed with screens and exhibits a central, single-leaf entry filled with a contemporary storm door.

The two-bay, right side (southeast elevation) has an exterior chimney that pierces the roof at the eave. The three-bay (w/d/w) rear elevation exhibits a single-bay, flat-roof projection along the right portion of the rear elevation. To the immediate left of the projection is a single-leaf rear entry filled with a six-light wood door and a contemporary storm door. The rear entry is sheltered by a small hip-roof porch with the roof sheathed in standing-seam metal and supported by round, metal posts. A set of concrete stairs parallel to the rear elevation descends under the rear porch to a single-leaf basement entry. An interior chimney pierces the roof in the northeast rear corner of the main block adjacent to the rear projection. The left side (northwest elevation) has three bays, including a single window bay along the rear projection. Two hip-roof dormers are located on the facade roof slope and are filled with replacement six-light casements. The rear roof slope is pierced with a hip-roof dormer filled with a pair of six-light casement replacement sashes. The Manager's Quarters has a rusticated basement and has a concrete foundation. The roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 19. Officers' Duplex Quarters. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 19 was constructed in 1929 as Officers' Duplex Quarters, and it continues to fulfill its original residential purpose. The Officers' Duplex Quarters is oriented to the southwest and is located southeast of the Manager's Quarters (Resource 18, 1929). The two-story, six-bay (w/d/w/w/d/w), hip-roof, rectangular building was constructed in the French Colonial style. Architectural elements exhibited by Resource 19 include a symmetrical facade, stucco exterior, quoins, and rusticated basement. The two slightly-projecting entrance

⁵¹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

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vestibules exhibit French-style metal roof hoods sheathed in standing-seam metal. The single-leaf entries are filled with wood doors and four-light transoms. The transoms are decorated with metal grilles. The windows flanking the entries are filled with four-light, double-hung replacement sashes. Similar replacement sashes are found in windows throughout the building. A stucco belt course encompasses the building. The basement exhibits a stucco exterior with rustication.

The two-bay side elevations each exhibit two pairs of ten-light French doors onto single-story porches. The porches are similar to the entrance porch of the Manager's Quarters (Resource 17, 1929), except they exhibit projecting, adjustable, metal louver awnings. The six-bay (w/d/w/w/d/w) rear elevation has small, single-story rear projections with very low, nearly flat hip-roofs sheathed in standing-seam metal. Immediately to the side of both projections, single-leaf rear entries are filled with six-light wood doors and storm doors. The entries are sheltered by a hip roof extended from the projections supported by a round metal post.

The facade roof slope is pierced by four hip-roof dormers with pilasters and filled with six-light casement replacement sashes. Two interior chimneys pierce the roof in the center of the side elevations. A third chimney pierces the rear roof slope between the two shed-roof dormers with pilasters, each of which is filled with a ribbon of six-light casement replacement sashes. The Officers' Duplex Quarters (Resource 19) is supported by a concrete foundation and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 20. Officers' Duplex Quarters. 1929. Contributing building.

This Officers' Duplex Quarters building (Resource 20) is similar to Resource 19, except that the left facade entry is filled with a six-light wood door and the right facade entry is filled with a three-light wood door. Resource 20 is located between the Officers' Duplex Quarters building (Resource 19) and another Officers' Duplex Quarters (Resource 21, 1929).

Resource 21. Officers' Duplex Quarters. 1929. Contributing building.

This Officers' Duplex Quarters building is nearly identical to Resource 19, except it is oriented nearly due west. Resource 21 is located between another Officers' Duplex Quarters building (Resource 20) and the Apartment House Building (Resource 22, 1929).

Resource 22. Apartment House Building. 1929. Contributing building.

Resource 22 was constructed in 1929 as the Apartment House Building, and it currently appears to retain its residential use. The Apartment House Building, oriented to the west, is located in the residential group of buildings south of the Officers' Duplex Quarters (Resource 21). The two-story, seven-bay (w/w/w/d/w/w/w), hip-roof, rectangular building was constructed in the French Colonial style. Architectural elements exhibited by the building include a symmetrical facade, stucco exterior, quoins, and a rusticated basement. The central, single-leaf entry is filled with a six-light wood door, four-light transom, and storm door. The transom is decorated with a metal grille. The windows flanking the entry are filled with four-light, double-hung replacement sashes that appear to date to after the listing of the historic district in the NRHP in 1986. Similar replacement sashes are found in windows throughout the building. A stucco belt course encompasses the building between the first and second floors. The first- and second-floor facade central bays are delineated by quoins and surmounted by a small triangular pediment. Two hip-roof dormers, each filled with a replacement six-light sash, are found on the facade roof slope.

The two-bay side elevations each exhibit two pairs of ten-light French doors at each level onto two-story side porches. The porches are similar to the entrance porch of the Manager's Quarters (Resource 17), except they exhibit projecting, adjustable, metal louver awnings. The seven-bay (w/w/w/d/w/w/w) rear elevation exhibits a

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central, single-leaf rear entry filled with a six-light wood door and a storm door. The central bays are delineated by a pair of chimneys or vents that project slightly from the rear elevation and pierce the rear eave. The chimneys or vents flank a large, triangular roof projection with a window filled with a six-light replacement sash. The Apartment House Building is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 24. Electric Switchgear Station. 1976. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource 24 was constructed in 1976 as an Electric Switchgear Station and it currently retains this use. The Electric Switchgear Station is oriented to the north and is located in the maintenance/utility group of buildings south of the new Incinerator Building (Resource 138, 1995) and near the southern edge of the historic district. The single-story, single-bay, rectangular structure exhibits a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door on the facade and rear elevations. The east (left) elevation exhibits ten access panels. The Electric Switchgear Station is supported by a concrete slab foundation and has a flat roof.

Resource 38. Emergency Generator. 1980. *Noncontributing structure.*

The Emergency Generator does not appear in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986.⁵² Resource 38 was constructed in 1980 as an emergency generator and it currently retains this use. The Emergency Generator, oriented to the northeast, is located immediately northwest of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 5, 1929). The single-story, single-bay, flat-roof, square structure has a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors. Other elevations exhibit vents. The structure has a stucco exterior, and the roof is pierced with two air vents. The Emergency Generator is supported by a concrete slab foundation.

Resource 39. Emergency Generator. 1980. *Noncontributing structure.*

This Emergency Generator does not appear in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986.⁵³ Resource 39 was constructed in 1980 as an emergency generator and it currently retains this use. This Emergency Generator, oriented to the southwest, is located between the Infirmary and Neuropsychiatric Buildings (Resources 2 and 3, both 1929) and is very similar to Resource 38, another Emergency Generator. The single-story, single-bay, flat-roof, square structure has a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors. Other elevations exhibit vents. The structure exhibits a stucco exterior, and the roof is pierced with two air vents. The Emergency Generator is supported by a concrete slab foundation.

Resource 40. Emergency Generator. 1988. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource 40 was constructed in 1988 as an Emergency Generator and it currently retains this use. This Emergency Generator is oriented to the southeast and is located in the central core group of buildings southwest of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950). The two-story, single-bay, flat-roof, square structure has a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door and a pair of large vents above the door. Other elevations exhibit large louvered vents. The structure exhibits a stucco exterior, and the roof is pierced with an air vent. This Emergency Generator is supported by a concrete slab foundation.

⁵² G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places—Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁵³ Ibid.

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Resource 42. Emergency Generator. 1980. *Noncontributing structure.*

This Emergency Generator does not appear in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986.⁵⁴ Resource 42 was built in 1980 as an Emergency Generator, and it currently retains this use. This Emergency Generator is oriented to the east and is located in the maintenance/utility group of buildings between the Storehouse and the Boiler House (Resources 13 and 14, both 1929). The single-story, single-bay, rectangular structure has a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors, and other elevations exhibit louvered vents. The structure has a ribbed metal exterior. The roof is pierced with an air vent. This Emergency Generator is supported by a concrete slab foundation and has a gable roof sheathed in ribbed metal.

Resource 45. Nursing Home Care Unit. 1987. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 45 was constructed in 1987 as the Nursing Home Care Unit, and it continues to serve its original function. The Nursing Home Care Unit is oriented to the northwest and is located southeast of the Chapel (Resource 46, 1988). The two-story, ten-bay, irregular-shaped building was constructed in a Post-Modern interpretation of the French Colonial style that was used to design many of the other major buildings in the historic district. The facade of the Nursing Home Care Unit exhibits a rusticated exterior and quoins. The building has a slightly off-center, recessed entry pavilion delineated by a gable with a large, round vent.

The facade of the building is composed of two-story, flat-roof sections flanking a recessed gable-roof entry pavilion. To the rear of the flat-roof facade section is the gable-roof portion of the main block of the Nursing Home Care Unit. The double-leaf entry of the recessed gable-roof pavilion is filled with horizontal-sliding, aluminum-frame glass doors with sidelights and transoms. Adjacent ground-floor bays are filled with single-light operable and fixed French doors. The second-floor windows are filled with pairs of single-light casement sashes surmounted by single-light transoms. Extending parallel and very near the facade of the building is a gable-roof structure supported by square columns that shelters the sidewalk to the front of the building (See Photograph #10). The roof of this structure is clad in imitation terra cotta tiles. A square, flat-roof canopy supported by rusticated columns shelters the vehicular drive directly in line with the Nursing Home Care Unit's facade entrance. This vehicular canopy is adjacent to the structure sheltering the sidewalk that is parallel to the facade of Resource 45. The covered walkway (Resource D, circa 1990s) from the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950) and the Chapel (Resource 46, 1988) intersects the vehicular canopy sheltering the entrance drive. A small concrete loading dock at the northeast facade corner is sheltered by a flat roof.

A flat-roof wing projects from the side elevations of the main block and extends beyond the rear elevation of the main block of the Nursing Home Care Unit. These two wings are perpendicular to the main block of the building. These side wings have paired windows filled with double-hung, single-light sashes. The two-story, flat-roof, central rear wing is longer than the flanking side wings and has a three-story projection near the southeast end. A two-story, two-bay flat-roof addition is located on the southwest elevation at the rear of the central wing. The central rear wing has windows similar to those found along the side wings.

A small, single-story, three-bay, side-gable projection was constructed between the central rear and the southeast (left) rear wing. The Nursing Home Care Unit is supported by a concrete foundation, and the side gable roof of the main block is sheathed in plastic shingles that resemble terra cotta tiles.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

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Resource 46. Chapel. 1988. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 46 was constructed in 1988 as the Chapel, and it currently retains this use. The Chapel, oriented to the northeast, is located southeast of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950) and northwest of the Nursing Home Care Unit (Resource 45, 1987). The single-story, seven-bay, gable-roof, rectangular building was constructed in a Post-Modern interpretation of the French Colonial style that was used to design many of the other major buildings within the historic district. The off-center, double-leaf entry is filled with aluminum-frame glass doors, sidelights, and transom. The entry is sheltered by a shed roof porch supported by a square concrete pier. The windows of the nave section of the Chapel appear to be double-leaf, single-light French doors with transoms. The building exhibits a stucco exterior and has cornice returns.

A three-story bell tower is adjacent to the entry. The bell tower exhibits a series of narrow windows filled with single-light fixed sashes, and the third level exhibits arched bays. The tower has a pyramidal hip roof. The northwest end of the building exhibits a large contemporary interpretation of a stained-glass rosette window and an off-center single-leaf entry filled with a metal door. The southwest elevation features a double-leaf entry similar to the one on the opposite elevation. The southwest entry is sheltered by a short gable-roof walkway that is connected to the covered walkway (Resource D, circa 1990s) that connects the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7), the Chapel, and the Nursing Home Care Unit. The southeast end exhibits a single-story, gable-roof, single-bay projection. The recessed, single-leaf entry is filled with an aluminum-frame glass door and a transom. The sides have windows filled with ribbons of single-light, fixed sashes. The gable ends have round louvered vents. The Chapel (Resource 46, 1988) is supported by a concrete foundation, and the gable roof is sheathed in plastic shingles that resemble terra cotta shingles.

Resource 50. Greenhouse. 1988. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 50 was constructed in 1988 as the Greenhouse, and it currently retains that use. The Greenhouse is oriented to the northeast and is located northwest of the Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929). The single-story, two-bay rectangular building has a centered, single-leaf entry filled with a storm door. The bay to the left of the entry is filled with a louvered vent. The building has a corrugated fiberglass panel exterior, including the sides and roof. The northwest (side) elevation exhibits a single-leaf entry filled with a storm door. The Greenhouse has an arched roof sheathed in corrugated fiberglass panels.

Resource 82. Booster Pump House. 1939. *Contributing building.*

The booster pump house is utilized as a water pumping station for the facility. Resource 82 was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986. The booster pump house (Resource 82, 1939) has been reclassified as a contributing resource to the historic district within this additional documentation form because it was an integral part of the historic district during the period of significance and it retains integrity.⁵⁵

Resource 82 was constructed in 1939 as the Booster Pump House, or pump house, adjacent to the Water Tower and it currently retains that use. The Booster Pump House (Resource 82, 1939) is oriented to the southeast and is located between the Water Tower (Resource 84, 1929) and the Fire Reservoir (Resource 85, circa 1980s). The single-story, four-bay (w/d/w/w), rectangular building with a side-gable roof was constructed in a utilitarian

⁵⁵ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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manner with a stucco exterior. It has a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors. The windows are filled with a six-light awning sash and three-light fixed sash below. Similar sashes are found in windows throughout the building. The rear elevation exhibits two single-leaf entries filled with metal doors, a window, and a bay filled with a louvered vent. According to a circa 1975 photograph, the bay filled with a louvered vent originally contained a window. The same photograph also indicates that the two entries along the rear elevation originally had a three-light transom over each door. The transoms have since been infilled. The Booster Pump House is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 83. In-Ground Reservoir. 1929. *Noncontributing structure.*

The In-Ground Reservoir was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986. The In-Ground Reservoir continues to be classified as a noncontributing resource to the historic district because of alterations.⁵⁶

Resource 83 was constructed in 1929 as an In-Ground Reservoir, and it currently retains that use. This resource is located immediately northwest of the Fire Reservoir (Resource 85, circa 1980s). The circular concrete tank projects above grade approximately 3–4 feet and is sheltered by a metal, domed roof. The geodesic-type metal roof appears to be a replacement of recent vintage. The reservoir exhibits pipes and a small concrete projection on the side. The replacement of the roof diminishes the characteristics of materials, workmanship, and design of the structure, and it no longer retains integrity sufficient to contribute to the historic district.

Resource 84. Water Tower. 1929. *Contributing structure.*

The Water Tower was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986. The Water Tower has been reclassified as a contributing resource to the historic district in this additional documentation form because it was an integral part of the historic district during the period of significance and it retains integrity.⁵⁷

Resource 84 was constructed in 1929 as the Water Tower. At the time of the survey, the Water Tower was being prepared for removal. The Water Tower is located southeast of the Warehouse (Resource 136, 1950). The tank has a conical top and is supported by four supports. The Water Tower has a central supply pipe, cross braces, an exterior ladder for access to the catwalk around the tank, and another ladder to the top of the tank itself. The four supports of Resource 84 rest on concrete piers.

Resource 85. Fire Reservoir. Circa 1980s. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource 85 was constructed circa 1980s as the Fire Reservoir, and it currently retains that use. The Fire Reservoir is located southeast of the Water Tower (Resource 84, 1929). Resource 85 is a tank that exhibits a steel exterior and has a flat roof. It has an exterior ladder for access to the roof. Resource 85 is supported by a concrete slab foundation.

Resource 86. Flag Pole. 1929. *Contributing object.*

Resource 86 is the Flag Pole constructed in 1929. It is located northeast of the Infirmary Building (Resource 2, 1929). The large, octagonal concrete base is similar to those at other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The base of the Flag Pole flares out and extends up approximately 2.5 feet to a level platform with a

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ Ibid.

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molded edge similar to a seat. The eight-sided pylon extends up to a flared cap from which the pole extends. The concrete base supports a metal flag pole with a ball finial. The area around the base includes a concrete assembly area accessed by a concrete sidewalk. The base is surrounded by a crescent-shaped, concrete knee-wall and mature landscaping. A sculpture has been installed on one side of the base. The bronze sculpture of an eagle in flight holding the United States flag is supported by a square concrete base with tapering sides.

The characteristic of setting for this resource is diminished by the placement of the sculpture in front of and in close proximity to the base of the Flag Pole. While the addition of the sculpture near the base of the Flag Pole diminishes the integrity of setting, Resource 86 continues to retain sufficient integrity of location, materials, design, association, feeling, and setting to continue as a contributing resource to the historic district.

Resource 91. Quarters Barbecue Shelter. Circa 1930s–1940s. *Noncontributing structure.*

The Quarters Barbecue Shelter was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986. The Quarters Barbecue Shelter continues to be classified as a noncontributing resource to the historic district within this additional documentation nomination.⁵⁸

Resource 91 was constructed circa 1930s–1940s as well number 11, and by 1947 the well had been abandoned and the structure converted to a barbecue pit for the quarters.⁵⁹ The structure currently appears to be unused. The Quarters Barbecue Shelter is located southeast of the Apartment House Building (Resource 22, 1929). The rectangular structure includes a concrete patio with concrete block retaining walls at the north end and a concrete-frame shelter at the south end with a shed roof sheathed in corrugated metal. The center of the roof is pierced with a vent pipe with a conical top. The grill or fire pit has been removed. The Quarters Barbecue Shelter is supported by a concrete foundation. Without the associated grill, fire pit, or other elements normally associated with a residential outdoor barbecue, Resource 91 no longer retains integrity sufficient to contribute to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.

Resource 95. Personnel Garage. 1931. *Contributing building.*

The Personnel Garage was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986. The three-car, Personnel Garage has been reclassified as a contributing resource to the historic district in this additional documentation nomination form because it was part of the historic district during the period of significance and it retains integrity.⁶⁰

Resource 95 was constructed in 1931 as a personnel garage, and it currently retains that use. The Personnel Garage, oriented to the southwest, is located in the residential group of buildings nearly due east of the Manager's Quarters (Resource 18, 1929). The single-story, three-bay, shed-roof building exhibits three open garage bays. The building was constructed of concrete blocks and exhibits a stucco exterior. The individual bays are delineated by a frame partition clad in corrugated metal between the left and center bays, while the center and right bays are

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ 1942 and 1947 Plot Plans, located in the files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

⁶⁰ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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separated by a concrete block wall. The rear elevation has three bays filled with louvered vents. The Personnel Garage is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in rolled asphalt.

The reason for originally classifying this personnel garage as noncontributing to the historic district is unknown, other than it did not exhibit the notable architectural details typical of the major buildings within the historic district. The Personnel Garage retains integrity to contribute to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.

Resource 101. Personnel Garage. 1931. *Contributing building.*

This Personnel Garage was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP nomination listed in 1986. The Personnel Garage has been reclassified as a contributing resource to the historic district in this additional documentation nomination form because it was part of the historic district during the period of significance and it retains integrity.⁶¹

Resource 101 is nearly identical to the previous Personnel Garage, except it is located nearly due east of the Officers' Duplex Quarters (Resource 19, 1929). The three bays are separated by frame walls clad in corrugated metal.

The reason for originally classifying this Personnel Garage as noncontributing to the historic district is unknown, other than it did not exhibit the notable architectural details typical of the major buildings within the historic district. The Personnel Garage retains integrity to contribute to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.

Resource 102. Personnel Garage. 1931. *Contributing building.*

This Personnel Garage (Resource 102) was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register Nomination listed in 1986. The Personnel Garage has been reclassified as a contributing resource to the historic district in this additional documentation form because it was part of the historic district during the period of significance and it retains integrity.⁶²

Resource 102 is nearly identical to the other Personnel Garages (Resources 95 and 101, both 1931), except it is a six-bay garage and it is oriented west-southwest. This Personnel Garage is located northeast of the Apartment House Building (Resource 22, 1929).

The reason for originally classifying this Personnel Garage as noncontributing to the historic district is unknown, other than it did not exhibit the notable architectural details typical of the major buildings within the historic district. Resource 102 retains integrity to contribute to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.

Resource 110. Water Well # 13. 1939. *Contributing building.*

Water Well #13 (Resource 110, 1939) was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register Nomination listed in 1986. Water Well #13 has been reclassified as a contributing resource to the historic district in this additional documentation form because it was part of the historic district during the period of significance and it

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² Ibid.

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retains integrity.⁶³

Resource 110 is mislabeled as "Building 103" on the exterior of the building. The current site plan provided by the facility and a location plan map of the campus predating 1958 and revised to 1978 indicates this building is Resource 110. Building 103, which was Water Well #12, was not in use according to the revised 1978 map and it was located to the southeast of Resource 110. Building 103 is no longer extant.

Resource 110 was constructed in 1939 as a well house for Water Well #13, and it appears to currently retain this use. Water Well #13 is oriented to the northwest and is immediately east of the Fire Reservoir (Resource 85, circa 1980s). The single-story, single-bay, side-gable, nearly square building is constructed in a utilitarian manner. The single-leaf entry is filled with a nine-light wood door. The windows on the southwest and southeast elevations are comprised of six-light, double-hung sashes. The building exhibits a stucco exterior, and the gable ends have cornice returns. An oculus filled with a louvered vent is located in the southwest gable end. Water Well #13 is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in composition shingles.

The reason for originally classifying Water Well #13 as noncontributing to the historic district is unknown, other than it did not exhibit the notable architectural details typical of the major buildings within the historic district and it was constructed after 1937. Resource 110 retains integrity to contribute to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.

Resource 115T. Grounds Equipment Storage. 1946. *Noncontributing structure.*

The Grounds Equipment Storage structure was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register Nomination listed in 1986. The Grounds Equipment Storage structure continues to be classified as a noncontributing resource to the historic district.⁶⁴

Resource 115T was constructed in 1946 as a temporary Quonset hut, and it currently is used for storage. The Grounds Equipment Storage Quonset hut is oriented to the southwest and is located southeast of the Garage (Resource 15, 1931). This structure exhibits an open bay along the facade with the opposite end enclosed by a frame wall clad in corrugated metal. The arched Quonset hut is supported by concrete block knee walls. The only portions of this structure that appear to date to the period of significance are the concrete knee walls and the corrugated metal clad frame. One end is totally open, while the other is covered with a vertical frame wall clad in corrugated metal that totally encompasses the end of the structure. Although the main component of the Quonset hut remains, this structure no longer retains integrity of materials, design, or workmanship sufficient to contribute to the historic district.

Resource 117T and 120T. Paint Shop and Storage. 1946. *Noncontributing building.*

The Paint Shop and Storage Building was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register Nomination listed in 1986. The Paint Shop and Storage Building continues to be classified as a noncontributing resource to the historic district.⁶⁵

Resource 117T and 120T was constructed in 1946 as two temporary Quonset huts, and they are currently used as the paint shop and for paint shop storage. The Paint Shop and Storage Quonset huts are oriented to the

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Ibid.

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southeast and are located west of the Storehouse (Resource 13, 1929). The Quonset huts are joined together by a short connector with a gable roof sheathed in ribbed metal. Both Quonset huts exhibit concrete block facade and rear elevations, with concrete block kneewalls along each side elevation. Resource 120T has a rounded "roof," while Resource 117T has a roof resembling a monitor roof, although the former vent or window openings along this portion of the roof have been enclosed with metal cladding. The facade and rear elevations exhibit double-leaf entries filled with metal doors. Resource 117T exhibits a window near the rear entry filled with paired eight-light awning sashes and four-light fixed sashes. Both sections of the building and the connector are clad in replacement ribbed metal. The Paint Shop and Storage Quonset huts are supported by concrete foundations. Modifications to the Quonset huts, including the concrete block enclosed openings and the replacement of the corrugated metal exteriors with ribbed metal within the last six years, has diminished the buildings' integrity of materials, design, and workmanship so that they no longer retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district.

Resource 136 and 136T. Warehouse and Warehouse Annex. 1950, Circa 1970s. *Noncontributing building.*

The Warehouse was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register Nomination listed in 1986. Resource 136 continues to be classified as a noncontributing resource to the historic district.⁶⁶ Because the Warehouse Annex (Resource 136T) is an addition to the Warehouse (Resource 136), they are considered a single resource.

Resource 136 was constructed in 1950 as the Warehouse, and it currently retains that use. The Warehouse, oriented to the southeast, is located west of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 5, 1929). The single-story, ten-bay, flat-roof, rectangular building was constructed in a utilitarian manner with a stucco exterior. Two incised lines appear to encompass the building at the cornice level. A concrete loading dock extends along the majority of the facade and is sheltered by a cantilevered flat roof. A portion of the northeast end of the dock extends at a right angle from the facade of the building, providing additional space for delivery trucks. This projection of the loading dock is sheltered by a flat metal roof supported by metal columns. Two garage bays along the facade are filled with metal overhead doors, and two single-leaf entries are filled with metal doors. One entry was resized and the transom removed. The windows are filled with ten-light sashes with four-light awning sections and two-light hopper sections. Similar sashes are found in windows throughout the building. Two former windows along the facade have been enclosed. The left (southwest) and right (northeast) elevations each have four bays, and the (right) northeast elevation has two former windows that have been enclosed since 1979.⁶⁷ A set of stairs in the northeast corner descends to a single-leaf basement entry filled with a metal door. The rear elevation of the building is inaccessible due to the construction of the Warehouse Annex (Resource 136T, circa 1970s) and a sheltered walkway between the two buildings.

Resource 136T was constructed circa 1970s as an annex to the Warehouse. The Warehouse Annex (Resource 136T, circa 1970s) is oriented to the southeast and is located immediately to the rear of the Warehouse building. The single-story, rectangular building is constructed in a utilitarian manner. The facade is partially inaccessible because of its proximity to the rear of Resource 136. The southwest end of the building exhibits a concrete loading dock sheltered by a flat roof supported by metal columns. The loading dock contains two garage bays filled with metal overhead doors and a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door. The building exhibits a ribbed metal exterior. Each end of the building exhibits a single-leaf entry and the rear has two single-leaf entries; all are

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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filled with metal doors. The Warehouse Annex is supported by a concrete foundation and has a gable roof sheathed in ribbed metal.

The Warehouse and Warehouse Annex (Resources 136 and 136T) combined are a noncontributing resource to the historic district. The construction of the Warehouse Annex to the rear of the Warehouse doubled the footprint of the building. Also, the materials of the Warehouse Annex are not sympathetic with the stucco exterior and design of the Warehouse, other than its placement to the rear of the Resource 136. With the addition's increased massing and unsympathetic design, the Warehouse no longer retains integrity of materials or design to contribute to the historic district.

Resource 138. New Incinerator Building. 1995. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 138 was constructed in 1995 as the new Incinerator Building, and it currently appears to be used for medical waste. Resource 138 (1995) appears to have replaced the non-extant original incinerator building (1950, noted as Building 137 in the original NRHP nomination).⁶⁸ The new Incinerator Building is oriented to the south and is located in the maintenance/utility group of buildings south of the Boiler House (Resource 14, 1929). The single-story, three-bay (d/d/d), front-gable building exhibits a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door and two garage bays filled with metal overhead doors. The building has a ribbed metal exterior. The right (east) elevation has three windows filled with single-light, horizontal-sliding sashes, and above each, a large louvered vent. The left (west) elevation has three louvered vents. The rear elevation, approximately 10 feet or less from the Boiler House, has a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors in the northeast corner. The roof is pierced with three large vents along the ridgeline. Resource 138 is supported by a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in ribbed metal.

Resource 142T. Police Modular Building. 1987. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 142T was constructed in 1987 as the Police Modular Building, and it currently appears to retain this use. The Police Modular Building, oriented to the southeast, is located in the central core group of buildings in the courtyard between the Infirmary Building (Resource 2, 1929) and the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 6, 1929). The single-story, three-bay (d/w/d), front-gable, rectangular building has two single-leaf entries filled with metal doors. The facade window is filled with single-light, horizontal-sliding sashes. Similar sashes are found in windows throughout the building. The seven-bay left side (southwest elevation) and the three-bay rear elevation have single-leaf entries filled with metal doors. The five-bay right side (northeast elevation) exhibits a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door and four windows. A small, square, single-bay projection on the right (northeast) elevation is oriented to the northwest. The projection's single-leaf entry is filled with a metal door. The projection exhibits a ribbed metal exterior and a shed roof sheathed in ribbed metal. Resource 142T, supported by a concrete foundation, is clad in ribbed metal. The building's gable roof is covered in ribbed metal.

Resource 144. Chlorinating House Building. 1929. *Contributing building.*

The Chlorinating House Building (Resource 144, 1929) was determined to be a noncontributing resource in the original Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register Nomination listed in 1986. The Chlorinating House Building has been reclassified as a contributing resource to the historic district in this additional documentation form because it was a part of the historic district during the

⁶⁸ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places—Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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period of significance and it retains integrity.⁶⁹

Resource 144 was constructed in 1929 as the Chlorinating House Building, and it appears to retain that use. Resource 144 is oriented to the northwest and is located adjacent to the Booster Pump House (Resource 82, 1939). The small, single-story, single-bay, side-gable building has a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door and a stucco exterior. The door has been replaced since 1979.⁷⁰ The rear has a window filled with a six-light, fixed sash. The upper sash has been removed and filled with a small vent. The roof of the Chlorinating House Building is covered in terra cotta tiles.

The reason for originally classifying the Chlorinating House Building as noncontributing to the historic district is unknown, other than it did not exhibit the notable architectural details typical of the major buildings within the historic district. Resource 144 retains integrity to contribute to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.

Resources 147 and 148. 1964. Air Conditioning Plant and Chiller Towers. *Noncontributing building and structure.*

Resources 147 and 148 were constructed in 1964 as the Air Conditioning Plant and Chiller Towers and they retain that use. The Air Conditioning Plant and Chiller Towers are oriented to the northeast and are located west of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950). The single-story, four-bay rectangular building (Resource 147, 1964) exhibits four double-leaf entries filled with metal doors. A porch or loading dock extends partially along the facade and is sheltered by a flat roof supported by metal columns. The building has a running-bond, brick exterior. The sides each exhibit louvered vents adjacent to each corner. The air conditioning plant (Resource 147, 1964) is supported by a concrete foundation, and it has a flat roof. There are four Chiller Towers aligned in a row and located immediately to the rear of the Air Conditioning Plant. The Chiller Towers are supported by a raised foundation composed of four parallel, concrete piers. The Chiller Towers then rest on steel beams perpendicular to the concrete piers. The Chiller Towers are large metal structures with vents filling their northeast and southwest elevations. The northwest and southeast elevations of the structures are clad in either sheet metal or corrugated metal. Metal railings encompass the roofs of the Chiller Towers.

Resource 149T. Recreation Hut. Circa 1980s. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 149T was constructed circa 1980s as a Recreation Hut, and it currently appears to be vacant. The Recreation Hut, oriented to the southeast, is located northwest of the Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929). The single-story, three-bay (d/w/d), side-gable, rectangular Recreation Hut has a single-leaf and a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors along the facade. The window is filled with single-light, double-hung sashes. The upper sashes of the windows on the rear have been removed and filled with vents. The building has an exterior clad in vertical wood paneling. Resource 149T is supported by concrete piers, and the roof is sheathed in corrugated metal.

Resource 156. Radio Tower. 1972. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource 156 is a Radio Tower constructed in 1972 that is located in the maintenance/utility group of

⁶⁹ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places—Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁷⁰ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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buildings at the southeast end of the Garage (Resource 15, 1931). The Radio Tower rests on a concrete foundation and is supported by guy wires. The narrow, lattice tower is approximately 125 feet in height. Despite its height, the tower is a minimal visual intrusion to the historic district.

Resource 161. Automated-Teller Machine (ATM). 1993. Noncontributing structure.

Resource 161 was constructed in 1993 as an Automated-Teller Machine (ATM), and it currently retains that use. The ATM (Resource 161, 1993) is oriented to the northeast and located between the Recreation Building (Resource 8, 1940) and the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950). The small, single-story, square structure exhibits an ATM on the facade and a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door on the rear. The exterior of the ATM is clad in smooth metal siding. The front and sides of the ATM are sheltered by a flat metal roof supported by metal columns.

Resource 162. Medical Gas Storage Structure. 1990. Noncontributing structure.

Resource 162 was constructed in 1990 as the Medical Gas Storage Structure, and it continues to retain that use. The Medical Gas Storage Structure is oriented to the southeast and is located south of the Air Conditioner Chiller Towers (Resource 147, 1964). The Medical Gas Storage Structure is a small, single-story, single-bay structure with a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door. This structure has a stucco exterior. The rear exhibits a small vent. Resource 162 is supported by a concrete foundation and has a front gable roof sheathed in terra cotta tiles.

Resource 165. Maintenance Storage. 1997. Noncontributing structure.

Resource 165 was constructed in 1997 for storage, and it currently retains that use. Resource 165 is oriented to the northeast and is located west of the Boiler House (Resource 14, 1929). It is a single-story, side-gable structure with six open bays along the facade, and the sides are clad in vertical wood panels. The rear has two sections covered with sliding garage doors clad in galvanized metal. Resource 165 has a concrete foundation, and the roof is sheathed in ribbed metal.

Resource 167. Gazebo. 1996. Noncontributing structure.

Resource 167 was constructed in 1996 as a gazebo. The Gazebo is located near the southeast rear corner of the Nursing Home Care Unit (Resource 45, 1987). The octagonal roof and cupola are supported by wood columns on a concrete slab foundation. The roof is sheathed in plastic shingles that are meant to resemble terra cotta tiles.

Resource 168. Radio Tower (near Resource 5). 1987. Noncontributing structure.

Resource 168 is a Radio Tower constructed in 1987 that is located south of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 5, 1929). This narrow, lattice Radio Tower is given additional stability by guy wires. Despite its approximately 100 feet height, the tower is a minimal visual intrusion to the historic district.

Resource 169. Gazebo. 1999. Noncontributing structure.

Resource 169 is a Gazebo constructed in 1999 to the southeast of the Police Modular Building (Resource 142T, 1987). The Gazebo has a hexagonal roof and a cupola sheathed in ribbed metal. The roof is supported by square metal posts. The Gazebo rests on a concrete slab foundation.

Resource A. Main Entrance Drive. 1929. Contributing site.

Resource A was constructed in 1929 as the main entrance drive from Shreveport Highway. The main entrance drive is bisected by Shreveport Highway. In one direction, it accesses the residential group of buildings, and in

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the other, it provides access to the central core group of buildings.

The residential group is accessed through the entrance flanked by Gate Posts (Resource B, 1929) and continues to a "Y"-shaped intersection. The left turn once provided access to the rear of the Nurses' Quarters (Resource 17, 1929). While the "Y" intersection remains, it no longer connects to the rear of Resource 17 because this building is no longer owned by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, but has been ceded to the U.S. Forest Service. The right turn continues to rise slightly to the south/southwest along the rear elevations of the residential buildings on one side and the facades of the personnel garages on the other, terminating in a cul-de-sac behind the Apartment House Building (Resource 22, 1929).

The drive to the central core group of buildings is delineated by a sign and landscaped area on the north side of the drive near Shreveport Highway and then descends gently along a curvilinear drive lined for about 500 feet with mature live oaks. As the drive curves slightly and rises again, the section of the drive that contributes to the historic district terminates just beyond a "Y"-shaped intersection, where the drive has been altered to create parking or to provide access to parking lots.

Resource B. Gate Posts. 1929. *Contributing objects.*

Resource B is comprised of two Gate Posts that flank the entrance drive (Resource A, 1929) to the residential group of buildings on the east side of Shreveport Highway. The Gate Posts are constructed of rusticated concrete with pyramidal capstones composed of precast concrete. The Gate Posts are supported by concrete piers.

Resource C. Covered Walkways (Extending to Resources 2, 142T, 6, 8, and 7). Circa 1990s. *Two Noncontributing structures.*

Resource C is comprised of covered walkways within the central core group of buildings that were constructed circa 1990s. The walkways are sheltered by flat, ribbed metal roofs and are supported by square metal posts. The support posts flank the concrete sidewalks. The sides of the covered walkways are open.

Resource D. Covered Walkway (Extending to Resources 7, 46, and 45). Circa 1990s. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource D is a covered walkway that connects the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950), the Chapel (Resource 46, 1988), and the Nursing Home Care Unit (Resource 45, 1987). The walkway is sheltered by a gable roof sheathed in plastic shingles that resemble terra cotta tiles. The gable roof structure is supported by square, tapered concrete piers. The piers have stucco exteriors. The sides of the walkway are open, with only the roof providing protection from the elements.

Resource E. Modular Storage Building. Circa 2000s. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource E was constructed circa 2000s as a modular storage building, and it appears to retain this use. The Modular Storage Building is oriented to the north. It is located west of the Electric Switchgear Station (Resource 24, 1976) near the southern boundary of the historic district. The single-story, single-bay, flat-roof, rectangular building exhibits a wood panel exterior. The facade and rear elevations each have a single-leaf entry filled with a metal door. The foundation of the Modular Storage Building is obscured by skirting.

Resource F. Electric Switchgear Station. 2010. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource F was constructed in 2010 as an Electric Switchgear Station. The flat-roof Electric Switchgear Station, oriented to the southeast, is located southwest of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950). The facade has a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors. The northeast (right side) elevation exhibits sixteen access panels, and the southwest (left side) elevation has a double-leaf entry filled with metal doors. Resource F exhibits a metal exterior and

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is supported by a concrete slab foundation.

Resource G. Square Picnic Shelter. Circa 2000s. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource G is a Picnic Shelter constructed circa 2000s. The Picnic Shelter is located in the central core group of buildings to the northwest of the Recreation Building (Resource 8, 1940). The hip roof and cupola are sheathed in composition shingles. The roof is supported by square metal columns. Resource G is supported by a concrete slab foundation.

Resource H. Connecting Corridors (Connecting Resources 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9). 1929. *Six Contributing structures.*

Resource H is comprised of six Connecting Corridors that contribute to the historic district, most of which were constructed in 1929. These Connecting Corridors are counted as six individual contributing resources within the historic district. These corridors were constructed with stucco exteriors to blend with the architectural design of the historic district's original buildings. The single-story corridor between the Administration and Infirmary Buildings (Resources 1 and 2, both 1929) has a second-floor walkway sheltered by a flat roof sheathed with ribbed metal and supported by metal posts. The bays are filled with three-light replacement sashes similar to those found in many of the central core buildings.

The second example of Resource H is a three-story corridor between the Infirmary and Neuropsychiatric Buildings (Resources 2 and 3, both 1929). This corridor exhibits second- and third-floor windows with three-light replacement sashes similar to those found in the Administration Building (Resource 1, 1929). The first-floor arched openings of the corridor are filled with four-light sashes where the middle two lights of the sashes may horizontally slide open.

The third example of Resource H is a single-story corridor between the Neuropsychiatric Building and the Dining Hall (Resources 3 and 4, both 1929). This corridor has an open walkway along its roof sheltered by a metal flat roof supported by metal posts.

The two-story corridor between the Dining Hall and the Tuberculosis Building (Resources 4 and 5, both 1929) is the fourth example of Resource H. The first floor of the corridor is partially below grade and has two single-leaf entries on the sides filled with aluminum-frame glass doors to provide pedestrian access from one side of the structure to the other. This corridor has segmental arches along the first floor level and fully developed arches along the second-floor level. The stucco exterior also exhibits rusticated pilasters, keystones over the second-floor arches, and metal railings within the arches. The openings are filled with four-light windows, and the middle two lights appear to open horizontally.

The corridor between the Tuberculosis Buildings (Resources 5 and 6, both 1929) is the fifth example of Resource H. This corridor is similar to the corridor between Resources 4 and 5, as it has segmental arches along the first-floor level and fully developed arches along the second floor. The first floor of the corridor is partially below grade. The corridor is clad in stucco and exhibits rusticated pilasters. Keystones are found above the second-floor arches. Along the roof of the second-floor corridor is a third-floor sheltered walkway with open sides, similar to the corridor between the Administration and Infirmary Buildings.

The sixth example of Resource H is a corridor between the Dining Hall and the Colored Infirmary Building (Resources 4 and 9, both 1929). This single-story corridor enters the Dining Hall in the center of the rear wing at the basement level. A sheltered vehicular opening along the corridor was constructed for automobile traffic to cross through the corridor at the intersection of the corridor and the access road that runs in front of the Colored Infirmary Building and the rear of the Dining Hall. The corridor then curves to the east and enters Resource 9 off-center on the

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southwest elevation.

Resource I. Connecting Corridor (between Resources 3 and 9). 1955. *Noncontributing structure.*

Resource I is comprised of a connecting corridor between the Colored Infirmary and the Neuropsychiatric Buildings (Resources 9 and 3, both 1929). The corridor was constructed in 1955 in a manner sympathetic to the main buildings constructed within the historic district during the period of significance and includes quoins, vertical rusticated elements between the bays, metal railings, and a stucco exterior.

Resource I enters Resource 3 in the center of the northwest elevation at the first-floor level. A sheltered vehicular opening along the corridor was constructed for automobile traffic to pass through the corridor. This automobile opening in the corridor was constructed at the point the corridor crosses the access road that extends in front of Resource 9 and the rear of Resource 4. This sheltered opening allows automobile traffic to pass from one side of the corridor to the other. Almost immediately on the north side of the drive, the corridor steps down and enters the Colored Infirmary Building in the center of the facade elevation at the basement level, immediately below the former first-floor entry.

Integrity

As a historic district eligible under both Criteria A and C, the Alexandria VA Hospital should retain a high degree of integrity of the resources' physical characteristics, including materials, workmanship, and design, and more ephemeral characteristics related to the historic district as a whole, such as location, setting, association, and feeling. Design refers to both the individual resources and the historic district as a whole. Although the resources within the historic district do not have to be individually exceptional, the resources and the historic district as a whole have to continue to reflect the spatial patterns and associations of the hospital campus dating to the period of significance. To retain integrity under Criterion A, the individual resources must retain those character-defining features that are necessary to convey their role in the mission of the federal government, through the VA, to provide general medical and surgical care, tuberculosis, and neuropsychiatric medical care, to veterans throughout the state. These features are often found in the overall form, massing, and scale of the buildings and their relationship to one another within the historic district. To retain integrity under Criterion C, the individual resources must retain those character-defining features identified with the design of the specific building type and hospital sub-type as defined in the MPDF. It is also imperative that the buildings within the historic district retain the stylistic details associated with the campus during the period of significance. For the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District this includes those characteristics associated with the French Colonial style related to the early, substantial public buildings constructed by the French in Louisiana, the Ursuline Convent being the lone remaining example. Other architectural features that should be retained on many of the buildings include Classical Revival elements. Also included are those features required under Criterion A, as well as stylistic details and historical materials.

The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District retains much of its original appearance dating to the period of significance during which the contributing resources were constructed. Contributing buildings retain most of their character-defining details. The historic district was originally listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1986 in the Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) NRHP Nomination. Forty-five resources were included in the 1986 nomination, with eighteen of the resources considered contributing to the historic district. Eight resources that were considered noncontributing in the 1986 NRHP nomination have been reclassified as contributing resources in this additional documentation nomination form, including: Resource 16 (Laundry Building, 1942); Resource 82 (Booster Pump House, 1939); Resource 84 (Water Tower, 1929); Resource 95 (three-car Personnel Garage, 1931); Resource 101 (three-car Personnel

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Garage, 1931); Resource 102 (six-car Personnel Garage, 1931); Resource 110 (Water Well #13); and Resource 144 (Chlorinating House Building, 1929). Resource 17 (the Nurses' Quarters, 1929) was not included within the original nomination's historic district boundary, but the boundary has been increased in this additional documentation form to include this resource. The Nurse's Quarters is currently owned and utilized by the U.S. Forest Service. Resources dating from the period of significance known to have been removed from within the historic district since the original 1986 NRHP nomination include: an Antenna Tower (former Building 37, 1977); Well House #12 (former Building 103, 1939); a Bus Shelter (former Building T-140, 1958); an Air Conditioning Transformer (former Building 149, 1964); two Emergency Generators (former Buildings 155 and 157, both 1972); an Electrical Equipment Building (former Building 36, 1977); and the original Incinerator Building (former Building 137, 1950). A storage building dating to 1919 that is listed in the original nomination is no longer extant (former Building T-47). Although the historic district has lost some of its buildings and structures dating from the period of significance, no major contributing buildings, such as patient treatment, administrative, recreational, and maintenance/utility have been demolished within the boundary of the historic district. Under this additional documentation form the historic district is comprised of thirty-five contributing resources and thirty-six noncontributing resources. The majority of contributing resources are classified as buildings.

There was an attempt to use the natural landscape in the placement of buildings and development of sidewalks for patients, staff, and visitors at Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The majority of the landscape remains intact with open lawns and trees. Parking lots have been expanded and constructed within the historic district since the original listing of the historic district in the NRHP in 1986, particularly southwest of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950), east of the Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929), southwest of the Chapel (Resource 46, 1988), and west of the Nursing Home Care Unit (Resource 45, 1987). Although these parking lots increase the amount of paved surface within the historic district, the spatial configurations and relationships between the buildings serving patients remain intact. The front lawn remains intact to the northeast of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950) and the Infirmary Building (Resource 2, 1929). The Police Modular Building (Resource 142T, 1987), constructed after the listing of the original nomination, is located in the middle of the courtyard surrounded by the patient buildings dating to 1929 and diminishes the integrity of the courtyard. However, the one-story building does not completely block the line of sight across the courtyard and does not seriously interrupt the sense of open space. The building is also partially obscured by trees.

Approximately 150 acres on the east side of Shreveport Highway were transferred in various tracts, mostly to private landowners, including 13 acres to the U.S. Forest Service that includes the former Nurse's Quarters (Resource 17). Another 17 acres on the west side of the highway were transferred in two different tracts—one on the north end and the other on the south end of the property—and a 55-acre tract southwest of the maintenance/utility buildings was deeded as a separate tract. These land transfers minimally impact the integrity of the historic district because the majority of the land previously owned by the VA remains undeveloped.

Changes to contributing buildings include replacement windows and doors; enclosed windows, doors, and porches; and later additions. Replacement windows are found on buildings dating from the period of significance throughout the historic district, although many of these had been replaced prior to the original listing of the historic district in the NRHP in 1986. The Tuberculosis Building (Resource 5, 1929) and the Colored Infirmary Building (Resource 9, 1929) both retained original window sashes in 1979, but it is unclear if these sashes were replaced by 1986, the year the Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria) was listed in the NRHP. The windows in the Apartment House Building (Resource 22, 1929) have been replaced since the historic district was originally listed in the NRHP. Replacement doors are found on many of the buildings within the historic district, although the majority of doors appear to have been replaced prior to the 1986 listing of the historic district in the NRHP. The windows and doors that have been replaced since the original listing of the historic district in the

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NRHP diminish the integrity of design, materials, and workmanship of the buildings, especially the double-hung sashes that replace the original casement windows. These replacement sashes have a more negative impact than the double-hung sashes that replace window sashes of a similar type. Enclosed windows, doors, and porches are found on a number of the contributing resources, although many of these alterations took place prior to the listing of the historic district in the NRHP in 1986. While these modifications diminish integrity of design, materials, and workmanship to some degree, these alterations are not significant enough to render the individual resources noncontributing and the cumulative impact of all the modifications to the individual resources is not sufficient to cause the historic district as a whole to lose its integrity. The historic district maintains its ability to convey its significance. Although the interiors of the buildings within the historic district were not fully investigated, most appear to have lost integrity due to alterations made over time to adapt to changing trends in medical care.

The introduction of additions and buildings to the historic district after the period of significance also diminishes integrity of design and setting, particularly buildings with large footprints or massing. The majority of the buildings added to the Alexandria VA Hospital after the listing of the historic district in the NRHP in 1986 are small support and utility buildings. However, two major buildings, the Nursing Home Care Unit (Resource 45, 1987) and the Chapel (Resource 46, 1988), were constructed after the period of significance. The Nursing Home Care Unit, located near the maintenance and utility buildings, was constructed to the southeast and at a distance from the patient buildings. The Nursing Home Care Unit is a two-story building, and its massing and design are sympathetic to the patient care buildings dating to the period of significance. It was also constructed of compatible materials, such as the stucco exterior and simulated terra cotta tile roof, to mitigate its impact to the historic district. The Chapel was also constructed of compatible materials and set southeast of the original central core buildings of the historic district. The additions to the southeast and rear (southwest) elevations of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950) were also constructed utilizing compatible materials. The majority of the addition along the southeast elevation of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7, 1950) is a single story, and the additions to the rear elevation do not detract from the monumentality of the building or its original facade fenestration. Even though these additions and modifications do diminish the integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, they do not automatically render these resources as noncontributing because they retain the majority of their character-defining details dating to the period of significance and retain integrity to contribute to the historic district. None of the additions or buildings constructed after the period of significance detracts attention from the monumental Infirmary Building (Resource 2) and Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7), which continue to serve as the focal points of the historic district.

Although the cumulative effect of modifications, loss of buildings, construction of new buildings, and additions after the period of significance diminishes the integrity of design and setting, the historic district continues to reflect the Alexandria VA Hospital during the period of significance which provided tuberculosis, general medical and surgical, and neuropsychiatric care to veterans. The evolution reflected in the historic district has not reached the point to render the historic district ineligible for listing in the NRHP. The historic district retains the majority of resources constructed during the period of significance, and the historic district retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling to convey its significance. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is an excellent example of a Second Generation Veterans Hospital that continues to communicate its sense of time and place as a hospital constructed during the period of significance and its connection to other veterans hospitals of this typology.

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One area of significance has been removed and another one has been added to the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District within this additional documentation nomination form. The original nomination included Social History under Criterion A as an area of significance. The information provided in the previous nomination under Social History pertains more to significance under Politics/Government, and this additional documentation nomination is correcting this and expanding the area of significance under Politics/Government. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is significant under Politics/Government because of the efforts of local and state organizations and politicians to keep the temporary facility open and to create a permanent veterans hospital in Alexandria.

Areas of Significance: Criterion A

Politics and Government

As stated in the original nomination: "...The Veterans Bureau/Administration selected Alexandria as the site for this hospital in response to the initiatives of local politicians, as the land was donated by the State of Louisiana. The 400 acres of land also provided a scenic setting which permitted the integration of campus-like landscaping, outdoor recreational facilities, hospital buildings and roadways."⁷¹ Under this additional documentation form the Alexandria VA Hospital is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Politics and Government at the state level of significance because of the intense political campaign undertaken by local organizations to acquire the veterans hospital for Alexandria. This campaign exemplifies the community's efforts to retain the veterans hospital and also the importance of politics in the determination of the location for this medical facility. The site had been used on and off for military purposes since the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning and Military Academy opened in 1860.⁷² During World War I the War Department utilized the location for an Army hospital. After World War I the site was maintained as a tuberculosis hospital by the United States Public Health Service utilizing the temporary buildings previously constructed by the War Department.⁷³ The United States Public Health Service continued to operate the hospital as a tuberculosis facility until May 1922 when the hospital was reassigned to the Veterans Bureau. The Veterans Bureau maintained the facility as a tuberculosis hospital.⁷⁴ In July 1923, the medical director for the Alexandria facility was informed that the Veterans Bureau planned to close and abandon the hospital.⁷⁵ The 1923 annual report for the Veterans Bureau indicates the Alexandria facility was expected to close during fiscal year 1924. The reasoning for closing the facility is unclear. Possible reasons for the closure include the Veterans Bureau's move toward facilities that it owned and the fact that the hospital was comprised of temporary rather than permanent, fire-proof buildings.⁷⁶ The secretary of the local Chamber of Commerce, George C. Merkel, began a campaign to keep the veterans

⁷¹ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, 7, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁷² "History of VA Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," n.d., 1, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁷³ "Veterans Administration Observes Fortieth Anniversary July 21, 1970," *HEALVA Herald*, July 1970, 1; "History of Veterans Administration Medical Center," 2.

⁷⁴ "Veterans Administration Hospital, Alexandria, Louisiana, Historical Data," [photocopy], April 28, 1978, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁷⁵ "History of New U.S. Veterans' Hospital at Camp Stafford and Site It Occupies," *Weekly Town Talk*, February 8, 1930.

⁷⁶ *Annual Report of the Director United States Veterans' Bureau for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1923* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1923), 107.

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hospital open and have permanent buildings erected at the site. The Chamber of Commerce, along with the local and other Louisiana chapters of the American Legion, began soliciting the Veterans Bureau to keep the veterans tuberculosis hospital open and replace it with a permanent facility. The local chamber of commerce created a committee to meet with Frank T. Hines, director of the Veterans Bureau, to encourage the eventual construction of permanent facilities. This meeting took place in October 1923 with Hines indicating the site would not be ruled out as a permanent hospital until he had personally inspected the property. Efforts by local officials continued during the ensuing three years, with the local chamber of commerce and American Legion leading the effort.⁷⁷ In 1926 Frank T. Hines inspected the site and indicated the veterans' hospital would remain in operation.⁷⁸ This was later bolstered with a promise of \$1.2 million to build a permanent hospital on the campus. According to Hines, the new facility would primarily serve tuberculosis patients, but would also care for neuropsychiatric and general medical patients.⁷⁹ In order to construct a permanent facility, the land the facility was located on would have to be transferred from state ownership to the federal government.

Efforts began for the transfer of the property from the state to the federal government. Members of the American Legion, including Col. Dan Spurlock of Shreveport and W. Cannon Flournoy of Alexandria, began lobbying Governor Henry L. Fuqua to work toward the transfer of the property.⁸⁰ Louisiana Governors Henry L. Fuqua and Oramel Simpson worked with State Treasurer L. B. Baynard and State Representative T. Wyatt Holloman to pass legislation to donate the land for the hospital to the federal government. The transfer of the land required an amendment to the state constitution that had to be passed by Louisiana voters.⁸¹ Director Frank T. Hines again traveled to Louisiana in 1927 and met with members of the American Legion. At this time Hines indicated the permanent hospital at Alexandria had been approved, dependant upon the transfer of the property to the federal government.⁸² The state legislature passed the required legislation and a constitutional amendment was approved in 1928 by state voters for the transfer of ownership of the hospital land to the federal government.⁸³ Eighth district Congressman James B. Aswell introduced legislation to the U.S. House of Representatives to allow the federal government to accept the state donated land for the new Alexandria veterans' hospital. State Adjutant General L. A. Toombs, local city engineer Ira W. Sylvester, and Representative Holloman worked to clear the title of the land for its transfer to the federal government.⁸⁴ Title to the property was transferred to the federal government in May 1928.⁸⁵ The proposal to construct the permanent veterans hospital at Alexandria was approved by President Calvin Coolidge in June 1928.⁸⁶ The dedication ceremony for the hospital took place in

⁷⁷ "History of New U.S. Veterans' Hospital at Camp Stafford and Site It Occupies," *Weekly Town Talk*, February 8, 1930.

⁷⁸ "About \$1,200,000, Gen. Hines Declares," *Weekly Town Talk*, July 31, 1926.

⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁸⁰ "Legionnaires Realize Cherished Dream in Alexandria Hospital," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 2.

⁸¹ "History of New U.S. Veterans' Hospital at Camp Stafford and Site It Occupies," *Weekly Town Talk*, February 8, 1930.

⁸² "Legionnaires Realize Cherished Dream in Alexandria Hospital," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 2.

⁸³ "History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., 4, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; "Legionnaires Realize Cherished Dream in Alexandria Hospital," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 2; General Frank T. Hines, Director, Letter regarding Abstract of Title, July 18, 1928, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

⁸⁴ "History of New U.S. Veterans' Hospital at Camp Stafford and Site It Occupies," *Weekly Town Talk*, February 8, 1930.

⁸⁵ Deed of Donation from the State of Louisiana to the United States of America, May 28, 1928, recorded in Conveyance Book 154, page 601, and in Donation Book 2, page 216 in the records of Rapides Parish, Louisiana. Located in the files of the Public Affairs Office, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

⁸⁶ "Legionnaires Realize Cherished Dream in Alexandria Hospital," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 2.

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January 1930, presided by a representative of the local Congressional district, with the Veterans Bureau director and the hospital's medical director providing the keynote address.⁸⁷

Health and Medicine

Under this additional documentation form the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Health and Medicine at the state level of significance because of the role the Alexandria VA Hospital played in the mission of the federal government through the VA to provide quality health care to the nation's veterans, primarily those who served in World War I and World War II. Thousands of veterans, from Louisiana and surrounding states received medical care during the period of significance that they may not have received if the federal government had not provided such treatment for them. Typically, Second Generation Veterans Hospitals served a single group of patients with a limited number of beds for patients requiring other types of treatment. The four sub-types of Second Generation Veterans Hospitals specialized in specific areas of medical care: neuropsychiatric, tuberculosis, general medical and surgical, and domiciliary and general medical care. In certain examples, the hospitals offered more than one specialty, such as Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Tuskegee, Alabama. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is one of the few Second Generation Veterans Hospitals to combine three of the sub-types into a single facility, as it originally provided 419 beds for tuberculosis, general medical and surgical, and neuropsychiatric patients.⁸⁸

Within a month of opening on January 1, 1930, 320 patients had been admitted to the facility. The hospital experienced 1,898 admissions during fiscal year 1931 and there were 414 surgical operations during the same period. The capacity of the facility was 421 beds. Although the Alexandria VA Hospital was principally utilized as a general medical facility according to the annual report, the 393 patients on hand on June 30, 1931 included 129 tuberculosis patients, 164 general medical and surgical patients, and 100 neuropsychiatric patients. By March 1933, the hospital's capacity had increased to 439 beds.⁸⁹ By the end of June 1938, the hospital's capacity had increased by nearly 200 beds.⁹⁰ After the United States entered World War II, the VA expanded its operations and increased the number of facilities, including those at Alexandria. By 1944, the hospital's capacity would be 725 beds. Increased services also required an expanded staff, which now totaled 80 nurses, 40 doctors, and 530 other personnel.⁹¹ By mid-1946 the hospital was designated a general medical and surgical hospital, although it served about an even number of general medical and tuberculosis patients. As of June 30, 1948 the Alexandria VA Hospital had 480 admitted patients, including: 217 general medical and surgical patients; and 263 tuberculosis

⁸⁷ "Alexandria Host At Hospital Dedication, Jan. 31," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 1.

⁸⁸ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places—Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁸⁹ "Alexandria Host At Hospital Dedication, Jan. 31," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930; "U.S. Veterans' Hospital Dedicated Here," *Weekly Town Talk*, January 31, 1930; *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1931* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1931), 76, 78, 152; "Veterans Administration Observes Fortieth Anniversary July 21, 1970," *HEALVA Herald*, July 1970.

⁹⁰ Frederick Marcel Spletstoser, *Talk of the Town: The Rise of Alexandria, Louisiana, and The "Daily Town Talk"* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2005), 234.

⁹¹ Frederick Marcel Spletstoser, *Talk of the Town: The Rise of Alexandria, Louisiana, and The "Daily Town Talk"* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2005), 234.

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patients.⁹² A major addition to the historic district occurred with the construction of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7), which was nearly completed in mid-1950. This building cost \$5 million and was to have a capacity of 250 patients.⁹³ Although designated a general medical and surgical hospital, the Alexandria VA Hospital served veterans suffering from tuberculosis throughout the period of significance. Few examples of Second Generation Veterans Hospitals that continuously treated veterans with tuberculosis from the initial construction till 1950 remain. The hospital continues to serve as a physical reminder of medical care provided by the federal government through the VA to veterans throughout the period of significance.

Area of Significance: Criterion C

Architecture

The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is eligible at the state level of significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. In the original nomination the facility was stated as being eligible at the national level of significance under Criterion C, but comments later within the document by the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office indicate the facility should be eligible at the state level of significance. This additional documentation nomination confirms the facility is eligible under Criterion C at the state level of significance. The original nomination, the Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places Nomination listed in 1986, states:

The plan of the Medical Center in Alexandria is based on the standard set plan developed by the Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C., for all such facilities in the Nation. The plan emphasized the overall integration of functions while isolating health care, administrative, residential, recreational, and maintenance activities. The key elements of the hospital facilities at Alexandria which convey this centralized methodology are the open courtyard or quadrangle, the exterior and interior circulation patterns and the continuity of the French Colonial design in subsequent additions and alterations.

In this case, the set has been modified to meet the requirements of local terrain and patient loads. For example, the prominent patient buildings have been sited on the highest terrain, while the maintenance buildings are almost hidden in the rear, and the roadway loops around the central complex to facilitate traffic flow.

The exterior designs for each hospital were approved at the highest level of the VA in Washington, but reflected a growing sensitivity to local tradition on the part of the planning bureaucracy. Thus, the style of French Colonial selected for Alexandria's hospital is unique among the VA system as a conscious attempt to apply a historically derived period revival style and motifs to functional public buildings, and the result is a highly humane visual environment conducive to the rehabilitative role and local image of the VA. In selecting French Colonial as the

⁹² *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1946* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1947), 97; *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1948* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1949), 114.

⁹³ "Economic Study & Report On Veterans Administration Hospital, Alexandria, LA.," [photocopy], c. 1946, 7, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana; *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1950* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1951), 276.

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style, the federal architect drew on the cultural heritage of the region which the hospital would serve.⁹⁴

The nomination continues, with comments from the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office:

The Veterans Administration Hospital is of state significance in the area of architecture as an important example of early twentieth century eclectic architecture. The eighteenth century French flavor previously described reflected a conscious design policy on the part of the Veterans Administration in which stylistic variations were used so that hospital complexes would 'fit in' with the local community. Hence a French style was employed at the hospital complex in Alexandria because it was considered appropriate to the French traditions of Louisiana. Taken in this light, the Veterans Hospital embodies an important trend in twentieth century eclecticism—i.e., the use of a historical style for a symbolic purpose. It is thought to be the only example in Louisiana of an institutional complex built in the eighteenth century French manner.⁹⁵

As stated in the original nomination comments by the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Alexandria VA Hospital continues to be eligible under Criterion C at the state level of significance as an excellent example of early-twentieth-century eclectic architecture comprising a large complex of buildings exhibiting the French Colonial (also referred to as French Revival) architectural style. This stylistic influence is not the typical French Colonial style associated with Louisiana's Creole architecture, but the architectural style more closely associated with eighteenth century France and the early, substantial public and religious buildings of French Colonial New Orleans. The lone surviving example of this high style dating to the eighteenth century in New Orleans is the Ursuline Convent.

The eclectic architecture movement began in the late nineteenth century in the United States as a reaction to the mixture of architectural elements utilized in Victorian buildings, such as those reflecting the Queen Anne Revival style. During the eclectic architectural period of the early twentieth century, architects, following their clients' requests, began to design buildings that more closely followed historical precedents. This resulted in buildings exhibiting more historically accurate details of the many architectural styles that were being utilized during this era, such as Tudor Revival, Spanish Revival, Mission Revival, and French Colonial. The buildings of the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District exhibit French Colonial characteristics, such as steeply pitched hip-roofs covered in terra cotta tiles; dormers; quoins; stucco exteriors; metal railings and balconets; and rusticated basements. The large Infirmary Building (Resource 2) has a mansard roof along the central block's rear elevation. The historic district's buildings also utilize characteristics associated with Classical Revival architecture, including symmetrical fenestration; projecting pavilions; decorative swag panels; segmental arched window hoods; pediments; and roundels. A Baroque element, a shell with floral swags, is also exhibited on the facade and rear elevations of the Infirmary Building.

At the time of the 1986 NRHP nomination it was thought the Alexandria VA Hospital was the only example of an architecturally cohesive campus utilizing the French Colonial style in Louisiana. Since that time the

⁹⁴ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places—Nomination, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, 8, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, 10.

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Barksdale Field Historic District located in Bossier Parish, Louisiana, was listed in the NRHP in 1992. The Barksdale Field Historic District contains a larger number of buildings, but many of its structures share the same French Colonial architectural characteristics found at the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District.⁹⁶ The Alexandria VA Hospital is the sole example of a Second Generation Veterans Hospital exhibiting the French Colonial architectural style.

The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District is also eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the state level of significance under this additional documentation form as an excellent example of a veterans hospital employing standardized building designs developed for Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The overall massing and form of the Infirmary Building (Resource 2) is similar but not identical to the main buildings at other Period II veterans hospitals dating to circa 1930, with its projecting pavilion, five-story main block, former porches along the side elevations, and three-story flat-roof wings. The exterior architectural styling and mansard roof of the Infirmary Building also differentiates it from similar examples of main buildings at other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. Other buildings within the historic district that appear to follow the standardized plans utilized for Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, although not identical because of the hip roofs and French Colonial style exhibited by the exterior of the buildings, include the three Officers' Duplex Quarters; the Manager's Quarters; the Nurses' Quarters; the Administration Building; Storehouse; and Garage.

The Officers' Duplex Quarters is probably the most recognizable standardized building within many Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The massing and fenestration of the examples at the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District are nearly identical to Classical Revival examples, such as those located in Lexington, Kentucky; Lincoln, Nebraska; and Lyons, New Jersey. The Manager's Quarters are similar to those found at numerous facilities, such as Lexington, Kentucky; Newington, Connecticut; and Lincoln, Nebraska, although the Classical Revival examples normally have a side porch and a flat-roof wing on opposite elevations. The Nurses' Quarters (Resource 17) is similar to the Nurses' Quarters at the Bedford, Massachusetts Veterans Affairs Medical Center, except the Bedford example has a central projecting pavilion and simpler side porches. The original portion of the Administration Building (Resource 1) is similar in massing and design to the example located at the Northport, New York, medical facility, although the Northport example does not have the later facade and rear projection additions exhibited by the Alexandria building and it has a very large rear central wing. The projections were added to the Administration Building at Alexandria in 1936–1937. The Administration Buildings at the North Chicago, Illinois, and Bedford, Massachusetts, medical centers are similar to the original block of the Alexandria, Louisiana, example. The Storehouse (Resource 13) is similar in massing and fenestration to examples of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals located at Indianapolis, Indiana; Lexington, Kentucky; Murfreesboro, Tennessee (although it has been connected by an addition to the Laundry Building); and Batavia, New York. Similar examples of the Garage (Resource 15) may be found at: Indianapolis, Indiana; Murfreesboro, Tennessee; Batavia, New York (although it is only five bays wide); Canandaigua, New York; and Bedford, Massachusetts. The gable roof of the Boiler House (Resource 14) is unusual for this building type within the campuses of Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The majority of boiler house buildings associated with this typology have flat roofs and large window openings along the facade. The example at the Cheyenne, Wyoming, facility has a gable-on-hip roof. Other buildings within the Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District share

⁹⁶ "Barksdale Field Historic District," Bossier City, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, National Register of Historic Places data available through the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation, 1992. Accessed online July 2012:
<http://www.crt.state.la.us/hp/nationalregister/nhl/document2.asp?name=08001001.pdf&title=Barksdale+Field+Historic+District>

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similarities with the same building type at other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The Recreation Building (Resource 8) has massing and an overall design similar to examples of this building type found at various Period II veterans hospitals. The comparable examples exhibit Classical Revival exteriors. Other differences exhibited by the Classical Revival examples of Period II recreation buildings from the Alexandria Recreation Building include gable roofs; brick exteriors; colonnade sheltering the row of arched windows; a decorative door surround for the exterior stage entrance; and the end opposite the stage has a gable-roof portico supported by large columns. Examples of these Classical Revival-style Recreation Buildings can be found at veterans hospitals located in Batavia, New York; Des Moines, Iowa; Fayetteville, Arkansas; Huntington, West Virginia (does not have the gable-roof portico); and Wichita, Kansas. The two Tuberculosis Buildings (Resources 5 and 6) that date to 1929 are not similar to other buildings surveyed by the authors at forty-three other Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The extensive former porches along the rear elevations reflect the buildings' original function in the treatment of patients with tuberculosis, as they provided fresh air and sunlight to patients; two of the prevalent treatments for the disease at the time of the buildings' construction.

The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District exhibits characteristics associated with three sub-types of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals: neuropsychiatric, tuberculosis, and general medical and surgical. As with other neuropsychiatric veterans hospitals, the Alexandria facility was originally located on a large tract of land outside an urban area and its design included a courtyard surrounded by patient care buildings. Neuropsychiatric and tuberculosis veterans hospitals included buildings incorporating large, open porches and galleries for patients into their designs. The Alexandria VA Hospital Historic District also includes a monumental main building (Resource 2 and later, Resource 7) and corridors connecting the patient support buildings, characteristics common to the three sub-types of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The Alexandria VA Hospital displays the spatial relationships of many Second Generation Veterans Hospitals of the identified sub-types, including discrete separation of the three groups of buildings organized by function and the curvilinear internal road system focused on the central group of buildings.

Historical Narrative

Located approximately 3 miles northeast of Alexandria, Louisiana, the Alexandria VA Hospital was, like many veterans hospitals throughout the country, the result of years of active campaigning by local politicians and veterans groups. Indeed, the opening of the hospital on December 6, 1929, came only after concerned parties convinced the federal government and the Veterans Bureau not to abandon a storied historical site.

Once known as Cathedral Hill, so-called because sunlight passing through the groves of pine trees reminded onlookers of cathedral windows, the eventual site of the Alexandria VA Hospital had in the mid-nineteenth century been a 438-acre plot of wooded land belonging to Mrs. E. R. Williams.⁹⁷ Modern use of the site dates to 1852, when Act 216 of the state legislature mandated that a "seminary of learning be established and located in the Parish of Rapides, within four miles of the town of Alexandria, on the north side of the Red River."⁹⁸ For the seminary, the state chose the lands of Mrs. Williams, purchasing the site for \$3,190.⁹⁹ On March 12, 1855, the

⁹⁷ Coy A. Creel, "History of Veterans Administration Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], October 1990, 2, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁹⁸ "History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., 1, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

⁹⁹ "History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., 1, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities

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legislature directed that “title of the land be taken and 80 additional acres be purchased for an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00, and that buildings be contracted for, an appropriation of \$30,000.00 being made for these purposes.”¹⁰⁰ With this, the building program for the new seminary was rapidly undertaken, clearing the way for the eventual appointment of William Tecumseh Sherman as college president on August 2, 1859. Five months later, on January 2, 1860, the school opened as the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning.

However, the school would be short-lived. With economic and political conditions in the United States becoming increasingly precarious in the mid-nineteenth century, changes loomed. By early 1860, conflicts throughout the country had become increasingly violent, and Jefferson Davis, future president of the Confederacy, had already voiced approval of secession. States throughout the South had a history of military schools and militias. Louisiana would follow suit. Following the approval of Act 98 of 1860 on March 7, the school took on a military presence and had its name changed to the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning and Military Academy. Seven days later, the Central State Arsenal was established at the seminary with William Tecumseh Sherman as superintendent.¹⁰¹ As tensions escalated following the election of Abraham Lincoln as president in November 1860, Louisiana’s future role in the nation became ever more dubious—with talks of secession having dominated the Louisiana legislature in December—and the future of the school was to be cast into doubt by the impending conflict. When the U.S. Army Barracks and Arsenal in Baton Rouge was seized by state troops on January 9, 1861, following the decision of state delegates to vote for secession on January 7, a great deal of the munitions were sent to William Tecumseh Sherman at the seminary-based state arsenal. Sherman, pledging his “allegiance to the Constitution as long as a fragment of it survives,” tendered his resignation as college president on January 18; the resignation was accepted on January 23.¹⁰² Although classes would continue until March 1863, the school would ultimately be disbanded on April 23, 1863, following the movement of General Banks’ troops into the Red River Valley.¹⁰³ Nearly all of the 120 cadets on campus went home or into the Confederate Army.

After the Civil War, the seminary briefly reopened. This was, however, short-lived. A fire in October 1869 again curtailed operation of the school, which was relocated to Baton Rouge rather than rebuilt.¹⁰⁴ Following the final closing of the school, the site was vacant until the early twentieth century when it took on a new military presence. In 1904, the Louisiana General Assembly passed Act 169, authorizing the 400-acre site of the former seminary to be transferred by sale or lease. The town of Pineville, in which the site was located, bolstered efforts to sell the site by approving the appropriation of \$200 to assist in the process. On June 5, 1905, General D. T. Stafford, resident of Alexandria and Adjutant General of the State, issued General Order No. 12, directing the National Guard to establish a “camp of instruction” at the site for two weeks in July, which would afterward be

Management, Washington, D.C.; Coy A. Creel, “History of Veterans Administration Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana,” [photocopy], October 1990, 1, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰⁰ “History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana,” [photocopy], n.d., 1, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰¹ “History of VA Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana,” [photocopy], n.d., 1, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰² “History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana,” [photocopy], n.d., 2, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰³ Alcee Fortier, Lit. D., ed. *Louisiana: Comprising Sketches of Parishes, Towns, Events, Institutions, and Persons, Arranged in Cyclopedic Form, Volume III* (Atlanta: Georgia, Century Historical Association, 1914), 495.

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

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known as "Camp Stafford."¹⁰⁵ A large open-air pavilion was at that point added to existing facilities at the site.

Military use of the site would continue during and after World War I. With the war approaching, the United States established a series of military camps throughout the country. However, Camp Stafford was deemed too small to be viable. Instead, on July 15, 1917, the War Department chose to authorize a new installation, Camp Beauregard, as one of a series of thirty camps throughout the country charged with training military troops. Still, Camp Stafford served a purpose. On June 7, 1918, the Louisiana legislature passed Act No. 11, granting the "Federal Government use of Camp Stafford, in Rapides Parish, for military purposes throughout the period of the present war."¹⁰⁶ From this point until 1919, the site was operated as an Army base hospital for Camp Beauregard.

Following its service as an Army base hospital, control of the hospital was transferred from the War Department to the United States Public Health Service on April 7, 1919, which maintained the facility as a tuberculosis hospital. The property on which the hospital was located was still owned by the state of Louisiana, and the majority of the hospital's buildings were temporary, wood structures. On June 30, 1920, Governor Parker extended the federal government's tenancy of the land with the passing of Act No. 30, authorizing use of the site as a hospital for as long as might be required.¹⁰⁷ The United States Public Health Service continued to operate the hospital as a tuberculosis facility until May 1922. At this point the hospital was transferred to the Veterans Bureau, as directed by Executive Order 3699, which reassigned all hospitals under the direction of the United States Public Health Service utilized for the care for veterans to be conveyed to the Veterans Bureau.¹⁰⁸ The Veterans Bureau hospital continued to treat veterans with tuberculosis. The hospital, although operated by the Veterans Bureau, continued to be located on property owned by the state of Louisiana.

The long term fate of the hospital still had yet to be decided, however. In July 1923, J. B. McComb, recently appointed medical director for the Alexandria facility, was sent to the Alexandria Veterans Bureau hospital to perform an inspection. At this time, McComb was informed that the Veterans Bureau planned to close and abandon the complex.¹⁰⁹ For the next four years, McComb, along with groups such as the American Legion and the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce—led by Secretary George C. Merkel—would engage in an active program of promotion to convince the federal government to back the hospital at Alexandria as a permanent facility. In 1926, proponents of the hospital would receive what they had long hoped for, assurance of a permanent veterans

¹⁰⁵ "History of VA Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; "History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., 3, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰⁶ "History of VA Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; "History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., 3, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰⁷ "Veterans Administration Observes Fortieth Anniversary July 21, 1970," *HEALVA Herald*, July 1970, 1; Coy A. Creel, "History of Veterans Administration Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], October 1990, 2, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰⁸ "Veterans Administration Hospital, Alexandria, Louisiana, Historical Data," [photocopy], April 28, 1978, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰⁹ "History of New U.S. Veterans' Hospital at Camp Stafford and Site It Occupies," *Weekly Town Talk*, February 8, 1930.

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hospital. On July 31, 1926, Frank T. Hines, director of the Veterans Bureau, inspected the site and gave assurance that the former United States Public Health Service hospital would remain: "I will recommend that this institution be made permanent, when I return to Washington... and we will endeavor to get this thing started as soon as possible."¹¹⁰ With this announcement came the promise of \$1,200,000 to be used for a building program, as well as assurance that additional funding in the future would be available. Hines also confirmed that "while the hospital will be a tubercular hospital," care would also be provided "for general cases and some mental and nervous cases."¹¹¹

With a pledging of assurance and funds received from the director of the Veterans Bureau, hospital proponents remained steadfast in their efforts to see the former Camp Stafford site—endorsed by leaders of the American Legion as "being endowed with all the essentials of health and healing and easily accessible to veterans of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama"—used as a permanent hospital.¹¹² Hospital advocates moved local politicians to support the effort. Colonel Dan W. Spurlock of Shreveport, Department Commander, and W. Cannon Flouroy of Alexandria, Grand Chef De Gare of the 40 and 8, were particularly influential, spurring Governor Henry L. Fuqua to discuss with Attorney General Percy Saint in September 1926 the possibility of transferring title of the former Camp Stafford site to the United States government.¹¹³ When Director Hines returned to Louisiana in October 1927 and confirmed that the Alexandria site would be approved the following year, Flouroy and other veteran leaders assured Hines that all obstacles relating to the transfer of ownership of the Camp Stafford site from the state would be removed.¹¹⁴ To do so, a constitutional amendment carrying the support of Louisiana legislature would be required. Such an amendment would come following the call of a special session of the state legislature that would authorize the state to donate the Army base hospital site to the federal government.¹¹⁵ The amendment was adopted by citizens in a general election in April 1928, and the official Act of Donation followed on April 29, 1928.¹¹⁶ The deed of conveyance was recorded on May 30, 1928.¹¹⁷ The project was officially approved by President Calvin Coolidge on June 20.¹¹⁸

With a site secured and transferred to federal ownership, plans were made for a new facility. The United States Veterans Bureau closed the existing hospital and transferred current patients to the veterans hospital at Algiers, Louisiana, so that construction could begin on the former Camp Stafford site.¹¹⁹ When the construction

¹¹⁰ "About \$1,200,000, Gen. Hines Declares," *Weekly Town Talk*, July 31, 1926.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹¹² "Legionnaires Realize Cherished Dream in Alexandria Hospital," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 2.

¹¹³ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁵ "History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., 4, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; "Legionnaires Realize Cherished Dream in Alexandria Hospital," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 2.

¹¹⁶ General Frank T. Hines, Director, Letter regarding Abstract of Title, July 18, 1928, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹¹⁷ Deed of Donation from the State of Louisiana to the United States of America, May 28, 1928. Rapides Parish Conveyance Book 154, Page 601, and Donation Book 2, Page 216, located in the files of the Public Affairs Office, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹¹⁸ "Legionnaires Realize Cherished Dream in Alexandria Hospital," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 2.

¹¹⁹ "History of Veterans Administration Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., 4, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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contract was let on July 26, 1928, it was given to M.P. Severin Company of Chicago, which had recently completed a similar building program in Portland, Oregon. By December, construction was well underway on the buildings, on which 250 men were working.¹²⁰ When completed the following December of 1929, the \$1,407,176 facility would boast a 419-bed hospital that accepted all veterans, except females.¹²¹

In design, the scenic site outside of Alexandria permitted the “integration of a campus-like landscaping, outdoor recreational facilities, hospital buildings and roadways.”¹²² Utilizing the VA standard designs, facilities within the hospital’s campus were separated by function, with administrative, residential, and health care facilities being isolated one from another. Prominent, elaborate buildings were located at the apex of the site, whereas utilitarian structures were sited so as not to be openly visible from the front of the campus. Such a practice was also facilitated by the inclusion of an open courtyard, providing ease of access between interior and exterior spaces of the patient care and administration buildings.¹²³

The completed campus was comprised of sixteen new buildings and twenty-one old buildings, with a combined value, including equipment, of \$1,870,000.¹²⁴ A plot plan dated 1928 illustrates the new buildings to be completed within the campus, numerous temporary buildings to be removed, and existing buildings that were to remain.¹²⁵ At present, none of the buildings/structures predating 1928 appear to remain within the historic district. New buildings included the Administration Building (Resource 1, 1929); the Infirmary Building (Resource 2, 1929); a Neuropsychiatric Building (Resource 3, 1929); Dining Hall and Kitchen (Resource 4, 1929); two Tuberculosis Buildings (Resources 5 and 6, 1929); the Colored Infirmary Building to serve African American veterans (Resource 9, 1929); the Maintenance Shop Building (Resource 13, 1929); Boiler House (Resource 14, 1929); Manager’s Quarters (Resource 18, 1929); Officers’ Duplex Quarters (Resources 19–21, 1929); the Nurse’s Quarters (Resource 17, 1929); and an Apartment House (Resource 22, 1929).¹²⁶ Buildings were typically two-, three-, and four-story structures clad in stucco. French Colonial designs reflecting the heritage of Louisiana

¹²⁰ Carl Laurent, *From this Valley: A History of Alexandria, Pineville, and Rapides, Louisiana, Volume II, 1866–2009* (Alexandria, LA: Red River X-Press, 2010), 203.

¹²¹ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, *Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination*, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, 5, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹²² *Ibid.*

¹²³ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, *Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination*, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, 7–8, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; Plot Plan, U.S. Veterans Hospital. No. 27, Alexandria, LA., May 31, 1926, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹²⁴ “History of VA Hospital Alexandria, Louisiana,” [photocopy], n.d., 1, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹²⁵ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹²⁶ G.W. Parsons and Coy Creel, *Veterans Administration Medical Center (Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana) National Register of Historic Places–Nomination*, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., 1986, 3–4, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.; United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Facilities Management Department of the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

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dominated the campus.¹²⁷

With the hospital completed and operations underway, a dedication ceremony was set for January 31, 1930, at 10:00 AM. The Honorable James B. Aswell, representative from the Eighth Congressional district, presided over the dedication, and Veterans Bureau director Frank T. Hines and medical director Dr. W. Adams delivered the keynote address.¹²⁸ At the dedication, Dr. Adams praised the establishment of the Alexandria facility: "This is the most beautiful hospital site that I have seen in the United States, with the most wholesome surroundings and the finest health conditions. It is the very spot that General Grant called the Ozone belt. The hospital is a blessing to the community and receives the most cordial and sympathetic co-operation of the people. It is destined to be in the future the largest and finest hospital in the whole country."¹²⁹

The Alexandria VA Hospital is unusual in that it originally served patients with neuropsychiatric illnesses, tuberculosis, and those veterans seeking general medical care and surgical procedures. Most Second Generation Veterans Hospitals primarily offered care under one of these conditions. This is reflected in the four sub-types of Second Generation Veterans Hospitals identified in the MPDF. Often a small number of beds were set aside to serve patients with other conditions. Tuskegee, Alabama, is an example of a Second Generation Veterans Hospital that initially served veterans suffering from either tuberculosis or neuropsychiatric illnesses. The Albuquerque VA Hospital in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is a second example that initially offered general medical, surgical, and tuberculosis medical care to veterans. Second Generation Veterans Hospitals located at federal branches of former National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (NHDVS) often provided general hospital and domiciliary care to veterans. The Alexandria VA Hospital is a rarity among the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals in that it originally incorporated three types of medical care for veterans at a single facility.

Lofty expectations aside, the facility, then known as U.S. Veterans Hospital No. 27, was in fact immediately successful. Within a month of opening on January 1, 1930, 320 patients had been admitted under the charge of Colonel J. Baldwin McComb, Medical Officer-In-Charge, and his staff of 231 persons, including seventeen doctors, two dentists, and twenty-nine nurses.¹³⁰ During fiscal year 1932 the hospital experienced 1,857 admissions and conducted 559 surgical operations. On June 30, 1932, the 353 admitted patients were comprised of 106 tuberculosis patients; 157 general medical and surgical patients; and 90 neuropsychiatric patients.¹³¹ By March 1933, the hospital's capacity had increased to 439 beds, and employees now totaled 301 persons.¹³² By the end of June 1938, the hospital's capacity had increased to 613 beds. The Alexandria VA Hospital proved a boon for the local community, and by 1938, \$500,000 was being pumped into the local economy each year by the hospital.¹³³

Into the 1940s and the World War II era, hospital operations would continue to expand and the number of

¹²⁷ Ibid.

¹²⁸ "Alexandria Host At Hospital Dedication, Jan. 31," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 1; "History of New U.S. Veterans' Hospital at Camp Stafford and Site It Occupies," *Weekly Town Talk*, February 8, 1930.

¹²⁹ "U.S. Veterans' Hospital Dedicated Here," *Weekly Town Talk*, January 31, 1930.

¹³⁰ "Veterans Administration Observes Fortieth Anniversary July 21, 1970," *HEALVA Herald*, July 1970, 2; "Alexandria Host At Hospital Dedication, Jan. 31," *Louisiana Legionnaire*, January 1930, 1; "U.S. Veterans' Hospital Dedicated Here," *Weekly Town Talk*, January 31, 1930.

¹³¹ *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1932* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1932), 84, 86.

¹³² "Veterans Administration Observes Fortieth Anniversary July 21, 1970," *HEALVA Herald*, July 1970, 2.

¹³³ Frederick Marcel Spletstoser, *Talk of the Town: The Rise of Alexandria, Louisiana, and The "Daily Town Talk"* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2005), 234.

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facilities would continue to increase. The Recreation Building (Resource 8) was added to the facility in 1940. By 1944, the hospital's capacity would be at 725 beds. Bed capacities for the medical buildings on campus as of 1946 were: Building 2 (Infirmary Building), 157 general medical beds; Building 3 (former Neuropsychiatric Building; it is unclear when the hospital no longer offered services to neuropsychiatric patients), 92 general medical beds; Building 5 (Tuberculosis Building), 109 tuberculosis beds; Building 6 (Tuberculosis Building) 156 tuberculosis beds; Building 9 (former Colored Infirmary Building, referred to in 1946 as a General Medical Building), 44 tuberculosis beds and 164 general medical beds.¹³⁴ Expanded services had also required an expanded staff, which now totaled 80 nurses, 40 doctors, and 530 other personnel and commanded an annual total payroll of nearly \$2 million.¹³⁵

With services seemingly growing at a consistent rate, plans were made for the modernization and expansion of the existing Alexandria VA Hospital. In 1946, an economic study of the hospital was made. This study, among other things, recommended the construction of a new seven-story medical building. The actual building constructed was, however, much smaller. In addition to the new medical facility, the study also recommended a dietetics center serving 750 beds as well as additional space for surgical, laboratory, morgue, and outpatient units. Recommendations were also made for an addition to the Laundry (Resource 16, constructed in 1941); enlargement of the garages; construction of a chapel; construction of a greenhouse; replacement of the existing utilities shop; construction of three new warehouse buildings; renovations to the Dining Hall and Kitchen (Resource 4, 1929) to provide dietetics service; recreation and special service facilities; new staff accommodations including one family quarters for the executive officer, one four-plex apartment for professional staff, quarters for fifty-six additional nurses, and quarters for male attendants; and the enclosure of all exterior corridors with steel sashes.¹³⁶ It is unclear how many of the recommendations of the 1946 economic study were accomplished, although the \$5 million Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7), with a capacity of 250 beds, was nearly complete by mid-1950, the Laundry was enlarged in 1948, and the Warehouse (Resource 136) was completed in 1950.¹³⁷ Such expansions and modernization programs were welcomed as peak capacity and occupancy were reached at the hospital in mid-1951 when 913 beds were authorized.¹³⁸

By mid-1950, the Alexandria VA Hospital had a capacity of 662 beds, although 119 beds of this total were officially unavailable. The facility therefore offered a total of 543 beds, including 252 beds for tuberculosis patients and 291 beds for general medical patients. As of June 30, 1950, the facility had 475 admitted patients.¹³⁹

¹³⁴ "Economic Study & Report On Veterans Administration Hospital, Alexandria, LA.," [photocopy], circa 1946, 4, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹³⁵ Frederick Marcel Spletstoser, *Talk of the Town: The Rise of Alexandria, Louisiana, and The "Daily Town Talk"* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2005), 234.

¹³⁶ "Economic Study & Report On Veterans Administration Hospital, Alexandria, LA.," [photocopy], circa 1946, 7-12, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹³⁷ "Economic Study & Report On Veterans Administration Hospital, Alexandria, LA.," [photocopy], circa 1946, 7, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana; *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1950* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1951), 276.

¹³⁸ "History of the Veterans Administration Hospital, Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], September 1953, 3, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹³⁹ *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1950* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1951), 139.

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An aerial photograph of the campus that appears to date to 1949 shows grading is underway for the construction of the Tuberculosis Building (Resource 7). The photograph also depicts four long and two shorter Quonset huts that were located in the courtyard surrounded by the patient ward/treatment buildings and the Recreation Building.¹⁴⁰

On July 26, 1948, President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order No. 9981, which led to the desegregation of the United States Armed Forces. On that same day he also issued Executive Order No. 9980, stating that federal employment was not to be based on race, color, religion, or national origin. According to an article by David Barton Smith entitled "Racial And Ethnic Health Disparities And The Unfinished Civil Rights Agenda," these two executive orders were instrumental in the desegregation of Veterans Administration facilities.¹⁴¹ Through 1953 racial segregation of patients occurred in Veterans Bureau and VA hospitals according to local regulations and traditions, mainly at facilities in the southern states. In 1953 the VA undertook a survey of its 166 hospitals to determine how prevalent segregation of patients was within its facilities. Of the 166 surveyed, 47 hospitals, primarily located in the south, practiced racial segregation, ranging from not admitting African American veterans to providing separate facilities, such as wards, dining rooms, and restrooms. The same year as the survey the VA began to work with hospitals to remove all forms of segregation. The VA leadership emphasized that medical care for all veterans was the primary mission of the VA hospitals, and segregation of patients and health care was to be eliminated. The VA leadership was able to report to President Dwight D. Eisenhower by October 1954 that the hospitals and domiciliaries of the VA were fully integrated and segregation of patient care had been abolished.¹⁴²

While the period of significance for this additional documentation nomination ends in 1950, the Alexandria VA Hospital continued to serve the health care of veterans' in need of general medical, surgical, and tuberculosis medical attention. As demands decreased in the 1960s, the VA also began to transfer the majority of its land to other parties. Prior to this, only minimal acreage had been transferred from the facility. In 1935, the VA had authorized the transfer of a strip of land located along the Alexandria-Shreveport Highway, State Route 1, and Star Route 616 to the State of Louisiana with the stipulation that the land must always be maintained as a public highway.¹⁴³ On September 8, 1939, the VA again transferred a small piece of land to the State due to Louisiana's expressed intention to widen Highway 71.¹⁴⁴ By the 1960s, however, the VA was prepared to transfer large acreage, issuing a bid notice in 1962 for the government's interest in transferring 80.2 acres.¹⁴⁵ The land would

¹⁴⁰ Files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁴¹ Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, "Executive Order 9980" and "Executive Order 9981" located on the World Wide Web on the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum Website at <http://www.trumanlibrary.org/>. Accessed January 2011; David Barton Smith, "Racial And Ethnic Health Disparities And The Unfinished Civil Rights Agenda," *Health Affairs* 24, no. 22 (March/April 2005), accessed online on the World Wide Web on the Health Affairs website at <http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/24/2/317.full>. Accessed January 2011.

¹⁴² Robinson E. Adkins, *Medical Care of Veterans* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1967), 248-250.

¹⁴³ [Public - No. 214 - 74th Congress], An Act to Authorize the Transfer of Certain Lands, [photocopy], July 23, 1935, 14, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁴⁴ Frank T. Hines, Administrator, to Honorable Sam H. Jones, Governor of Louisiana, January 6, 1943, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁴⁵ Invitation, Bid, And Acceptance, Portion of Veterans' Administration Hospital Reservation Near Alexandria, In Rapides Parish, Louisiana, [photocopy], n.d., located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

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ultimately become the property of the Forestry Service in 1964, with the tract to be utilized by the National Forest Service and as a state and private forestry and research center.¹⁴⁶

Although the VA was actively reducing its landholding, services at the hospital continued at high levels, and expansion programs followed. In 1962, the hospital had started the first nuclear medicine service in central Louisiana. Three years later, on March 1, 1965, the hospital opened a converted portion of Resource 6 (Tuberculosis Building, 1929) as a Nursing Home Care Unit with capacity for ninety-six veterans. In 1967, the third floor of the Nursing Home Care Unit was renovated, making way for fifteen additional beds.¹⁴⁷ Operating with an annual budget of \$5,500,000, the hospital was treating 5,000 patients annually by 1968 in the aforementioned Nursing Home Care Unit and the 607 general beds.¹⁴⁸

Despite the hospital ultimately decreasing its landholdings to approximately 150 acres, patient care continued to expand in the 1970s. From October 1, 1977, to September 30, 1978, the hospital staff of 730 full-time employees and thousands of volunteers provided care for 4,700 inpatients and 28,000 outpatients.¹⁴⁹ With patient care continuing to expand, a series of expansions and modernization programs were planned for the 1980s. In 1984, plans were made for a one-story addition on the southeast side of Resource 7 (Tuberculosis Building, 1950) and a four-story addition on the rear (southwest) elevation of the building, as well as a renovation of Resource 9 (Colored Infirmary Building, 1929) to include the addition of stair towers and a disabled-accessible entrance.¹⁵⁰ In 1987, a 120-bed extended care facility was completed (Resource 45); an 18-bed Alzheimer's unit was added to the facility in 1998.¹⁵¹ A Chapel and chaplain's office (Resource 46) were completed in 1988 and the first 40 beds of an 80-bed psychiatric complex were added in 1989; the remaining 40 were completed the following year. The expansion of services continued to draw larger hospital populations, and by the end of the decade, the hospital had a daily average of 223 patients and annual totals reaching 6,150 inpatients and 82,993 outpatients.¹⁵²

The 1980s also brought about official recognition of the hospital's historical significance. On September 29, 1986, the Alexandria VA Medical Center was added to the National Register of Historic Places because of its incorporation of "advanced planning concepts" used by the VA during construction, as well as for the buildings'

¹⁴⁶ James E. Wenzig, "A Brief History of the VA Hospital," [photocopy], 2010?, 52, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁴⁷ "Veterans Administration Observes Fortieth Anniversary July 21, 1970," *HEALVA Herald*, July 1970, 2.

¹⁴⁸ James E. Wenzig, "A Brief History of the VA Hospital," [photocopy], 2010?, 52, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁴⁹ Coy A. Creel, "History of Veterans Administration Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], October 1990, 8-9, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁵⁰ Memorandum for the Record, "Report of Committee for Review of Exterior Design of Projects - VAMC, Alexandria, LA. Project Nos. 502-050 and 502-064, Clinical Improvements and 120-Bed NHCU," February 24, 1984, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁵¹ "A History of the Alexandria VA Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], n.d., 1, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

¹⁵² Coy A. Creel, "History of Veterans Administration Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana," [photocopy], October 1990, 8, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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French Colonial style, which had been adapted to “reflect the French colonial history of Louisiana.”¹⁵³

By 1990, the VA complex would be comprised of 33 buildings providing 70 surgical beds, 149 acute medical beds, 80 acute psychiatric beds, 73 intermediate medical beds, and 213 nursing home care beds, for a total of 585 beds, 500 of which were in use.¹⁵⁴ The facility, by 1990 affiliated with the Tulane University School of Medicine, served a thirty-six parish area with approximately 156,000 veterans in the primary care area.¹⁵⁵ Into the decade, the existing campus would be upgraded through a series of expansions. Plans were made for a 120-bed Nursing Home Care Unit (NHCU), which was to replace the 78 NHCU beds in Resource 6 (Tuberculosis Building, 1929). A new laundry facility, heliport, 200-bed domiciliary, and 40-bed long-term psychiatric care facility were also planned. In 1994, renovations began on the second floor of Resource 3 (Neuropsychiatric Building, 1929) in preparation for the establishment of a women’s clinic. The ward areas in Resource 7 (Tuberculosis Building, 1950) were also renovated at this time. By 1996, plans were also progressing on improving accessibility to Resource 3; renovating nurses’ stations in Resource 3; replacing dated, wooden bus shelters; and installing entrance awnings on Resources 1 and 16 (Administration Building, 1929; Laundry, 1942).¹⁵⁶ Such expansion programs would carry the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center well into the new decade, with services continuing to expand for a growing population of veterans.

¹⁵³ Gjore J. Mollenhoff, Historic Preservation Officer to Mr. George Parsons, Director, VA Medical Center, October 28 1986, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁵⁴ Coy A. Creel, “History of Veterans Administration Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana,” [photocopy], October 1990, 5, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

¹⁵⁵ Ibid., 8.

¹⁵⁶ Letter from Allan S. Goss, Medical Director, VA, to Gerri Hobdy, State Historic Preservation Officer, October 11, 1996, located in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Facilities Management Department, Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

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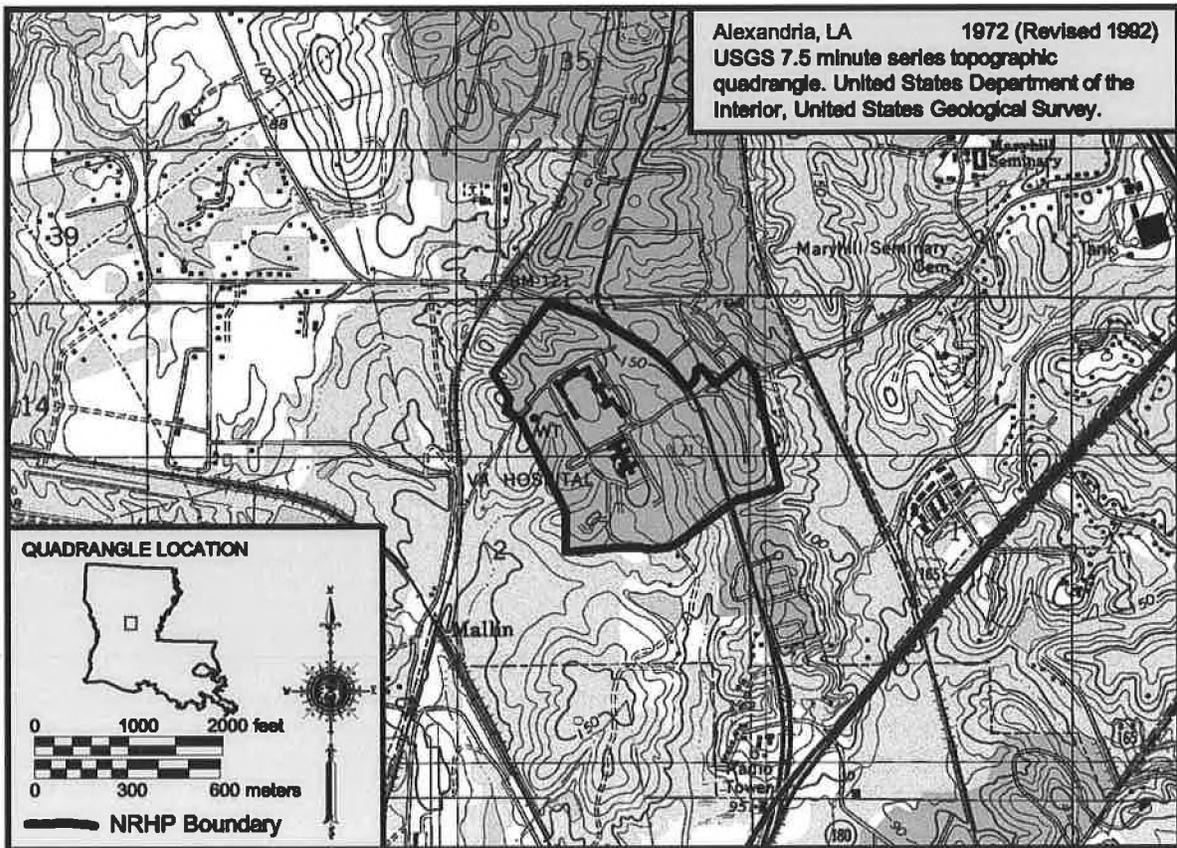
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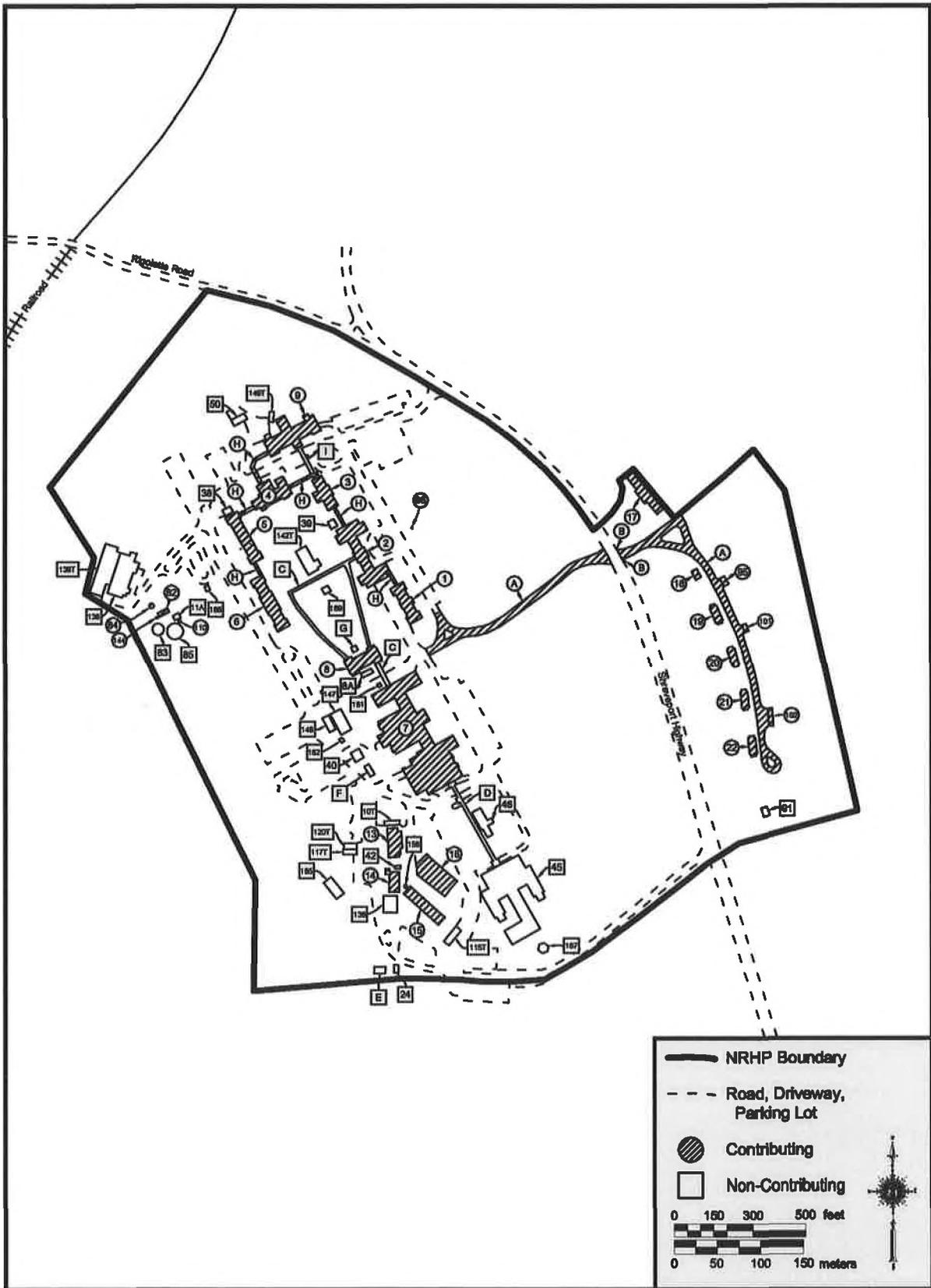
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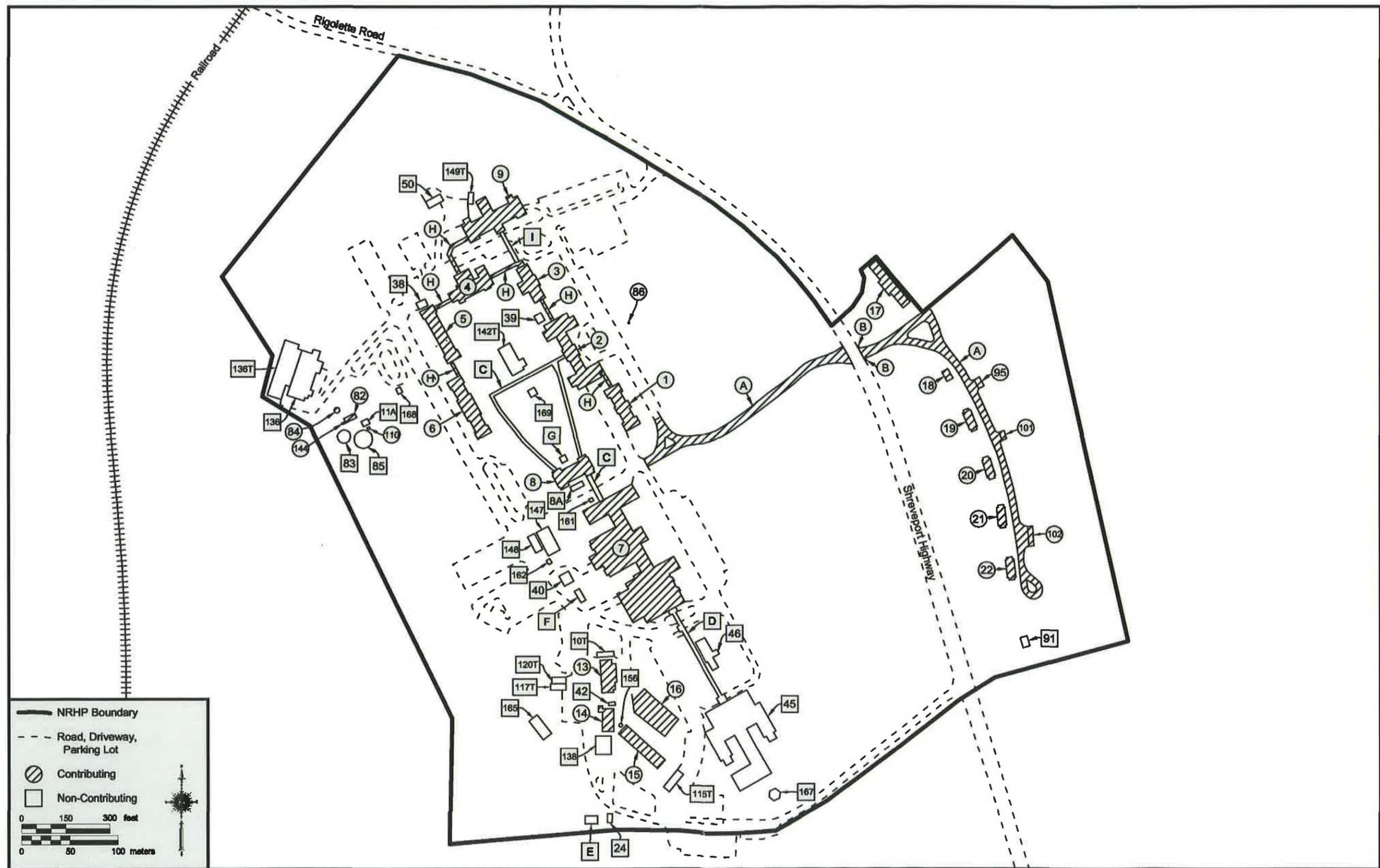
1972 (Revised 1992) Alexandria, Louisiana, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map depicting the National Register boundary.



National Register boundary indicated on aerial map.



(Figure 3) Sketch map indicating National Register boundary, contributing and noncontributing resources.



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

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Photograph Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Alexandria Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District (same for all photos)

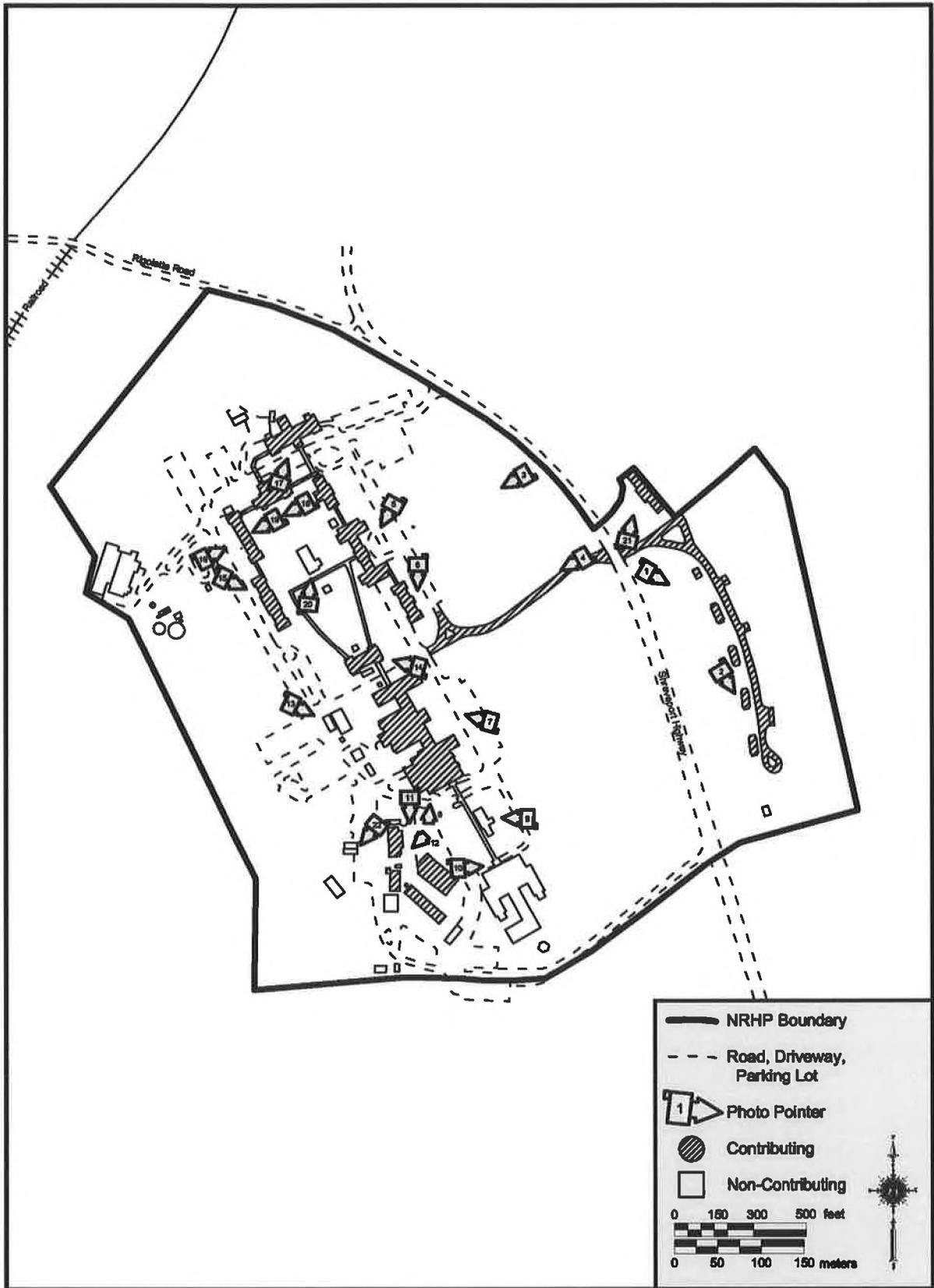
City, County, State: Alexandria (or Pineville), Rapides Parish, Louisiana (same for all photos)

Photographer: Robert C. Whetsell (same for all photos)

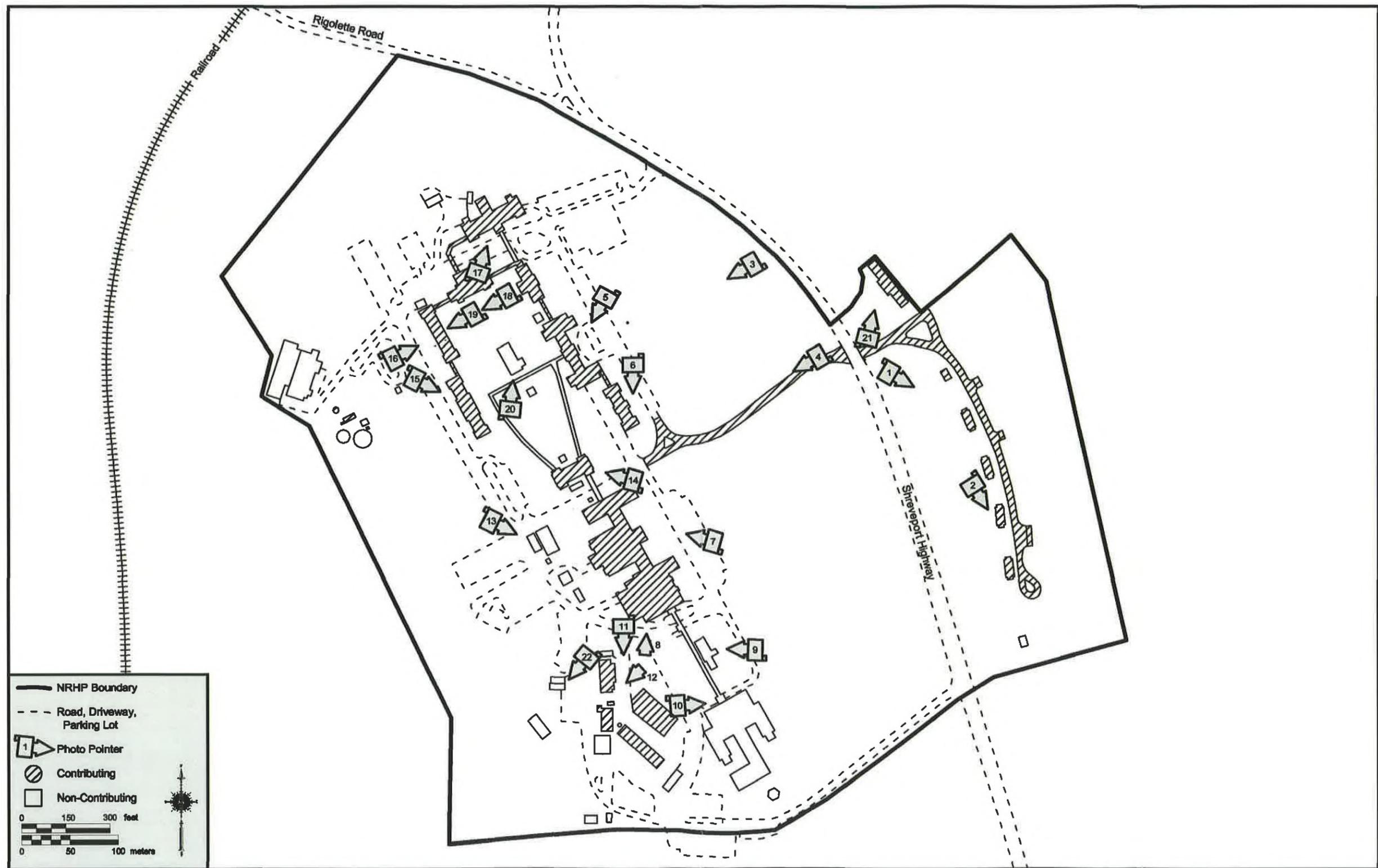
Photo date: March 1, 3-4, 2011 (same for all photos)

Original Negative: N/A (submitted compact disc, same for all photos)

1. View to the southeast to Resources 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22.
2. North/northwest and façade (west) elevations of Resources 21 and 22. View looking to the south-southeast.
3. View to the southwest across the front lawn to Resources 1, 2, and 86.
4. View looking to the southwest along the main entrance drive (Resource A) from near its intersection with Shreveport Highway (U.S. 71).
5. Façade (northeast) elevation of Resource 2. View looking to the southwest.
6. Resources 46, 7, and façade (northeast) elevation of Resource 1. View looking to the south-southwest.
7. Façade (northeast) elevation of Resource 7. View looking west-northwest.
8. Rear and side (southwest and southeast) elevations of Resource 7. View looking to the northeast.
9. Northeast elevation of Resource 46. View looking west-northwest.
10. Façade (northwest) elevation of Resource 45. View looking east-northeast.
11. View to the south-southwest to Resources 16, 15, 156, 14, and 13.
12. View looking southwest to Resources 15, 138, 14, 42, and 13.
13. View looking southeast to Resources 7, 147, 148, 40, and 162.
14. Northeast elevation of Resource 8A and southeast and northeast elevations of Resource 8. View looking northwest.
15. Northwest and rear (southwest) elevations of Resource 6. View looking to the southeast.
16. Rear (southwest) elevation of Resource 5. View looking to the northeast.
17. Resource I and façade (southeast) elevation of Resource 9. View looking to the northeast.
18. Façade elevations of Resources 5 (northeast) and 4 (southeast elevation). View looking to the southwest.
19. Façade (northeast) elevation of Resource 5. View looking to the southwest.
20. Resource C and the southwest and façade (southeast) elevations of Resource 142T within the courtyard. View looking to the north-northeast.
21. Façade (southwest) elevation of Resource 17. View looking to the north-northeast.
22. View looking to the southwest to the east and north elevations of Resource 117T and 120T.



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



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