

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME Army Medical Museum and Library

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Army Medical Museum and Library

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER (originally) Northwest corner 7th and Independence Avenue, N.W.
(presently) 6825 16th Street, N.W., and other location NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Washington

___ VICINITY OF

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
District of Columbia 11 District of Columbia 011

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Department of Defense; Office of the Surgeon General of the Army 11 or
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology

STREET & NUMBER Forrestal Building 6825 16th Street

CITY, TOWN STATE
Washington VICINITY OF District of Columbia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER 6th and D Streets

CITY, TOWN STATE
Washington D.C.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None Known

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED
 demolished

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE 1971
(collection)

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The collection is extensive, and widely scattered and has never been completely catalogued. Medical artifacts are collected by order of the Surgeon General of the Army from every theater of military activity, from stations all over the world. The museum also holds large collections of private donors.

The Army Medical Museum has changed drastically since its designation as a national historic landmark in 1964. Its headquarters and museum building was demolished. It lost its library and the collection was split. The majority of the collection was displayed for a short time but it is now stored and used only for research. The collection is enormous in size and located literally throughout the world. Therefore it is impossible to give a more adequate description.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1862- (collection) 1666- 1971 (building)	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Army Medical Museum and Library was one of the first organized medicomilitary research programs in America and represents a major effort of the Federal Government to approach scientifically the immense medical problems posed by the Civil War.

On August 1, 1862, Brigade Surgeon John Hill Brinton received orders from the Surgeon General directing him "to collect and properly arrange in the Military Medical Museum all specimens of morbid anatomy, both medical and surgical, which may have accumulated since the commencement of the Rebellion in the various U.S. hospitals or which may have been retained by any of the medical officers of the Army."

In the earliest days, emphasis was placed on observation by the naked eye of the changes wrought by diseases. The adoption and improvement of the compound microscope permitted study of cells instead of tissues and gross organs. For two decades after the Civil War, the Museum continued to be devoted almost exclusively to Army medicine.

In 1888, Lieutenant Colonel John S. Billings, Museum Curator, made the educational facilities of the Museum available to the civilian medical profession on a cooperative basis. In 1922 the American Registry of Pathology was founded to establish effective cooperation with civilian medicine.

The Museum was housed in a number of buildings including Ford's Theatre following President Lincoln's assassination. In 1887 a structure was built which housed the Medical Museum until October 4, 1968. However, in 1955, most of the facilities were moved to the grounds of Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

The name was changed to the Army Institute of Pathology in 1946 when the Museum became central laboratory of pathology for the United States Army. On July 6, 1949, the Institute was redesignated the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, and in February 1950 became the central laboratory of pathology for the Department of Defense and other Federal agencies.

