

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED  
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(presently) 6825 16th Street, N.W., and other location NOT FOR PUBLICATION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 Washington CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
VICINITY OF  
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE  
District of Columbia 11 District of Columbia 011

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>OWNERSHIP</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>PRESENT USE</b>
<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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 Washington STATE District of Columbia  
VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**  
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Recorder of Deeds  
STREET & NUMBER 6th and D Streets  
CITY, TOWN Washington STATE 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

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

demolished

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE 1971  
(collection)

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### 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			

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

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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.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Purtle, Helen R. "Armed Forces Institute of Pathology Medical Museum,"  
U.S. Armed Forces Medical Journal Vol. 11, No. 5, (May, 1960), pp. 579-589.  
 Federal Writers' Project, Washington: city and capital, Washington, 1937.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY       N/A        
 UTM REFERENCES

A 



B 



VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

      N/A      

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Boundary Review Task Force

ORGANIZATION

HCRS

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

440 G Street, N.W.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL       

STATE       

LOCAL       

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

<b>FOR NPS USE ONLY</b>	
<b>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER</b>	
	DATE
<b>DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION</b>	DATE
<b>ATTEST:</b>	DATE
<b>KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER</b>	