

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

Historic name Fayetteville Veterans Administration Hospital

Other names/site number Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, AR / N/A

2. Location

street & number 1100 N. College Avenue

city of town Fayetteville

State Arkansas code AR county Washington code 143 zip code 72703

☐ not for publication

☐ vicinity

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national x statewide local

Signature of certifying official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

 entered in the National Register

 determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain:)

Fayetteville Veterans Administration Hospital
Name of Property

Washington County, Arkansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal
<input type="checkbox"/>	private

Category of Property (Check only one box)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
13	16	buildings
1	0	sites
1	3	structures
2	0	objects
17	19	Total

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

United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

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)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals /

Colonial Revival / Classical Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick

roof: Terra Cotta

other: _____

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

The Fayetteville Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital, currently known as the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas, is located at 1100 N. College Avenue, approximately 1.1 miles north of the center of downtown Fayetteville. Located in a campus setting, the majority of the historic district is open with an elliptical lawn serving as the center of the campus. The main hospital building, recreation building, and former nurses quarters (Resources 1, 3, and 4 [all constructed in 1934]) are oriented toward the elliptical lawn which contains the flag pole (Resource 13, 1934), a focal point of the Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District. The historic district is situated on the crest of a rise historically known as Watermelon Hill. The original and ongoing mission of the facility is to provide health care to veterans of the United States. The hospital was constructed as a general medical and surgical hospital and the surviving campus continues to reflect the characteristics of this particular sub-type of Second Generation Veterans Hospital. The modified square-shaped historic district boundary contains approximately 46 acres with thirty-six resources. Seventeen resources are considered contributing with the majority of these resources classified as buildings. Contributing resources include those that retain integrity and were utilized and/or constructed by the VA during the historic district's period of significance (1932–1950). Nine resources, or nearly half of the nineteen noncontributing resources, are smaller buildings and structures, including maintenance, service, and utility buildings, constructed after 1950 that do not visually impact the larger contributing resources, and relationships between the contributing resources remain intact. One resource of substantial scale, a psychiatric treatment building (Resource 44, 2002), has been added to the historic district in the last ten years. Also completed in the last fifteen years are two additions to the northeast of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934). The campus setting of the historic district consists of mature vegetation, topography that slightly slopes away from the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934), curving drives, buildings grouped by original function, and buildings with brick exteriors constructed with Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural style ornamentation creating a cohesive architectural campus. Buildings dating to after the period of significance were constructed in modern, utilitarian designs.

Narrative Description

The Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District is located on a rise within a campus setting. The campus originally consisted of approximately 82 acres but has been reduced over the years to its current size of approximately 46 acres. Second Generation Veterans Hospitals originally constructed as general medical and surgical hospitals, such as the Fayetteville VA Hospital, were located on smaller tracts of land and closer to communities than other sub-types of veterans hospitals. The reduction in land ownership is a common trait among Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, as land that was determined surplus was removed from the VA's ownership.

The buildings located within the Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District share similarities with other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals in both original function and architectural style/decoration. The Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District has a monumental main building (Resource 1, 1934) that serves as the focal point of the historic district. The monumentality of the building speaks to its prominence within the historic district, both visually and functionally. The buildings constructed within the period of significance exhibit the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural styles that were both locally and nationally popular at the time. A hierarchy of ornamentation was developed within the historic district according to the building's use by the public. The main building (Resource 1, 1934) exhibits the most decorative elements of those within the historic district. The recreation building (Resource 3, 1934), usually located near the main building, is the second most ornamentally decorated building within the historic district. The kitchen/dining hall/attendants' quarters building, such as Resource 2 (1934), is located to the rear of the main building.

See Continuation Sheet, page 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.

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Health/Medicine

Architecture

Period of Significance

1932-1950

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Construction Service, Veterans Administration

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the construction of the complex in 1932 and extends through 1950, the termination date for the period of significance as stated in the United States Second Generation Veterans Hospital Multiple Property Documentation form. The contributing resources of the historic district all date to the period of significance. These buildings and the campus setting relate to the historic district's basic identity as a Period II general medical and surgical hospital sub-type within the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals typology. Buildings constructed after 1950 no longer relate to the design philosophies developed and utilized by the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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

The Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District is significant as an excellent, intact example of a Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospital. The Fayetteville VA Hospital is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) at the state level under Criterion A in the areas of Politics and Government, because of the importance placed on securing the federal facility and its impact on the local community and veterans throughout the state. The Fayetteville VA Hospital is also eligible under Criterion A at the state level in the areas of Health and Medicine because of the physical evidence the hospital provides concerning health care offered to veterans of Arkansas, primarily veterans of World War I and World War II. This property is also eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the state level, because the Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District is an intact example of a Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospital incorporating elements of classical revival architectural styles that were nationally popular in the early to mid-twentieth century. The Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District is additionally significant for its monumental main building that serves as the focal point of the hospital campus, a widespread practice for important public and institutional buildings. The Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District also exhibits standardized building and landscape designs that were incorporated into the campuses of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The Fayetteville VA Hospital was constructed in 1934 and initially was designated a general medical and surgical hospital serving veterans in northwest Arkansas. The historic district continues to retain characteristics of this sub-type of veterans hospital. The use of nationally popular architectural styles creates a cohesive design for the campus. The use of revivalist architecture, especially on the main and recreation buildings, reflects the importance of the VA and its mission to provide medical care to the nation's veterans. Revivalist architecture, such as the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles, was utilized for many federal buildings constructed in the first half of the twentieth century to exhibit patriotism through the use of stylistic elements associated with the early history of the United States and to reflect the permanence of the institutions contained within the buildings. The period of significance and assessment of contributing and noncontributing resources for this nomination 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 nomination, may possess significance under themes not fully developed as part of the MPDF. Resources located within the medical center campus 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.

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

The period of significance for the Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District extends from 1932 to 1950. The period of significance begins with the construction of the medical facility and continues through 1950, the date of the last federal veterans hospital constructed utilizing the design philosophies developed for Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The Fayetteville VA Hospital is an excellent example of a Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospital.

Areas of Significance: Criterion A

Politics and Government

The Fayetteville VA Hospital is eligible under Criterion A at the state level in the areas of Politics and Government because the selection of the site of the hospital was partially determined by the political influences of the local community to acquire the federal hospital and its substantial economic contributions to the local and state economy. The American Legion was one of the major supporters for a VA hospital in northwest Arkansas, making numerous proposals to the VA for such a hospital.¹ The economic benefits and prominence the new veterans hospital would bring to the successful community chosen as the site of the federal hospital is indicated by the fact that communities throughout northwest Arkansas competed for the facility. A dozen sites

¹ Samuel J. Watkins, "Legion Eager to Aid the Sick and Disabled," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 5, 1932.

in Fayetteville were offered to the VA for the possible location of the veterans hospital.² After Fayetteville was chosen as the site of the new veterans hospital, a chamber of commerce dinner was held with representatives from neighboring cities and the American Legion to celebrate Fayetteville's good fortune.³ A celebration sponsored by the

See Continuation Sheet, page 8.16.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See Continuation Sheet, page 8.20.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

See Continuation Sheet, page 9.25

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☒ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☒ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☒ Other
Dept of Veterans Affairs, Historic Preservation
Name of repository: Office and local public library

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 46 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>395420</u>	<u>3993510</u>	3	<u>15</u>	<u>395762</u>	<u>3993381</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>15</u>	<u>395766</u>	<u>3993498</u>	4	<u>15</u>	<u>395866</u>	<u>3993378</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The historic district boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the polygon in solid black lines on the aerial map on page 30. The boundary is also indicated by a polygon on a portion of a USGS map on Continuation Sheet 29 and on the enclosed USGS Fayetteville, Arkansas, topographic quadrangle map. The UTM reference points, stated in NAD 27, are provided above, on continuation sheet 10.27, and on the USGS topographic quadrangle map. The boundary begins approximately 750 feet south of the intersection of West Sycamore Street and North Woolsey Avenue at UTM N3993510.905, E 395420.008, then trends east approximately 1140 feet east to UTM N 3993498.771, E 395766.907, then south approximately 400 feet to UTM N 3993381.722, E 395762.276, then east 350 feet to US 71, AKA North College Avenue, then south with North College Avenue to UTM N 3993028.523, E 395827.306, then west approximately 730 feet to UTM N 3993035.912, E 395610.749, then southwest approximately 166 feet to UTM N3993008.545, E 395574.934, then west 345 feet to UTM N3993011.825, E 395463.476, then north approximately 525 feet to UTM

² "Wilson-Adams Site Chosen for Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, February 9, 1932.

³ "Towns Extend Good Wishes for Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 1, 1932.

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3993166.745, E 395468.461, then west approximately 210 feet to UTM N 3993169.337, E 395477.624, then north with North Woolsey Avenue approximately 1133 feet to the beginning, containing approximately 46 acres.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The proposed National Register of Historic Places nomination boundary is the current property boundary. The historic district is considerably smaller than the original property boundary because of previous land transfers but the historic district includes the majority of the resources historically associated with the Fayetteville VA Hospital.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Trent Spurlock/Architectural Historian

organization Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.

date November 29, 2011

street & number 151 Walton Avenue

telephone 859-252-4737

city or town Lexington

state KY

zip code 40508

e-mail _____

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 28-31**

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

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white 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.

See Continuation Sheet Photographs page 32.

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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General medical and surgical veterans hospitals often were initially constructed without additional patient care buildings other than the main building. Such was the case at the Fayetteville VA Hospital, as no additional buildings or additions to the main hospital building were constructed until after the period of significance. The three buildings of the central core group included the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934), the kitchen/dining hall/attendants' quarters (Resource 2, 1934), and the recreation building (Resource 3, 1934). These three buildings are connected by enclosed corridors (Resources C and F, both 1934). Also serving as a focal point of the historic district is the flag pole (Resource 13, 1934), located directly in front of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) within the elliptical front lawn.

The residences located within the Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District are very similar, if not identical, to those located at other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The medical-officer-in-charge's or director's residence (Resource 5, 1934) is normally a detached single-family residence. Two duplexes (Resources 6 and 7, both 1934) are found to the northeast of the director's residence. These three residences are oriented toward a lawn that is adjacent to the main entrance drive and the elliptical lawn (Resource E, 1934). The nurses' quarters (Resource 4, 1934) is a dormitory with a rectangular main block located along the main entrance drive on the opposite side of the elliptical lawn from the group of three residences. The residences all exhibit Colonial Revival architectural ornamentation.

The maintenance/utility buildings of the historic district dating to the period of significance are located in the northeast corner of the historic district and northeast of the central core group. Three of the maintenance/utility group buildings are situated in a U-shape and are oriented to a common drive (Resources 8, 9, and 10, all 1934). Original maintenance/utility group buildings include: a water tank and tower (no longer extant); storehouse and garage, laundry, boiler plant, and seamstress building (Resources 8, 9, 10, and 11, all 1934). The stack originally associated with the boiler plant is no longer extant.

The buildings of the Fayetteville VA Hospital are loosely arranged in three clusters according to function: the central core group; the residential quarters; and the maintenance/utility group. Although usually a distinct grouping at Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, the residential group is separated by the central elliptical lawn. The residential quarters group is usually distanced from the central core group to allow employees privacy from the workplace.

Buildings and additions to original buildings continued to be constructed within the historic district setting after the period of significance. The majority of these noncontributing buildings were constructed in the maintenance/utility group or to the rear of the central core group. Additional modifications include additions to the kitchen/dining hall/attendants' quarters (Resource 2, 1934) and the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934). The main drive and elliptical lawn (Resource E, 1934), creating the primary public space of the hospital, remain intact. The elliptical lawn is a defining landscape feature of the historic district's design along with the main entrance drive along N. College Street that also encompasses the elliptical lawn. The curvilinear secondary drive intersecting N. College Avenue at the northeast corner of the historic district does not appear on a 1937 aerial photograph of the campus. This steeply sloped portion of the historic district appears to be terraced.⁴ Other important open spaces remaining within the historic district include the lawn in front of the duplexes and director's residence (Resources 5, 6, and 7, all 1934), the lawn to the rear of the nurses' quarters (Resource 4), and other areas that have parking lots that have been created since the period of significance.

⁴ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Service of the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

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Additional parking lots have been added to the rear of the central core group and southeast of the nurses quarters (Resource 4, 1934).

Current Physical Character of the District

The historic district boundary contains approximately 46 acres encompassed by fencing. N. College Street serves as the eastern boundary and Woolsey Avenue forms the western boundary of the Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District. To the south and southwest of the historic district are the Arkansas Veterans Home and the former Washington Regional Medical Center that currently serves as the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences facility. Along the northwest edge of the historic district is an Army Reserve Center. The majority of the northern boundary is adjacent to a densely wooded area.

The original sixteen buildings of the Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District were designed by the Construction Service of the Veterans Administration.⁵ The facility was originally constructed as a general medical and surgical hospital within the sub-types of Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The campus remained intact throughout the period of significance as additions to the facility were constructed after 1950. The buildings reflect the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural styles utilized at the majority of Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals throughout the nation. The facades of Resources 1 and 3, the main and recreation buildings, exhibit the most numerous decorative elements of the buildings within the historic district. The residential quarters utilize Colonial Revival decorative elements to a lesser degree while the maintenance and utility buildings display little, if any, ornamentation.

The campus is loosely arranged into three major groups of buildings by function with the majority of the historic district remaining open in lawns, mature trees, and parking lots. The topography is slightly sloping with the central core group of buildings situated on the highest point of the historic district. The central core group of buildings is comprised of: the main building (Resource 1, 1934); the dining hall and attendants' quarters (Resource 2, 1934); the recreation building (Resource 3, 1934); the chiller plant (Resource 29, 1983); Resource 44 (2002) accommodating outpatient psychiatry; the learning center and nursing education buildings (Resources 42 [2002] and 46 [2004]); and the flag pole (Resource 13, 1934). Resources 1, 2, 3 and 44 are connected by corridors (Resources C and F) with brick exteriors and windows. A photograph of the corridor between the main hospital building and the dining hall (Resources 1 and 2) dated August 1, 1933 depicts a corridor with open arches and railings rather than the present configuration with windows filling the arches of the corridors.⁶ More recent structures, much smaller in scale than the original buildings, are also located within the central core group. These structures include the auxiliary power units building (Resource 24, circa 1980s), an electrical transformer building (Resource 26, 1983), shuttle cart parking (Resource 41, 2000), and two smoking shelters (Resources A and B, circa 2000s). A second story is currently being added to the outpatient psychiatry building (Resource 44, 2002). The main hospital building and the recreation building face the elliptical drive leading to N. College Avenue.

The second group of buildings is the residential quarters, located to the southwest and northeast of the elliptical main drive (Resource E). Three residential quarters, comprised of the director's residence and two duplexes (Resources 5, 6, and 7) are found in the southwest portion of the historic district with two curving

⁵ "Government Askes for Hospital Bids Here," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, May 14, 1932; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 23.

⁶ Doris B. Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories: VA Medical Center 50th Anniversary, 1934-1984, Fayetteville, Arkansas* (Fayetteville, AR: 50th Anniversary Committee, VA Medical Center, 1984), 81.

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drives: one to the front of the quarters and a second providing access to the rear. Walkout basements and basement garages are found to the rear of each of the residences. The residential quarters are approximately 525 feet from the facade entrance of the main building (Resource 1, 1934). Mature vegetation, including trees and shrubbery, assist in obscuring these three buildings of the residential group from direct view of the other hospital buildings. Resource 4 (1934), currently utilized for administrative offices, was originally the nurses' quarters and is located along the elliptical drive opposite the three other residential quarters buildings. The three-story, hip-roof building has columned porticos along the facade and two side elevations. A ten-bay garage (Resource 15, 1934) is located to the rear of the nurses' quarters. The nurses' quarters building (Resource 4, 1934) is approximately 410 feet from the facade entrance to the main building (Resource 1, 1934). The residences were situated to enable employees to easily walk to work but distanced from the medical buildings to provide a more private setting.

The third group of buildings is comprised of the maintenance and utility resources supporting the facility. The majority of the maintenance/utility buildings are situated in the northeastern portion of the property. The original buildings of this cluster are oriented to one another along a common drive, including storehouse/garage, laundry, and boiler plant (Resources 8, 9, and 10, all 1934). Resource 11 (1934), housing the seamstress facilities, is closely associated with this initial group of maintenance/utility buildings. Later structures have been constructed to the west and north of the original buildings, such as a warehouse (Resource 34, 1997), engineering shops building (Resource 37, 1998), waste sterilizer building (Resource 40, 1998), and two storage buildings (Resources 43, 2002; and 45, 2003). A second entrance to the facility along N. College Avenue is found at the northeast corner of the historic district. This entrance leads to a curving drive that extends up the hillside and intersects the lane leading from the elliptical drive to the maintenance/utility group.

A rear entrance to the historic district from Woolsey Avenue is located along the western boundary of the historic district. Located in the northwestern corner of the historic district are the credit union (Resource 38, circa 1990s) and a replacement water tower (Resource 39, circa 1990s).

Individual Resource Inventory

The dates of construction, historic, and current use of the following resources were provided by the Engineering Service of the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas, and the previous Determination of Eligibility inventory form dating to the early 1980s. The numerical designations of the resources were assigned at the time of their construction by the VA. The "circa" dates of construction and letter designations were provided by the surveyors for resources without construction dates or numerical designations.⁷ All resources that were present during the period of significance and retain integrity are considered contributing resources.

Minor resources that are not substantial in size and scale were not included in the resource count. Resources that were not designated in the resource count include small electric transformers, diesel storage tanks, small frame picnic shelters, underground storage facilities or utilities, prefabricated bus and smoking shelters, the helicopter pad, small memorials, and benches scattered throughout the historic district.

⁷ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Service of the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas; Gjore J. Mollenhoff and Karen R. Tupek, Veterans Administration Medical Center (Fayetteville, Arkansas) Determination of Eligibility (Veterans Administration, 1980), located in the files of the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Washington, D.C.

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The period of significance and assessment of contributing and noncontributing resources for this nomination 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 nomination, may possess significance under themes not fully developed as part of the MPDF. Resources located within the medical center campus 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 fifty years of age.

Resource #	Date of Construction	Contributing (C)/ Noncontributing (NC)	Original or Current Use
1	1934	C	Main Hospital Building
2	1934	C	Dining Hall and Attendants' Quarters
3	1934	C	Recreation Building
4	1934	C	Nurses' Quarters
5	1934	C	Director's Residence
6	1934	C	Duplex Quarters
7	1934	C	Duplex Quarters
8	1934	C	Storehouse and Garage Building
9	1934	C	Laundry Building
10	1934	C	Boiler Plant
11	1934	C	Seamstress Building
13	1934	C	Flag pole
15	1934	C	Garage
16	1934	C	Gate House
22	1980	NC	Paint Storage Building
24	Circa 1980s	NC	Auxiliary Power Units Building
25	1981	NC	Electrical Switchgear Building
26	1983	NC	Transformers and Switchgear
29	1983	NC	Chiller Plant
34	1997	NC	Warehouse
37	1998	NC	Engineering Shops Building
38	Circa 1990s	NC	Credit Union
39	Circa 1990s	NC	Water Tower
40	1998	NC	Waste Sterilizer Building
41	2000	NC	Shuttle Cart Parking
42	2002	NC	Learning Center
43	2002	NC	Storage Shed
44	2002	NC	Outpatient Psychiatry Building
45	2003	NC	Storage Building
46	2004	NC	Nursing Education Building

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Resource #	Date of Construction	Contributing (C)/ Noncontributing (NC)	Original or Current Use
A	Circa 2000s	NC	Smoking Shelter
B	Circa 2000s	NC	Smoking Shelter
C	1934	C	Connecting Corridor (Res 1 to 3)
D	Circa 1930s	C	Front Gateposts
E	1934	C	Elliptical Lawn and Main Drive
F	1934	NC	Connecting Corridor (Res 1 to 2)

Resource 1. Main Hospital Building. 1934. Contributing building.

Located along the elliptical drive and at the highest elevation of the grounds, the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) serves as the focal point of the historic district. Oriented to the southeast, the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) is constructed in the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural styles. The central block of the main hospital building is a four-story, nine-bay, gable-roof building with three-story, gable-roof extensions projecting from the northeast and southwest elevations and three-story return wings creating the building's overall H-shape. The facade of the central block has a three-bay slightly projecting pavilion with a terra cotta cartouche filling the pediment. The pavilion also has a two-story portico supported by a raised platform of banded brick arches with keystones. The main entrance into the building is located under this platform, with three double-leaf entries into the lobby of the main hospital building. The two outer entries have metal frame commercial glass doors while the center section has been enclosed with glass panels and automatic sliding glass doors, creating a vestibule to insulate the lobby from various weather conditions. Banded brick arches with keystones, similar to the those along the exterior of the first floor platform, surround the three entries which also have fanlights with lead comes creating a decorative pattern. The flat-roof, two-story portico has Doric columns and pilasters supporting an entablature with triglyphs and dentil molding along the cornice. A balustrade is located along the roof of the portico. Between the columns of the portico are metal railings with a circular ornament in the center. The ornamental balconies of the central block's third floor and the railings leading to the main entrance have similar circular decorative elements. A single-leaf entry opens onto the portico with a decorative terra cotta door surround and four-light transom. The flanking windows also have terra cotta surrounds. The remaining windows of the central block have decorative terra cotta lintels. Replacement windows are found throughout the building with double-hung sashes and snap-in grids mimicking six-over-six-light sashes. The central block also has paired gable-end brick chimneys connected by a parapet. The facade gable ends of the return wings have brick arches with recessed window bays along the first story. Additional Colonial Revival and Classical Revival style decorative elements associated with the central block, gable-roof extensions, and return wings include gable-end pediments filled with an oculus with a wood sash; a wood cornice along the return wings that continues as a stringcourse between the third and fourth stories of the central block; terra cotta stringcourse between the first and second stories; brick water table; brick jack arches with terra cotta keystones over the windows; and the exterior brick laid in a five course common bond. The roof of the original portion of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) is sheathed in tile shingles. Basement windows with replacement three- or six-light sashes are visible along the facade and southwest elevations.

Two-story flat-roof additions have been constructed along the return wings flanking the central facade entry. A centered two-story wing with a walkout basement projects from the rear of the central block. This rear

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wing has been raised by a third story, flat-roof addition. Located to the rear of the main block's northeast and southwest gable-roof extensions, along the northeast and southwest elevations of the rear (northwest) portions of the return wings are flat-roof sections that originally contained brick arched open porches along the second and third stories. The porches have been enclosed with brick and windows with replacement sashes. The brick utilized to enclose the porches is slightly recessed and of a different color than the brick of the original building. In addition, a wood balustrade is found along the flat roofs of the porch sections. A three story, flat-roof clinical addition dating to 1981 fills the area between the rear central wing and the southwest return wing. This addition, with a brick exterior of five course common bond, is not visible from the facade of the main hospital building and little is visible from the southwest elevation. Patient care additions were completed from 1995 to 2005 to the northeast of the northeast return wing.⁸ The two-story additions, constructed on a slope, have a full walkout basement along the northeast and northwest (rear) elevations. Even though the structure is a full three stories (with the basement) and its height is similar to that of the northeast return wing, the additions appear subordinate to that of the original portion of the main hospital building because of its flat roof. The additions have brick exteriors and utilize keystones over the windows and stringcourses to address similarities with the original portion of the building, but the massing, windows, flat roof, and canopies sheltering entries for patients accessed by vehicular drives indicate the additions' construction in the later years of the twentieth century. A three-story, flat-roof addition is located along the rear elevation of the northeast return wing. The rear (northwest) elevations of the original main block, central rear wing, and northeast return wing have a walkout basement.

Resource 2. Dining Hall and Attendants' Quarters. 1934. Contributing building.

Originally Resource 2 was designated the dining hall and attendants' quarters (1934) and today it continues to serve a similar purpose as the dietetics building. The two-story building supported by a raised basement is composed of a side-gable central core flanked by similar front-gable masses located to the northeast and southwest of the central core. To the rear of the central core is a two-story section in a "T" shape supported by a raised basement. All three portions of the dining hall and attendants' quarters building (Resource 2) were included as the original construction in 1934. According to the early architectural plans of the first floor for the dining hall and attendants' quarters (Resource 2, 1934), the kitchen was located in the "T" section, the dish washing equipment was in the southwest front-gable portion, and the central core and northeast front-gable sections contained the patient dining room.⁹ The majority of the central core section's facade (southeast elevation) is obscured by the connecting corridor to the main hospital building and a two-story addition along the southwest elevation of the same connecting corridor. Three gable-roof dormers along the facade roof slope have pilasters, open pediments, and semicircular tracery windows. The flanking front-gable masses each have a centered single-leaf entry flanked by windows on the facade (southeast) elevation's first story. All three bays of the first floor pierce slightly recessed arches with keystones. Similar arched windows are found along the side elevations of the front-gable sections. The windows have semicircular upper sashes. The second story windows have brick jack arches and terra cotta keystones. The rear (northwest) elevation of the southwest front-gable section has a single-story porch supported by Tuscan columns with metal railings similar to those found along the facade of the main building and a balustrade along the roof. The porch shelters a double-leaf entry with a multi-light transom. The stem of the "T" shape portion of the building

⁸ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Service of the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

⁹ Ibid.

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has three large arched windows set within recesses of the brick arches along the wall planes of the northeast and southwest elevations. Round terra cotta medallions are located between the keystones of the arches. Replacement sashes fill the window bays and the semicircular portion of the original window has been enclosed. The windows throughout the building other than the dormers and lunettes have double-hung replacement sashes. The rear (northwest) elevation of the "T" shape portion has narrow windows and a loading dock addition. Additional Colonial Revival and Classical Revival style ornamentation exhibited by the dining hall and attendants' quarters (Resource 2, 1934) includes: lunettes in the pediments of the front-gable sections of the building; a modillion cornice with dentil molding along the "T" portion; wide, plain wood cornice along the facade of the central core and side elevations of the front-gable sections of the dining hall and attendants quarters; brick water table encompassing the building; brick quoins; and the brick exterior in a five-course common bond that extends to grade. The roof of the central core and front-gable portions is sheathed in terra cotta shingles and the building is supported by a basement foundation.

A single-story, flat-roof addition with a brick exterior is located along the northeast elevation of the dining hall and attendants' quarters building (Resource 2, 1934). Constructed in 2007, this addition containing magnetic resonance imaging equipment¹⁰ is subordinate to the original portion of the building in height and scale. The addition has no windows and brick panels near the roofline are its only decorative element.

Resource 3. Recreation Building. 1934. Contributing building.

Resource 3, the recreation building (1934), is a three-story, gable-roof building with Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural style decorative elements, including symmetrical massing and fenestration; a projecting pavilion with a two-story portico supported by Tuscan order columns on a raised banded brick platform along the south elevation; entries with pediments; ribbons of large arched window openings along the east and west elevations filled with multi-light and semicircular tracery windows; brick jack arches over windows with double-hung wood sashes; stringcourse between the first and second stories; balustrades along the roof; brick quoins; brick banding along the first floor; gables with lunettes; cornice returns and dentil molding along the cornice; and an exterior of brick in a five-course common bond. The portico of the south elevation has a pediment with an oculus and a door surround with a broken pediment filled by double-doors and a five-light transom. The north elevation, the location of the stage, has a second story double-leaf entry filled with metal doors and a door surround of terra cotta exhibiting fluted pilasters and a panel with a swag decoration above the entry. The east elevation, oriented toward the elliptical drive (Resource E, 1934), has a recessed two-story portico between the two gable-roof sections of the building found at the north and south elevations. This portico, located on a raised podium of brick arches, is supported by Tuscan order columns and pilasters. The five bays created by the portico columns are filled along the wall plane by the large arched windows. The roof is sheathed in terra cotta shingles.

Resource 4. Nurses' Quarters. 1934. Contributing building.

Oriented to the southwest and facing the elliptical drive (Resource E, 1934), the nurses' quarters (Resource 4, 1934) is a three-story, thirteen-bay, hip-roof building. According to early architectural plans the building originally served as the nurses' quarters and today it serves as an administration building.¹¹ Colonial

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Service of the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

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Revival style characteristics exhibited by the nurses' quarters (Resource 4, 1934) include symmetrical facade fenestration; three-bay, gable-roof, central projecting pavilion with an oculus piercing the pediment; three similar two-story porticos with Doric columns supporting an entablature ornamented with triglyphs and dentil molding along the cornice, the porticos are located on the end (southeast and northwest) elevations and on the facade projecting pavilion; wood balustrades along the roofs of the porticos; facade door surround with fanlight and sidelights having leaded glass and fluted pilasters; ornamental metal balconies at the second floor windows sheltered by the three porticos; single-leaf entries sheltered by the northwest and southeast porticos with prominent door surrounds, including paneled reveals, fluted pilasters supporting an entablature with a dentil cornice, and five-light transoms; brick jack arches with terra cotta keystones over the windows; arched dormers filled with vents on the northwest and southeast elevations; and dentil cornice encompassing the building. The windows of the main block have double-hung wood sashes. The building has a five-course common bond brick exterior and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta shingles. Basement windows and an entry are visible along a portion of the rear elevation.

Located along the rear elevation is a single-story flat-roof section that extends to a side-gable mass. The flat-roof section has four window bays along the southeast elevation and a flat-roof porch on the northwest elevation. The majority of the porch has been enclosed with glass as this currently serves as the main entrance to the building. Portions of the porch appear to have been replaced, as the early architectural drawings depict paired Tuscan columns rather than the existing square columns. The window treatments of the rear sections are similar to those of the main block, with brick jack arches and terra cotta keystones. The windows have replacement double-hung sashes with snap-in grids. According to the early architectural drawings the gable-roof mass served as the kitchen and the flat-roof portion as the dining room for the residents.¹²

Resource 5. Director's Residence. 1934. Contributing building.

Oriented to the northeast, Resource 5 (1934), formerly utilized by the hospital's medical-officer-in-charge or director, is located to the southwest of the elliptical drive (Resource E, 1934) within the residential group. A sidewalk connects the front of the residence to the elliptical drive, while a vehicular drive loops to the rear of the building. The director's residence (Resource 5, 1934) is a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay (w/d/w), side-gable residence with an exterior of brick in five-course common bond. Colonial Revival architectural style characteristics displayed by the residence include the symmetrical facade fenestration; single-leaf facade entry with a decorative wood surround exhibiting fluted pilasters, broken pediment with a finial, and paneled reveals; paneled wood door and five-light transom; windows with brick jack arches, terra cotta sills and double-hung wood sashes; gable-roof dormers with pilasters, open pediments, and semicircular tracery windows; and a modillion cornice. An electric wheelchair lift has been constructed adjacent to the front porch. The northwest elevation has a single-story, flat-roof projection with a wood balustrade along the edge of the roof. The southeast elevation has a single-story, flat-roof porch enclosed with windows supported by columns. The porch has double-hung windows, wide entablatures with dentil molding, and a wood railing along the edge of the roof. The rear elevation has a two-and-one-half-story gable-roof projection and a walkout basement. A single-bay garage is located in the basement below the porch. The roof, sheathed in terra cotta shingles, is pierced along the ridge line by a brick chimney.

¹² Ibid.

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Resource 6. Duplex Quarters. 1934. Contributing building.

Resource 6, a duplex quarters, is located to the southwest of the elliptical drive (Resource E, 1934) within the residential group and is oriented to the northwest. A sidewalk connects the front of the duplex to the elliptical drive while a vehicular drive loops to the rear of the building. The duplex quarters (Resource 6, 1934) is a two-and-one-half-story, six-bay (w/d/w/w/d/w), side-gable, duplex residence with a gambrel roof. Colonial Revival architectural style characteristics displayed by the duplex include the symmetrical facade fenestration; elaborate wood door surrounds featuring engaged columns supporting an open pediment with dentil molding, paneled reveals, and fanlights with leaded glass; wood paneled doors; brick jack arches over windows with double-hung wood sashes; gable-roof dormers with pilasters, open pediments, and semicircular tracery windows; modillion cornice; parapeted gables; and paired brick chimneys connected by a parapet, although it is unclear if all the chimneys are functional. The windows appear to have terra cotta sills. Single-story, flat-roof porches supported by columns and engaged pilasters are found at the two gable ends of the duplex. The porches, enclosed with storm windows, exhibit wide entablatures with dentil molding and wood balustrades along the roofs. The rear elevation also features symmetrical fenestration and a walkout basement. Single-bay basement garages are found below the porches. A brick chimney pierces the rear roof slope of the duplex quarters (Resource 6, 1934). The roof is sheathed in terra cotta shingles and the brick exterior extends to grade.

Resource 7. Duplex Quarters. 1934. Contributing building.

Resource 7, a duplex quarters very similar to the previous duplex quarters (Resource 6, 1934), is located to the southwest of the elliptical drive (Resource E, 1934) within the residential group and is oriented to the southeast. A sidewalk connects the front of the duplex to the elliptical drive while a vehicular drive loops to the rear of the building. This duplex quarters (Resource 7, 1934) is a two-and-one-half-story, six-bay (w/d/w/w/d/w), side-gable residence with a gambrel roof. Colonial Revival architectural style characteristics displayed by the duplex include the symmetrical facade fenestration; elaborate wood door surrounds featuring fluted pilasters supporting a broken pediment with an urn, paneled reveals, and decorative transom; wood paneled doors; brick jack arches over windows with double-hung wood sashes; gable-roof dormers with pilasters, open pediments, and semicircular tracery windows; modillion cornice; parapeted gables; and paired brick chimneys connected by a parapet although it is unclear if all the chimneys are functional. The windows appear to have terra cotta sills. Single-story, flat-roof porches supported by columns and engaged pilasters are found at the two gable ends of the duplex. The porches, enclosed with storm windows, exhibit wide entablatures with dentil molding and wood balustrades along the roofs. The rear elevation also features symmetrical fenestration and a walkout basement. Single-bay basement garages are found below the porches. A brick chimney pierces the rear roof slope of the duplex quarters (Resource 7, 1934). The roof is sheathed in terra cotta shingles and the brick exterior extends to grade.

Resource 8. Storehouse and Garage. 1934. Contributing building.

The storehouse and garage building (Resource 8, 1934) is a two-story, multi-bay, side-gable building with a five-course, common bond brick exterior located within the maintenance/utility group of buildings in the northeastern portion of the historic district. Constructed on a rise, only the second floor of the storehouse and garage building (Resource 8, 1934) is visible to the rear (west) elevation. Seven vehicular entries and a single pedestrian entry are found along the facade's first floor. A concrete loading dock extends nearly the length of the rear elevation. Colonial Revival and Classical Revival style decorative elements include lunettes in the

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gables; wood cornice; and cornice returns. Metal frame awning windows are found throughout the building. Three vents pierce the ridgeline and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta shingles. Located at the southwest portion of the facade is a loading dock. The northeast bay of the facade is filled by a pedestrian entry.

Resource 9. Laundry Building. 1934. *Contributing building.*

Resource 9, the laundry building (1934), is located in the northeastern portion of the historic district within the maintenance/utility group of buildings. This two-story, side-gable building is constructed on a slope with only the second story visible along the rear (north) elevation. The facade (south elevation) has numerous double-leaf entries with replacement doors along the first floor and window openings with paired or single metal frame awning windows. Similar windows are found along all four elevations. Colonial Revival and Classical Revival style decorative elements include the circular vents in the gables surrounded by brick headers; wood cornice; and cornice returns. Two loading docks with four bays have been added to the rear (north) of the laundry building. Also located to the rear of the laundry is a shed-roof addition clad in metal with a concrete block foundation. Two metal ventilators pierce the ridgeline and the roof is sheathed in terra cotta shingles. The building has a five-course common bond brick exterior.

Resource 10. Boiler Plant. 1934. *Contributing building.*

Resource 10, the boiler plant (1934), is located in the northeastern portion of the historic district within the maintenance/utility group of buildings. This is a two-story building constructed on a slope with the rear (east) elevation of the basement fully exposed. The facade is oriented to the west toward the original maintenance/utility compound. The boiler plant (Resource 10, 1934) has an exterior of brick in a five-course common bond and a flat roof pierced by three vents. The only decorative element is a terra cotta stringcourse near the top of the parapet wall. The west elevation has a loading dock and three entries. Both the west and east elevations have large window openings filled with metal frame awning windows. At least one of the window bays appears to be filled by replacement windows. The rear elevation appears to have a non-historic vehicular entry and some of the brickwork under two windows has been repaired. A two-story, flat-roof section is found on the south elevation of the boiler plant (Resource 10, 1934). The building is supported by a poured concrete foundation.

Resource 11. Seamstress Building. 1934. *Contributing building.*

The seamstress building (Resource 11, 1934), located in the northeastern portion of the historic district within the maintenance/utility group of buildings, is a single-story, four-bay (w/w/d/w), side-gable building. The seamstress building (Resource 11, 1934) is constructed on a slope and portions of the building are below grade. Oriented to the east, the seamstress building (Resource 11, 1934) is adjacent to the laundry (Resource 9, 1934). The single-leaf facade entry is sheltered by a shed-roof awning with decorative brackets. A single-leaf entry is also located along the rear elevation. One window on both the facade and rear elevations have been enclosed with brick. The windows, probably awning windows, found throughout the building have eight-light metal frames. Three metal vents pierce the ridgeline and the cornice and cornice returns are constructed of wood. The roof is sheathed in terra cotta shingles. The building has a five-course common bond brick exterior and a concrete foundation.

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Resource 13. Flag pole. Circa 1934. Contributing object.

The flag pole (Resource 13, 1934) is located within the elliptical lawn (Resource E, 1934) and aligned with the facade of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934). The octagon-shaped base, similar in size and construction to those at other Period II Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, is constructed of poured concrete.

Resource 15. Ten Bay Garage. 1934. Contributing building.

Resource 15 (1934) is a ten-bay, shed-roof garage located to the rear (northeast) of the nurses' quarters (Resource 4, 1934) and oriented to the southwest. Constructed on a slope, the northwest five bays are slightly lower than the southeast five bays. The garage, with a poured concrete foundation and piers and walls that appear to be constructed of structural tile, has non-historic four-light overhead doors filling the ten garage bays. The rear elevation has ten windows with six-light wood sashes.

Resource 16. Gatehouse. 1934. Contributing building.

Resource 16, the gatehouse (1934), is located adjacent to the main entrance to the facility along N. College Avenue on the north side of the drive. The single-story, three-bay (w/d/w), side-gable building is oriented to the south. Colonial Revival architectural style characteristics exhibited by the gatehouse include the symmetrical facade fenestration; prominent door surround with brackets supporting a flared door hood; brick jack arches over the windows; double-hung wood window sashes; molded wood cornice and cornice returns; arched recesses within the gable ends; and the five-course common bond brick exterior. A brick chimney pierces the rear roof slope. The roof is sheathed in terra cotta shingles and the building is supported by a concrete foundation.

Resource 22. Paint Storage Building. 1980s. Noncontributing building.

The paint storage building (Resource 22, 1980s) is located adjacent to and south of the waste sterilizer (Resource 40, 1998) within the maintenance/utility group of buildings. This is a shed-roof, concrete block building with a centered, single-leaf entry along its south elevation. The entry has a wood panel door.

Resource 24. Auxiliary Power Units Building. Circa 1980s. Noncontributing building.

The auxiliary power units building (Resource 24, circa 1980s) is located adjacent to and northwest of the 1984 addition to the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934). This is a gable-roof building clad in metal with single- and double-leaf entries along the northeast elevation. The entries have metal doors and the roof, with two large vents, is sheathed in metal.

Resource 25. Electrical Switchgear Building. 1981. Noncontributing building.

Resource 25 (1981), housing electrical switchgear, is located south of the storehouse and garage (Resource 8, 1934) along the southern edge of the maintenance/utilities group. This metal clad, gable-roof building has numerous metal doors to access the electrical components along its west elevation. The building is supported by a poured concrete pad.

Resource 26. Transformers and Switchgear Building. 1983. Noncontributing building.

Resource 26 (1983), housing transformers and switchgear equipment, is located to the southeast of the dining hall and attendants' quarters (Resource 2, 1934) and to the north of the corridor (Resource F) between

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the dining hall and attendants' quarters and the main hospital building (Resources 2 and 1, both 1934). This single-story, rectangular building with a flat roof has a metal railing encompassing the roof. The northeast elevation has a double-leaf entry and the southeast elevation has a single-leaf entry, all with metal doors. The exterior of the building is brick in a stretcher bond.

Resource 29. Chiller Plant. 1983. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 29, the chiller plant (1983), is located to the northwest of the outpatient psychiatry building (Resource 44, 2002). This single-story, rectangular building with a flat roof has two large air conditioning units on the roof. Three entries are located along the northwest elevation and a metal exterior stairway is found on the northeast elevation. The exterior is brick in a five course common bond with a brick soldier course along the top of the building.

Resource 34. Warehouse. 1997. *Noncontributing building.*

The warehouse (Resource 34, 1997) is located west of the storehouse and garage (Resource 8, 1934) within the maintenance/utilities group. This is a single-story, side-gable building with an exterior of brick in stretcher bond. A loading dock extends nearly the entire width of the east elevation. The building exhibits parapeted gables, large circular vents in the gables, brick pilasters dividing the exterior walls into recessed bays, and a roof sheathed in standing seam metal.

Resource 37. Engineering Shops Building. 1998. *Noncontributing building.*

The engineering shops building (Resource 37, 1998) is located to the west of the warehouse (Resource 34, 1997) along the western edge of the maintenance/utilities group. This single-story, side-gable building has a loading dock extending nearly the entire length of its southeast elevation. Three double-leaf entries with metal doors open onto the loading dock. The exterior brick is laid in a stretcher bond with four brick soldier courses between grade and the roofline. Large parapets at the gable ends appear to simulate massive chimneys. The building has parapeted gables and it has a standing seam metal roof.

Resource 38. Credit Union. Circa 2000s. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 38 (circa 2000s), housing the Northwest Arkansas Federal Credit Union, is located northeast of the Woolsey Street entrance to the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks. The credit union building, oriented to the south, is a single-story, five-bay, hip-roof building with a drive-through window sheltered by a canopy along the rear elevation. The roof is sheathed with standing seam metal and the building has a brick exterior in stretcher bond.

Resource 39. Water Tower. Circa 1990s. *Noncontributing structure.*

This water tower (Resource 39, circa 1990s) has four supports and a central shaft with cross bracing between the supports providing additional stability. The rounded tank at the apex of the tower has a metal pedestrian walkway and a metal railing with cellular communication panels attached. Three hip-roof buildings with brick exteriors, located at the base of the water tower, may be associated with the cellular communication panels.

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Resource 40. Waste Sterilizer Building. 1998. *Noncontributing building.*

The waste sterilizer building (Resource 40, 1998) is a metal frame building with the roof and walls clad in metal. The waste sterilizer building (Resource 40, 1998) is located in the northeastern portion of the campus within the maintenance/utility group of buildings. The single-story, shed-roof building has a recessed loading dock along the east elevation. A pedestrian entry is located along the rear elevation and a vehicular bay is found on the south elevation. The building is supported by a concrete foundation.

Resource 41. Shuttle Cart Parking. 2000. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 41 (2000), utilized for shuttle cart parking, is located west and adjacent to the recreation building (Resource 3, 1934). The single-story, front-gable building has a single-bay vehicular entry with a metal overhead door along the south elevation. The exterior of the building is clad in metal and it is supported by a concrete foundation.

Resource 42. Learning Center. 2002. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource 42, housing the Learning Center (2002), is located immediately adjacent to the nursing education building (Resource 46, 2004) and west of the recreation building (Resource 3, 1934) within the central core group of buildings. The single-story, gable-roof building has a metal clad exterior and is supported by a concrete foundation. The windows, located along the northeast and southwest elevations, have double-hung single-over-single-light sashes with snap-in grids mimicking six-over-six-light sashes. Single-leaf entries with metal doors are located along the southeast and northwest elevations. The Learning Center (Resource 42, 2002) is joined to the nursing education building (Resource 46, 2004) by an enclosed connector between the buildings.

Resource 43. Storage Shed. 2002. *Noncontributing structure.*

The storage shed (Resource 43, 2002) is a metal frame structure with a shed-roof utilized for storage. Located along the north edge of the historic district within the maintenance/utility group of buildings, this storage shed (Resource 43, 2002) is oriented to the south with open bays along its south elevation. The roof and remaining side elevations are clad in metal.

Resource 44. Outpatient Psychiatry Building. 2002. *Noncontributing building.*

The outpatient psychiatry building (Resource 44, 2002) is located to the west/northwest of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) in the central core group of buildings. The single-story, flat-roof building has a brick exterior and is currently being expanded with the construction of a second story. A hip-roof porch, sheltering the main entrance, is found along the southeast elevation. The majority of the building has a brick exterior although the south corner is clad in a different material. An enclosed corridor connects the outpatient psychiatry building (Resource 44, 2002) to the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934).

Resource 45. Storage Building. 2003. *Noncontributing building.*

The storage building (Resource 45, 2003) is located along the northern boundary of the historic district, west of the waste sterilizer (Resource 40, 1998) within the maintenance/utilities group of buildings. This is a single-story, gable-oriented building clad in metal with two bays on its east elevation. The two bays are comprised of a single-leaf pedestrian entry and a large vehicular entry with a metal overhead door. The building is supported by a poured concrete foundation.

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Resource 46. Nursing Education Building. 2004. *Noncontributing building.*

The nursing education building (Resource 46, 2004) within the Fayetteville VA Hospital historic district is located immediately adjacent to the learning center (Resource 42, 2002) and southwest of the recreation building (Resource 3, 1934) in the central core group of buildings. The single-story, gable-roof building has a metal clad exterior and is supported by a concrete foundation. The windows have double-hung single-over-single-light sashes with snap-in grids mimicking six-over-six-light sashes. A single-leaf entry with a metal door sheltered by a metal awning is located on the northwest elevation. The nursing education building (Resource 46, 2004) is joined to the learning center (Resource 42, 2002) by an enclosed connector between the buildings.

Resource A. Smoking Shelter. Circa 2000s. *Noncontributing building.*

Resource A, utilized as a shelter for smoking (circa 2000s), is located west and adjacent to the enclosed connecting corridor (Resource C) between the recreation building and the main hospital building (Resources 3 and 1, both 1934). The single-story, front-gable building, oriented to the north, has a single-leaf entry with a metal door. Windows with horizontal sliding single-light sashes are found on three elevations of the building. This smoking shelter (Resource A, circa 2000s) is clad in metal and rests on a poured concrete foundation.

Resource B. Smoking Shelter. Circa 2000s. *Noncontributing building.*

This smoking shelter (Resource B, circa 2000s) is located southwest of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) within a fenced yard. The smoking shelter (Resource B, circa 2000s) is similar to another smoking shelter on campus, Resource A (circa 2000s). The single-story, front-gable building, oriented to the northwest, has windows with horizontal sliding single-light sashes along the side elevations of the building. The exterior wall and roof of the smoking shelter (Resource B, circa 2000s) are clad in metal.

Resource C. Connecting Corridor (between Resources 1 and 3). 1934. *Contributing structure.*

The connector (Resource C, 1934) between the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) and the recreation building (Resource 3, 1934) is a single-story structure situated partially below grade and has a flat roof. The connecting corridor (Resource C, 1934), constructed of brick in a five-course common bond, has arched openings throughout its length along both side elevations of the structure. The arched openings are filled with replacement windows with snap-in grids. A construction drawing for this corridor dating to 1932, supplied by the Engineering Service, depicts the corridor without windows and railings between the arches.¹³ The top of the of corridor's parapet walls are capped with terra cotta and a soldier course of brick extends over the arches.

Resource D. Front Gateposts. Circa 1930s. *Contributing object.*

The main entrance to the historic district is located on the southeast side of the property along North College Avenue. The entrance drive (Resource E, 1934) is flanked by simple symmetrical gateposts (Resource D, circa 1930s). Each consists of two square brick posts connected by a curving decorative metal fence. The posts are laid in five course common bond brick and feature poured concrete bases and caps. A chain-link fence gate mounted just inside the posts controls access at this entrance.

¹³ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Service of the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

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Resource E. Elliptical Lawn and Main Drive. 1934. *Contributing site.*

The main entrance to the hospital campus is located in the southeast portion of the historic district along North College Avenue. The main entrance drive (Resource E, 1934) enters the historic district curving to the northwest before joining the drive that surrounds the elliptical lawn, which serves as the central open space for the historic district. The main building, recreation building, and nurses' quarters (Resources 1, 3, and 4, all 1934) are all oriented to the elliptical lawn and the main drive surrounding the lawn. The two duplexes and the director's residence (Resources 6, 7, and 5, all 1934) are located to the southwest of the elliptical lawn and their front sidewalk and rear drive join the main drive surrounding the elliptical lawn. The flag pole (Resource 13, 1934) is also found within the elliptical lawn (Resource E, 1934). Both the elliptical lawn and the main drive are important landscape elements that serve to anchor the hospital's design, just as the main building (Resource 1, 1934) serves as the focal point of the historic district. Both the main drive and elliptical lawn (Resource E, 1934) are original design elements of the landscape that retain their integrity and continue to serve their original function of providing visitors and patients a way to experience the public areas of the historic district. This experience reinforces the importance of this federal facility's mission of providing health care to veterans residing in the region. A helicopter landing pad has been added to the center of the elliptical lawn, but this has a limited impact to the integrity of the site. Ninety-nine elm trees, many encompassing the ellipse, were cut down on campus during 1967 because of Dutch elm disease.¹⁴ This loss of trees does impact the integrity of the elliptical lawn; however, numerous trees, although probably not as many as in the past, continue to be found along the edges of the elliptical lawn.

Resource F. Connecting Corridor (between Resources 1 and 2). 1934. *Noncontributing structure.*

The connector (Resource F, 1934) between the main hospital building and the dining hall and attendants' quarters (Resources 1 and 2, both 1934) was originally a two-story structure on a raised basement level. The exterior is constructed of brick in a five-course common bond. The second story has three ribbons of triple arches with the slightly recessed arches filled with brick and paired replacement windows. A gable-roof third story was added to the corridor in 1968 with the exterior brick in a stretcher bond. The windows of this third floor addition have brick jack arches and replacement double-hung sashes. The addition of the third story diminishes the integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, and this resource no longer contributes to the district.

¹⁴ Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 26, 49.

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American Legion also took place at the courthouse with a former National American Legion Commander from Arkansas speaking.¹⁵ A telegram from the local congressman in Washington announced the decision of the Hospitalization Board to locate the veterans hospital on North College Avenue in Fayetteville.¹⁶ Ground breaking ceremonies for the hospital drew approximately 2,500 people.¹⁷ Over 800 residents from Fayetteville signed up for possible employment during construction of the hospital.¹⁸ Nearly 600 visitors toured the facility once it opened.¹⁹ The number of committees, members of the community, and citizens partaking in the festivities surrounding the acquisition of the hospital by the city indicate the efforts by the city and the importance of having the hospital placed in Fayetteville.

Health/Medicine

The Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of Health and Medicine at the state level because of the role the Fayetteville 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 Arkansas received subsidized general medical and surgical care during the period of significance that they may not have received if the federal government had not provided such treatment for them. The chairman of rehabilitation for the American Legion's Arkansas Department toured the hospital soon after it opened. He stated the hospital was the "acme of perfection" in terms of the facility's architecture, equipment, and its personnel.²⁰ Veterans hospitals, including the Fayetteville VA Hospital, were constructed utilizing the latest in building materials, designs, and equipment to offer up to date facilities to veterans. Operating rooms were placed on the top floor of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) to reduce the noise and number of people with access to the area. According to a 1932 plan of the main building, various medical offices were located in the building, including electrotherapy, hydrotherapy, x-ray room, dental lab and operating room, and wards.²¹ As Henry Armstrong, the Arkansas American Legion commander, stated after Fayetteville was chosen for the site of the new veterans hospital, "in 1917 the country assumed a sacred debt by drafting the cream of the flesh and blood of the country. There can be no moratorium on this debt the country owes the Veterans, and the American Legion insists the debt be paid."²² On June 30, 1934 the Fayetteville VA Hospital had a capacity of 258 beds.²³ By mid-1945 the capacity

¹⁵ "Legion Meets to Celebrate for Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 5, 1932.

¹⁶ "Wilson-Adams Site Chosen for Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, February 9, 1932.

¹⁷ "Ground Broken for Hospital This Afternoon," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, August 1, 1932; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 23.

¹⁸ "800 Register for Hospital Jobs to Date," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, July 23, 1932.

¹⁹ "Visiting Day Thursday 2-4 at US Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 3, 1934; "VA Center Celebrates 50th Year," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, May 4, 1984, located in the vertical files of the Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

²⁰ "Vet Hospital Here Praised by Dr. Boyce," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 13, 1934.

²¹ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Service of the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

²² "Towns Extend Good Wishes for Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 1, 1932.

²³ *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1934* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1935): 91.

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of the facility increased to 305 beds.²⁴ On June 30, 1946, the hospital had a total of 305 authorized beds, but only 287 beds were available. Of this total, 264 beds were utilized for general medical and surgical patients, twenty-one beds were utilized by neuropsychiatric patients, and two beds were designated for tuberculosis patients.²⁵ By mid-1950 the Fayetteville VA Hospital had a total of 300 authorized beds and 200 beds were being utilized by patients. The 200 patients included: twenty-six neuropsychiatric patients; one tuberculosis patient; and 173 general medical and surgical patients.²⁶ The Fayetteville VA 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.

Areas of Significance: Criterion C

Architecture

The Fayetteville VA Hospital is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the state level as an excellent, intact example of a Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospital utilizing the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural styles. The Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles were nationally and locally popular during the period of significance and suggests a strong national pride following World War I and continuing beyond the Second World War. This architectural style was the most prevalent style utilized for the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, and the Fayetteville VA Hospital is an excellent example of the use of the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles within this typology. As a sub-type of the Second Generation Veterans Hospitals, the general medical and surgical hospitals have distinct characteristics that differ from those of other sub-types of Period II veterans hospitals. These character defining features of the general medical and surgical hospital sub-type include a smaller campus size usually situated near an urban area, denser grouping of the central core and maintenance/utility clusters that usually place the two groups into close proximity to one another (which is not the case at the Fayetteville facility), a monumental administration/main building, only one (if any) additional patient ward buildings other than the main building, and less use of natural contours and lengthy formal entrance drives in the design of the campus. The Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District includes a number of these characteristics shared with many of the Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The Fayetteville VA Hospital also utilized standardized designs employed for veterans hospitals by the federal government constructed from the late 1920s through 1950. Similar, if not identical, buildings can be found at Period II general medical and surgical Second Generation Veterans Hospitals. The designs for the new buildings at Fayetteville were completed, aside from the foundations, before the site for the hospital was chosen.²⁷ These standardized designs include the designs of the main hospital building, kitchen/dining hall, staff residential buildings, and maintenance/utility buildings, as well as elements of the landscape design. The

²⁴ *Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1945* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1946): 126.

²⁵ *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1946* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1947): 97.

²⁶ *Administrator of Veterans Affairs Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1950* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1951): 140.

²⁷ "Hospital Site to be Chosen at Early Date," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 20, 1932.

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landscape design includes mature vegetation and curvilinear and linear drives and sidewalks that group the buildings into three if not distinct, then identifiable clusters based on similar functions.

Integrity

As a historic district eligible under both Criteria A and C, the Fayetteville 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 to veterans throughout the northwestern portion of 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. This includes those features required under Criterion A, as well as noteworthy stylistic details and historical materials.

The Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District continues to serve as a medical facility and 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, especially those exhibiting Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural elements. The campus has lost portions of its original land holdings but few buildings/structures dating to the period of significance have been lost. Additions and new buildings have been constructed that impact the integrity of certain resources and the historic district. The majority of resources erected during the period of significance and the historic district retain integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling.

The landscape of the Fayetteville VA Hospital is a very important characteristic in its original design. Alterations to the design of the historic district includes the loss of buildings dating to the period of significance, including the water tower/tank and the radial chimney associated with the boiler plant. The water tower/tank and radial chimney are often recognizable landmarks for Second Generation Veterans Hospitals because of their height within the landscape. The loss of the water tower/tank and radial chimney diminishes the characteristics of setting and design. Parking lots are located to the north, southeast, west, and southwest of the central core group of buildings, and another parking lot is located to the southeast of the nurses' quarters (Resource 4, 1934). The size and number of parking lots have increased over time, and although the parking lots increase the amount of paved surface within the historic district, thus impacting integrity of setting and design, they continue to provide the open spatial configuration associated with the campus's design during the period of significance.

Modifications to buildings within the historic district include replacement windows, enclosed or partially enclosed windows for smaller openings, replacement doors, enclosed porches, and additions. The replacement windows on most of the buildings appear to mimic the original double-hung sashes, but with snap-in grids rather than true divided lights. Enclosing and partially enclosing window openings to accommodate smaller windows and the use of replacement doors diminish integrity of design and materials. Enclosing the

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porches of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934), director's residence (Resource 5, 1934), and the duplex quarters (Resources 6 and 7, 1934) impacts the design, materials, and workmanship of the four resources, but the overall massing and scale of the buildings continue to reflect the period of significance. The location of the former porches can still be identified on the buildings. Although the replacement windows, doors, enclosed/partially enclosed windows, and enclosed porches all diminish the characteristics of design, materials, and workmanship, they do not significantly diminish these characteristics of the buildings, and the resources continue to contribute to the significance of the historic district. Although none of these individual modifications substantially diminish integrity and may be insignificant in themselves, these modifications can cumulatively have a major impact on the integrity of the resources and the historic district as a whole. Even with these cumulative modifications, the resources continue to contribute to the historic district. The interiors of the buildings within the historic district have lost integrity because of alterations made over time to adapt them to changing standards in medical care.

The introduction of buildings and additions to the historic district's setting after the period of significance also diminish integrity of design and setting, especially buildings or additions with large footprints or massing. Many of the buildings/structures added to the Fayetteville VA Hospital historic district after the period of significance are small and do not interrupt the original spatial qualities of the design or setting. These resources include Resource 24 (auxiliary power units building, circa 1980s), Resource 25 (electrical switchgear, 1981), Resource 26 (transformers and switchgear, 1983), Resource 40 (waste sterilizer, 1998), Resource 41 (shuttle cart parking, 2000), Resource 43 (storage shed, 2002), Resource 45 (storage building, 2003), and the smoking shelters (Resources A and B, circa 2000s). The outpatient psychiatry building (Resource 44, 2002) has a large footprint and is currently being raised to two stories, but its location to the west of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) and the connecting corridor (Resource C, 1934) mitigates its impact to the historic district's integrity of design and setting. The placement of Resource 29, the chiller plant (1983), to the northwest of Resource 1 and west of Resource 2 (main hospital building and dining hall and attendant's quarters, both 1934) also mitigates its impact, because the chiller plant is not visible from the front of the hospital. The placement and massing of other resources dating to after the period of significance, such as Resource 34 (warehouse, 1997), Resource 37 (engineering shops building, 1998), Resource 38 (credit union, circa 1990s), Resource 42 (learning center, 2002), and Resource 46 (nursing education building, 2004), also mitigate their impact to the characteristics of design and setting. The replacement water tower (Resource 39, circa 1990s) is a visual intrusion, as it is the tallest structure within the historic district, but it is located near the northeast corner (rear) of the campus near the northern boundary of the historic district.

The additions to Resource 1 (main hospital building, 1934), including those to the rear and northeast of the building, diminish the resource's integrity, but the rear addition is not visible from the front and is only partially visible from the southwest, because the addition fills in the area between two rear wings. The additions to the northeast of the main building are large but sympathetically designed to reduce the impact to both Resource 1 (main hospital building, 1934) and the historic district as a whole, although clearly identifiable as late-twentieth-century additions. The northeast additions, dating from 1995 to 2005, are visibly subordinate to the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934), especially from the facade elevation. Although the additions diminish the integrity of Resource 1, the main hospital building (1934) continues to retain its character-defining architectural details dating to the period of significance and retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district. An addition along the northwest elevation of Resource 2 (dining hall and attendants' quarters, 1934) was constructed in 2007. This single-story addition is partially below grade and remains subordinate to the original

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portion of the building. Its massing and design clearly identify the addition as dating to the early twenty-first century and do not detract appreciably from the design of the dining hall and attendants' quarters (Resource 2, 1934). None of the additions or buildings/structures introduced to the historic district after the period of significance redirect attention from the monumental main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) and open ellipse (Resource E, 1934), which continue to serve as the focal points of the historic district. The noncontributing resources do not substantially interrupt the original spatial design or setting of the Fayetteville VA Hospital Historic District. The cumulative effect of the buildings and additions constructed after the period of significance diminishes integrity of design and setting, but not to the point as to render the historic district not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The historic district continues to communicate its sense of time and place as a hospital constructed during the period of significance and its connection to other hospitals of this typology. Even with the modifications, the campus continues to retain a high level of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling to convey the significance of the historic district.

Historical Narrative

The American Legion was a major supporter in locating a hospital for veterans in northwest Arkansas. A number of communities in northwest Arkansas made proposals to the VA in hopes of being selected as the site for the new hospital.²⁸ Upon the selection of Fayetteville as the location for the veterans hospital in northwest Arkansas and President Hoover's approval of the site, a number of celebratory functions took place in the city. A chamber of commerce dinner was held at the end of December 1931 with dignitaries from neighboring cities and the American Legion adding their congratulations to members of Fayetteville's hospital committee.²⁹ A celebration sponsored by the American Legion took place at the courthouse on January 5, 1932, with the former National American Legion Commander from Arkansas as the keynote speaker.³⁰

The Fayetteville hospital committee offered a dozen possible sites to the VA after the city was chosen for the location of the proposed hospital. A telegram from Congressman C.A. Fuller arrived on February 9, 1932 stating "The hospital board has decided upon and accepted the Wilson tract for the hospital site."³¹ The newspaper article describing the selected property states: "The site in full or part embodies all requirements of the Government for its buildings in as much as it was located on the main highway, is within walking distance for convalescents of Fayetteville, and has a moderate approach, together with sewer and water connections and possible police protection."³² As the facility was to be designated a general medical and surgical hospital, it could be located close to the city. Tuberculosis and neuropsychiatric hospitals of the VA were usually constructed some distance from urban areas.³³

Plans and specifications for the proposed hospital were nearly complete even before the eventual site was chosen. The Fayetteville VA Hospital was to include over twelve buildings, including a main building, dining hall and attendants' quarters, recreation building, three duplexes, nurses' quarters, a residence for the medical

²⁸ Samuel J. Watkins, "Legion Eager to Aid the Sick and Disabled," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 5, 1932.

²⁹ "Towns Extend Good Wishes for Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 1, 1932; "Hospital Contract Is Awarded to Gillioz," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, July 21, 1932.

³⁰ "Legion Meets to Celebrate for Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 5, 1932.

³¹ "Wilson-Adams Site Chosen for Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, February 9, 1932.

³² Ibid.

³³ Ibid.

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officer in charge, and support buildings such as a laundry, boiler plant, warehouse, and garage. According to a newspaper article at the time, "space will be left for future enlargement by additional buildings."³⁴

Testing of the soil at the selected site to determine construction plans for the buildings' foundations began in late April 1932. The VA engineer for the Southwest area was visiting the location and stated the site "compares favorably with other hospital sites under his jurisdiction."³⁵ The various deeds for the future hospital site were signed by April 23, 1932 and placed in escrow awaiting funding to purchase the property through a bond issued by the city. The site totaled slightly over 82 acres.³⁶ The designs and plans for the hospital complex were completed by May 3, 1932, with bids to be advertised in mid-May. The cost of the undertaking was expected to be near \$1 million. According to a letter from the VA's engineers, "all plans are completed except for the foundation."³⁷ The plans and specifications for the new facility were handled by the Construction Service of the VA. The hospital was expected to have a capacity of 250 beds.³⁸

The general construction contract for the Fayetteville Second Generation Veterans Hospital was awarded to the Monett, Missouri, contractor M.E. Gillioz.³⁹ Other portions of the construction project were awarded to sub-contractors, such as: W.J. Riley, Monroe, LA (plumbing, heating, and electrical); W.F. Moody and Company, Little Rock, AR (refrigeration and ice making); Montgomery Elevator Company, Moline, IL (elevators); and W.E. Caldwell, Louisville, KY (water tank). Suppliers for building materials included Northwestern Terra Cotta (terra cotta); Cast Stone Co., Chicago, IL (cast stone); United Brick and Tile, Kansas City, MO (brick and hollow tile); J.R. Thorn, Philadelphia, PA (steel windows); Tulsa Terrazzo and Mosaic Co., Tulsa, OK (marble, tile, slate, and terrazzo); and Humphrey Craig Co., Louisville, KY (radial stack chimney). Appliances were to be purchased locally, if available.⁴⁰ Ground breaking ceremonies drawing an estimated 2,500 people took place at the site for the proposed hospital on August 1, 1932. An illustration of the facade elevation for the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) was pictured on the front page of the newspaper.⁴¹ Approximately 200 workmen were on the site in October 1932. In that same month all concrete pouring for the structures had been completed. Thirty-three varieties of trees were included in the landscape plan for the hospital's campus. Most were native varieties, such as pines, maple, American holly, elm, dogwood, and oak, among others. Ninety-nine elm trees, many encompassing the ellipse, were removed within the campus during 1967 during an outbreak of Dutch elm disease.⁴²

The Fayetteville VA Hospital was completed in August or September 1933, but the facility did not begin to accept patients until April 1934.⁴³ The idle time between completion of the facility and its opening was due in

³⁴ "Hospital Site to be Chosen at Early Date," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, January 20, 1932.

³⁵ "Prepare Data for Hospital Foundations," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 21, 1932.

³⁶ "Hospital Site Deeds to Government," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 23, 1932; Doris B. Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories: VA Medical Center 50th Anniversary, 1934-1984*, Fayetteville, Arkansas (Fayetteville, AR: 50th Anniversary Committee, VA Medical Center, 1984), 22.

³⁷ "Complete Plan for Veterans Hospital Here," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, May 3, 1932.

³⁸ "Government Askes for Hospital Bids Here," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, May 14, 1932.

³⁹ "Hospital Contract Is Awarded to Gillioz," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, July 21, 1932.

⁴⁰ "Hospital Sub-Contract Bids Given," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, July 22, 1932; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 68.

⁴¹ "Ground Broken for Hospital This Afternoon," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, August 1, 1932; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 23.

⁴² Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 26, 49.

⁴³ "Visiting Day Thursday 2-4 at US Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 3, 1934; "VA Center Celebrates 50th Year," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, May 4, 1984, located in the vertical files of the Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 24.

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part to the passage of the Economy Act of 1933 which drastically decreased veterans benefits, including those concerning hospitalization. Most of the benefits were later reinstated by Congress in 1934.⁴⁴ According to Doris B. Cassidy's publication celebrating the hospital's 50th anniversary, the campus consisted of sixteen buildings in early 1934, including the "main building, dining hall and attendants quarters, recreation building, nurses quarters, managers quarters, duplex quarters, storehouse and garage, laundry and shops, boiler house, transformer and animal house for experimental animals, including guinea pigs and sheep, water tank and tower, flag pole, smoke stack, ten car garage, gate house and the gas meter house."⁴⁵ The laundry and kitchen had been constructed with possible expansion in mind, as each had the capacity for a 500 bed facility.⁴⁶ The first patient of the Fayetteville facility, George S. Washington, was admitted on April 3, 1934. The hospital, with its sixteen buildings costing nearly \$1 million and equipment valued at \$5 million, was open to the public on April 5, 1934. Approximately 600 visitors took advantage of the opportunity to tour the grounds and four buildings.⁴⁷ Dr. Samuel G. Boyce, chairman of rehabilitation for the Arkansas department of the American Legion, toured the facility in mid-April 1934. Dr. Boyce referred to the hospital as "the 'acme of perfection' from standpoints of architecture, equipment and personnel."⁴⁸ By April 17, 1934 the hospital had a total of twenty-nine patients and forty-six patients by April 25. The capacity of the facility was increased to 305 beds in February 1945 to accommodate the expected veterans returning from World War II.⁴⁹

The property of the Fayetteville VA Hospital was reduced by 9.17 acres in 1949 when a tract of the southern section of the campus was transferred to Washington County. A public hospital was to be erected on the tract adjacent to the Fayetteville VA Hospital. The entrance onto Woolsey Avenue to the rear of the hospital was opened in 1952. The capacity at the facility was reduced twice in 1950, resulting in a 254 bed capacity for the hospital. This was near its capacity when originally constructed. The facility was one of twenty-four hospitals approved in the state by the American College of Surgeons in 1950. This was the 32nd annual survey conducted by the college which were not mandatory but were only conducted at those facilities that requested to be surveyed by the American College of Surgeons.⁵⁰

Rumors of the possible closing of the Fayetteville VA Hospital were spreading in May 1953. The central office of the VA denied such charges and the hospital continued to function as normal. At the time the hospital was serving portions of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri.⁵¹

The hospital property was reduced in 1956 by 22.8 acres. This tract, located in the northern portion of the property, was transferred to the United States Army Corps of Engineers. An Army Reserve Center was later

⁴⁴ Jennifer D. Keene, *Doughboys, the Great War, and the Remaking of America* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001), 199–200.

⁴⁵ Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 23.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, 32.

⁴⁷ "Visiting Day Thursday 2-4 at US Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 3, 1934; "VA Center Celebrates 50th Year," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, May 4, 1984, located in the vertical files of the Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

⁴⁸ "Vet Hospital Here Praised by Dr. Boyce," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 13, 1934.

⁴⁹ "29 Patients at U.S. Veteran Hospital," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 17, 1934; "To Install Hospital Movie Equipment," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, April 25, 1934; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 34.

⁵⁰ Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 35–36, 38–39; W.B. Morse, "Standardization of Hospitals," *The American Journal of Nursing* 27, no. 2 (February 1927), 111–113; James S. Roberts, Jack G. Coale, and Robert R. Redman, "A History of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals," *Journal of the American Medical Association* 258, no. 7 (August 21, 1987), 936–937.

⁵¹ "V.A. Hospital Facts Promised for Mass Meeting," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, May 28, 1953.

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constructed on a portion of the transferred tract. Slightly over 19 acres of the tract was transferred to the city for the creation of a public park in 1964. Another transfer of property took place in 1971, with over three acres transferred for the expansion of the county hospital to the south of the Fayetteville VA Hospital. Upon the transfer of this tract, the hospital campus contained approximately 46 acres.⁵²

In March 1959 the hospital celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. Included in the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) were four operating rooms: one for minor and three for major surgeries. A recovery room was located near the operating rooms. Air conditioning had been installed in the operating rooms the previous year.⁵³

Changing medical practices in the late 1960s brought the establishment of a small outpatient department to the Fayetteville VA Hospital in 1968. The third floor of the dining hall and attendants' quarters building (Resource 2, 1934) was renovated in 1968 for clinical laboratory space. At the same time the connecting corridor (Resource F, 1934) between the main hospital building and the dining hall and attendants' quarters building (Resources 1 and 2, both 1934) was increased in height by one story. This allowed direct access to the additional laboratory space on the third floor of the dining hall and attendants' quarters building (Resource 2, 1934). This same year also saw a reduction in bed capacity to 240 beds. A new ambulance entrance was added to the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) in 1969. During fiscal year 1973 the number of outpatient visits had climbed to 19,000. The staff at the hospital in 1974 consisted of fifteen part time and 370 full time employees. The chimney stack, formerly adjacent to the boiler plant (Resource 10, 1934), was demolished in 1978. Air conditioning of the facility was accomplished in the late-1970s to the early 1980s and the wards of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934), handling 12 to 16 beds, were reduced in size to provide more privacy.⁵⁴

A celebration on May 5, 1984 marked the 50th anniversary of the hospital and the dedication of a new 20,000 square-foot clinical addition located to the rear of the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934), connecting the southwest return wing and the central rear wing of the building. The new addition was designed by a Fort Smith, Arkansas, architectural firm.⁵⁵

By 1985 the Fayetteville VA Hospital employed 445 full time and thirty-eight part time staff members. The hospital contained 187 beds, including sixty-seven surgical beds and 120 for general medical needs. Approximately 36,000 outpatient visits occurred during the fiscal year.⁵⁶ The number of outpatient care visits continued to increase through the ensuing years as medical and therapeutic practices evolved, shifting the focus of the Fayetteville hospital, and hospitals nationwide, to shorter patient time spent at the health care facility. By 1996 the capacity at the Fayetteville VA Hospital had declined to 101 beds while the number of outpatient visits increased from 36,000 in 1985 to 70,000 in fiscal year 1995. This increase in outpatient care prompted the construction of a \$1.8 million addition to the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) that was

⁵² Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 42, 46, 54.

⁵³ "Surgical Facilities Are Finest," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, March 31, 1959; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 42.

⁵⁴ Pat Donat, "VA Hospital Celebrates 40th," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, March 31, 1974, located in the vertical files of the Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 48, 50-51, 58-59, 61.

⁵⁵ Pat Donat, "VA Hospital Toasts 50th," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, April 29, 1984, located in the vertical files of the Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas; Cassidy, *A Gathering of Memories*, 64.

⁵⁶ Doris Cassidy, "VA Hospital: Prospering in a Caring Community," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, April 28, 1985, located in the vertical files of the Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

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completed in 1996.⁵⁷ Additions continued to be constructed to the main hospital building (Resource 1, 1934) from 2000 to 2005 contributing approximately 20,000 additional square feet to the building.⁵⁸

The hospital currently provides health care to veterans living in portions of Arkansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. According to the hospital's website, the facility currently has a capacity of 72 beds and offers acute medical, surgical neuropsychological services for both inpatients and outpatients. Preliminary groundwork for construction of a 146,000 square foot medical building on the campus was underway in March 2009.⁵⁹ Much of the rear portion of the campus was cordoned off with chain link fencing for the construction project.

⁵⁷ Michelle Todd, "VA Center's History a Long One," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, May 19, 1996, located in the vertical files of the Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

⁵⁸ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, files of the Engineering Service of the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

⁵⁹ Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks – U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Home. Electronic resource, United States Department of Veterans Affairs website, <http://www.fayettevillear.va.gov/>, accessed July 2009.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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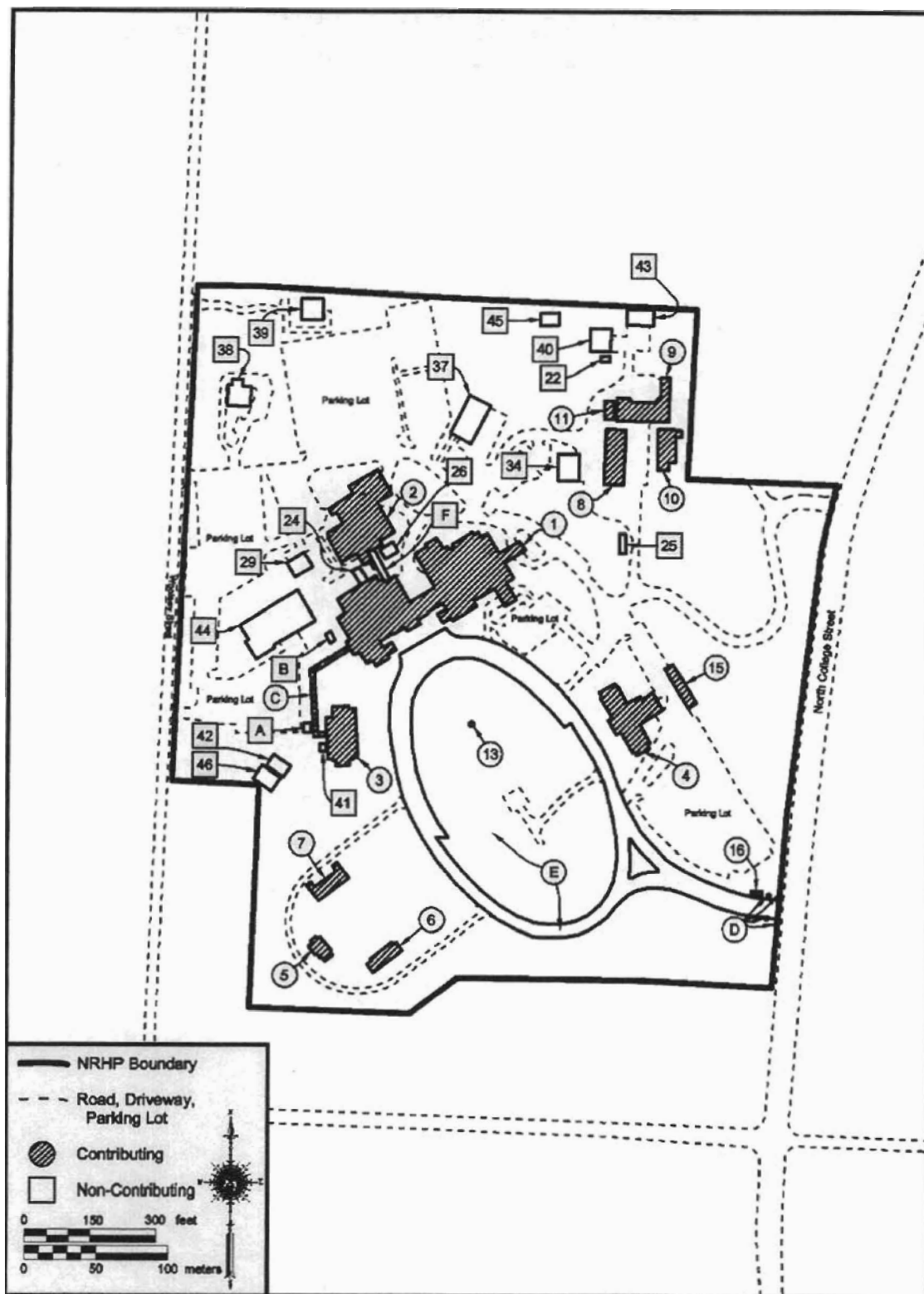
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UTM References (continued)

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6	<u>15</u>	<u>395610</u>	<u>3993035</u>	9	<u>15</u>	<u>395468</u>	<u>3993166</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
7	<u>15</u>	<u>395574</u>	<u>3993008</u>	10	<u>15</u>	<u>395407</u>	<u>3993169</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing



Aerial map indicating National Register boundary, contributing and noncontributing resources.



Overall National Register boundary, contributing and noncontributing resources indicated on a sketch map.

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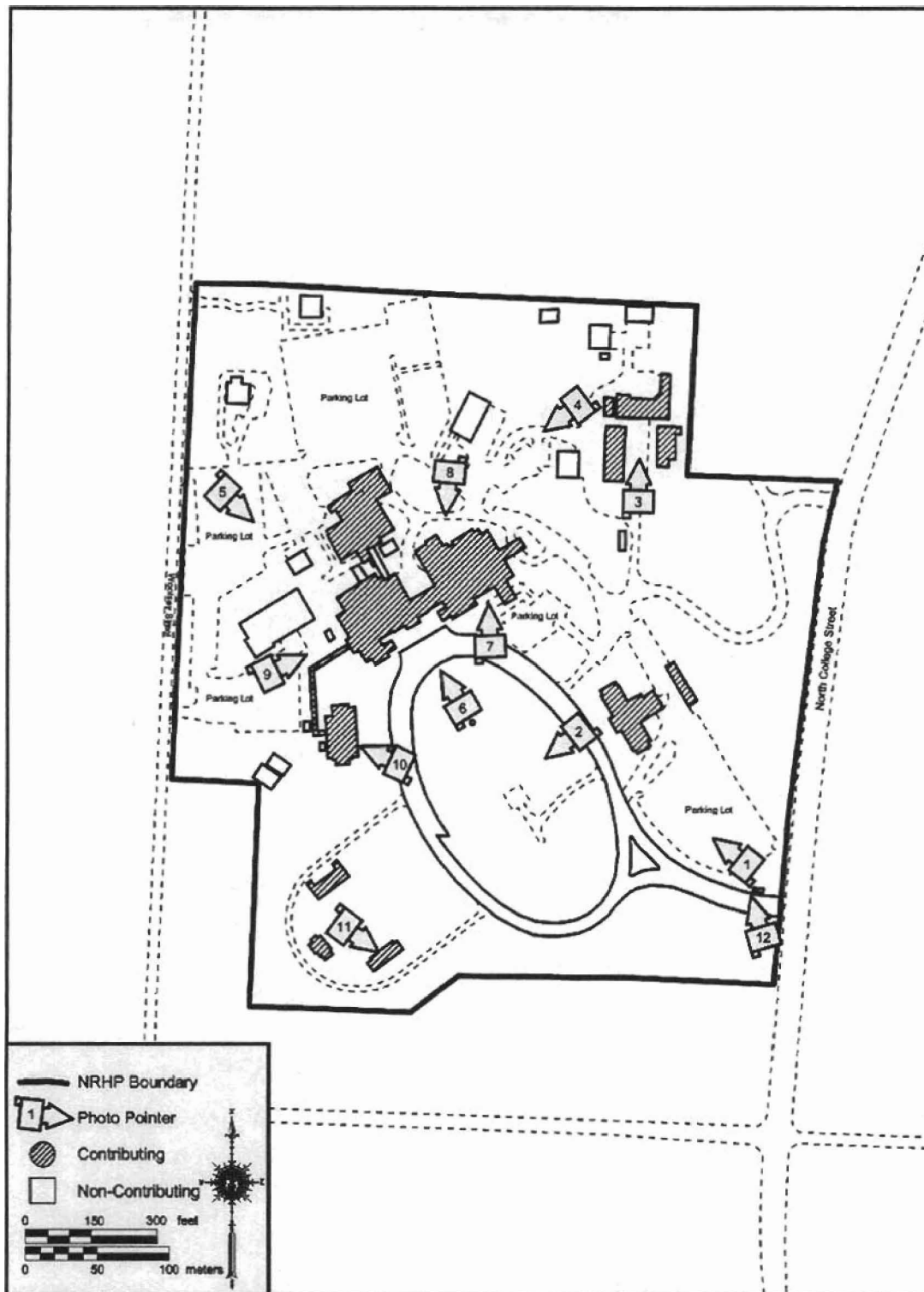
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Photograph Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Fayetteville Veterans Administration Hospital (same for all photos)
City, County, State: Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas (same for all photos)
Photographer: Kathryn M. Joseph and Trent Spurlock (same for all photos)
Photo date: March 24 and 25, 2009 (same for all photos)
Original Negative: N/A (submitted compact disc, same for all photos)

1. View looking northwest to Resources 1 and 4.
2. View looking southwest across ellipse (Resource E) to Resources 6, 5, and 7
3. View looking north to Resources 8, 9, and 10.
4. View looking southwest to Resources 1, 2, and 37.
5. View looking southeast to Resources 2, 29, 1, and 44.
6. Facade of original portion of Resource 1. View looking to northwest.
7. Facade of original portion and addition to Resource 1. View looking to north/northeast.
8. Northeast and rear elevations of Resource 1 and northeast elevation of Resource F.
View looking to southwest.
9. Facade of Resource 44, southwest elevation Resource 1, Resource B, and
Resource C. View looking to northeast.
10. South and facade elevations of Resource 3. View looking to northwest.
11. Facade and southwest elevations of Resource 6. View looking to east/southeast.
12. Facade and east elevations of Resource 16. View looking to northwest.



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

