

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, BUILDING NO.
5
200 East Beach Boulevard
Gulfport
Harrison County
Mississippi

HABS MS-269-M
HABS MS-269-M

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MS-269-M

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

PATIENTS BUILDING NO. 5
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, GULFPORT MEDICAL CENTER
(Building No.5)
HABS No. MS-269-M

Location: East Beach Blvd, Gulfport, Harrison County, MS

Significance: The Gulfport Medical Center, originally referred to as Gulfport Veterans Neuropsychiatric Hospital, is among the earliest Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals designed from a modern prototype plan and health care delivery philosophy. Building 5 is part of the first group of five buildings on the site that form the original hospital complex.

Description: Building 5 is a two story building containing 14,108 square feet. A small structure just to the west of Building 1, its style might be termed neoclassical, with trim on the main entry to match the more fully rendered façade of Building 1. Constructed of reinforced concrete and hollow block, the original exterior wall finish was stucco, with door and window trim of cast concrete, divided light wood sashes, and tile roof. Building 5 was originally referred to as “Disturbed Patients Building”. It contained mostly one bed rooms, two four-bed rooms, a day room, small porches, and a dining room. The windows were originally fitted with “detention sashes”.

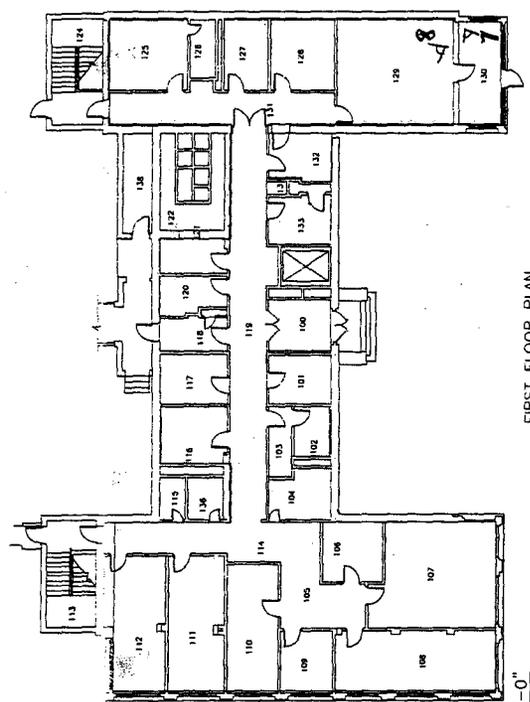
This building was updated several times to meet changes in medical practice, and as a result the original fiber and significance of the interior no longer exist. Exterior walls and trim are now completely covered in Dryvit cladding. Original windows have been replaced with anodized aluminum insulated windows. The interior is currently being gutted for re-use.

History: Gulfport Buildings 1-5 were designed and constructed by the Department of the Navy in 1923, but was soon thereafter transferred to the Veterans Bureau. In 1921 the newly established Veterans Bureau had initiated a massive construction campaign to produce prototype buildings that would promote the latest practices in medicine and psychiatry. With campus-like sites on the outskirts of towns, the fifty properties derived from this prototype, built in the 1920's, 30's and early 40's, constituted the “Architectural Set.” Although built by the Navy, with plans that did not yet conform completely to the new standard designs, Buildings 1-5 represent some of the earliest examples of a coherent design philosophy within the Veterans Bureau. The VA vacated the Gulfport Medical Center in 2005, just prior to Hurricane Katrina, which heavily damaged the site.

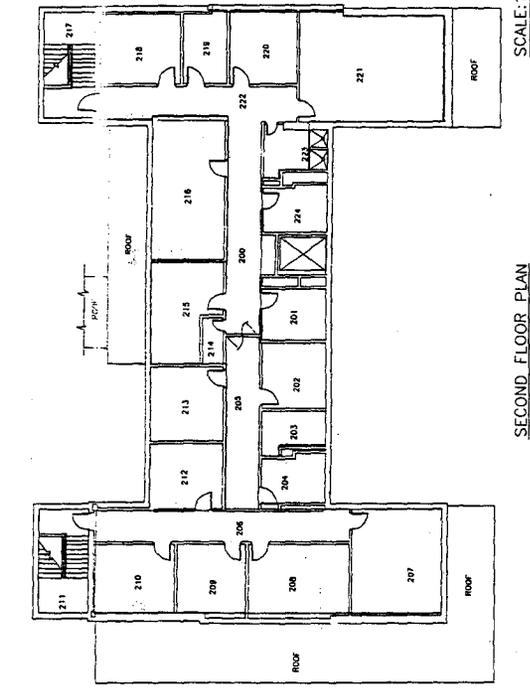
Sources: Original construction and subsequent alteration drawings, Gulfport Veterans Administration Medical Center.
Kathleen Schamel, Historic Preservation web pages, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, <http://www.va.gov/facmgt/historic/>

Historian: Joseph E.B. Elliott, contract photographer and historian, 2008.

G-5



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

ROOM #	DESCRIPTION
100	WAITING AREA
100C	ELECTRICAL CLOSET
101	STAFF OFFICE
102	SOLID UTILITY ROOM
103	HOUSEKEEPING AIDS CLOSET
104	HOUSEKEEPING AIDS CLOSET
105	CORRIDOR
106	PHARMACY
107	PHARMACY
108	PHARMACY
109	MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
110	MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
111	MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
112	MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
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<p>DATE: 8/13/98</p> <p>PROJECT: HABS MS-269-M</p> <p>SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"</p> <p>PROJECT NO: A-1</p> <p>REV: 1</p>	<p>PROJECT: HABS MS-269-M</p> <p>PROJECT NO: A-1</p> <p>REV: 1</p>	<p>PROJECT: HABS MS-269-M</p> <p>PROJECT NO: A-1</p> <p>REV: 1</p>
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