

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, BUILDING NO.  
41  
200 East Beach Boulevard  
Gulfport  
Harrison County  
Mississippi

HABS MS-269-N  
HABS MS-269-N

HABS  
ms-269-N

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

### ACUTE INFIRMARY TREATMENT BUILDING DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, GULFPORT MEDICAL CENTER (Building No.41)

HABS No. MS-269-N

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

Significance: The Gulfport Medical Center, originally referred to as Gulfport Veterans Neuropsychiatric Hospital, was established in 1923. It is among the earliest Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals designed from a modern prototype plan and health care delivery philosophy. Building 41, built in 1937, is one several buildings added to the original hospital complex.

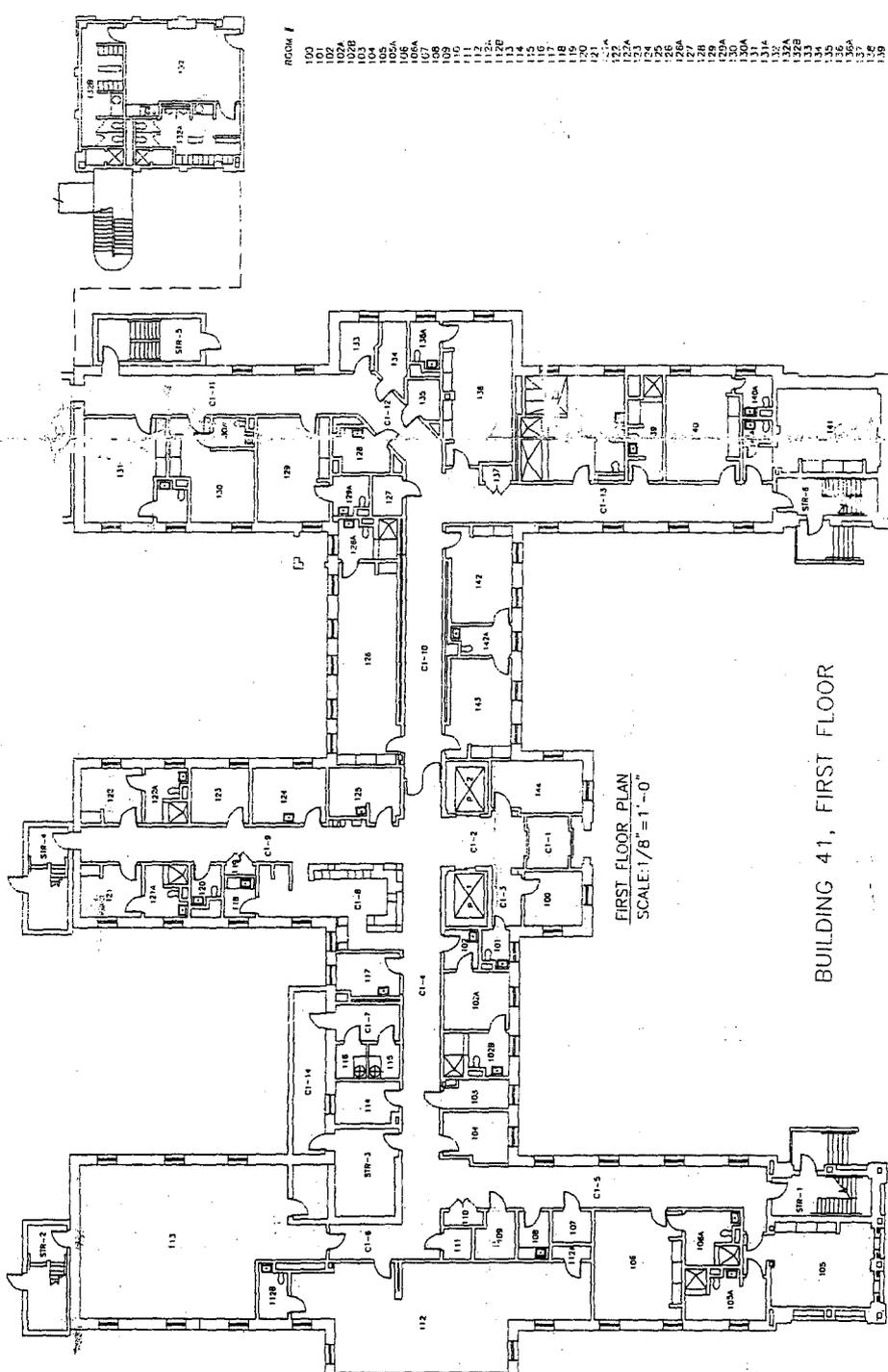
Description: Located just east of Building 1, Building 41 faces due south toward a secondary quad that also contained houses for doctors and administrators. A two story building containing 36,189 square feet, its style can be termed Spanish Mission, expressed in the parapet top, round arched windows, quatrefoil window, wrought iron railings, and "balcony" on front pavilion. Constructed of reinforced concrete and hollow block, the original exterior wall finish was stucco, with door and window trim of cast concrete and a tile roof. Each floor contained two 25-bed wards, day rooms, and screened porches. Original plans show a shock therapy room, and later, a corrective therapy room.

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. Open wards and porches have been divided into 2-4 bed rooms. Exterior walls are currently covered in Dryvit cladding. The original divided light wood sashes have been replaced with anodized aluminum insulated windows.

History: 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." Building 41 is a typical example of this 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.

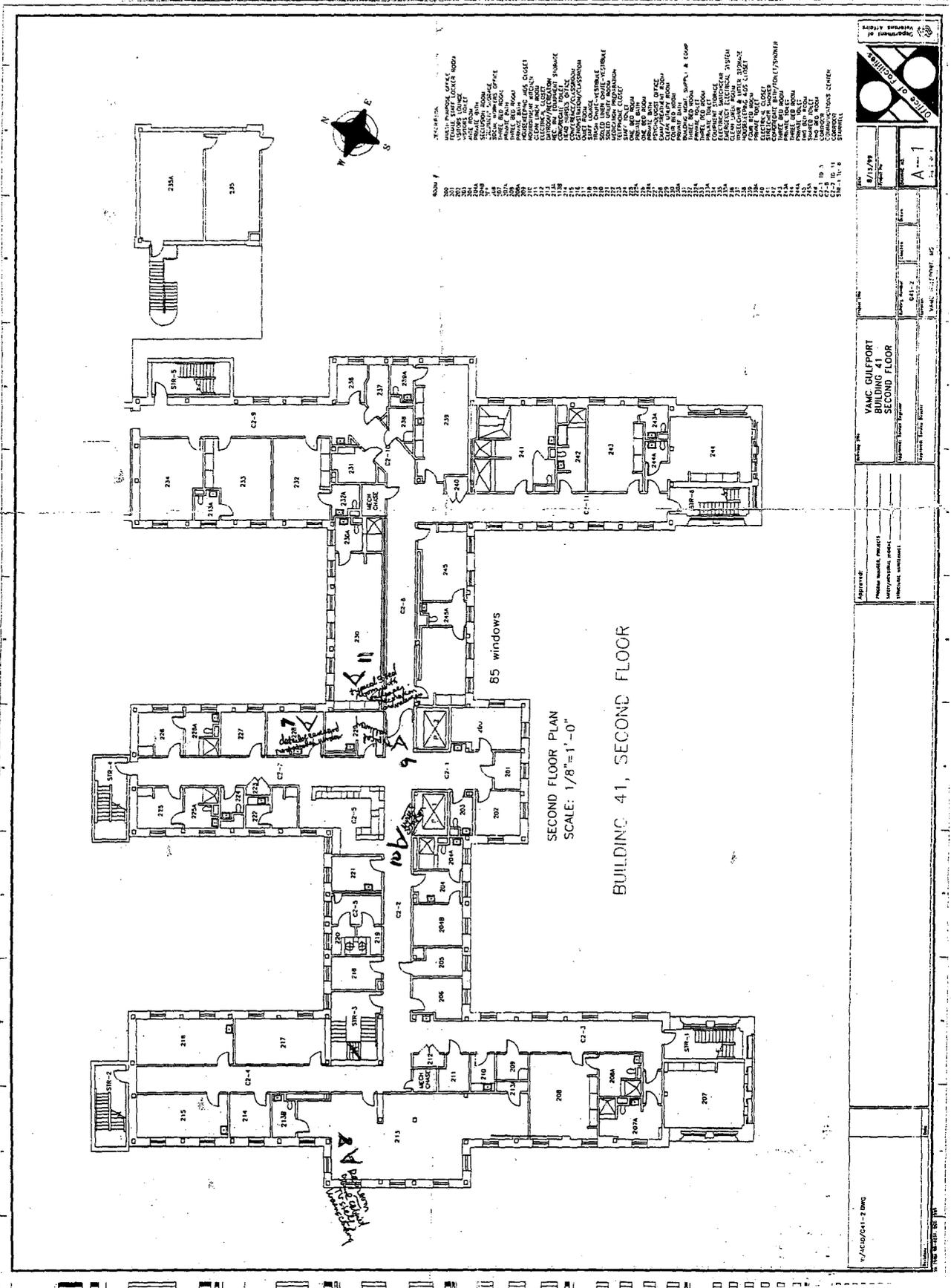


FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

BUILDING 41, FIRST FLOOR

ROOM #	DESCRIPTION
100	VISITORS LOUNGE
101	TOILET
102	ANKLE ROOM
102A	SECLUSION ROOM
103	EQUIPMENT STORAGE
104	SOCIAL WORKERS OFFICE
105	PRIVATE BATH
106	THREE BED ROOM
107	HOUSEKEEPING AIDS CLOSET
108	HOUSEKEEPING ATTIC
109	CLEAN LINEN ROOM
110	MEDICAL ROOM
111	MECHANICAL ROOM
112	DAYROOM/RECREATION
112A	DAYROOM/RECREATION
112B	DAYROOM/RECREATION
113	PARENTS LIVING ROOM
114	TRASH CHUTE-COLLECTION
115	SOILED LINEN CHUTE-COLLECTION
116	TRASH CHUTE-COLLECTION
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DATE: 4/1/78	BY: [Signature]
<b>VAMC GULFPORT BUILDING 41 FIRST FLOOR</b>	
PREPARED BY: [Name] CHECKED BY: [Name] APPROVED BY: [Name]	VAMC GULFPORT, MS
VAMC/01-1 DMC	



ROOM #

200	TELEPHONE
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SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"  
BUILDING 41, SECOND FLOOR

Department of Veterans Affairs  
VA Medical Center  
VAMC GULFPORT BUILDING 41 SECOND FLOOR  
Scale: 1/8"=1'-0"  
Date: 8/17/79  
Drawing No: 1  
Sheet No: 1  
Project No: MS-269-N  
Revision: 1  
Author: [Name]  
Checker: [Name]  
Title: [Title]