

Advisory Council On Historic Preservation

The Old Post Office Building
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #809
Washington, DC 20004

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
AMONG THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION,
AND THE MISSISSIPPI STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
FOR THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER;
BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI, GULFPORT DIVISION

WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration (VA) has determined that demolition of Buildings 51, 54, 55, 56, 107, and 613 at the Gulfport Division, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Biloxi, Mississippi (VAMC), will have an effect upon properties included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and has requested the comments of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council) pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f) and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800),

NOW, THEREFORE, the VA, the Mississippi State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and the Council agree that activities at the VAMC shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the proposed demolition on historic resources.

Stipulations

The VA will ensure that the following measures are carried out.

I. Prior to the demolition of the referenced buildings, those properties will be recorded so that there is a permanent record of their history and appearance. The VA will first contact the Historic American Buildings Survey, (National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC) which will determine what documentation is required. All documentation must be accepted by HABS, and the Mississippi SHPO notified of its

acceptance, prior to the alteration or demolition. Copies of this documentation will be provided to the Mississippi SHPO.

II. Prior to taking any further actions at the VAMC that could affect historic resources, the VA will survey the VAMC to determine which, if any, historic, architectural and cultural properties meet the eligibility criteria of the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). This survey will be conducted in consultation with the Mississippi SHPO and, if necessary, the Secretary of the Interior, as set forth in 36 CFR Part 800.4. The survey should include the identification and evaluation of all resources located within the VAMC to determine their individual significance and their level of contribution to the VAMC.

III. Based upon the survey, buildings and structures will be categorized in accordance with their individual significance and their contribution to the Medical Center. In addition, the treatment of each building and structure will be categorized as follows:

- a. protecting, preserving, and maintaining appropriate resources in place as part of the ongoing management of the VAMC;

- b. rehabilitation in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (Standards);

- c. stabilization and continued maintenance;

- d. documentation to the standards of the Historic American Buildings Survey for those structures which will be substantially altered or demolished.

The results of the survey and categorizations will be submitted to the Mississippi SHPO and the Council for review and comment. All future undertakings at the VAMC that would affect the identified resources will be submitted to the Mississippi SHPO and the Council for comment in accordance with Council regulations.

IV. This Agreement will be reviewed by the consulting parties 12 months from its ratification date to determine if any of the terms of the Agreement cannot be met or if a change is necessary. If any of the signatories to this Agreement determines that its terms cannot be met, that signatory will immediately request the consulting parties to consider an amendment or addendum to the Agreement. Such an amendment or addendum will be executed in the same manner as the original Agreement.

Execution of this Memorandum of Agreement and carrying out its terms evidences that the VA has afforded the Council an opportunity to comment on the effects of the proposed demolition on Buildings 51, 54, 55, 56, 107 and 613, and other properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

By: Karen Rome Tuzek for
Historic Preservation Officer

Date: July 7, 1987

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER

By: [Signature]
Director

Date: JUN 26 1987

MISSISSIPPI HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

By: [Signature]
State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 7-15-87

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

By: [Signature]
Chairman

Date: 12 June 87