

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER/GEORGIA REGISTER NOMINATION

1. Name: Neuro-Psychiatric Tuberculosis Ward – Building 7

2. Location: 1900 Maryland Avenue, Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center, Augusta, Richmond County

3a. Description: The Neuro-Psychiatric Tuberculosis Ward – Building 7 is part of the multi-building campus that composes the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center, which is located approximately five miles west of downtown Augusta. The south-facing one-story building is on the west end of the campus and is relatively isolated from the other primary buildings. The building is long and low, with side-gabled wings extending to the east and west from a central mass. At the end of each wing are one bay hipped-roof projections, which historically served as patient day rooms. Within the central mass, a pediment, simple pilasters, and a circular window mark the main entrance. Sidelights and a multi-light transom further accentuate this entrance. The symmetrical building is of solid masonry construction with a smooth stucco exterior and concrete block foundation on a crawlspace. A low belt course wraps around the building just above the foundation. Original windows remain in both wings and are found in pairs below multi-light transoms. Most windows are original six-over-six, double-hung wood windows, with only a few replacement windows located in the center bay of the front elevation. The central mass is divided into a lobby and several smaller rooms, which historically contained the kitchen, dining hall, and offices. In 1971, an addition was constructed at the rear, or north, elevation. This area is currently used as a community room. Each wing consists of a single-loaded corridor with patient rooms on the north side and former sleeping porches on the south side. These sleeping porches were enclosed during the historic period. The floors are poured concrete covered with non-historic linoleum, and the walls plaster over hollow clay tile. During the recent rehabilitation, each patient room was turned into an apartment with a kitchenette and sleeping area. A bathroom and closet were constructed within the footprint of the rooms.

3b. Period of Significance: 1923-1971

3c. Acreage: Approximately 3 acres

3d. Boundary Explanation: The boundary encompasses the building and a buffer area, following the parcel boundary created for the building's long-term lease.

4a. National Register Criteria: A and C

4b. National Register Areas of Significance: Architecture and Health/Medicine

4c. Statement of Significance: In January 1920, the U.S. government leased the land currently occupied by the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center with plans to convert the pre-existing Lenwood Hotel into a hospital exclusively serving military veterans. Just a year later, the Lenwood Veterans Hospital opened under the purview of the newly formed Veterans Bureau (today called the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or VA), and the hospital campus continues to grow and operate today. With the creation of the Veterans Bureau, the federal government made a commitment to the healthcare of veterans and appropriated \$18.6 million to the construction of hospitals and expansion of medical facilities. The 1923 Neuro-Psychiatric Tuberculosis Ward – Building 7 (Building 7) was built during this expansion as a long-term care facility for tuberculosis patients with psychiatric problems and is one of the oldest extant buildings on the campus. It is significant in the area of health/medicine as part of a veterans hospital campus in Augusta, Georgia. The hospital is identified as Period 1, Neuropsychiatric Veterans Hospital (Sub-Type 1) in the *United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals* National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form and is the only such facility in Georgia.

Building 7 is also significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a good example of the Colonial Revival style applied to a Second Generation Veterans Hospital building. This style was prescribed by the VA for construction at its medical centers following World War I, and elements of the style are expressed through the building's symmetry, use of central block with wings, central mass with pediment, entrance flanked with pilasters, paired multi-light windows, and low, typically hipped roof.

4d. Level of Significance: Building 7 is being nominated at the state level of significance as a representative example of buildings found on Second Generation Veterans Hospital campuses and as part of Georgia's only extant neuropsychiatric sub-type.

5. Sponsor: The nomination is sponsored by long-term lessee, FP Augusta II, LLC. Nomination materials were prepared by Ray, Ellis & LaBrie Consulting.