1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Northwestern Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers

Other Name/Site Number: Northwestern Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers Historic District; National Soldiers Home Historic District; Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center, Department of Veterans Affairs

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 5000 West National Avenue Not for publication:

City/Town: Milwaukee Vicinity:

State: WI County: Milwaukee Code: 079 Zip Code: 53295

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property		Category of Property	
Private:	X	Building(s):	
Public-Local:		District:	X
Public-State:		Site:	
Public-Federal:		Structure:	
Object:	X		

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
23	16	buildings
3		sites
2	2	structures
2	1	objects
30	19	Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 31

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing:

DRAFT

4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ____ 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 ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Signature of Certifying Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

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

Signature of Commenting or Other Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ 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): _____

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

DRAFT

6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic:	Health Care	Sub:	Hospital
	Domestic		Institutional Housing
	Funerary		Cemetery
Current:	Health Care	Sub:	Sanitarium
	Domestic		Institutional Housing
	Recreation		Museum
	Work in Progress		
	Vacant		

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: Late Victorian: Gothic; Italianate; Shingle Style; Renaissance
Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival; Classical Revival.

MATERIALS:
Foundation: Stone
Walls: Brick
Roof: Wood/weatherboard
Other: Slate

DRAFT

Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.

The Northwestern Branch of the NHDVS is nationally significant under NHL Criterion 1 as a property that is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to our past; and NHL Theme IV, shaping the political landscape: governmental institutions, under the area of Health/Medicine. The Northwestern Branch is an outstanding representation of the development of a national system of medical and residential benefits for disabled veterans. It is particularly significant in representing the beginning of the network of veterans' benefits that began growing rapidly after the Civil War, and it became increasingly important in terms of medical and geriatric care after 1900. The Northwestern Branch was the first NHDVS branch to institute such innovations as employing professional female nurses, and providing separate quarters for elderly members, inspiring similar changes in the operations of other branches. The physical development at the Northwestern Branch also influenced the way in which subsequent branches were designed.

Founded in 1867, the former Northwestern Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers Historic District (NHDVS or Home) is situated at the west end of the U-shaped Menomonee River Valley, on the far west side of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The main portion of the historic district is within the northern two-thirds of the Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).[1] The greater VA complex is bounded to the south by West National Avenue; to the east by Miller Park Way and the Milwaukee Brewer's Miller Park baseball stadium complex. To the north is Brewers Way (an access road to the stadium), Highway 41 and the Silurian Fossil Reef, a geological site designated as the Soldiers' Home Reef National Historic Landmark in 1992. The complex is bounded to the northwest by Interstate Highway 94 and to the west by residential neighborhoods. The approximately 90-acre historic district does not include the southern portion of the Zablocki Medical Center, excluding several very large modern buildings built by the DVA and supporting parking areas. Progressing from west to east, this excluded area is bounded roughly by Lake Wheeler Drive, North Washington Drive and General Mitchell Boulevard.

The Northwestern Branch NHDVS historic district is a medical complex of residential, hospital, and support buildings along with approximately 41 acres of the Wood National Cemetery. All of this is set within a historic landscape in a picturesque, park-like setting, in which the buildings, structures and curving roads are designed to take advantage of the high bluffs and deep ravines. There are areas of dense woods and open grassy areas, long views, a man-made lake and water course. The topography of the southern part of the district is characterized by an east-west creek drainage that is partially buried as it approaches Lake Wheeler. South from this low point, the ground then rises to North Washington Drive. The ground also rises north of the creek and drainage to the center of the district and the former Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad line, which bisects the property east to west. Wood National Cemetery is located at the northwest corner of the property.

The Northwestern Branch is an outstanding example of facilities developed by the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers between that body's creation in 1865 and its incorporation into the Veterans Administration in 1930. The Northwestern Branch exhibits a high degree of integrity in location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The Northwestern Branch contains a collection of masonry structures executed in popular period styles, and early NHDVS property types not found at other homes, including the multi-purpose Main Building and pavilion style hospital. In particular, the buildings of the Northwestern Branch strongly illustrate the development of the NHDVS system --its aesthetic vision and institutional goals-- from its inception until its dissolution, and the rejection of a single-building approach to these branches in favor

[1] The medical center is named after the Wisconsin Representative, and Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee from 1977 to 1983.

of a decentralized building plan**.** Ward Memorial Hall was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, and a 150-acre Northwestern Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places at the national level in 2005. Relative to the National Register nomination, this NHL nomination excludes a portion of the National Register boundary south and west of Lake Wheeler Drive.[2]

The Northwestern Branch NHDVS district contains a total of forty-eight resources, of which thirty contribute to the significance of the district: twenty-three buildings, two structures, three sites and two objects. All of the eighteen non-contributing resources were constructed after the end of the NHDVS period of national significance (1867-1930). Of these, most of the fifteen buildings are small and do not intrude greatly into the historic view shed. Another two structures and one object are also noncontributing. An inventory of these resources is included in the following descriptive narrative.

An important resource within the district is the landscape, which retains its original Picturesque style site plan, circulation patterns, building locations, portions of water features, and cemetery created by Thomas Budd Van Horne. The plan is clearly evident, and incorporates the natural landscape features to focus and frame the main buildings. The site slopes gently down to a low point in the middle of the district, which is bisected by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul Railroad, then rises again to the north. The majority of the historic buildings are located on this upward-sloping ground in the north half of the district. The main road, now General Mitchell Boulevard and historically known as Central Avenue, follows a roughly open “S” curve through the Home, moving from the southeast corner of the property to the northwest. Lesser roads branch off the boulevard to access residences, administrative, care and maintenance facilities, following the contours of the site. The extreme southeast portion of General Mitchell Boulevard has been realigned to accommodate the new hospital construction/parking area, and that portion is not within the NHL district boundary. On the northeastern boundary, a thick screen of trees on the steeply sloping Soldiers Home Reef shields views to newer development outside the district boundary. The cemetery to the northwest dates to 1871; before that date, some burials for the Home took place in a Catholic cemetery near the site.

Original landscaping at the Northwestern Branch included a water fountain, cannons, bandstands, planting beds and colorful flower gardens. Within the original 375 acres was also farmland, four lakes and three gatehouses. One of the lakes, Lake Wheeler, survives in a modified form at the south end of the district. Of the others, Lake Hincks was removed during the period of significance to accommodate the maintenance area. Both Spring Lake, later known as Lake Huston and situated adjacent to the cemetery, and a farm lake, no longer exist. Spring Lake was infilled and is now covered by Interstate 94; the farm lake is no longer within the Zablocki Medical Center property boundary. The bandstands, cannons, flowers and gardens are also gone, but the 1870 fountain remains in front of the Main Building, as do numerous mature trees. A conservatory located south of the railroad and near the governors quarters in the late nineteenth century was gone by 1917.

The Northwestern Branch buildings are grouped in six clusters and reflect a response to both the former Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad and the topography. These clusters consist of a historic core of main buildings, administration-recreation facilities, maintenance buildings, utility buildings, and two residential areas, one to the south and one to the north. Indicative of the evolution of the Home, there are a variety of architectural styles represented, as well as construction materials.

[2] Northwestern Branch resources constructed between 1930 and 1955 are identified as noncontributing for the NHDVS period of significance; they are, however, contributing resources to a national period of National Register significance for the greater history of the Veterans Administration.

The historic core of main hospital and barracks buildings were placed uphill and north of the railroad, and roughly aligned along the tracks. Four of the five buildings are constructed of "Cream City" brick.[3] These consist of the Main Building (Building 2), the hospital and convalescent ward addition (Building 6), two barracks (Building 5 and 7), and the fire engine house and chief engineer's quarters (Building 11). The Main Building is the dominant resource in the district, a large 1867 Victorian Gothic structure designed by the prominent Milwaukee architect Edward Townsend Mix. Located on a high point in the district, the building was sited to take advantage of breezes and vistas. It faces east towards the Milwaukee commercial center. Four corner towers were added in 1875-1876. This building housed all residential facilities for Home members from 1869 until 1884. An important building of note, the first hospital (built in 1867), was located at some distance southwest from the Main Building and separated by the railroad track. It was demolished in 1960. In 1879, a three-pavilion hospital (Building 6) was constructed further west of the Main Building. This building faces south, overlooking the wide valley space and West National Avenue. The siting of the hospital appears to have been an attempt to readjust the orientation of the historic core buildings from the east to the south. The topography and the rail line may also have influenced this arrangement, which encouraged development along an east-west axis; with the Main Building occupying the dominant site on the property, and the Picturesque landscape design of curvilinear roads and water features to the east, the logical building options were to the west or north. A convalescent ward was added to the hospital in 1880. The long axis of this building runs north-south, and may have been intended as the west side of an enclosed area at first defined by the rear of the Main Building on the east and to the south by the easternmost hospital pavilion. This enclosed area was further defined on the north with the construction of the fire engine house in 1883, and the first barracks (Building 5) in 1884 on the southeast, between the hospital and main building. An additional barrack (Building 7) was constructed in 1888, directly west of the rear of the Main Building, and oriented north-south to parallel the 1880 convalescent ward. The hospital and the two barracks were designed by Henry C. Koch, another prominent Milwaukee architect, in a straightforward Italianate style. The identification of the same architect for buildings that formed sides of the enclosure suggests that Koch may have been attempting to create a new or a secondary focus for the Northwestern Branch.

The administration-recreation facilities cluster is also located adjacent to and either side of the railroad line, southeast of the Main Building. As with the historic core, all but one building is constructed of Cream City brick. This cluster is made up of the 1881 Ward Memorial Hall (Building 41), the 1892 Wadsworth Library (Building 3), the 1894 social hall (Building 4), and the 1895 headquarters building (Building 1). These buildings were built over a 14-year period, and are grouped to maintain a visual focus on the Main Building. Buildings 1, 3 and 4 created a second enclosed space on the south side of the Main Building. The arrangement allowed close proximity to the hospitals and barracks while maintaining the Picturesque landscape setting to the east. The oddly configured area between Buildings 1, 3 and 4 with the walkway to Building 41 was identified as the "Parade Ground" in a 1917 photo souvenir of the Home. Building 41, easily accessible to members and the public due to its location immediately south of the railroad line, also provided an office for the railroad company and allowed rail travelers to see the variety of services provided to the Home's members. As with the Main Building, this Victorian Gothic style Ward Memorial Hall was designed by Henry C. Koch. The three later buildings exhibit very restrained handling of various revival styles popular near the turn of the 20th century. Building 1 has Renaissance Revival features, such as brick belt coursing, small second floor windows, and first floor window cornice treatment. Building 3 was done in a Classical Revival style, and Building 4 in a Colonial Revival style.

[3] This cream-colored material was manufactured in Milwaukee, and "Cream City" is a name give to the city because of its predominant use of such brick. Manufactured from a Lacustrine clay deposit found along the western shore of Lake Michigan, it fires to a buff color. By the mid-19th century, six million bricks were produced in Milwaukee kilns annually. "Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin," Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, cited in "Dictionary of Wisconsin History," *Wisconsin Historical Society*, 6 October 2008, https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/dictionary.

Maintenance buildings are clustered north of the historic core buildings, and very close to the rail line, facilitating transfer of materials from the rail cars to the buildings. As this area grew during the historic period, the road system remained relatively unchanged, but Lake Hincks was infilled. Trees screen the west side of this maintenance area from the historic core cluster. The largest and oldest of the structures is the 1895 quartermaster's storehouse (Building 20). The storehouse is built of Cream City brick with little stylistic elaboration. A large addition was built on the east of the structure in 1938; it has minimal stylistic treatment. After 1930, smaller service buildings built in this maintenance cluster include a small-scale 1938 brick paint shop (Building 97), a one-story 1941garage (Building 99), three Quonset huts erected in 1947 for storage (Buildings T-105, T-106 and T-107), and two two-story 1957 buildings, the grounds maintenance shop (Building 107) and the engineering storage shops (Building 108).

The cluster of utility buildings is located west of Ward Memorial Hall, down slope and southwest of the hospital (Building 6), and south of the railroad tracks. As with the maintenance area, this proximity to the rail line facilitated access to materials transported to the Home. The grade level change between the hospital and the utility area partially screened views to this service area. Today, the screening is reinforced by mature trees. The utility area developed at the turn of the century, near the Northwestern Branch's second hospital (demolished). Because of the number of modern buildings in the utility area, the NHL boundary is drawn so as to exclude them. The most prominent and oldest of the utility buildings is the 1895 power house (Building 45). Two two-story frame duplex quarters built in 1909 (Buildings 49 and 50) are in this area as well. There is one one-story garage within the boundary, a garage built in 1938 (Building 84), and a 1964 power plant (Building 112). Recent development in the utility area has resulted in the removal of a greenhouse and a smoke stack for Building 45, and a Queen Anne treasurer's quarters. While there have been a number of changes to the utility area, the road system associated with it has remained relatively unchanged since its creation. Situated between the administration-entertainment cluster and the utility cluster is the 1933 hospital annex (Building 43), built on the location of the former Home store.

In order to present an understanding of the greater utility area, the following description is of the area outside the NHL boundary: There are two more one-story garages; one built in 1935 (Building 81) and another in 1938 (also numbered Building 84). Immediate to the railroad tracks is an auto crash research facility (Building A) and nearby a two-story 1955 laundry (Building 102), and a 1973 incinerator, now storage building (Building 119).[4]

The south residential area is located in the southeast corner of the district between the railroad tracks and the creek watercourse. In this area, separated from the majority of Home buildings, the ground rises to the northeast, affording scenic views across the campus towards Lake Wheeler. Three quarters were built in this park-like area characterized by broad undulating lawns, tree clusters, and winding narrow roadways. The oldest quarters is the 1867-1868 governors quarters (Building 39), attributed to Edward Townsend Mix through a comparison with Mix's own house on Waverly Place in Milwaukee (demolished). The governor's quarters was originally built in an Italianate Villa style characterized by tall round-headed windows, shallow bays, and a tower element pushed in the junction of the two cross gables of the building mass. Like the administration, barracks, and hospital buildings, the governor's quarters is built of cream-colored brick. The tower roof was covered in polychromatic bands similar to the roof treatment on the Main Building. Between 1889 and 1916, the main roof of the house was raised, the bays were increased to two stories, and the tower roof was replaced with a conical element. The remaining quarters in the area include the former quartermaster's quarters

[4] These buildings were included in the 2005 National Register nomination for the Northwestern Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, with Buildings 81 and 84 considered contributing to a larger period of significance.

(Building 37), a simple frame Colonial Revival side-gabled structure built in 1902, and located in the far southeastern corner of the district. The third quarters was a duplex quarters, built for the secretary and the surgeon in 1867-1868. It was demolished in 1985, but its 1938 garage (Building 60) remains.

Located north of the historic core of main buildings, the north residential area roughly borders the Wood National Cemetery at the northwest side of the district. This area contains frame buildings. The principal building is the Shingle Style 1889 chapel (Building 12), which also contains elements of the Queen Anne style in its asymmetrically-placed turreted tower. The chapel is characterized by the broad mass of the roof, the grid-like arrangement of the windows, and the contrasting patterns of wood siding and shingles. The architect of the chapel was Henry C. Koch, the principal architect for Northwestern Branch buildings in the 1880s and 1890s. The other buildings in this area are quarters and garages. The Shingle Style duplex secretary and assistant surgeon's quarters (Building 17) was built in 1887 on the northwest side of the area, convenient to the hospital (Building 6). Although the popularity of the Queen Anne style was waning by the turn of the century, aspects of it can be seen in the nearby 1901 Protestant chaplain's quarters (Building 16). Its neighbor, the 1909 Catholic chaplain's quarters (Building 14), was executed in the popular Colonial Revival style, as were three duplex quarters built to the northeast (Building 18, 1916; Building 19, 1921; and Building 62, 1922).

Other resources in the district include cemetery structures, such as the 1900 cemetery reception house (Building 57), a small stone structure with a conical metal roof located adjacent to the Soldiers Monument (Building 120). The Soldiers Monument is an obelisk topped with the figure of a Civil War soldier was erected in the northwest corner of the cemetery in 1903. The Hiker Monument, located in front of Building 43, was dedicated to Spanish-American War veterans in 1941. Seven cast iron with verses from the poem "Bivouac of the Dead," installed at the Northwestern Branch in the 1880s, were reset in stone mounts in 1941.

There are four large buildings located on the south side of the wide valley-like area outside the historic district. These structures are the former 1922-1923 tuberculosis hospital (Building 70); the 1966 general medical and surgical hospital (Building 111); a 1979 domiciliary (Building 123); and the DVA regional office Building 5400). Three Home era quarters also survive in this area. Two were built in 1916 (Buildings 61 and 79), and one between 1917 and 1929 (Building 56). Due to extensive changes in the area, these have not been included within the NHL district boundary nor were they included within the 2005 National Register of Historic Places boundary. Most of the new construction post-dates 1930. Building 70 had originally been located in the completely open southwest corner of the Home grounds to provide maximum fresh air and sunlight, and to isolate the tubercular patients from the other Home members. In 1938, a large addition was built on the west side of Building 70 when it was converted to a general medical and surgical hospital. By the mid-1960s Building 70 was no longer adequate to meet patient needs and Building 111 was built directly east of the 1923 facility. In the mid-1970s, to provide additional domiciliary space, the 1938 addition and the west wing of Building 70 were demolished and Building 123 was built. Extensive parking lots have been built to the east of Building 111 and to the north of Building 123. Buildings 56, 61, 70, and 79 have been overwhelmed by the larger, newer facilities and the parking area and have lost their physical connection to the NHDVS story.

One of the three oldest Home campuses to be established, the historic core of the Northwestern Branch is remarkably intact, and has suffered the loss of relatively few of its significant buildings. The historic core contains six clusters of resource types critical to interpreting the early history of the NHDVS. The Main Building survives as a very rare and original example of the earliest development efforts of the NHDVS Board of Managers. The road system, landscape, and cemetery recall the original site plan as well as its development during the period of significance, 1867-1930. While a number of the original buildings, including the first hospital, the train depot, hotel, nurse's quarters, entrance gates, guard house, greenhouse, small physical plant, and service buildings as well as the colorful flower gardens and farmlands are gone, new construction has

generally not taken place on the sites of former buildings Instead, post-1930s development and the modern buildings of the Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center, Department of Veterans Affairs, are to the south and separated from the core NHDVS property by railroad tracks, a water channel, and the area's topography. Numerous garages were built in the late 1930s to serve quarters constructed at earlier dates. The garages are small and do not visually intrude upon the scene. As a result of separation between the major modern buildings and post-1930s development and the historic core, the historic campus retains a high degree of integrity as an individual unit.

The following description of resources is organized in general by building numbers assigned by the Veterans Administration/Department of Veterans Affairs.[5] In some instances, the DVA uses the word "Building" for resources that will be identified in this nomination as structures.

BUILDINGS

Building 1 Headquarters 1895-96 Contributing

This Renaissance Revival style building has a shallow "U" shape plan oriented with the open end to the west. The foundation is cut stone with mortar joints that are tooled to imitate coursed ashlar. The exterior bearing walls are brick masonry construction (painted a cream color), and there is a water table. On the north, east, and south sides of the building the foundation protrudes about 2" at the water table level to form a decorative molding. The floor joists and other interior framing are wood construction.

The main entrance to the building is located in the center of the open end of the "U" configuration and faces west. The entrance is defined by a narrow, one story portico that runs the length of the center building section between the wings. The six full and two engaged Tuscan order columns of the portico support a flat metal deck. The deck is accessed by either a centered second story wood and glass door or by a small metal "ships" ladder that extends to the ground on the right side of the portico. There is a sign that reads "Milwaukee Wi." over the steps to the portico. The entry portico is reached by two concrete steps as well as a concrete ramp. Modern pipe railings are used at both the ramp and steps. The west entrance is protected by an added white wooden wind-screen enclosure. The panel door has an upper glass pane and ornate hardware. There are two basement exits on the south side at grade and one exit on the east side that is approximately three feet below grade.

There are three windows on each floor of the west end of the wings. The windows continue around the entire building in the same pattern spacing. The first floor windows are four-over-four light sash windows with jack arches. A brick belt course extends around the first floor above the windows, stepping above the arches. The second floor windows are also four-over-four light sash that are smaller vertically than the first floor windows. All the windows have stone sills and aluminum storms. The windows are framed with a concave brick molding measuring about 3" wide and deep. Some hardware for awnings still exists on the wood window frames.

The building has a hipped roof with built-in gutters and green composition shingles, except for the portico roof, which is metal. There are two small hip roofed dormers on either side of the west entrance. They have small wood frame, single-pane, fixed windows. At the center of the ridge between the two dormers is a cupola with a

[5] The Section 7 text and building descriptions for this nomination are adapted from Halverson, et. al., "Northwestern Branch" National Register nomination, which in turn had been based upon Planning and Design Institute, Inc., "Clement Zablocki Veterans Administration Medical Center, Historic Preservation Plan," January, 1992.

flared, pyramidal roof, the top part of which forms a finial. Three sides of the cupola have louvers and the fourth side facing the west has a clock.

The interior of Building 1 contains a stairway running through the first floor lobby. This stair leading to the other levels had been originally framed by two arches, one for the run to the basement and one for the run to the second floor. One arch was eliminated to enclose the stair leading to the second floor but the arch leading to the basement stair is intact. Flooring has been covered with a variety of modern materials including rubber, resilient tile, and carpeting. Walls are plaster. The southeast room (former post office) has walls and ceiling covered with embossed metal. This room retains its original brass, glass and wood mail slots. Some modern partitions have been added to the original plan, and fluorescent strip lighting is used in the main floor and upstairs lobby, and in many of the offices. Typical doors are panel and glass with transoms, and some original hardware survives. Door trim includes circular corner bull's eyes. The building is currently used for Veteran's Service Offices.

Building 2 Main Building 1867-69; 1876-77 Contributing

Architect Edward Townsend Mix designed this Victorian Gothic style building, which occupies the most prominent place on the site. Located on a high point in the ground elevation, it can be seen from all points in the complex and from the expressway. The location and design were intended to provide major visual impact at the Home. Building 2 is a "T" shaped building. The top of the "T" forms the main façade, which is oriented to the east. There is one tower centered on the east facade and four lower towers at the corners of the top of the "T." The base of the "T" has a wing that was added at an unknown date on the north side. The building varies in height from three stories with basement in the straighter middle sections to four stories with basement at the north and south end towers and central core section. The entrance tower on the east side is six stories high.

The building has a cut stone foundation wall of coursed ashlar pattern with flush mortar joints. The only exception to this is the newer north wing, which does not have a stone foundation. The exterior bearing walls are Cream City brick masonry. The floor joists and other interior framing are wood construction. Wall ornamentation includes rectangular recessed brick panels, decorative brick and stone belt courses, and corbelling at the tower eaves. The second story on the south side of the base of the "T" has paired, engaged brick pilasters without bases or capitals. The south side of the top of the "T" of this building shows evidence of a removed porch three stories high. This porch can be seen in early photographs. Large arched brick openings, which perhaps enclosed pairs of double doors, have been infilled with Cream City brick on the south side. Double hung windows are set within these openings and are much smaller than the former openings. Many belt courses serve as continuous window sills. Windows are typically one-over-one sash, although they vary in width and height between floors and sections. With the exception of the four-story tower windows, they all have either a brick segmental arch or a Gothic incorporated in or around the transom or tracery. Engaged brick pilasters flank each of the windows. Sashes are painted a tomato red color. The four-story towers have sets of windows with segmental brick arches. The base of the "T" has four-over-four sash windows, while the newer, north wing off the base of the "T" has modern aluminum windows in sets of two.
The building has a tri-color slate shingle mansard roof; the towers retain their original iron cresting. The shingles repeat from a zigzag fish scale pattern to a simple rectangular lap pattern. The most noticeable pattern is on the fourth-story roof around the core portion of the building. Other mansard roofing material is composition shingle. The north wing has a flat roof. Gabled dormers are set in the roof, decorated with Gothic tracery surrounding two tall, narrow double-hung windows topped with a shorter double-hung window. In the towers, there are single windows rather than sets of two.

The main entrance to the building located on the east side is a modern, metal and glass, storefront entry. Beyond the modern door entrance, there is a pair of doors with wood Gothic tracery at the transom. At the basement level of the south facade is an enclosed entrance and waiting area for buses made of aluminum storefront material with a cream colored brick base. There is a similar but smaller enclosure framing the entrance on the north side. There is also an entrance off a small loading dock on the north side addition. The dock is open with a simple flat metal canopy.

The first floor of the east tower is open on three sides with high, Gothic arches. The steps rise on the fourth side to the main entrance to the building. The piers rest on a base that is made of light buff, cut stone similar to the foundation walls. The slate roof has light and dark tiles in varying patterns. There were balconies at the third floor windows of the tower on the east side and other locations. They have been removed but traces of them can be seen in the brickwork and in early photographs.

The interior floor plan has rooms located off the main corridor leading from the entrance wing and along the two wings perpendicular to it. There are shallow arches distinguishing the main level entrance corridor at the east and west ends. The arches are terminated with large molded pendants. A series of five shallow pointed arches are at the corridor intersection in the center of the building. The west wing at the opposite end of the main corridor contains the dining hall on the first floor level. The hall has three rows of plain slender columns and a large kitchen facility at the north end. This serving kitchen and dishwashing area has quarry tile floors, tile walls, and some skylights. Laundry facilities, storage, and mechanical areas are also located in the basement along with a large canteen with a seating area. The fifth floor level is in the base of the mansard and has dormer windows set in deep wells at the floor level. This level has a small floor area and a partial height partition system. In the central tower, the second and third floor levels have raised seating areas accessed by short flights of stairs. Surviving interior detailing includes terrazzo floors in the corridors, plaster walls, vertical board wainscoting in some rooms, many original panel doors, heavily molded door trim, old heating grillwork, and some door hardware. Building 2 is currently vacant.

A lawn area extends along the front of the east and part of the north sides. This rolling park-like area is dotted with a few shrubs, flower beds and flowering trees; directly in front of Building 2 is a fountain. General Mitchell Boulevard passes by the east and north sides, and Wolcott Avenue is located along the south side.

Building 3 Wadsworth Library 1891 Contributing

Building 3 is a one and one-half story Classical Revival style building in a rectangular plan with a truncated hip roof. The main entrance faces north. The grade slopes to the south, thereby creating a near-full-light basement on the south side. The foundation is rough cut Wisconsin limestone of large rectangular blocks in even coursing that have been repointed. The original mortar joints were tooled in a raised pattern at the horizontal and vertical joints. Walls are constructed of Cream City brick. Engaged brick columns with carved ogee capitals and rough stone bases divide the walls into bays on all four sides. There are five bays across the front and back, and nine bays along each side. Each bay contains a three-over-three double hung window and a recessed stone panel above the window. This panel consists of six courses of brick-sized, pitched-face stones. Window sills and lintels are smooth stone. Each bay also has a corresponding basement window. Centrally located within a blank entablature on the north facade is an oblong sign with “Wadsworth Library” written in gold letters. There is a gabled dormer at the center of this north side roof, containing three one-over-one windows. A similar dormer on the south side is divided by corbelled chimney. The roof is covered with composition shingles, and the cornice is accented by large dentils. A gabled monitor skylight terminates the roof.

A recessed entrance is located at the northwest corner of the north façade. The corner is completed by a single freestanding column. There is now indoor/outdoor carpeting covering the concrete steps. These railings extend out and around the freestanding column and the engaged columns at the sides of the steps. There are holes that indicate where earlier handrails were set into the stone work. A small globe light hangs in the recessed portico. The entrance to the Library has a modern aluminum door and storefront system with side light and transom. There are two other exits, both are on the south side of the building. One exit is on the first floor level and leads to an exterior metal stairway. The other leads from the basement and is on grade. This exit is framed in a newer wood and metal wind-screen enclosure.

The interior of Building 3 is essentially a large rectangular two-story room at the first floor level. There is a narrow staircase in the northeast corner that leads to a balcony that runs along the outside walls overlooking the main reading room below. The balcony is supported by slender cast iron columns with Corinthian type capitals. The ceiling of the reading room is supported with trusses of wood and steel. The skylight subwindow of amber glass is intact, but the upper gabled skylight has been covered. Strip fluorescent lighting fixtures are suspended from the ceiling trusses. At the south end of the main room is a fireplace with a mantle of applied scrollwork and various other carved elements. Surviving interior detailing includes terrazzo floors in the men's room, plaster walls, original doors and door hardware, heavily molded door trim, and some door hardware. A chain-operated dumbwaiter for books connects the main level to the balcony level. The building is vacant.

Building 4 Social Hall 1894 Contributing

Building 4 is a two-story, frame Colonial Revival style building in a rectangular plan with a gable-on-hip roof. The main entrance faces north. The grade slopes to the south, creating a near-full-light basement on the south side. The foundation is pitch-faced stone in regular courses below a brick wall. The mortar joints of the foundation are tooled. The roof is covered with composition shingles. The building is sided in narrow clapboards painted white, with vertical board engaged pilasters that divide the walls into bays. The north and south sides have three bays; the south and east have six. Between the second floor windows and the roofline is a blank wood entablature. Windows in each bay are pairs of one-over-one sash. Above the windows on the first floor, the original transoms have been covered by metal panels painted white. The windows at the basement level have semicircular arches and pitch-faced stone sills.

The main entrance is on the northeast corner, within a shed roof, one story portico. The portico is supported by square columns. On the portico is a board sign with "Recreation Bldg." painted in black. There is a one and one-half story, semi-circular bay with a flat roof at the northwest corner, which contains an interior staircase. The first floor of the bay has been enclosed with vertical boards, although the second retains its engaged pilasters separating narrow one-over-one windows. The main entrance doors are modern aluminum storefront type with large glass panes and a single pane transom. A modern flush door with a single light is located at the end of the semi-circular bay, providing access to the interior staircase.

The building interior first and second floors are both one large room. The first floor and basement ceilings are supported by four central columns with simple capitals of ogee trim. The basement houses a bowling alley. Surviving interior materials include a few four-panel doors with original hardware, plaster walls and ceilings, and a newel post with inset beaded panels. The DVA made extensive renovations to the interior to create office space in 2004-2005. The building is used as a social center and library.

Building 5 Barracks 1884 Contributing

Based on its similarity to Buildings 6 and 7, the design of Building 5 is attributed to architect Henry C. Koch, and displays Italianate-style elements. Building 5 is a three-story, rectangular building with a mansard roof. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Shallow cross-gabled bays with mansard roofs are centrally located on the south and north sides. Simple fluted brackets accent the rake edges of the roof, and the gable ends are sided with shingles. East and west of the bays are shed-roof dormers. The building sits on a random coursed ashlar stone foundation and has a large stone water table and Cream City brick walls. The interior is wood frame construction. Windows are typically six-over-six double hung, although the dormer windows are nine-over-nine light sash, and basement windows are three-pane. The building has two joined chimneys with decorative corbelling, located at the juncture of the cross-gabled bays.

The main entrance is centrally located in a south-facing cross gable, and accessed by concrete steps. Entry doors are double aluminum, storefront style, set into a brick arch, which is supported by engaged brick columns. A handicap access ramp is located at the southeast corner.

The structure's most outstanding architectural feature is its two-tiered, open porch. It extends the entire length of the south side of the building, and has square columns with chamfered corners. Iron railings extend between the columns. The center portion of the second-story cross gable has been enclosed and includes modern one-over-one windows, and doors on the north and south. The levels are connected with exterior metal stairs. The building is used by the Great Lakes Service Center.

Building 6 Hospital 1879 Contributing

Architect Henry C. Koch designed this Italianate style, pavilion plan hospital building. The original portion of Building 6 is laid out roughly in an "E" shape, with four wards. The front entrance is located at the south end of the three-story second ward from the east, and faces south. The other three wards are two and two and one-half stories in height and the connecting sections are two stories over basements. The foundation is of random coursed, pitch-faced cut stone. There is a newer addition on the north that has a stone foundation matching closely that of the original building. The exterior bearing walls are multi-toned, common bond brick without headers except for the north addition, which is finished in Cream City brick.

The focal point of the building's mixed architectural style is the three-story entrance pavilion. The pavilion has a truncated hip roof with shallow cross gables for shallowly-projecting bays on the south, east and west. The gables on the east and west sides are clipped. The roof is covered with composition shingle and retains its metal cresting. There are eight ornately corbelled chimneys. Windows are narrow four-over-four with Tudor arch hood molds and stone sills. The bases of the arches connect to bands of brick soldier coursing set at an angle to the wall plane. In the south-facing cross gable, a Palladian-style window pattern has a central section infilled with a louver, the sides infilled with plywood. On the east and west gable ends, there are two windows flanking exterior wall chimneys. The main entrance is sheltered within a one-story portico in the central cross gable. The portico has a large cornice and entablature supported by single round corner columns. It is topped with a flat deck and an ornate wrought iron railing. The entrance door is a double leaf, aluminum and glass storefront type set within a recessed Tudor arch. There is a second entry on the west side with a pair of modern double doors. The two-story connecting sections between the wings of the "E" have gable roofs covered with composition shingle and four-over-four, double-hung windows. The first floor windows have segmental arches while the second floor has semicircular arches.

The east and west wards of the original "E" were originally identical, and still retain their basic form with two sets of cross gables. Both have four-over-four windows with Tudor arch hood molds. Gable end chimneys on the south have been removed on both wings. Two metal ridge vents remain. A two-story porch on the south side of the east ward is gone, and the brick is painted white. The two-story porch on the north end of the east side has been enclosed. The west ward of the original "E" has a south-facing two-story porch attached to the hexagonal bay, although it has been enclosed and infilled with single pane, double-hung windows. At the northwest and northeast corners are large chimneys with extensive corbelling and inset brick ribbing. The west ward also retains a large chimney type structure open at the top and capped with a hipped metal roof with cresting. This elaborate detail has corner posts of fan-shaped decorative brackets. At the north end of this wing is an elaborate large chimney with the same corbelling found on the central entry pavilion.

The two-story north ward has a hipped roof and paired windows. Soldier course brick is located over the large pairs of first floor windows.

The large two-story, gabled addition at the west end of Building 6 is brick, painted white. Shallow cross gables are located in the center of the building on the east and west sides. Four brick chimneys are located in the center of the building, near the intersections between cross gable and main gable. A frame porch with chamfered square posts wraps around the north, south and west ends. Handrails are modern pipe. Wood stairways connecting the two porch levels flank the central bay of the west side. At the second floor are a pair of French doors. The porches on the north end of the west side, and on the east side, are enclosed and have aluminum, double-hung windows.

The wards of the hospital are generally one large room; however, the far west ward and the entrance pavilion contain office space. Surviving interior detailing includes plaster walls. Most doors have been replaced and the transoms boarded over. Ornamentation is limited to the entrance lobby. The building is partially occupied as a Veteran's Administration Regional Office.

Building 7 Barracks 1888 Contributing

Building 7, also designed by Henry C. Koch, is very similar to Building 5. Building 7 is a three-story, rectangular building that displays Italianate-style elements, including a mansard roof. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Shallow cross-gabled bays with mansard roofs are centrally located on the south and north sides. Simple fluted brackets accent the rake edges of the roof, and the gable ends are sided with shingles. East and west of the bays are shed-roof dormers. The building sits on a random coursed ashlar stone foundation and has a stone water table and Cream City brick walls. The interior is wood frame construction. Windows are typically six-over-six double hung, although the dormer windows are nine-over-nine light sash, and basement windows are three-pane. The building has two joined chimneys with decorative corbelling, located at the juncture of the cross gabled bays.

The main entrance is centrally located in the west-facing cross gable. Entry doors are double aluminum, storefront style, set into a brick arch, which is supported by engaged brick columns. A handicap access ramp is located at the southeast corner. The structure's most outstanding architectural feature is its two-tiered, open porch. It extends the entire length of the west side of the building, and has square columns with chamfered corners. Iron railings extend between the columns. The porch levels are connected by exterior metal stairs. The center portion of the second-story cross gable has been enclosed, and includes modern one-over-one windows, and doors on the north and south. The building is used as a treatment center.

Building 11 Fire Engine House & Chief Engineer's Quarters 1883 Contributing

Building 11 is a two-story duplex built of Cream City brick, containing elements of the Queen Anne style in its asymmetrical design and brick detailing. It has a gable roof covered in composition shingle, and the lower ends of the gables have large brackets bridging the cornice at the eave to the brickwork below. The building has a partial basement of cut stone and brick, and full attic. There is an internal brick chimney with corbelling. One shallow cross gable is located at the southeast corner of the south side, and a second, three-sided cross gable bay near the center of the north (front) facade. The gable ends in both are finished with clapboard. Windows are typically one-over-one with a segmental arch above, but their arrangement varies by wall.

On the north side, a frame and screen porch extends west from the bay, to the northwest corner. Inside the screening is a wood turned balustrade. East of the bay, a small frame screen entry porch provides access to the second duplex unit. The porch encloses a window and a door with glass pane. On the second floor there are four sash windows.

The east side of the building retains design elements reflecting the building's original use. On the first floor, there are two large elliptical arches of soldier course brick and a double course of corbelled brick above. Below these arches are two sets of triple, double-hung windows. These replaced the original double doors of the Engine House. On the second floor there are four double-hung windows with stone sills and elliptical arches.

Surviving interior details include plaster walls, a white marble fireplace, and grey marble hearth. Building 11 is vacant.

Building 12 Chapel 1889 Contributing

Architect Henry C. Koch designed this Shingle Style frame chapel which displays some Queen Anne features. Building 12 is essentially in the shape of a cross. The main gabled axis runs east-west, with the transept created by lower cross-gables. A small one-story sacristy wing with a Swedish gambrel roof is on the west end. There is a dominant bell tower at the southeast corner and a central steeple. The roofs are covered in composition shingle. The foundation is brick that has been painted grey. The building is sided with a combination of clapboards and shingles. At the base of the building below the windowsill are shingles cut in saw-toothed and scallop-edged patterns. Above this is a section of narrow width clapboards that continue to the window heads. Above this band are more shingles. At the gable ends of the transepts the stained-glass windows are flanked by flared, shed extensions of the wall shingling with a simple molding beneath.

The most prominent features are the bell tower and the central steeple. The bell tower has a tall, pyramidal roof with a five-sided engaged turret at the southeast corner. The tower siding is essentially the same as on the main massing of the building—alternating patterns of clapboard and shingles. There is a flared clapboard skirting with dentiled and beaded molding above the first floor. Narrow one-over-one windows with square transoms are located on the second floor. There are steeply-pitched, hip roof wall dormers with flared eaves and finials at the top of the tower. They contain louvered vents. An elaborate metal cross finial surmounts the tower, detailed in a fan shape with decorative spirals. Complementing the bell tower is a central steeple located at the transept crossing. Much shorter and slimmer than the tower, it also has louvers beneath the eaves, a pyramidal hipped roof, and a decorative metal finial.

On the south side, a narrow veranda stretches from the entry porch on the southeast corner to the southwest transept ending with a door. The Chapel's large gabled roof flares slightly to cover the veranda, which is enclosed by a balustrade. Two stained glass triple windows overlook the veranda from the Chapel. On the

northeast side of the chapel is the main door with a similar veranda that runs from the steeple end to the west transept.

The main entrance at the northeast corner has a small gable roof. The gable end has fish-scale and saw-tooth shingle facing. The roof is supported by large square chamfer-edged columns. Large scroll carved brackets with holes pierced in them support the lower ends of the eaves. The porch decking is tongue and groove wood, painted grey. The simple porch balustrade is of square balusters. In addition to the main entrance there is a second entrance at the east corner of the south façade at the base of the tower. This door is also covered with a gabled hood supported with large brackets. There are also doors leading from the chancel area at the west end. They have small shed extensions of the gable roof with large supporting brackets. The doors of the chapel are typically double doors horizontal inset panels and square multicolored stained-glass lights at the top.

Each end of the cross has a similar rectangular, stained glass window that is mullioned into tall, narrow sections with smaller sections at the top. On the east facade the larger stained glass window is flanked by compatible but smaller stained glass windows. The stained glass windows are in an alternating narrow and long rectangle pattern with rectangular perimeter bands in a mottled green glass. Some round elements occur at the small, square shaped windows above the tall lower windows.

The interior of the Chapel is largely intact. The nave has two rows of columns, four in each row, supporting the gable roof. An elliptical arched, wood truss system spans crosswise and longitudinally between columns. The clustered columns have trim at the top of the base and at the capitals. The capitals have acanthus leaf carving and molded elements. The interior of the building has resilient tile flooring. The central section of the ceiling is covered with white perforated acoustical tile. The rest of the ceiling is a painted textured plaster. Three stained glass windows appear at the chancel end of the chapel depicting Mary, St. John, and Christ. Most of the stained glass windows have dedicatory insets in memory of families and individuals who donated to the chapel. The altar is composed of Gothic inset panel elements lined at the edges in gold. A large pipe organ is at the left side of the chancel area. It has a paneled wood base and pipes surrounding the swell chamber. All interior woodwork and door trim seem to be original. The oak pews are finished in a honey tone. Most of the doors, other than the entrance doors, have horizontal panels, and hardware, knobs, and steeple hinges seem original. Lighting fixtures of inverted urn shape are located at the engaged columns at the walls. Along the walls are plaster casts of the stations of the cross.

Building 14 Catholic Chaplain's Quarters 1909 Contributing

Designed by architect John Moller, Building 14 is an irregularly shaped frame building with Colonial Revival style features that faces east towards a small drive. On the north side of the building is a small narrow one-story addition. The finished floor level of the addition is a few feet below the first floor. On the south facade is a rectangular projection at the southwest corner that has its first floor corners set at a diagonal. The two-story house has a full basement, with rough face cast, concrete block walls. The walls are sided with painted white clapboard. Building 14 has a steep hipped roof with a large gable over the asymmetrical front wing. It is covered in composition shingles. On the west side, towards the north, is a tall narrow rectangular red brick chimney with corbelling at the top. The addition on the north has a sloped seamed metal shed roof.

The main entrance door is on the left of the front wing. Enclosing the front wing is a small, screened porch. Surrounding the porch foundation are white lattice panels. A low, hip roof to the right is supported by white wood columns. A small gabled overhang at the left is above the screen door. Behind the screen porch is the wood entrance door, which has one pane of glass at its upper section and a single pane glass transom above the

door. The rear entrance, a white wood door with one small pane of glass covered by a dark framed, wood screen door, is on the west side.

There is a two-light window on the right side of the main entrance. Centered above the porch in the middle of the front wing is a double-hung window. On either side is an oval window covered with fancy iron grille bars. At the attic level of the gable is a small double-hung window and exposed vertical framing filled in with clapboard. The rectangular projection on the southwest corner has double hung windows at the diagonal sections. At the flat section, facing south, are three small vertical windows about 6' above the floor level inside. Simple scroll brackets with lightbulb shaped pendants are at the corners where the second floor overhangs at the first floor level to fill out the corner. The irregularly spaced fenestration around the remainder of the house is comprised of double hung windows with single panes in each moveable section. On the interior, the second floor bedrooms are served by two separate staircases, as originally designed. The intent was to limit interaction between the chaplain and the housekeeper. A door linking the two bedroom areas has since been installed. Trim is plain, and interior doors are four panel. Building 14 continues to be used for housing.

Building 16 Protestant Chaplain's Quarters 1901 Contributing

Building 16 is a two-story frame building that incorporates aspects of the Queen Anne style in its asymmetrical massing and details. It has a brick foundation enclosing a full basement, is sided in clapboard with cornerboards, is painted white, and has a gabled roof on an east-west axis. Lower cross-gables are on the north and south, and include small brackets. The front cross gable has a blank verge board. A gabled extension on the west has a concrete block foundation. The roof is covered in composition shingle. There is one interior brick chimney at the north gable end, and an exterior chimney at the south end. Windows are one-over-one with heavy wood drip molds, and vary in size.

The main entry is on the east façade, accessed via a shed roof porch that spans two-thirds of the wall, and is supported by four equally-spaced square columns. A low wood balustrade encloses the porch. The original entry was recessed into the north corner of the east wall, but is now enclosed with vertical boards. A second entry on the rear (west) side is located within a one-story gabled addition at the northwest corner. There is also an exterior basement access on the north side, via a hatch door. On the interior, original elements include a stairway with turned balusters and square newel posts with finials. A fireplace in the living room is faced with tile and has a wood mantle. Floors are carpeted and walls are plaster.

Building 17 Secretary and Surgeon's Quarters 1887 Contributing

Attributed to architect Henry C. Koch due to a similarity in style between this building and the nearby Shingle Style Chapel (Building 12), Building 17 is a frame, two and one-half story duplex building in the Shingle Style that sits on a pitch-faced random course stone foundation. It is dominated by a two-story gabled roof set on an east-west axis. Lower cross gables are located off-center on the north and south sides. The first two floors of the cross gables have five sides, while the upper stories are square. At the transition between second and third story are decorative brackets with pendants above corner windows. The roof is covered in composition shingle. There are three internal brick chimneys with decorative corbelling, and a very large exterior chimney at the east. Windows are typically three-over-one in various sizes, the largest windows at the first floor, and reducing in size by floor. The siding is clapboards with shingles in the upper gable ends, all painted white. At the top of the first floor the siding flares slightly. Another flare occurs at the second level, and is accented by a large belt course. The same detail appears in the upper gable ends.

On the south side there is a full-width front porch with a sloped pitch. It is supported by six square columns with chamfered corners and ornamental capitals with brackets. Decorative scalloped edging is applied to the upper portion of the porch roof between columns, while there is a heavy wood baluster below. The entrance door is located at the southeast corner. The north side's entrance is located at the northeast corner, within a one-story porch with a sloped pitch. The roof is supported by square columns with chamfered corners and simple capitals with brackets. There is a wood baluster on this porch, as well.

The building's two units have virtually identically interiors that face away from each other. The main stairs and rear stairs off the kitchen are set side-by-side in the units. Most doors have transoms and original hardware. The north unit has a fireplace with decorative tile facing and hearth. The DVA undertook renovations to the interior in 2004 and 2005 for use as a living space for homeless veterans.

Building 18 Quarters 1916 Contributing

Building 18 is a three story frame duplex in the Colonial Revival style, oriented with the main facade to the southwest. Each duplex unit is a mirror image of the other and there is no visible division on the exterior. The walls are sided in clapboard and the building has a gabled, dark gray shingle roof. The gable is broken by a shed dormer on the southwest side that is shared by both units. Each unit has a small brick chimney near the center of the building. The basement foundation wall is cement block.

Each unit is entered via an outside screened corner porch with a hipped roof. The porches stretch halfway across each unit and for two bays around the sides. The porch columns are square posts without any decoration. The bottom third of the screening is white clapboard. A lattice covers the porch foundations. Beyond are the wood and glass, single-entry doors. Two open porch decks lead to the rear doors. Toward the center of the front facade, each unit has a large one-over-one light double-hung window. Above these windows and above the front doors are smaller double-hung windows with one-over-one lights. There are two casement windows for each unit located in the central shed dormer. The building's gable ends have randomly spaced windows of various sizes. On the interior, the units share oak woodwork, two-panel doors, and picture railing. Walls and ceilings are plastered. Each unit has a fireplace set within a niche on the side of the main stairway. The building continues to be used as housing.

Building 19 Quarters 1921 Contributing

Building 19 is a two story, frame duplex in the Colonial Revival style, oriented to the southwest. It has a poured concrete foundation and is sided with clapboard and corner boards. It has an asphalt shingle-covered, truncated hipped roof with exposed rafter tails and small semi-circular dormers. There is a full-width screened porch on the southwest façade, partitioned down the center. Most of the porch is hipped with exposed rafter tails, but above the central section it is flat. The porch is supported by large square white columns with applied molding; at the corners the columns are grouped in threes. The front doors are wood with glass panes. Windows are typically six-over-six double hung, although those flanking each entry door on the first floor are tripartite windows consisting of wide, multi-light double-hung windows flanked by narrower double-hung windows. On the second floor of the front façade, is a set of narrow, four-over-four light sash windows. On the interior, the units share carpeted floors and plastered walls covered with wallpaper. The main stairway in each unit is open, and each has a fireplace with brick surround and flanking columns, and a reddish brown tile hearth. Columns are on each side of the dining room entry. The dining rooms have a built-in cabinet. Building 19 continues to be used for housing.

Building 20 Quartermaster's Storehouse 1896; 1938 addition Contributing

Architect Henry C. Koch is attributed with designing the original portion of this Cream City brick, utilitarian building. The attribution is based on a reference to a project for "a building at the National Home," in an Inland Architect listing of Henry C. Koch's projects for 1895. Based on this date, the Headquarters building, the Quartermaster's Storehouse or the Power Plant might be attributed to Koch. Given their importance to the operation of the Home, it is likely that Koch would have identified the Headquarters building or the Power Plant by name if he had been architect. This suggests that the 1895 Koch project was the Storehouse.[6] A railroad spur runs along the south side of the building, approximately 50' away. A second section to the east was added in 1938. It is a multipurpose warehouse, garage and maintenance-shop building. The building is actually two rectangular buildings connected by a narrow passage. The western and older section has a gambrel roof; the addition has a flat roof. The ground level on the south side is at the second story level.

The western section is three and one-half stories with basement and a one-half story attic. Windows are typically four-over-four sash with segmental brick arches and stone sills. It is constructed of Cream City brick laid in common bond with no headers. On the north end of the west wall, at the lowest level, are three wood paneled overhead garage doors with one or two rows of windowpanes. On the south end of this wall at the same level is a metal and glass personnel door covered with a fixed metal awning. Farther to the south are three windows and a window opening with a louver. The upper floors each have eight symmetrically placed windows. There are two attic windows. The more elaborate south wall has bays separated by attached brick pilasters. Between each pilaster is a single double-hung window; some have been boarded over, others replaced with glass blocks. Centered on this side, a pilaster extends up to a gabled wall dormer. The dormer has two single windows. There is one concrete loading dock on the south side. The north wall design is similar to the south wall except that there are eight overhead panel doors at the basement level. The eaves of the western section have a very simple cornice with an ogee molding at the edge. A multi-toned brick chimney rises above the roof slightly off center to the south. The interior floors are maple.

The three-story east section is also of Cream City brick that is a slightly different color than the west section. As with the original section, the sloping site creates a four-story building on the north side. Windows are six-over-six sash. The roof is flat with a parapet and stone coping. Above the second level is a cut-stone, horizontal belt course that encircles the building. There is a concrete loading dock at the southwest corner of the south wall. On the north wall is a low concrete loading dock with a pair of doors. The interior floors are concrete.

Building 37 Officers Quarters 1902 Contributing

Building 37 is a frame, two and one-half story single family house that incorporates aspects of the Colonial Revival style in its symmetry and window type. It has a pitch-faced concrete block foundation, and clapboard siding with cornerboards. The gable roof is aligned on a north-south axis, and is covered in asphalt shingle. A cross-dormer on the west façade has an enclosed eave return, creating a classically-inspired pediment. This is also found on the north and south gable ends. The front (west entrance) is located beneath a central, one-story porch with a shed roof and wood balustrade. The front door is wood and glass. A secondary entrance on the east side is within a two-story enclosure with a shed roof. There are two tall chimneys with concrete caps that have been plastered over, and a third brick chimney at the rear.

[6] Halverson, et. al., 8/56.

There are a variety of window types on Building 37. On the first floor, windows are six-over-six double hung, with the exception of windows flanking the front entrance. These are larger, one-over-one double hung with multi-light transoms. The second floor windows on the south and west sides are three-over-one double hung. The remaining windows are two-over-one. Building 37 continues to be used for housing.

Building 39 Governors Quarters 1867-68 Contributing

Building 39, attributed to architect Edward Townsend Mix, is an asymmetrical, two and one-half story building finished in a variety of materials. It exhibits many of the characteristics of the Italianate style with some Queen Anne modifications. The first two floors are constructed of Cream City brick; above a strong second floor cornice is a cross-gabled half floor sided in fish-scale and convex-edged shingles with alternating bands of horizontal butt shingles. The siding is painted white with cream trim. The main gable is set on an east-west axis with lower north and south gables to the east. An hexagonal turret is located at the northwest corner, above a two-story corner bay. It has an hexagonal tent roof. The gabled roofs are covered by composition shingles. South of this corner bay is another smaller, two-story, three-sided bay that ends with a flat entablature. On the east side is a five-sided brick bay. There are two centrally located, tall brick chimneys and an external, cross-shaped brick chimney on the east wall.

Windows are a variety of styles, although several are one-over-one double hung in a variety of sizes, with segmental arches and there are continuous stone sills. The center windows on the northwest corner bay are fixed, single pane windows with large, half-elliptical transoms. The two-story bay on the west side has a second story stained glass window. Within the west gable end, the windows are four-over-four double hung. Centered at the second floor level of the bay is a large single pane window that has a leaded glass transom with abstract floral motifs set within a half-round center. Some sections of the glass are cranberry and amber-colored. On the north wall on the second floor are two elliptical, four-over-four double hung windows with transoms. Near the peak of the gable on the north side is a round window encircled by a projecting brick course.

The main entry is through a large, enclosed and winterized one-story porch on the south wall. Square wood columns with spanning arches create bays in addition to supporting the flat roof deck that is topped with white railings. The front (west) side of the porch has two bays, and it extends east three bays. Each bay has three hinged windows topped by fixed transoms. These were originally screened openings. The entrance door is wood and glass. There are carriage lantern lights flanking the door. A rear (east) entrance is enclosed by a one-story, brick enclosure with a hipped roof. There is a paneled garage door at the basement level in the rear (east) side of the building.

The Governors Quarters began as a smaller building with a tower that had a mansard roof covered with contrasting colored slate or shingles, similar to the roof of the Main Building. The original form was virtually identical to Mix's own 1866 house on Wavery Place in Milwaukee (demolished). By 1916 the house was remodeled with the addition of the third floor and the replacement of the mansard roof with a hexagonal tent tower.[7] On the interior, outstanding details include a walnut newel post on the main stairway, and fireplaces in the living room, dining room and study have marble surrounds and hearths. Most of the hardware is original, including some porcelain knobs. Building 39 serves as the Medical Center Director's Quarters.

[7] Ibid., 8/54.

Building 41 Ward Memorial Hall 1881; 1895-97 Contributing

Building 41 is Ward Memorial Hall, designed by architect Henry C. Koch in Victorian Gothic style. The two-and-one-half story theater is constructed of brick over a partial basement of pitch-faced stone, but no accessible attic. The Cream City brick walls have decorative belt courses and inset diamond motifs of red brick. The building is basically a rectangular shape with a steeply gabled roof on a north-south axis. The main entrance faces south. Steep, polygonal hipped cross gables are located at the north and south ends. The cross gables near the south end are for stairs. Dentil-type corbelling in brick is located under the eaves of the two cross gables at this south (front) end. There is also an irregular one-story wing on the west toward the rear of the building used for backstage dressing facilities. The roof is covered in green composition shingle. All of the gables have decorative, carved stone parapets with finials at the tip. The west wing of the building has a hipped roof leading to a large, corbelled chimney with inset and protruding brick patterns. At the peak of the main roof are two circular metal ventilating units. Early photographs show very tall chimneys, but they have since been removed. Metal fire escapes are located at the balcony level on the east and west sides of the building.

A one-story veranda wraps around the front, east and north sides of the theater. It conforms to the many planes of the facade. It is constructed entirely of wood, and has a hipped roof. The roof is supported by square, decorative columns with chamfered and flared capitals containing simplified leaf patterns. They are spanned by fancy open lattice railing. The veranda apron is a fine lattice paneling. The wide main entrance opening is crowned with a clipped gable roof in the veranda. The main steps are very wide, and the two side openings on the east and west have a small open gable with ornate bracing. There are three main entrance doors sheltered by the veranda. They are double, paneled and set within brick arches. Above them are transoms. Over the entrance and above the veranda roof is a row of three tall, two-over-two windows, then an oblong stone panel carved with the words “WARD MEMORIAL HALL” in raised lettering. Above this is a Palladian style window with stained glass in the upper sections, and within the gabled peak is a checkered brick pattern.

Windows are a variety of styles. On the main portion of the building, first floor, some openings have six-over-six double hung, interspersed with wood panel doors. On the second floor they are also tall, evenly spaced six-over-six double hung topped with elliptical, leaded glass windows mullioned in a diamond pattern. They have elliptical brick arches. The windows have red tile inset in decorative motifs at the window heads, with radiating voussoirs. On the cross-gables at the south end, second floor, there are single bull’s eyes windows with decorative, surrounding red brick.

There is also a large, painted glass window in the rear cross-gable facing east, depicting General Grant on horseback. This window was donated to the Northwest Branch by the Grand Army of the Republic at its annual encampment in 1887. The window was installed in an enlarged window opening on the second floor. In 1897 the theater was enlarged through the removal of the floor between the original first and second floors, and the wrapping of the original theater balcony around the side of the theater space. The result of this was the blocking off of the Grant window, which can only be seen on the interior in a very shallow space between the theater and the exterior walls. In the 1930s a projection theater system was added to the hall so that movies could be shown.[8]

The interior retains many original elements, including its stage, seating, wall treatment and a dressing room papered with posters from theatrical productions. It is frescoed in the New Renaissance style, characterized by round arches and symmetrically placed windows. The ceiling was originally divided into panels, and decorated with peacock plumage. The theater has a stepped floor to the orchestra level and a steeply stepped balcony.

[8] Ibid., 8/56.

Most hardware is original; seats are plywood on cast iron. A Soldiers Home emblem was painted at the top of the proscenium by WPA workers in the 1930s. Ward Memorial Hall was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. It is currently vacant.

Building 45 Power Plant 1895 Contributing

Building 45 is in the shape of a "T" with the base slightly off center. The west "L"-shaped portion is three stories high. The foundation is poured concrete with a rough-cut stone band where the foundation meets the wall. The bearing walls are constructed of Cream City brick. The walls have engaged brick columns that form bays. Two bays have double, barn wood doors in place of the pair of windows.

There are two window openings per bay along the sides of the building. These are tall four-over-four light, double-hung windows with elliptical brick arches and stone sills. At the second level on the ends of the building are shorter but similar windows that are one per bay. Above the windows at the sides are recessed brick panels. On the north facade all the window openings are boarded up. The three-story section at the west has smaller pairs of windows at three levels between engaged brick pilasters that form three large panels on the south facade. Many of the windows are boarded up. The smaller windows located around the top are fitted with six panes, and paired.

The easterly section has a gabled roof with a few gabled cupolas that have side louvers. The west wing has a small, fourth-floor, penthouse machine room. The roofing is green composition shingles. One chimney stack is concrete and the other chimney to the west is brick. On the interior, the southern section has a brick floor, the rest are concrete. A steel truss roof system supports a wood deck roof. The upper floor contains a 20' diameter turbine and switchboard. The west wing contains coal hoppers. The 1922 smokestack was demolished in the mid 1990s. The building is currently vacant.

Buildings 49 Quarters 1908-09 Contributing

Buildings 49 and 50 are virtually identical frame two and one-half story duplexes that have elements of the Colonial Revival style in the gambrel roofs and clapboard siding with corner boards. The roof is covered with composition shingle and the eave trim is crown molding. There is a central square brick chimney with a concrete cap. The walls are painted white. The foundations are brick. A porch with a hipped roof supported by turned columns extends the full width of the front, east side, on both buildings. Wood balustrades extend between the columns. The porch is divided in half by a partition of vertical boards and latticework. Screened entry doors are located at the outside edges of this south façade. The entry doors are wood with multipane windows. At the center of the rear of each building (west side), is a shed roof extension containing two paneled doors with screen doors.

All the windows are tall, double hung, one-over-one light sash. Double windows are located on both units on the first level between the front doors. A single window is centered over each duplex at the front on the second floor. Near the center at the attic level are two small square windows that have been filled with wood panels. Window treatments on the sides and rear are similar but the placement is asymmetrical. All the windows are covered with aluminum storms. On the interior there is a semi-open staircase off the dining room that has turned balusters and a double newel post. Building 49 continues to be used as a residence.

Building 50 Quarters 1908-09 Contributing

See the description for Building 49. Building 50 continues to be used as a residence.

Building 57 Cemetery Reception House 1900 Contributing

Building 57 is situated at a turn in a road on the northwest edge of the Wood National Cemetery. It is a small one room, one story, octagonal-shaped building. The base of the structure is poured concrete. The exterior walls are composed of cast concrete block laid in regular courses. Each rough faced block has an incised line dividing the block into a larger rectangle and a long narrow rectangle. These are laid with narrow rectangle on the bottom and then, alternately, at the top of the block. The north side has a white, flush wood door with a large, modern aluminum kickplate. Three sides each have one screened double-hung window. The windows have a black painted sash with a single light above and below and flat white painted trim. They are covered on the inside with plywood. The windowsills and the lintels are poured concrete.

The structure is covered with a tent roof. The roof is seamed metal, which is painted green and has a ball finial at the top. The cornice at the edge of the roof has a molding underneath where it hits the concrete block. A small brick chimney that has been painted green protrudes above the roof on the windowless southeast side.

Building 62 Quarters 1922 Contributing

Building 62 is very similar to Building 19. It is a two-story duplex in Colonial Revival style. It has a poured concrete foundation and is sided with clapboard and corner boards. It has an asphalt shingle covered truncated hipped roof with exposed rafter tails and small semi-circular dormers. An interior chimney is constructed of dark buff multi-colored brick. There is a full-width front porch on the southwest façade, partitioned down the center. Most of the porch is hipped with exposed rafter tails, but above the central section it is flat. The porch is supported by large square white columns with applied molding; at the corners the columns are placed in threes. The entrance doors on the front of the building have two horizontal panels at the bottom and a nine-light glass section at the top. Windows are typically six-over-six double hung, although those flanking each entry door on the first floor are tripartite windows consisting of wide, multi-light double-hung windows flanked by narrower double-hung windows. On the second floor of the front façade, is a set of narrow, four-over-four sash windows. The front also has a six-over-six double-hung window on a very shallow bay. The rear of this building has various sized windows either single or in groups of two or three. There are two staircases on the interior, a main staircase off the living room, and a second, narrow and winding staircase leading from the kitchen. There is a fireplace set into a niche next to the main staircase. Most rooms have picture railing about 1’ from the ceiling. Ceilings and walls are plastered. The building continues to be used as a residence.

Building 43 Hospital Annex 1933 Noncontributing

Building 43 is a three-story Colonial Revival building with half of the basement above grade. The foundation level is random coursed split-face stone. It is terra-cotta colored brick with a stone water table and a stone belt course at mid-window height. Windows are double-hung aluminum set within shallow recesses in groups of two or three. They have grey panel transoms. On the northwest wing, the windows are also double hung modern aluminum sash, some of which are in pairs. Some windows have transoms with solid panels. The top of the parapet has a stone trim. There is a one-story wing extending to the northwest of the building that has a concrete foundation and a flat roof.

The main, raised entrance of this building is centrally placed in the southeast wall. A projecting flat roofed pavilion surrounds the main entrance. Between the massive square columns supporting the roof are solid stone balustrade with cut stone topping. The pavilion floor is poured concrete. The ceiling is textured plaster. A pendant light fixture in a lantern shape hangs above the entrance door. The door is surrounded by simple stone

trim flush with the face of the brick work at the sides and alternating brick and stone coursing at the head. The door frame is encircled by a decorative stone band with stylized floral work at the base. Above the entrance door is a low arch with a keystone. The entrance doors are frameless glass. A sign above the pavilion at the parapet says "Hospital Annex" in metal, block type letters. Above the pavilion at the east wall of the building is a projecting section that has a gabled parapet with carved stone coping at the top. There is a pressed metal ceiling at the entrance and decorative metal cornice work at the sides of the ceiling. The building continues to serve as a domiciliary and hospital.

Building 60 Garage 1938 Noncontributing

This building is a two-door garage associated with Building 39. It has a concrete foundation, structural clay tile walls, and roll roofing on the shed roof. The garage was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 64 Garage 1938 Noncontributing

This six-car, shed roof garage is located behind Buildings 18, 19, and 62. It has structural clay tiles walls, a shed roof, and roll roofing. The garage was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 73 Garage 1935 Noncontributing

Building 73 is a one-car, shed-roof garage located behind building 16. The walls are structural clay tile and the roof is roll roofing. The garage was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 84 Garage 1938 Noncontributing

Of the two Building 84 garages on the property, the one located closest to Buildings 49 and 50 is within the NHL boundary. It is a one-story, structural clay tile with shed roof covered in roll roofing. The non-contributing garage is sided in vinyl and has four stalls. The garage was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 93 Garage 1939 Noncontributing

Building 93 is a one-story, shed roof garage with structural clay tile walls and one stall. It is the garage for building 37. Building 93 was built after the period of significance.

Building 97 Paint Shop 1938 Noncontributing

Building 97 has Cream City brick exterior bearing walls and is covered with a flat roof. It is located north of Paint Shop Road directly east of Building No. 20. A parking area off of Workshop Road is to the north and Building No. T-107 is to the east. The paint shop was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 99 Garage 1941 Noncontributing

Building 99 is a five car garage located behind Building 20. It has structural clay tile walls and a shed roof covered in roll roofing. The garage was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 107 Grounds Maintenance & Equipment Storage 1957 Noncontributing

The Grounds Maintenance and Equipment Storage is a one-plus-mezzanine story, brick and concrete block building with a flat roof located north of Building 20. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 108 Shops, Engineering Storage 1957 Noncontributing

The Shops, Engineering Storage is a one-plus-mezzanine story, brick and concrete block building with flat roof located north of Building 20. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Building 112 Power Plant 1964 Noncontributing

The Power Plant is a steel frame building with some brick and metal siding. Built on an L-plan, it is three stories with a one-story section and houses mechanical equipment and smaller rooms for offices and storage. The Power Plant is south of Building 45. It was constructed after the period of significance.

Building T-105 Storage Shed 1947 Noncontributing

This Maintenance Group storage shed is a 20’ by 50’ Quonset Hut type structure built from corrugated steel. It was constructed and put in place after the period of significance.

Building T-106 Storage Shed 1947 Noncontributing

See the description for Building T-105.

Building, T-107 Storage Shed 1947 Noncontributing

See the description for Building T-105.

Building T-114 Storage Shed 1948 Noncontributing

The Maintenance Group storage shed is a Quonset Hut type structure built from corrugated steel. It was constructed and put in place after the period of significance.

STRUCTURES

Structure 34 Water Meter House Pit 1888 Contributing

The Water Meter House Pit is a rectangular plan, one-story reinforced concrete building.

(No Number) Railroad Grade 1882 Contributing

The only resource not owned by the Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad is a partially elevated grade (east end) and tracks that runs east to west through the historic district. The line is vegetated at the east and west ends within the district, while in the center of the district, there are few trees to block views to the north and south. There are two locations that allow vehicular access across the tracks—one is an underpass, the other is at grade. The underpass is located near the maintenance area and allows access to the north residential area. The road which passes through this location originally led to the farm buildings located to the north (that farmland is no longer within the VA boundaries). It probably dates to

the creation of the rail line, and has pitched face stone retaining walls. At this location the railroad grade is built up roughly 10 feet above grade. As the tracks progress west, they are incorporated into the topography so that there is an at-grade crossing that allows General Mitchell Boulevard to pass to the north from the utility area to the administrative-recreation area.

Structure B Pavilion 1986 Noncontributing

This open-air pavilion with fireplace and picnic tables is located near Lake Wheeler. It was constructed by the VA Architectural Unit after the period of significance.

Structure E Cemetery Committal Shelter 1989 Noncontributing

The Committal Shelter is located in the northern portion of the cemetery, west of Building 6. It was constructed by the Cemetery Service after the period of significance.

SITES

Landscape/Road System 1867 Contributing

The historic core landscape reflects the Picturesque style popular in the nineteenth century. The landscape at the Northwestern Branch retains many of the key features developed during the period of significance that make this a very important resource within the NHL district. The Picturesque style utilizes the existing topography, and incorporated curving paths and carriageways to provide both means of transportation and to control views as the traveler moved through the landscape. The curving paths and roads continue to illustrate the original design and connect the various building clusters. Interspersed in the landscape are open expanses of lawns framed by vegetation, while other locations are enclosed or screened by trees. Also included within such a designed landscape are areas of repose, all intended to create a relaxing, tranquil environment for the traveler. The most important vista is that created by the placement of the Main Building on the crest of a bluff-- the highest point on the grounds. From the Main Building can be seen the other building groups at the Home, and the cemetery to the west.

The road system emphasizes the importance of the Main Building, particularly the alignment of the main road, historically named Central Avenue and now known as General Mitchell Boulevard. Historically and today, General Mitchell Boulevard begins at the southeast corner of the property at the intersection with National Avenue—originally called Mukwanago Road— and proceeds northward along a curving route. Historically this portion of the road was tree-lined, providing a shady canopy. Today it is bounded by a large parking lot (not included within the historic boundary). General Mitchell Boulevard climbs through gently rolling terrain up towards the Main Building to the heart of the district. Off of this road, the secondary roads of Red Arrow Road, Baron Circle, Wood Avenue, and Chrysler Road follow the hillsides to access residential buildings, while Lake Wheeler Drive and Hines Boulevard allow views to Lake Wheeler. General Mitchell Boulevard crosses the railroad grade and divides into a circle in front (east) of the Main Building. Historically at this location the road also encircled a second lake, Lake Hincks, which was infilled by the turn of the century to accommodate a maintenance area. South and around the Main Building is General Wolcott Boulevard, which evolved out of smaller access roads as this area developed before the turn of the century. General Mitchell Boulevard exited to the northwest, onto West Bluemound Road, (originally known as Spring Road). Another road branched off to the northeast to the Northwest Branch farm and a third exit. The farm area and northeast entrance were in a portion of land ceded to the county in 1949 and now occupied by the Miller Park stadium. Gatehouses stood at

all three access points. At the northwest corner of the Home, the Wood National Cemetery included a shaded Spring Lake (later known as Lake Huston), which was infilled with the creation of Interstate 94. Further reflecting the Picturesque Style, large expanses of open space remain on the east and west sides of the district, in the residential areas and in the Wood National Cemetery.

Two streetcar lines served the Home, operated by the Milwaukee Electric Railway. One followed National Avenue, and provided access to the south side of the property. A second, elevated line, north of the Home, extended south following the general line of General Mitchell Avenue, and paralleled the east side of Calvary Cemetery. The line then turned west where the company built a second depot at the northwest corner of the Home, directly accessing the Home's cemetery, near Spring Lake.[9] The right of way is still distinguishable between the VA and the Calvary cemeteries.

Northeast of the Main Building, the 500' x 300'Soldiers' Home Reef is a 70' high fossil reef that grew approximately 400 million years ago. While this natural feature is counted as a separate site within the National Register district, it is included in the NHL historic district as a feature of the greater designed landscape. It is also listed as a separate NHL property. Discovered in 1834, the feature forms a natural northeast boundary for the Home.

There have been changes to the Northwestern Branch landscape. The gatehouses are now gone, three of the original lakes filled in, and the fourth, Lake Wheeler, was reoriented in 1966 to make room for Building 111. The loss of land on the east edge of the property to Miller Park has removed some of the original landscape and interrupted the view shed. However, the landscape and road/path system in the historic core, strongly evoke the objectives of the NHDVS Board of Managers to provide members with beautiful surroundings as well as reflecting the development of the grounds during the Period of significance. Lake Wheeler was identified as a separate, non-contributing resource in the National Register nomination; it is not counted separately in the NHL nomination, and while modified, is important as a surviving water feature that contributes to an understanding of the goals of a Picturesque landscape design.

Wood National Cemetery 1871 Contributing

Wood National Cemetery, designed by Thomas B. Van Horne, was dedicated May 22, 1871. The federal military cemetery encompasses 50.1 acres; however, only 41.1 acres are within the NHL boundary. The greater portion of the cemetery lies west of the main cluster of administrative-recreation cluster of buildings. The 36.1 acres west of the building group feature a central monument ("Building" 120) and straight rows of graves. This area, and 5 additional acres to the north, was designed following the Picturesque landscape style of the Home. The cemetery included curvilinear roads leading to a water feature known as Spring Lake (1867-1878). Van Horne may have been consciously contrasting the formal focus on the cemetery with a Picturesque landscape near the lake. A sense of serenity was emphasized by plantings of shade trees around the lake. A strong orthogonal cross road design was established after 1879, aligned along the primary compass directions. However, the curving roads around the lake remained and were extended. Approximately five additional acres of Wood National Cemetery is located across Interstate-94, northwest of the main cluster of buildings. The interstate divided the cemetery in 1962, and filled in Spring Lake; however, a pathway connects to the 5 acre portion of the cemetery, which continues to serve its original purpose and is therefore included in this nomination.

[9] Elizabeth Corbett, *Out at the Soldiers' Home, A Memory Book*, (New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, Limited, 1941), 223; H. G. Claus, "Map of the Cemetery of the Northwestern Branch N.H.D.V.S., March 1903, From a Survey Under the Direction of Col. Cornelius Wheeler, Governor," Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center Archives.

Wood National Cemetery is home to nearly 30,000 graves which are visible from nearly every building in the district. Each grave is numbered and bears the name of the veteran buried there, date of death and dates of military service. Other graves are those of members of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry (the first federal African-American unit recruited in the North), as well as graves of U.S. Colored Troops from Wisconsin, and five Medal of Honor recipients: Ordinary Seaman James K. Duncan (Civil War); Private Milton Matthews (Civil War); Corporal Winthrop D. Putnam (Civil War); Private Lewis A. Rounds (Civil War); Boatswain's Mate Michael McCormick (Civil War). Section 8 contains the graves of employees and their family members. These graves are generally marked with private headstones, the largest being to General Kilbourn Knox, the sixth governor of the Home.

The Cemetery features eight cast iron plaques with verses of the poem "The Bivouac of the Dead," displayed on stone mounts and scattered throughout the cemetery. Other cemetery features include a tablet presented to the National Home in 1881; a tablet featuring the Gettysburg Address, and set in a stone frame, and a "Memorial Day Order" cast-iron tablet set on a boulder. There is a cast iron "American War Mothers Memorial Avenue" tablet in burial section 38A. In 1900, a reception house (Building 57) was constructed at the cemetery and in 1903 the Soldiers and Sailors Monument (Building 120) erected. The branch added a comfort station to the cemetery in 1928, located south of Building 57 (now gone). In 1937, the cemetery was renamed Wood Cemetery, in honor of General George Wood.

An additional nine acres of cemetery, featuring some six thousand newer, flat granite headstone grave markers, rests south of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad line, north of N. Washington Drive. This newer section, including graves of soldiers in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, is outside the boundaries of this nomination due to the date of its establishment.

Resource 53 Powder Magazine Ruins 1881 Contributing

The ruins of the original powder magazine have been designated Building 53 by the DVA. The small structure, built on a square plan, has cut stone walls. It was used to store gunpowder. The roof is gone, the inside of the building is filled with rubble, and the structure is becoming overgrown. The ruins are located in the northeast section of the district. Building 53 was listed as non-contributing in the National Register nomination due to a loss of architectural integrity; it is listed as a contributing "site" in the NHL nomination as it assists in understanding the daily operations at the Home.

OBJECTS

Resource 120 Soldiers & Sailors Monument 1903 Contributing

Located in the Wood National Cemetery, the DVA has assigned this monument building number 120. The Soldiers and Sailors Monument consists of a pedestal form supporting a three-part shaft made of New England Granite. At the top there is a figure of a Civil War soldier at parade rest. The monument stands 65 feet tall and weights eighty-five tons. Two cannonball pyramids made of fourteen cannonballs each are located within the cut corners of the base, on opposite sides. The four faces of the pedestal feature engraved designs including an anchor, crossed sabers and crossed cannons. The primary inscriptions are on opposite sides and read, "Erected by the Soldiers and Sailors Monument Association N.W.B.N.H for D.V.S. Jan. 1903," and "In Memory of Comrades Buried in this Home Cemetery."

(No Number) Fountain 1870/1934 Contributing

The oldest landscape furnishing on the grounds, the Fountain is located on General Mitchell Avenue, directly across from the east entrance to Building 2, the Main Building. It is composed of an octagonal basin from the center of which rises a pedestal and elevated bowl. About the pedestal base are female figures; another solitary female figure is set within the bowl, lifting an urn over her head. Water was pumped from the urn to flow into the bowl. The basin wall was changed at some point in its history. Originally the corners of the octagon were elaborated with piers, the centers of which featured a reticulated stone pattern. Flower urns surmounted these piers. In 1934 the piers were removed and a low wall laid up with random rubble courses built around the exterior. A second low wall of identical construction was built about six feet to the outside. The fountain is similar in style to the 19th century fountain created by Caspar Hennecke Company of Milwaukee for the original Milwaukee County Courthouse.

(No Number) The Volunteer Monument 1941 Noncontributing

The Volunteer Monument is a memorial to Spanish-American War veterans, Department of Wisconsin Camps and its Auxiliaries. It is located facing Building 43, near Lake Wheeler. The bronze statue depicts a solider holding a rifle and is set on a square stone base. Inset in the base is a metal plaque stating "the Volunteer, 98." The inscription reads, "He stood at the curb reflecting as the boys were marching by, he heard the drums and saw the flag and a gleam was in his eye… Twas the universal spirit with the boys of 98." It was dedicated after the Period of significance.

ARCHEOLGOCIAL RESOURCES

The 2005 National Register nomination notes that test excavations have been undertaken at the Northwestern Branch in various locations on the grounds, some performed in conjunction with the development of the Medical Center's 1992 *Historic Preservation Plan*. Historic artifacts related to the Home's presence have been identified, along with prehistoric artifacts. Further excavations at three identified prehistoric and historic sites (Sites A, B, and C) including a potential burial mound (northwest of the Silurian Reef), may uncover additional prehistoric artifacts. These sites are not included within the NHL resource count, as they are not associated with the NHL period of significance.

DRAFT

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
Nationally: X Statewide: _ Locally:

Applicable National Register Criteria:	A X B_ C X D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):	A X B_ C_ D X E_ F_ G
NHL Criteria:	1
NHL Theme(s):	5
Areas of Significance:	Politics/Government; Health/Medicine; Architecture; Landscape Architecture; Social History
Period(s) of Significance:	1866-1930
Significant Dates:	1866
Significant Person(s):	N/A
Cultural Affiliation:	N/A
Architect/Builder:	Edward Townsend Mix, architect Henry C. Koch, architect Thomas Budd Van Horne, landscape architect
Historic Contexts:	National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers

DRAFT

State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

A full discussion of the national significance of the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (NHDVS) is provided in the associated document, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers National Historic Landmark Context Study." The study establishes the history and evolution of the property type, and provides a preliminary assessment of the National Historic Landmark (NHL) eligibility of the eleven NHDVS branches established across the country between 1865 and 1930. The study determined which of the eleven retained the highest integrity and represented most fully the development of veterans benefits in the United States, the commitment of the Board of Managers to honoring disabled veterans, and the original architectural and landscape designs.

The NHDVS represented a policy of veterans' benefits that directly influenced the development of a national system for veteran health care in the United States. The NHDVS was a notable departure from the previous focus on care for professional soldiers and officially set forth the concern and commitment of the federal government for the well-being of the civilian soldier. The history of the NHDVS can be organized into five phases. Phase One, 1865-1870, includes the formation of the NHDVS by Congress, the organization of the Board of Managers, and the establishment of the first four branches. During Phase Two, 1871-1883, the institution's operations continued to develop and growth occurred at the individual sites. During Phase Three, 1884-1900, the system expanded to include four new branches. The expansions during Phases Two and Three were the result of broadened membership requirements which opened the NHDVS doors to increasing numbers of members. In Phase Four, 1900-1917, two new branches were created and the system increasingly focused attention on the medical needs of veterans. Phase Five, 1918-1930, saw the impact of World War I, the establishment of the final NHDVS branch, and the incorporation of the NHDVS into the newly created Veterans Administration.

The NHDVS branches were designed for a variety of reasons and functions over a broad period of time, and evolved in response to specific changes in NHDVS policies. Such policies are physically reflected in the campuses. No one property has survived fully intact from one period, but some branches retain pivotal and important resources that are associated with specific periods. The Northwestern Branch NHDVS is one of four branches nominated for NHL designation. The period of significance for the Northwestern Branch is 1866 to 1930. It retains buildings from all phases of the NHDVS history from the origins of the system and its evolution into the twentieth century.

The Northwestern Branch of the NHDVS is nationally significant under NHL Criterion 1 as a property that is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to our past; and NHL Theme IV, shaping the political landscape: governmental institutions, under the area of Health/Medicine. The Northwestern Branch is an outstanding representation of the development of a national system of medical and residential benefits for disabled veterans. The NHDVS was the first national system to provide such benefits to volunteer soldiers and, as such, is a precursor to the modern system of veterans' benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Established in 1866 and opened in 1867, the Northwestern Branch was one of three original NHDVS facilities, and it retains the oldest buildings in the system. It also retains a largely intact picturesque landscape. It is particularly significant in representing the beginning of the network of veterans' benefits that began growing rapidly after the Civil War, and became increasingly important in terms of medical and geriatric care after 1900. The Northwestern Branch was the first NHDVS branch to institute such innovations as employing professional female nurses, and providing separate quarters for elderly members, inspiring similar changes in the operations of other branches. The physical development at the Northwestern Branch also influenced the way in which subsequent branches were designed. The property also represents the goals of the NHDVS Board

of Managers to create attractive, well-designed institutions that would provide a dignified home for disabled veterans.

The Northwestern Branch complements three other properties submitted for NHL consideration, under separate nominations, and representing distinct aspects of the NHDVS history:

- The Western Branch, in Leavenworth, Kansas, established in 1885 and opened in 1887. The Western Branch was the first to be established after an 1884 change in policy dramatically broadened the standards for admission (allowing veterans with non-service related disabilities to enter the institution), and created a demand for additional facilities. The first branch constructed west of the Mississippi River, it is significant for the great number of veterans living in western states and territories far removed from existing NHDVS branches. The Western Branch represents Phases Three through Five. The period of significance for the Western Branch is 1885-1930;

- The Mountain Branch, in Johnson City, Tennessee, was established in 1901 and opened in 1904. The Mountain Branch represents Phases Four and Five, a time of an increased attention to medical care. The Mountain Branch reflects the attendant changes to the NHDVS after Spanish American War veterans were granted admission to the homes, and after particular conditions to which veterans of that war were susceptible, particularly yellow fever and tuberculosis. The Board considered the location particularly suitable for tuberculosis patients due to its climate. The Mountain Branch's symmetrical plan and uniform architectural style represent a departure from earlier branches, many of which included a variety of architectural styles and grounds designed in a picturesque or romantic style. The period of significance for the Mountain Branch is 1901-1930;

- The Battle Mountain Sanitarium, in Hot Springs, South Dakota, established in 1902 and opened in 1907. Battle Mountain Sanitarium was the only NHDVS branch to be established as an independent medical facility, rather than a facility designed primarily as a residential institution. Battle Mountain Sanitarium utilized the waters from nearby mineral springs to treat musculoskeletal conditions; the high, dry atmosphere eased respiratory ills. The primary complex features a prominent administration center connected to an innovative hospital complex that placed wards in rectangular spokes. It outstandingly represents Phases Four and Five and the evolution of the NHDVS from a primarily residential system to one offering extensive medical services to veterans. The period of significance for Battle Mountain Sanitarium is 1902-1930.

The Northwestern Branch core is remarkably intact, with the loss of relatively few of the pivotal or important early resource types. It is an outstanding example of the branches developed by the NHDVS, exhibiting a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. While some early structures are gone, new construction has generally not taken place on the sites of former buildings. Instead, post-1930 development and the modern buildings of the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center are to the south, removed from the core NHDVS property by railroad tracks, a water channel, and the area's topography. The Northwestern Branch was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2005 at a national level of significance for its associations with the broader history of the Department of Veterans Affairs. The period of significance for the 2005 nomination is broader than the period of significance for this NHL nomination.

Under NHL Exception 5, the Wood National Cemetery was created for the internment of veterans who died at the Northwestern Branch. The cemetery reflects the goals and objectives of the NHDVS system and its commitment to the care and respect of disabled veterans.

Establishment, Design and Initial Construction

The Northwestern Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, established in 1867, was one of the original three NHDVS facilities. Its location in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was largely a result of the presence of George Walker, a Milwaukee resident on the reorganized Board of Managers, and the success of an influential group of Milwaukee women who dedicated their energies to assisting Civil War veterans. The development of the Northwestern Branch influenced the way in which other branches were designed, and several aspects of its provision of medical and geriatric services became models for other facilities. The Northwestern Branch also served as an important component of the growing city of Milwaukee, providing an early substitute for a public urban park system.

The location and even the existence of the Northwestern Branch can be attributed in large part to the efforts of Milwaukee women. In 1861, the Milwaukee Ladies Association formed as an auxiliary of the Chicago Branch of the United States Sanitary Commission. In 1862, the group split into East Side and West Side Societies, and in1863, the East Side Society became the Wisconsin Soldiers' Aid Society and assumed the auxiliary status with the Sanitary Commission. The following year, the West Side group became the Wisconsin Soldiers' Home Society and focused on assisting veterans with meals and transitional housing in rented buildings located in downtown Milwaukee. In February of 1866, the group reported they had provided temporary lodging to more than sixteen thousand men and served more than seventy thousand meals in the previous thirteen-month period. As the war neared its end, the group began planning a permanent facility which would provide long term solutions for veterans who could not support themselves. As a result of its work, the Society received a $5000 grant from the state for the purpose of developing a state soldiers home. In addition, the Society employed the popular strategy of a "sanitary fair"—a festive fund-raising event popular at the time-- to bring in additional money for their cause. They realized more than $100,000 from the fair, held in the summer of 1865. These financial resources allowed the organization to buy land west of Milwaukee and to begin planning for construction of a state soldiers' home.[10] Their plans and activities coincided with the establishment of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers and the reorganized Board's need to quickly set up an initial system of NHDVS branches.

George Walker of Milwaukee was appointed a member of the NHDVS Board of Managers in its 1866 reorganization and was subsequently elected a vice-president of that board. He approached the Wisconsin Soldiers' Home Society and suggested they turn over their resources to the NHDVS in order to encourage the construction of one of the national branches in Milwaukee. The proposal was met with a considerable amount of skepticism by the women, who were the backbone of the society, and their supporters. In general, they held that people had donated money to them for a state home rather than a national home. They also believed a state home would be more responsive to Wisconsin veterans. In addition, they undoubtedly recognized that their ability to remain involved in veterans' care and to guide the development of a veterans' institution would be curtailed if they no longer controlled the money they had raised. Proponents of the proposal pointed out that the funds of the Society were inadequate to build, equip, and maintain such a home at the state level and that further monies would need to be raised through taxation and donations on a continual basis. In addition, a national home could serve more veterans than a state home and thus benefit a larger pool of men. Although they initially rejected the proposal, the members of the Wisconsin Soldiers' Home Society ultimately agreed to turn their resources over to the NHDVS in 1866.[11]

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[10] Halverson, et. al., 8/41; *Milwaukee Sentinel*, March 7, 1866, typescript of newspaper article in Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center Archives (CJZMCA).

[11] Patrick J. Kelly, Creating a National Home: Building the Veterans' Welfare State, 1860-1900 (Cambridge: Harvard

After accepting the resources of the Wisconsin group, the NHDVS Board of Managers decided to locate the Northwestern Branch of the institution in Milwaukee. They chose a tract of nearly four hundred acres of rolling land one mile west of the city and on the western side of the Menomonee River Valley. The topography of high hills and deep, wooded ravines there offered a varied and scenic landscape. Approximately one-third of the acreage acquired by the Board of Managers was purchased from John L. Mitchell, a former Union soldier and son of Alexander Mitchell, a prominent Milwaukee businessman and president of the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin Soldiers' Home Society. Another piece of the property was purchased from John H. Tweedy, a business associate of Alexander Mitchell. Dr. Erastus B. Wolcott of Milwaukee succeeded George Walker on the Board of Managers after the latter's death in late 1866 and was subsequently named local manager for the Northwestern Branch. He was also a business colleague of Tweedy and Mitchell in the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad, which had been constructed through the site chosen but was failing at the time of the branch's founding.[12] Thus, the establishment of the Northwestern Branch proved to be a financial benefit to many of the men involved as well as an asset to the city of Milwaukee and a refuge for Civil War veterans.

By May 1867 a number of farmhouses on the property were used as members' quarters and the Mitchell home served as a hospital while the initial building program was underway.[13] These humble buildings soon gave way to architecture that more closely expressed the Board's vision for the facility and the system. Milwaukee Architect Edward Townsend Mix designed the Northwestern Branch's original buildings, the oldest buildings constructed under the Board of Managers' administration. Mix was born in 1831 in New Haven, Connecticut. His family moved to Andover, Illinois in 1836, then to New York City in 1845 where he studied architecture with a New York firm. In 1855 Mix relocated to Chicago and worked with William W. Boyington. In 1856 he moved to Milwaukee as a partner in Boyington and Mix to oversee the firm's work in the state. In 1857 Mix opened his own office and established his reputation as a leading architect. From 1864 to 1867 Mix served as the state architect, and during this period (1866) he won a competition for the Kansas state capitol, although his design would be changed during construction. In 1872 he designed a new mansion to replace the demolished 1843 fur trade mansion, Villa Louis, in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin (NHL, 1960). Closer to home, Mix designed many of Milwaukee's most prominent buildings, including the 1860 Iron Block, the 1865 Music Hall, the 1878 Mitchell Building, the 1880 Chamber of Commerce Building, the 1886 Plankinton House Hotel, and the 1886 Chicago, Milwaukee, and St Paul Railroad Depot as well as a number of churches and private homes. He also was responsible for a number of commercial buildings for wealthy businessmen in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Beginning in 1881 Mix worked in partnership with Milwaukee architect Walter A. Holbrook. During this time Mix's 1883 design for a Richardsonian Romanesque style church won the national competition for St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Milwaukee. Mix opened an office in Minneapolis in 1888; he died in 1890.[14]

University Press, 1997), 86-88; *Third Annual Report and Memorial, Wisconsin Soldier's Home, Milwaukee: To the Legislature* (Milwaukee: Daily Wisconsin Printing House, 1867), 9-11, Milwaukee County Historical Society Research Library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; *Milwaukee [Sentinel]l*, May 31, 1866, June 9, 1866, June 11, 1866, June 18, 1866, typescripts of newspaper articles, CJZMCA.

[12] Halverson, et.al., 8/42; Suzanne Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers: Assessment of Significance and National Historic Landmark Recommendations," National Council on Public History and National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office, 2007, 42.

[13] "July 1976 Bicentennial Notes," Milwaukee County Historical Society Research Library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Documents Folder 2.

[14] Halverson, et al., 8/43, 8/52; "July 1976 Bicentennial Notes;" Wisconsin Historical Society, "Mix, Edward Townsend 1831-1890;" *Dictionary of Wisconsin History*, 1 October 2007, http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/dictionary/index.asp?action+view&term_id+1406&term; Daina Penkiunas, Wisconsin Historical Society, to Dena Sanford, 21 January 2009, copy on file National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office, Omaha, Nebraska.

In his nearly 35-year career, Mix employed a number of architectural styles in his commissions in the Midwest, including Italianate, Second Empire, Gothic, Queen Anne, and Richardsonian Romanesque. The focus of Mix's work at the Northwestern Branch was the aptly-described Main Building, built on the site's highest elevation and very visible from surrounding vantage points. Mix designed the building in Gothic style, characterized by steeply pitched roofs, cross gables, pointed arch entrance openings and windows, crowns over doors and windows, and mansard roofs. Mix's building particularly reflected the influence of John Ruskin, an English architectural critic. Ruskin influenced the High Victorian Gothic style, which was used in prominent, large-scale buildings and featured flat, multicolored, complex masonry surfaces and decorative elements that neither served nor suggested practical purposes. The first major building constructed under the Board of Managers' oversight, the Main Building was designed to hold most of the various functions of the branch under one roof. The four-story edifice contained residential rooms, administrative offices, kitchen, dining hall, chapel and meeting hall, bath rooms, and laundry facilities. A hospital constructed in 1867-68 (demolished), provided medical services. Theoretically, the Main Building combined the concepts of a compact and efficient building housing necessary services and an architectural statement that honored veterans and impressed the public. Unfortunately, the building was less successful in reality. Cost overruns caused the Board of Managers to halt construction before Mix's conception, which included pavilions at the ends, was completed. The basement laundry and bathing facilities created excessive humidity inadequately addressed by the ventilation system. Only the basement and the first floor were heated, often leaving quarters uncomfortably cold. In the 1870s, the replacement of heating mechanisms and installation of ventilator shafts corrected the most vexing issues. Four towers were also added, although they did not conform to Mix's original plan and only slightly increased its capacity for residents. The problems the Main Building presented influenced the Board of Managers to favor a decentralized system in other branches, with separate buildings serving various functions. Initial design and construction at the Northwestern Branch included, besides the Main Building, residences for the branch's governor and another official, three gatehouses, the hospital, and the core road system, which led past the Main Building and encircled the residences. [15]

The Northwestern Branch was located in a dramatic river valley terrain with areas of dense woods, many varieties of shrubs and grasses, and long views. Those qualities were enhanced by the work of Thomas Budd Van Horne, who designed the grounds as well as the cemetery and utilized the topography to design a landscape in the Picturesque style. Van Horne was a landscape gardener and former army chaplain in the Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He had planned military cemeteries at Chattanooga, Tennessee (1863), and Marietta, Georgia (1864). At both cemeteries, Van Horne applied the same popular rural landscape cemetery design that had been established at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Boston in the 1830s. He used a small hill as the cemetery site, arranging circular paths and roads around the hill. Between these he located burial sites, retaining the top of the hill to focus on a tall monument. In a similar vein, Van Horne's plan for the Northwestern Branch maintained a visual focus on the Main Building at a high point on the property. From this emanated curving paths and roads lined with trees, creating a scenic, pastoral, and relaxing setting. Eventually, four small artificial lakes, manicured lawns, and formal flower beds contrasted with the natural woods and rolling hills. Land in the north and east portions of the branch was used for farming.[16]

Development of the Northwestern Branch

By 1877, the population of the Northwestern Branch had increased from an average of 212 members in its first year to an average of 1307, and local manager E. B. Wolcott urged the construction of additions to the Main

[15] Halverson, et al., 8/42, 8/44, 8/52; Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 42-43, 53; Trachtenberg, Marvin and Isabella Hyman, *Architecture From Prehistory to Post-Modernism: The Western Tradition* (Harry N. Abrams, 1986), 458-459.

[16] Halverson, et al., 8/43-8/51; Kelly, 121; Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 43, 51.

Building that would create more barracks space and separate facilities that would house kitchen, dining, and recreational functions. Although the Board denied his initial requests, a building program instituted at the end of the decade began to expand the branch and to decentralize its functions. In 1879, the branch added a new Italianate hospital designed by Henry C. Koch, who also designed other branch buildings during the 1880s and 1890s, including Ward Memorial Hall**,** which held a restaurant, waiting room, post office, and theater. Ward Memorial Hall also contained an office for the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad. During this period, the branch also added a new bakery, quartermaster storehouse, and commissary storehouse (demolished). New barracks were constructed in 1884, and 1888. The Shingle style chapel was constructed in 1889. New staff residences built in 1887 reflected Queen Anne and Shingle styles. The Classical Revival style library was built in 1891 and the social hall was constructed in 1894. The three-story frame Colonial Revival social hall held bowling alleys and spaces for meetings and dancing. The headquarters building combined Colonial Revival and Renaissance Revival elements. A new power house built in 1895 and a new quartermaster storehouse built in 1896 enhanced the facility's physical plant. The late nineteenth-century building program decentralized the functions of the Northwestern Branch and provided an eclectic mix of architectural styles. It also recognized the changing needs of an aging and increasingly ill population. In 1893, the branch built a combination barrack, sometimes referred to as "old men's barrack" (demolished) that combined quarters, kitchen, and dining facilities.[17]

The prolific Milwaukee architect Henry C. Koch designed many of the buildings constructed during the 1879-1890 building program, including the hospital, the chapel, Ward Memorial Hall, a combination "old men's" barracks (demolished) and probably the quartermaster storehouse. He may also have been responsible for additional barracks and officers' quarters constructed during this period. Koch's variety of styles and placement of buildings within the existing landscape plan complemented the Picturesque landscape designed by Thomas Budd Van Horne. His work differed from his predecessor, Mix, in that his work is very straightforward and utilitarian, without the elaborate stylistic features that characterize Mix's work.[18]

Koch was born in Germany in 1841 and immigrated with his parents to Milwaukee in 1842. He trained as an architect through an apprenticeship with George W. Mygatt from 1856 to 1862, when he enlisted as a private in the 24th Wisconsin volunteers. During the Civil War Koch served as a topographical engineer for General Philip Sheridan and was commended for his maps of battlefields. After the war, Koch returned to Milwaukee and practiced architecture in partnerships for several years, first with Mygatt, then with Julius Hess (a former associate of Edward Townsend Mix). He formed his own firm, H. C. Koch and Co., in 1870, and was associated with brother-in-law Herman Paul Schnetzkey from 1874-1887. In 1874, less than a month before being awarded the contract for the Northwestern Branch hospital, Koch received a commission for an addition to the Milwaukee County Hospital. This was followed by a design for the Milwaukee County Insane Asylum in 1878. His design of Milwaukee's 1871 Grand Opera House (demolished) preceded his work on the Home's Ward Memorial Hall, which in turn preceded the 1882 Milwaukee Turner Hall (NHL, 1996).[19] In these latter two buildings can be seen Koch's preference for "Cream City" brick, highlighted with banding and inlay patterns of red brick. During a forty-year career that spanned 1870-1910, Koch would design nearly 300 buildings in Wisconsin, working in the popular styles of his age: Italianate, Gothic, Second Empire and Romanesque.[20] Among his commissions were private residences, churches, schools, courthouses, and other public buildings including Milwaukee's imposing 1895 German Renaissance Revival City Hall (NHL, 2005).

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[17] Halverson, et al., 8/44-47, 8/54; Maria Barrett Butler, "The National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," *Harpers New Monthly Magazine*, 437 (October, 1886): 690; Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 42-47, 55-56.

[18] Halverson, et al., 8/55.

[19] Halverson, et al., 8/44, 8/54-55; Joy Krause, "Koch Stood as Tall as His Steeples," *Milwaukee Journal*, January 23, 1995.

[20] Quinn Evans Architects, "Milwaukee City Hall" National Historic Landmark, April 5, 2005, 8/14.

Early twentieth century construction at the Northwestern Branch reflected the increased concern with medical care for veterans. In particular, the branch constructed additional housing for medical staff; the houses are vernacular in style with some Colonial Revival references. The Protestant chaplain's quarters was erected in 1901, a nurses' quarter in 1902 (demolished), two duplex quarters in 1908, and the Catholic chaplain's quarters in 1909.[21] As membership at the branch declined, so did development activity.

Recreation, Entertainment, and Visitors at the Northwestern Branch

In 1868, as the Northwestern Branch was under construction, a local newspaper noted that the branch would "be the place of resort for our citizens and those who visit us. The grounds possess natural advantages and beauty superior to those of the great Central Park of New York and are to be improved and thrown open to us."[22] These words proved true. When the facility was founded, Milwaukee had not yet developed an urban park system, and as the Northwestern Branch developed, townspeople and visitors utilized the facility as a park and entertainment center. Local access was facilitated following completion of the Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company interurban line and a station at the north entrance to the Home. Another line provided access from the south.

Visitors enjoyed a variety of activities at the home, including picnics, strolls on the grounds, regular band concerts, and dancing at the dance hall, Fourth of July celebrations, and light lunches at its restaurant. The prominent and imposing Main Hall became a tourist attraction in itself. The branch's four lakes—one of which was home to pairs of swans—provided both scenery and rides in rented rowboats. Soldiers Home Play Field, an area of about fifty acres built in the 1870s, provided a spot for branch members and visitors alike to participate in outdoor activities. Winding roads and paths, smooth lawns, the wide variety of trees and shrubs, and the varied terrain provided an urban oasis for Milwaukee citizens as well as for the residents of the branch; conservatories provided plantings for colorful flowerbeds, including some arranged to spell names like "Grant" and "Sheridan" that invoked the veterans' service. The attractions of the landscape were complemented by more novel attractions, including "Joe," a captive American eagle kept grounded by a long chain attached to one of his legs. By the early 1900s, the library at the Northwestern Branch held nearly eleven thousand books and subscribed to several dozen newspapers and magazines.[23]

The veterans themselves also entertained the visitors. An 1871 production featured branch members as actors in a performance of the popular "Ten Nights in a Bar-room," sponsored in part by a local temperance group and the Grand Army of the Republic. The play was so successful that members agreed to do another performance at Milwaukee's Music Hall.[24]

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[21] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 44.

[22] *Milwaukee [Sentinel]*, March 18, 1868, typescript copy, CJZMCA.

[23] J. D. Beck, compiler, *The Blue Book of the State of Wisconsin* (Madison: Democratic printing Company, 1907), 26 December 2005, http://freepages/books.rootsweb.com/~wirockbios/Blfue1907/1907-5-USVH.htm.

[24] James Marten, "A Place of Great Beauty, Improved by Man: The Soldiers' Home and Victorian Milwaukee," *Milwaukee History* 22 (Spring, 1999), 3, 7-12; Milwaukee *[Sentinel]*, July 17, 1871, typescript copy, CJZMCA; Elizabeth Corbett, *Out at the Soldiers' Home: A Memory Book* (New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1941), 28-32; Halverson, et. al., 8/44; Kelly, 113; Veterans Administration Center, Wood, Wisconsin, *Centennial: Wood VAC Century of Service 1867-1967* [Milwaukee: Veterans Administration Center, 1967], 16; Milwaukee Public Schools, Division of Municipal Recreation and Community Education, "The Ward Memorial Theatre: Briefing Paper," Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, D. C.; *Milwaukee [Sentinel]*, September 12 and 18, 1871, typescript copy, CJZMCA.

Ward Memorial Hall, designed by Henry C. Koch and constructed in 1881, became a popular site for such theatrical productions. The hall was named in honor of Horatio Ward, a successful American businessman from Virginia who lived forty years in London until his death in 1867. Ward bequeathed $112,000 in state bonds and interest to the Board of Managers. The Board used the money to build chapels, amusement halls, and other facilities for which no appropriated funds had been awarded.[25] The edifice was originally built as a theater, restaurant, and train passenger waiting room and was also used as a chapel and housed veterans when membership exceeded space in barracks. In 1897, the building was remodeled for use solely as a theater and hosted many appearances by lecturers, vaudeville troupes, and musicians; performers appearing elsewhere in Milwaukee often gave free shows at the re-named Ward Memorial Theater for the veterans' benefit. Modern entertainers at the Hall included Bob Hope, Liberace, Ethel Merman, and Burns & Allen, among others. As the motion picture industry developed, the theater acquired equipment to show frequent movies.[26]

Despite access to a variety of entertainments and recreations, many of the members at the Northwestern Branch, like members at other branches, succumbed to the temptations of alcohol. The establishment of a beer hall on the grounds in the 1870s---the first such facility in the NHDVS system---helped to address this issue. At the canteen, men could sit at comfortable tables and chairs, enjoy sandwiches and other snacks, and drink pints of Milwaukee's best beer. The men paid five cents for each glass and the proceeds went into the Post Fund to be used for other nonessential entertainments and improvements. Elizabeth Corbett, who grew up at the Northwestern Branch while her father was an official there from1888 until 1915, believed that the canteen was the only place where the veterans socialized with each other, otherwise guarding their privacy and solitude. Although the canteen was successful and inspired other branches to establish similar facilities, Northwestern Branch officials continued to face the problems of off-site drinking. By 1896, more than thirty saloons existed near the northern and southern entrances of the branch, many sporting patriotic names that might appeal to veterans. Many of these establishments offered the veterans credit at the saloons to keep them dependent on these sources and sometimes served them drink that made them ill. A Milwaukee newspaper reporter complained that some city residents took advantage of the veterans by patronizing the saloons, convincing the men to buy them drinks, and robbing them when they were inebriated.[27]

Recreation, entertainment, and the park-like grounds at the Northwestern Branch served both the men who lived there and Milwaukee's citizens and visitors. These amenities helped reinforce to both the veterans and the public that the NHDVS was not a charitable institution but a reward for the men who had served their country.

Medical and Geriatric Care at the Northwestern Branch

As the Civil War veterans who made up the bulk of the NHDVS population during the nineteenth century grew older, medical treatment and care for the aged became greater concerns for the Board of Managers and individual branch officials. At the Northwestern Branch, several innovations addressed these issues.

In 1883, an elevator was installed in the Northwestern Branch's Main Building, allowing members to avoid climbing flights of stairs to their quarters.[28] In the ensuing decades, other branches would install elevators in

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[25] Ward was a partner of Junius Morgan—father of John Pierpont Morgan—and George Peabody. By 1919 the Board had expended more than $185,000 from the fund. "The Will of Horatio Ward," *New York Times*, 24 July 1867; Milwaukee Public Schools; U.S. Congress, House, *Report of the Board of Managers for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1919*, Vol. 84, Doc. No. 365, Dec. 1, 1919 , June 5, 1920.

[26] Milwaukee Public Schools, 2-3; Halverson, et. al., 8/56.

[27] Marten, 6; Corbett, 188-191; Kelly, 165.

[28] The first elevator for the NHDVS Homes had been steam-operated and was installed in the Central Branch hospital in 1871. That hospital was demolished. J.C. Gobrecht, *History of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers: With a Complete*

existing buildings or include them in the designs of new buildings. In 1890, the Northwestern Branch contracted with the Wisconsin Training School for Female Nurses to employ female nurses. It was the first branch in the system to do so. Until this point, NHDVS members had been hired to provide most of the care of the infirm residents; the introduction of professional nurses reflected the fact that the aging population could no longer perform the necessary nursing functions. Also in 1890, the NHDVS Inspector General suggested the development of elderly members' wards for old men who were not ill enough for hospitalization but who could benefit from a separate kitchen and mess serving soft, bland food. In 1893, the Northwestern branch built the first such combination barrack, sometimes referred to as "old men's barrack" (demolished). The combination barrack combined quarters, kitchen, and dining facilities, allowing elderly men to dine where they lived rather than marching to the main mess and to eat meals particularly suited to their needs. Subsequently, the combination barrack concept was incorporated at several other branches. In the early 1920s, trained nurses were placed at all the combination barracks to insure proper care of elderly veterans, thus expanding the NHDVS role in caring for geriatric men.[29]

As elderly veterans passed on, the NHDVS population declined after 1909. In 1916, NHDVS Inspector General W. P. Jackson noted that the system had more capacity than it needed and suggested the Northwestern Branch, which was in need of expensive repairs, be closed and its members transferred elsewhere. Subsequently, the Board of Managers voted to close the branch. The onset of World War I, however, changed the future of the NHDVS and the Northwestern Branch survived to serve new groups of veterans with improved medical facilities. With the 1917 amendment to the War Risk Insurance Act which entitled all veterans to medical care, the need for medical facilities increased. The expansion of benefits shifted the focus of the NHDVS even further from residential facilities to medical services. At the Northwestern Branch, barracks were converted to hospital wards. A new tuberculosis hospital was built on the southwestern edge of the property, insuring isolation for tuberculosis patients. The five hundred bed, $1,200,000 hospital was completed in 1923, one of nine such hospitals designed by architects in the Treasury Department and contained facilities for bed patients, ambulant patients, administration, and other services. The existing hospital was modernized and an addition with a new kitchen and dining room added. A greenhouse was built and a smokestack was added to the power plant. The expansion of medical services required an enlarged staff and housing to accommodate them. Duplex residences for six families and fifty rooms for nurses were added in 1922 and 1923.[30]

The demands created by returning World War I veterans who needed medical treatment created particular demands for the Northwestern Branch, especially the care of tuberculosis patients. In the 1920s, in addition to male veterans, the Northwestern Branch began to serve female veterans -- women who had served as nurses during World War I. A ward in the new tuberculosis hospital was set aside for treatment of women, and about a dozen women were patients there in 1924.[31]

Correspondence of NHDVS officials during the early 1920s indicates active recruitment of physicians for the NHDVS medical staff and particularly for work with tuberculosis patients. For assistant surgeon openings, the institution looked for men with federal or some state license who were completing their internships. The

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Guide Book to the Central Home, at Dayton, Ohio, (Dayton: United Brethren Printing Establishment, 1875) 80.

[29] Halverson, et al., 8/44-47; Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 42, 44; Cetina, 297, 316-317; "Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1924," 1, Department of Veterans Affairs Central Library (DVACL) (Annual Report, 1924).

[30] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 43; "Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1922, 1-2, DVACL (Annual Report, 1922); "Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1923, 6, DVACL (Annual Report, 1923); "Annual Report, 1924," n.p.; Cetina, 364-365, 379-380; Halverson, et al., 8/48-49.

[31] Halverson, et al., 8/49.

doctors were paid approximately $200 per month and were supplied with quarters. The quarters for both single and married men were furnished except for linens and household items. The Northwestern Branch was one of the larger hospitals (the others were at the Southern, Mountain, and Central Branches) to which such appointments were made.[32] The demand for increased medical services and expanded staff resulting from the return of injured and ill World War I veterans insured the continuation of the Northwestern Branch and improved its facilities.

Transitions under the Veterans Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs

By the time the Northwestern Branch was incorporated into the Veterans Administration in 1930, the facility was slightly less than four hundred acres in size and held seventy-one buildings, including barracks, two hospitals, staff residences, and supporting social and physical plant buildings. After the transition, a new hospital annex was constructed south of the original buildings and near the tuberculosis facility. In 1938, a new wing was added to the 1923 hospital building; this addition was demolished in the 1970s. Garages and storage buildings were constructed during the 1930s, as well as a new kitchen for the Main Building, built from bricks salvaged from the demolition of the original 1867 kitchen. During World War II, additional construction at the Northwestern Branch included the construction of Quonset huts for storage and maintenance purposes. In the 1950s, the Veterans Administration donated the former branch Play Field to the City of Milwaukee and the Miller Park Baseball Field and Helfaer Park were built there. In the 1960s and 1970s, other major building projects took place in the southern section of the campus, outside the historic core. A new hospital was constructed in 1966 and a new domiciliary building was completed in 1979. In 2004, a regional office building was erected.[33]

Cemetery

Before 1871, the Northwestern Branch buried its soldiers in private cemeteries in Milwaukee. In that year, the branch established the Soldiers Home Cemetery. Like other cemeteries at NHDVS branches, the Western Branch cemetery features a relatively large monument in a prominent location: the obelisk honoring Civil War veterans was erected by the U.S. Soldiers and Sailors Monument Association in 1903. Other NHDVS developments included the construction of a reception house in 1900. The cemetery expanded south of the railroad grade in the mid twentieth century with graves of soldiers who served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. A cemetery office building was constructed in 1955 and demolished in the early 1990s. In 1973, the site became a national cemetery of the National Cemetery Administration

Conclusion

The Northwestern Branch of the NHDVS outstandingly represents the evolution of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers from its establishment until its incorporation into the Veterans Administration by illustrating the development of veterans' benefits in the United States, the commitment of the public to the ideal of care and respect for war veterans, and the use of architecture and landscape architecture to express that commitment. Its location, size, layout and railroad connection continue to represent the Board of Manager's 1866 criteria for site evaluation. The Northwestern Branch Main Building is the only surviving NHDVS building designed to combine multiple basic functions under one roof. The Northwestern Branch pioneered in

[32] B. F. Hayden to Dr. W. W. Maxwell, February 5, 1929; B. F. Hayden to Medical Director and Superintendent, Cincinnati General Hospital, February 20, 1929, Folder Correspondence of Dr. B. F. Hayden, Feb 1,1929-July 6, 1931, Box No. 1, Vol. 1, Records of the Veterans Administration, Administrative Records Re: Soldiers Home, Record Group 15, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

[33] Julin, "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," 44; Halverson, et al, 8/44, 8/50-51, 8/57.

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building residential and medical facilities and services for veterans. Residential housing constructed in the 1920s reflects the post-World War I expansion of medical benefits to veterans and the need for additional staff to serve them. The Northwestern Branch served as a park for citizens, provided them with recreation and entertainment, and reinforced their support of veteran soldiers. The Northwestern Branch's Main Building is the oldest existing building constructed under the NHDVS Board of Managers' oversight, and the ensuing growth of the branch illustrates the rejection of centralized functions and the adoption of decentralized plans for NHDVS facilities.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

__ Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_X_ Previously Listed in the National Register.
_X_ Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.
__ Designated a National Historic Landmark.
_X_ Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey: #WI-360: Overview
#WI-360-A: Building 2 Main Building
#WI-360-B: Building 41 Ward Memorial Hall
#WI-360-C: Building 39 Governor's Residence
#WI-360-D: Building 3 Library
#WI-360-E: Building 12 Chapel
__ Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
__ Other State Agency
__ Federal Agency
__ Local Government
__ University
__ Other (Specify Repository):

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: approx. 90 acres

UTM References:

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	16	420225	4765342
B	16	420366	4765342
C	16	420955	4764025
D	16	420990	4763370
E	16	420770	4763320
F	16	419955	4763975
G	16	419960	4764580

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Northwestern Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers Historic District is located in Section 35 of T7N, R21E, and is wholly contained within the boundaries of the City of Milwaukee in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. The boundary is drawn so as to exclude a portion of Interstate Highway 94, and is therefore divided into two portions. The boundary for the north portion of the district begins at the southerly curbline of West Bluemound Road and the right-of-way of Mitchell Boulevard, then proceeds south along the

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east edge of the said right-of-way to the north edge of the right-of-way of Interstate Highway 94. The line then proceeds west on the north edge of the said Interstate Highway 94 to the west property line of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center abutting the property of Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Cemetery; the line then proceeds west north and east along the property line of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center abutting Calvary Cemetery to the west property line of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center right-of-way along Mitchell Boulevard, proceeding north to the southerly curbline of West Bluemound Road, returning to the point of beginning.

The boundary for the south portion of the district begins at a point on the south edge of the right-of-way of Interstate Highway 94 and the northwest corner of the Clement J. Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center, abutting the property of the Spring Hill Cemetery. The line then proceeds east along the southern edge of the right-of-way of Interstate Highway 94 on the property line of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center to the westerly curbline of General Mitchell Boulevard, then follows the base of the Soldiers Home Reef bluff on the property line between the Miller Park grounds and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, to the intersection with the northerly railroad right-of-way of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad and the westerly right-of-way of Highway 41. From this point the boundary proceeds south across the railroad right-of-way to the intersection of Highway 41 and West National Avenue, where the boundary turns west along the northerly right-of-way of West National Avenue to the curbline of General Mitchell Boulevard. The boundary proceeds north along General Mitchell Boulevard to the intersection with North Washington Drive, where it turns west to follow the northerly curbline of North Washington Drive to its intersection with Hines Boulevard. The line then turns north along the easterly curbline of Hines Boulevard to an intersection with an unnamed access road to the Veterans Affairs Medical Center laundry facility area, where it follows the curving road south, then north where it leaves the unnamed road, continuing to an intersection with the southerly right-of-way of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad. The boundary line then proceeds west to the west property line of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, then turns north on the established property line to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary of the historic district incorporates most but not all of the Clement J. Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center, including all resources associated with the period of national significance of the National Historic Landmark historic district. The boundaries include the view shed from the earliest and most prominent Main Building (Building 2) and create a visual separation between the historic district and the more recent developments along West National Avenue. Buildings 56, 61, 70 and 79 have been excluded even though they fall within the period of national significance because the removal of the west wing of Building 70, and the 1938 addition, along with the construction of Buildings 111, 123, 5400 and the associated parking lots have eliminated the original form of the buildings and historic landscape from their context. A portion of the Wood National Cemetery has been excluded from the historic district due to its post-1930 establishment on an area that was formerly open fields.

The boundaries of the Northwest Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers NHL are discontiguous as the district was physically divided when the East-West Expressway portion of the Milwaukee County Expressway (now Interstate Highway 90/94) was built west from downtown to Waukesha County in 1962.[34] The Highway construction bisected the district into a northern third, which contains 5 acres of Wood National Cemetery and part of the Zablocki Drive services road and the Homes' original entrance road (General Mitchell Boulevard), and the larger southern two-thirds portion of the district. While the interstate highway physically separates the district, the landscape and resources remain historically contiguous and are considered contiguous in day-to-day operations by both the Wood National Cemetery and the Department of Veterans

[34] Eric Paulsen, "For 50 Years, Milwaukee's been on a Free Ride," *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, 27 February 2005.

Affairs in the upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery markers and the VA grounds. The strip of land west of General Mitchell Boulevard has natural grasses and flowers. This appearance, combined with the presence of the historic Calvary Cemetery to the west, continues to evoke the historic north entrance approach.

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title: Suzanne Julin, Public Historian

Address: 1001 E. Broadway Stop 2 PMB
Missoula, MT 59802

Telephone: 406/542-8606

Date: October 28, 2007

Edited by: Dena Sanford
National Park Service
National Register Programs
Midwest Regional Office
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102

Telephone: 402-661-1944

Edited by: Alexandra Lord and Patty Henry
National Park Service
National Historic Landmarks Survey
1849 C St., NW (2280)
Washington, DC 20240

Telephone: 202-354-6906 and 202-354-2216

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS PROGRAM
August 25, 2010

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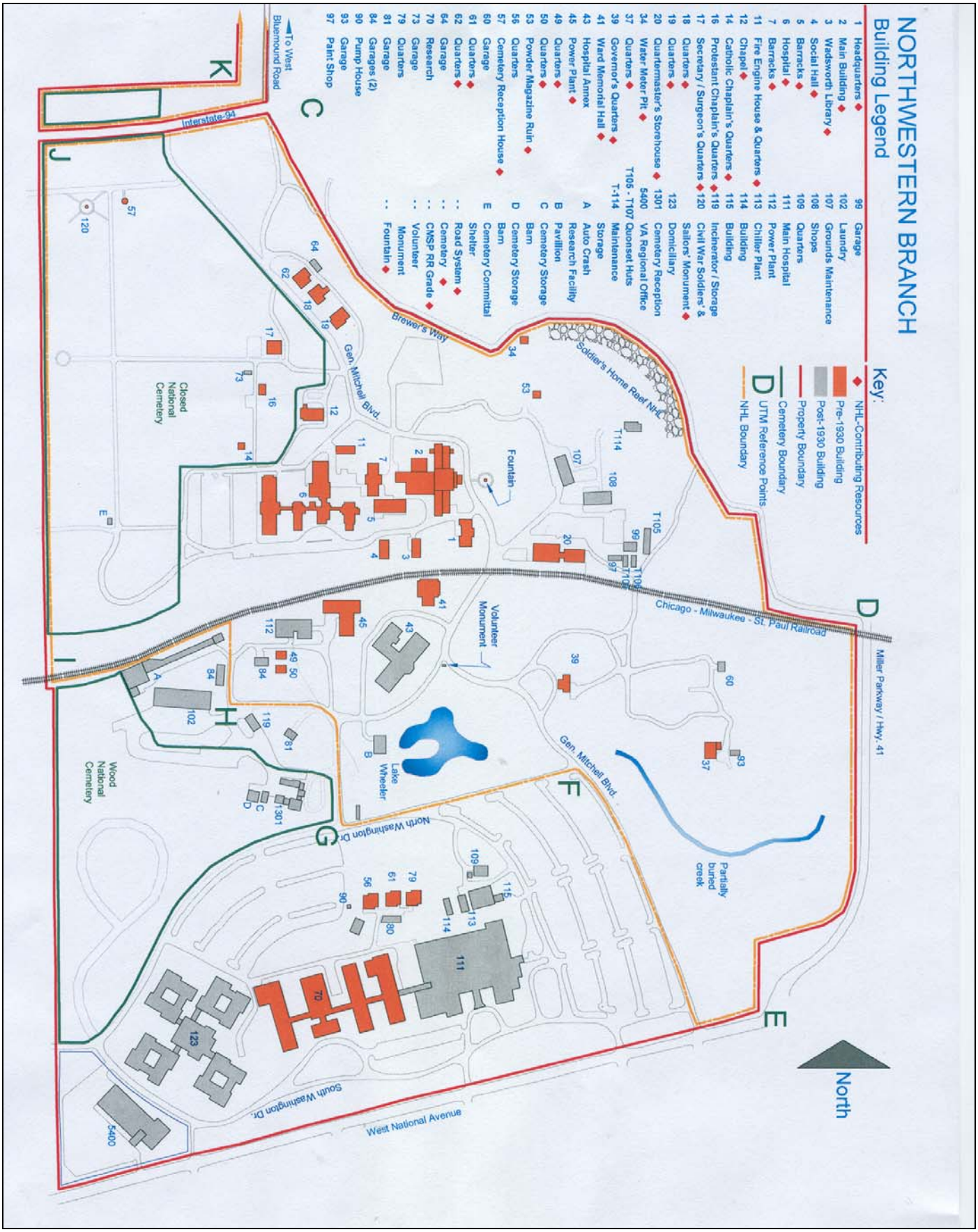
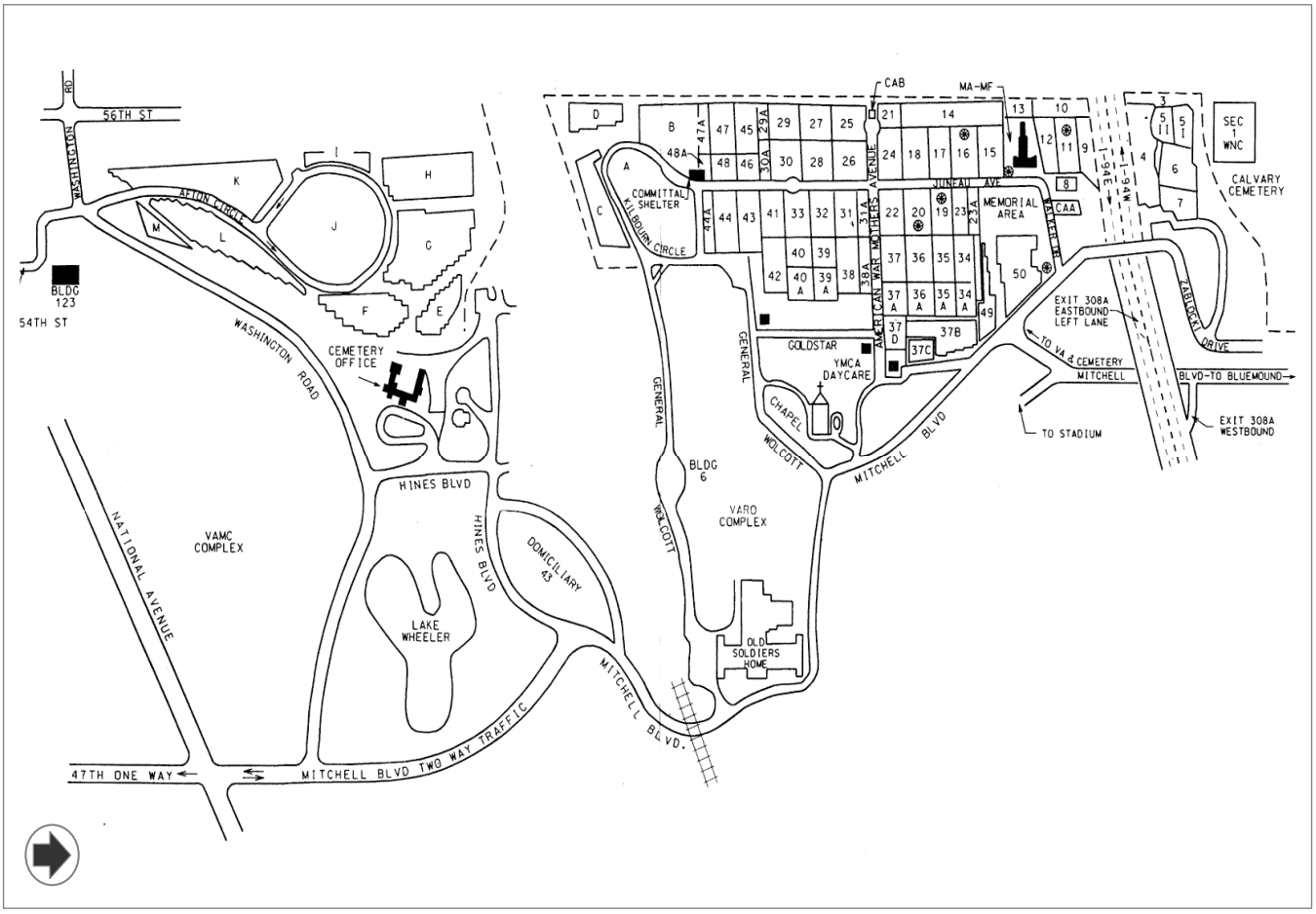

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH
Building Legend
1 Headquarters
2 Main Building
3 Wadsworth Library
4 Social Hall
5 Barracks
6 Hospital
7 Barracks
11 Fire Engine House & Quarters
12 Chapel
14 Catholic Chaplain's Quarters
16 Protestant Chaplain's Quarters
17 Secretary / Surgeon's Quarters
18 Quarters
19 Quarters
20 Quartermaster's Storehouse
34 Water Meter Pit
37 Quarters
39 Governor's Quarters
41 Ward Memorial Hall
43 Hospital Annex
45 Power Plant
49 Quarters
50 Quarters
53 Powder Magazine Ruin
56 Quarters
57 Cemetery Reception House
60 Garage
61 Quarters
62 Quarters
64 Garage
70 Research
73 Garage
79 Quarters
81 Garage
84 Garages (2)
90 Pump House
93 Garage
97 Paint Shop
99 Garage
102 Laundry
107 Grounds Maintenance
108 Shops
109 Quarters
111 Main Hospital
112 Power Plant
113 Chiller Plant
114 Building
115 Building
119 Incinerator / Storage
120 Civil War Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument
123 Domiciliary
1301 Cemetery Reception
5400 VA Regional Office
T105 - T107 Quonset Huts
T-114 Maintenance
A Storage
A Auto Crash
A Research Facility
B Pavillion
C Cemetery Storage
D Barn
D Cemetery Storage
E Barn
E Cemetery Committal
Shelter
Road System
Cemetery
CMSP RR Grade
Volunteer
Monument
Fountain
Key:
NHL-Contributing Resources
Pre-1930 Building
Post-1930 Building
Property Boundary
Cemetery Boundary
UTM Reference Points
NHL Boundary
North
Miller Parkway / Hwy. 41
Chicago - Milwaukee - St. Paul Railroad
Gen. Mitchell Blvd.
Soldier's Home Rear NHL
Brewer's Way
Interstate-94
To West Bluemound Road
Closed National Cemetery
Wood National Cemetery
Lake Wheeler
Volunteer Monument
Partially buried creek
North Washington Dr.
South Washington Dr.
West National Avenue



Cemetery Map – Feb 2002

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Main Building #2 with Headquarters #1 in foreground.)
5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to north. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Wadsworth Library #3, Social Hall #4, Hospital #6, Barracks #5).
5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to west. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Hospital #6, Barracks #5, Main Building #2 along General Wolcott Ave.). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI, View to northeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Barracks #7, Barracks #5, Main Building #2 along General Wolcott Ave.). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to northeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Headquarters #1, Main Building in foreground #2, Ward Memorial Hall #41, with modern VA Medical Center in background). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to south. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Chapel # 12, Surgeon's Quarters #17, Wood National Cemetery in background). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to west. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Perspective: Social Hall #4, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad grade, Power Plant #45 and Power Plant #112 in background). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to southwest. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Main Building #2 along General Mitchell Boulevard). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to north. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2005.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Hospital #6 central pavilion). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to northeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Ward Memorial Building #41, Hospital #6 in background). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to northwest. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Ward Memorial Building #41theater interior). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to north. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Governor's Quarters #39). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, County, WI. View to southeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Secretary and Surgeon's Quarters #17). 5000 West National Avenue Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to west. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

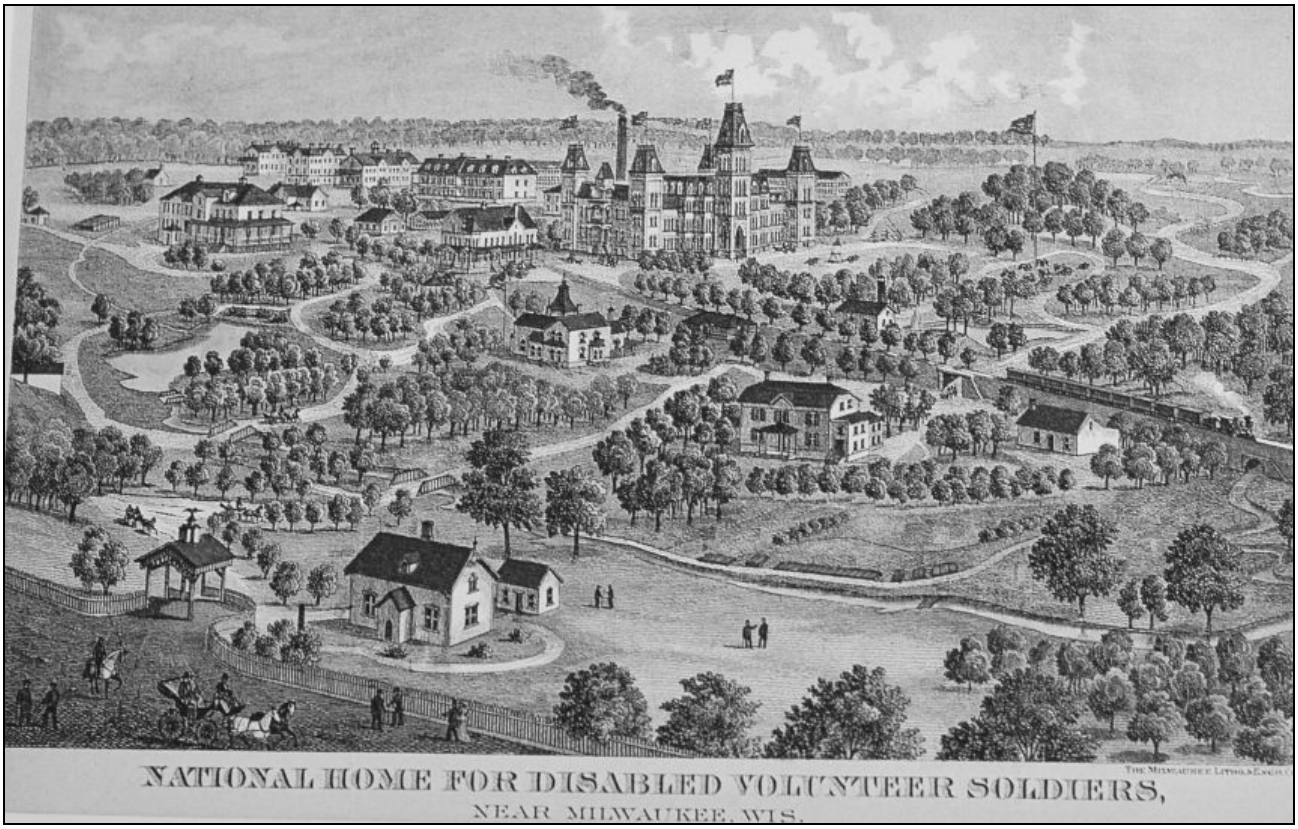
NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Quarters #62, #18, #19). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to northwest. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (The Volunteer Monument, Lake Wheeler, Building #111 in background). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to south. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2005.

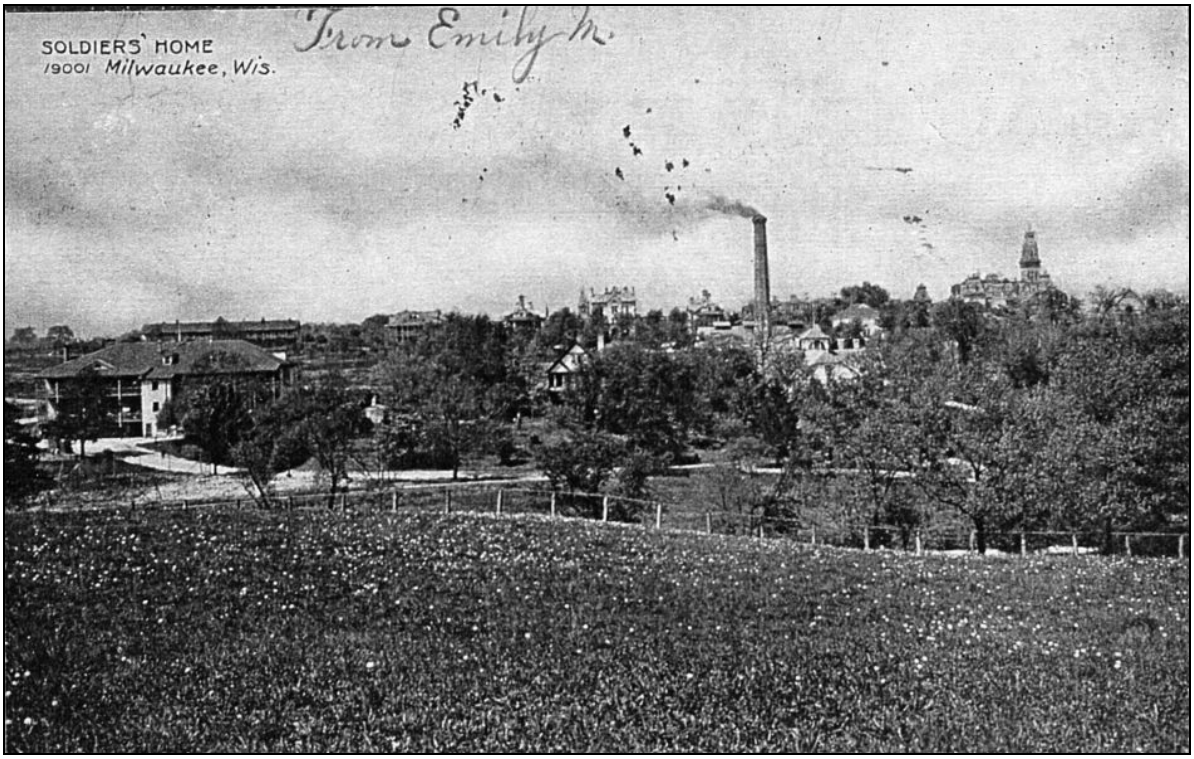
NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Civil War Soldiers and Sailor's Monument #120, cemetery). 5000 West National Avenue, Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to north. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2005.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS (Wood National Cemetery in foreground, Chapel #12, Main Building #2, Fire Engine House & Chief Engineer's Quarters #11, Barracks #5, Hospital #6 in background). 5000 West National Avenue Town of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI. View to southeast. Photograph by Brian McCutchen, 2006.

BIRDSEYE VIEW OF NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS SHOWING GATEHOUSE (gone), ORIGINAL HOSPITAL (gone), MAIN BUILDINT #2, RAILROAD GRADE, GOVERNOR'S QUARTERS #39, QUARTERS #37. Drawing by: Unknown, 1867-1878. View to northwest.



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS. Drawing by The Milwaukee Lithograph & Engraving Company, ca. 1890. View to northwest.

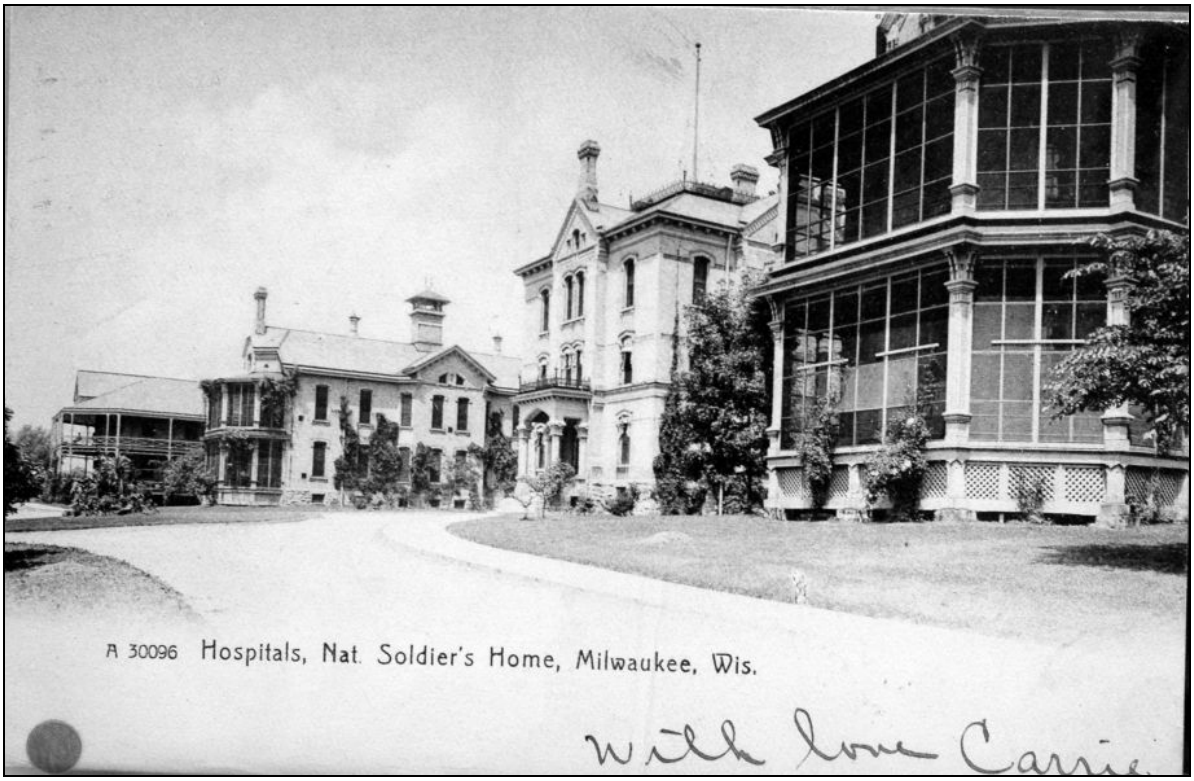


VIEW OF NORTHWESTERN BRANCH NHDVS. Photograph by Unknown, ca. 1890. View to north.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH MAIN BUILDING #2, Photograph by Unknown, ca. 1870.
View to north

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH MAIN BUILDING #2 and HEADQUARTERS #1. Photograph by Unknown, ca. 1890. View to north.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH HOSPITAL #6, RAILROAD GRADE IN FOREGROUND
Photograph by A. Wittman, from *National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, Northwest Branch* 1894. View to north.



NORTHWESTERN BRANCH HOSPITAL #6, Photograph by unknown, postcard, ca. 1890. View to northwest.

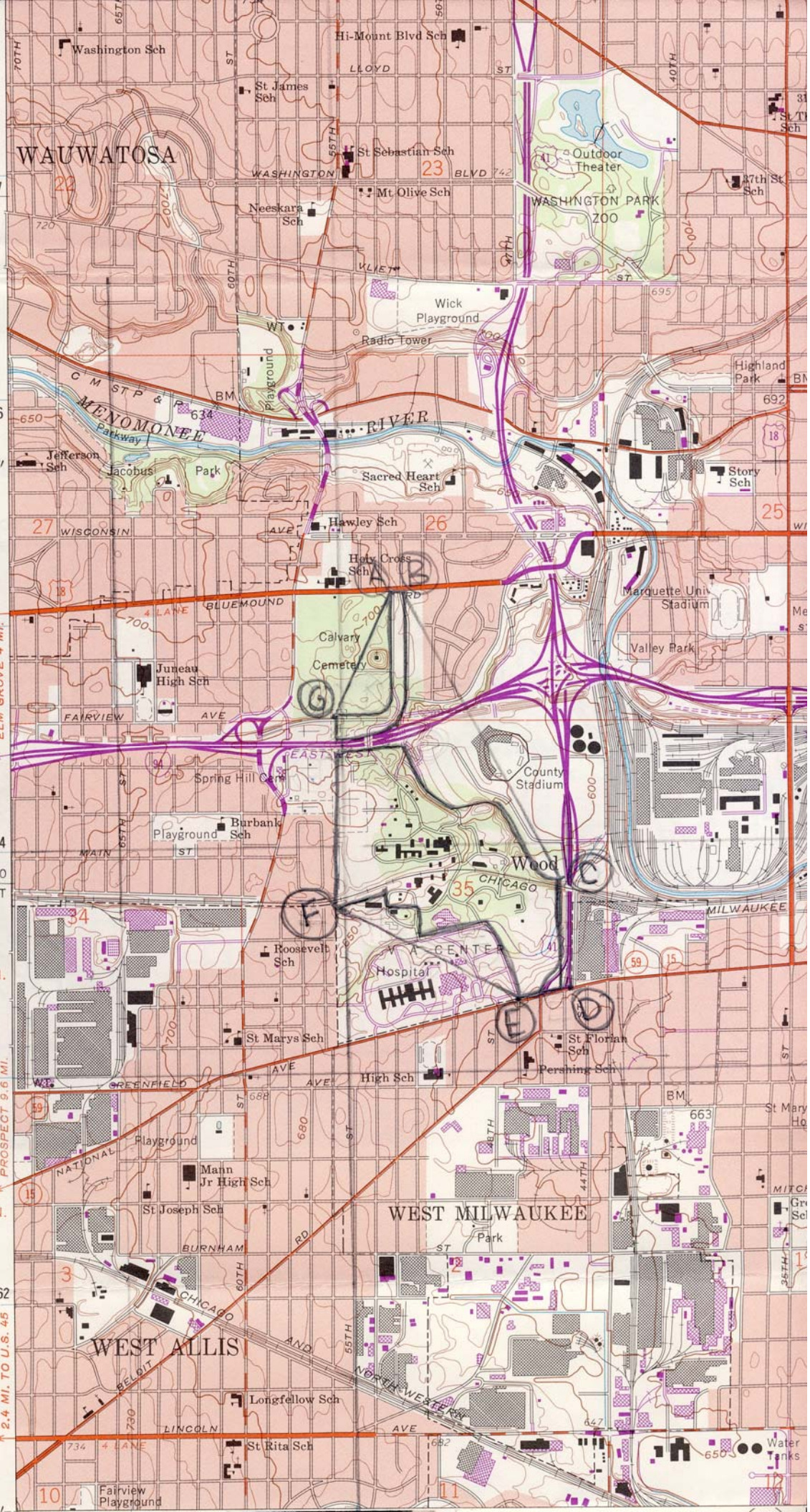
NORTHWESTERN BRANCH HOSPITAL SOCIAL HALL #4 AND WARD MEMORIAL BUILDING #41. Photograph by A. Wittman, from *National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, Northwest Branch*, 1894. View to southeast.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH WADSWORTH LIBRARY #3 INTERIOR. Photograph by A. Wittman, from *National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, Northwest Branch*, 1894. View to south.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH RAILROAD GRADE AND WARD MEMORIAL THEATER #41
Photograph by H. H. Bennett, ca. 1885. View to southwest.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH
NATIONAL HOME FOR
DISABLED VOLUNTEER
SOLDIERS NHL

MILWAUKEE, WI
5000 W. NATIONAL AVE.

UTMS

ZONE	EAST	NORTH
A 16	420225	4765342
B 16	420366	4765342
C 16	420955	4764025
D 16	420990	4763370
E 16	420770	4763320
F 16	419955	4763975
G 16	419960	4764580