

**NATIONAL NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER,
UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES
ACADEMIC PROGRAM CENTER
Bethesda, Montgomery County, Maryland**

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

April 29, 2004

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996, I approve the preliminary and final site and building plans to construct an Academic Program Center for the Graduate School of Nursing in the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, as depicted on NCPC Map File No. 3101.30(38.00)-41360.

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The Department of Navy has submitted preliminary and final site and building plans for a new 39,600 square-foot structure for classrooms and administrative space that would contain the Graduate School of Nursing in the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences at the Naval Medical Center in Bethesda. The proposed building is located at the north internal boundary of the University and is outside the National Register eligible historic district of the Naval Medical Center.

The new structure is located within the master plan configuration of the University complex and will be situated adjacent to, and north of, Building 73D. An expansion of the existing underground parking level beneath the new structure would provide an additional 35 vehicle parking spaces (including two handicap accessible spaces) for the estimated 280 occupants of the new building. This number of spaces readily conforms to the required parking ratio of the Commission's Comprehensive Plan.

The preliminary and final site and building plans include the layout design of the proposed brick and concrete building that is three levels in height with the lower level auditorium and classrooms situated partially below grade. The building main entrance occurs at the first floor level and connects to an existing south facing brick plaza that intersects with the other buildings of the University. Entrance to the added parking is through the existing underground parking garage entrance at building 73A. The new building elevations are compatible with the existing

architecture but are distinguished from the existing buildings and front the dense treed hillside which screens the building to the north. The dark flat-brown brick on the south, west, and east structure façades complements the metal panel and window system of the north wall. The building's end walls feature only the brick with wide horizontal shadow-lines established at approximately one-third increments. The built-up membrane roof is hidden by a one-foot parapet. Additional details of the building walls include insulated natural metal panels at the west stair tower glazing, and large square full windows at the north, south, and east building walls. The large windows accommodate light for the class rooms and also accentuate the low horizontal nature of the structure.

The project, which involves less than 50,000 square feet of building floor area, will have no adverse impact on land use or on environmental, cultural, or historic resources. In conformance with its NEPA compliance procedures, the Navy completed an environmental assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the project on September 17, 2002. The Department consulted with the Maryland Historical Trust pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, and the State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with the Navy's determination of no effect on either archeological or architectural resources on July 19, 2001.

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director