



Delegated Action of the Executive Director

PROJECT St. Elizabeths West Campus Interpretive Signage St. Elizabeths West Campus 2700 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue, SE Washington, DC	NCPC FILE NUMBER 8110
SUBMITTED BY United States General Services Administration	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 83.10(38.00)45001
	ACTION TAKEN Approved preliminary and final site development plans
	REVIEW AUTHORITY Approval Per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

The United States General Services Administration (GSA) has submitted for preliminary and final site development plan review documentation for the installation of a wayside interpretative sign program on the West Campus of St. Elizabeths Hospital to fulfill a mitigation measure of the 2008 Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the redevelopment of the campus as headquarters of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The primary sign locations will be located in key areas near the recently completed Center Building (the main administrative building on the campus). Other secondary sign locations are scattered through out the West Campus.

GSA has consulted with the D.C. State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO) on the placement and themes of the wayside signs for the interpretative sign program. The West Campus site plan and narrative information for the signs, including themes, was also circulated to the Section 106 Consulting Parties for their review and comment, prior to this submission.

GSA will continue to consult with the architectural historian and archaeologist of the SHPO on the development of the content of the interpretive signs. While GSA is requesting approval from the Commission of the entire phase of sign installations shown on the site plan, GSA will fabricate and install the signs as appropriate to avoid ongoing construction. The first interpretive signs proposed for fabrication and installation are near the recently completed Center Building. GSA's interpretive sign program is designed to be flexible, with additional signs possible for future phases.

The interpretative sign program was anticipated in the Commission's review and approval of the Master Plan and NEPA and Section 106 supporting documents in 2008-2009. For this application, GSA fulfilled its NEPA obligations through the preparation of a CATEX for the installation of the signs at the proposed locations. NCPC staff has determined the project is eligible for NCPC's categorical exclusion #2 which applies to the approval of the installation or restoration of minor site elements, such as, but not limited to, identification signs, sidewalks, patios, fences, curbs, retaining walls, landscaping and trail or stream improvements.

GSA determined the sign program would have no adverse effects to historic properties for its Section 106 compliance, and the SHPO has concurred with GSA’s determination of no adverse effect. NCPC staff concurs with this determination. Section 106 Consulting Parties reviewed and provided input on the proposed locations and working narratives.

The U.S. Commission of Fine Arts approved the application for the installation of the wayside interpretative sign program for the West Campus of St. Elizabeths on their September 19, 2019 Consent Calendar.

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the preliminary and final site development plan at its September 11, 2019 meeting. Without objection, the Committee forwarded the proposed final site development plans to the Commission with the statement that the proposal has been coordinated with all participating agencies. The participating agencies were: NCPC; the District of Columbia Department of Transportation; the District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment; the General Services Administration; the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office; the National Park Service; and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

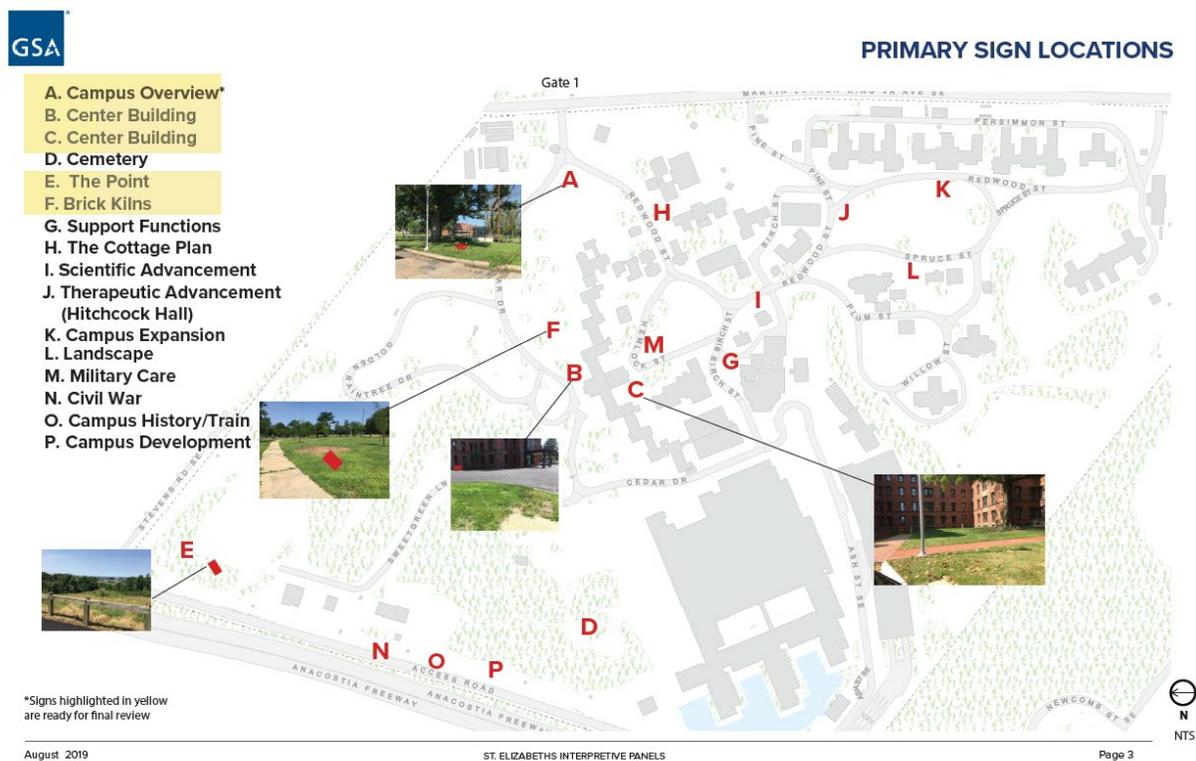


Figure: Map indicating primary sign locations on the St. Elizabeths West Campus.

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Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996 and per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d), I approve the preliminary and final site development plans for St. Elizabeths West Campus Interpretive Signage, located at 2700 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue, SE in Washington, DC.

// Original Signed //

September 26, 2019

Marcel Acosta
Executive Director

Date