

Gulfport VA Medical Center

In 1922, the Veterans Bureau (later Veterans Affairs) established the Gulfport Medical Center (GVAMC) as a Neuropsychiatric Division in the eastern limits of the City of Gulfport, approximately nine miles west of the BVAMC. Early development of the GVAMC property began in 1916 when the site was selected for a Centennial Exposition to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Mississippi's admittance into the Union. Scheduled to open on December 10, 1917, the Centennial Exposition never occurred due to the onset of World War I. The U.S. Navy briefly occupied the site during the war for use as a training camp.



Gulfport's hospital buildings were designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style similar to the Centennial buildings. GVAMC used the Centennial Exposition's Administration Building until 1951. In 1955, the Biloxi and Gulfport facilities were merged under one administration.

Hurricane Katrina

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast Region. A catastrophic tidal surge caused by the hurricane ravaged GVAMC prompting the facility's closing and ultimate transfer of its services to the BVAMC. VA transferred the GVAMC site to the City of Gulfport in 2009.

Biloxi National Cemetery

*"IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO
SERVED THEIR COUNTRY."*

Founded in March 1934, the original 24-acre Biloxi Cemetery was cleared and graded from the vast, oak-shaded acreage of the BVAMC reservation. In May 1941, VA erected a 30-foot tall war memorial monument at the south end of the Cemetery Boulevard. This impressive limestone monument serves as a historical and visual landmark of the cemetery. In 1973, the cemetery became part of the National Cemetery Administration.



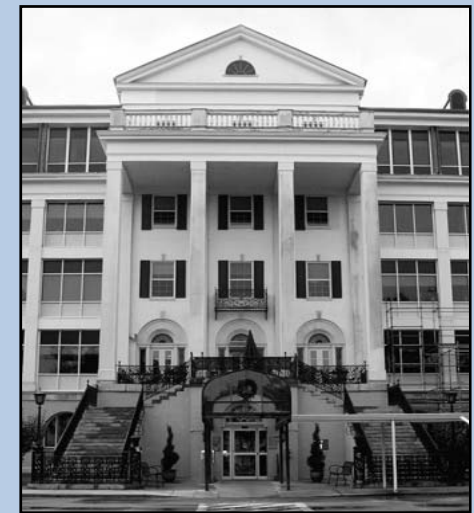
Biloxi National Cemetery
P.O. Box 4968, Biloxi, MS 39535-4968
(228) 388-6668
www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/biloxi.asp

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS



BILOXI VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

A Historical Perspective



**VA GULF COAST VETERANS
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

