

# PHILADELPHIA NAVAL HOSPITAL

## ART DECO COLLECTION

### 1935



Presented by:  
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# PHILADELPHIA NAVAL HOSPITAL ART DECO COLLECTION 1935

This extraordinary collection represents one of the most significant intact assemblages of Depression-era institutional Art Deco design to reach the private market.

Salvaged from the 1935 Philadelphia Naval Hospital during its demolition, these architectural elements showcase the optimism and craftsmanship of New Deal-era public works projects.

The collection includes a monumental congressional dedication plaque and a pair of decorative maritime panels that exemplify the machine-age aesthetic applied to institutional design. Each piece bears the patina of its 90-year history while retaining remarkable structural integrity.

What makes this collection exceptional is its completeness and documented provenance. Unlike isolated salvage pieces, this assemblage tells the story of how the federal government brought modernist design principles to military medical facilities during a pivotal moment in American history.



## THE COLLECTION

Congressional Dedication Plaque  
Approximate Dimensions: 48" H x 36"

Material: Anodized Aluminum with  
raised relief

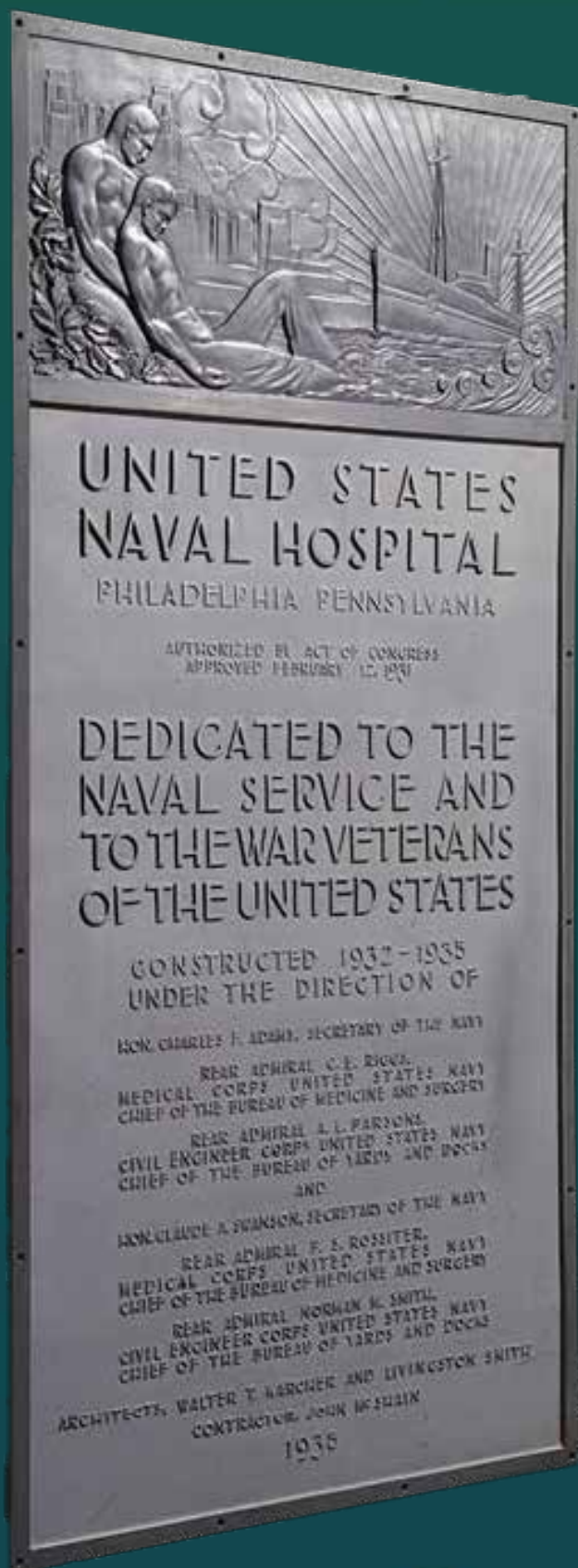
Description: Monumental plaque with  
congressional authorization text and  
Art Deco maritime relief scene. Features  
detailed ship imagery and patriotic  
iconography.

Bears inscription

"DEDICATED TO THE NAVAL SERVICE  
AND TO THE WAR VETERANS OF  
THE UNITED STATES"

with full construction details and  
congressional authorization. Original patina  
preserved through professional restoration.  
The maritime connection adds another layer  
of significance for collectors of naval history  
and institutional Americana.

These pieces have been professionally  
stored and maintained, ready for museum  
installation, luxury hospitality projects, or  
distinguished private collections.



# MARITIME DECORATIVE PANELS (PAIR)

Approximate Dimensions: 96" H x 36" W each

Material: Anodized Aluminum with geometric pierced design

Description: Matching pair of architectural panels originally serving as decorative heater grates. Feature stylized sailing ship motifs with geometric wave patterns in classic Art Deco style. Original bronze with machine-age streamline aesthetic. Museum-quality restoration completed. Panels could be adapted for contemporary use as illuminated lightboxes while preserving their historical integrity.

Both pieces feature:

- Documented provenance from 1935 Philadelphia Naval Hospital
- Professional museum-standard restoration
- HABS (Historic American Buildings Survey) documentation
- Climate-controlled storage
- Ready for installation



# COLLECTION HISTORY & SIGNIFICANCE

Original Construction: 1935, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Architect: Federal Public Works Administration

Original Project Cost: \$3.19 million (equivalent to approximately \$70 million today)

Authorization: Act of Congress, dedicated to U.S. Naval Service and War Veterans

The Philadelphia Naval Hospital represented the pinnacle of New Deal-era institutional architecture, combining Art Deco aesthetics with functional medical facility design. The building's demolition makes this collection irreplaceable - these are the only surviving architectural elements from this significant federal installation.



# COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS




- Congressional authority documented on dedication plaque
- Authentic Depression-era federal commission work
- Museum-quality restoration by specialized conservators
- Ready for immediate installation
- Comprehensive photographic documentation available
- Historical research and HABS records included





## IDEAL FOR:


- Museum permanent collections (maritime, military, or Art Deco institutions)
  - Luxury Art Deco hotel restoration projects (Miami Beach, etc.)
  - Corporate headquarters seeking authentic period elements
  - High-end residential collectors
  - Yacht clubs and maritime institutions
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# AUTHENTICATION & DOCUMENTATION

Available Materials:

- Original HABS (Historic American Buildings Survey) records
  - Historical photographs of building and installation
  - Building dedication documents
  - Congressional authorization records
  - Professional conservation reports
  - Complete provenance chain of custody
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# CONTACT INFORMATION

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Complete inventory with detailed dimensions, condition reports, and high-resolution photography available upon request.

