The VA is located in Brentwood, CA, a relatively well-to-do area in Los Angeles. The VA grounds include several historical buildings, the Jackie Robinson baseball field, the Vets’ Garden, 2 theaters, and a putting green, in addition to patient care/housing facilities of various types.
The West LA VA is one of the largest VA campuses in the USA. The grounds are divided into a “north side” and “south side” by Wilshire Blvd. The main hospital building (Bldg. 500, “Wadsworth”) is on the south side. The Eyecare Center, in bldg. 304, is immediately west of Bldg. 500.
This map is provided to trainees; it does not include all the buildings.
WLAVA’s main entrance— the bridge is Wilshire Blvd; Bldg. 500 is in view
WLAVA grounds near Bldg. 304
WLAVA grounds near Bldg. 304
Bldg. 304, where the Eyecare Center is located, was the original hospital, built in the 1950s. Wadsworth, what is now our main hospital (Bldg. 500), was built in 1972. The west wing of Bldg. 304 was renovated (2004-2005) to accommodate the new Eyecare Center and Prosthetics Services.
In 2009-2010, the north-east wing of Bldg. 304 was renovated for Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R). The PM&R clinic in Bldg. 304 provides services to veterans with traumatic brain injury (TBI). The Falls Clinic is also located in this area.
Bldg. 304: north entrance
Remnants of the original “grand entrance” can be seen on the east side of the building.

An exercise track for PM&R has recently been completed. This track is open for anyone to use.
Bldg. 304’s exercise track
Bldg. 304 as viewed from Bldg. 500
As one enters the north side of Bldg. 304, Prosthetics Services is located to the west (right)
Bldg. 304

The upper floor and south-east wing of the building contain research facilities.

The Eyecare Center is on the ground (1st) floor, toward the south end of the building.

The MRI clinic is in a building connected to bldg. 304’s basement, on the southwest side.
Bldg. 304: north entrance
Eyecare Center

As one approaches the Eyecare Center along Bldg. 304’s main corridor, there is a separate entry into the Eyecare Center’s administrative area.
As one enters the Eyecare Center from the main hallway, there are two offices on the left for Vision Rehabilitation (Low Vision) staff.

The main clinic waiting area is on the left and the Reception Desk to the right.

The Eyecare Center’s Conference room (and lunch room) is just beyond the waiting area on the left.
Main entrance to Eyecare Center
Eyecare Center main waiting room
Eyecare Center conference room
Eyecare Center reception desk
Eyecare Center reception desk

- The reception desk has a “network” laser printer and a photocopy/fax machine
Optical Dispensary

The optical dispensary is located near the Eyecare Center’s reception area.

The Dispensary has 2 work stations for opticians/health technicians.
Clinic Circle

The clinical/patient care rooms of the Eyecare Center are arrayed around a “circular” hallway.

Special testing/procedure rooms are in the center

Examination lanes are around the periphery
East Hallway

This is the view down the hallway that comprises the east side of the “circle”. The Triage rooms and visual fields rooms are to the right.

The reception desk, clerk supervisor’s office, and low vision exam room are to the left.
East Hallway
The Optometry Triage room is sometimes used for pretesting. It contains:

- A/B scan ultrasound unit
- FDT perimeter
- Goldmann perimeter
- Lensometer
- Supplies
Ophthalmology Triage Rooms

Ophthalmology’s Triage rooms (2) each contain an autorefractor/autolensometer unit.
Optometry’s Triage room
Automated Perimeters

The Clinic has 3 Humphreys perimeters in 2 rooms.
The room with the solitary Humphreys perimeter is designated for Optometry and the 2-unit room for Ophthalmology.
Humphreys Visual field
Humphreys Visual fields
Examination lanes

One examination lane was turned into the office, demonstration device storage, and main exam room for Low Vision Optometry in October 2008.
Low Vision Examination room/office
Examination lanes

Examination Lanes 1-6 are Optometry’s

Exam Lanes 7-12 are Ophthalmology’s
Examination Room 4
Examination Room 5
South Hallway

Exam Room 1 is along the east hallway of the “circle”.
Exam Rooms 2-6 (and Ophthalmology’s Rooms 7-9) are along the south hallway of the “circle”.
There is a small ophthalmology subwaiting area and nurses’ station within the south hallway.
South hallway subwaiting area
Nurses’ Station
The West hallway of the “circle” is comprised of Ophthalmology’s Exam Rooms 10-12 and a workup room for FAs on one side (west side, periphery).

The other side has a “clean room” (supply and pharmaceuticals storage), OCT, & Photo room (east side, central).
West hallway of the Clinic Circle
Spectralis OCT
Photo Room

- The Zeiss digital fundus camera was installed in January 2006.
Photo Room
North Hallway of clinic circle

- The north hallway has a small subwaiting area for patients who are waiting to have an FA or laser therapy.
- A “soiled” room is for instruments to be sterilized
- IOLMaster and Orbscan topographer
North Hallway of clinic circle
North Subwaiting area
Orbscan topographer
Lava Lamps

- Each examination room has a mini color-changing lava lamp for the patient’s entertainment while the clinician is away from the room.
Lava Lamps
Just across from the west hallway’s subwaiting area is the entrance to the administrative area.

The Administrative offices are within an L-shaped corridor.

The first administrative office one encounters upon leaving the clinic is Dr. Ilsen’s, the program coordinator.
Program Coordinator’s office
Next to Dr. Ilsen’s office is the office of the Director of Eyecare Services of GLA.

The Ophthalmology Attendings’ room is where the Wednesday Morning Fluorescein Angiography Conferences are held. This room also has a photocopy/FAX machine.
There is an Ophthalmology administrative office next to the Attendings’ office, usually used by the Chief of Ophthalmology.

Opposite this office is a very small “kitchenette” – sink, microwave, and refrigerator.
Toward the exit of the “L” of the administrative area are the offices of the Chief of Optometry (Dr. Bright) and the Optometry residents’ office.
Dr. Bright’s office (Chief of Optometry)
Optometry residents’ office

- the Optometry residents’ office has 4 computer workstations
- this is where the Monday morning "Case Presentation/Discussion" and Friday morning eRounds and Case Reviews are conducted.
Optometry residents’ office
Optometry residents’ office
Nursing Homes (CLCs)

- There are two nursing homes on the north side of the VA campus served by Optometry residents, in buildings 215 and 213.
- The nursing homes have been renamed “Community Living Centers” (CLCs)
- Residents spend most of their time in Nursing Home 215 (CLC 215)
Nursing Homes (CLCs)

- Buildings 213 and 215 are historical old buildings which have been extensively renovated and refurbished
CLC 215’s west entry
View from CLC 215’s west entry
Nursing home (CLC) 215

- A treatment room in CLC 215 serves as an optometric examination lane. Patients who can be brought to the exam room from CLC 215 and CLC 213 are seen in this room.

- The room has an exam chair & stand, slit lamp, phoropter, conventional lensometer, and BIO
There are also 2 carts for portable equipment for bedside exams in CLC215.

There are a portable lensometer, hand-held slit lamp, and hand-held tonometer for the exam carts.
A hand-held autorefractor shared by the Nursing Home and GRECC is kept at the Eye Care Center in Bldg. 304.

A back-up hand-held slit lamp is also kept at the Eye Care Center in bldg. 304.
Optometry Exam room in CLC 215
Optometry Exam room in CLC 215
Interdisciplinary Team meetings

- Residents participate in interdisciplinary team meetings at the CLCs
Nursing Home CLC 215
Interdisciplinary Team meeting room
CLC 213’s south entry
CLC 213’s lobby
CLC 213’s Team Meeting room
The Optometry Residents serve on the outpatient and inpatient Interdisciplinary Teams of the Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinic Center.

The GRECC outpatient team meets on the 4th floor of the main hospital.

The GRECC inpatient ward is on the 2nd floor of the main hospital.
The Resident conducts bedside exams at the GRECC inpatient ward using portable equipment which is stored in the dayroom/dining room closet on the ward.

A hand-held autorefractor and back-up hand-held slit lamp are kept at the Eyecare Center in Bldg. 304.
Patients requiring further procedures are transported to the Eyecare Center
GRECC equipment cart
GRECC trainee room
GRECC Inpatient Interdisciplinary Team meeting room
Other components of the WLAVA program

- WLAVA Residents attend Optometry Clinical Seminars every Wednesday afternoon.
Other components of the WLAVA program

- Approximately 2/3 of the Seminars are conducted at WLAVA
- One session is at the center for the partially sighted in Santa Monica
- The remaining 1/3 of the Seminars are conducted at the Sepulveda VA, approximately 15 miles north of WLAVA
Other components of the WLAVA program

- Residents may visit other disciplines’ clinics for observation; most of the other clinics are located in the main hospital.
Other components of the WLAVA program

- There is a small medical library on the 6th floor of the main hospital; however, Optometry Residents rarely need to make use of this facility with the other resources they have available to them.
That’s the end of our e-tour!