HABS No. CO-172-BK

Fitzsimons General Hospital, Ambulent Tubercular Ward
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Building No. 503)
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Clinics)

HABS
COLO
1-AUR,
2BK-

Southeast corner of East Bushnell Ave. and South Hickey St.
Aurora
Adams County
Colorado

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL, AMBULENT TUBERCULAR WARD
(FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL, BUILDING NO. 503)
(FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL, CLINICS)

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For information on the history of Fitzsimons General Hospital, see HABS No. CO-172. For information on other structures at the Hospital, see HABS No. CO-172-A through CO-172-CI. For information on a building of the same original plan, see HABS No. CO-172-BJ and HABS No. CO-172-CH.

Location: Fitzsimons General Hospital, Ambulent Tubercular Ward
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Southeast corner of East Bushnell Ave. and South Hickey St.
Aurora
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Significance: This building functioned originally as a Semi-Infirmary Tubercular ward. One of eight such buildings erected on the post, it was constructed during the second building phase at Fitzsimons which directly followed World War I. As such, it is significant for its association with the early development of the Hospital. It is also representative of buildings designed for the housing and treatment of tuberculosis patients in the military. This building retains integrity of scale, setting, materials, and craftsmanship.

Description: This two-story, Mission Revival-style, concrete and hollow block building on a concrete foundation is built to a linear plan which faces south. Projecting bays with shaped parapets are centered on both the south and north elevations. The building measures 18,148 square feet. The metal covered roof is a simple gable design with cross gables over the projecting bays. The exterior of the building is stucco. Fenestration on the first story consists of bands of paired six-over-six windows. On the second story fenestration consists of tripled six-over-six windows. Windows on the western portion of the facade at the second story each have 30 lights. Open porches with wood post supports on the first and second stories of the east and west elevations contain stairs. Three entrances to the building are located on the south facade.

History: Building 503 was constructed in 1919 as a Semi-Infirmary Tubercular ward according to Quartermaster Corps/ Construction Division Standard Plan K-108. Plan K-108 was designed as compromise between an infirmary and an ambulatory ward. In comparison to the ambulatory wards, these buildings had more heating and were less open in front.

Several alterations have been made to this building. In 1924 the building was converted into a nero-psychiatric ward. The original design included two-story open porches along the facade. At an early date, roofs were built over these porches and by 1940, these porches had been screened or enclosed. During the 1970's the slope of the roof was altered to provide better drainage and security screens were added to the windows. One window has been covered up on the facade.

Currently, this building houses a police station.

Sources: Cultural Resources Study: Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Final Submittal, 15 August 1991, prepared by Front Range Research Associates, Inc., Denver

"Real Property Record-Buildings and Structures" (June 10, 1946)

Project Information: This building will be demolished to clear the site for two Military Construction, Army (MCA) projects. The first MCA project is the Central Energy Plant, which is needed to support the second MCA project, the New Hospital project.

Historian: Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc.
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