

HABS No. CO-172-CH

Fitzsimons General Hospital, Semi-Infirmery Tubercular Ward
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Building No. 618)
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Ochampus Office Bldg.)

Southeast corner of East Hunter Avenue and South Page St.
Aurora
Adams County
Colorado

HABS
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

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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 constructed from the same plan, see HABS No. CO-172-BK and HABS No. CO-172-BJ.

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Significance: The Semi-Infirmery Tubercular Ward is significant as being one of eight such wards constructed at Fitzsimons Hospital during World War I (including Building 503, HABS No. CO-172-BK and Building 502, HABS No. CO-172-BJ). The building, completed in 1919, was part of the second phase of construction at the post. The building's design was based on a standard plan for an Army tubercular ward and its style, reflecting Mission Revival influences, reflects that chosen for the early buildings at the post. The building retains a high degree of historic integrity of location, setting, scale, design, materials, and craftsmanship.

Description: This two-story, tile and concrete, south-facing, long, basically rectangular building rests on a concrete foundation and occupies 17,959 square feet. Its stuccoed walls features a watertable and partial beltcourse. The side-gable roof is covered with composition shingles. A centrally located projecting bay on both the north and south elevations has a decorative, stepped parapet. On the front facade, fenestration consists of groups of three, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows with stone sills. The sides and rear of the building display the same window type, but are singly arranged. The main entrance is located in the projecting, east bay and is protected by a gable-roofed entry porch. Its double door is a replacement, but it retains its transom light. Numerous other entrances are present around the building's perimeter.

History: This building was constructed in 1919 by the Denver firm of C. S. Lambie Co. according to Quartermaster Corps/Construction Division Plan K-108. Its construction was part of the second phase of building at Fitzsimons Hospital and was related to its development as a tubercular hospital during World War I. Plan K-108 was a standard plan kept by the Surgeon General's Office for semi-infirmery tuberculosis wards. The semi-infirmery ward was a compromise between the infirmery ward for patients confined to bed and the ambulant ward, which was less enclosed and had less heating. By 1925, the building had been converted to an ambulant ward.

This building originally featured open porches along the southern, eastern, and western elevations. These porches were enclosed before 1940. The steps and platforms were remodeled in 1957.

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.
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
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