

FORT SNELLING, ARTILLERY WORKSHOP
(Fort Snelling, Bldg. No. 205)
Bloomington Road
Minneapolis Vicinity
Hennepin County
Minnesota

HABS No. MN-56-DD

HABS
MINN
27-FOSNEL,
2DD-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

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PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1903
2. Architect: Unknown
3. Original and subsequent owners: United States Government
4. Builders, contractors, suppliers: Unknown
5. Original plans and construction: Unknown
6. Alterations and additions: Oil lamps were replaced with electric lighting at an unknown date for approximately \$75. Photographs taken ca. 1905 indicate that two garage doors flanked the middle door on the northeast side; these were later removed and replaced with one-over-one double-hung sash windows. The newer windows were made to look like the others with segmented brick arches above the lintels and tooled stone or concrete sills. This building originally had no plumbing, but a sink and toilet have been added. The Bureau of Mines added a plasticized seamless floor (the original wood and brick floor was probably removed sometime before this), and replaced the furnace in the early 1980s. Historic photographs also indicate a stone chimney along ridge line; this was replaced by a pipe chimney. Little remains in the interior that is historic.¹

- B. Historical Context: For context of site, see HABS No. MN-56-AA: Fort Snelling, Building 202, Part I.B. Building 205 was built in 1903 as a horseshoeing shop for the field artillery horses. This and the surrounding buildings were used as the post motor pool prior to World War II, and for the supply and service division area during the war. After the war, the building was transferred first to the Veterans' Administration and then to the Air Force. Ca. 1970, after the building was turned over to the Bureau of Mines, the structure housed an auto maintenance administration office and large rock specimens.²

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is a small, one-story, brick, rectangular, gable-roofed box.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 20' x 45'

¹Information from Q.C., Building 205; Troop; and W.V. Morris to Arthur Klippen, 30 September 1971, in file "Prop. Mgmt. PRM 8 Space 1966-1972" in Administrative Officer's files at the Bureau of Mines, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

²Q.C., Building 205; Saint Paul Pioneer Press, 4; Grant; and Department of Veterans Affairs.

2. Foundations: Stone.
3. Walls: Red brick; laid in running bond.
4. Structural system, framing: Brick walls are bearing.
5. Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads: None.
6. Chimneys: The building has two metal pipe chimneys, with one located on the ridge line on northwest side; and one on the slope in the south-southwest corner.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The entrance to the building is through one wood panel door, with a screen door, in the middle of the southwest side.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Five six-over-six double-hung sash windows, and two one-over-one double-hung sash windows have segmental arch lintels and tooled stone sills. Some have storm windows and screens.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: The medium-slope gable roof has original slate covering.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Rafters and purlins on all sides are partially exposed, covered by wooden fascia boards. The rafters on the southeast and northwest sides end with a reverse curve. Gutters are present, but some of the downspouts, visible in historic photographs on each corner, are missing.
 - c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: None.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: Conflicting building records indicate floor areas ranging from 731 square feet to 820 square feet. The door on the southwest side leads into a rectangular hallway. One door leads southeast into the bathroom, another leads northeast into the center room, and a third door opens into the northwest room. There are two additional rooms along the southeast wall, which can be reached through a door in the center room.
2. Stairways: None.
3. Flooring: Plasticized seamless floor.
4. Wall and ceiling finishes: Outside walls are painted brick. Other walls are painted plywood nailed on 2" x 4"s.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Wood panel and standard manufactured doors; some doors are missing.
 - b. Windows: Windows have simple wood surrounds.

6. Decorative features and trim: None.
 7. Hardware: Standard metal doorknobs.
 8. Mechanical equipment:
 - a. Heating, air conditioning, ventilation: A furnace installed in the early 1980s heats the building through visible overhead metal vents. Attic vents on both gable walls ventilate the attic, and a square metal vent leads out from the west room.
 - b. Lighting: Modern fluorescent fixtures hang from the ceiling by chains in the center and southeast rooms.
 - c. Plumbing: A sink and toilet are modern additions.
- D. Site: For site information, see HABS No. MN-56-AA: Fort Snelling, Building 202, Part II.D.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

See HABS No. MN-56-AA: Fort Snelling, Building 202, Part III.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

See HABS No. MN-56-AA: Fort Snelling, Building 202, Part IV. The report was prepared in October 1992 by historians Charlene K. Roise and Deanne L. Zibell of Hess, Roise and Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota.