

CAMP WILLIAMS
(128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area Subcomplex, Building No.
204)
(Camp Williams-Volk Field National Guard Training Center)
204 Holden Street
Camp Douglas
Juneau County
Wisconsin

HABS WI-381-B-1
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

CAMP WILLIAMS

(128TH INFANTRY REGIMENT CANTONMENT AREA SUBCOMPLEX–BUILDING 204)

- Location: 204 Holden Street
Camp Williams-Volk Field National Guard Training Center
Camp Douglas, Juneau County, Wisconsin
- Significance: Building 204 was constructed in 1940-1941 as the regimental headquarters building of the 128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area.
- History: Designed by Lieutenant Colonel Henry C. Hengles, Building 204 was constructed between 1940 and 1941 by the Works Progress Administration. It served as the regimental headquarters of the 128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area, and became in 1958 the headquarters of the Wisconsin Military Academy. The structure subsequently served from 1995 to 2001 as the administration facility of the Wisconsin National Guard Badger Challenge Academy, and from 2001 to 2005 as the headquarters building of the 32nd Infantry Brigade. Building 204 currently provides general office space.¹
- Description:
- A. General Statement: This building is constructed on a slight west northwest-east southeast axis. Directions have been simplified to north-south-east-west within this section.
1. Architectural character: Building 204 is a one-story, astylistic utilitarian, front-gabled structure. It was constructed of tan, glazed tiles with red brick accents at the gables, corners and doorways. Open eaves with exposed rafter tails, heavy timber purlins and lintels adorn the building. The roof is covered with red asphalt shingles. The north (main) and west facades have small, modern, red brick additions, while the east facade features a framed block that shelters a basement stairwell.
 2. Condition of Fabric: The exterior fabric is fair. Alterations include the brick additions to the north and west, covering the once-open basement stairwell with wood, and the wholesale replacement of windows and doors. The former regimental headquarters building has been updated for use as a

¹“New Mess Halls at Camp Williams,” *WNGR* 17:3 (May 1940): 5; Photographs of the WMA at Camp Williams, circa 1958, Located in Camp Williams Files, Facilities Management Office, Department of Military Affairs, Madison, WI.

modern office building. No original interior fabric remains.

B. Exterior Description:

1. General Description: Oriented on an east-west axis, the north (main) facade has at the center a small, modern entry block clad with red brick. It is served by a modern concrete staircase. To the east (left) are four regularly placed windows and to the west (right) are three. Three small basement windows are also east of the main entry.

The west facade is completely obscured by a 12' x 25' brick addition, the north side of which features a 40" x 80" metal door. The western endwall has a pair of 38½" x 50" windows.

Beginning at the southwest corner, the south facade claims three regularly placed, double-hung sash windows, a doorway infilled with red brick, and four additional window openings – the third of which has been converted into a doorway. Four basement windows are also apparent. A small, modern, wood deck is attached to the building, near the southeast corner.

The east gabled endwall has a basement staircase capped with a wood frame top. Two windows pierce the facade on the first floor. A single window provides light to the basement.

2. Overall Dimensions: The building is presently 87' x 25'. The original structure was 75' x 25'.
3. Foundations: The foundation is of poured concrete.
4. Walls: The walls are constructed with 12" x 5" tan glazed tile and are 8" thick. The tile is accented by red brick at the corners, around original doorways, within the wall chimney and on the gables at the eaves. The north and west additions have a brick veneer, while the cap over the basement staircase is of wood.
5. Roof: The gabled roof is sheathed with red asphalt shingles placed on 6" wide boards. The eaves are open with exposed 2 x 6 rafter tails placed on 24" centers. Exposed timber purlins on the east endwall are 6" x 6" and project 15½". The east gable is underscored by red brick accents. The original west endwall was highlighted by a wall chimney, the top of which projects above

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the roof peak. It is constructed of tan, glazed tiles with red brick accented corners. It is capped with concrete and has two round tile flues. A concrete block firewall that rises four courses above the roof separates the west side addition from the original building.

6. Openings:

A. Windows: Windows on the first floor are regularly placed throughout the building. Each has a concrete sill and a 5½" thick timber lintel. The windows are generally fitted with replacement, vinyl-clad, double-hung sashes with six-lights and snap-in muntins. They are set in openings of 37" x 59". Basement windows are 13¾" x 34".

B. Doorways: The door for the entry block addition on the north facade is metal and fits within a 40" x 82" opening. The basement entry door is 42" x 79", while the doorway on the south facade is 37" x 80".

C. Interior Description:

1. General Description: The original configuration of this building's interior is not known. It was constructed as a regimental headquarters with a full basement. The structure has been completely renovated and includes multiple office spaces.

D. Setting:

Building 204 is a component of the 128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area Subcomplex, which also includes Building 205 (HABS WI-381-B-2), Building 206 (HABS WI-381-B-3), Building 207 (HABS WI-381-B-4), Building 208 (HABS WI-381-B-5), Building 209 (HABS WI-381-B-6), Building 210 (HABS WI-381-B-7), Building 212 (HABS WI-381-B-8), Building 213 (HABS WI-381-B-9), Building 214 (HABS WI-381-B-10), Building 215 (HABS WI-381-B-11), Building 216 (HABS WI-381-B-12), Building 217 (HABS WI-381-B-13) and Buildings 218-219 (HABS WI-381-B-14). Additional components of the general Camp Williams complex include the 127th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area (HABS WI-381-A) and the former Officer's Club and present day museum (HABS WI-381-C).

Sources: Citations for all sources in common with the 128th Subcomplex are provided in the "Sources" section of Subcomplex's overview document (HABS No. WI-381-B). Two additional sources were used and are cited below.

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“New Mess Halls at Camp Williams,” *Wisconsin National Guard Review* 17:3 (May 1940).

Photographs of the WMA at Camp Williams, circa 1958, Located in Camp Williams Files, Facilities Management Office, Department of Military Affairs, Madison, WI.

Historians: Brian J. Faltinson, M.A., Principal Investigator, and John N. Vogel, Ph.D., Project Director, Heritage Research, Ltd., 2009.