

CAMP WILLIAMS
(128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area Subcomplex, Building No.
207)
(Camp Williams-Volk Field National Guard Training Center)
207 Holden Street
Camp Douglas
Juneau County
Wisconsin

HABS WI-381-B-4
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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 207)

- Location: 207 Holden Street
Camp Williams-Volk Field National Guard Training Center
Camp Douglas, Juneau County, Wisconsin
- Significance: Building 207 was constructed in 1940-1941 as a company mess hall for the 128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area.
- History: Building 207 was designed by Lieutenant Colonel Henry C. Hengles and constructed between 1940 and 1941 by the Works Progress Administration. It served as a company mess hall for the 128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area and replaced a wood-frame structure. The building was subsequently converted in 1958 into a barracks and used by the Wisconsin Military Academy. Thereafter, it was a component from 1995 to 2001 of the Wisconsin National Guard Badger Challenge Academy. The structure has been used since 2001 for storage by the 32nd Infantry Brigade.¹ A detailed history of the subcomplex is provided in the document for HABS No. WI-381-B.

Description:

- A. General Statement: This building is constructed on a slight north northeast-south southwest axis. Directions have been simplified to north-south-east-west within this section.
1. Architectural character: Building 207 is a one-story, astylistic utilitarian, front-gabled structure constructed of tan, glazed tiles with red brick accents at the gables, corners and doorways. A wall chimney, open eaves with exposed rafter tails, heavy timber purlins and lintels adorn the building. The roof is sheathed with red asphalt shingles and features at the peak four metal cupola vents.
 2. Condition of Fabric: The exterior fabric is very good. Alterations are limited to the wholesale replacement of windows. The kitchen was converted in 1958 into a latrine and the dining hall into an open barracks bay. The building is now used for storage and the open barracks bay is partitioned with

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.

framed walls.

B. Exterior Description:

1. General Description: Oriented on a north-south axis, the gabled north (main) facade has a central double door flanked by replacement double-hung sashes. A louvered vent underlined with a thin concrete sill is set in the gable peak. The open eaves are supported by five heavy timber purlins.

Beginning at the northwest corner, the west facade is pierced by six regularly placed, double-hung sash windows and two smaller double-hung sashes that are consistent with the former kitchen area. A doorway that once provided access to the kitchen is found at the southwest corner.

The south gabled endwall is defined by a central wall chimney flanked by a large, eight-over-eight-light, double-hung sash to the west (left) and a glass block window on the east (right).

Starting at the southeast corner, the east facade is occupied by a window opening infilled with matching block, a double-hung sash and a doorway that provides access to the former dining hall. The rest of the facade is pierced by six regularly spaced, double-hung sashes that mirror those on the west facade.

2. Overall Dimensions: The building is 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 doorways, within the wall chimney and on the gables at the eaves.
5. Roof: The gabled roof is sheathed with red asphalt shingles laid on 6" wide boards. It is pierced at the peak by four metal cupola vents. The eaves are open with exposed 2 x 6 rafter tails set on 24" centers. Exposed timber purlins on the north (five) and south (six) gabled endwalls are 6" x 6" and project 15½". The gables are underscored by red brick accents.
6. Openings:

A. Windows: Windows are regularly placed throughout the building. Each

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has a concrete sill and a 5½" thick timber lintel. Generally, the windows are fitted with replacement, vinyl-clad, double-hung sashes with six-light, snap-in muntins.

The two windows on the north (main) facade are 37" x 59". The windows on the east and west facades, closest to the north facade, are also 37" x 59". Two smaller double-hung sashes on the west facade that coincide with the former kitchen are 37" wide x 35½" tall, while the openings on the south facade that flank the wall chimney are 49" x 59½". All remaining window openings are 37" x 51".

B. Doorways: All doors are original with five panels of wood. They are set in openings that are topped with 5½" thick wood lintels and surrounded by red brick. The double doorway on the north (main) facade is 67" x 80½". The door openings on the west and east facades are 39½" x 80½".

7. Chimney: A wall chimney constructed of tan, glazed tiles with red brick accents at the corners is centered on the south gabled endwall. It is 50" wide and projects 11". Two ash cleanouts are at the bottom of the chimney and are infilled with concrete blocks. The top has a concrete cap pierced by two round tile flues.

C. Interior Description:

1. General Description: The south end of the building originally contained a kitchen, while the rest of the structure was occupied by an open dining hall. The kitchen was converted in 1958 into a latrine. The dining hall then became an open barracks bay, which has since been converted to storage space by the construction of wood frame partition walls.

D. Setting:

Building 207 is a component of the 128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area Subcomplex, which also includes Building 204 (HABS WI-381-B-1), Building 205 (HABS WI-381-B-2), Building 206 (HABS WI-381-B-3), 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

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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.

"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.