

CAMP WILLIAMS
(128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area Subcomplex, Building No.
210)
(Camp Williams-Volk Field National Guard Training Center)
210 Holden Street
Camp Douglas
Juneau County
Wisconsin

HABS WI-381-B-7
HABS WI-381-B-7

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 210)

- Location: 210 Holden Street
Camp Williams-Volk Field National Guard Training Center
Camp Douglas, Juneau County, Wisconsin
- Significance: Building 210 was constructed in 1940-1941 as two separate company mess halls for the 128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area.
- History: Building 210 was designed by Lieutenant Colonel Henry C. Hengles and erected between 1940 and 1941 by the Works Progress Administration as a pair of company mess halls for 128th Infantry Regiment Cantonment Area. The two structures replaced two wood-frame buildings. They were subsequently joined by a hyphen and converted in 1958 into a large, central mess hall for use by the Wisconsin Military Academy. The building later served in 1995 to 2001 as was part of the Wisconsin National Guard Badger Challenge Academy. The facility has been used since 2001 as a medical examination site for deploying soldiers of the Wisconsin National Guard.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 210 is a U-shaped structure that consists of two original 1940-41 mess halls (east and west wing buildings) connected by a large, concrete-block hyphen that was constructed in 1958. Each original mess hall 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 roofs are covered with red asphalt shingles and features at the peak four metal cupola vents. The hyphen is constructed of concrete block and features a central entrance enhanced 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.

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a red brick veneer. A small concrete block addition devoid of fenestration projects from the west wing building's western facade.

2. Condition of Fabric: The exterior fabric is fair. A large hyphen of concrete block connects two, historically separate buildings. Alterations specific to the two unique structures are limited to the wholesale replacement of windows and doors. The two buildings were connected to form a large, central mess hall. Since that time, much of the building has been converted into a medical examination facility. The interior has been renovated.

B. Exterior Description:

1. General Description:

A. East Wing Building: Oriented on a north-south axis, the gabled north (main) facade has a central double doorway 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 four, regularly placed, double-hung windows. Four additional windows once continued along the facade. But that space is now occupied by the hyphen. A doorway that once provided access to the original kitchen exists near the southwest corner.

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

Starting at the southeast corner, the east facade is pierced by a door that originally served the kitchen, two smaller windows and a second doorway that is infilled with concrete block. The remainder of the facade claims six, regularly spaced, double-hung sashes.

B. West Wing Building: Oriented on a north-south axis, the gabled north (main) facade is pierced by a central, double doorway with a replacement, metal door and red brick infill. It is 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.

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Beginning at the northwest corner, the west facade is pierced by six regularly placed double-hung sash windows, the third of which is infilled with concrete block. The remainder of the facade is occupied by a 20' 1" x 12' concrete block addition.

The south gabled endwall has a central wall chimney flanked by a window opening converted into a doorway to the west (left) and a double-hung window to the east (right).

Beginning at the southeast corner, the east facade claims a metal door. Four, regularly placed windows are set in the facade that is north of the hyphen. The second window from the northeast corner is infilled with concrete block.

C. Hyphen: The north side of the hyphen contains the building's main entrance and consists of a 12' x 10' entry block faced with red brick. The remaining walls are concrete block. A 64" x 50" glass block window flanks the entryway. The hyphen's south side has two 40" x 33" awning windows.

2. Overall Dimensions: Each mess hall building is 75' x 25', while the hyphen is approximately 34' x 30'. A concrete block addition attached to the west wing building's western facade projects 12' and is 20' 1" wide.
3. Foundations: The foundation is of poured concrete.
4. Walls: The walls of the two wing structures are built of 12" x 5" tan, glazed tiles 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 hyphen is constructed of concrete block. Its entry is faced with red brick.
5. Roof: The gabled roof for the two wing buildings is covered with red asphalt shingles placed on 6" wide boards. It is pierced at the peak by three 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. The hyphen is sheathed with red shingles and contains modern kitchen exhaust vents.
6. Openings:
 - A. Windows: Windows are regularly placed throughout the original two

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buildings. 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-light, snap-in muntins.

The two windows on the north (main) facade of each wing building measures 37" x 59". Two smaller, double-hung sashes on the east facade of the east wing building that coincide with the former kitchen are 37" wide x 35½" tall. The openings on the south facade that flank the wall chimneys are 49" x 59½". All other windows on the original buildings are 37" x 51".

B. Doorways: All doors are metal replacements. Those in original openings on the wing buildings are crowned by 5½" thick wood lintels and feature red brick surrounds. The double doorways on the north (main) facades measures 67" x 80½" and are fitted with 40½" x 82" metal doors and red brick infill. The remaining original door openings 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 endwalls of the two original structures. Each is 50" wide and projects 11". Two ash cleanouts at the bottom are infilled with small concrete blocks. The top is crowned with a concrete cap pierced by two round tile flues.

C. Interior Description:

1. General Description: The south end of the two wing buildings originally contained a kitchen, while the rest of the structure was occupied by an open dining hall. The two buildings were joined by a hyphen in 1958 to create a large, central mess hall. Since then, the structure has been converted into a medical examination facility. It has been completely modernized.

D. Setting:

Building 210 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 207 (HABS WI-381-B-4), Building 208 (HABS WI-381-B-5), Building 209 (HABS WI-381-B-6), 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.