

Old Guard House
Fort Laramie, Wyoming

HABS
WYO
8-FOLA,
3F-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

See also: Old Guard House, Fort Laramie, Wyo.

HABS
WYO,
6-FDLA,
3F-

OLD GUARD HOUSE
Fort Laramie, Wyoming

CUSTODIAN

United States
Department of Interior
National Park Service

DATE OF ERECTION

Erected in 1866.

BUILDER

Designed and built by the Engineering Department of U. S. Army.

PRESENT CONDITION

The exterior walls are of sand stone laid up with lime mortar and are in fair condition. The mortar has fallen out in places and a few stones are loose but no serious cracks have developed. The roof was reshingled, roof vent rebuilt and eaves repaired in 1940. Windows and doors are in poor condition. The frames have deteriorated badly. The wood floor in basement has practically all been removed. The flooring of first floor is in poor condition due to rain and snow blowing in. Plaster on walls has fallen off in many places.

NUMBER OF STORIES

One story. The front facing the parade ground is one story. The grade in the rear drops down to approximate level with the basement floor.

MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION

The foundation wall, approximately 25 inches thick, is of sand stone laid up with lime mortar. The exterior walls are of the same material approximately 21 inches thick up to plate line. The end gables are of brick--same thickness as walls. The roof is of 2" x 6" rafters with 1 inch sheathing and 4/2-16" wood shingles laid 4 1/2 inches to weather.

The floor of basement was originally 2 inch plank flooring on 4" x 4" sleepers laid on ground.

The floor of first floor is of 2 inch plank flooring on 6" x 8" beam joist.

Windows are of casement type, hinged at side to swing in. Many windows are missing, and several openings have been blocked up with adobe brick. Window frames are approximately 3" x 8-1/2".

Doors are built up of two thicknesses of 2 inch plank well nailed together.

The interior walls of basement and first floor were originally plastered with smooth finish plaster on stone walls. It has mostly fallen off in the basement and partly fallen off on first floor.

The ceiling of basement has the beams and underside of flooring exposed which has been whitewashed. The ceiling of first floor had 3/8" x 5-1/4" matched and beaded boards which have mostly been removed.

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