

HABS No. CO-172-BJ

Fitzsimons General Hospital, Semi-Infirmery Tubercular Ward
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Building No. 502)
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Orthopedic and Podiatry Clinics)

Northwest corner of Charlie Kelly Blvd. and S. Hickey St.
Aurora
Adams County
Colorado

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL, SEMI-INFIRMARY TUBERCULAR WARD
(FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL, BUILDING NO. 502)
(FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL, ORTHOPEDIC AND PODIATRY CLINICS)

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For information on the history of Fitzsimons General Hospital, see HABS No. CO-172. For information on other structures at the Hospital, see HABS No. CO-172-A through CO-172-CI. For information on a building constructed from the same plan, see HABS No. CO-172-BK and HABS No. CO-172-CH.

Location: Fitzsimons General Hospital, Semi-Infirmory Tubercular Ward
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Building No. 502)
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Northwest corner of Charlie Kelly Blvd. and S. Hickey St.
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Significance: This building is significant for its association with the early development of Fitzsimons Hospital, having been among the second group of buildings constructed on the post in 1919. It is also significant for its representation of the architecture of buildings designed for housing and treatment of tuberculosis patients in the military. The building's dimensions, plan, and design all reflected accommodation to the latest medical theories regarding the treatment of tuberculosis, in particular, furnishing the patient with plenty of sunshine and fresh air.

Description: This two-story, concrete, south-facing, rectangular, orthopedic and podiatry clinic rests on a concrete foundation. The building measures 17,070 square feet. The walls are smooth stucco. The low-pitched, side-gable roof is covered with metal. There are projecting, central, two-story bays, with shaped parapets on the north and south facades. Fenestration consists of bands of paired and triple six-over-six double-hung sash. Open, two-story porches with post supports on east and west contain stairways. Entrances are located on each facade and are comprised of metal and glass.

History: Building 502, originally designated as Building 760, was constructed as part of the second phase of construction at the post in 1919. The building was originally utilized as a semi-infirmory tubercular ward and was specially designed for that purpose, with two-story porches on the facade.

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The interior wings were called sleeping porches, and beds in them were lined up flanking the windows. The central bays contained a day room, dressing room, toilet, bath, and linen facilities. Doctors' and nurses' offices flanked the central bay. The semi-infirmary ward was a compromise between the infirmary, where patients were confined to bed, and the ambulatory wards. The building reflects accommodations to the latest medical theories regarding the treatment of tuberculosis, in particular, furnishing the patient with plenty of sunshine and fresh air.

The building originally had two-story open porches on the facade. Before 1940 the porches had been enclosed. Other alterations that have been made to the building include the addition of a metal roofed, one-story addition on the east elevation, a covered passageway extending from the rear of the building to the main sidewalk, and metal roof covering.

Currently the building functions as the Orthopedic and Podiatry Clinics.

Sources: Cultural Resources Study: Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Final Submittal, 15 August 1991, prepared by Front Range Research Associates, Inc., Denver

"Real Property Record-Buildings and Structures"
(June 10, 1946)

Project

Information: This building will be demolished to clear the site for two Military Construction, Army (MCA) projects. The first MCA project is the Central Energy Plant, which is needed to support the second MCA project, the New Hospital project.

Historian: Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc.
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
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