

HABS No. CO-172-CG

Fitzsimons General Hospital, Fire Station
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Building No. 531)

Southwest corner of East Harlow Avenue and South Page St.
Aurora
Adams County
Colorado

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
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National Park Service
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL, FIRE STATION
(FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL, BUILDING NO. 531)

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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.

Location: Fitzsimons General Hospital, Fire Station
(Fitzsimons General Hospital, Building No. 531)
Southwest corner of East Harlow Avenue and South Page St.
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Significance: Building 531 is a fire station and was built in 1942 in the Art Moderne style. As such, it represents a new architectural style for the base, one that was ushered in the previous year by the then new hospital building. The Modernistic influence is evident in the building's flat roof, metal trim at the cornice line, its setbacks, and the horizontal emphasis provided by the bands of windows and corbelled brick trim. Like the hospital building, the fire house is constructed of blond brick rather than tile and stucco.

The fire house has traditionally played an important role at the base. The original fire buildings were decentralized and of low height. The present building represented a new emphasis on concentrating special functions under one roof, which was considered more efficient and economical than operating several buildings for the same purpose. Building 531 retains its historic integrity.

Description: This two-story, blond brick, east-facing, Art Moderne influenced building is composed of two, flat-roofed, rectangular blocks. The main block contains three apparatus bays, with six evenly spaced window openings on the second level. A smaller three-bay block is attached on the north side and provides the pedestrian entrance. The horizontal emphasis of the steel casement windows is enhanced by four, projecting brick course, regularly spaced along the length of the windows. The entrance retains its

original wide, three-part surround, but the wooden door is a replacement.

History: Building 531 was constructed in 1942 as a fire station, as part of an effort to consolidate fire fighting functions under one roof. Prior to that fire station buildings were decentralized, operating out of several buildings. Building 531 breaks with the post's traditional architectural style. Its blond brick and Art Moderne stylistic details stands in sharp contrast to the stuccoed walls and gable roofs of the original hospital buildings.

This building continues to operate as a fire station, and has not undergone any significant alterations.

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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