

MILWAUKEE COAST GUARD STATION
1600 North Lincoln Memorial Drive on McKinley Harbor
Milwaukee
Milwaukee County
Wisconsin

HAER WI-112
HAER WI-112

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

MILWAUKEE COAST GUARD STATION

HAER No. WI-112

- Location:** 1600 North Lincoln Memorial Drive on McKinley Harbor, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin
- Significance:** The Milwaukee Coast Guard Station was significant as one of the earliest stations built for the newly established U.S. Coast Guard.
- Description:** Located on the shores of Lake Michigan, the three-story Prairie-style building featured a five-story tower. The stucco-clad building had a hip roof. A one-story boathouse, built in 1938 to replace the original one at this site, was located on the Lake Michigan side of the station and extended north. A metal pedestrian bridge spanned the launchway.
- History:** The station was constructed between July 1915 and April 1916. The architect is unknown, but the plans appear to have been influenced by a conceptual set of drawings completed by local architect Alfred C. Clas in 1913. Jones & Payne of Milwaukee was the contractor. The Coast Guard built a new station at 2420 South Lincoln Memorial Drive and moved out of this one around 1970-1971. The Milwaukee American Indian Movement next used the station as an elementary and secondary school, as well as a halfway house for alcoholics, until 1980. Milwaukee County acquired the building from the federal government in 1978. A fire in 1989 caused some damage to the station, and it stood vacant. Although the station was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1989 and was the focus of preservation efforts, it was demolished in 2008.

Sources:

City of Milwaukee. "Final Designation Study Report, Coast Guard Station," 1660 North Lincoln Memorial Drive. August 2001. Available at <http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/ImageLibrary/Groups/cityHPC/DesignatedReports/vticnf/HDCoastGuard.pdf>, accessed March 12, 2012.

Schultze, Steven. "Coast Guard Station Set for Demolition." *Journal Sentinel* [Milwaukee], January 30, 2008.