

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94000158

Date Listed: 3/7/94


**Haines City National Guard Armory (Old)
Property Name**

**Polk
County**

**FLORIDA
State**

Haines City MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

3/15/94

Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 6

The nomination is amended to show that the historic functions of the two contributing buildings are "DEFENSE/arms storage" and "DEFENSE/military facility." The current function for both is "GOVERNMENT/government office."

The name of the property is amended to read "Haines City National Guard Armory, Old."

This amendment has been confirmed by phone with the Florida SHPO (3/14/94).

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

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NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Old Haines City National Guard Armory, Old

other names/site number Community Center of Northeast Polk County, Inc.

2. Location

street & number 226 South 6th Street N/A not for publication

city or town Haines City N/A vicinity

state Florida code FL county Polk code 105 zip code 33845

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Suzanne P. Walker / Deputy SHPO 1/21/94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Maq M. Noz

3/2/94

Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Name of Property

Polk, Florida
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic and Architectural Resources
of Haines City

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Defense/ National Guard Armory

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Government/County Offices

Government/City Police Annex

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Metal

other Concrete: Decorative Details

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Period of Significance

1932-1935

Significant Dates

1932

1935

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Robinson, S.J. (Builder)

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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FEB 3 1994

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Description

Summary Paragraph

The Old Haines City National Guard Armory comprises two buildings constructed between 1932 and 1935 located at 226 South 6th Street, just south of downtown Haines City. Both buildings are two-story, Colonial Revival style structures and include the main armory building (1932) and a vehicle storage structure (1935) found immediately west of the primary building. Both structures are rectangular in plan, have a gable roof and metal frame windows. The restrained Colonial Revival details on the exterior of the buildings are limited to doorways, windows, and pilasters separating wall bays. The fenestration consists of metal frame casement and pivot windows. Only the interior of the upper floor of the vehicle building has been extensively altered, so that visible original details still remain in most areas of the two structures. The main armory building currently houses the Polk County Community Service Center, and the vehicle storage building presently contains an annex of the Haines City police department.

Supporting Narrative

The armory property is located on the south end of a city block bounded by South 6th Street on the east, South 5th Street on the west, Ledwith Avenue on the north, and Wood Avenue on the south. That part of the block immediately north of the armory is occupied by the Haines City Community Center, and the surrounding area is marked by a variety of civic and recreational facilities. The long axis of the main armory building is oriented east/west, with the main facade overlooking 6th Street. The vehicle storage building is found approximately 30 feet to the rear of the main facility and has its long axis perpendicular to the primary structure. South of Wood Avenue stands a bathhouse that was constructed as part of the original armory complex, but extensive alterations have compromised the integrity of the building and it has been excluded from the historic property boundaries.

Both of the armory buildings display Colonial Revival style influences on the exterior. This is expressed through the use of red brick for the construction of the primary structural walls and foundation, a parapet gable roof, decorative elements executed in cast concrete surrounding the east and west entrances and major windows. An unusual feature of the main building is the "castle and bridge" motif surrounding the east and west entrances of the main building, the emblem of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Arch braced steel trusses support the gable roof,

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Description

which is surfaced with corrugated metal panels. Paired narrow vents accentuate the stepped parapets at each gable end. The north and south elevations have pilasters that divide each elevation into six bays. The fenestration is regular on the second story of each facade and consists of large fixed metal frame windows with pivot inserts. The irregularly placed metal frame windows on the first story are somewhat smaller than those on the second story and include casement as well as pivot windows. The fenestration is irregular on the north and south facades and includes offset entrances on the north facade, a vehicle bay on the south, and metal windows.

The interior of the main armory building retains most of its original divisions and finishes. Most of the original doors, hardware and restroom fixtures are also still in place. The first floor features a large foyer at the east end, flanked by stairs ascending to the second floor (Photo 9 and 10). Second floor joists in the form of boxed beams are visible on the ceiling, and vertical wood planks cover the interior brick walls. Several offices and small rooms are found around the perimeter of the foyer, and at the east end is a long central hall that leads to more offices, storage rooms, and a restroom. The second floor contains an assembly hall and basketball court, that is presently used for storage (Photo 11). Massive arched steel trusses and rafters are visible beneath the ceiling, and vertical wood plank siding covers the walls.

Vehicle Storage Building

The exterior appearance of the smaller vehicle storage building (Photos 6-8) located immediately west of the main armory building is similar in many respects to the larger structure. Its Colonial Revival styling is expressed by a parapet gable roof surfaced with pressed metal shingles. Dominating the north and south facades are massive stepped back brick chimneys that rise above the roof to serve as the central element of each parapet. Fenestration on the south elevation is regular and consists of original metal casement windows with fixed transoms set in cast concrete lintels and sills. The north facade includes a pedestrian door on the first story and metal casement windows.

The east and west elevations display stepped buttresses with concrete caps that vertically divide each elevation into ten bays. The east facade contains three entrances on the first story centered within interior bays. Each entrance is protected by a small gable. An exterior stairway provides access to a

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Description

second story entrance which is also protected by a small gable roof. Seven vehicle bays with paneled wood doors are found on the first story of the west elevation. The remaining bays on both the first and second stories contain metal casement windows.

The floor of the vehicle building contains a conference room, an office, and a storage room, as well as the vehicle storage bays (Photos 12-14). Modern paneling covers the original brick walls in the office and conference room, which now contain dropped ceilings and modern lighting fixtures. The vehicle storage area is open from the north end of the building to the wall that separates the vehicle and personnel areas (photograph 14). The area originally serviced jeeps and other small military related vehicles. Second floor joists and central support beams are visible. The original vehicle doors and hardware, which includes rails, springs, and cable, are intact and appear to be in good repair. The original brick walls are visible.

The second floor has been fitted with new partitions and presently contains a reception area, central hall, and offices (Photos 15-17). Fireplaces are located at both ends of the building. A dropped ceiling hides the original trusses and, although some original brick walls are visible, most have been paneled. The second floor originally was uninterrupted by walls and was open to the gable roof. Historic period photographs show that scissor trusses support the roof and that the second floor was used for bowling, pool, and other recreational games.

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Photographs

List of Photographs

1. Old Haines City National Guard Armory
2. 226 S. 6th St., Haines City (Polk County), Florida
3. Sidney Johnston
4. 1993
5. Historic Property Associates
6. Armory, Property, Looking North from Football Field
7. Photo No. 1 of 17

Numbers 2-5 are the same for the remaining photographs.

1. Main Armory Building
6. Main (East) Facade and South Elevation, Looking Northwest
7. Photo No. 2 of 17

1. Main Armory Building
6. Main (East) Facade, Looking Northwest
7. Photo No. 3 of 17

1. Main Armory Building
6. Rear (West) and South Elevations, Looking Northeast
7. Photo No. 4 of 17

1. Main Armory Building
6. Rear (West) and North Elevations, Looking Southeast
7. Photo No. 5 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. Main (East) Facade and South Elevation, Looking Northwest
7. Photo No. 6 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. North Elevation, Looking South
7. Photo No. 7 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. West Elevation, Looking East
7. Photo No. 8 of 17

1. Main Armory Building
6. Interior, First Floor Corridor, Looking West from Entrance
7. Photo No. 9 of 17

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Photographs

1. Main Armory Building
6. Interior, First Floor Storage Room, Looking Northeast
7. Photo No. 10 of 17

1. Main Armory Building
6. Interior, Second Floor, Looking Northeast
7. Photo No. 11 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. Interior, First Floor Conference Room, Looking Southwest
7. Photo No. 12 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. Interior, First Floor Office, Looking North
7. Photo No. 13 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. Interior, Vehicle Storage Area, Looking North
7. Photo No. 14 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. Interior, Second Floor Corridor, Looking South
7. Photo No. 15 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. Interior, Office, Looking Southwest
7. Photo No. 16 of 17

1. Vehicle Storage Building
6. Interior, Second Floor, North End Office, Looking North
7. Photo No. 17 of 17

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Significance

Summary Paragraph

The Old Haines City National Guard Armory is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under criterion A in the area of Military History. It is the only historic facility in the community related to the development of the state militia and U.S. National Guard defense network. The armory and vehicle storage buildings were constructed between 1932 and 1935 and funnelled jobs and money into the local economy. The armory provided administrative offices, drill facilities, and a weapons storage site for the local national guard unit during the Second World War. The armory structures contribute to the "Historic and Architectural Resources of Haines City" multiple property group as defined under sections E and F of the cover document.

Supporting Narrative

The U.S. Congress had passed the Dick Act in 1903 to create federal standards for a National Guard. A volunteer militia, it was to be administered by the states for civil defense. Each state guard would receive federal funding and could participate in U.S. Army drill activities. Florida was the first state in the Union to create a National Guard in accordance with the Dick Act. Funds were set aside to pay guardsmen for active duty, and provisions were made for a state arsenal and training camp. The Florida Guard was organized into two regiments, the 1st and 2nd. Guard units were formed from the former state militia units, and funding was provided for equipment and uniforms. Some units began attending Regular Army maneuvers and service schools; however, it was not until 1909 that the official name of the state militia was changed from Florida State Troops to the Florida National Guard.

During this period, the state government began to fund the leasing and construction of buildings to use as armories. Prior to 1901, individual counties were expected to provide armories for local units of the state militia. There were no state guidelines for the design of armories, and only a few counties had built facilities. Several counties challenged this state policy in the Florida Supreme Court in 1901, charging that such funding was the responsibility of the state legislature. The court agreed with the counties, so that the legislature began to appropriate at least some money to construct or lease buildings for use as armories for the state militia.

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Significance

Between 1903 and 1916, units of the Florida National Guard were called into active service fifteen times, eleven of which involved the protecting of prisoners from lynch mobs. In 1916, Congress passed the National Act, designating the National Guard as reserve troops for the Regular Army. Shortly thereafter, the Guard was federalized and sent to maintain peace along the border with Mexico, which was in the midst of Revolution. The 2nd Florida Regiment saw border service between June of 1916 and spring of 1917.

The Guard was federalized again in August, 1917 for service in World War I. To insure that the men were properly trained, guardsmen were taken into service as individuals rather than units and were, therefore, spread throughout the army. For the duration of the conflict, the State of Florida maintained county militias to handle local civil defense matters. With the war over, Florida guardsmen were released at the end of 1919 from both the Regular Army and the National Guard. Of the 2,000 Florida guardsmen who served in the war, 104 were killed and 100 wounded.

The 1920s were a time of shrinking federal and state funding that left the Guard with less pay for its members and inadequate provisions for armories and equipment. The Guard, however, continued its traditional role in managing local civil crises. Florida guardsmen still assisted local law officials in maintaining public order, provided assistance to victims of natural disasters such as hurricanes, and enforced quarantines during outbreaks of disease epidemics and the Mediterranean fruit fly infestation of 1929. During the early 1930s, the Guard made an assessment of existing armory facilities and found most of them to be inadequate.

At the suggestion of the governor, the Florida National Guard began to research the possibility of obtaining Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds from the federal government to build new armories. In order to be considered for WPA funding, individual counties had to submit proposals for local armory construction and pledge some local money for the project. By the end of 1941, the WPA had funded the construction of seventeen new armories in Florida.

In 1927, the government of Haines City sought to encourage growth and improve the local economy by attracting a Florida National Guard unit to the community. Following initial negotiations with the Florida Guard, the City designated property

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Significance

for use by the Guard and began construction of a wood frame armory and barracks on the site. A company of the 106th Army Engineers was formed at Haines City and the city government signed a thirty year lease with the Florida Guard for the use of the armory. The company, formed from 80 local residents, moved into the new facility in 1928 and began to receive training in the use of tear gas and handling of special ammunition. In 1930, a second Guard unit, a medical department detachment of the 106th Engineers, was formed at Haines City. This unit received training in assisting medical field operations.

The Haines City national guard armory was scarcely five years old when it was destroyed by fire on January 2, 1932. The blaze and spectacular explosion that resulted when ammunition and grenades were ignited by the flames were seen and heard throughout the community. Fortunately, no lives were lost, but \$100,000 in property, stores, and supplies were consumed by the conflagration. The city government moved quickly to replace the facility. Before the month was out, a site for the new armory had been selected and building plans had been approved by the government of Haines City which had provided \$12,000 toward construction costs.

The plans and construction bids were approved by the Armory Board of the State of Florida based in St. Augustine. The new armory was completed in October, 1932 at a cost of \$10,000. In 1934, the Haines City government took advantage of New Deal funds to add a vehicle storage building to the armory. The structure were completed in 1935 using WPA funds. The building contained seven vehicle bays, administrative offices, and a conference room on the first floor and a recreation hall on the second.

In 1940, Congress declared a national emergency and authorized the president to federalize the National Guard. In 1942, Haines City's National Guard unit was activated and trained along with thousands of other Guardsmen, recruits, and volunteers for combat at Camp Blanding near Starke, Florida. Little military activity occurred in Haines City during World War II. Large bases were established throughout Florida, including Polk County, but Haines City was not among the sites chosen for a base. The 106th Engineers National Guard unit at Haines City was integrated into the 31st Infantry Division, also known as the "Dixie Division," and saw combat in New Guinea and the Pacific theater.

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Significance

The state's guardsmen returned home after the war, but the Florida Guard was not reorganized until 1947. The following year it had over 78 units with 4,500 men. Various units of the Florida Guard were federalized again during the Korean Conflict in the early 1950s and during the Berlin Crises of 1961. Guard units also assisted the Regular Army during the Cuban Military Crisis in 1962 and were federalized during the Vietnam War and the Persian Gulf War in 1991. The Guard unit in Haines City continued to use 6th Street armory until 1983 when it moved all operations to a new facility within the community.

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Bibliography

Bibliography

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Beede, G., comp. Directory of Polk County. Mulberry, 1913.

Frisbie, Louise. Yesterday's Polk County. Miami, 1976.

"Groves Hotel: Forerunner of Florida Military Institute." Polk County Historical Quarterly. 8, (September 1981): 2-7.

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Hawk, Robert. Florida's Army. Englewood, FL: Pineapple Press, 1986.

Hetherington, M.F. History of Polk County, Florida. St. Augustine, 1928; facs. ed., Chuluota, 1971.

McNeely, Ed. Century in the Sun: A History of Polk County, Florida. Bartow, 1961.

National Guard. Historical Annual of the National Guard of the State of Florida. Baton Rouge: Army and Navy Publishing Company, 1939

Polk County Courthouse. Bartow, Florida. Deed Records, Plat Books, Property Appraiser Records.

Polk County Historical and Genealogical Library. Bartow, Florida. Haines City Photograph Collection.

Sanborn Map Company. Fire Insurance Map of Haines City, Polk County, Florida. New York, 1917, 1923, 1929, 1939.

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Old Haines City National Guard Armory
Boundary Description & Justification

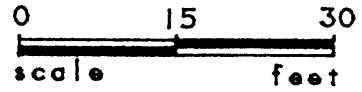
Verbal Boundary Description

The official boundaries of the Old Haines City Armory are those shown on the map.

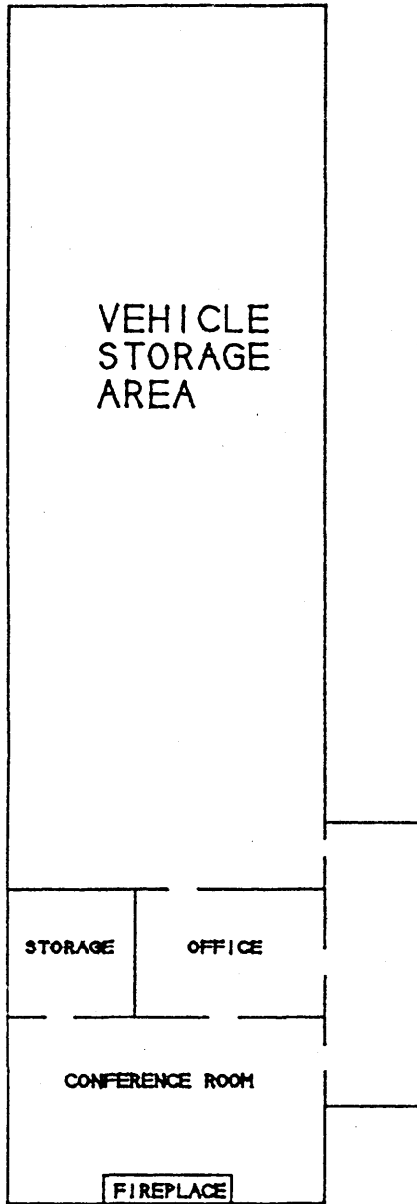
Boundary Justification

The above boundaries enclose the two remaining contributing historic resources associated with the construction and development of the Haines City Armory during the period 1932-1935.

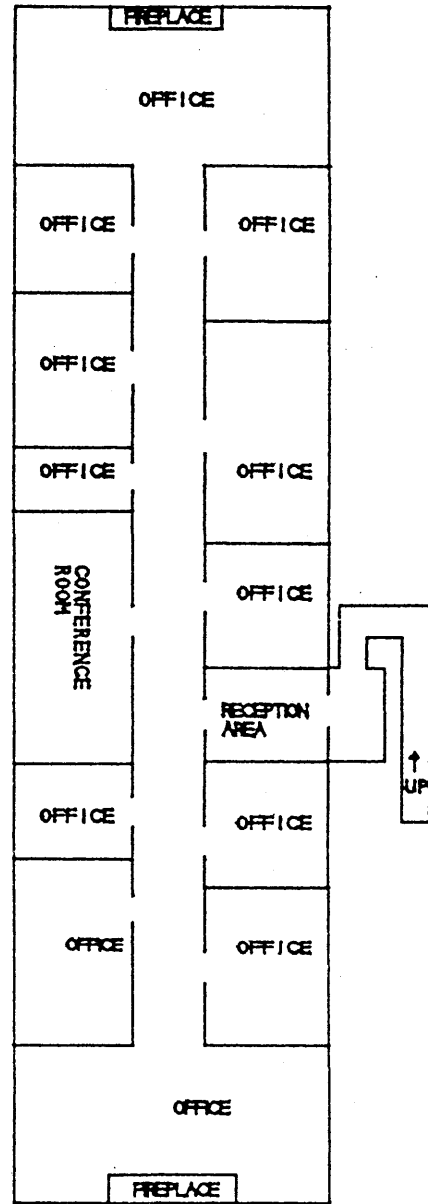
OLD HAINES CITY
NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
VEHICLE STORAGE BUILDING
FLOOR PLANS



FIRST FLOOR

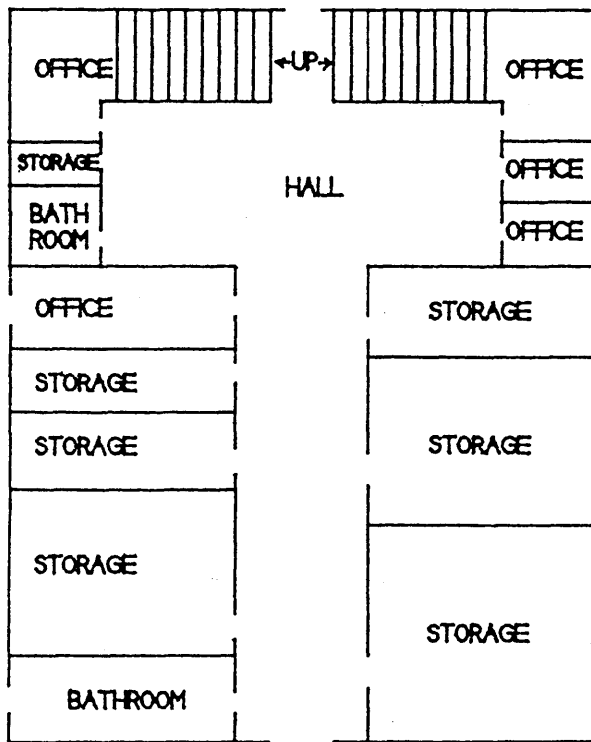


SECOND FLOOR

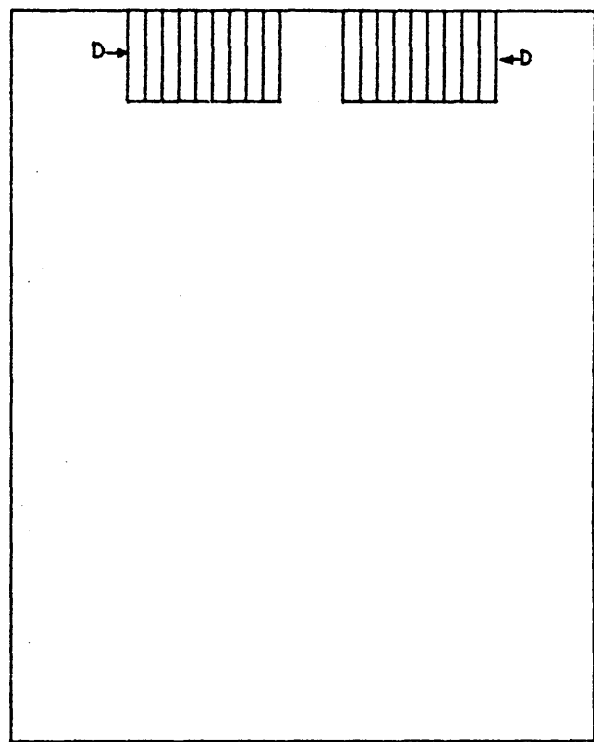


OLD HAINES CITY
NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
MAIN BUILDING FLOOR PLANS

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



OLD HAINES CITY NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY SITE PLAN

CIVIC CENTER

SHUFFLE BOARD COURTS



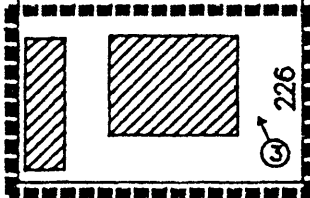
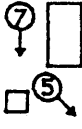
SWIMMING POOL

PARK



COMMUNITY CENTER

S. 5TH STREET



S. 6TH STREET

LEDWITH AVENUE

S. 7TH STREET

WOOD AVENUE



FOOTBALL FIELD



LAKE EVA

LEGEND

- BOUNDARY
- CONTRIBUTING BUILDING
- NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDING
- PHOTO LOCATION