National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

JAN 1 8 2009

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts See instruction 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.

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 Building 710, Defense Civil Preparedness Agency, Region 6 Operations Center
other names/site number Building 710, FEMA, Region 8 Operations Center: 5JF1048.14
2. Location
street & number Denver Federal Center [N/A] not for publication
city or town <u>Lakewood</u> [N/A] vicinity
state <u>Colorado</u> code <u>CO</u> county <u>Jefferson</u> code <u>059</u> zip code <u>80225</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [x] 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 [x] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [x] statewide [] locally. [] See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title
In my opinion, the property [x] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. [] See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title State Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society State or Federal agency and bureau 4. National Park Service Certification
hereby certify that the property is: Signature of the Keepler Date of Action
[v] 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 [] See continuation sheet.

Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center Name of Property		Jefferson County/Colorado County/State		
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	(Do not count previously	listed resources.)	hin Property
[] private [] public-local [] public-State [x] public-Federal	[x] building(s) [] district [] site [] structure [] object	Contributing 1 0 1 0 2	Noncontributing O O O O	buildingssitesstructuresobjects Total
Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple p		Number of control previously list Register.	ontributing r	esources
6. Function or Use	MINISTER PROPERTY AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR			
Historic Function (Enter categories from instructions) Government		Current Functio (Enter categories from instruction Government	ns tions)	``\
7. Description				
Architectural Classificatio (Enter categories from instructions) Other: Underground	on	Materials (Enter categories from instruction) foundation walls <u>Earth</u>	ctions)	
		roof <u>Earth</u> other <u>Concrete</u>		

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

Name of Property S. Statement of Significance Applicable National Register Criteria Areas of Significance (criteria Criteria Sessociated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Yellow property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Yellow property is property on 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. In Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. Criteria Considerations Areas of Significance 1969-179 Periods of Significance 1969-179 Significant Dates 1969-179 Significant Dates 1969 Significant Person(s) (Complete in Criteria B is manoral above). N/A Deproperty is: Significant Person(s) (Complete in Criteria B is manoral above). N/A Depresentation of Criteria B is manoral above). N/A Depresentation of Criteria B is manoral above). N/A Cultural Affiliation N/A Architect/Builder United States Army Corps of Engineers Architect/Builder United States Army Corps of Engineers Previous documentation on file (NPS): Primary location of additional data: Previous documentation on fidurdual isting (SC CPR 67) has been [1] previously addernined station: Landard. Presentation Humania statics characters. Previous documentation and subdings Survey Architecture Architecture Architecture Architecture Significant Dates Significant Person(s) (Complete in Criteria B is manoral above). N/A Property last in the complete of the prop	Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center	Jefferson County/Colorado
Applicable National Register Criteria		County/State
X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. 3 B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. 4 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. 5 D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. 6 D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. 7 Criteria Considerations Significant Person(s) (Complete of Criterion B is marked above). Ni/A	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.)	Military
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" Name of repository: Colorado Historical Society Denver Federal Center	#	Name of repository: Colorado Historical Society

Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center Name of Property	Jefferson County/Colorado County/State
10. Geographical Data	County/Clate
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UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	·
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2. Zone Easting Northing	4. Zone Easting Northing [] See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	[1]
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Karen Waddell, Historic Preservation Sp	ecialist
organization General Services Administration	date 2/28/1999
street & number Denver Federal Center, Bldg. 41, F	
	teCO zip code80225
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the propert A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large	
Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the proper	ty.
Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	
name United States Government, General Service	s Administration, Portfolio Management
street & number <u>Denver Federal Center, Bldg. 41,</u>	Room 288 telephone 303-236-7131 x293
	te_CO_zip code_80225
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.	s to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic

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Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center Jefferson County, Colorado

DESCRIPTION

Building 710, Defense Civil Preparedness Agency (DCPA), Region 6 Operations Center was designed and constructed by the United States Army, Corps of Engineers. Completed in 1969, it is located at the Denver Federal Center in Lakewood, Colorado. The Federal Center was created after World War II from the Denver Ordnance Plant, a 2,080 acre installation devoted solely to the production of ammunition for the war effort. After the war, the 690 acres retained by the federal government became the largest single compound of federal agencies outside Washington, D.C. In 1996, a cultural resource survey of the Federal Center found the building to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its importance within the context of American Cold War history. A Building Preservation Plan was prepared in 1998.

Designed specifically to withstand a nuclear attack, the building was constructed of reinforced concrete, except for interior partition walls, which were framed with metal studs and faced with wallboard. Building 710 retains a high degree of integrity and now serves as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Region 8 Operations Center.

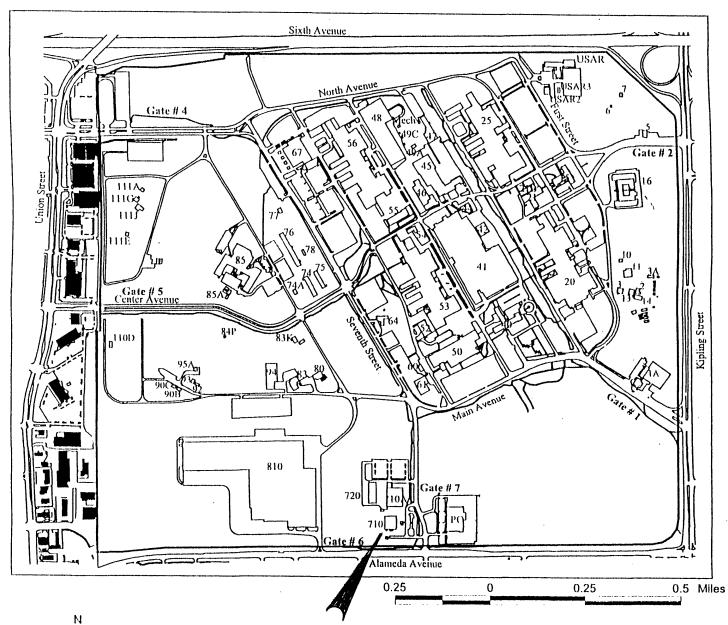
The building is in good condition and has experienced few alterations. In 1979, handicapped access provisions were made to the west side service entrance, and some modifications were made to the ventilation systems. Internal entrance to the building was provided via a tunnel to building 710-A, a garage/service facility constructed to the north in 1985. Minor remodeling was done to the kitchen facilities in 1988. In 1993, the air filtration system was updated to protect occupants against chemical, biological, and radiological hazards. In 1998, improvements for fire protection, mechanical and electrical upgrades were made.

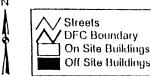
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Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center Jefferson County, Colorado

OVERALL SITE PLAN Denver Federal Center



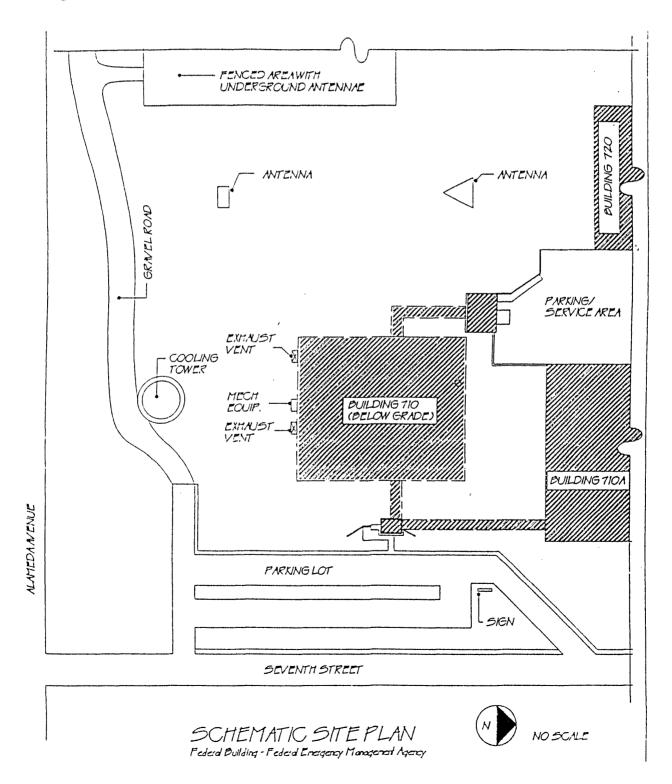


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Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center Jefferson County, Colorado

SITE PLAN Building 710



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Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center Jefferson County, Colorado

EXTERIOR

This primarily underground facility is a two-level, square building. Its lower level is completely below ground, and its upper level is partially below ground, with three feet of earth fill covering its roof. The roof is flat, composed of reinforced concrete. Concrete parapets exist along the roof perimeter. Roofing consists of built-up roofing material.

On the west, the service entrance was originally an open concrete structure. It has maintained most of its original configuration, but has been enclosed with concrete masonry units, glass block, pedestrian doors, and a garage door. A long concrete tunnel leads to a large steel vault door, directly entering into a vestibule on the upper level of the building.

All that can be seen of Building 710 from its exterior is its concrete entrance lobby and a few pipes and antennae which rise from a large grassed mound to the west of the entrance. A concrete walk leads to the entrance which is set into the east side of the mound. The entry exterior is modern in styling and consists of concrete walls and aluminum framed doors and windows. The north and south walls have a square grid pattern and are partially set into the earthen mound Concrete retaining walls, stepping down to grade level, extend perpendicular to both the south and north sides. The entry's exposed concrete exterior was originally unpainted, but is now painted a beige color.

The entrance's east facade has a central, double aluminum-frame door with transom which is flanked by two fixed-pane, aluminum-sash windows with transoms above aluminum mullions. Plain painted concrete panels exist below each window. Between each window bay are painted concrete pilasters. These pilasters are triangular-shaped with the upper portion supporting a concrete overhanging eave. The north and south walls of the entrance include two similar fixed-pane window bays. The flat roof of the entrance is composed of reinforced concrete. A concrete overhanging eave above the doors and windows is supported by the triangular pilasters which separate the window bays.

Adjacent a roadway, the building's freestanding concrete sign is original. However, the FEMA signage mounted on this sign is not original. Most of the original landscape light fixtures exist near the east entry. The original flagpole has been removed. The main entrance was slightly modified by adding a small concrete paved picnic area south of the east entrance. Parking stalls were also added to the east of the original entry drive.

Several antennae and original landscape light fixtures surround the earthen mound of the site. South of the building, there is a circular cooling tower. Apparently in original condition, this contributing structure is constructed of concrete. Its circular shape is approximately 14 feet high with metal louvers connecting each baffle. The alternating "V"-shaped baffles rest in a concrete basin. The cooling tower continues to be operational.

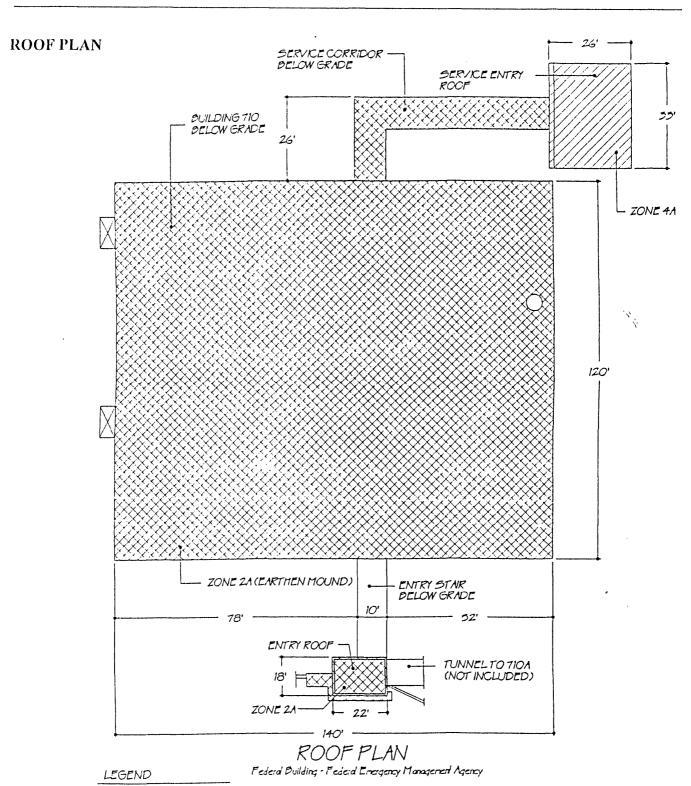
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ZONE 2 - PRESERVATION

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Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center ¹ Jefferson County, Colorado



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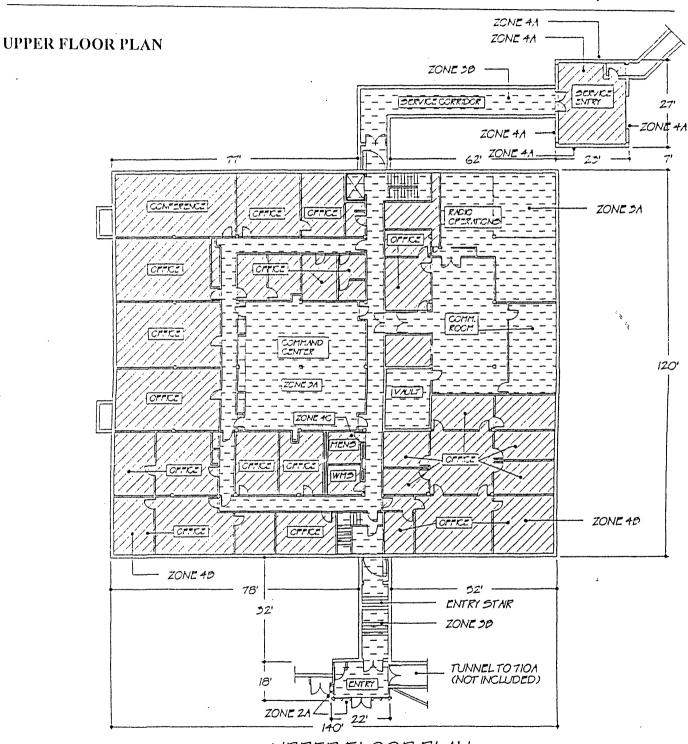
IMAGE # 36

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Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center

Jefferson County, Colorado



UPPER FLOOR PLAN
Federd Building - Federd Erreigency Management Agency

--- ZONE 3 - REMADILITATION

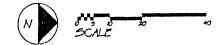
ZONE 4 - FREE

LEGEND

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IMAGE # 34

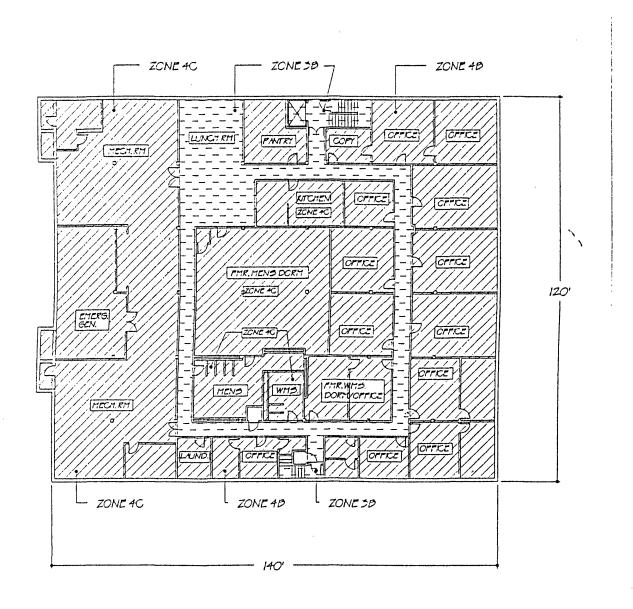


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Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center Jefferson County, Colorado

LOWER FLOOR PLAN



LEGEND

ZONE 2 - REHAPILITATION

ZONE 4 - FREE

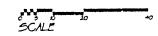
LOWER FLOOR PLAN

Federal Building - Federal Energency Management Agency

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Dever Federal Center, Dever Colorado
IMAGE # 35





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Bldg. 710, DCPA, Region 6 Operations Center Jefferson County, Colorado

INTERIOR

Inside the entrance lobby, immediately to the north, is a set of doors which leads to a tunnel connecting Building 710 with Building 710-A. West of these doors, stairs lead down to a large steel vault door which provides access to Building 710. The interior of the upper level of the building has the appearance of an office building without windows, with a large operations room at the center. The lower level houses dormitories, medical facility rooms, mechanical systems, storage, and a kitchen. Circulation halls have maintained their original configuration on both levels, including stairwells at both entrance vestibules and a freight elevator at the west entrance vestibule.

Entry and Circulation

The entry interior, stair, and vault vestibule has maintained most of its original configuration. The entry interior has upgraded finishes with painted walls, commercial-grade carpet, and suspended acoustic ceiling panels. Along the north elevation, a pair of metal doors has been added to provide access to the tunnel connection to Building 710-A.

A pair of aluminum-frame doors also exists which opens to the stair corridor descending to the building. This stair corridor is concrete with a painted finish and commercial-grade carpet. It appears that several secondary security doors, at the top and bottom of the stairs, have been removed. Evidence of this exists since some door frame hardware remains at the interface of the concrete stair corridor with both the upper level building structure and east entry structure.

The vault vestibule remains in original condition with the original vault door and hardware intact. The door has been painted to match the building interior, and wheelchair accessible ramps have been placed over the original vault door threshold.

The service corridor has maintained most of its original configuration. The corridor interior has an unfinished concrete floor and painted concrete walls and ceiling.

The service vault vestibule remains in original condition with the original vault door and hardware intact. The door has been painted to match the building interior, and wheelchair accessible ramps have been placed over the original vault door threshold.

An additional wall with entry door has been installed in the service corridor near the vault vestibule. The service entry doors appear to be original. It appears that several secondary security doors have been removed. This evidence exists with some door frame hardware remaining at the intersection of the concrete service corridor with both the upper level building structure and the service entry and dock structure.

The interior corridors, stairs, and elevators remain in their original location. Corridor finishes have been modified over time with new finishes, paint, and commercial-grade carpet. A portion of the upper floor NPS Form 10-900a (Rev. 8/86) OMB No. 1024-0018

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corridor has been enclosed with entry doors. However, the corridor configuration has not been significantly modified. Both sets of stairs have original unfinished concrete risers. The freight elevator is original and is in working condition.

Command Center and Operations

The command center, communications and radio rooms, and associated communication systems and equipment contained therein, represent an extremely important element of Building 710's historical significance. The command center appears to be in its original location except that the partition walls dividing this space into thirds have been replaced with accordion-type dividers capable of opening to form one space. Other alterations which probably took place in 1980-81 (soon after FEMA took over operations) include a command board along the south wall and a sloping acoustic tile ceiling. Some of the room's finishes have been modified, including paint and commercial-grade carpet.

The communication and radio rooms have been modified to incorporate an electromagnetic shield retrofitted around the radio room and a raised computer flooring system for communication wiring. Much of the original communication equipment remains. The original crypto vault also remains in its original condition.

Offices

Most of the office spaces are in their original configuration. However some of these spaces have been modified to meet current needs. It appears that most finishes have also been upgraded. These spaces, while reflective of the original floor plan and building occupancy, are not deemed to be particularly significant to the original, unique security and operational function of the facility.

Support Spaces

The upper and lower level restrooms appear to contain many original fixtures and finishes. Original built-in shower partitions in both the men's and women's restrooms remain. Finishes include original mosaic tile on floors and shower stalls. Fixtures appear to be original with stainless steel sinks, urinals, and porcelain toilets. Minor modifications include those made to several fixtures and toilet partitions for wheelchair access compliance.

The lower level mechanical rooms appear to be in their original configuration. Much of the original mechanical equipment remains. Some new equipment has also been installed during building improvements. However, it appears that the majority of the mechanical room's significance, as an extremely critical element of this underground facility, is intact.

The former men's dormitory appears to be in its original configuration. Currently used as storage, the space remains intact with original linoleum tile floors and acoustic tile ceiling. There are several bunk bed frames remaining, as well as hardware for curtain dividers.

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The former women's dormitory has been modified for office use. No original fixtures or materials appear to remain.

The original kitchen and dining rooms have been modified. The enclosed dining area was opened up as well as an adjacent office space. The kitchen layout appears to be similar except that an adjacent storage room was opened up to adjoin with the kitchen. It appears that much of the original stainless steel equipment remains and is operational, including stainless rolling pass-through shutters near the current lunch area. Other operational equipment includes commercial-grade stove, refrigerator/freezer, and dishwashing equipment. It appears that the space has been upgraded with suspended acoustic tile ceiling, and ceramic tile floor finish.

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Bldg 710 DCPA Region 6 Operations Center

SIGNIFICANCE

Building 710 meets National Register criteria A and C under Consideration G, governing resources under 50 years of age. Built in 1969, it is one of eight original permanent, federal regional civil defense operations centers. Building 710 was built to serve as the Region 6 (now FEMA Region 8) operations center for the federal government in the event of a nuclear attack, thereby, playing a significant role in the military history associated with the Cold War era. Designed for survival in the event of a nuclear attack, Building 710 also represents a building type and method of construction shared by these eight civil defense operating centers. According to the FEMA Historic Preservation Officer, similar buildings are extant in current FEMA Regions 1,6, and 10, but, they have not been evaluated. Building 710 has undergone few changes since its construction. It possesses integrity of location, and a high degree of integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling.

The temporal boundaries of the Cold War are from the March 1946 "Iron Curtain" speech by Winston Churchill to the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989. The intercontinental land and sea-based delivery system of nuclear weapons defined this era. The need for survivability of a nuclear attack warranted the creation of a civil defense system to keep the country running after an attack. In June of 1955, the United States staged the first nationwide civil defense exercise. During the Vienna Summit of 1961, President John F. Kennedy called for military build-up and the beginning of a civil defense program.

The Office of Civil Defense (OCD), which was organized in 1961 as a result of Executive Order 10952, set up an office housed in Building 50 at the Denver Federal Center. With the support of local boosters, Denver had been viewed as a center for federal agencies as early as the 1920s. By 1930, over 2,000 employees overseeing the activities of various government agencies in the Rocky Mountain region were housed in rented space in and around Denver. After World War II, the federal government retained 690 acres of the 2,080 acre Denver Ordnance Plant, a major supplier of ammunition located just west of Denver. The Denver Federal Center site currently houses more than 25 federal agencies in its more than 90 buildings.

There were eight regional OCD offices nationwide, and the Denver Federal Center housed the offices for Region 6. OCD's program had five major components: locate and develop fallout shelter space; implement national civil defense systems, including warning, communication, monitoring and reporting, and damage assessment systems; give federal assistance to all levels of government in the form of education and surplus property donations; research in civil defense; and other supporting activities.

In the early 1960s, the OCD constructed a small Emergency Operations Center west of Building 50. This facility was to provide safety for state and local government officials in the event of an emergency. The building was not used on a regular basis, but was meant to serve as a base of operations in the event

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of nuclear attack. The still extant building was basically a Quonset hut built partially underground, and covered with earth.

In the mid-1960s, OCD began to construct permanent protected sites for all eight of its regional offices. The first of these to be completed was the Region 5 Center in Denton, Texas, which became operational in 1964. The Region 1 Center in Maynard, Massachusetts, was completed in 1968, as was the Region 8 Center at Bothell, Washington. The Region 6 Center at the Denver Federal Center was completed in January 1969. By 1969, the Region 2 Center in Olney, Maryland was begun, and the designs for the Region 3 Center in Thomasville, Georgia, the Region 4 Center in Battle Creek, Michigan, and the Region 7 Center at the Sonoma County California Airport were under construction.

The buildings were designed as mounded, underground structures, built and equipped to ensure protection to the occupants against the worst of a nuclear attack. The buildings were designed to contain food and supplies for up to 30 days. Water was obtained from underground wells, and each building was self sufficient in regard to all utilities. The Office of Civil Defense was abolished on May 5, 1972, and the new Defense Civil Preparedness Agency (DCPA) took over operating the centers.

Building 710 provided approximately 36,000 square feet of space within its two level interior. Construction materials consisted of concrete and steel. The building was designed to hold up to 300 personnel for up to 30 days and included lockers, dormitories, and a kitchen. Concrete was chosen for its ability to shield occupants from gamma rays, and steel added strength. The facility was built to have a fallout protection factor of 1,000, which meant that it was 1,000 times safer inside the building than outside during nuclear fallout.

A power system was fed by main and back-up generators, having sensors that would automatically switch to batteries if a change in current was detected. Water was supplied by a 5,000 gallon water tank, with a back-up 800 foot deep well. Additional water for emergencies could be provided by a fire tank and ground water sump pumps. An air intake shaft was equipped with a shut off sensor, which would trigger a filtration system designed to remove radioactive particles. Communications facilities were contained in a "metal box" room designed to shield sensitive equipment from electromagnetic pulses. A forty-acre field containing ten above-ground, and two below-ground antennae was built adjacent to the structure.

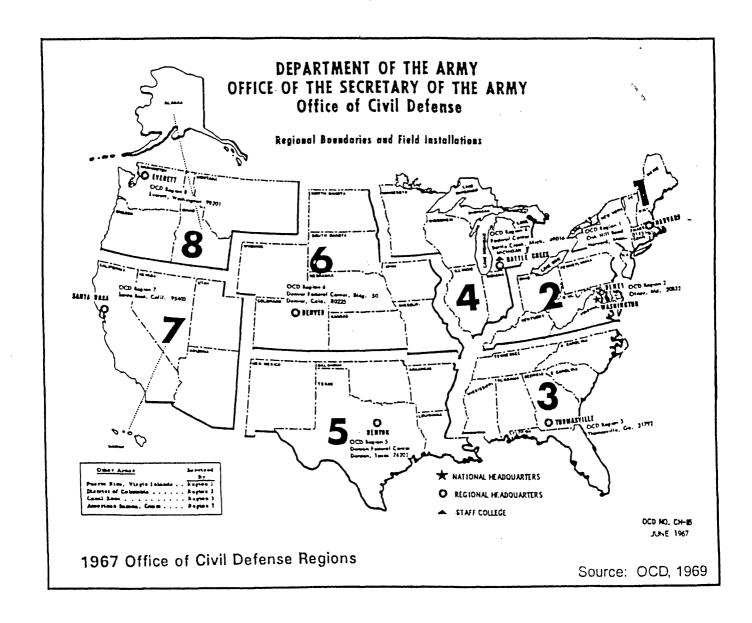
The DCPA continued to operate the facility until July 15, 1979, when the responsibility for civil defense operations was transferred to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FEMA was created to establish a comprehensive national program that would deal with all types of emergencies. The early 1980s saw the beginnings of an attempt to significantly reduce strategic forces on both sides of the Cold War. By 1985, President Reagan and President Gorbachev issued a joint statement on cooperation in arms reductions at the Geneva Summit. 1989 saw the dissolution of the Soviet Bloc as Eastern European nations renounced their ties to Moscow and the Berlin Wall was opened.

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On July 24, 1990, the U.S. Strategic Air Command took the National Emergency Airborne Command Post ("Looking Glass") aircraft off continuous alert duty and by November of that year the U.S. was reducing forces in Europe. Presidents Bush and Gorbachev signed the Strategic Arms Reduction (START) treaty, pledging to destroy thousands of strategic nuclear weapons in 1991. With the reduction of arms and the majority of troops taken off alert status, the need for survival of a nuclear attack from the Soviet Union was diminished. FEMA continues to use Building 710 as its Region 8 Operation Center to coordinate responses to national emergencies and disasters.



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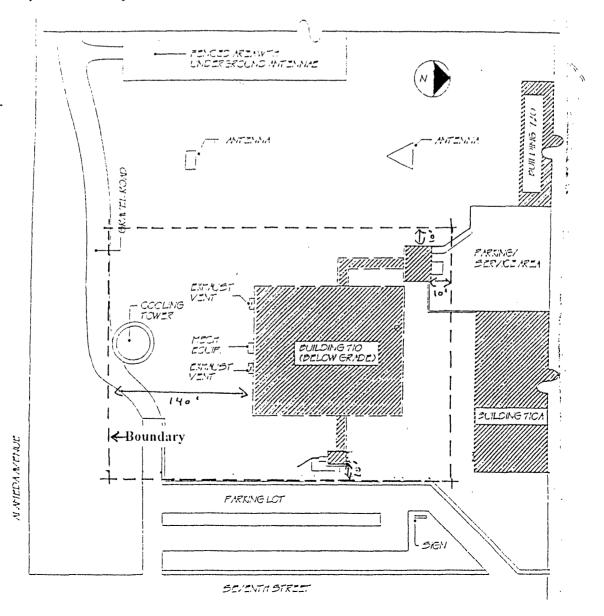
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary forms a rectangle measuring approximately 330 feet by 220 feet. It includes the footprint of the building plus 10 feet on the north, east, and west sides and 140 feet on the south side..

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the parcel of land historically associated with the property.



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USGS MAP Fort Logan, Colorado Park Jefferson County Open Lakewood 498000mE Lakewood High Sch Gtylch Miller Special Ed South Lake wood 4396 DENVER FEDERAL CENTER County Health Department 42" 30" Glennon Dale Park Heights 🕏 4395 Lake BELMAR Belmar