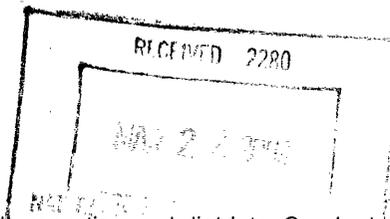


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# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting 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.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Fort Lyon

other names/site number Las Animas, Colorado, U.S. Naval Hospital; 5BN117

## 2. Location

street & number Intersection of Bent County Rd 15 and Fort Lyon Gate Rd [N/A] not for publication

city or town Las Animas [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Bent code 011 zip code 81038

## 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.)

Georgina Corteguc State Historic Preservation Officer 12/16/03  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Karen Rome Federal Preservation Officer 2/27/04  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Department of Veterans Affairs - for cemetery parcel only  
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 [ ] See continuation sheet.

Edson Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

5/5/04  
Date of Action

Fort Lyon  
Name of Property

Bent County, Colorado  
County/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 count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
74	4	buildings
2	0	sites
14	16	structures
1	0	objects
91	20	Total

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.**

0

### 6. Function or Use

**Historic Function**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Health Care / hospital
- Defense / military facility
- Domestic / institutional housing
- Agricultural/Subsistence / agricultural field
- Health Care / sanitarium

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Government / correctional facility
- Domestic / institutional housing

### 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals
- Georgian Revival
- Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements
- Bungalow / Craftsman

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Sandstone
- walls Brick
- Weatherboard
- Sandstone
- roof Asphalt
- Ceramic tile
- other Terra cotta
- Concrete

### Narrative Description

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

Fort Lyon  
Name of Property

Bent County, Colorado  
County/State

## 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.

### 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

# \_\_\_\_\_

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Health / Medicine

Military

Ethnic Heritage: Native American

Ethnic Heritage: Black

Ethnic Heritage: European

Architecture

### Periods of Significance

1906-1922

1922-1956

1868-1889

### Significant Dates

1906-1919

1932-1934

1867-1868

1868-1869

1956

### Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

U.S. Army

U.S. Navy

Veterans' Administration

Fort Lyon  
Name of Property

Bent County, Colorado  
County/State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 327

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

- |    |      |         |          |                            |
|----|------|---------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1. | 13   | 662929  | 4216691  | (NAD27)                    |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |                            |
| 2. | 13   | 664384  | 4216732  |                            |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |                            |
| 3. | 13   | 664042  | 4215906  |                            |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |                            |
| 4. | 13   | 664403  | 4215738  |                            |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing | [X] See continuation sheet |

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathy Lingo, Anne Bond, Dulaney Barclay  
organization Architecture 2000 P.C. with Anne Bond and RMC Consultants date July 24, 2003  
street & number 5031 S. Ulster Suite 325 telephone 303-290-9930  
city or town Denver state CO zip code 80237

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

### 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 see continuation sheet  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127, and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Fort Lyon

Bent County, Colorado

Section number 1 & 7 Page 1

## OTHER NAMES (cont.)

Fort Lyon V.A. Medical Center; Fort Lyon Correctional Facility

## DESCRIPTION

### Fort Lyon Overall Site Description

Fort Lyon is located in Bent County in the Arkansas River valley of southeastern Colorado, approximately seven miles east of the town of Las Animas. The current site is owned by the State of Colorado Department of Corrections (CDOC) and the National Cemetery Administration. In 2002, 512 acres were transferred from the Veterans' Administration (VA) to CDOC. The historic district in this nomination consists of 327 acres.

The area around Fort Lyon is flat and primarily agricultural. The elevation is approximately 3,800 feet above sea level.

Fort Lyon is located along the historic Santa Fe Trail, at a location where historically the Arkansas River had a pronounced bend. Due to the subsequent construction of the John Martin dam, dike, and reservoir, the visual relationship of the Fort to the river has been lost. However the dike does bend around the site in a configuration reminiscent of the historic river bend.

The entire site extends approximately 2-1/2 miles from north to south, and approximately one mile from east to west at the developed area. The property is irregularly shaped, bounded to the west by Bent County Road 15 (Fort Lyon Road) and to the north by Bent County Road HH. The southern portion of the site contains most of the buildings. It is accessed by the tree-lined "Gate Road" that leads southeast from the Main Gate to the developed area. This part of the complex is surrounded to the west, east and south by a raised Army Corps of Engineers dike that separates the site from the John Martin Reservoir, a dammed section of the Arkansas River. The south property line extends beyond the dike to a location along the historic riverbank. North and east of the site is the historic Fort Lyon cemetery, which is an active federally owned property. The developed portion of the cemetery is not included in this nomination.

Key organizing elements of the site are the central Parade Ground, the Gate Road, Northeast (or Cemetery) Road, and the Arkansas River.

The proposed Fort Lyon historic district is a 327 acre parcel bounded on the north by Bent County Road HH, on the west by Bent County Road 15 north of West Farm Road, and Gate Road, First Street, and the Perimeter Road south of West Farm Road. The district is bounded on the east by the Fort Lyon cemetery, Northeast Road, the Perimeter Road, and the western fence around the lagoon. It is bounded on the south by West Farm Road and the Perimeter Road.

Character-defining features of the historic district as a whole are:

Main Entrance  
Parade Ground  
Officers' Row  
Medical and Administrative Buildings on  
Parade Ground  
Residential Areas  
Buildings 17, 19, 24, 121, 123, and 201

Utility Area  
Wastewater Treatment Area  
Recreational Facilities  
West Farm  
Road System  
Agricultural and Irrigation Components



**National Register of Historic Places  
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Fort Lyon

Bent County, Colorado

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The nominated district is overall in good condition. The site as a whole has integrity of location, design, materials, association, and workmanship. Integrity of setting and feeling are compromised by the noncontributing dike. Integrity of setting and feeling are compromised at Officers' Row by the security fence.

**Evolution of Fort Lyon**

Site development at Fort Lyon can best be described in terms of its evolution from an Army outpost, to a Navy tuberculosis treatment center, to a Veterans' Administration (VA) neuro-psychiatric (N-P) center, and finally to its current use as a State correctional facility for men with psychiatric needs. With respect to integrity, the Fort is a single evolutionary complex rather than three separate complexes related to discrete periods of ownership and use. What remains reflects the continued adaptation of the facility for its changing mission.

Most buildings and structures were modified over their many years of occupancy to accommodate new uses and technology, and as part of the ongoing maintenance of the facility. Limited numbers of resources contribute specifically to the army and navy periods of significance (see *Figs. 19 and 21*).

**Site Development during the Army Period (1868 – 1888)**

The Army fort, active from 1868 through 1888, was laid out as a typical late nineteenth-century western military fort. It had a central Parade Ground surrounded by Officers' Row on the north, Company Quarters on the east and west, and the Headquarters building to the south. This basic arrangement set the stage for all further development at Fort Lyon, to the present day. The Parade Ground and Officers' Row still exist. Subsequently, various other buildings were built or demolished around the Parade Ground perimeter, but it has always remained the ceremonial heart of the complex. The Officers' quarters have always remained the residences for key staff.

Beyond the Parade Ground to the south, the Army built the Quartermaster and Commissary warehouses. These two buildings still exist. Utility structures for the Shops, Granary, Corrals, Bakery, and Coal Shed were built further south of the warehouses, in a radial layout. While these buildings no longer exist, the basic concept of the south area as a support and livestock area persisted through the Navy period, when a substantial dairy complex developed in this location.

Beyond the Parade Ground to the east, the Army fort included numerous Laundress Quarters, laid out in a somewhat radial fashion near the overflow banks of the Arkansas River. While these small habitations were not retained by the Navy, the eastern edge of the complex has remained a Utility area throughout the periods of the Navy, the VA, and the CDOC today.

To the northeast of the Officers' Quarters, the Army constructed its hospital. The Navy re-used this building as an early hospital, subsequently enlarging it for use as the Men's Infirmary. The VA again modified the building for use as a Fire Station and Recreation hall. The building still stands today.

Reports of the appearance of the Fort during Army days describe it as a windswept, dusty, and dreary place. The Army post was closed in 1888, and the property remained in the hands of a caretaker until the beginning of the Navy period in 1906. During this time the property reportedly fell into disrepair and was reportedly looted repeatedly.

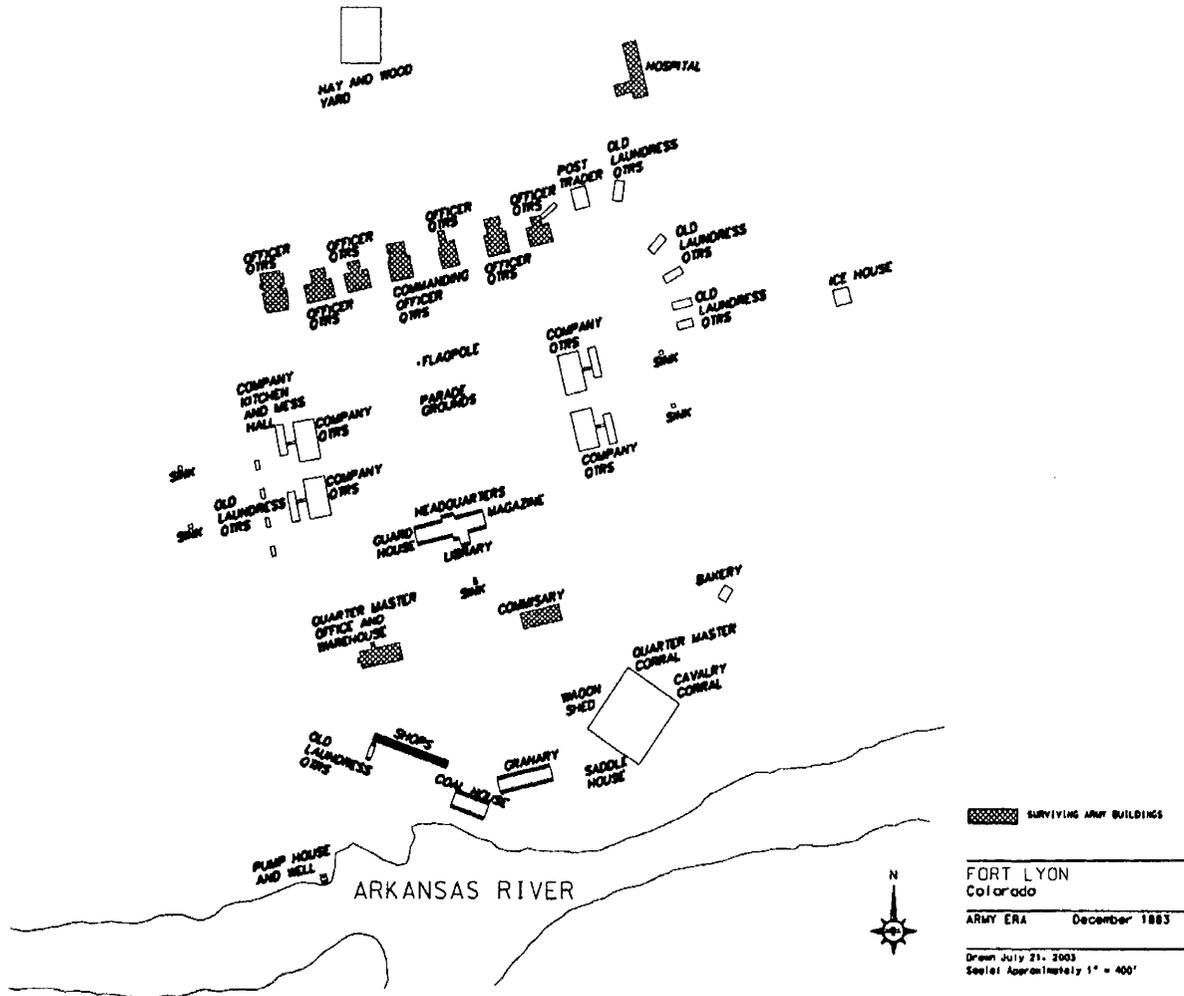
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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National Park Service

Fort Lyon

Bent County, Colorado

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**Figure 2.** Fort Lyon in December 1883 during the period in which the facility functioned as an army post.

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Fort Lyon

Bent County, Colorado

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**Site Development during the Navy Period (1907 – 1922)**

During the Navy period, the direction was established for all of the subsequent major site developments at Fort Lyon. In response to the Navy's need for a tuberculosis treatment facility, extensive site development took place between 1907 and 1911, and again between 1917 and 1922.

Tuberculosis treatment at the time relied heavily on exposure to fresh air and sunshine. Southeast Colorado could offer both, and thus the site was selected as a Navy tuberculosis treatment facility.

Central to tuberculosis treatment at Fort Lyon was the concept of a self-sufficient facility growing its own crops and raising its own livestock for meat and dairy products. Patients who were sufficiently strong to work in the fields did so. During the Navy's tenure on-site, farms were developed to the west, extensive dairy operations were developed to the west and south, a nursery and orchard were planted north of the residential areas, and the land between the nursery and the north property line was used for pasturage. An extensive system of irrigation ditches was built. The dairy operation, nursery, and orchard are no longer extant, but much of the irrigation ditch system is still operational. The land west of the Gate Road is still predominantly agricultural, and many of the Navy stables, barns, and shed still exist.

An added benefit to planting the land was dust reduction. Dust storms were detrimental to the treatment of tuberculosis. The Navy carried this one step further and landscaped the property with the distinctive rows of Chinese elms that still outline the Gate Road and the Parade Ground today. The Navy also planted other shrubs, grasses, and plants around the buildings to keep the dust down and curtail erosion. Much of this landscaping remains today.

The cemetery to the northeast of the property originated during the Navy period, along with "Cemetery Road," or "Northeast Road," leading from the central complex to the National Cemetery. The cemetery property was not transferred to the State of Colorado and remains under federal ownership.

The Navy retained the Parade Ground with its central flagpole, modifying the flagpole to include a ship's mast. The Officers' Quarters remained, as did the two south warehouses, and the Army hospital. Everything else that the Army built appears to have been torn down.

The Navy developed Fort Lyon into the major medical facility that it remained for many years. Large medical and administrative buildings were built on the east, west, and south sides of the Parade Ground, including at least 16 "lean-tos" for patient care. Of all the medical buildings the Navy built on the Parade Ground, only one, Building 401, still remains. However, the VA continued the concept of surrounding the Parade Ground with major medical and administrative buildings.

The Navy numbered all of the buildings, and named or numbered the streets in the central complex. First, Second, Third, and Fourth Streets run north and south. A, B, C, D, and E Streets run east and west. The Navy's nomenclature and numbering system are still in use today.

Modest staff residences along D and E Streets (and along the streets which were later named G and F), as well as along Northeast Road, were built by the Navy and still remain today. While the houses have been substantially remodeled, and many have been removed, these residential areas still retain the site planning concept initiated during the Navy period.

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Bent County, Colorado

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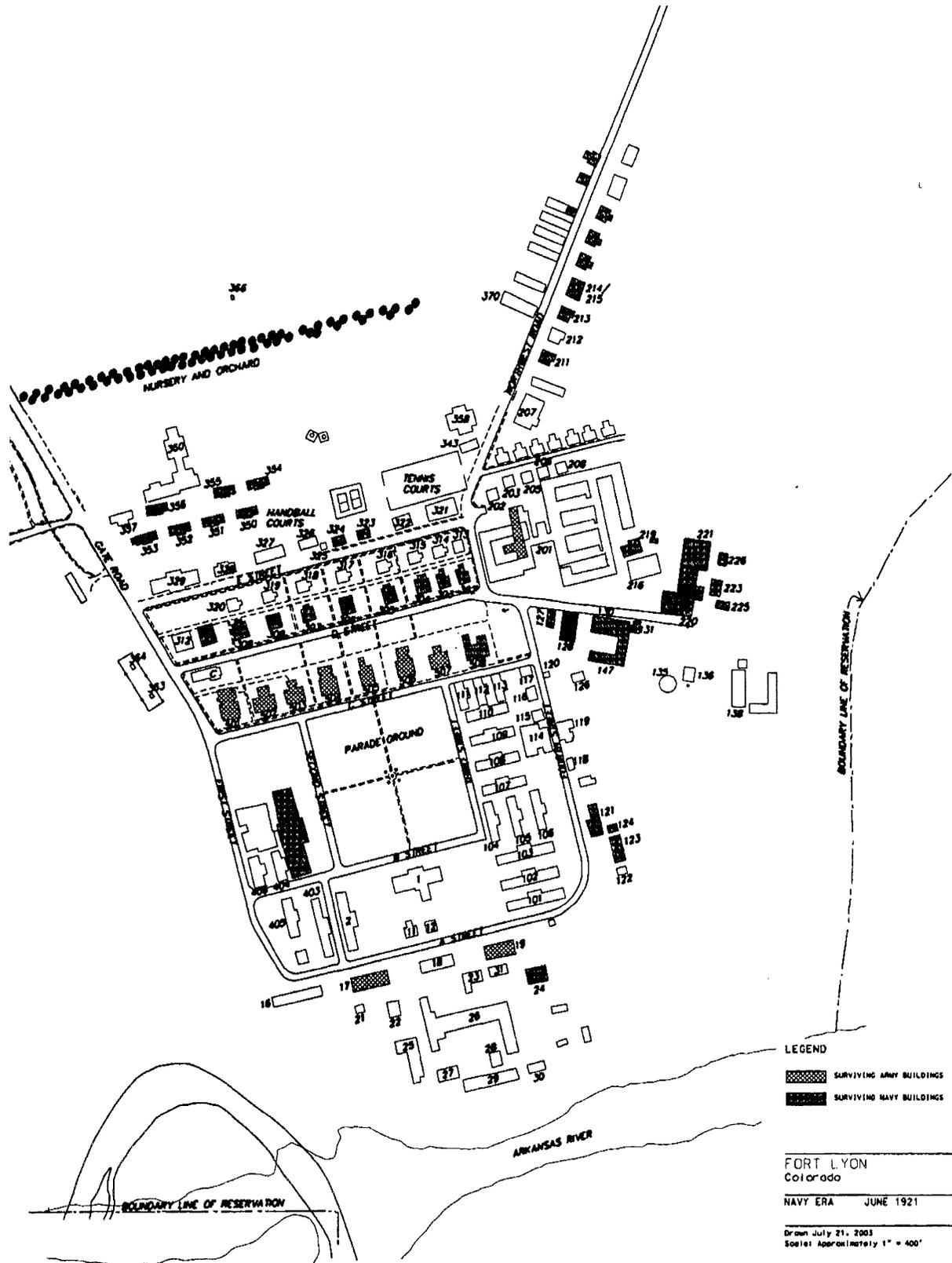


Figure 3. Fort Lyon in June 1921 during the period in which the facility functioned as a navy hospital.

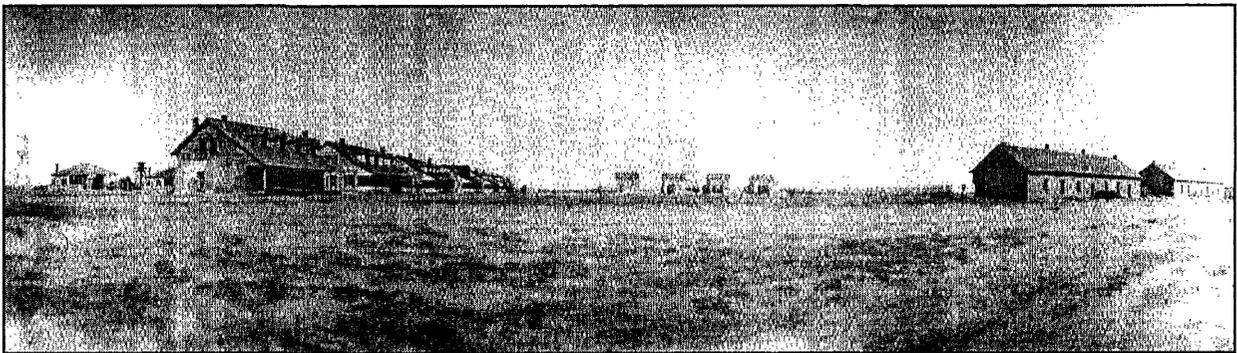
**National Register of Historic Places  
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National Park Service**

Fort Lyon

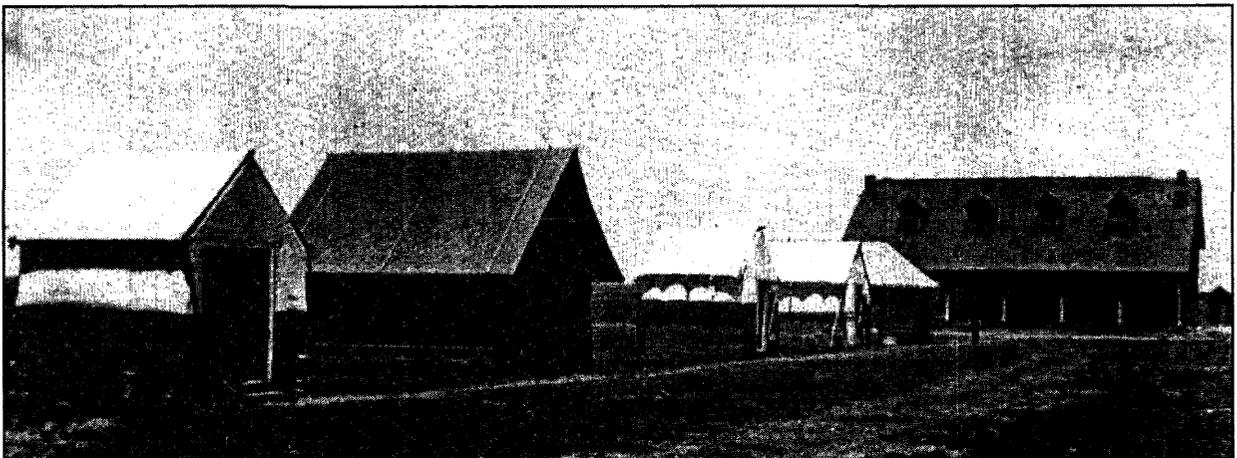
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**Figure 4.** Fort Lyon Naval Sanitorium in 1908. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)



**Figure 5.** Fort Lyon Naval Sanitorium in 1909. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)



**Figure 6.** Fort Lyon circa 1908. (Source: Stephen H. Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)

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The Navy built outdoor recreational facilities for staff and patients, including tennis courts, handball courts, a swimming pool and a baseball field. This area remained an outdoor recreation area throughout the VA period, although most of the specific facilities were slightly relocated or remodeled.

The utility area was developed by the Navy along the overflow banks of the Arkansas River, at the east edge of the central complex. The utility area included the boiler building, garage, and two storage and shop buildings that still exist today. The Navy utility area also included a laundry and disinfecting building which were replaced by a newer VA laundry.

In 1922 the Navy left the site and the Veterans' Bureau, soon renamed the Veterans' Administration (VA) took over operations.

**Site Development during the Early VA Period (1922 – 1956)**

As tuberculosis cases declined and were treated elsewhere, the mission of Fort Lyon changed to treatment of neuro-psychiatric (N-P) veterans from all branches of service under the VA's management. As the site's medical mission evolved, so did its physical facilities. During the VA period of operation, the central portion of the facility around the Parade Ground changed drastically and developed the architectural character that it exhibits today.

During the early years of the VA's stewardship of the site, it remained a tuberculosis care facility, and most of the Navy's buildings were retained for their originally intended residential and medical uses. By the early 1930s, the site was designated as a residential care facility for veterans with neuro-psychiatric needs.

Between 1929 and 1945, the VA removed the Navy lean-tos on the east and southwest sides of the Parade Ground, and the Army Administration Building on the south side. These were replaced with Buildings 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, which were modeled on VA nationwide prototype floor plans for this purpose. Buildings 3 through 8 are two, three, or four-story Georgian Colonial buildings of red brick with classical detailing. This significantly changed the character and scale of the Parade Ground. The Army's Officers' Row to the north, and the Navy's Building 401 to the west, remain on the Parade Ground.

Many modifications to the north and northeast residential areas took place during the VA period. Some of the individual dwellings were moved to other locations on the site, or sold and moved off-site, or demolished. Most of the other remaining dwellings were extensively remodeled with replacement exterior siding and replacement windows. The extent of alteration varies by building and is discussed in the individual building descriptions which follow.

A major change took place during the VA period when the dike was constructed. The Army Corps of Engineers built the John Martin Reservoir in 1939. The corps built the dike at the same time, to keep the flood-stage reservoir out of Fort Lyon. The dike encircles most of the developed portion of the site. This necessitated the removal of several buildings, and dramatically changed the setting of many others around the east, south, and west perimeter. The historic visual connection to the Arkansas River and surrounding agricultural properties was discontinued.

Due to the construction of the dike, the dairy farm buildings south of "A" Street were removed, along with the Engineering Storehouse complex at the east edge of the utility area. A large section of land at the southeast edge of the site, historically a river overflow area, is an undeveloped wetlands area with a pumping station and heliport.

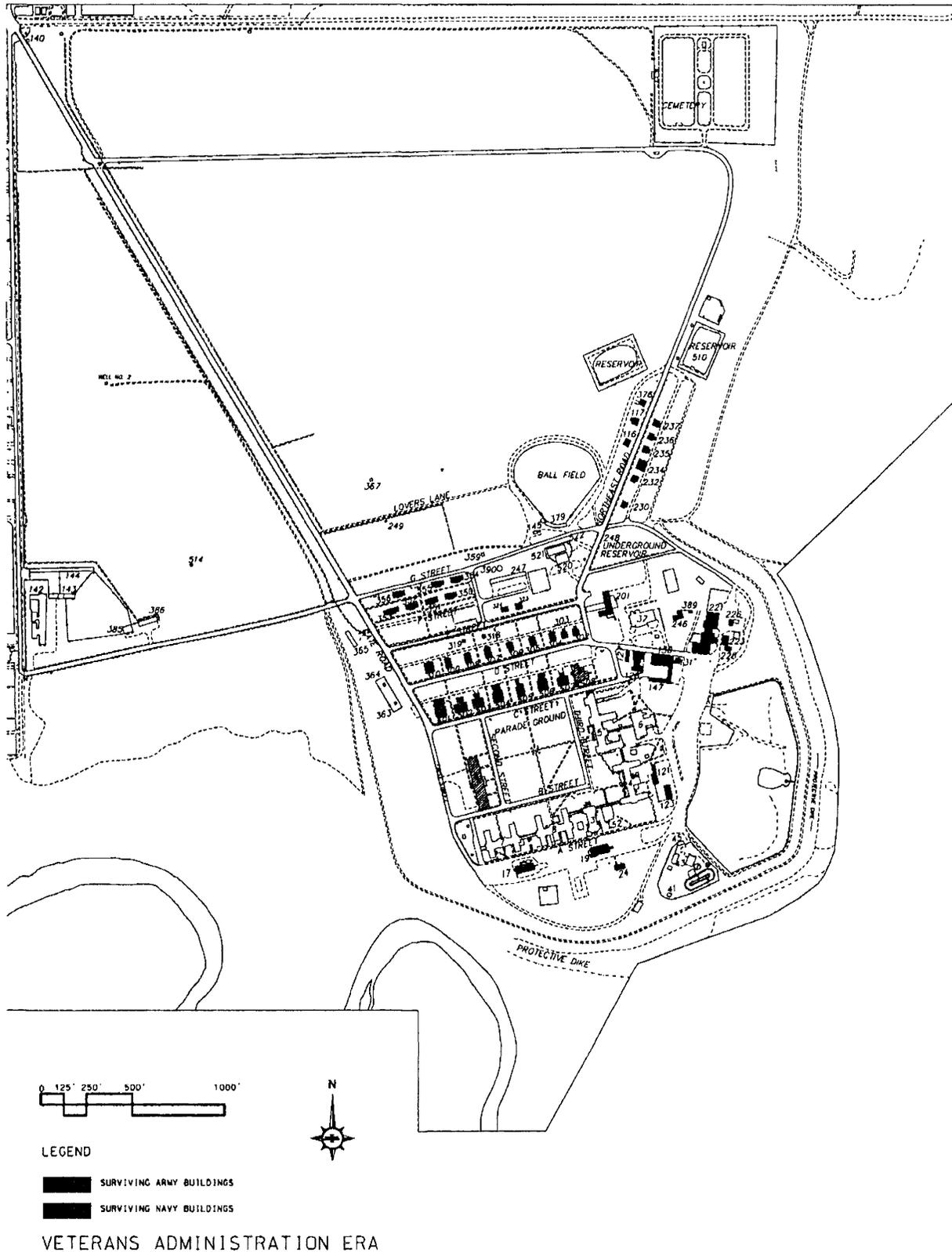
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Figure 7.** Fort Lyon as it appeared during its operation as a medical facility managed by the Veterans' Administration.

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Bent County, Colorado

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Other less drastic site modifications during the VA period include construction of the Wastewater Treatment Area at the southeast corner of the site, modifications to various recreational facilities including construction of the baseball grandstand, and development of the northwest entry with a stone wall, guardhouse, sign, and stone curbing.

**Site Development after the Period of Significance (1957 – 2003)**

Developments in the late VA period following the end of the period of significance (1956) have further affected the site's integrity. After 1984, seven residences on "E" Street, and all eleven residences on East "F" Street were removed, resulting in a loss of integrity for those areas.

The Colorado Department of Corrections (CDOC) constructed its security fencing in 2002. A double chain-link fence, 12 feet tall and topped with barbed wire, was constructed around CDOC's "Main Building Complex." The double fence parallels the north side of the Parade Ground, separating Officers' Row from the Parade Ground. The fence is located west of Building 401; south of Buildings 17 and 19; and east of Buildings 4, 6, 121, and 123. A new single security fence surrounds the Utility Area, CDOC's "Support Building Complex," and the Wastewater Treatment Area.

The security fence is visually transparent and, for the most part, it is located behind the major structures on the Parade Ground. The location of the fence between the Parade Ground and Officers' Row diminishes the relationship between these two character-defining features, both visually and functionally, resulting in a loss of integrity of both setting and feeling.

**Resource Descriptions**

The vast majority of the land and associated resources at Fort Lyon are owned by the State of Colorado and administered by the CDOC. The land east of the Gate Road, north of the cemetery road, south of County Road HH, and west of the developed portion of the Fort Lyon National Cemetery is owned by the Federal government and administered by the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) in the Department of Veterans Affairs. The buildings in the West Farm are privately owned. In the resource descriptions which follow, all resources are owned by the State of Colorado unless noted as being privately owned or federally owned and managed by the NCA.

In the individual resource descriptions which follow, the term "historic" refers to the overall periods of significance, 1868-1889 and 1906-1956. Changes made during specific periods of occupancy are noted when known. The full VA period of occupancy (1922-2000) is divided into the early VA period (1922-1956), that portion within the overall period of significance, and the late VA period (1957-2000) after the end of the period of significance in 1956. The term "non-historic" refers to that period after the end of the period of significance in 1956.

**Main Entrance**

Location: Northwest corner of district, at intersection of Bent County Roads HH and 15 with the Gate Road.

Date of construction: 1941

Architect/Builder: VA

Photographs: 1 - 6

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

Fort Lyon

Bent County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 11**Contributing Resources:**

- Stone entrance wall, sign, 1941  
and gate
- Stone curbing (part of road system)
- 381 Well/Pumphouse (Owned by NCA)
- 140 Guard House

**Noncontributing Resources:**

- 126 Kit Carson Chapel 1957
- 22 Pumphouse east on Road HH Post 1956 (Owned by NCA)

The main entrance is located at the northwest corner of the district, at County Roads HH and 15. From the main entrance, the district is accessed by the "Gate Road," a southeasterly paved road formally lined with mature Chinese Elm trees. Stone curbing lines the road for several yards from each side of the entry. The stone entrance features and buildings were built in 1941 and date from the VA period.

The entrance features are constructed of tan native sandstone rectangular blocks. A 5-foot tall stone site wall with stone coping extends to the east from the entrance. Two stone pillars flank a decorative iron grille gate at the entrance. On the west side of the road is a stone monument sign, six feet tall with stone pillars on each side topped with pyramidal concrete caps, and a central stone wall with metal signage panels identifying the State of Colorado site. The two stone side pillars have inset metal panels with information about the former VA site.

Two small historic buildings are associated with the Main Entrance. They are small sandstone structures with asphalt shingled side-facing gable roofs. The Guard House has wood sash windows with 6/6 divided light pattern and stone sills and lintels. Another similar building a few yards farther east, the Pumphouse/Well Building 381, has its openings boarded up.

The Kit Carson Chapel, south of the Main Entrance, is noncontributing. It was constructed in 1957, reportedly using stones recycled from the original Army Post Surgeon residence. It was also reportedly built by the Navy. The building was relocated to the main entrance by CDOC in 2002.

A noncontributing pumphouse, Building 22, located to the east along Road HH, was constructed by the VA after 1956.

**Integrity**

Character-defining features of the Main Entrance are:

- Stone site walls
- Stone curbing
- Decorative iron gate
- Stone monument sign with signage
- Two stone shed buildings: Guard House and Well/Pumphouse

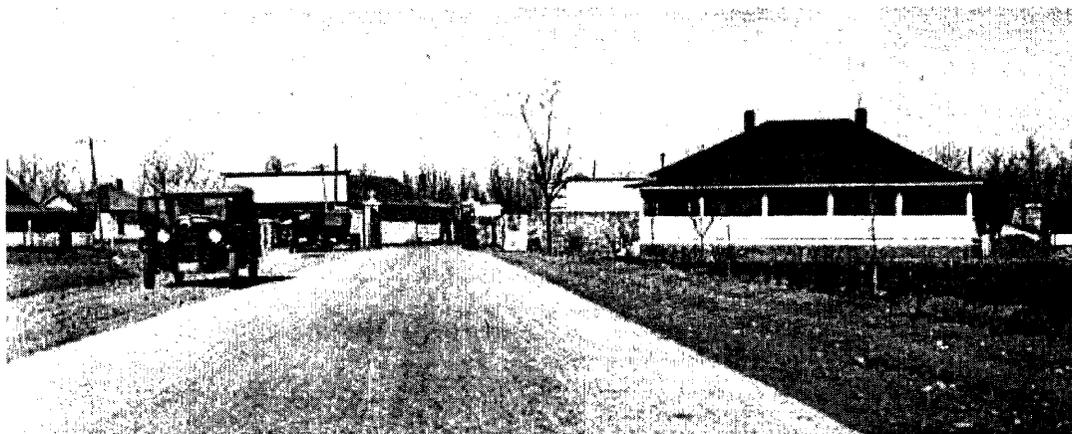
The contributing resources retain overall integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, dating from the VA period when they were built. Integrity of materials of the two buildings is compromised by asphalt shingle roofing, and boarded-up windows at the Well/Pumphouse.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Figure 8.** Main entrance looking northwest from inside Fort Lyon circa 1925. A private commercial establishment with a false front facade is visible outside the gate.  
(Source: Stephen H. Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)

## Parade Ground

Location: Bounded by B Street, C Street, Second Street, and Third Street  
 Historic name: Parade Ground  
 Date of Construction: 1868  
 Architect/Builder: Army  
 Photographs: 7 - 9

### Contributing Resource:

511 Flagpole

### Noncontributing Resources:

- Gazebo shade structure over weightlifting equipment
- Security fence

The Parade Ground is a formal grassy open space at the center of the developed Fort Lyon complex. The Parade Ground is approximately 450 feet square from curb to curb of the adjacent streets, and approximately 650 feet square when measured from the face of the adjacent buildings. The space is bisected in both directions by concrete sidewalks leading to a central flagpole on a ship's mast. One additional concrete sidewalk crosses the southeast quadrant of the space diagonally, connecting the entries to Buildings 5 and 8.

The open space is bounded on the north by "C" Street and the 1-1/2-story buildings of Officers' Row. On the west it is defined by Second Street and 2-story Building 401. To the south are "B" Street and the three-story Buildings 3, 8, and 7. The space is bounded on the east by Third Street and three- and four-story Buildings 4 and 5. The Parade Ground space is oriented slightly off of true north, and the rest of the complex follows that orientation.

Split-rail wooden fences that were added around the Parade Ground, after the period of significance, were removed after 1981.

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The buildings on the east, west, and south sides of the Parade Ground are set back between 50 and 100 feet from the streets, thus visually extending the open space. The Officers' Row buildings on the north side are set back about 30 feet from "C" Street.

There is a formal line of Chinese elm trees along the north side of "C" Street, a pattern that is repeated throughout Fort Lyon along the Gate Road and other internal streets. Within the open space of the Parade Ground there are some informally spaced elm and pine trees. Landscaping, including trees and grass, were added by the Navy to reduce dust. Dust was detrimental to tuberculosis treatment.

The Parade Ground has remained at the center of the Fort Lyon complex ever since, throughout the occupations of the Army, the Navy, the VA, and CDOC. However, the space has shifted to the east, and changed in size, due to modifications by the Navy and the VA.

**Parade Ground during the Army Period**

The Parade Ground was established by the Army at the center of the original military post in 1868. Parade grounds are a common design feature of 19<sup>th</sup>-century western military forts. The Fort Lyon officers' quarters, or Officers' Row, was constructed along the north side of the Parade Ground. Typical of such forts, the Commanding Officer's Quarters (Building 504) was centered on the north side of the Parade Ground, with the post Headquarters Building (removed by the VA) directly opposite and centered on the south side. Four Company Quarters buildings (removed by the Navy) flanked the Parade Ground on the east and west. The Parade Ground was reportedly not landscaped. There was a flagpole on axis with the Commanding Officer's Quarters and Headquarters, but not centrally located from north to south. There was an open space of approximately 250 feet on both the east and west sides, between the Company Quarters and the Officers' Row. During the Army Period, the Parade Ground was approximately 600 feet square.

**Parade Ground during the Navy Period**

Navy construction effectively shifted the Parade Ground and changed the location of the central axis. The west edge shifted to the east in 1917, when the Navy built Building 401 approximately 80 feet east of the old Army Company Quarters, which had occupied the west side of the Parade Ground. The east edge appears to have shifted to the east by approximately the same distance when the Navy built its numerous repetitive Ambulatory Patient Lean-tos (removed by the VA) on the east side, between 1907 and 1911. This construction moved the axis of symmetry of the Parade Ground from Building 504, the Commanding Officer's Quarters, to Building 505. When the axis shifted, so did the flagpole location, which the Navy replaced with a ship's mast and flag. Streets, sidewalks and landscaping were added by the Navy. During the Navy Period, the Parade Ground was approximately 600 feet square when measured from the face of adjacent buildings.

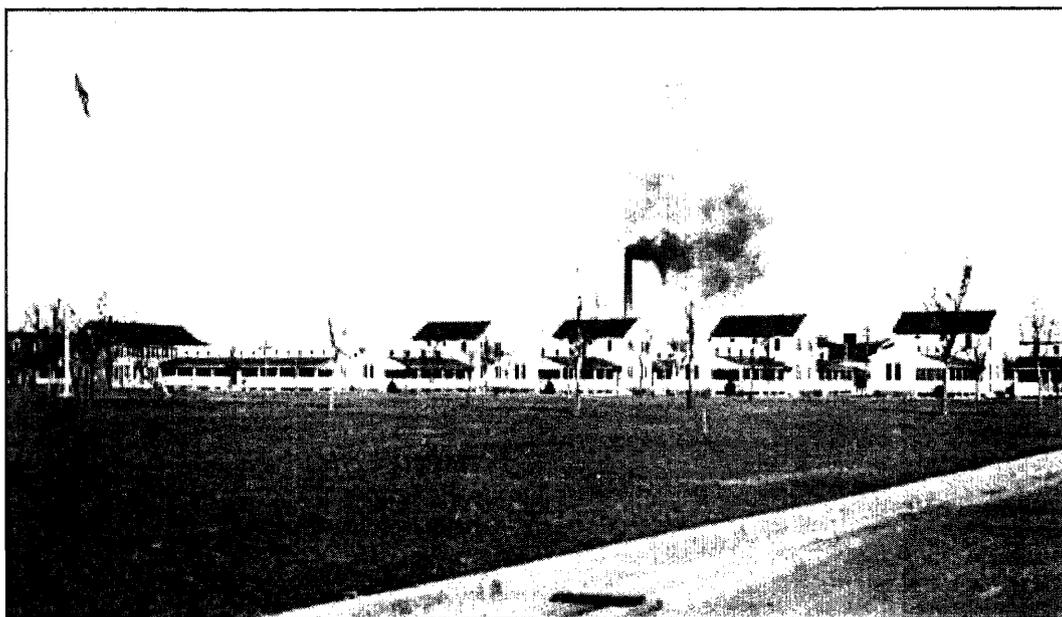
**Parade Ground during the VA Period**

Extensive VA construction around the Parade Ground drastically changed the character and scale of the space. The numerous small, closely-packed Navy Ambulatory Patient Lean-tos were removed from the east side and replaced with the large, red-brick Georgian Colonial Buildings 4 and 5. The old Army Administration Building, which had been re-used by the Navy, was removed from the south side and replaced with more large, red-brick Georgian Colonials, Buildings 3, 7, and 8. Buildings 3, 5, 7, and 8 were set back from the Parade Ground, effectively enlarging the space. The sidewalks, streets, and flagpole mast were not moved.

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**Figure 9.** Parade Ground circa 1925. The power house is producing heavy smoke in the background. (Source: Stephen H. Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)



**Figure 10.** The ship's bell can be seen on the parade ground flag pole in this October 1929 view. The bandstand no longer remains. (Source: Stephen H. Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)

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## Integrity

Non-historic intrusions include the security fence on the north side, non-historic Building 152, which is a sensitively-designed chapel dating from the 1960s, and a non-historic gazebo structure that provides shade to weight-lifting equipment used by inmates.

Character-defining features of the Parade Ground are:

- Formal grassy open space without major buildings
- Square plan
- Bisecting sidewalks
- Central flagpole on ship's mast
- Linear elm trees along perimeter
- Edge-defining buildings: Officers' Row, Building 401, Buildings 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8

The Parade Ground and its contributing elements are generally in good condition. The Parade Ground retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Integrity of setting is compromised by the security fence that now separates the Parade Ground from Officers' Row. There is integrity of location dating from the Navy period. Integrity of feeling dates from the early VA period, as the size, scale, character, and color of the adjacent VA buildings have so much impact on the feeling of the Parade Ground.

## Officers' Row

- Location: North side of Parade Ground
- Historic use: Officer Housing
- Current use: Staff Housing
- Architect/Builder: Army
- Photographs: 10 - 29

### Contributing Resources:

501	Lieutenant's Quarters	1868
502	Lieutenant's Quarters	1868
503	Captain's Quarters	1868
504	Commanding Officer's Quarters	1868
505	Captain's Quarters	1868
506	Lieutenant's Quarters	1868
507	Lieutenant's Quarters	1868

### Non-Contributing Resource:

- Security Fence

Officers' Row is a row of six 1-1/2-story and one 2-story residences located on the north side of the Parade Ground. The buildings are aligned, and similar in appearance, creating a uniform effect. Officers' Row extends approximately 800 feet from east to west, from the Gate Road on the west to Building 508 on the east. The Officers' Row area is bounded on the south by "C" Street and on the north by "D" Street, a distance of approximately 220 feet. The residences are spaced between 40 and 80 feet apart.

The area is landscaped with grass, elm trees, and a consistent pattern of shrub plantings. To the rear (north) side is a paved alley with parking for the residents. There are concrete sidewalks between each building, connecting "C" and "D" Streets. On the south side, between Officers' Row and the Parade Ground, is the wire mesh and

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**Figure 11.** Officers' Row as it appeared on a snowy day circa 1919-1920. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)



**Figure 12.** Admiral Barbars [?] house at the end of a recently shoveled sidewalk on Officers' Row circa 1919-1920. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)

barbed wire double security fences. Split-rail wooden fences, constructed after the period of significance, were removed after 1981.

The individual Bungalow style buildings are rectangular in plan and finished with a combination of white-painted stucco and white clapboard siding installed over the original 2-foot-thick native sandstone construction. This change took place after 1972 but before the 1981 determination of eligibility by the Keeper of the National Register. The south sides, facing the Parade Ground, have continuous wood-framed screened porches. The primary elevations face south. Roofs are side-facing gables, with gable-roofed dormers. Non-historic gray asphalt shingles were installed prior to 1981. Windows are white-painted wood sash double-hung, mostly 6/6 divided light configurations. There are internal red brick chimneys near both ends of each building.

Buildings 502 through 507 are very similar. With the exception of 505, which is a single-family residence, and 501, which is a triplex, they are duplex residences. Originally, they measured approximately 50 feet long by 40 feet wide, 1-1/2 stories in height, with a 1-story kitchen at the rear.

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During the Navy period, continuous wood-framed screened porches were added on the south sides of all of these buildings. This change was intended to maximize exposure to fresh air and sunshine for medical staff exposed to tuberculosis.

The stone exteriors were covered over with a combination of wood clapboard siding and stucco during the late VA period, between 1972 and 1981. At various times during the Navy and VA periods, rear additions of varying configurations were constructed on all of the buildings. The rear additions are non-historic. Some consist of second-story additions over the kitchens.

Many of the original wood sash double-hung 6/6 light windows remain, but many have been infilled or replaced with windows of incompatible appearance. Historic stone lintels and sills have also been replaced in several locations with non-historic painted wood lintels and sills, or concrete sills.

Building 501 is a triplex and somewhat larger than the others. This residence consists of 2-1/2 stories. It has two-story wood framed screen porch additions on the south, east and west sides, dating from the Navy period. The building was built of cut rectangular local sandstone blocks. Unlike the other Officers' Row residences, this one has not been sided over. White painted wood clapboard siding at the gable ends appears to be original. It has gable roofs with shed dormers and decorative white painted wood brackets at the eaves.

The interiors of the Officers' Row residences originally had four rooms on the first floor, measuring 18 feet square and 10 feet high, with a 7-foot wide hall. The second floor had four rooms, each 14 by 18 feet. The kitchens, originally one story at the rear, varied in size from 21 feet by 32 feet to 16 feet by 17 feet.

Inside of the original portions of the houses, the partition locations are fairly intact. Finishes are all non-historic, as are all kitchens and baths, which have been modernized. Living rooms and parlors all have historic fireplaces with historic ceramic tile surrounds and hearths, painted wood mantels and columns, and decorative steel fireplace grates. Many interior doors are historic panel doors with historic hardware.

**Integrity**

Exterior character-defining features of Officers' Row are:

- Straight row of seven residences on Parade Ground
- Lawns and consistent landscaping of elms, pines, and low shrubs
- Sidewalks
- Side-facing gable roofs with dormers
- Continuous wood-framed screened porches on south side
- Wood sash double-hung divided light windows
- Red brick chimneys

Interior character-defining features of Officers' Row are:

- Entry hall with living room and parlor
- Fireplaces with ceramic tile surrounds and hearths, painted wood mantels and columns, and decorative steel fireplace grates

The Officer's Row buildings are in fair condition, with severe cracking in the non-historic stucco and deterioration of the non-historic wood siding. They retain overall integrity of location, design, association, and feeling. Integrity of design dates from the Navy period, not the Army period, due to the addition of the prominent screened porches. Integrity of setting is compromised by the security fence installed in front of the houses in 2002. Integrity of materials and workmanship are compromised on all but Building 501 due to the addition of non-historic wood siding and stucco during the late VA period.

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Location: Between Buildings 4 and 8, southeast corner of Parade Ground  
Historic name: Theater and Recreation  
Historic use: Auditorium, lounge, post office  
Current: Auditorium / Canteen  
Date of construction: 1937  
Architect/Builder: VA  
Photographs: 30 - 37

Building 3 is located at the southeast corner of the Parade Ground. It is approximately 150 feet west of Building 4, 50 feet west of Building 152, and 90 feet east of Building 8. Building 3 is set back about 100 feet from the Parade Ground.

The building consists of three full stories plus a basement level that is mostly above grade. It is rectangular in plan, with taller pavilions at the north and south ends. The primary exterior material is red brick with projecting brick corner quoins and stone belt course. The brick walls at the basement level have a pattern of one recessed course every fifth course. The structural system is concrete. The primary roof is a flat roof with a parapet, projecting wood cornice, and stone coping. A tall pavilion at the north end has a hip roof with red clay tile shingles installed in 2001, and a projecting wood cornice. The primary elevation faces north. There is a two-story entrance portico on the north side, with a gable pediment supported by painted wood Doric style columns. The architectural style is Georgian Colonial with simple eave and cornice treatment, and Classical detailing at the entrance portico.

Building 3 is connected at the lower level to Buildings 4, 8, and 152 with a flat-roofed brick wing featuring a stone belt course.

The main north-south wing of the building is approximately 140 feet long from north to south, and 38 feet wide. The north lobby pavilion is 65 feet wide from east to west and 30 feet from north to south. At the south end, containing the stage, there are symmetrical bays on both the east and west sides that project about 10 feet from the face of the building.

The fenestration at the auditorium space consists of five 16-foot-tall arched historic monumental windows at both the east and west elevations. The openings have fan lights at the top and original wood sash divided light windows below. There are brick arches above the windows, and stone sills with inset brick panels below. At both ends of the rows of monumental windows, there is an arched-top, brick inset panel of the same size and shape as the monumental windows.

Fenestration at the rest of the building consists of simple punched openings with flush brick jack arches above and projecting stone sills at the upper levels. Basement windows have stone sills, and no expressed lintels. Historic divided-light windows were replaced with double-hung windows before 1981.

The north entrance to the main level is reached by a semicircular sidewalk leading from the Parade Ground to a monumental concrete exterior stair rising seven feet to the entrance portico. The portico is covered by a gable-roofed pediment supported by four white-painted wood Doric columns, with two more at the face of the building. The pediment has a simple wooden entablature and white-painted wood at the gable end. A historic fan light in the face of the pediment was filled in with painted wood prior to 1981. Three historic monumental entrance doors at the main level have been replaced with non-historic doors, but an upper-level historic wood sash divided-light window with transom light and decorative iron balcony still exists.

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The interior auditorium and stage spaces are largely intact. The auditorium is 42 feet wide by 90 feet long, with fixed wood seats. The stage, at the south end, is 38 feet wide by 20 feet deep and features a historic hardwood stage floor, stage lighting and stage curtains. There is a pipe organ.

There is an 8-foot-deep, full-width balcony at the north end of the auditorium, with a projection booth. The balcony and its upper lobby are accessed by a winding staircase and an elevator.

The auditorium space reaches a maximum interior height of 25 feet. The northern half of the floor slopes down toward the stage. Interior wall and ceiling finishes are plaster, with decorative attached fluted column detailing between the monumental windows. The ceiling is flat, but steps down towards the stage. There are decorative painted aluminum mechanical grilles near the base of the stage, with arched tops. There are six large decorative historic pendant light fixtures.

On the lower level, the historic metal post office boxes and wood transaction window with counter are largely intact but no longer used.

## Integrity

Character-defining features of Building 3

- Southeast corner of Parade Ground
- Rectangular Plan
- Red brick exterior walls with corner brick quoins
- Flat parapet roof with hip-roofed entry pavilion
- Two-story entrance portico and pediment with Doric columns
- Georgian Colonial style with Classical detailing
- Large arched window openings
- Interior auditorium, stage, and balcony
- Interior post office

Building 3 is in good condition. It retains overall integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. This building is entirely within the security fence and its relationship with the adjacent administrative and medical buildings built by the VA is intact. The auditorium and post office are the only character-defining interior spaces.

## Building 4: Acute Treatment

- Location: South of Building 4, southeast corner of Parade Ground
- Historic name: Hospital, Acute Treatment
- Historic use: Acute Treatment
- Current: Inmate Housing
- Date of construction: 1929
- Architect/Builder: VA
- Photographs: 38 - 44

### Associated noncontributing resources:

- 152 Chapel VA 1961
- Smoking Shed CDOC 2003
- Photographs: 45 - 47

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Building 4 is located 70 feet south of Building 5, at the southeast corner of the Parade Ground. The primary elevation faces west. The building is set back 150 feet from the Parade Ground. The building consists of two full stories plus a basement level that is mostly above grade. It is H-shaped in plan, with additional small projecting bays at the center on both the east and west elevations. The foundation is brick. The primary exterior material is red brick with projecting brick corner quoins and a stone belt course. The brick walls at the basement level have a pattern of one recessed course every fifth course. The primary roof shape is intersecting gables, with red clay tile shingles installed in 2001. The architectural style is Georgian Colonial with simple eave and cornice treatment. The detailing on this building is similar to Building 6.

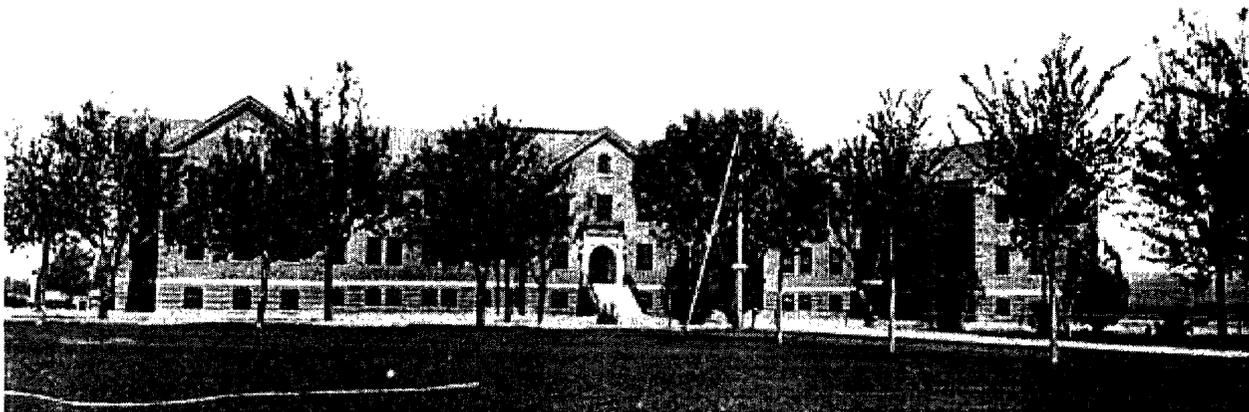
Building 4 was constructed as one of the VA's first medical buildings at Fort Lyon. The building is connected at the lower level to Buildings 5, 3, and 152 with a flat-roofed brick wing with a stone belt course.

The main north-south wing of the building is approximately 200 feet long from north to south, and 50 feet wide. The symmetrical end wings are about 160 feet long from east to west, and 40 feet wide.

The fenestration consists of pairs of simple punched openings with flush brick soldier course lintels and projecting stone sills. Historic divided-light windows have been replaced since 1981 with non-historic double-hung windows. Projecting bays with gables have windows with brick jack arches and terra cotta keystones. The projecting bays at both ends of the east façade had screened porches on the upper floors, as this building was built when the VA facility was treating tuberculosis patients with fresh air and sunshine. These openings have been infilled with aluminum windows and spandrel panels. Central projecting bays on the east and west sides originally had arched window openings near the peak of the gable, but these have been filled in with louvers.

The historic classically-detailed entrance portico at the central projecting bay facing west has been replaced with a flat-roofed brick vestibule addition with arched openings on the west and north sides. This modification took place after 1981.

The interior of Building 4 has been extensively and repeatedly remodeled and it is no longer character-defining.



**Figure 13.** Building 4 of the navy hospital circa 1929. (Source: Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)

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### Associated noncontributing resources:

Building 152 is a sensitively-designed, noncontributing one-story red brick chapel built in 1962. It is located south of the brick wing that connects Buildings 5 and 4. Only its low-slope gable roof and white steeple are visible from the Parade Ground.

A smoking shed built by CDOC in 2003 is located southeast of 152. It is a hip-roofed, screened structure with wood siding.

### Integrity

#### Character-defining features of Building 4

- Southeast corner of Parade Ground
- Tee-shaped plan
- Three stories
- Red brick exterior walls with corner brick quoins
- Intersecting gable roofs
- Paired punched window openings
- Georgian Colonial style

Building 4 is in good condition. It retains overall integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association on the exterior. Integrity of design is compromised by the non-historic entrance vestibule on the west side, and enclosure of the screened porches. This building is entirely within the security fence and its relationship with the adjacent administrative and medical buildings built by the VA is intact.

### Building 5: Administration and Clinic

- Location: East side of Parade Ground
- Historic name: Main Building, Administration and Clinic
- Historic use: Hospital administration and clinic
- Current: Inmate Housing Unit/Medical Clinic
- Date of construction: 1935
- Architect/Builder: VA
- Photographs: 48 - 53

Building 5 is located at the east end of the Parade Ground on Third Street. Its main entrance is on axis with the flagpole. The building consists of three full stories, a full basement, with two partial upper floors in the taller center bay. It is H-shaped in plan and the primary elevation faces west. The central entry has a three-story portico supported by four fluted Ionic terra cotta columns. The foundation is sandstone and the primary exterior material is red brick with corner stone quoins. The primary roof shapes are intersecting gables covered with red clay tile shingles. The higher center bay has a hip roof with elliptical arched dormers. Single-story wings, added later, have flat parapet roofs. The architectural style is Georgian Colonial, with Classical eave and cornice treatment. The structural system is reinforced concrete. The building is in good condition.

Building 5 was constructed as the main Administration building for the Fort Lyon VA Hospital, with secondary use as a medical clinic. Its location on the Parade Ground, with a double row of mature, equally spaced elm trees between Third Street and the building, contribute to the very formal setting. The main entry to Building 5 is on axis with the ship's mast and flagpole near the middle of the Parade Ground. The building is connected at the first floor to Buildings 4 and 6 with single-story brick wings.

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The main building plan is an elongated H-shape, with a later (1945) one-story addition to the north. The building is approximately 320 feet long from north to south. The main wing is approximately 50 feet wide from east to west, with projecting wings 100 feet long at the rear and 20 feet long at the front.

The original building is symmetrical in plan, with five bays on the east and west sides. There is one projecting bay at each end of the east and west elevations, a three-story central entry portico on the west side, and a central projecting bay on the east side. The center bay extends 1-1/2 stories higher than the rest of the building. The west (primary) elevation has three stories, plus the taller central bay. Some basement windows are visible on this side. On the east side, the exterior finished grade slopes down from north to south, and more of basement level is above grade.

The foundation is cream-colored rectangular-cut native sandstone with a water table at the first floor elevation. The primary exterior material is red brick with common bond coursing, and stone corner quoins at all exterior corners. There is a continuous terra cotta frieze and cornice at the eave line. The terra cotta cornice detailing continues around the gables.

The typical windows are double-hung punched openings, evenly spaced on each floor. The original windows were divided light, 5/3, but they have been replaced with single light, double-hung windows. The original windows had a welded iron decorative grille over the lower operable half of the window. The grilles have since been removed. Window openings have a brick jack arch with a terra cotta keystone at the head, and a slightly projecting terra cotta sill. Gable ends historically featured circular windows with brick surrounds and a terra-cotta keystone at quarter points. The surrounds and keystones are still in existence, but the windows have been removed and filled in.

Red clay tile shingles were added in 2001 following a hailstorm. These replacement shingles are similar to the historic tile shingles.

The building interior has been extensively and repeatedly remodeled and it is no longer character-defining.

The remainder of this architectural description describes the building elevation by elevation, beginning with the west elevation, and proceeding counterclockwise around the building.

The west elevation consists of the symmetrical five-bay original building, which has three stories and a basement, and a five-story central entrance bay. There are two single-story, flat-roofed later additions. One is at the north end of the building. The other is located at the rear of the south side and connects to Building 4.

The north wing, added in 1945, is flush with the west face of the original building at its northern end. The wing is one story, with a flat parapet roof, and a full basement that is partially visible above grade. The wing is rectangular in plan, approximately 122 feet from north to south and approximately 42 feet from east to west. Twenty feet from the north end, there is a projecting bay that is 38 feet wide and projects 20 feet from the face of the building. The west elevation of the north wing has three bays: the northernmost is the narrowest with two windows on each floor; the projecting bay has three windows per floor; and the southern bay has six windows per floor. Historic basement windows have been modified.

The north wing is constructed of materials similar to the original building: rectangular cut cream-colored sandstone water table foundation and red common brick walls with stone quoined corners. Main floor windows are double-hung evenly-spaced punched openings with brick jack arches, terra cotta keystones, and terra cotta sills. Basement windows, which are replacements, are vertically aligned under each main floor window, with slightly projecting stone lintels and sills. Some have security bars. The brick parapet roof has terra cotta coping.

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The west elevation of the original building has five bays and it is symmetrical about the center bay, which is the main entry to the building. The center bay is five stories tall, two stories taller than the flanking side bays. This bay is about 68 feet in length from north to south, and projects slightly from the face of the building. It has a red tile hipped roof, a smaller terra cotta cornice at the eave, and three elliptical dormers. The terra cotta frieze and cornice, located at the eave line of the rest of the original building, continues on this bay, but a fourth story rises above it. The fifth story is located within the steeply pitched (9 in 12) hip roof, with natural light provided by dormers.

The central entry is sheltered by a projecting three-story portico topped by a balcony at the fourth level. The portico and balcony are supported by four terra cotta columns, tapered and fluted, with Ionic style capitals and bases. The building's characteristic terra cotta frieze, entablature, and cornice form the top of the portico. The balcony has a terra cotta balustrade with slender turned balusters and four larger balusters, one above each of the four Ionic entry columns.

A monumental concrete staircase rises four feet to the main entry, and extends the full 40-foot width of the portico. A non-historic concrete accessibility ramp and non-historic metal handrails were added after 1981. There are three monumental entrance openings into the building, located side-by-side in the center of the bay. These historically had monumental wood doors with full glass lights plus transom lights and decorative metalwork but this has all been replaced with modern storefront doors. The middle pair of doors has an elliptical terra cotta arch and entablature. The two flanking pairs of doors have terra cotta pediments and entablatures. Windows in the center bay of the west elevation are typical of the rest of the building on the first three floors. There are five west-facing windows per floor on the second and third floors of this bay, plus one west-facing window on each side of the main entry doors. Each side of the projecting entry bay has an additional two windows per floor. There are decorative terra cotta inset panels above the three center west-facing windows of the second floor. The rhythm of window spacing is maintained on the fourth floor, but with three sets of narrower, paired windows at the center balcony. At the fifth, or attic level, there are three symmetrical dormers, with elliptical arched roofs clad with metal roofing.

The central bay of Building 5's west elevation is flanked by a symmetrical arrangement. The side wings are three stories tall. There is one projecting bay located about four feet from each end of the building. The bay projects about twenty feet from the face of the building. The materials and detailing are typical of the rest of the building. Windows are evenly spaced, with three per floor at each of the two projecting bays, and three per floor at each of the two bays of the main building wall. Each side of each projecting bay has an additional two windows per floor.

The side wings have intersecting gable roofs, with a continuous terra cotta frieze and cornice at the eave line. The projecting bays end in a brick-faced gable, with terra cotta crown molding around the gable. Centered in each gable is a circular filled-in window opening with terra cotta trim. Historically, these windows were glazed.

The south side of Building 5 is a long three-story elevation with typical materials and detailing. It has punched window openings and one slightly projecting bay near the west side. As the grade slopes down to the east, more of the stone foundation is visible. The projecting bay has a gable end at the roof, with a circular window opening that has been filled in. Fenestration at the projecting bay consists of one set of paired windows centered on the bay, with individual windows flanking the pair, at each floor. Basement window openings have been filled in. The western half of the south elevation has single, evenly spaced windows. The eastern half of the south elevation has three sets of paired windows per floor. At the easternmost end of this elevation, the last bay of windows features one wider opening with two narrow windows flanking a wider one, and recessed brick spandrels on each floor. At the east end of the south elevation, there is a gable-roofed brick corridor connection to Building 4.

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The grade is lower at the east side, so the east elevation is a full four stories, plus the central bay with two additional stories. The east elevation of the original building has a projecting center bay, two long side wings, and two projecting gable-roofed bays at the ends. The east elevation of the one-story 1945 north addition is the same as its west elevation. Detailing, materials, and windows of the original building are typical of the rest of the building. The projecting bays at the north and south ends feature the wider window openings with three windows each, a center window and two narrow side windows, with inset brick spandrels on each floor. Side elevations of both projecting bays on the east side are similar to the south elevation of the building.

Building 5 connects to Building 6 at both the center bay, and the north side of the projecting south bay. The connections consist of narrow, two-story, gable-roofed brick buildings with punched windows and stone sills. The connections were reportedly built in 1935, when the building was built, but they are much simpler and lack the Classical detailing of the main building.

The north elevation includes the north side of the northern projecting wing on the east side of the original building, and the north side of the 1945 addition. The north side of the northern projecting wing has typical materials, detailing, window placement and treatment, as the rest of the building. The north side of the 1945 addition is typical of the rest of the addition, with a flat roof and parapet, a small gable-roofed entrance portico, concrete exterior stairs, and a stone site wall at the exterior stairs.

## Integrity

Character-defining features of Building 5:

- Location on east end of Parade Ground
- H-shaped plan
- Three stories with five-story center bay
- Three-story portico with Ionic columns
- Red brick exterior walls with corner stone quoins
- Sandstone foundation
- Intersecting gable roofs
- Georgian Colonial style with Classical eave and cornice treatment

Building 5 is in good condition. It retains overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association on the exterior. This building is entirely within the security fence and its relationship with the Parade Ground and the adjacent administrative and medical buildings built by the VA is intact.

## Building 6: Kitchen and Dining Room

- Location: East of Building 5
- Historic name: Kitchen and dining room
- Historic use: Kitchen and dining room
- Current: Kitchen and dining room
- Date of construction: 1935
- Architect/Builder: VA
- Photographs: 54 - 56

Building 6 is located 70 feet east of Building 5. The building consists of three full stories. It is tee-shaped in plan. The foundation is stone and the primary exterior material is red brick with projecting brick corner quoins and a stone belt course. The primary roof shape is gabled, with red clay tile shingles installed in 2001 to replicate the historic shingles. There is a flat parapet roof on the east projecting wing, with a projecting terra

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cotta cornice and terra cotta coping. The architectural style is Georgian Colonial with simple eave and cornice treatment. The detailing on this building is simpler and more utilitarian than Building 5.

Building 6 was constructed as the VA Hospital's main kitchen and dining room, and it retains that use today. The building is connected at the first floor to Building 5 with a two-story brick wing with a gable roof. There is a non-historic flat-roofed brick addition on the south side that is virtually unadorned except for the stone belt course.

The main north-south wing of the building is approximately 140 feet long from north to south, and 70 feet wide. The east wing is about 60 feet long from east to west and 50 feet wide.

The fenestration consists of simple punched openings on the first and third floors, and large arched openings on the second floor.

The typical first- and third-floor windows are double-hung punched openings, evenly spaced on each floor. The original windows were divided light of varying patterns but prior to 1981 they were replaced with single light, double-hung windows. First- and third-floor window openings have a brick jack arch with a terra cotta keystone at the head of third-floor windows only. Sills are stone at the first floor and terra-cotta at the third floor. Gable ends historically featured fan windows with brick arches and terra cotta keystones.

Second-floor windows are large openings with arched tops. The arches are slightly projecting brick, with terra cotta keystones. Sills are terra cotta, with inset decorative brick spandrel panels below the sills. Historically, these windows had fanlights and divided light windows below. These were all removed prior to 1981. At various locations, different infill materials have been used, including brick, solid painted panels, or standard double-hung or slider windows with solid painted panels in place of the fanlights.

The building interior has been extensively and repeatedly remodeled and it is no longer character-defining.

**Integrity****Character-defining features of Building 6**

- Location east of Building 5
- Tee-shaped plan
- Three stories
- Red brick exterior walls with corner brick quoins
- Gable roof
- Second-floor arched window openings
- Georgian Colonial style

Building 6 is in good condition. It retains overall integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association on the exterior. Integrity of design, materials and workmanship is compromised by the various infill materials used at the second-floor arched window openings. This building is entirely within the security fence and its relationship with the adjacent administrative and medical buildings built by the VA is intact.

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## Building 7: Continuing Treatment

Location: Southwest corner of Parade Ground  
 Historic name: Continuing Treatment  
 Historic use: Continuing Treatment for Neuro-Psychiatric patients  
 Current: Inmate Housing  
 Date of construction: 1937  
 Architect/Builder: VA  
 Photographs: 57 - 62

Building 7 is located 130 feet west of Building 8, at the southwest corner of the Parade Ground. It is set back 80 feet from the Parade Ground. The building consists of two full stories plus a basement level that is mostly above grade. It is H-shaped in plan, with an additional projecting bay centered on the south side. The primary exterior material is red brick with projecting brick corner quoins and a stone belt course. The brick walls at the basement level have a pattern of one recessed course every fifth course. The primary roof shape is intersecting gables, with painted wood cornice, and hips at the ends of the projecting wings. Roofing is red clay tile shingles, installed in 2001. The architectural style is Georgian Colonial with simple eave and cornice treatment. The building is very similar to Building 8. The building is connected at the lower level to Building 8 with a flat-roofed brick wing with a stone belt course.

The main east-west wing of the building is approximately 200 feet long from north to south, and 50 feet wide. The symmetrical end wings are about 160 feet long from east to west, and 40 feet wide.

The fenestration consists of pairs of simple punched openings with brick jack arch lintels and projecting stone sills. Historic divided-light windows have been replaced with non-historic double-hung windows. The projecting bays at both ends had screened porches on the upper floors. The upper floor of the former porch has arched openings with brick arches and terra cotta keystones. The porch openings have been infilled with aluminum windows and aluminum panels. Central projecting bays on the east and west elevations originally had arched window openings near the peak of the gable, but these have been filled in.

The main entrance on the north side has applied painted wood decorative treatment featuring a pediment and attached columns at both sides of the door. Original entry doors have been replaced aluminum doors.

The interior of Building 7 has been extensively and repeatedly remodeled and it is no longer character-defining.

### Integrity

#### Character-defining features of Building 7

- Location on southwest corner of Parade Ground
- H-shaped plan
- Three stories
- Red brick exterior walls with corner brick quoins
- Intersecting gable roofs with hipped ends at side wings
- Paired punched window openings
- Arched openings at ends of side wings
- Georgian Colonial style

Building 7 is in good condition. It retains overall integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association on the exterior. Integrity of design, materials and workmanship is compromised by the

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infilled arched openings. This building is within the main security fence. A small chain-link fence separating this building from the Parade Ground does not impact the visual connection between the two.

## Building 8: N-P Infirmary

Location: South side of Parade Ground between Buildings 3 and 7  
 Historic name: N-P Infirmary  
 Historic use: Infirmary for Neuro-Psychiatric patients  
 Current: Inmate Housing  
 Date of construction: 1945  
 Architect/Builder: VA  
 Photographs: 63 - 70

Building 8 is located 90 feet west of Building 3, and 100 feet east of Building 7. It is centered on the Parade Ground central axis, at the south side. It is set back 80 feet from the Parade Ground. The building consists of two full stories plus a basement level that is mostly above grade. It is H-shaped in plan, with an additional projecting bay centered on the south side. The primary exterior material is red brick with projecting brick corner quoins and a stone belt course. The brick walls at the basement level have a pattern of one recessed course every fifth course. The primary roof shape is intersecting gables, with painted wood cornice, and hips at the ends of the projecting wings. Roofing is red tile clay tile shingles installed in 2001. The architectural style is Georgian Colonial with simple eave and cornice treatment. This building is very similar to Building 7. The building is connected at the lower level to Buildings 3 and 7 with a flat-roofed brick wing with a stone belt course.

The main east-west wing of the building is approximately 200 feet long from north to south, and 50 feet wide. The symmetrical end wings are about 160 feet long from east to west, and 40 feet wide.

The fenestration consists of pairs of simple punched openings with brick jack arch lintels and projecting stone sills. Historic divided-light windows have been replaced with non-historic double-hung windows. The projecting bays at both ends had screened porches on the upper floors. The upper floor of the former porch has arched openings with brick arches and terra cotta keystones. The porch openings have been infilled with aluminum windows and aluminum panels. Central projecting bays on the east and west facades originally had arched window openings near the peak of the gable, but these have been filled in.

The main entrance on the north side has applied painted wood decorative treatment featuring an arched pediment and attached columns at both sides of the door. The main entry doors have been replaced with non-historic aluminum doors.

## Integrity

### Character-defining features of Building 8

- Location on central axis of Parade Ground
- H-shaped plan
- Three stories
- Red brick exterior walls with corner brick quoins
- Intersecting gable roofs with hipped ends at side wings
- Paired punched window openings
- Arched openings at ends of side wings
- Georgian Colonial style

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Building 8 is in good condition. It retains overall integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Integrity of design is compromised by the infilled arched openings. This building is within the main security fence. There is a chain-link fence separating this building from the Parade Ground, but it is a smaller fence that does not impact the visual connection with the Parade Ground. The interior of Building 8 has been extensively and repeatedly remodeled and it is no longer character-defining.

## Building 401

Location: West side of Parade Ground  
 Historic names: Navy: West Ward  
                   VA: PMRS, Shop, and Gymnasium  
 Historic uses: Navy: Hospital building  
                   VA: Shop and gymnasium  
 Current: Master Control, Visitation, and Gymnasium  
 Date of Construction: 1917 – 1920  
 Architect/Builder: Navy  
 Photographs: 71 - 75

Building 401 is located on the west side of the Parade Ground. The primary elevation faces east. The building is rectangular in plan, with its long axis running north and south. It measures approximately 270 feet from north to south and 50 feet from east to west. The building has a sandstone foundation parged with concrete, white painted clapboard siding with brown painted wood trim, and a gray asphalt-shingled gable roof. There is a center projecting two-story bay, with a front-facing gable roof. On both sides of the center projecting bay there are long, tall single-story wings with high eaves and side-facing gable roof. A single-story wood-framed porch, lower in height, wraps around the outside of the side wings. The porch ties into the sides of the projecting center bay on both the east and west elevations. The porch has a non-original shed roof that becomes a hip roof where it turns the corners. The architectural style is Colonial Revival, with Classical eave and cornice treatment. The building is in fair condition.

The central entry has a one-story shed-roofed portico on the east side, supported by paired Doric style columns. The portico has a central projecting bay with a pediment. On the east facade, the upper floor of the central bay has three windows, paired double-hung, and decorative applied pediment lintels. The north and south elevations of the central bay have irregularly-placed, non-historic windows on the upper floors.

On the west side, the central bay has a non-historic projecting gable-roofed porch roof flanked by one window and one infilled opening. The upper floor of this element features four evenly-spaced aluminum windows with flush wood trim.

The building's clapboard siding does not appear in a 1919 photograph and may have been added when siding was added to the Officers' Row residences. Photographs indicate the siding was installed prior to 1981. The original sandstone walls are still visible inside the building. Also visible inside is evidence of a previous wood structure supporting a lower porch roof.

Original clerestory windows in the walls of the side wings have been covered over with siding except at the north bay of the west side. However the clerestory windows are still visible throughout the interior. The original windows of the screened porch are still in place, with non-historic aluminum storm windows added. The building interior has been extensively and repeatedly remodeled and it is no longer character-defining. The VA had a miniature golf course to the north of the building, which no longer exists.

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## Integrity

Character-defining features of Building 401 are:

Location on east side of Parade Ground

Two-story central entry with gable roof

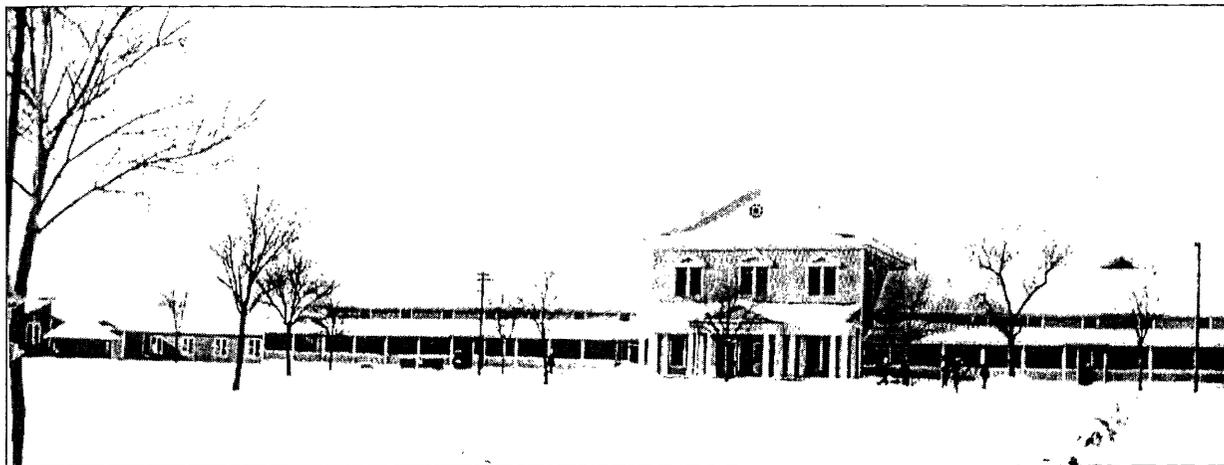
Shed roof entry portico on east side with paired Doric columns and central pediment

Pediments over second story openings in central bay

Tall one-story side wings with gable roof

Continuous shed roof porch around side wings

Building 401 is in fair condition. It retains overall integrity of location, design, association, workmanship, and feeling on the exterior. Integrity of design, materials and workmanship is compromised by the non-historic wood siding. Integrity of setting is compromised by the removal of the associated Navy West Subsistence Building that historically was connected to the west side of Building 401.



**Figure 14.** West Ward (Building 401) of the Fort Lyon navy hospital circa 1919-1920. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)



**Figure 15.** West Ward (Building 401) circa 1922. (Source: Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)

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## Navy Residential Area

Location: North of Officers' Row, on C, D, E, F, and G Streets and Northeast Road  
 Historic name: As listed below  
 Historic use: Navy staff residences  
 Current: CDOC staff residences  
 Date of construction: As listed below  
 Architect/Builder: Navy  
 Photographs: 77 - 147

### Contributing Resources:

#### "C" Street

508	Nurses' Home #1	1918
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#### "D" Street "Petty Officers' Row"

302 - 303	Pharmacist Quarters	1918
304 - 308	Pharmacist Quarters	1907 - 1911
309	Single Living Quarters	1907 - 1911
310	Duplex Living Quarters	1921

#### "E" Street

323 - 324	Civilian Quarters	1908
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#### "F" and "G" Streets Officers' Ambulant Quarters

350 - 356	Single Living Quarters	1918
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#### Northeast Road ("Cemetery Road")

116 - 117	Single Living Quarters	1917
230	Single Living Quarters	1917
232	Single Living Quarters	1917
234	Duplex Living Quarters	1908
235 - 237	Single Living Quarters	1918
376	Civilian Quarters	1908

#### Associated Buildings and Structures

247	Personnel Garage	1936
359	Pumphouse	1918
363	Gas Meter House	1930
364	Gas Regulator House	1930
365	Personnel Garage	1930
366	Transformer House	1930
367	Pumphouse	1917
396	Pumphouse	1952
397	Pumphouse	1951
510	Reservoirs	1947

### Noncontributing Resources:

249	Pumphouse	date unknown
318 - 319	Civilian Quarters porches	1917
390	Water Tower	1990s

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The Navy Residences are located north of Officers' Row, on D, E, F, and G Streets and Northeast Road. The Nurses' Home, building 508, is a large 2-story building on C Street at the east end of Officers' Row. The other residences are small 1-story or 1-1/2-story single-family or duplex homes, relatively evenly spaced with their front facades aligned along tree-lined streets with sidewalks. They are set back 30 to 40 feet from the street.

D, E, F, and G Streets and Northeast Road have a quiet, modest residential character that is distinct from other areas of Fort Lyon. While some of the houses maintain their original appearance, most have been substantially modified over the years. Most of the houses are currently used as CDOC staff houses. A few are vacant or used as office space for on-site contractors.

Building 508 and Petty Officers' Row ("D" Street residences) were included in the 1981 determination of eligibility. The other Navy residences were not included.

**Building 508**

Building 508, the Nurses' Home, is located at the east end of Officers' Row. It is aligned with the Officers' Row houses and compatible with them in size and scale. The Nurses' Home is a two-story building, rectangular in plan with two large projecting wings on the north side. It is constructed of tan-color, local sandstone blocks laid up in ashlar fashion, with projecting gray mortar. There is an enclosed wood framed sun porch that is two-stories tall on the south side, and one story on the east side. The roof is a side-facing asphalt-shingled gable with intersecting gable roofs at the projecting rear wings. Gable siding and sun porch siding are white painted wood lap siding. The porches have operable wood sash windows. Building 508 measures approximately 68 feet from east to west, plus the 8-foot wide porch, and 36 feet from north to south, plus the 8-foot wide porch. There are two projecting 2-story wings at the north side, both of sandstone construction. The eastern wing is 18 feet wide and projects 24 feet from the building. The western wing is 26 feet wide by 36 feet long, and is attached to the building with a narrow wood frame connection that was originally one story, and is now two-stories tall.

Windows are painted historic wood sash double-hung windows with 6/6 divided light pattern. A non-historic exterior steel exit stair was added on the north side. A non-historic gable-roofed entrance vestibule with stone pillars and site wall was added on the south side. A stone panel reads, "Nurses Home USN July 15, 1917 GH Barber, Medical Director." These additions were made when the building was converted to office use in 1985.



**Figure 16.** Nurses' Home (Building 508) in circa 1925. (Source: Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)

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Building 508 is in fair condition. The exterior retains overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Because this building does not face directly toward the Parade Ground, the non-historic security fence does not constitute a loss of integrity of setting. During the Navy period, the Nurses' Home was directly north of the Convalescent Patient Quarters Lean-tos (Buildings 111, 112, and 113, all no longer extant).

The interior of the building has been remodeled several times and is no longer character-defining.

**“D” Street Residences: Petty Officers' Row**

The “D” Street residence group consists of nine modest single-family homes and lawns on the north side of the street. Except for 306, they are all one story in height. The houses are set back evenly about forty feet from the curb. The primary elevations face south to “D” Street and the rear of Officer's Row. The south side of “D” Street has a generous tree-lined open space approximately 70 feet wide, beyond which is an alley behind Officer's Row. “D” Street is lined with Chinese elms and has a detached concrete sidewalk. Building 320, the CPO Quarters, was at the west end of “D” Street and has been demolished.

Buildings 302 and 303 are nearly identical, one-story cottages with sandstone foundations, white-painted wood lap siding, and side-facing asphalt shingled gable roofs with exposed rafter tails. The buildings are rectangular in plan with one rear projecting wing. Original screened porches on the south sides of the buildings have been enclosed with siding and windows. Buildings 302 and 303 are in fair condition and have integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Buildings 304, 305, 307, 308, and 309 are one-story wood framed rectangular buildings with one projecting bay on the north side. They have sandstone foundations, non-historic replacement siding of various types and styles, and asphalt-shingled hip roofs. Original screened porches still exist, but have been modified in most cases. Windows and doors are non-historic replacements. These buildings are in fair condition and have integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. Integrity of design, workmanship, and materials are lost due to exterior modifications in 1984.

Building 306 is a 1-1/2-story wood framed residence, rectangular in plan with one shed-roofed projecting bay on the north side and a 3-sided screen porch on the south side. It has a sandstone foundation, non-historic replacement siding, and an asphalt-shingled gable roof. Some of the windows are non-historic. Building 306 is in fair condition and has integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. Integrity of design, workmanship and materials are compromised by exterior modifications.

Building 310 is a two-story wood framed residence, rectangular in plan. It has a concrete foundation, non-historic Masonite replacement siding, and an asphalt-shingled gable roof. Some of the windows are non-historic, but most are original 6/6 divided light, double-hung windows. Building 310 is in fair condition and has integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. Integrity of design, workmanship and materials are compromised by exterior modifications.

The interior of the building has been remodeled several times and is no longer character-defining.

**“E” Street Residences (Civilian Quarters)**

The two remaining “E” Street residences, 323 and 324, are located on the north side of the street, facing south. “E” Street is tree-lined with a detached concrete sidewalk. The houses have lawns. 323 and 324 are 1-1/2 story wood-framed residences. They are rectangular in plan with one projecting bay with a half-hipped roof, originally a screened porch, on the south side. They have sandstone foundations and an asphalt-shingled gable roof.

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Windows and replacement siding were installed in 1985 by the VA.

Buildings 323 and 324 are in fair condition and have integrity of location, feeling, and association. Integrity of setting is lost due to the demolition of all of the other buildings on both sides of "E" Street. Integrity of materials, design, and workmanship are compromised by replacement windows and siding. The interior of the buildings have been remodeled several times and are no longer character-defining.

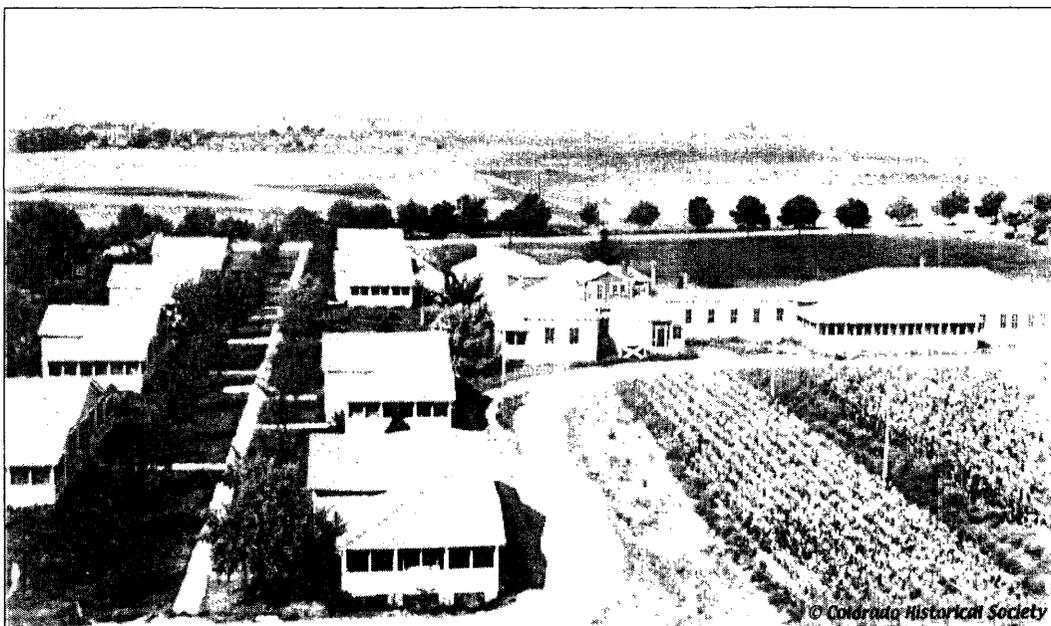
"E" Street during the Navy period had 8 cottages on the south side and 9 buildings on the north side. In addition to 323 and 324, there were 321 Civilian Quarters and 322 Marine Barracks at the east end; cottages 325 and 326; North Store House 327; residence 328; and the Nurses' Infirmary, 329. None are extant.

On the south side of "E" Street, Buildings 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, and 320 were demolished, or sold and moved off-site, after 1981. The screened porches from Buildings 318 and 319 still exist but are noncontributing.

### "F" and "G" Street Residences (Officers' Ambulant Quarters)

The "F" and "G" Streets residence group consists of seven modest homes and lawns on the north side of "F" Street and the south side of "G" Street. They are all one story in height and all face south toward "F" Street. "F" Street is lined with Chinese elms and has a detached concrete sidewalk.

Buildings 350 to 356, are nearly identical, one-story residences with sandstone foundations, non-historic siding and windows, and asphalt shingled hip roofs. The buildings are rectangular in plan with one front projecting wing. The buildings are in fair condition and have integrity of location, association, and feeling. Integrity of setting is compromised by the loss of two major buildings historically adjacent to, and associated with, Buildings 350 to 356—the Officers' Infirmary to the north and the Nurses' Infirmary to the south. Residence 357, very similar to the others, no longer exists. Integrity of design, workmanship, and materials are compromised by the



**Figure 17.** Single living quarters on "F" Street adjacent to corn field. In this 1929 view to the west, the tree-lined Gate Road crosses the scene in the background. (Source: Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)

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1985 exterior modifications. The interior of the building has been remodeled several times and is no longer character-defining.

**East "F" Street**

The eleven East "F" Street residences, 203 to 213, were demolished or sold and moved off-site, after 1981. They were not included within the limits of the historic district that was determined eligible in 1981.

**Northeast Road Residences (Cemetery Road)**

The Northeast Road is located at the northeast end of the developed area. The road extends from the complex to the military and civilian cemeteries and was also known as Cemetery Road.

The Northeast Road residence group consists of eight modest single-family homes and lawns, and one duplex, on both sides of Northeast Road. Except for 376, they are all one story in height. Northeast Road is lined with Chinese elms and has an attached concrete sidewalk.

Except for Buildings 376 and 234, the houses are nearly identical, one-story cottages with concrete foundations, non-historic siding and windows dating from 1984, and side-facing asphalt shingled gable roofs. The buildings are rectangular in plan with one hip-roofed projecting wing on the southeast side, except Buildings 230 and 232, where the projecting wing is gable roofed. These buildings were identified by the Navy as "ready-cut" cottages.

Building 234 is a duplex, one-story cottage with sandstone walls and foundation, painted wood shingle siding, and an asphalt-shingled gable roof. It is rectangular in plan with a projecting bay on the southeast side that appears to have been a screened porch that was enclosed with non-historic siding and windows. The northeast side has a center bay enclosed by non-historic siding and non-historic windows. This may have been an entry porch that was later enclosed.

The building numbers do not correspond to the building numbers on a 1920 Navy map, although the footprints of buildings 230, 232, 235, 236, 237 and 376 do correspond to the 1920 drawing. The buildings are small and most are on concrete foundations rather than sandstone foundations. Navy records indicate that eleven cottages were moved to Northeast Road from the vicinity of the old Administration Building.

Building 376 is a 1-1/2-story single-family frame house with a concrete foundation, non-historic siding, non-historic windows and doors, and a front-facing asphalt-shingled gable roof. The building is rectangular in plan, with a single-story hip-roofed projecting bay on the south side.

Buildings no longer extant along Northeast Road include the New Marine Barracks 207, the Red Cross building 358, and seven long narrow rectangular buildings shown on a 1921 Navy map but not identified.

The Northeast Road buildings are in fair condition and retain integrity of setting, design, feeling, and association. Integrity of location dates from the early VA period. Integrity of materials and workmanship is lost due to exterior modifications.

**Associated Buildings and Structures: Contributing**

Associated contributing structures include personnel garage 247, built in 1936 by the VA. Building 247 is located north of Buildings 324 and 323. It is a single-story shed-roofed multiple-car garage, constructed of white-painted

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structural clay tile walls on a concrete foundation. It has 19 red garage doors plus one personnel door, all facing south. There are 20 boarded-up windows on the north side.

Associated contributing structures also include pumphouse 359 built by the Navy in 1918, north of "G" Street, as well as the Gas Meter House 363 and Gas Regulator House 364. These are one-story utilitarian structures built by the VA in 1930 in support of the north residential areas. They are located on the west side of the Gate Road, west of the Petty Officers' Row. Personnel garage 365 was built by the VA in 1930. It is on the west side of the Gate Road, opposite "F" Street, and south of 363 and 364.

Transformer house 366 was built by the VA in 1930, and pumphouse 367 was built by the Navy in 1917. These are located north of Lovers' Lane.

Associated contributing structures include two pumphouses, 396 and 397, built by the VA in 1952 and 1951 respectively. The pumphouses are adjacent to two concrete reservoirs (collectively structure 510) located on both sides of Northeast Road, north of the residences. The concrete reservoirs were built by the VA in 1947. They are enclosed with chain-link fencing and covered with protective netting.

### Associated Buildings and Structures: Noncontributing

Associated noncontributing structures include pumphouse 249 built by the VA after 1953 on the south side of Lovers' Lane. Water Tower 390, south of "G" Street, was built by the VA in the 1990s.

## Building 17

Location: "A" Street south of Building 7  
 Historic names: Army: Quartermaster Warehouse  
 Navy: Horse Barn  
 VA: Storage  
 Historic use: Army: Part of Quartermaster facilities south of main complex  
 Navy: Part of Dairy Farm complex south of "A" Street  
 VA: Storage building  
 Current: Warehouse/shops  
 Date of construction: 1868  
 Architect/Builder: Army  
 Photographs: 148 - 150

Building 17 is located south of Building 7. It is a one-story building with a full basement. The building is rectangular in plan, with its long axis running east and west. The primary exterior material is dressed native sandstone rectangular blocks, irregularly coursed, with a stone belt course at the top of the foundation. The roof is a front-facing gable with gray asphalt shingles. The primary elevation faces north. The architectural design is utilitarian.

The building extends approximately 100 feet from east to west and 42 feet from north to south. There are two non-original additions of enclosed vestibules at the north and west sides, installed before 1981. Both are gable roofed and constructed of painted white lap siding. There is a non-historic metal overhead service door on the east side installed after 1953.

The fenestration consists of evenly-spaced painted wood sash single-hung windows, divided light 6/6 pattern, with stone sills and lintels. Windows are in poor condition. The south side has a large opening to the upper floor,

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with a stone arch and keystone, with a pair of painted wood arched swinging service doors and a metal ship's ladder.

The interior has been remodeled extensively and is no longer character-defining.

## Integrity

Character-defining features of Building 17

- Native sandstone exterior walls
- Gable roof
- Divided light windows with stone sills and lintels
- Arched opening on south side

Building 17 is in fair condition. It retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling. Integrity of setting is lost due to the removal of the associated horse barn and quartermaster facilities, construction of the dike, and the widening of "A" Street to include parking areas.

## Building 19

- Location: "A" Street south of Building 3
- Historic names: Army: Commissary Warehouse or South Storehouse
- Navy: Recreation Building
- VA: Nursing Service
- Historic use: Army: Part of service facilities south of main complex
- Navy: Recreation facility with theater, movie house, billiards, library, barber, and canteen
- VA: Storage building
- Current: Offices/Training
- Date of construction: 1868
- Architect/Builder: Army
- Photographs: 151 - 154

Building 19 is located south of Building 3. It is a one-story building with a full basement. The building is rectangular in plan, with its long axis running east and west. The primary exterior material is dressed native sandstone rectangular blocks, irregularly coursed, with a stone belt course at the top of the foundation. The roof is a simple gable with gray asphalt shingles. The primary elevation faces west. The building is utilitarian in design.

The building extends approximately 100 feet from east to west and 42 feet from north to south. The west side has concrete exterior stairs to the north and south, leading to the front entry, with a stone wall beside the stairs. The entry has a cornerstone reading "1867 Capn Kirk." It is believed that construction was completed in 1868. The east side has a two-story stone elevator enclosure with non-historic aluminum window framing and gabled roofs. The fenestration consists of evenly-spaced non-historic aluminum windows, with stone sills and lintels. The south and north sides have large historic arched openings into the upper level, with stone arches and keystones. Both openings were filled in before 1981.

The interior has been remodeled several times and is no longer character-defining.

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**Integrity**

## Character-defining features of Building 19

- Native sandstone exterior walls
- Gable roof
- Arched openings on north and south sides

Building 19 is in fair condition. It retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling. Integrity of setting is lost due to the removal of the historically associated utility buildings, the widening of "A" Street to include parking areas, and construction of the dike.

**Building 24**

- Location: Southeast of Building 19, south of "A" Street
- Historic names: Navy: Dairymen's Cottage  
VA: Storage
- Historic use: Navy: Part of Dairy Farm complex south of "A" Street  
VA: Storage building
- Current: Lock Shop/Armory
- Date of construction: 1917
- Architect/Builder: Navy
- Photographs: 155 - 157

Building 24 is located south of Building 19. It is a one-story building with no basement. The building is rectangular in plan, with its long axis running east and west. The building extends approximately 59 feet from east to west and 30 feet from north to south. The primary exterior material is native sandstone blocks. The roof is a side-facing gable with gray asphalt shingles. There are four exterior doors, two on each of the long elevations. The fenestration consists of painted wood sash single-hung windows with stone sills and lintels. The architectural design is utilitarian.

The interior has been remodeled several times and is no longer character-defining.

**Integrity**

## Character-defining features of Building 24

- Native sandstone exterior walls
- Gable roof
- Divided light windows with stone lintels

Building 24 is in fair condition. It retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling. Integrity of setting is lost due to the removal of the dairy facilities, the construction of the dike, and the widening of "A" Street to include parking areas.

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Location: East of Building 4  
Historic names: Navy: Storage  
VA: Engineering Storage  
Historic use: Storage  
Current: Lumber Storage  
Date of construction: 1916  
Architect/Builder: Navy  
Photographs: 158 - 159

Building 121 is located east of Building 4, outside of the main security fence. It is a one-story building with no basement. The building consists of two rectangular buildings that are attached end-to-end, with the southern section being wider and taller. The primary exterior material is irregularly shaped native sandstone. The roofs are gray asphalt shingled gables, with the smaller north roof tying into the side of the southern building's north exterior wall. The architectural design is utilitarian.

The building is surrounded by asphalt paving. There is a gated and fenced storage yard to the south. The south portion of the building appears to be older.

The northern section is 20 feet wide from east to west, and 30 feet long from north to south. The southern section is 30 feet from east to west and 40 feet long from north to south.

Windows have stone sills and lintels in some locations, but in many locations the sills and lintels have been replaced with concrete. The windows have been covered over from the exterior with plywood or stone, but historic wood sash 6/6 divided light windows are intact inside. The south side has a pair of historic diagonal wood board service doors.

The interior of the building is historically intact and character-defining. The interior is divided into two large open spaces, which appear to represent two different construction episodes. The interior has wood board flooring, exposed wood rafters and stone walls, and an old loft door opening in the stone wall between the two sections. The loft door has been filled in.

**Integrity**

Character-defining features of Building 121

- Native sandstone exterior walls
- Gable roof
- Interior open space with exposed rafters, stone walls, and wood board flooring

Building 121 is in poor condition. It retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling. Integrity of setting is lost due to the removal of Fourth Street, removal of adjacent associated Navy buildings, and construction of the dike.

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## Building 123

Location: East of Building 4  
 Historic names: Navy: Lumber Shed  
                   VA: Lumber Storage  
 Historic use: Storage  
 Current: Lumber Storage  
 Date of construction: 1916  
 Architect/Builder: Navy  
 Photographs: 160

Building 123 is located east of Building 4, outside of the main security fence. It is a one-story stone shed with an offset gable roof with gray asphalt shingles. The building is rectangular in plan, with its long axis running north and south. The east, north, and south walls are irregularly-shaped rubble native sandstone. The west side consists of four bays open to the exterior, with a fifth enclosed bay at the south end. The architectural design is utilitarian.

The building extends approximately 80 feet from north to south and 30 feet from east to west. The structure consists of stone bearing walls with four interior exposed stone columns. Wood roof framing is exposed, as are interior wood shelves and racks for storing lumber.

There are no windows. The southernmost bay is enclosed with wood paneling and has two non-historic hollow metal doors. The interior of the building is intact and character-defining.

### Integrity

Character-defining features of Building 123

Native rubble sandstone exterior walls  
 Gable roof  
 Open structure with exposed stone columns and wood roof rafters

Building 123 is in fair condition. It retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling. Integrity of setting is lost due to the removal of Fourth Street, removal of adjacent associated Navy buildings, and construction of the dike.

## Building 201

Location: Northwest of Utility Area  
 Historic names: Army: Hospital  
                   Navy: Men's Infirmary  
                   VA: Fire Station and Recreation  
 Historic use: Army: Hospital  
                   Navy: Expanded and used for Men's Infirmary  
                   VA: Fire Station, Music, Chapel, Recreation, and Storage  
 Current: Interim Lock Shop  
 Date of construction: 1868, with major expansion 1907 - 1911  
 Architect/Builder: Army, with major expansion by Navy  
 Photographs: 161 - 166

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Building 201 is located northwest of the Utility Area, but outside of the Utility Area security fence. It is a one-story building with a complex floor plan consisting of two main rectangular wings in a tee-configuration, plus two smaller projecting wings. The primary elevation consists of locally quarried native sandstone, cut to rectangular blocks of irregular sizes. The roof consists of intersecting gables. The architectural design is utilitarian.

The north-south wing of the building is approximately 130 feet long by 30 feet wide. This wing, along with a small projecting wing on the east side, was the original Army hospital. Projecting wings on the west side (100 feet by 20 feet) and the east side (30 by 30) were added by the Navy, and these still exist.

The Navy greatly expanded the building to the east with a complex of buildings referred to in Navy documents as "Lean-Tos." The Navy also expanded it to the west with two major wings. It was used as the Men's Infirmary. Over a period of time, most of these additions were removed by the VA, with the last one being demolished in 1955.

Various modifications and repairs over the years are evidenced by different colors and styles of stonework and jointing. In some places the joints are tooled, while in other locations they are not.

Fenestration consists of simple punched openings with stone lintels and sills. The windows are non-historic aluminum double-hung windows with historic stone lintels and sills. The east side has two large service door openings with non-historic metal overhead doors. Personnel doors in various locations have been replaced with non-historic wood doors or infill panels.

The interior has been extensively remodeled and is no longer character-defining.

## Integrity

Character-defining features of Building 201

- Native sandstone exterior walls
- Gable roof
- Windows with stone sills and lintels

Building 201 is in fair condition. It retains overall integrity of location, workmanship, and materials. Integrity of design, setting, feeling, and association have been compromised by the removal of numerous wings constructed by the Navy. While the building appears mostly consistent with its appearance during the Army period, the setting is not consistent with that time period.

## Utility Area

Location: East of Officers' Row and Petty Officers' Row

### Contributing resources:

037	Laundry	1952	VA
127	Paint Shop	1916	Navy
128	Engineering Office	1916	Navy
130	Main Garage	1906 – 1921	Navy
131	Storage	1906 – 1921	Navy
147	Grounds Section	1916	Navy
221	Power House	1908	Navy

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223	Storage	1916	Navy
225	Storage	1918	Navy
226	Engineering Equipment Shop	1925	VA
246	Greenhouse	1940	VA
389	Root Cellar	1945	VA

### Noncontributing resources:

Single security fence	2002	CDOC
Shed north of 128		

Photographs: 167 - 202

The Utility Area is located northeast of the Parade Ground and immediately west of the eastern perimeter dike. This grouping of buildings and drives, in an area about 600 feet long by 400 feet wide, includes four primary buildings and eight smaller buildings or sheds. There is no landscaping. The two buildings in the northern part of the area (37 and 246) are constructed along the east-west grid. The remaining buildings are located along an extension of "D" Street that turns southeast, at about a 25-degree angle, toward the old overflow bank of the Arkansas River. Most of the buildings are simple one-story utilitarian structures constructed of locally quarried tan sandstone blocks with gable roofs. They were built by the Navy between 1906 and 1921, except for the Engineering Equipment Shop, Greenhouse, Root Cellar, and Laundry, which were built by the VA. Most of the buildings are in fair condition, and have integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, dating from the VA period. Due to the construction of the dike in 1939, the Utility Area does not have integrity of setting.

During the Army period, the Utility Area in its present form did not exist. Several Laundress Quarters, no longer extant, were located along the riverbank in this general vicinity. The Utility Area began to take shape during the Navy period, when most of the buildings were constructed, along with a large Coal Bunker along the riverbank. The Coal Bunker is no longer extant.

Construction of the noncontributing dike by the Army Corps of Engineers in 1939 had a major impact on the setting of the Utility Area. For all of these reasons the integrity of the Utility Area dates from the VA period. The VA built three buildings in the Utility Area—the Greenhouse and associated Root Cellar in 1940 and 1945, respectively; and the Laundry in 1952. The setting was further impacted by construction of the outer security fence by the Colorado Department of Corrections in 2002. This area is now enclosed within a single security fence but is outside of the double security fence.

The primary resources in the Utility Area are the Power House, Main Garage, Engineering Office, and Laundry.

## Building 37: Laundry

The Laundry, Building 37, is located at the north end of the Utility Area. It is a tall one-story Modern brick building with a brick parapet and flat roof. It is rectangular in plan with lower-height projecting bays on the south and east sides. The building is 130 feet long from east to west, and 50 feet wide. The building has grass on the east and north sides, and paved service drives along the west and south sides. There is an exposed concrete foundation and red brick exterior walls of running bond with stretchers every sixth course. Windows are dark bronze anodized aluminum with gray tinted glass. Loading docks with overhead doors face east and west. The Laundry has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The Laundry was built after the dike so it has integrity of setting. The building is in good condition. The building interior was remodeled and re-equipped in the 1980s.

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Section number 7 Page 42**Buildings 127: Paint Shop and Building  
128: Engineering Office**

Paint Shop 127 is an associated outbuilding west of the Engineering Office. The Engineering Office, Building 128, is located west of the Main Garage, on the south side of the "D" Street extension. It is a single-story utilitarian building, rectangular in plan with projecting bays on the east and west sides. The building is 90 feet long from northeast to southwest, and 50 feet wide. The south and west sides have grass landscaping and concrete sidewalks, while the east and north sides are surrounded by the asphalt driving surface typical of the Utility Area. The exterior walls of the Engineering Office are constructed of cut rectangular tan-colored sandstone blocks. The main roof is gabled, covered with gray asphalt shingles. Two projecting bays on the east side terminate in a hip roof. Windows are steel sash divided light with concrete sills and lintels, which are probably replacements for original stone. The east side has divided-light steel sash windows with concrete sills and lintels. The Engineering Office retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Integrity of setting is compromised by the dike and the security fence. Building 128 is in fair condition.

There is a noncontributing shed to the north of Building 128.

**Buildings 130: Main Garage  
131: Storage  
147: Grounds Section**

The Main Garage, Building 130, and the attached Grounds Section, Building 147, are immediately west of the Power House, on the south side of the "D" Street extension. The buildings are surrounded by asphalt pavement. The Main Garage is a rectangular single-story utilitarian structure with a gable roof. The Grounds Section is an L-shaped one-story utilitarian building with a shed roof. It is attached to the southeast corner of the Main Garage, forming a rectangular service yard, 80 feet wide by 100 feet long, between the two buildings. The Main Garage is 110 feet long and 50 feet wide. Its exterior walls are tan sandstone cut rectangular blocks. The roof is a simple gable with gray asphalt shingles and a central wood cupola roof vent. Windows are divided light wood sash with stone lintels and sills. The Main Garage retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Integrity of setting is compromised by the dike and the security fence. The building is in fair condition.

Storage shed 131 is east of the Main Garage and is an associated outbuilding.

The Grounds Section building faces inward to the service yard. The east wing is 80 feet long and 20 feet wide, and the south wing is 100 feet long and 20 feet wide. On the service yard sides (east and north elevations) the building has horizontal wood lap siding with ten wood sectional overhead doors and one personnel door facing north. Three personnel doors and one wood sectional overhead door face west. The east and south elevations (facing outside), the building walls are constructed of cut sandstone blocks, with four-light wood sash windows with stone lintels and sills. The Grounds Section retains overall integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Integrity of setting is compromised by the dike and the security fence. The building is in fair condition.

**Building 221: Power House**

The Power House, Building 221, is located at the southeast end of the southeast extension of "D" Street. The building is surrounded with asphalt pavement. Its long axis runs from northeast to southwest. The building is

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utilitarian in design, constructed of cut tan sandstone blocks, with gable roofs of asphalt shingles, corrugated steel, and standing seam metal roofing at various locations, and horizontal wood siding, standing seam metal, or stone gables. The Power House is a combination of two 2-story rectangular buildings set at right angles to each other, with a single-story connection between them. There is a shed addition on the east side. The entire building is about 220 feet long from northeast to southwest. It varies in width from 50 to 90 feet. The exterior features a wide variety of openings, including wood sash and metal sash divided-light windows with stone sills and lintels, and a variety of personnel doors and vehicle doors at various locations around the building. Many openings have been fully or partially filled in with painted wood, metal, or louvers. The Power House retains overall integrity of location, feeling, and association. Integrity of materials, design, and workmanship are compromised by the wide variety of modifications to the roofing, windows, and doors. Integrity of setting is compromised by the dike and the security fence. The building is in fair condition.

**Buildings 223: Storage  
225: Storage  
226: Engineering Equipment Shop**

Buildings 223, 225, and 226 are single-story, rectangular utilitarian outbuildings located east of the Power House. They all have gable roofs with asphalt shingles. Building 226 is sheathed in corrugated metal siding. Buildings 223 and 225 have roughly cut rectangular sandstone blocks walls.

**Buildings 246: Greenhouse  
389: Root Cellar**

The Greenhouse is located west of Building 221. The Root Cellar is a small associated structure located immediately east of the Greenhouse.

The Greenhouse is a one-story building, L-shaped in plan with a gable roof. One full leg of the ell, plus a portion of the other leg, have a rectangular cut sandstone stem wall with a steel and wood-framed gabled greenhouse structure above. Most of the corrugated fiberglass panels in the greenhouse roof and walls were destroyed in a 2001 hailstorm. They have not been replaced. At one end of the ell there is a single-story stone structure, constructed of rectangular cut local sandstone blocks. It has a front-facing gable roof with gray asphalt shingles. Historic divided light wood sash windows with 6/6 pattern, arched stone lintels, and stone sills, still exist.

The Root Cellar is a single-story, utilitarian structure constructed of cut rectangular blocks of local sandstone. It has a side-facing gable roof with asphalt shingles. The window openings have been filled in with concrete blocks, and the door opening has been closed off with plywood.

**Integrity**

The primary non-historic intrusions in the Utility Area are the dike and the single security fence.

Character-defining features of the Utility Area:

- Simple one-story utilitarian buildings
- Sandstone walls
- Gable roofs
- Divided light steel or wood windows with stone lintels and sills
- Mostly pavement with little landscaping

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Construction of the noncontributing dike by the Army Corps of Engineers in 1939 had a major impact on the setting of the Utility Area. The setting was further impacted by construction of the outer security fence by the Colorado Department of Corrections in 2002. This area is now enclosed within a single security fence but is outside of the double security fence.

Buildings from the Navy period in the Utility area that no longer exist include the Navy Laundry 216, Disinfecting Building 219, Engineering Storehouse 138, Reservoir 136, Storage Tank 135, Bakery 119, Lumber Shed 123, and eleven other small structures that appear on a 1920 Navy map but are not identified.

## Wastewater Treatment Area

Location: Southeast corner of site, west of eastern perimeter dike  
 Historic name: Wastewater Treatment Area  
 Historic use: Wastewater treatment  
 Current use: Wastewater treatment  
 Date of construction: 1949  
 Architect/builder: VA

### Contributing Resources:

039	Sludge Beds	1949
040	Chlorinator	1949
043	Digester and Control House	1949
045	Incinerator	1949

### Noncontributing Resources

--	Brick building with hip roof	1980
----	------------------------------	------

Photographs: 205 - 210

The Wastewater Treatment Area is located at the southeast corner of the site, directly west of the eastern perimeter dike. This grouping of buildings and structures is in an area about 300 feet long from north to south by 120 feet wide from east to west. The area is fenced off with a chain link fence but is outside the main security fence. There is no landscaping. The Wastewater Treatment Area includes sludge beds, chlorine chamber, catch basin, a non-historic Effluent Lift, and two contributing structures, the Digester and Control House, and the Incinerator.

The primary structures in the Wastewater Treatment Area are treatment ponds and basins, the Digester and Control House 43, and the Incinerator 45. There is a noncontributing one-story brick building with a large hip roof that was built in 1980.

The treatment ponds, sludge beds, and basins consist of lined concrete ponds surrounded by chain link fencing. There is a system of steel and concrete walkways with metal handrails between the ponds.

The chlorinator is located in a two-level shed-roofed structure with metal siding, exposed concrete foundation, and exterior steel exit stairs from the second level.

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## Building 43: Digester and Control House

The Digester and Control House is a simple one-story utilitarian red brick structure that is nearly square in plan. It is constructed of red brick on a concrete foundation. It has a flat parapet roof, concrete coping, and a continuous exposed concrete bond beam at the head height of all of the openings. The building has steel sash divided-light windows and steel personnel doors with metal transom panels. There is a steel overhead door.

## Building 45: Incinerator

The Incinerator is at the north end of the Wastewater Treatment area. It is a simple one-story red brick utilitarian structure, rectangular in plan, with a tall attached square brick smoke stack on the west side. The building has an exposed concrete foundation, and a flat parapet roof with concrete coping and a continuous exposed concrete bond beam at the head height of the openings. The building has steel sash divided-light windows and steel personnel doors with metal transom panels. There is a steel overhead door. The smoke stack appears to be about 40 feet tall. It is constructed of red brick on a concrete foundation and is unadorned.

## Integrity

The Wastewater Treatment Area is in good condition and retains overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, dating from the early VA period when most of it was built.

Character-defining features of the Wastewater Treatment Area:

- Simple utilitarian red brick structures
- Concrete foundations
- Exposed concrete bond beam
- Steel sash divided light windows
- Irregular assemblage of buildings and structures inside metal fence

## Recreational Facilities

- Location: North and east of residential area
- Historic uses: Baseball and tennis
- Current uses: Not currently used

### Contributing Resources:

145	Tool House and Toilets	1944
379	Baseball Grandstand	1944
	Baseball Field	1934

### Noncontributing Resources:

	Shed north of grandstand	
520	Recreation Facility	1978
521	Swimming Pool	1978
522	Mechanical Building	1978
	Playground	2003
	Tennis Courts	
	Photographs: 212 - 218	

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Recreational facilities dating from the early VA period that are still extant include the baseball field and the grandstand. The tennis and handball courts during the Navy period were further west, and the baseball field was further north. There was also a swimming pool during the Navy period that has been replaced by a 1977 pool, currently used as a fish hatchery. A miniature golf course built by the VA north of Building 401 has been removed.

The baseball facilities, associated toilet and tool house, and the tennis courts are at the north end of the complex, west of Northeast Road and north of "E" Street.

The contributing resources have integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, dating from the VA period when they were built. The recreational facilities dating from the Navy period no longer exist.

**145: Tool House and Toilets**

Building 145 is a simple one-story sandstone building with a gable roof. It is built of local native sandstone, cut rectangular blocks. Windows have been boarded up. There are two non-historic doors.

**379: Baseball Grandstand and Baseball Field**

The baseball grandstand is a stone structure covered by a metal-framed roof canopy. The grandstand is curved in plan and faces north. There are eight bays of steel columns facing toward the playing field, with eight rows of spectator seating. There is an announcer's booth in the center at the top. The curved stone back wall is constructed of tan native sandstone blocks. There are eight doors with stone headers in the south side of the curved stone wall. The canopy roofing is non-historic standing seam metal. The baseball grandstand has a cornerstone with a 1944 date inscribed on it.

Bleachers are poured concrete between stone supports. Some are open below, revealing a stone or glazed clay tile back wall. Dugouts are painted concrete block with a corrugated steel canopy on wood framing. There is a wood-framed announcer's booth with exterior corrugated metal sheathing and interior plywood siding.

The baseball field is to the north of the grandstand and is enclosed by a chain link fence.

Character-defining features of the grandstand are:

- Curved stone wall

- Steel canopy

- Concrete bleachers on stone supports

**Tennis Courts**

The tennis courts are on east "F" Street, west of the Recreation Facility. The surface is asphalt and the area is surrounded by chain link fencing. Originally constructed during the early VA period, the VA relocated the courts after 1956 and are considered to be noncontributing.

Noncontributing resources of a recreational nature include a painted concrete block, gable-roofed shed north of the grandstand, and a 1978 complex including a recreation building, swimming pool, and mechanical building. The recreation building is a brick building with a shed roof and a shed-roof canopy on the north side facing the pool. The swimming pool is concrete, surrounded by chain link fencing and covered with netting. It is currently being used on an experimental basis to raise fish. There is a small mechanical shed on the northeast corner of the pool. A playground was added by CDOC in 2003 between "D" and "F" Streets, west of Building 324.

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## West Farm

Location: Northwest corner of the intersection of West Farm Road and Bent County Road 15  
Ownership: Privately owned

### Contributing resources:

142	Dairy Barn	1944	VA
143	Bull Barn	ca. 1944	VA
144	Feeding Barn	ca. 1944	VA
385	Horse Barn	ca. 1944	VA
386	Implement Shed	ca. 1944	VA

### Associated noncontributing resource:

514 Pumphouse

Photographs: 219 - 226

The West Farm is located at the far southeastern extremity of the district, at the intersection of West Farm Road with the south end of Bent County Road 15. This is a grouping of agricultural buildings, built by the VA in support of the goal of agricultural self-sufficiency for the medical center. The farm has been privately owned and operated for some time, and is currently being acquired by CDOC.

### Building 142: Dairy Barn

Building 142 is located along County Road 15, just north of its intersection with West Farm Road. It is a simple utilitarian building, a long single-story rectangular plan with three projecting wings on the west side. The long axis runs north and south, parallel to the County road. The building is constructed of tan local sandstone blocks, laid up in ashlar fashion. There are areas of red brick infill which may be later attempts at repairs. Windows are original wood sash divided light. Some of the windows are boarded up.

The roofs are gabled, with corrugated metal roofing on wood framing with exposed rafter tails. Gable siding is corrugated metal in some locations and board and batten siding in others. There are large non-historic metal roof vents.

### Building 143: Bull Barn

The Bull Barn is located east of the north end of Building 142. It is a two-story utilitarian building with attached fenced outdoor pens separated from each other by stone walls. The building is constructed of local sandstone cut rectangular blocks, ashlar pattern, with areas of red brick infill that may be repairs. It has a side-facing gable roof with asphalt shingles, exposed wood structure and exposed rafter tails. There is a dormer on the north side. The windows are original wood sash 4-light windows, with security bars added at a later date. Lintels are original stone, with some concrete replacements. Wood board exterior doors are original.

The interior consists of an upper-level walkway with openings into four bullpens below. All interior walls are stone. Each bullpen contains an intact feeding trough.

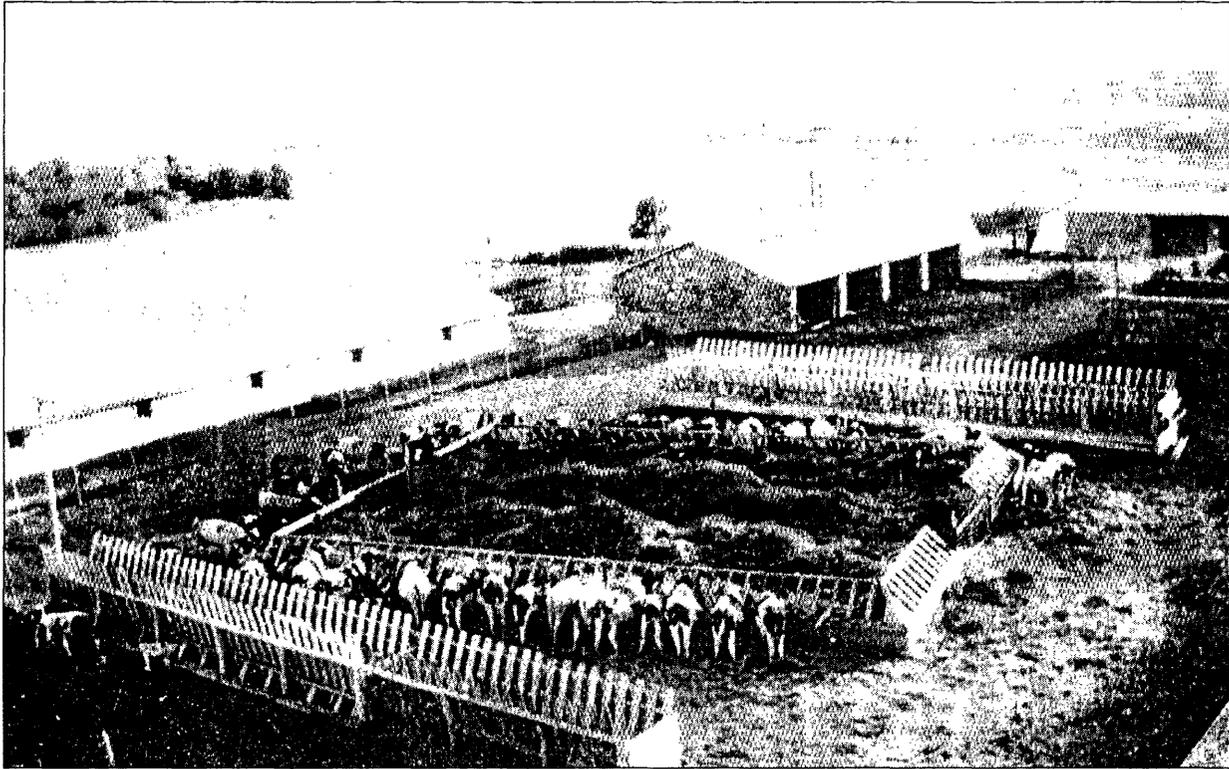
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**Figure 18.** West Farm in operation at Fort Lyon in 1919-1920. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)

### **Building 144: Feeding Barn**

The Feeding Barn is at the north end of the complex. It is a long, narrow, rectangular building, with its long axis running east to west. It is a simple one-story utilitarian building. It has 34 bays, open to the south, with steel posts supporting a wood-framed shed roof. The north elevation has a sandstone wall about 3 feet high, with a framed wooden wall above. The lower portions of the end walls are sandstone, with wood siding above.

There is a concrete feed trough inside the barn. The westernmost bays are enclosed with chain link fencing.

### **Building 385: Horse Barn**

The Horse Barn is on the north side of West Farm Road, east of Buildings 142, 143, and 144. It is a rectangular plan building with a concrete foundation, red-painted wood board and batten siding, and a gambrel roof with asphalt shingles. The original wood sash 4-light windows are still in place, with non-historic white security grates outside of them. Original board doors and loft doors are still in place. The roof has two cupola vents. There is a fenced paddock to the north of the barn.

### **Building 386: Implement Shed**

The Implement Shed is the easternmost building in the West Farm. It is a long rectangular plan building on the north side of West Farm Road, just east of Building 385. Its long axis runs east to west. The building is a single-story utilitarian building with a painted concrete foundation, red painted vertical wood board siding, and a gable

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roof covered with corrugated tin roofing. Along the south side there are large sliding wooden utility barn doors. The windows are original, wood sash four-lights, with non-historic security grates.

**Integrity**

The West Farm is in fair condition. The complex retains overall integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, dating from the early VA period when it was built.

Character-defining features of the West Farm:

- Simple utilitarian stone and wood structures
- Stone interior of Bull Barn

**Historic Street and Road System (Contributing)**

The historic system of streets and roads on the property is composed of twelve streets and three roads. The streets are those vehicle pathways within the core residential area of the property. Lettered streets trend east-west and numbered streets trend north-south. The roads are those vehicle pathways that extend outward from the core residential area to the boundaries of the property. They vary in their lengths and widths and in their associated historic features. Concrete curbs and sidewalks are associated with some but not all of them. The street and road system dates to two of the periods of significance at Fort Lyon. Most of the streets and roads around the core of the facility were laid out and constructed during the Navy period, the primary period of significance ("A" Street, "B" Street, "C" Street, the alleyway behind Officers Row, "D" Street, "E" Street, "First" Street, "Second" Street, "Third" Street, "Gate Road," and the southern portion of "Northeast Road"). A few of the streets and roads in the northern portion of the property were constructed during the early VA period (alleyway behind Petty Officers Row), "F" Street, East "F" Street, western portion of "G" Street, "West Farm Road", northern portion of "Northeast Road", and 5BN578). A few of the streets and roads on the property appear to be of modern (post 1956) construction ("Lovers Lane," "South Orchard Road," eastern portion of "G" Street, "Perimeter Road") and are non-historic segments of the system.

The historic street and road system is largely intact and contributes to the overall eligibility of the property. Historic maps and photos indicate that all of the streets and roads possess integrity of location, design, and workmanship. Historic photographs and property descriptions suggest that the paving of the streets and the construction of the associated concrete curbs and sidewalks occurred during the latter portion (1917-1919) of the Navy Period, the primary period of significance at Fort Lyon. The system however appears to lack integrity of materials as all of the streets and roads are currently constructed of asphalt but were likely originally constructed simply of dirt. Additionally, they appear to have been resurfaced but this has had little if any affect on the overall integrity of the system. The aspects of setting and feeling have been compromised to a limited degree by the addition of some recent features. The construction of two parallel chain link fences at the south end of the property around the Parade Ground and some of the dormitory buildings impacts only a small portion of the overall system. Minor features of recent origin such as bus stops, light poles, concrete dumpster aprons, and posted signs for the correctional facility also do not diminish the overall integrity of the system. Descriptions of the individual segments (streets and roads) of the system are as follow:

"A" Street was a street approximately 1100 feet in length that extended between First Street and a parking lot access road at the south end of the property between Buildings 17 and 19 and the patient buildings. The street has been obliterated by the recent construction of the two, parallel, chain link fences with razor wire on top at the south end of the property.

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“B” Street is a two-lane street that extends along the south side of the Parade Ground in front of the former patient buildings. It is approximately 750 feet long and 30 feet wide with an associated concrete sidewalk along its south side. It appears on a 1921 map of the property (1) and was likely built during the first Navy construction period between 1908 and 1911. (2) The street is currently located within the area enclosed by the two parallel chain link fences. The fences cross the extreme west end of the street.

“C” Street is a two-lane street that extends along the north side of the Parade Ground and the south side of Officers Row. It is approximately 984 feet long and 30 feet wide with concrete curbs on both sides and a concrete sidewalk paralleling it on its north side at an approximate 5 foot offset. Elm trees line the north side of the street. The street appears on a 1919-1920 photograph of the property (3) and was likely built during the first Navy construction period between 1908 and 1911. (4) The two parallel chain link fences border the road on the south.

A one-lane alleyway extends along the north side of Officers Row. It is approximately 984 feet long and 15 feet wide with a concrete curb on its north side as well as six associated triangular-shaped concrete aprons for trash dumpsters. Elm trees line the north side of the alleyway. The street appears in a 1908-1911 photograph of the property (5) as a narrow dirt road.

“D” Street is a two-lane street extending along the south side of Petty Officers Row between “Gate Road” and “Northeast Road.” It is approximately 984 feet long and 30 feet wide with concrete curbs along both sides and a sidewalk paralleling it on its north side at an approximate 5 foot offset. Elm trees line both sides of the street. Power poles and streetlights line the south side of the street and signs are posted on both sides. One bus stop shelter is present on south side of street at its west end. The street is depicted as a dirt road in a photograph of the first Navy construction period between 1908 and 1911. (6)

A one-lane street extends between “Gate Road” and “Northeast Road” behind Petty Officers Row. It is approximately 984 feet long and 12 feet wide with no associated curbs or sidewalks. Elm trees line the south side of the alleyway. Power poles and streetlights line the north side of the street. Temporary housing for construction personnel has been erected at its east end. The street appears to have been constructed during the VA Period between 1936 and 1955 based on a historic aerial photograph of the property (7) and a map from the VA Period. (8)

“E” Street is a two-lane street between “Gate Road” and the “Northeast Road” north of Petty Officers Row. It is approximately 984 feet long and 23 feet wide with concrete sidewalks paralleling it on either side. Elm trees line both sides of the street. Streetlights are located along the south side of the street and a bus stop shelter is located along the north side at the east end of the street. Signs are posted on both sides of the street. The street is depicted on 1920 map of the photograph of the property (9) and was likely built during the first Navy construction period between 1908 and 1911. (10)

“F” Street is a one-lane street located at the north end of the core area between Gate Road and the tennis courts. It is approximately 853 feet long and 15 feet wide with a concrete sidewalk paralleling it on its north side. Two concrete aprons for trash dumpsters are located along the south side of the street and power poles and streetlights are located along the north side. Elm trees line both sides of the street. The street does not appear on a 1936 aerial photograph of Fort Lyon (11) but is depicted on a 1955 map of the property. (12) It thus appears to have been constructed during the early VA period between 1936 and 1955.

East “F” Street is a one-lane street at the northeast end of the core area that extends eastward from Northeast Road. It is approximately 426 feet long and 16 feet wide with a concrete sidewalk paralleling it on its north side. Elm trees line the north side of the street with two trees on its south side. Power poles and streetlights are located on the south side of the street. The street does not appear on a 1936 aerial photograph of Fort Lyon (13) but is

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depicted on a 1955 map of the property. (14) It thus appears to have been constructed during the early VA period between 1936 and 1955.

"G" Street is a two-lane street that extends between "Gate Road" and "Northeast Road" along the north edge of the core area. The historic portion of the road extends approximately 700 feet eastward from "Gate Road" to the first cross street (no name). The portion extending beyond that to the east is a 1979-80 improvement and not part of the historic road system. It is approximately 19 feet wide and has no associated curbs or sidewalks. Two concrete aprons for dumpsters are located along its north side and one elm tree is located along its south side. Streetlights and power poles are located along its north side. The street does not appear on a 1936 aerial photograph of the property (15) but does appear on a 1950 aerial photograph (16) indicating a construction date between the two dates.

"First" Street is a two-lane street that extends along the western edge of the property between "A" Street and "C" Street. It is approximately 775 feet long and 30 feet wide and has concrete curbs on both sides. The street is depicted on a 1921 map of the property (17) and was likely built during the first Navy construction period between 1908 and 1911. (18) The double chain link fence is located approximately 15 feet to the east of it.

"Second" Street is a two-lane street that extends along the west side of the Parade Ground in front of Building 401 between "B" Street and "C" Street. It is approximately 480 feet long and 30 feet wide and has concrete curbs on both sides. The street is depicted on a 1921 map of the property (19) and was likely built during the first Navy construction period between 1908 and 1911. (20) The street is currently located within the area enclosed by the two parallel chain link fences.

"Third" Street is a two-lane street that extends along the east side of the Parade Ground between "B" Street and "C" Street within the fenced yard of the correctional facility. It is approximately 480 feet long and 30 feet wide and has concrete curbs on both sides. The street is depicted on a 1919-1920 photograph of the property (21) and was likely built during the first Navy construction period between 1908 and 1911. (22) The street is currently located within the area enclosed by the two parallel chain link fences.

"Gate Road" is a two-lane road that extends from the west end of "C" Street in a northwesterly direction to the entrance gate into the property. It is approximately 4,439 feet long and 30 feet wide with a concrete sidewalk on its east side between "C" Street and "G" Street. It has concrete curbs on both sides between "G" Street and the entrance gate. Large elm trees line both sides of the road. Streetlights are located along the east side of the road and signs are posted on both sides. The road is depicted in a 1909-1911 photograph of the property (23) indicating a construction date during the first Navy construction period. (24)

"West Farm Road" is a two-lane road that extends west from "Gate Road" to the West Farm and the western boundary of the property. It is approximately 1854 feet long and 20 feet wide with concrete curbs on both sides. Russian Olives line the north side of the road. The road is not depicted on a 1936 aerial photograph of the property (25) but is shown on a 1950 aerial photograph (26) indicating it was constructed some time between the two dates during the early VA period.

"Northeast Road" is a two-lane road extending northeasterly along the east side of the property from the east end of "D" Street. It is approximately 2825 feet long and 30 feet wide with concrete sidewalks along both sides between "D" Street and the end of the rows of houses. Elm trees also line both sides of the road and streetlights line the west side between "E" Street and the end of the row of houses. The portion of the road between "D" Street and the end of the row of houses is depicted in a 1908-1911 photograph of the property. (27) A 1921 map of the property (28) indicates the northern portion of the road beyond the row of houses was a two-track road that was not in its current alignment. The road is depicted in its current alignment and extent in a 1936 photograph of the property. (29)

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Resource 5BN578 is a two-track road extending along the south side of a powerline across the open field north of the Fort Lyon complex core. The eastern portion of the road appears on a 1921 map of the facility (30) as an access road to the athletic field. The road is depicted in its current alignment on a 1936 aerial photograph of Fort Lyon (31). It appears to have functioned as field or powerline access road. The road is no longer in service and is currently overgrown with vegetation and partially filled with sediment. The east and west ends have been obliterated by more recent improvements to the property.

Three roads within the boundaries of the property appear to have been constructed after the end of the period of significance in 1956 and are therefore non-historic segments of the overall system.

“Lovers Lane” is a two-track road that extends along the north side of Ditch #1 between Gate Road and the baseball field. Maps (32) and aerial photographs (33) of Fort Lyon suggest it was constructed between 1955 and 1964.

An unnamed two-track road (named here “South Orchard Road”) extends eastward along the south side of a small agricultural field from “Gate Road.” Maps (34) and aerial photographs (35) of Fort Lyon suggest it was constructed between 1955 and 1964.

The perimeter road is a gravel road that extends around the inside of the dike at the south end of the property from the south end of “First” Street to the north end of the row of houses along “Northeast Road.” Maps (36) and aerial photographs (37) of Fort Lyon suggest it was constructed between 1955 and 1964.

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**Street and Road System Endnotes**

1. “The United States Naval Hospital Fort Lyon Colo. Map of the Reservation showing Improvements to June 30, 1921”, G-310. On file at Fort Lyon State Correctional Facility.
2. F.W.F. Wieber, “ The History of the United States Naval Hospital, Fort Lyon, Colo. And the activities of the Naval Medical Corps in the development of the hospital for sanitorium purposes, U.S. Naval Hospital Bulletin, November 1922, p.748.
3. Fort Lyon U.S. Naval Station 1919-1920, F41021, Denver Public Library, Western History Collection.
4. Wieber, p. 748.
5. Ft Lyon (new) showing expansion by Navy (1908-1911), F-4442, 10030951, Colorado Historical Society, Stephen Hart Library.
6. Ft Lyon (new) showing expansion by Navy (1908-1911), F-4442.
7. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06, Nov. 4, 1936. On file at Fort Lyon State Correctional Facility.
8. Taylor, “Veterans’ Administration Fort Lyon, Colo. Part Plot Plan”, 1955. Revised from C.O. Print dated 10-16-46. On file at Fort Lyon State Correctional Facility.
9. Fort Lyon U.S. Naval Station 1919-1920, F41022, Denver Public Library, Western History Collection.
10. Wieber, p. 748.
11. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06.
12. Taylor, 1955.
13. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06.

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14. Taylor, 1955.
15. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06.
16. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, DLV-4G-37, 9-30-50. On file at Fort Lyon State Correctional Facility
17. "The United States Naval Hospital Fort Lyon Colo. Map of the Reservation showing Improvements to June 30, 1921", G-310.
18. Wieber, p. 748
19. "The United States Naval Hospital Fort Lyon Colo. Map of the Reservation showing Improvements to June 30, 1921", G-130.
20. Wieber, p. 748
21. U.S. Naval Station, 1919-1920, Denver Public Library, Western History Collection.
22. Wieber, p. 748
23. Ft Lyon (new) navy expansion (1908-1911), F-4441, 10030950, Colorado Historical Society, Stephen Hart Library.
24. Wieber, p. 748
25. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06.
26. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map.
27. Ft Lyon (new) navy expansion (1908-1911), F-4441.
28. "The United States Naval Hospital Fort Lyon Colo. Map of the Reservation showing Improvements to June 30, 1921", G-310.
29. U.S. Naval Station, 1936, 738719, photo by Hazel Quinn, Denver Public Library, Western History Collection.
30. "The United States Naval Hospital Fort Lyon Colo. Map of the Reservation showing Improvements to June 30, 1921", G-130.
31. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06, Nov. 4, 1936.
32. Taylor, 1955
33. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, DLV-2EE-144, 6-15-64.
34. Taylor, 1955.
35. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, DLV-2EE-144, 6-15-64.
36. Taylor, 1955.
37. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, DLV-2EE-144, 6-15-64.

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Section number 7 Page 54**Irrigation Ditch System (Contributing)**

The property has a system of seven interconnected ditches that were used for irrigation of the agricultural fields during the Navy and early VA periods at Fort Lyon. The ditches are all U-shaped and concrete lined. They vary in length from approximately 200 feet to more than 0.5 miles. They vary in width from 3.5 feet to 5.5 feet and vary in depth from 2 to 3 feet. Small channels have been cut into the outside walls to allow water in the ditch to flood the fields that they border. All of the ditches making up the system are currently operational and used to irrigate agricultural fields on the west of "Gate Road" and north of the West Farm Road, and the grassy tree-lined strip on both sides of "Gate Road."

The historic ditch system is associated with the two most significant periods at Fort Lyon (Navy and early VA periods). It is largely intact and contributes to the overall eligibility of the property. Historic aerial photographs and other documentation suggest the system evolved over time between 1908 and 1950 as more lands were put into agricultural production. Ditches 1, 3, and 5 appear to be the oldest with 2, 2a, and 4 added onto the system. The ditch system appears to possess most if not all of the aspects of integrity. All of the ditches appear to be in their original alignments except for some portions of Ditch #3 and Ditch #5. They all also appear to retain integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. The ditches may have originally been earthen but appear to be concrete lined in a historic aerial photograph from 1936. (1) The setting for the system has changed little with conversion of the property from a VA hospital to state correctional facility. The system of ditches is located far enough away from the fenced area so as to have little if any impact on this aspect of integrity. The integrity of feeling has been little impacted by changes to the property and the structures themselves since their original construction. Although the property changed through time, the system was used for irrigation of the agricultural fields during both periods of significance and it continues to be used for that purpose at the present time. The changes in the features associated with the system such as removal of the historic reservoir adjacent to Ditch #3 at the north end of the property or the installation of new features such as culverts, headgates, and temporary diversion structures do not diminish the historic sense of the property. The individual ditches that make up the system are described below:

Ditch #1 is located just north of "G" Street on the east side of "Gate Road." It is 895 feet in length, 3.5 feet in width, and is 2.0 feet deep. From its eastern terminus, it extends around the east and north sides of a small agricultural field to its intersection with Ditch #2. A small wood frame pumphouse with a front-gabled roof and a cupola and two metal headgates are associated with ditch along its east-west trending arm. A two-track road runs along the north side of the ditch on its east-west trending arm ("Lovers Lane"). The current alignment of the ditch appears to have been constructed at different times between 1908 and 1955. The east-west trending arm of the ditch may have been constructed between 1908 and 1911 during the Navy Period when the farm and irrigation systems were first constructed. (2) A row of trees depicted on a map of the Naval Hospital from 1921 in the approximate location of this portion of the ditch suggests it was present by this time. (3) The north-south trending arm does not appear clearly on maps or in photos until 1950. The ditch is depicted in its current alignment on a map from the early VA period dated 1955. (4)

Ditch #2 is located along the east side of "Gate Road". It is 2268 feet in length, 5.5 feet wide, and 2.5 feet deep. From its intersection with Ditch #1 at its southern terminus, it extends along the east side of the main road "Gate Road" into Fort Lyon to its northern terminus just beyond its intersection with an east-west trending ditch (Ditch #3). It has one associated metal culvert where it crosses a former field access road that is no longer in service with a metal grate and gate across its north end. The northern terminus is on the south side of an east-west trending cemetery access road. It consists of a round, cement-lined pool area with no outlet approximately 8 feet in diameter. The ditch was likely constructed between 1929 and 1936. It does not appear in a 1929 photograph of the facility (5) but does appear on a 1936 aerial photograph of Fort Lyon. (6)

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Ditch #2a is a small spur that extends eastward from Ditch #2 along the south side of a former field access road. The ditch is 239 feet long, 4.75 feet wide, and 2 feet deep. It has no associated features and terminates at the edge of an open field. The date of construction would be sometime after the construction of Ditch #2.

Ditch #3 is located at the northern end of the correctional facility property immediately south of the new Chapel location. It is 657 feet in length, 5.0 feet wide, and 3.0 feet deep. It extends east from its western terminus at Ditch #5, crosses underneath "Gate Road", and continues for a few hundred feet along the south side of the cemetery access road to its eastern terminus at the edge of an open field. Ditch #4 intersects it on the west side of "Gate Road" while Ditch #2 intersects it on the east side of "Gate Road." Features associated with it include two metal headgates between its intersection with Ditch #4 and Ditch #5, a metal culvert underneath "Gate Road", and a concrete foundation of unknown purpose at its west end at the location of a historic reservoir. The western half of the ditch appears as part of Ditch #5 on the 1921 map of the Naval Hospital (7) and on a 1936 aerial photograph of Fort Lyon. (8) The eastern half of the ditch in its current alignment appears on an aerial photograph from 1979-80 after construction of the cemetery access road that it parallels.

Ditch #4 is located along the west side of "Gate Road." It is 2885 feet in length, 5.5 feet long, and 2.5 feet deep. It widens to 8 feet at its north end where it intersects with Ditch #3. Its southern terminus is across "Gate Road" from "F" Street. Its northern terminus is at its intersection with Ditch #3. Features associated with it include a single metal culvert underneath a field access road. Similar to Ditch #2 it does not appear in a 1929 photograph of the facility (9) but does appear on a 1936 aerial photo of Fort Lyon suggesting a construction date between the two dates. (10)

Ditch #5 extends north to south along the east side of county road that bounds the property on the west and skirts the east side of the West Farm. It is 3678 feet long, 5.0 feet wide, and 3.0 feet deep. At its northern end it widens to 8 feet and has a fence around it. The northern terminus is at the extreme northeast corner of the correctional facility property. The southern terminus is on the east side of the West Farm north of the "West Farm Road." One headgate is associated with the ditch at its intersection with Ditch #3. The ditch appears on a 1921 map of the property as part of Ditch #3 extending south along the east side of the county road to its terminus at a powerline in the approximate location of the "West Farm Road" today. (11) The south end of the current ditch alignment that skirts around the east side of the West Farm would have been constructed in the early 1940s when the farm itself was built. The date of construction for the portion north of Ditch #3 appears to have been after removal of the reservoir between 1964 and 1979.

Ditch #6 is located along the east side of "Gate Road" at the north end of the correctional facility property. It is 681 feet long, 4.5 feet wide, and 3.0 feet deep. It extends from the north side of the cemetery access road along the east side of "Gate Road" for approximately 400 feet before curving to the north and continuing to its northern terminus at a stone pumphouse located along the south side of an east-west trending county road. Associated features include the stone pumphouse with a side-gabled asphalt shingle roof and two metal headgates all at its northern terminus. The southern portion of the ditch and the pumphouse are shown on the 1936 aerial photograph of Fort Lyon. (12)

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**Irrigation Ditch System Endnotes**

1. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06, Nov. 4, 1936. On file at the Fort Lyon State Correctional Facility.
2. F.W.F. Wieber, "The History of the United States Naval Hospital, Fort Lyon, Colo., and the activities of the Naval Medical Corps in the development of the hospital for sanatorium purposes", U.S. Naval Hospital Bulletin, November 1922, p. 748.

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3. "The United States Naval Hospital Fort Lyon Colo. Map of the Reservation showing Improvements to June 30, 1921", G-130. On file at Fort Lyon State Correctional Facility.
4. Taylor, "Veterans' Administration Fort Lyon, Colo. Part Plot Plan", 1955, Revised from C.O. Print dated 4-16-46. On file at Fort Lyon State Correctional Facility.
5. Ft Lyon (new) Oct. 1929, F-31,797, 10030953, Colorado Historical Society, Stephen Hart Library.
6. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06.
7. "The United States Naval Hospital Fort Lyon Colo. Map of the Reservation showing Improvements to June 30, 1921", G-130.
8. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06.
9. Ft Lyon (new) Oct. 1929, F-31,797.
10. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06.
11. "The United States Naval Hospital Fort Lyon Colo. Map of the Reservation showing Improvements to June 30, 1921", G-130.
12. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Conservation Plan Map, AG-325-06.

**Archaeological Sites (Noncontributing)**

Thirteen archaeological sites were found during a cultural resources inventory of the property. A variety of techniques were used to identify and evaluate the sites including pedestrian survey, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), auger probing, and the excavation of formal test units. All of the sites contain historic materials that directly or indirectly associate it with one or more of the periods of significance at Fort Lyon. However, all of the sites are considered noncontributing because they have no further information potential regarding any of the periods of significance and they lack sufficient integrity to convey the property's significance. The archaeological deposits on most of the sites are sparse and restricted to surface and near surface contexts. Most of the sites retain integrity of location, setting, and association but none retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, or feeling. The noncontributing archaeological sites are as follows: 5BN549, 5BN550, 5BN551, 5BN552, 5BN553, 5BN554, 5BN555, 5BN556, 5BN557, 5BN558, 5BN559, 5BN560, and 5BN579.

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**Figure 19. Resources No Longer Extant**

Name	Location	Builder	Date	Disposition
Company Quarters, Mess Hall, Kitchen Navy name: West Subsistence	Parade Ground	Army	1868	Demolished by VA
Laundress Quarters (typical of 9)	Behind Company Quarters	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy, 1907
Headquarters, Guard House, Magazine and Library Navy name: Administration (Navy Building #1).	Parade Ground	Army	1868	Demolished by VA
Dead House	North of Hospital	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy 1907
Granary Navy: Bowling Alley and Shuffleboard (Navy Building 18)	Army south corrals	Army	1868	Demolished by VA
Coal House	Army south corrals	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
Shops	Army south corrals	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
Corrals	Army south corrals	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
Bakery	Southeast	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
Ice House	East	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
Old Laundress Quarters	Army south corrals	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
Post Trader	East of Officer Quarters	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
Sinks	Various locations	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
21 Pump House	Southwest	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
22 Hay and Wood Yard	North of Officers Quarters	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
23 Saddle House	Army south corrals	Army	1868	Demolished by Navy
16 Tool Shed	Dairy	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA
18 Bowling Alley	Dairy	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished by VA
20 Stone building	Dairy?	Navy		Demolished by VA in 1961
21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31 Unnamed buildings	Dairy	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA
26 Dairy Barn	Dairy	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA
29 Dry Cow Barn	Dairy	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA
35 Stone building	Dairy	Navy		Demolished by VA in 1961
101 – 103 Lean-Tos	Parade Ground	Navy	1917	Demolished
104 – 107 Lean-Tos	Parade Ground	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished by VA
108 – 118 Lean-Tos	Parade Ground	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA
111 – 113 Convalescent Patients	C Street	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA
114 East Subsistence	Parade Ground	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished
115 Residence	Northeast Road	Navy	Unknown	Demolished by VA in 1961
118 Name?	Utility area	Navy	Before 1920	Demolished

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Name	Location	Builder	Date	Disposition
119 Bakery	Utility area	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished
120 Fire Hose House	Unknown	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA in 1960
122, 124 125, 129 Names?	Utility Area	Navy	Before 1920	Demolished
132, 134, 135 Names?	Utility area	Navy	Before 1920	Demolished
137 Name?	Utility area	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished
138 Engineering Storehouse	Utility area	Navy	Before 1920	Demolished
202 – 213 Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1918-1922	Relocated & renumbered by Navy and VA
203, 205, 206, 208 Infirmary Cottages	Northeast Road	Navy	1918	Demolished by VA
204 Red Cross Office Quarters	Northeast Road	Red Cross	1920	Demolished?
207 New Marine Barracks	Northeast Road	Navy	1920	Demolished by VA and number reassigned
216 Laundry	Utility Area	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished by VA
219 Disinfection	Utility Area	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished by VA
231 Four-bedroom residence	Northeast Road	Navy	1918	Sold to County School District, 1957; removed from site
239, 241, 312, 329 residences	Unknown	Navy	Unknown	Sold & removed in 1956
312 CPO Quarters	D Street	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA
313 – 317 Single Living Quarters	E Street	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA after 1984
318 - 319 Single Living Quarters	E Street	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA after 1984; screened porches remain.
320 Single Living Quarters	E Street	Navy	1917	Demolished by VA after 1984
321 Civilian Quarters	E Street	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished?
322 Marine Barracks	E Street	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished?
325, 326, 328 Residences	E Street	Navy	1918	Demolished?
327 North Store House	E Street	Navy	Before 1920	Demolished?
328 Warehouse	E Street	Navy	Before 1920	Demolished?
329 Nurses' Infirmary	E Street	Navy	1920	Demolished?
342 Name??	Northeast Road	Navy	Before 1920	Demolished?
357 Single Living Quarters	G Street	Navy	1918	Demolished?
358 Red Cross Building	Northeast Road	Red Cross	Before 1920	Demolished?
360 Officers Infirmary and Subsistence	Between E Street and Nursery	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished?
370 Residence?	Northeast Road	Navy	Before 1920	Demolished?

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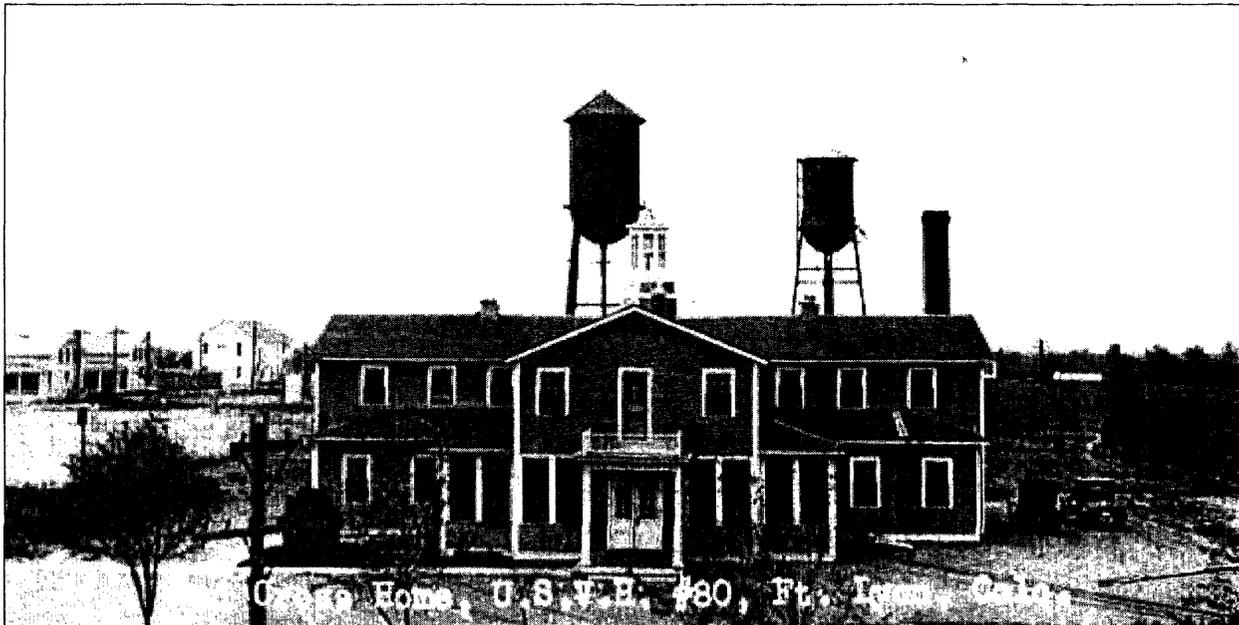
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Name	Location	Builder	Date	Disposition
377 Five-bedroom residence	Unknown	Navy	1917	Sold to County School District, 1957; removed from site
384 Outdoor reservoir	Unknown	Navy	Unknown	Demolished in 1966
402 – 405 Lean-Tos	Parade Ground	Navy	1907-1911	Demolished by VA
423 Southwest well and pump house	Unknown	Navy	1918	Demolished
427 Grain Storage House	Unknown	Navy	1918	Demolished
Unnumbered Quarters for Staff Officers without families	North of 401 and 502	Navy	1919	Demolished
Steel Tank & Tower	Area of G Street	Navy	1908	Demolished?
135 Storage Tank	Utility Area	Navy	1908	Demolished
136 Reservoir	Utility Area	Navy	1908	Demolished
Tennis Courts	Recreation area	Navy	1921	Relocated further west by VA
Nursery/ Orchard	Nursery	Navy	1913	Removed?
Dairy farm, farm, garden, piggery	West of Gate Road	Navy	Unknown	Use discontinued in 1956
Miniature golf course	North of 401	VA	1973	Demolished



**Figure 20.** No longer extant Red Cross Building at Fort Lyon in circa 1925. (Source: Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)

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## Figure 21. Contributing Resource By Construction Period

No.	Historic Name	Location	Builder	Date
<b>Army Period (1868-1889)</b>				
17	Quartermaster Warehouse	A Street	Army	1868
19	Commissary Warehouse	A Street	Army	1868
201	Army Hospital	Utility Area	Army	1868
501	Lieutenant's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
502	Lieutenant's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
503	Captain's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
504	Commanding Officer's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
505	Captain's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
506	Lieutenant's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
507	Lieutenant's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
	Parade Ground	Central	Army	1868
<b>Navy Period (1906-1922)</b>				
24	Dairymen's Cottage	A Street	Navy	1917
116	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1917
117	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1917
121	Engineering Storage	Behind Bldg. 4	Navy	1916
127	Paint Shop	Utility Area	Navy	1916
128	Commissary Storehouse	Utility Area	Navy	1916
130	Main Garage	Utility Area	Navy	1907 - 1921
131	Storage	Utility Area	Navy	1917
147	Grounds Section	Utility Area	Navy	1921
221	Power House	Utility Area	Navy	1908
223	Storage	Utility Area	Navy	1916
230	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1917
232	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1917
234	Duplex Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1908
235	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1918
236	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1918
237	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1918
302	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1918
303	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1918
304	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
305	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
306	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
307	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
308	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
309	Single Living Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
310	Duplex Living Quarters	D Street	Navy	1921
323	Civilian Quarters	E Street	Navy	1908
324	Civilian Quarters	E Street	Navy	1908
350	Single Living Quarters	F Street	Navy	1918
351	Single Living Quarters	F Street	Navy	1918
352	Single Living Quarters	F Street	Navy	1918

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353	Single Living Quarters	F Street	Navy	1918
354	Single Living Quarters	G Street	Navy	1918
355	Single Living Quarters	G Street	Navy	1918
356	Single Living Quarters	G Street	Navy	1918
359	Pumphouse	G Street near Nursery	Navy	1918
367	Pumphouse	Road north of lovers lane	Navy	1917
376	Civilian Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1908
401	West Ward	Main Hospital Parade Ground	Navy	1917 – 1920
123	Lumber Shed	Behind Bldg. 4	Navy	1916
225	Pumphouse	Utility Area	Navy	1918
508	Nurses' Home #1	Officers Row C Street	Navy	1918
	Agricultural fields	Northern and western area	Navy	
	Road System		Navy	VA expansion
	Irrigation System		Navy	VA expansion

### Early VA Period (1922-1956)

03	Theatre and Recreation	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1937
04	Acute Treatment	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1929
05	Administration and Clinic	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1935
06	Kitchen and Dining Room	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1935
07	Continuing Treatment	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1937
08	N.P. Infirmary	Main Hospital behind Bldg. 5	VA	1945
37	Laundry	Utility Area	VA	1952
39	Sludge Beds	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
40	Chlorinator	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
41	Effluent Sump Pump	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
42	Catch Basin	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
43	Digester and Control House	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
45	Incinerator	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
140	Guard House	Main Gate	VA	1944
142	Dairy Barn	West Farm	VA	1944
143	Bull Barns	West Farm	VA	1944
144	Feeding Barns	West Farm	VA	1944
145	Tool House and Toilets	Ballfield	VA	1944
226	Engineering Equipment Shop	Utility Area	VA	1925
246	Greenhouse	Utility Area	VA	1940
247	Personnel Garage	Ballfield	VA	1936
363	Gas Meter House	West side of Gate Road	VA	1930
364	Gas Regulator House	West side of Gate Road	VA	1930
365	Personnel Garage	West side of Gate Road	VA	1930
366	Transformer House	Road north of lovers lane	VA	1930
379	Grandstand	Ballfield	VA	1944
381	Pumphouse	Main Entrance	VA	Before 1955
385	Horse Barn	West Farm	VA	1944
386	Implement Shed	West Farm	VA	1944
389	Root Cellar	Utility Area	VA	1945
396	Pumphouse	Northeast Road	VA	1952
397	Pumphouse	Northeast Road	VA	1951
510	Reservoir	Northeast Road	VA	1947
	Entrance wall and gate	Entrance	VA	1941

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## Figure 22. District Resource Summary

No.	Historic Name	Location	Builder	Date
<b>Contributing Buildings</b>				
03	Theatre and Recreation	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1937
04	Acute Treatment	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1929
05	Administration and Clinic	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1935
06	Kitchen and Dining Room	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1935
07	Continuing Treatment	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1937
08	N.P. Infirmary	Main Hospital behind Bldg. 5	VA	1945
17	Quartermaster Warehouse	A Street	Army	1868
19	Commissary Warehouse	A Street	Army	1867
24	Dairymen's Cottage	A Street	Navy	1917
37	Laundry	Utility Area	VA	1952
116	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1917
117	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1917
121	Engineering Storage	Behind Bldg. 4	Navy	1916
127	Paint Shop	Utility Area	Navy	1916
128	Commissary Storehouse	Utility Area	Navy	1916
130	Main Garage	Utility Area	Navy	1907 - 1921
131	Storage	Utility Area	Navy	1917
140	Guard House	Main Gate	VA	1944
142	Dairy Barn	West Farm	VA	1944
143	Bull Barns	West Farm	VA	1944
144	Feeding Barns	West Farm	VA	1944
145	Tool House and Toilets	Ballfield	VA	1944
147	Grounds Section	Utility Area	Navy	1921
201	Fire Station and Recreation	Utility Area	Army Hospital	1868
			Navy addition,	1907 - 1911
223	Storage	Utility Area	Navy	1916
226	Engineering Equipment Shop	Utility Area	VA	1925
230	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1917
232	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1917
234	Duplex Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1908
235	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1918
236	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1918
237	Single Living Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1918
246	Greenhouse	Utility Area	VA	1940
247	Personnel Garage	Ballfield	VA	1936
302	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1918
303	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1918
304	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
305	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
306	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
307	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
308	Pharmacist Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
309	Single Living Quarters	D Street	Navy	1907 - 1911
310	Duplex Living Quarters	D Street	Navy	1921

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323	Civilian Quarters	E Street	Navy	1908
324	Civilian Quarters	E Street	Navy	1908
350	Single Living Quarters	F Street	Navy	1918
351	Single Living Quarters	F Street	Navy	1918
352	Single Living Quarters	F Street	Navy	1918
353	Single Living Quarters	F Street	Navy	1918
354	Single Living Quarters	G Street	Navy	1918
355	Single Living Quarters	G Street	Navy	1918
356	Single Living Quarters	G Street	Navy	1918
359	Pumphouse	G Street near Nursery	Navy	1918
363	Gas Meter House	West side of Gate Road	VA	1930
364	Gas Regulator House	West side of Gate Road	VA	1930
365	Personnel Garage	West side of Gate Road	VA	1930
366	Transformer House	Road north of lovers lane	VA	1930
367	Pumphouse	Road north of lovers lane	Navy	1917
376	Civilian Quarters	Northeast Road	Navy	1908
379	Grandstand	Ballfield	VA	1944
381	Pumphouse	Main Entrance	VA	Before 1955
385	Horse Barn	West Farm	VA	1944
386	Implement Shed	West Farm	VA	1944
396	Pumphouse	Northeast Road	VA	1952
397	Pumphouse	Northeast Road	VA	1951
401	West Ward	Main Hospital Parade Ground	Navy	1917 – 1920
501	Lieutenant's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
502	Lieutenant's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
503	Captain's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
504	Commanding Officer's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
505	Captain's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
506	Lieutenant's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
507	Lieutenant's Quarters	Officers Row C Street	Army	1868
508	Nurses' Home #1	Officers Row C Street	Navy	1918

### Contributing Structures

39	Sludge Beds	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
40	Chlorinator	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
41	Effluent Sump Pump	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
42	Catch Basin	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
43	Digester and Control House	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
45	Incinerator	Wastewater Treatment Area	VA	1949
123	Lumber Shed	Behind Bldg. 4	Navy	1916
221	Power House	Utility Area	Navy	1908
225	Pump House	Utility Area	Navy	1918
389	Root Cellar	Utility Area	VA	1945
510	Reservoir	Northeast Road	VA	1947
	Entrance wall and gate	Entrance	VA	1941
	Road System			
	Irrigation System			

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Section number 7 Page 64**Contributing Sites**

Agricultural fields  
Parade Ground

**Contributing Objects**

511 Flagpole with ship's bell Parade Ground Navy 1907

**Noncontributing Resources**

No.	Historic Name	Location	Builder	Date	Reason Noncontributing
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**Noncontributing Buildings**

126	Memorial Chapel	Main Gate	VA	1967	After period of significance
152	Chapel	Main Hospital Parade Ground	VA	1962	After period of significance
520	Recreation Facility			1978	After period of significance
	Brick building	Wastewater area	VA	1980	After period of significance

**Noncontributing Structures**

22	Pumphouse	Road HH	VA	n.d.	Association unknown
249	Pumphouse	Lovers Lane	VA	n.d.	Association unknown
318	Porch	E Street	Navy	1917	Loss of integrity
319	Porch	E Street	Navy	1917	Loss of integrity
390	Water Storage Tank			1990s	After period of significance
514	Pumphouse	West farm	Unknown	n.d.	Association unknown
516	Pumphouse	Unknown location	Unknown	n.d.	Association unknown
521	Swimming Pool			1978	After period of significance
522	Mechanical Building			1978	After period of significance
	Playground			2003	After period of significance
	Gazebo structure	Parade Ground		2003	After period of significance
	Security fence			2002	After period of significance
	Smoking Shed			2003	After period of significance
	Shed north of 128				After period of significance
	Shed	North of grandstand			After period of significance
	Tennis Courts	Ballfield area	Navy	n.d.	Relocated after 1956

**Total Resource Count**

Contributing Buildings:	74	Noncontributing Buildings:	4
Contributing Sites:	2	<u>Noncontributing Structures:</u>	<u>16</u>
Contributing Structures:	14	Total Noncontributing	20
<u>Contributing Objects:</u>	<u>1</u>		
Total Contributing	91		

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Section number 8 Page 65**SIGNIFICANCE**

Fort Lyon is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in several areas of significance. In the area of *Health/Medicine*, the fort is significant during the 1906-1922 period for its use as a navy hospital specializing in the care of patients with tuberculosis. The fort is also significant under the same area during the period of 1922-1956 for its association with medical care by the Veterans' Administration. The facility first provided general medical care to military veterans. Beginning in 1930s the fort took on a role a neuro-psychiatric (N-P) hospital, a function it performed into the 1990s.

Fort Lyon is being nominated in the area of *Military* history for its role as an army post, a navy hospital, and a veterans' hospital. The army established the fort in 1867 to replace an earlier Colorado fort of the same name. The fort served as part of the army's Department of the Missouri, a regional network of forts and military facilities in the Missouri River drainage. Though army occupation of the site began in 1867, the period of significance begins in 1868 with the completion of the fort's oldest surviving buildings.

The navy took control of the fort in 1906, adapting and greatly expanding the army post to serve a medical facility. The hospital provided tubercular care to sailors and marines until 1922, with all funding for operations and construction obtained through appropriations from the Department of the Navy. The navy pursued a policy of self-sufficiency for the institution, which is reflected by the development of the associated agricultural fields, irrigation system and support structures.

In 1922 the Veterans' Bureau, later the Veterans' Administration, assumed control of the facility, expanded the hospital complex, and opened its services to all active and retired personnel and their families in all branches of the military service. Medical personnel and operations staff were drawn from all branches of the military and civilian population. Though never a branch of the military, the VA facility helps to convey the nation's treatment of its military veterans. The Veterans' Administration continued the navy policy of self-sufficiency by maintaining the infrastructure needed to support the facility's patients and staff.

Fort Lyon is significant in the area of *Ethnic Heritage* for several specific associations. First, the property is important for its association with Native Americans during the earliest period of the fort's operation beginning in 1868. Though rarely present at Fort Lyon, the presence of Indian peoples in the region of southeast Colorado territory was the most important reason for the reestablishment of the Fort Lyon at its second location and for U.S. Army activities at the site into the 1870s.

Second, the property is significant for its association with African Americans, specifically the all-black Buffalo Soldiers of the 10th Cavalry stationed at Fort Lyon in the late 1860s and 1870s. Third, the property is significant for its association with those of European origins, specifically as the fort was used to treat World War I German naval prisoners suffering from tuberculosis.

Finally, Fort Lyon is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for the architectural significance of its set of standardized VA hospital buildings. Constructed during the period 1929 through 1945, these building types are best expressed in the group of multi-story Georgian Rival style, brick buildings adjacent to the parade ground. Building interiors were altered frequently to meet changing medical requirements, treatment philosophies and technological upgrades. Exterior changes also occurred over time as part of changing use and general facilities maintenance.

Fort Lyon is nominated under Criteria Consideration G, for properties having achieved significance in a period less than fifty years of age. The initial period of significance, 1868-1889, includes the army's construction and use of the fort. The second period of significance, 1906-1956, includes the entire period of the navy occupancy of

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the fort and that portion of the Veterans' Administration occupancy through 1956. The 1956 ending date was chosen as it represents an important milestone in VA medical history. Approaches in treatment of neuro-psychiatric (N-P) treatment, the facility's post-1930 specialty, changed radically after 1946, as drug therapies, outdoor physical activity and personalized home care reduced the numbers of patients required to live as full-time residents, increased an out-patient constituency, and more actively engaged the larger community in the management of N-P illness. By the early 1950s, Fort Lyon had gained national prominence for its innovative and effective treatment of a wide range and degree of severity of N-P patients. The facility's high standard of patient treatment was recognized in 1956 when the American Psychiatric Association gave the hospital the Mental Hospital Service Achievement Award. This peer recognition supports the claim that significant medical treatment continued at Fort Lyon through at least 1956 and that this date constitutes an appropriate ending for the overall period of significance. The extent of the documentation and the short, two-year extension into the less than fifty year old period, particularly when the vast majority of the period of significance, some 71 years, is outside the fifty year period, meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration G.

**Introduction**

Fort Lyon was the product of the rapid expansion in the number of western U.S. military posts between 1866 and 1880. Increased population settlement, growing networks of transportation, communication and commerce, and the constant perception of threat from Indian peoples led to establishment of many new forts and military installations across the region. As settlement and economic opportunities opened, protection was required. Many posts became permanent, as immigrant trails became stage routes, then trade/supply routes, then communication networks for railroads and telegraph.

Sited along the famed Santa Fe Trail, the original post (Fort Wise, renamed Fort Lyon) was established in 1860, some 38 years after the founding of the major international commercial artery which connected the United States with Santa Fe, Mexico's northernmost trade center. The Pike's Peak Gold Rush of 1859 to the central mountains of Colorado increased traffic on this trail, as well as many other routes across the Great Plains to the land of instant riches. Increasing pressures on land and natural resources led to increasing conflict with native peoples of the central and southern plains, forcing the army to extend its broadening network of forts and cantonments.

Fort Lyon's site was along an important north-south transportation route, often called the "Fort Wallace/Fort Lyon Road" which ran to Fort Lyon on the Arkansas River from the Republican River drainage of northwestern Kansas. The road ran through the middle of lands claimed by several Indian peoples, and attacks were not uncommon. Troops from both forts served as patrols, and often as escorts for commercial wagon trains, stage coach runs and mail carriers. (1)

Like many of its sister posts, Fort Lyon saw some, but not much, action in the broad sweep of the Indian Wars era conflict. Troops participated in the local incidents of the fall of 1868, as prelude to their march in the 1868-69 campaign against the Cheyenne. The three-pronged initiative ended at the Washita before the column from Fort Lyon arrived in the region, and they returned to the post. Almost all other participation from this second Fort Lyon was in the form of patrol, protection, and enforcement of the nation's Indian policies.

Even before the closure of Fort Lyon, its obsolescence was predicted. Upon his retirement as the commander of the western region, General William Tecumseh Sherman commented upon the building frenzy of the army in the West, and he endorsed the construction of transcontinental and branching railroad systems, and noted three benefits which would accrue to the army from such. First, the new transport system would enable troops to move more quickly to the "scene of Indian threats and to readily supply expeditions that remained in the field for long periods. With this enhanced mobility, smaller forts and substations could be closed and the regiments could be more efficiently consolidated at larger installations." Second, such a concentration of forces at fewer sites would

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raise the living conditions at large posts, improving both soldier morale and enlisted retention. Finally, the use of the railroad would produce "massive savings for the War Department by hauling supplies cheaply and offering half-fare rates to military passengers." (2)

As the rails spread in accordance with Sherman's predictions, smaller posts, whose defensive obligations were obsolete when rails and telegraph lines arrived, were abandoned. By the late 1870s, it had "become feasible to concentrate troops in large posts in localities adequately served by rail transportation. From such centers, troops could be rushed by rail into or close to trouble spots as the need arose." (3) Fort Lyon was one site whose staffing languished after the 1870s arrival of the railroad. Like other military posts across the West, it was formally abandoned in 1889, and the troops sent to more centralized sites.

Historian Jack Foner, in a presentation at the Seventh Military History Symposium, summarized the broad impact of the U.S. Army on the region by stating:

the frontier and the army interacted upon each other. This point is important because the relationship between the two is regarded as a 'one-way street' with only the frontier affecting the army, yet the very pressure of the military altered conditions of life in the west. In fact, the main function of the army during this period consisted of enforcing federal Indian policy, protecting lives and property of western settlers, guarding mail routes, railroads and telegraph lines, assisting emigrants to western territories, and upholding federal laws in several frontier areas. ... The truth is, the army was in the vanguard of western economic development. (4)

Fort Lyon's second life was also directly linked to another broad historical theme, that of medical treatment for tuberculosis in high and dry regions of the central and southern plains. From the last decades of the nineteenth century through the first half of the twentieth century, people of all ages and nationalities traveled to Colorado to benefit from the "healthful" climate which promised relief, and possibly cure, of a range of pulmonary and respiratory ailments.

From the mid-century, visitors to Colorado wrote of the moderate weather, the high altitude, the constant sunshine, the cool nights, the refreshing air and the dryness. All of these attributes were considered enhancements to health, and similar to other resort regions which catered to those stricken with tuberculosis and similar illnesses. As tourism to visit the natural realm emerged as an early industry in the state, so did extended visitation to the state for health improvement. Journalists promoted the climate, organizations formed to treat the sick, and books were published extolling the health benefits of the region. By the end of the 1870s, the Colorado Territorial Board of Immigration began to target the genteel ill, even as writers "could agree that, despite some overselling, the now familiar advantages of Colorado had proved the state a "great and beneficial sanatorium" for sufferers from pulmonary diseases." (5)

Tuberculosis was a scourge of dense populations and urbanization. Passed through constant close personal exposure, the disease settled in the lungs and brought slow loss of physical capacity. Damp, overcast, dusty, and polluted atmospheres at lower elevations exacerbated the illness, and most doctors recommended a complete change in residence for both short-term stability and long-term recovery. Although other ailments afflicting late nineteenth-century Americans were thought to be improved in the Colorado climate, it was the "transformation of tuberculosis treatment from a tourist industry to a specialized medical problem" which impacted the region the most by the early twentieth century. (6)

Constant exposure to the outdoors was the rule, with many patients living in tents and open-sided buildings during the summer months, and on outdoor porches in more inclement weather. As specialized facilities for tuberculosis care were built in the area, all were open to the healthful elements of the climate. Hospitals and residential accommodations opened along the Front Range, with many clustered in Colorado Springs and in

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Denver. Often founded by religious organizations, they promoted their facilities to ill members of their respective communities. Tent colonies sprang up to such a degree that visitors commented on the extent of that population, especially in designated city regions of Colorado Springs. Many traveled to Colorado with the hope and expectation of restored health and return to homes and families; unfortunately, many died of the disease without seeing home again.

As the twentieth century moved into its third decade, the rates of tuberculosis infection declined. Clearer understanding of its source and improved treatment at the beginning phases of infection reduced the number of cases needing hospital care or relocation. Realizing the palliative effect of family and friends, many doctors advised short-term care closer to home for those in early stages of the illness. By mid-century, few patients moved to Colorado for major pulmonary care.

The United States military faced an enormous challenge in meeting the health care needs of infected soldiers and sailors, and both the army and the navy sought installations in this region for redevelopment as hospitals for servicemen with tuberculosis. The army settled its patients at Fort Bayard, New Mexico, and until the year 1905, the navy sent its severely infected cases to Fort Bayard. However, with the incidence on the increase in the first years of the century, the navy sought its own facility and in 1906 assumed management and development of the abandoned army post at Fort Lyon, Colorado.

Conditions aboard navy ships were perfect for the transmission of tuberculosis, and naval doctors worked to mitigate such closely confined situations. Medical staff knew of the need to isolate such patients in order to stem the spread, and knew of the health impacts of climate on disease. Extensive descriptions of the ailment were included in the 1906 annual report of the U. S. Navy, as the leadership finally settled on a course of action to create a single designated naval facility as a sanatorium. Colorado officials lobbied for a state-managed site on land unused by the federal government, noted in the report as the "fact that parties in Colorado were making an effort to have Congress cede this location to them as a site for a sanitarium for indigent consumptives of the state would indicate that others had appreciated its suitability for such an institution." (7)

By the early 1920s, rates of infection had dramatically declined in the navy, but the need remained for treatment for servicemen of all military branches, active or discharged. The Fort Lyon Hospital's transfer to the newly-created Veterans' Bureau was one of the first national actions recognizing the broader health care needs of veterans. Until the facility's conversion to a neuro-psychiatric hospital in the 1930s, the hospital's focus on tuberculosis care connected its work to large national and regional health issues and treatment.

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**Context Endnotes**

1. Mix, Larry and Carolyn, p. 4
2. Tate, p. 76
3. Fraser, p. xvi
4. Foner, p. 86
5. Abbott et al, p. 221
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7. Navy Annual Report 1906, p. 1194

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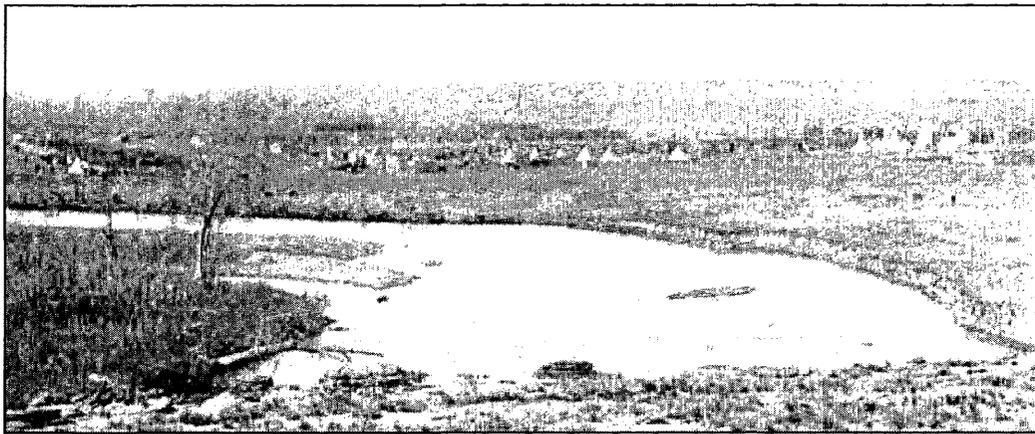
Fort Lyon

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Section number 8 Page 69**Fort Lyon Narrative History****Before 1867**

The ancestor post of the current Fort Lyon was established along the north side of the Arkansas River on the route of the Santa Fe Trail, about a mile west of Bent's Fort. In 1860, Major John Sedwick of the U.S. Army set out from Fort Riley, Kansas, with four companies of cavalry and instructions to found a new post within the newly-established Colorado Territory. Selecting a level site on the flanks of the river, the new fort, named Fort Wise for the esteemed Henry A. Wise, Governor of Virginia, was slowly erected before the winter arrived. Several barracks, stables and other buildings were completed. It was one of few military posts along the western half of the Santa Fe Trail, and one of the earliest in the new territory.

The outbreak of the Civil War in April of 1861, with the secession of the Commonwealth of Virginia under the leadership of Governor Wise, forced a reconsideration of the name of the new western post. The regional command for the army issued General Orders No. 11 which changed the name to Fort Lyon in honor of Brevet Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon, the first Union general to die in the new war, killed at the Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri, in 1861.



**Figure 23.** This photograph shows what is believed to be the first Fort Lyon as it appeared to photographer William G. Chamberlain in about 1865. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)

Because the major theaters of war were along the eastern states or in the Ohio and Mississippi River Valleys, Fort Lyon saw little action, with one exception, and this incident unrelated to the Civil War. In November of 1864, Col. John Chivington and his troops of the First Colorado Volunteer Cavalry assembled at Fort Lyon. They were preparing for a night-time march north to an encampment of Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians known to be along the Sand Creek. In the surprise attack and massacre, over 160 Indians – under the protection of the army and flying the national flag – were killed. The event led to national uproar and the long-term delay of Colorado's entry as a new state.

Seasonal flooding of the Arkansas was a regular threat, and the winter of 1867 was such that the fort was severely damaged. General Orders No. 43 from the Department of the Missouri came on March 18, 1867, to move the post to safer ground, and a site about 20 miles upriver was selected for the new construction.

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Section number 8 Page 70**Fort Lyon, U. S. Army Post: 1867-1889**

Moving on June 9, 1867, the troops settled in a tent camp near the mouth of the Purgatoire River and set to work on the new post. Even before they had begun, the commanding leadership changed, and (Brevet Brigadier General) Captain W. H. Penrose took charge of the site and the work. This new fort was sited as a command for the expansive territory of eastern Colorado, western Oklahoma, and southwestern Kansas, and would provide troops for expeditions into Texas and New Mexico within the year.

The fort was constructed around a central parade ground, with the flagpole being the most prominent feature. This layout, with buildings flanking the sides of the ground, and walkways and roads surrounding the whole, was the typical format for non-stockaded army posts in the West. Even these first structures were substantial: the first row of officers' quarters on the north of the parade ground were of adobe (six buildings total), the four barracks on east and west were stone, and the two commissary and quartermaster structures were stone. The earliest temporary officer housing on the northeast of the parade ground was later assigned to laundresses. (1)

The year 1868 was perhaps the most active in the life of the fort. In May of that year, the post's most famous visitor, Christopher (Kit) Carson, was brought to the quarters of the post surgeon, Dr. H. R. Tilton. Carson had served as a trapper, scout, a brevet brigadier general during the Civil War, and as commanding officer of Fort Garland. Following his retirement from the Army in 1867, he had moved his family to the small settlement of Boggsville, a few miles from the new Fort Lyon. In the weeks prior to his arrival at the fort, his wife Josepha Jaramillo Carson had died, and his health declined rapidly until his death on May 23.

The remaining months of the year, and the first few of 1869 witnessed the most intense military activity of the fort's history. Beginning in September, frequent raids by Indian bands on local settlements demanded the action of the troops, who previously had focused upon site construction, regional patrols and security of mails and shipping. The small community of Boggsville was the first to be attacked close to Fort Lyon, and Penrose, setting out instantly and engaging a group of the Indians, lost two soldiers before returning to the fort. The following month, a wagon train was attacked, and a woman and child taken captive. Troops from the fort again set out in pursuit.

By November, word came of a major campaign under the direction of Commanding General Philip Sheridan to follow and subdue the Cheyenne and their allies in their winter camps of northern Texas and western Oklahoma. A three-pronged attack force was mobilized and Fort Lyon swelled as cavalry and infantry gathered in anticipation of the winter march. Setting out in two columns from Fort Lyon on November 10 and December 2, the troops hit near-blizzard conditions as they moved south. By the time the weather eased, news came from the column under the command of George Custer that he had attacked and destroyed the Cheyenne camp along Washita Creek, Oklahoma, ending the need for the broader campaign. Cold and hungry, the troops from Fort Lyon returned home.

Thereafter, life at the post was more routine than dangerous. For the most part, soldiers accompanied travelers, wagon trains, and mail coaches throughout the region. They also cut and prepared trees for telegraph poles. Following an extensive report on the facility by Assistant Surgeon Tilton in 1870, plans were commenced for expansion and improvement of many of the structures at the site.(2) Work on post buildings included 1876 upgrades to the kitchens of the officers quarters for \$3,152, and an addition to the hospital for \$259 in 1883.(3) They also "tested" a new form of "machines sewed shoes, having a flexible sole" which the post quartermaster was to evaluate and submit a "full report to be made upon the merits or demerits of the shoe." (4)

Throughout the years 1873 and 1874, the post returns report scouting expeditions or detachments sent in search of Indian bands in the region, but the safe completion of the railroad lines along the Arkansas River ensured more regional stability. Like many other posts with access to rail lines, Fort Lyon received orders to utilize the new

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transportation network to more quickly arrive near locales of Indian problems. As late as September 1882, two companies of the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry at the site were ordered to:

proceed tomorrow morning by rail to Granada, Colorado, and scout from there south, and try to intercept a party of Cheyenne Indians said to be in that region going north. If the Indians are met, they will be stopped and sent back to their reservation. If they decline to go, they will be forced back. No violence will however be used if it can be helped. (5)

Life at the fort was recorded by several of the officers' wives in the early 1870s. Many officers considered the fort a good post, as the climate was better than many posts of the region, the railroad access meant available goods from the East, and the solid buildings were more spacious than at other sites. Ellen McGowan Biddle spoke much about her housing in 1871, noting that with "some coats of paint and canopies of white muslin...the rooms were soon made to look dainty and pretty."(6) She records expeditions to Indian camps, to a local dance, and to the nearby town of Las Animas, where she "started the fund for the first little Episcopal church built there."(7) Frances Roe's memories of her time at the post also contain stories of the social life and manners of this regional military center. (8)

Little is noted in the official records about social opportunities for the enlisted men of the post, but there are orders and correspondence about schools. In 1880, Chaplain M.N. Adams was appointed to "attend and superintend schools at this post. Corporal Addison Belcher, Co."F" 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry is hereby appointed overseer of the Post schools."(9) The following month, the first in a series of announcements was issued regarding a "school for the instruction of the non-commissioned officers of this command in signaling" and for "recitations of non-commissioned officers in tactics." (10)

By the late 1880s, the fort had outlived its usefulness. Beginning in October, 1889, letters with directions for shipping furnishings and company gear to new posts prior to formal abandonment were received by the fort quartermaster. Staff were instructed that "all property of Company "F" should be shipped except such as may be needed for use within the next thirty days." (11) An October 31 letter from the Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Missouri requested exact calculations on the number of freight cars necessary to move troops to Fort Clark, Texas, including the "free allowance of 150 lbs. baggage, supplies, etc. per passenger" and advised on the planned use of a tourist sleeping car for the enlisted men." (12)

The Executive Order of President Benjamin Harrison declared the fort officially abandoned on November 25, 1889, stating that the post had "in my opinion, become useless for military purposes."(13) Although the 1884 Act of Congress entitled "An Act for the disposition of abandoned and useless military reservations" required that such sites be transferred to the control and oversight of the Department of the Interior, such was not possible immediately with Fort Lyon. At this site, among others, the Quartermasters Department took charge "until such time as the Interior Department will be in a position to appoint a custodian for the reservation" and they were seeking persons "willing to serve without pay until Congress shall make the necessary appropriation." (14) Within a few months, such an individual was identified, and the lands formerly comprising the military reservation of Fort Lyon came under the management of the Interior Department for the next 17 years.

**The U. S. Naval Hospital at Fort Lyon/Las Animas: 1906-1922**

The fort came to life again in 1906 when the U.S. Navy selected the site as the best available for the establishment of a hospital devoted to tuberculosis treatment for sailors and marines. The October 25 Executive Order of President Theodore Roosevelt was the final step in a long search for such a site, and the land, "being a part of the New Fort Lyon abandoned military reservation" was "reserved and set apart for the use of the Navy Department for the purposes of a sanitarium." (15) Several weeks later, correspondence within the Department of

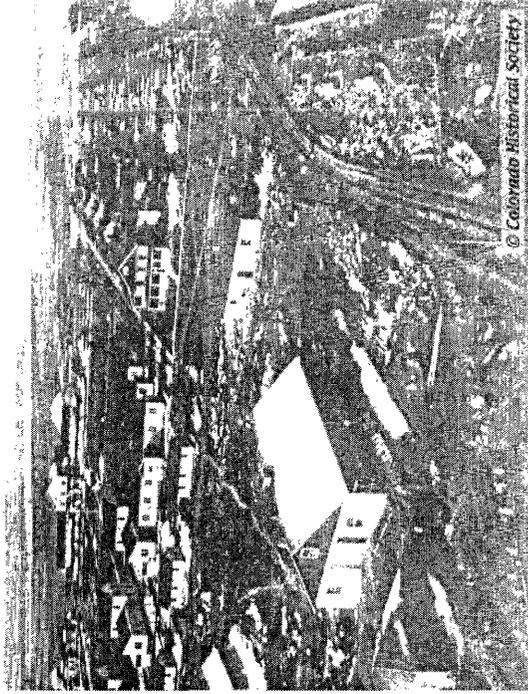
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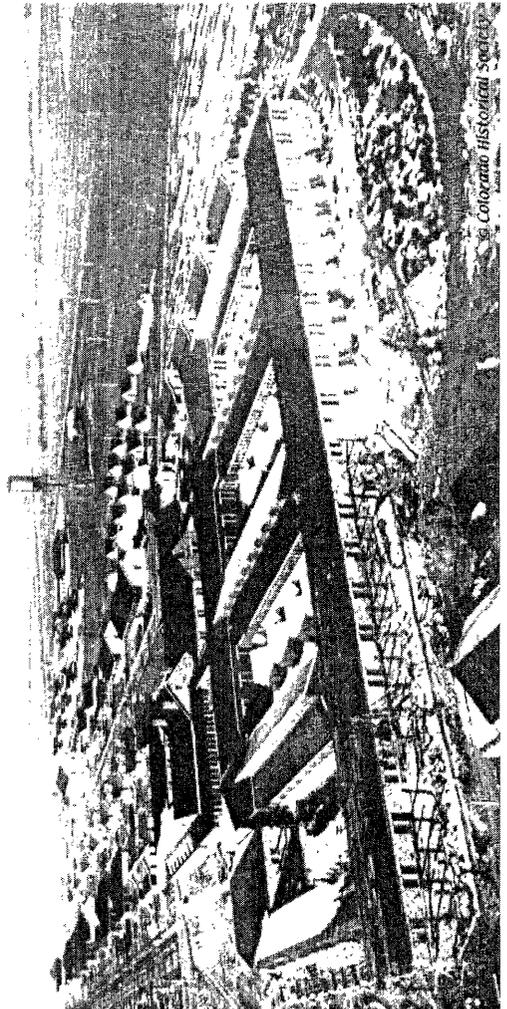
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**Figure 24.** This three-part panorama was taken from the power plant circa 1908-11 and shows the naval hospital in a sweeping view from southwest to northwest. (Source: Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)



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the Interior provided specific information about the land title, acquisition process and documentation of property transfers. (16)

Tuberculosis had become a serious concern for the navy, as its transmission rate was high on board ships, and it had by 1903 become the leading non-accident cause of death for naval personnel. After storms severely damaged the naval hospital in Florida, naval leadership looked west for a suitable location, since high dry climates were considered the most effective in the treatment of the disease. Although by 1903, 47 sailors with the ailment were being treated at the U.S. Army hospital at Fort Bayard, New Mexico, the navy sought its own facility, and in 1906, "an officer was designated for the special duty of visiting different localities in this country for the purpose of ascertaining the best site for a sanatorium." (17) In compliance with the stated requirements of altitude, dryness, sunshine and moderate climate, "a study of the reports on the various sites in view pointed clearly to New Fort Lyon, Colo., as the most favorable location" being "far superior in every way to all the other available places inspected, and is excellently adapted to the purpose in view." (18)

The local and statewide community was interested and encouraging in this initiative. Congressional representatives and state officials had attempted in the past to "have Congress cede this location to them as a site for a sanatorium" managed by the state. (19) In addition, communities along the Arkansas Valley had long desired redevelopment of the abandoned post. In late 1906, many of the leading businessmen in Las Animas were invited to a meeting at the Gardner House, and officials announced the pending acquisition of the site by the navy. Staff sought possible contractors for construction and rehabilitation of the buildings, and, seeing this project as a major economic boon to the region, the businessmen contributed funds toward the selection of a contractor. (20)

Within weeks, Lt. Commander T. A. Berryhill arrived at the site, assessed the construction needs, and got work underway. He left by June 1907, and his successor, Captain C.T. Hibbett supervised the majority of the building, which was no small task. The Annual Report of the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in 1906 commented on the condition of the site, noting that "the devastating action of time and the long neglect and depredation this property has suffered makes the task of rehabilitation no small one" but pledged that it was "the intention of the Bureau ...to make New Fort Lyon Reservation a complete and perfect sanatorium." (21) By General Order #75 of August 27, 1908, the formal name of the facility was changed to "Las Animas, Colorado U. S. Naval Hospital." Less than nine years later, the name was again changed to "U. S. Naval Hospital Fort Lyon, Colorado." (22)

The total construction over the following years was immense, with the redevelopment of all surviving buildings (especially those of adobe and stone), the erecting of new specialty facilities for the medical needs of the hospital and the installation of new and much expanded utilities infrastructure including sewers, water systems, power plants, electricity, and roadways. Additional land was acquired, designated as part of the farm operated by the hospital for both the acquisition of fresh vegetables, and to provide productive outdoor activity for patients. As late as 1916, the navy received an appropriation for new land as pasturage for dairy cattle, and funding for a dairy herd (23).

Fort Lyon was the only hospital in the U.S. Naval Hospital system which was specifically and exclusively designated for the treatment of tuberculosis. During its tenure, medical staff refined known treatments, and pioneered a range of new therapies for the stabilization and the cure of the disease. While significant numbers of patients died at the site, many recovered enough to leave the hospital. A long report and assessment of the medical success in its specialty was compiled and published in 1913 by Philip Leach, Medical Director of the U.S. Navy in the U.S. Naval Medical Bulletin. Leach commented on the condition and management of the buildings of the site, the training and professional operations of the site personnel, the perceived effectiveness of various treatments, and the healthful attributes of the local climate. He argued that the facilities need not be expanded at that time with the associated expenditure of funds for new features and the ongoing costs of

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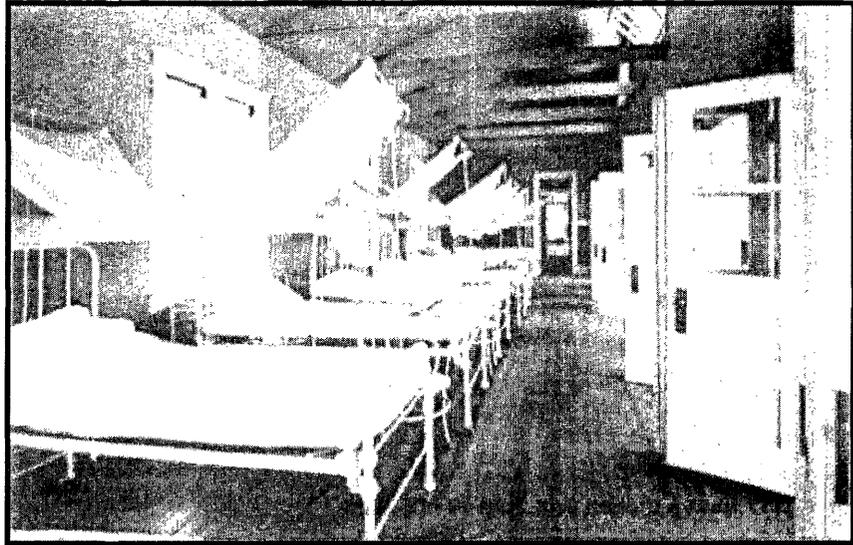
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operation and management. Instead, he made six recommendations for patient care with an eye to cost reduction on a per-patient calculation. (24)

While some suggestions were adopted, the overall recommendation against facility expansion was rejected. Growth continued, and as the facility expanded physically, so did the number of patients and staff. By 1917, the Surgeon General of the navy was planning capacity of as many as 720 patients, and an estimated additional 800 residents of the hospital complex. (25) Additional beds were needed, as the facility began to accept patients from outside the ranks of U.S. naval personnel. Between 1916 and 1920, the site cared for sailors from both allied and enemy warships of World War I. Sailors from France, Brazil and Germany received treatment in the hospital.



**Figure 25.** A 1912 postcard view of Main Ward, U.S. Naval Hospital, Las Animas. (Source: Colorado Historical Society)

Throughout the early decades of the twentieth century, the national rate of tuberculosis infection declined with improved treatments and living conditions. At Fort Lyon, the number of cases arriving remained high, with 722 tuberculosis cases in all forms treated in fiscal year 1920. (26) Despite this caseload, discussions began about combining this hospital with the U. S. Army site at Fort Bayard, New Mexico, or expanding its service to include tubercular patients from outside the navy. The second alternative was selected, and on November 1, 1921, the hospital was turned over to the U. S. Public Health Service, with O. S. Deatheridge, M.D in charge of the site. Within a few months, the site became part of the newly-formed Veterans' Bureau, and on July 16 of the following year, Dr. J. F. Wallace assumed direction of the hospital, and began accepting patients from all branches of the military and of any enlistment status. (27) The final naval commander of the site, F. W. Weiber, published a history of the hospital and its activities under navy management. (28)

## Veterans Administration Hospital: 1922-1956

On August 9, 1921, the Congress approved "An Act to establish a Veteran's Bureau and to improve the facilities and service of such bureau, and further to amend and modify the War Risk Insurance Act" and planning began for the management and oversight of all which this legislation required of the new federal agency. The director was "authorized to utilize the now existing or future facilities of the United States Public Health Service, the War Department, the Navy Department," as deemed necessary for fulfilling all agency obligations. The following month, an Executive Order of President Warren G. Harding transferred the "Naval Hospital and reservation at Fort Lyon, Colorado, to the United States Veteran's Bureau for hospital or sanatoria or other uses for sick and disabled soldiers, sailors and marines." (29) The transfer was effected easily, and from 1922 to 1929, the hospital was used solely as a tuberculosis treatment site for ex-servicemen of all wars. The new management continued operation of the farm and dairy activities, which by this time had expanded to over 550 acres, with improved water systems, irrigation pumps, and barn/yard facilities for a herd of 175 registered Holstein cows and as many as 250 hogs. (30)

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However, by 1926, tuberculosis treatment via drug therapies drastically reduced the number of incoming new cases to Fort Lyon, and conversations were underway about the site's future. A declining population at this and other hospitals caused the Veterans' Bureau to reconsider ongoing operations at several sites. A decision was made on March 17, 1926, to close Fort Lyon and transfer all remaining patients to other sites, including the army's Fitzsimons Hospital in Denver. Within weeks, the decision was reversed, and on May 8, officials determined to maintain a tuberculosis sanatorium until a long-term plan for possible site conversion or redevelopment was initiated. (31)

In 1928, Congress enacted laws allowing any serviceman to use Veterans' Bureau hospitals, regardless of whether the medical condition was related to time of active service. On July 21, 1930, President Herbert Hoover signed Executive Order 5398, creating the Veterans' Administration [henceforth "VA"], and bringing into one agency all the veterans programs of the federal government. (32) That same year, Congress appropriated \$500,000 for the building of a specialized hospital for the care of neuro-psychiatric [henceforth "N-P"] patients, a growing need within the VA. Since discussions had been underway for several years before this, Colorado adherents had already secured the location for such a facility at the Fort Lyon complex. Work started immediately on the first new building to accommodate N-P cases, a large red brick off the southeast corner of the parade ground, and it was completed in February of 1931. (33) Additional specialized structures were added to the site in subsequent years, many of the Navy's wooden structures were replaced with more durable brick, and considerable upgrading of utilities and infrastructure was accomplished as funds were available. Formal designation as a VA hospital for N-P patients was granted in 1933, and one year later, the last tuberculosis patients were transferred to other sites. (34)

Until and through World War II, the veterans at Fort Lyon "were treated for their psychiatric illness in a totally different manner and treatment climate" than those in the subsequent decades. All were closely supervised by medical personnel, and were in two categories of care: the Acute Intensive Treatment Service or the Continued Treatment Service. Little physical activity was allowed, most sports being experienced as spectators only, but library facilities and occupational therapy activities were available. By 1946, approximately 1,000 veterans were hospitalized at the site full-time, and of these only about 90 were "privileged" with being allowed unsupervised access to hospital grounds and activities. (35)

Approaches in treatment of N-P patients changed radically after 1946, as drug therapies, outdoor physical activity and personalized home care reduced the numbers of patients required to live as full-time residents, increased an out-patient constituency, and more actively engaged the larger community in the management of N-P illness. In 1947, the VA Voluntary Service began inviting the partnership of local churches, clubs and service organizations into the work of the agency nationwide, and at Fort Lyon, numerous groups offered members the opportunity to serve as volunteers through the site's Voluntary Service Advisory Committee. (36) In addition, a program of residency training in psychiatry was approved by the American Medical Association's Council on Medical Education and Hospitals in partnership with the Fitzsimons Hospital and the University of Colorado. Lasting fewer than five years, the program included a rotation through a range of N-P treatment levels and forms, and general medical/surgical care. (37)

By the early 1950s, Fort Lyon had gained national prominence for its innovative and effective treatment of a wide range and degree of severity of N-P patients. Many new therapies were tested by site medical personnel, and reports on these treatments were made available to both the military and civilian medical communities. In 1954, the site became one of the first to administer tranquilizing agents, opening a whole new approach to treatment for N-P cases. High levels of patient treatment were recognized in 1956 when the American Psychiatric Association gave the hospital the Mental Hospital Service Achievement Award.

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**Since 1956**

In the early 1960s, the Fort Lyon complex was cited for its high levels of turnover as patients spent shorter times in residential care. (38) By the early 1970s, most of the patients were “privileged” and allowed greater freedom in their movements within the hospital complex. In the late 1990s, the VA announced plans to close Fort Lyon and to transfer remaining patients and services to other VA facilities. Despite protests from veterans’ groups and the local community, Fort Lyon closed as a VA hospital.

In 2000, the VA transferred the ownership and management of the complex to the State of Colorado for redevelopment and use as a specialty facility as a prison for mentally ill inmates by the Colorado Department of Corrections.

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2. Tilton, p. 3-4
3. Quartermaster Letters, RG 393-V, entry 13, April 25, 1876 and August 22, 1883
4. Office of the Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Missouri to Quartermaster, Fort Lyon, RG 393 – V, entry 13, October 30, 1883
5. Special Order 85, RG 393-V, entry 9, September 7, 1882
6. Biddle, p. 111
7. Biddle, p. 114 and 120
8. Roe, various.
9. Special Order 49, RG393 – V, entry 9, November 13, 1880
10. Special Order 56, RG 393 –V, entry 9, December 2, 1880
11. Quartermaster Letters, RG 393 –V, entry 13, October 5, 1889
12. Office of the Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Missouri to Quartermaster Fort Lyon, RG 393 –V, entry 13, October 31, 1889
13. Executive Order, Benjamin Harrison, President, November 25, 1889
14. Office of the Adjutant General, Department of the Missouri to Commanding General, Department of the Missouri, RG 393 – V, entry 13, September 11, 1889
15. Executive Order, Theodore Roosevelt, President, October 25, 1906
16. Richard to Secretary of the Interior, November 15, 1906
17. Navy Annual Report 1906, p. 1192
18. Navy Annual Report 1906, p. 1193-94
19. Navy Annual Report 1906, p. 1194
20. Boyd, p. 12
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22. Correspondence, RG 52, entry 11, ff 103213/115643 and 125303
23. Navy Annual Report 1917, p. 111 and 766
24. Leach, various throughout report
25. Navy Annual Report 1917, p. 736
26. Correspondence, RG 52, entry 11, January 26, 1921, ff 126330
27. Boyd, p. 16-17
28. Weiber, full report
29. Executive Order, Warren G. Harding, President, September 11, 1921
30. Boyd, p. 16
31. Director, Veterans Bureau to O. W. Clark, RG 15, entry 64, March 7, 1926 and May 8, 1926
32. VA booklet, 1983, p. 1
33. Boyd, p. 16
34. Bolita, p. 5-6
35. Bolita, p. 7 and 9
36. Bolita, p. 7
37. Arestad, AMA to Manager, Fort Lyon , RG 15, entry 64, ff 250, October 3, 1947
38. Boyd, p. 18

## Areas of Significance

### Health and Medicine

Fort Lyon's primary area of significance is that of health care, the focus of the site's function for two of its three significant periods, and the primary site operations from 1906 until 2000. In both the areas of tuberculosis care and management of neuro-psychiatric [henceforth "N-P"] cases, the medical staff of the site pioneered and tested new treatments, some successful, many not. In both the Navy period and the Veterans' Administration period, the hospitals were designated as unique within their respective national health care systems.

At the turn of the twentieth century, the U.S. Navy faced a serious health crisis with the increasing infection of tuberculosis. A contagious disease which proliferated in dense living conditions of cities, and of ships, the navy infection rate was increasing annually from 1900 with 131 cases service-wide to 268 new cases in 1904 – a ratio of 6.1 cases per thousand sailors and marines – and was the largest cause of death after gunshots and injuries.(1). In an extended section of the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy for 1906 (published in 1907), tuberculosis concerns were examined and the underlying sources of the disease reviewed; “prevalence of tuberculosis in the navy is thought to be due to the enlistment of recruits in whom it is latent, or in whom it is not detected by the examining medical officers.” (2) For about a decade, the navy had sent infected sailors to the U.S. Army post of Fort Bayard, New Mexico, but they acknowledged “difficulties inherent to the control and discipline of navy patients under army regulations.” (3)

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As the navy recognized both the disciplinary need for its own facility and the medical need of patient isolation, the search for a suitable location focused upon the abandoned Fort Lyon. The site offered four physical attributes central to its suitability as a sanitarium: altitude between 2000 and 6000 feet, a maximum amount of sunshine, a maximum amount of dryness, and "temperature conditions without great extremes, but with variability rather than equability." (4)

As the hospital developed, especially in the years from 1906 to 1911, the construction of facilities considered helpful for tubercular treatment proceeded at a rapid pace. Numerous "lean-to" housing units allowed maximum, but protected, exposure to dry air, sunlight and natural heat. In addition, the medical staff stayed current with therapies for the treatment and curing of the disease, testing various means of hypodermic injection, heliotherapy, medicated sprays, and lung compression. While many of these had side effects, tracking of treatment outcome was careful and well-reported. (5)

For those patients who were ambulatory, work on the farm and at the dairy were thought to be beneficial, following what was known as the Patterson Mode of Treatment. A 1913 review of the hospital's operations and care was undertaken by the Navy's Medical Director, noted that every patient was "required to render as much service to the hospital as his physical condition may justify. Such service would reduce the payroll by diminishing the number of civilian employees and incidentally benefit the patient." (6)

As the incidence of tuberculosis lessened during the second decade of the century, Fort Lyon became too large for the sole use of the navy and marines. Transfer of the Fort oversight moved to the newly-established Veterans' Bureau, which soon thereafter was named the Veterans' Administration [henceforth "VA"], and servicemen of all services and duty status were eligible for care. However, with the continuing decline in new cases, the increasing costs of maintaining and supplying the site in a remote corner of Colorado, and the expanding medical capability of Fitzsimons Hospital in Denver, the Fort Lyon facility was in danger of closure, or of transition to a different niche in the medical service. Interestingly, a hospital publication of the late 1920s noted that the facility was "equipped to care for any disabled veteran except N-P cases" (7), but such was the specific caseload scheduled for the site's redevelopment.

With an increasing recognition of the need for centers for N-P patients in the military, both active and discharged, the VA began the transition to an N-P facility in 1930, and on January 1, 1934, the status of the hospital was formally changed. The site was able to make the change in both capacity and with minimal change to the current infrastructure. Called an "isolated center" because of its distance to large regional medical facilities, Fort Lyon served primarily patients from Colorado and the surrounding states, and it became one of the VA's leading hospitals with that specialization.

A variety of treatments were pursued, including occupational therapy options, and work on the farm, in the dairy or in the bakery, these latter three being both intended for hospital subsistence and for commercial sale through the Arkansas Valley. Patients were treated using the Acute Intensive Treatment Service or the Continued Treatment Service, both of which were closely supervised by staff and most were restricted in movement around the complex. Following World War II, a new range of treatments was implemented with more focus on recreation, patient interaction and physical activity. Known as the Physical Medicine Rehabilitation Service, staff assisted patients assigned to therapeutic work detail, corrective therapies, and education/manual arts assignments.(8)

Fort Lyon also established a residency program in N-P in partnership with Fort Logan. In a letter from the American Medical Association's Council on Medical Education and Hospitals to Fort Lyon, F. H. Arestad noted temporary approval of the residency program, an action "taken in concurrence with the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology which has indicated its acceptance of a two year training program for six resident

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physicians.” (9) From 1947 to 1952, residents served on a rotation with the Mental Hygiene Clinic and the Colorado Psychopathic Hospital in addition to multiple care areas of Fort Lyon.

Fort Lyon Hospital received a national award in 1956 for its treatment successes, and for its expansion of out-patient services for N-P needs. The current work of the Department of Corrections as a hospital prison builds on the work of N-P care which began in 1934.

**Military**

Founded initially in 1867 as a United States Army post, Fort Lyon was a military-related site throughout and following all of the periods of its significance. It remained so until the site’s transfer to the control and operation of the State of Colorado’s Department of Corrections in the year 2000. As an army fort, a navy hospital, and a Veterans’ Administration hospital complex, Fort Lyon was in active service to one or more of the branches of the United States military for 133 years.

Moved to a new location by the U.S. Army in 1867, Fort Lyon retained its name and mission from its 1860 predecessor site. Its function was protection of the small regional settlements, security of the Santa Fe Trail as a significant venue for transportation, commerce, communication and immigration, mobilization point for expeditions of scouting and military campaigns, monitoring of Indian activity and movement in the region, and enforcement of law within the southeastern portion of Colorado Territory. Local settlements profited from and survived upon the economic boost a military site provided, and regional residents sought shelter and assistance in times of depredation or climatic stress.

Fort Lyon was a post within the national structure of the U. S. Army and experienced the regular changes in both troops and commanders posted to the site. As a part of the Department of the Missouri, it was a link in a broad regional network of forts, cantonments and military facilities along the drainages connected to the Missouri Basin. This connection with the larger service also provided a range of goods, services and ideas to the local communities, as people and vehicles moved up and down the Arkansas Valley along the trail, and then by train.

The site retains the overall physical feel of a mid-nineteenth century Army post, with a central parade ground, flanking administrative, quarters and barracks buildings, perimeter roads and walkways surrounding the parade ground with its central flag pole, and support/infrastructure buildings removed from the center. Typical in lay-out and in architectural elements to army posts across the West, Fort Lyon was integrated into and reflective of a broad pattern of military presence.

When the U.S. Navy took control of the site in 1906, the regimen of military life and the command structure of the military service were renewed, although under a different branch. The overall military “fort” look of the site was retained, even as the facilities were dramatically expanded and the core function of the site changed. From this point until the year 2000, the primary mission of the site was providing medical care to internal groups: for the navy, it was tubercular sailors and marines; for the VA, it was all servicemen, whether active or discharged, and suffering from tuberculosis (until 1934) or N-P ailments (1934 and later). Staff members were a mix of military and civilian, medical and operational, but the management structure of the site was in accordance with naval policies, and all funding for operations and construction was obtained through appropriations from the Department of the Navy.

Transition to control and operation by the Veterans’ Bureau/Administration in 1922 expanded the hospital services to tubercular patients of all branches, although the VA was (and is) not a branch of the military. However, as a Federal agency providing services to military staff and families, the VA continued management of the Fort Lyon hospital in much the manner of its predecessor. Medical personnel and operations staff were drawn from both the military (all branches) and the civilian population, and the physical layout of the site retained its original army post core.

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Section number 8 Page 80**Ethnic Heritage****Native Americans: Indian Peoples of the Southern Plains**

Although rarely present at the site of Fort Lyon, the presence of Indian peoples in the region of southeast Colorado territory, and its surroundings was the most important reason for the founding of the first Fort Lyon, and for the continuing U.S. Army activity at the second Fort Lyon. Located along the Arkansas River, in a valley containing rich natural resources valued by Indian groups, travelers along the Santa Fe Trail, and early Euro-American communities and settlers, the Fort served as both defense and deterrence in relations with Indian peoples. By its site selection, the Fort confirmed the continuing American conflict with Indian communities, the role of the military in internal defense, and the national drive toward broader regional settlement and security.

Located at a distance from the active multi-cultural trading world of the Bent's Fort area, the second Fort Lyon did not witness as many on-site visits from Indian groups; rather, the significance of Indians to the Fort lay in the regular military activities of scouting, local defense and regional communication about the actions and movements of Indian groups into and around the broader region which included portions of Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas, and Kansas.

Less than a year after the establishment of the second fort in 1867, news about Indian groups in the area began to appear in Fort correspondence and post returns. While none were reported in the region in April 1868 (10), rumors surfaced by the following month. Of the few recorded instances of the presence of Indians at the site, the mid-July 1868 visit by Satanta and 107 of his people was significant. Commanding Officer General Penrose reported the event in a letter to the Assistant Adjutant of the Division of the Upper Arkansas, stating that the group:

arrived on the opposite side of the river from my post on the 18<sup>th</sup> day July. About 15 or 20 of them crossed the river and asked to see me. Having no interpreter Robt Bent lent me his services. Satanta had little to say food apparently being the object of his visit. He said he had some from the Cimmaron near the mountains where he had been to try and see the Utes to make peace with them. He had not succeeded. ... [discussion of property damage by Indians] ... Satanta has told me a falsehood about where he has been and I am of the opinion that his trip up here was merely to find out the conditions of the country. ... I would not allow him to inspect my Post. Rations were furnished him and his people for 10 (ten) days. (11)

Indian groups became more significant as a focus of regional and military attention as the fall came. Communication problems were noted in late August when "...owing to Indian troubles the Mails are irregular and uncertain." (12) An increasing number of letters from the post during September and early October tell of concerns which led to several scouting expeditions into the local region, and eventually the arrival of several companies of troops as part of a winter campaign [see "Significant Dates, Carr Expedition 1867-68 for additional information.]. Local fear of Indians was expressed by the *Colorado Chieftain* of Pueblo when it noted that Penrose might "strike a decisive blow and relieve us from the fear of Indian incursions for a long time." (13)

Indian peoples remained an active presence in the Fort's life into the mid-1870s, as reflected in the Post Returns of 1873 when four expeditions were sent from Fort Lyon in search of reported Indians in the Arkansas drainage. In the September Post Return under "Activities," it was noted that Lt. George S. Anderson and 55 troops left the post "in pursuit of Cheyenne Indians reported as having committed depredations in the locality of the Two Buttes. He found the report to be true, but the Indians having left that country, he returned." (14)

By 1875, few incidents regarding Indians were noted in reports or correspondence, and by the end of the decade, Indian peoples had been removed from all of the area surrounding Fort Lyon.

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The significance of Indian peoples to the history of Fort Lyon cannot be overestimated, as their presence and activity in the region was the core reason for the founding of both this fort and its predecessor. While few incidents are noted for Indian visits to the post, the army's mandate to protect settlers, commerce and transportation from Indians was its principal function in the territory.

**African Americans: Buffalo Soldiers of the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry**

Some of the most active and significant troops of the western Indian Wars were companies of African-American soldiers known as Buffalo Soldiers. Blacks were added to the regular army for the first time when Congress established four black regiments in 1866 and 1869. Two were cavalry and two infantry, and in the years following the Civil War, the black soldiers in these regiments constituted about 10 percent of the effective strength of the army. Posted mainly to the western theater, they comprised a larger proportion of the active personnel in this region. To the black recruits within years of Emancipation, the army held promise of steady income, shelter, food, clothing and a defined "higher" social status than the majority of the black community. Because other economic opportunities were few, blacks enlisted and re-enlisted at a significant rate, such that the *Army and Navy Journal* noted that there "were seldom any vacancies in the colored regiments," especially in contrast to the white enlistments. In these units, morale and regimental pride were high, alcoholism and desertion were low, and courts-martial for blacks were fewer in proportion to white units. Many fought with distinction and were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. (15)

Although companies of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry regiments and the four all-black Infantry units served in many theaters of war until the end of World War II, their service in the American Southwest from the late 1860s to the early 1890s played a major role in the history of this region. (16)

In particular, the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry was engaged in extended campaigns against the Cheyenne, Kiowa, Comanche, Arapaho, and Apache groups throughout Colorado, Texas, Kansas, New Mexico and Arizona during the years between 1867 and 1886. In the early years of their service, several companies were detailed to Fort Lyon in anticipation of General Philip Sheridan's winter campaign against the southern Cheyenne. Buffalo Soldiers, African-American soldiers serving in segregated units under white officers, arrived at the post in October 1868, leaving under the command of General Penrose on November 10 as the first of the three-pronged plan for attack. With only 43 days rations, the column hit heavy snow and lost many of their food animals. Fighting the storm, the group met with a second column of the expedition, that commanded by Major Carr, also from Fort Lyon, in January in northern Texas, just in time to hear the news of Custer's successful attack upon the Cheyenne winter camp along the Washita. Although the Buffalo Soldiers pursued the Indians for a distance, killing several, they struggled back to Fort Lyon by February 19, and joined other troops for the duration of the winter. In recognition of the expedition hardships and the brave service of the members of the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, General Penrose wrote a letter to "Officers and Soldiers of the Tenth US Cavalry: March 14, 1869 from Ft Lyon, CT" expressing his appreciation for his own service with them and commending their dedicated work. (17)

Buffalo soldiers served in spite of extreme racial prejudice, and in some cases, violence at the hands of civilians and white soldiers. Throughout the period of the Indian Wars, most black soldiers served in remote frontier posts, where few other black citizens resided. Although welcomed for the economic benefits any troop of the military would bring to the small western communities, the arrival of black soldiers was frequently met with less-than-enthusiastic response from locals, and the area's fledgling press often published derogatory notices. While off-post, many black troopers were the targets of hostility, prejudice and harassment from the civilian population. (18) At times, white soldiers serving alongside the blacks were the source of racial resentment.

One incident at Fort Lyon in March of 1869 is significant as it reveals antagonism between men of units which had served together barely months earlier. As reported in the *Colorado Chieftain* on March 25, Henry Goldstein of Pueblo had reported a serious fracas at the post during a performance at the post theater. The newspaper wrote that there has:

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been for along time a great deal of ill-feeling between the soldiers of the 5<sup>th</sup> cavalry and the Negro troops stationed at Ft Lyon. On evening of 16<sup>th</sup>, this culminated in a riot in which six men were wounded, three belonging to each party of the belligerents. Trouble arose at the theater, where a great number of each party were [sic] in attendance. Just as the curtain dropped at close of first act, a soldier of the 5<sup>th</sup> remarked that the Negroes ought not to be there. Another said 'Let us put them out.' Negroes then commenced an indiscriminate firing, which the soldiers returned. Lights were extinguished, when the parties went outside and renewed fighting. On following morning the 5 companies of Negroes were removed three miles from Fort, where they yet remain. None were dangerously injured and affairs at Fort have resumed their normal quiet. (19)

Although the initial provocation came from the white troops, the Buffalo Soldiers were portrayed as the guilty party by the observer and the press. Significantly, their removal for purposes of temporary peace at the fort resulted in the final departure of the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry from the region.

Despite the racial divide, certain economic and military factors mitigated the resentment of local citizenry against black soldiers in their midst. Merchants benefited from the business of black troopers, and many invited their business. Most importantly, black soldiers played a major role in providing the protection which local communities needed. Historian Thomas D. Phillips noted that racial conflict disrupted relations between black soldiers and white civilians, but the need for "military security and the purchasing power of the blacks convinced many westerners of the folly of antagonizing the Negro soldiers and contributed to an uneasy racial truce in garrison communities." (20)

**European: German Prisoners of War, World War I**

During World War I, Fort Lyon played a unique role in the management of German prisoners, both before and following the United States' entry into the conflict. As the only U.S. Naval Hospital designated as a sanitarium for the treatment of tubercular navy personnel, the facility became the destination for seriously infected German sailors taken from interned vessels of the German navy. While sailors from allied ships of the Brazilian and French naval forces were also considered in official correspondence for admission to the hospital, the management of enemy combatants in the hospital setting of the site was a significant aspect of the allied war effort.

The first discussion of German prisoners being admitted to the hospital appears in the correspondence records in July of 1915, when Carl Jastrau, a "fireman of the Kronprinz Wilhelm" was certified to good behavior by the commanding officer of the captured ship. By August, at least five patients had been received from interned German vessels; one died in September and was buried in the post's cemetery. Concern was expressed about one patient who had gone insane but was still transferred from the east to Ft. Lyon, and by the end of the year, about ten different German-named sailors had arrived at the hospital. (21) Additional patients arrived over the next two years.

Management of prisoners in a hospital environment was the greatest challenge to the site superintendent. After the nation's entry into the war, concerns mounted. A letter from the Secretary of the Navy to the Secretary of Labor expressed concern over the hospital's status relative to preventing the escape of prisoners. The navy was specifically concerned about an "alien German non-combatant being transferred to Las Animas," viewing this as a controversial request despite earlier hospital admissions. The Las Animas staff felt strongly that confining patients as prisoners would not allow the full medical benefits of the hospital's procedures and treatments. The secretary's formal recommendation was to grant the Germans parole, asking them to sign a pledge of honor. This proposal was possible because "temporary parole only applies to their life at the hospital, from which they may not travel without permission. When discharged and healthy, they will lose parole status and be transferred under guard to some other station of internment." (22)

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Following the German admissions, several sick sailors of the Brazilian Navy arrived in November of 1918. The next year, the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery approved "the recommendation for the transfer to the Naval Hospital, Fort Lyon, Colo., of sailors of Allied Powers suffering from tuberculosis, provided, they desire such transfer ... Frenchmen in this particular instance, whose cases are considered of such gravity as to make their discharge to duty very improbable." (23) Several French and three German sailors eventually died of the infection and were buried in the hospital's cemetery, some with military honors.

The presence of enemy combatants in what became the Fort Lyon National Cemetery has drawn varying reactions through the decades. The most public debate about the burials came in 1927 when a series of articles in the *Denver Post* raised the issue before veterans' organizations. In a July 14 letter to the Director of the U. S. Veterans Bureau, J. F. Wallace, Chief Medical Officer In Charge, Fort Lyon, wrote that the three Germans were interned and treated at the hospital prior to the nation's entrance into the war. Buried in the cemetery, headstones were provided by the community and the "same care is given to them as to the servicemen of our own country" with the appropriate national flags set annually on the gravesites. He recommends retention of the burials at their original site despite the newspaper's call to disinter and move the bodies to another location. (24) The issue faded from public concern, and the graves were left in their original sites.

**Architecture**

The VA medical center was part of a set of hospitals in VA ownership which form a thematic group illustrative of a major concept in the delivery of health care, specifically to veterans. Hospitals in the set may be found in almost every state and include a wide variety of architectural styles used with the same structural design for buildings intended to serve the same or similar functions. The 1980 National Register nomination, which resulted in the official determination of eligibility by the Keeper of the National Register, discussed the architectural significance of the VA buildings.

The Veterans' Bureau was established by Executive Order in 1921. The first Director of the Bureau, appointed by President Harding was Charles R. Forbes, formerly Director of the War Risk Insurance Bureau. At the time the Veterans Bureau was established World War I veterans were receiving medical care and examinations for pensions or compensation and other health related benefits in a conglomeration of Public Health Service, military, contract, leased and Veterans Bureau (former military and Public Health Service) hospitals.

During his initial inspection tour of facilities Forbes was appalled at the "deplorable, absolutely deplorable" conditions in "many cantonments" which he characterized as "all fire hazards," and "wooden shacks."

A second immediate problem faced by Forbes, in his view, was the insistence of Dr. Charles E. Sawyer, President Harding's personal physician that all classes of Veterans' Bureau patients, general, medical, and surgical, neuro-psychiatric, and tuberculosis, be housed together.

With the appropriation of acquisition and construction funds the Bureau, under Forbes' leadership, initiated the beginnings of a massive new construction program to replace the firetraps Forbes deplored. The construction provided for what would become prototype buildings for the categories of patients for whom Forbes felt segregation was appropriate.

The use of "standard" designs by the Veterans' Bureau-Veterans' Administration was not a new concept in government. But, the manner in which "standard" designs were used for the architectural set of hospitals was a new direction in the use of "standard" designs.

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The military has used standard designs for barracks, quarters and other facilities at least since the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century when scattered garrisons and frontier outposts were replaced by concentrations of troops into large, permanent posts, usually at railheads. There are variations in the use of standard designs. These appear to be based upon the availability of specified building materials and local preference rather than any high level policy decision on design variations.

In the architectural set of VA hospitals the stylistic variations were approved at the highest level of the agency and therefore reflect a conscious design policy. The distribution of the various styles across the country reflects some organized concept of local history, local architectural preferences and an effort to "fit in" and appear as a part of the host community.

"Since the beginning of the century a great advance has been made in the diagnosis and treatment of patients suffering with one or more of the many classifications of mental diseases. As a result of World War I the opportunity presented itself for a great amount of research and development. Throughout this period an attempt has been made by the Veterans Administration to have the physical arrangement of its hospitals afford the doctor every opportunity to further this work."

"Because of the size of the VA neuropsychiatric hospitals, it has been possible in most cases to design one or more buildings for the exclusive care of each type of patient thus permitting assignment of duties, recreation, etc., possible of accomplishment by each type of patient together with such specialized treatment as is required. As the treatment buildings are described, therefore, it will be understood that in a smaller hospital consolidation of two or more of these activities might with careful study be possible under one roof."

In lay terms neuro-psychiatric hospitals, based upon the bed levels established, required a certain number of "hospital" beds in relation to controlled access buildings, intermediate stage buildings and low security buildings. Medical and surgical patients required a mix of acute (serious condition) versus convalescent buildings, while the treatment of TB required more long term buildings and no security. These were supplemented by the appropriate administrative buildings, dining halls and other support facilities such as recreation halls, chapels, engineering shops, boiler plants and staff housing. The actual structure for each type of building, down to the floor plans for stairways and elevators was standardized. However the façade or exterior architectural treatment of each hospital ranged from minor variations based upon the Georgian Colonial theme to such wide variations as English Tudor, Spanish Renaissance or French Colonial.

While these prototypes were not used exclusively by the Veterans Bureau and its successor agency, the Veterans' Administration, they were the dominant design concept used through the end of World War II.  
(25)

Although the original, standard interior plans of the Architectural Set of VA hospitals is the initial basis of its significance, generally, only the exterior interpretation of that plan presently retains integrity. Since these medical centers were originally constructed (between the early 1920s and the immediate post World War II period) the interiors have been renovated and remodeled repeatedly.

The hospital buildings originally had multi-bed wards, large day rooms and porches. Health care concepts, life-safety codes for institutional occupancy and the standards of the Joint Committee on the Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAH) have undergone a constant evolution. As a result the interior of these buildings have been altered frequently to meet each of these changing requirements. Rather than large wards, patient rooms are now most often a mix of four- or six-bed wards, two-bed rooms and single-bed rooms.

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The changes in space criteria per bed in each of these configurations have meant porches were enclosed to provide additional space and prevent a loss of beds. As buildings have been air conditioned, it has been possible to enclose additional porches to provide additional space needs without the costs of new construction.

As a result of these repeated changes to the interiors of the buildings the original fiber and significance of the interiors no longer exists.

It is not surprising that the use of standard designs for hospitals would continue for a quarter of a century. At the time the nation began to meet the need for veterans hospital facilities after World War I the construction of all federal buildings was under the jurisdiction of the Supervising Architect in the Department of the Treasury. The First Langley Bill had authorized construction of veterans hospitals by Treasury. Planning assistance came from the Armed Services and former members of the services. Construction for a number of hospitals was underway when the Veterans Bureau was created in 1921. Existing U.S. Public Health Service Veterans Hospitals were transferred to the new Bureau by one Executive Order, while a second directed the transfer of the First Langley Bill hospitals when completed.

The second Langley Bill, passed after the creation of the Veterans' Bureau gave the Bureau the direct authority to construct veterans hospitals. At this time key personnel associated with the planning of the first Langley Bill hospitals transferred to the new Bureau, forming the core of the Bureau's construction service.

The original appearance for each hospital location was a campus arrangement of buildings. The design for each campus was based upon the size and topography of the individual parcel of property and the number of the various structures required to meet the bed numbers and distribution for the individual hospital complex.

The selection of sites for veterans hospital during this period was based upon a number of factors. The most important included demographics, type of facility, availability of federal lands, local initiatives, and political sensitivity.

N-P Building types generally included a Main Hospital Building, Acute Building, Infirmary Building, Continued Treatment Building, Parole Building, Dining Hall Building, Recreation Building, Residential and Quarters Buildings, Utility Group, and Connecting Corridors.

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**Significant Areas Endnotes**

1. Navy Annual Report, 1906, p. 1046
2. Navy Annual Report, 1906, p. 1047
3. Navy Annual Report, 1906, p. 1048
4. Navy Annual Report, 1906, p. 1048
5. Wieber, Naval Medical Bulletin, 1922, p. 9-10
6. Leach, 1913, p. 9
7. Veteran's Bureau brochure, n.d., p.2
8. Bolita, *Fort Lyon, Colorado: 1922-1972*, p.7
9. Arestad to Fort Lyon, October 3, 1947. RG 15, Veterans Administration, Entry 64 – Geographical Files, Department of Medicine and Surgery, Fort Lyon, File 250: Resident Training.

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10. Capt. Casey to Headquarters, Department of the Missouri, April 12, 1868. RG-393, Part V, Entry 2: Letters and Telegrams Sent.
11. Penrose to Assistant Adjutant, Department of the Upper Arkansas, July 18, 1868. RG-393 – V, Entry 2.
12. Penrose to Assistant Adjutant, Department of the Missouri, August 31, 1868. RG-393 –V, Entry 2
13. *Colorado Chieftain*, Pueblo, Colo., October 29, 1868; quoted in Elizabeth Cairns interview notes, Colorado Historical Society Library, Geographical Card Files, Fort Lyon.
14. Post Returns, Fort Lyon, Colorado, September, 1873.
15. Foner, 1978. p. 95
16. Hill, Walter. "Exploring the Life and History of the 'Buffalo Soldiers'" in *The Record*, published by National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C., p. 10
17. Leckie, p. 42
18. Foner, 1978, p. 96
19. *Colorado Chieftain*, Pueblo, Colorado. March 25, 1869, p. 1.
20. Thomas D. Phillips, quoted in Foner, 1978, p. 96.
21. United States Naval Hospital at Las Animas to Headquarters, Office of the Surgeon General, U. S. Navy, various dates July – November, 1915. RG-52, Entry 11, file 126729.
22. Secretary of the Navy to Secretary of Labor, Washington, D.C. October 6, 1917. RG-52, Entry 11, file 126729
23. Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Headquarters to Fort Lyon, July 1, 1919. RG-52, entry 11, file 126729
24. J. F. Wallace, Chief Medical Officer In Charge, Fort Lyon to Director, U.S. Veterans' Bureau. July 14, 1927. RG-15, Entry-64
25. Molenhoft and Tupek, 1980, significance section.

## Significant Periods

### U. S. Navy Period: 1906-1922

The most significant period in Fort Lyon's history was that of the United States Navy, when the abandoned post was redeveloped as a hospital for tubercular sailors and marines, and when the long-term shift to a health-care focus began and came to fruition. The facility was expanded and became an important element in a national system of naval medical care.

President Theodore Roosevelt's October 25, 1906 Executive Order which transferred the land in Bent County, Colorado, "being a part of the New Fort Lyon military reservation, and containing 575.19 acres, with the buildings thereon, ... to the Navy Department for the purposes of a sanitarium"(1) was the final step in a long administrative process by naval officials to deal with the rising numbers of tuberculosis-infected sailors in active service. Tuberculosis, a highly infectious disease in the confined spaces aboard ship, was the greatest cause of death to sailors after accidents and gun-shots. (2) While the navy placed infected men at hospital facilities along the east coast of the U.S., the climate of the southern plains and southwestern portions of the nation was considered more beneficial to care and recovery. Starting in 1902, the navy began to send patients to Fort Bayard, New Mexico, a U. S. Army site with appropriate facilities. (3) Seeking its own site for a hospital, the navy

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acquired control of the then-abandoned Fort Lyon, and received major appropriations beginning in 1906 for redevelopment of the site. (4)

The following several years saw significant changes to the site. Even after seventeen years of abandonment, the fort's buildings were in good enough shape to allow rehabilitation of many, and additional new construction was begun. Workman lived in a tent camp until the earliest of the retrofitted buildings was able to accommodate them. Although the "fort" layout of the core area was retained, and still exists today around the central parade ground, the large volume of new construction shaped a new facility. The site redevelopment and re-use lasted through the period of the Naval Hospital (1922).

In addition, the period was important as the first era of the site's contribution to and role in a national health care program. Although limited to active navy and marine servicemen for the first decade of its tenure, the hospital was designated by the Secretary of the Navy as the only site exclusively for the treatment of tuberculosis. By the late 1910s, the hospital accepted transfers of allied seamen and German prisoners of war who were severely infected with the disease. As the numbers of naval personnel with tuberculosis dropped after World War I, discussions began with the army about combining the Fort Lyon and Fort Bayard facilities, but the navy determined to retain its own complex at Fort Lyon.

During this period, site medical staff tested a range of new and adapted treatments for the disease, some involving various formats of exposure to the natural climate of the region, some using inhalant therapies, and others using a range of drugs. (5) Several national medical personnel for the navy reported on the treatments and one 1913 report included recommendations for increased management efficiency at the site. (6) It is significant to note that women were added to the nursing staff only near the end of the naval period, a first for the site. The local community grew as a response to these developments, as some families of infected seamen moved the region to be close to the patients.

Finally, the period was important in the hospital's move toward increased self-sufficiency through the expansion of the farm and dairy activities. An important component of treatment for mild to middling cases of tuberculosis was exposure to the outdoors and physical activity. By engaging the patients in the operations of the farm, some of the food was supplied as the patients improved in health. Additional land was acquired by the hospital to be added to the reservation.

**Early Veterans' Administration Period: 1923-1956**

A second period of significance in the history of Fort Lyon was that immediately following the naval hospital and for the following thirty years. This time period encompassed several phases: the continuation of tuberculosis treatment on a broader military scale, and the replacement of that program with a neuro-psychiatric [henceforth "N-P"] treatment program. The facility itself, while retaining its core layout, was shaped to conform to a national model of Veterans' Administration [henceforth "VA"] hospital complexes.

The transfer of the naval facility to the care of the Veterans' Bureau (shortly thereafter renamed the Veterans' Administration) was a manifestation of an important shift in national thinking which began following World War I. As many servicemen left the military for civilian jobs, they continued to require medical treatment for physical conditions from the war years. The various military branches had maintained facilities exclusive to their branches, but the time to reorganize military health care had arrived. With the founding of the Veterans' Bureau, patients from all branches of the military and of any enlistment or discharge status were processed for treatment at facilities designated by ailment. This allowed a higher quality of care by clustering all special medical assets for any given disease or condition in a specialty facility. Fort Lyon became the national focus site for tuberculosis patients from across the military, active and discharged. This shift in focus led to a shift in the broader scope of the community, changing the pattern of new settlement in the surrounding communities, and impacting the regional demographic with an increased older constituency.

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Also significant to this period was the transition from a tuberculosis facility to a specialty in N-P cases. As medical technology moved to a greater reliance on drug therapy for the control of what had been a host of serious, if not fatal, diseases, confinement of patients to specific locations or climatic regions became less important an aspect of health care. Fort Lyon slowly declined in terms of patient numbers, and by the middle of the 1920s, shortly after the transfer to VA operations management, discussions began about closing the site, combining it with Fort Bayard, New Mexico, transferring all patients to the new Fitzsimons Hospital in Denver, or taking on a new area of specialized care on the site. The last option was selected when in the early 1930s, the site was officially designated as a residential care facility for the growing number of veterans who exhibited serious symptoms of N-P concern. As early as 1926, a feasibility study of Fort Lyon was authorized to review the suitability of the site for "the care and treatment of neuropsychiatric beneficiaries of the Bureau, because an urgent need for additional beds for this type of claimant exists."<sup>(7)</sup> The care of such mental problems, was an unmet and increasing need situation for military branches, and Fort Lyon's conversion to a specialized resident hospital for N-P illness was one of the first in the nation to specifically target this patient group.

Linked to these movements, and beginning in the 1940s, was the slow shift from all-residential patient care to a mixed residential and out-patient load. This further promoted immigration to this segment of the Arkansas River Valley, as former military suffering from a range of ailments relocated to a two-to-three-hour range from the hospital clinic. The city of Pueblo has one of the highest percentages of retired veterans per capita, many continuing to settle in the urban area closest to the Fort Lyon facility. The hospital expanded its care parameters to meet other needs for those patients beyond those whose primary health concern was either tuberculosis, or later, N-P conditions. A broad range of medical specialists was added to the staff, and facilities developed to accommodate health problems of an aging patient population. This shift in mission, beginning by about 1948, demanded an increase in the number of general Nursing Home Care beds to meet the needs of aging veterans, and a corresponding reduction in the number of acute psychiatry beds in the hospital. (8)

Finally, this period is significant as the physical shape of the site was altered over time to more closely conform to what was becoming a standardized facility configuration for VA hospital complexes across the nation. Even though the VA adapted its new mission and work to an existing military medical facility, much work was done to focus on specific needs of N-P care required redevelopment of old buildings and the construction of specialized structures. In a document drafted in 1980 for the National Register, Mollenhoff and Tupek discussed at length the "standardization" on N-P facilities nationwide, stating that N-P facilities:

required a certain number of 'hospital' beds in relation to controlled access building. Medical and surgical patients required a mix of acute (serious condition) versus convalescent buildings, while the treatment of TB required more long term buildings and no security. ... The actual structure for each type of building, down to the floor plans for stairways and elevators was standardized. (9)

However, the exterior architectural treatment of each hospital ranged broadly, utilizing a large number of regional and historic architectural styles and materials. While the authors claim that the delineated prototypes were not used exclusively, nor were they absolute requirements in the design of new or remodeled structures, they were the dominant design concept used through the end of World War II. The document details assessment criteria for both site selection and facility design, and includes a general list of "NP Building Types" (10), some of which formed part of the Fort Lyon complex, and linked the physical attributes of the site to a national set of similar facilities.

**The U. S. Army Period: 1867 – 1889**

A third period of significance in Fort Lyon's history is that of the United States Army, which first established a post at the site in 1867 for a 22-year occupation. The "New" Fort Lyon was the second post of that name in the Arkansas Valley, the first one, founded in 1860, having been flooded beyond recovery in the spring of 1867.

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United States War Department orders required relocation of the fort several miles away, but still along the famed Santa Fe Trail. The post was important for its role in regional protection, but also as a symbol of the national policy of expansionism which followed the Civil War and the major immigrant rushes to explore, exploit and settle the vast regions west of the Mississippi beginning in the early 1840s.

Fort Lyon was along what had been the northern territory of Mexico until 1848, and the region was still sparsely settled. The economic impact of the fort as "consumer" of local goods and commodities, and the sense of increased security in the face of Indian activity in the area were significant attributes as local communities were established and grew close to the military reservation. With as many as six companies of infantry and cavalry posted to the fort, the fort's role in local development was sizeable.

During this period, Fort Lyon served several local functions. Foremost was protection of local mails, commerce, communication and transportation routes and services, local community and dispersed populations, and regional political entities. It was a center of regional control and performed law enforcement and judicial duties. The fort functioned as a focal point for local supplies and goods, communication activities, social life, commerce, and safe haven in times of danger.

One interesting element of the army residency at the fort is what is known about the social structure of the fort, and in this, the period is significant for its breadth of original documentation. The U. S. Army was a highly stratified organization, with the officer corps generally from an educated upper- or upper-middle class, and an enlisted corps heavily drawn from working classes, immigrants and emancipated ex-slaves. Social strata were meticulously observed at even the most remote posts, as officer and their wives remained ever conscious of class distinctions in all aspects of daily life and privilege.

With their origins of wealth and education, but with no official role at most forts, many officers' wives kept journals which have since been published, detailing their experiences at sites across the western frontier. Several of these women recorded memoirs of time spent at Fort Lyon and commented on the surroundings, the troops, the visitors and the social activities at this mid-sized post far from the main centers of army authority. Having come from the outposts near the Modoc War in early 1863, Ellen McGowan Biddle's husband Major James Biddle took command of Fort Lyon in June. She describes the place as a "comparatively large post that was garrisoned with four companies of infantry and two troops of the 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry" (11) She also declared that "Fort Lyon was an ideal post", and that the "the commanding officer's quarters were better than we had ever had." (12) Mrs. Biddle describes a range of events including visits to Indian camps, religious figures, activities with other officers' families, special celebrations and general impressions of the landscape. In much the same way, Francis Roe, wife of Lt. Fayette Roe, focused upon the social activities and expectations of a junior officer's wife at a western post.(13) Together, these memoirs give a non-military view of the fort and are important for the larger perspectives life at Fort Lyon during the army period.

Finally, the period was significant for the physical product of its construction at the site. It was the initial design of the fort structures surrounding a central parade ground and flagpole, flanked by roads and outer support buildings which gave the fort its visual and functional link to forts across the West. The core of this design remained in place throughout the hospital development of the navy period, and survived the years of the VA use of the site. Interestingly, an 1885 publication the *Industrial Gazetteer* commented that "altogether, Fort Lyon is one of the best and most eligibly situated U. S. garrisons in Colorado," but then noted the author's opinion that "historically, there is not much of general interest attaching to Fort Lyon." (14)

For purposes of this nomination, the period of significance related to the Army's occupancy begins in 1868 with the completion of the oldest surviving army buildings.

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**Significant Periods Endnotes**

1. Roosevelt Executive Order, 1906.
2. Navy Annual Report 1906, p. 1046
3. Navy Annual Report 1906, p. 1190
4. Navy Annual Report 1906, p. 1195
5. Weiber, pp 752-757
6. Leach, pp 8-9
7. Letter, Assistant Director Coordinating Service to O. W. Clark, VA Headquarters, March 19, 1926. RG-52, entry 64.
8. Scalzi, p.3
9. Mollenhoff and Tupek, pp 3-4
10. Mollenhoff and Tupek, p. 8
11. Biddle, p. xx
12. Biddle, p. 110, 111
13. Roe, various.
14. Brown, p. 209

**Significant Dates****1906-1919: Naval Hospital Development**

The most significant dates in the history of Fort Lyon are the years of the initial United States Navy development and construction of the tuberculosis hospital at the then-abandoned post. Over the course of this 13-year period, the historic army fort was re-occupied, expanded and redeveloped to accommodate the new and different demands of a health care facility. Although the care focus has changed since 1906, the primary function of the Fort Lyon complex as a hospital continued to the end of the twentieth century.

President Theodore Roosevelt issued an Executive Order from the White House on October 25, 1906 declaring that specific lots of property within Bent County "being a part of the New Fort Lyon abandoned military reservation, and containing 575.19 acres, with the buildings thereon, be and they are hereby reserved and set apart for the use of the Navy Department for the purposes of a sanitarium." (1) Within the month, W. A. Richards, Commissioner of the Department of the Interior General Land Office, which had maintained oversight of the property since the army departure in 1889, informed the Secretary of the Interior of the presidential decision, and provided both a history of the land management and a summary of available documentation of the site's extent and legal status. (2)

The Annual Reports of the Navy Department for 1906 contain long sections addressing both the issue of managing tuberculosis infection within the ranks of the naval personnel, and the search process for a suitable location for construction of a treatment facility. Having used the naval site at Pensacola, Florida, for many years,

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the navy's medical leadership was already seeking a site for a new hospital when a hurricane caused such severe damage to the Pensacola area that a decision was speedily made to request use of the old Fort Lyon site. At the time, the reports noted that the tract included:

... 31 unsold buildings. The majority of these buildings are of adobe, but four, the administration building, hospital and two large barracks have walls of red sandstone. ... The devastating action of time and the long neglect and depredation this property has suffered makes the task of rehabilitation no small one, but the natural advantages and the possibilities of this site give promise of great results.(3)

The first work crew arrived in mid-November 1906 and was under the direction of a team including surgeons, an engineer and a pharmacist. In collaboration with the Naval Bureau of Yards and Docks, a site plan was drawn for the first phase of construction. Work commenced immediately, and the first patients began arriving in January 1907, moving into the first accommodations – a temporary tent camp with sanitary facilities. By the fall, facilities were ready for the housing of 24 new patients, the crew having torn down 10 of the buildings, and repaired several others for occupancy by patients and staff. The work of installing sewers, upgrading the water supply units, building a power plant, installing a new fresh-water pressure tank, and upgrading heating systems was completed under contracts, while site workers constructed new buildings to meet expanding needs of the hospital. (4) The 1907 Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy reviewed the work repairs completed and described the planned extent of the facilities as including:

an administration building, 8 double-ward pavilions, 1 hospital building complete for operative and other acute cases, 2 large subsistence buildings, a bakery building, 3 residences for the hospital staff, 4 buildings for quarters for sick officers, a house for the pharmacist, 2 water towers, 1 ice house, 1 storehouse, a stable, a barracks for a marine guard, a power house, a laundry, a recreation building, a bowling alley building and an adjoining farm with farmhouse, cow-barns, chicken ranch, and land for truck gardens. (5)

With the development of roads, paths and landscaping by 1911, the hospital had a capacity of 200 patients, and expanded building activity slowed for several years. Over \$565,000 had been spent on site development by 1911. A second round of construction activity beginning in 1917 would cost \$1.85 million and would include additional land acquisition and expansion of both patient capacity and site self-sufficiency through increased farm and daily activity. A large influx of new patients in 1917 drove the development of new accommodations including hospital expansion to 700-bed capacity, building systems upgrades on many structures, increased quarters for health and facility staff, and a new steam and heat distribution system serving the 28 new buildings and 21 of the existing structures, the latter finally completed in 1921. (6)

By the end of the time period, the hospital was able to accommodate most of the 720 patients predicted in naval planning reports of 1918, and was the only U. S. Navy Hospital exclusively operating treatment programs for tubercular patients. Construction and facility upgrades completed between 1906 and 1919 allowed the hospital to become a leader in tuberculosis care. The site developments of this era established the shape, function and capacity of the hospital facility at Fort Lyon for the next 5 decades, and remain the core of the present historic site.

**1932-34: Transition to Neuro-Psychiatric Care Facility**

The 1922 transfer of the Fort Lyon Hospital to the management of the Veterans' Bureau, later Veterans' Administration [henceforth "VA"], continued the navy's focus on care for tuberculosis patients. Veterans from all branches of military service were admitted for treatment, but as the decade passed, the number of patients diminished dramatically. By 1930, discussions were underway about the future of the site, with options including closure (and transfer of all patients to the Fitzsimons Hospital in Denver) or re-development of the site to meet

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different medical needs. That year, Congress appropriated \$500,000 for the construction of a neuro-psychiatric [henceforth "N-P"] hospital for all servicemen, but without a site confirmed. Interested groups across the nation declared their interest, including Congressional representatives and community organizations from Colorado (7), but Colorado had already secured VA support.

Correspondence reveals that the option of an N-P facility at Fort Lyon had been proposed in 1926 in discussions about closure of the site. VA manager O. W. Clark wrote the Assistant Director of the VA Coordination Service on March 3 acknowledging the Service's recommendation that the hospital close. He affirmed that tuberculosis was still the focus of the facility, and that TB treatment would still be necessary, since the number of patients was still significant within the veterans' population. Relating the content of recent meetings, he stated that "consideration was also given to the use of Fort Lyon as an NP hospital for the treatment of mental conditions, but the [site] construction recently convinced the Medical Service of its structural unsuitability for such purposes." (8) The VA Director approved the hospital closing on March 17 and a June 30 date for closure was set.

The response to Clark on March 19 informed the director that a forthcoming survey on the suitability of the site as an "institution suitable for the care and treatment of neuro-psychiatric beneficiaries of the Bureau, because and urgent need for additional beds for this type of claimant exists." (9) The decision to close was reversed on May 8, with the understanding that the hospital would stay in operation as a tuberculosis facility until a decision was made about N-P redevelopment. By November, a strategy for conversion to N-P capability was generally accepted, although not broadly publicized.

Over the next few years, plans were completed for new construction at the Fort Lyon Site. By the early 1930s, the mainly wooden buildings were replaced by more modern red brick structures. The Congressional appropriation was soon secured, and the Fort's next phase of building was underway. In 1933, the Fort Lyon Hospital was designated by the government as an N-P hospital within a national network of VA hospitals. The conversion, much completed by the 1934 arrival of the first contingent of mental patients, was a significant phase in the history of the site as a health care center in the early years of "modern" treatment of N-P patients under the umbrella of the Federal government.

**1867-1868: U. S. Army Construction of Fort Lyon**

The third most significant series of dates in the history of Fort Lyon are the years of the initial construction of the fort by the United States Army. This form of post design seen at the site is retained in all subsequent redevelopments of the site, and identifies the roots of the facility as a mid-nineteenth century army post, similar in plan and lay-out to other small forts in the West.

The Fort Lyon of our attention is the second of that name in the Arkansas Valley [see Narrative History for details], the first Fort Lyon having experienced heavy flooding by the Arkansas River in the spring of 1867. Severe damage to the initial site prompted the army to consider a relocation of the post to more secure surroundings about twenty miles upriver.

The army moved quickly in deciding the site's fate, since on March 18, 1867, General Orders No. 43, Department of the Missouri directed that the post "be removed to another site" (10), and sent Captain W. H. Penrose to take command of the post. The flooding delayed the work, but finally the troops with their equipment and personal belongings moved to the new site on June 9 to the present location just below the mouth of the Purgatoire River and only a few miles from Bent's New Fort. Work on the site was begun by Penrose's men even as the last of the move was continuing.

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While the men spent the fall and winter in a tent camp, construction progressed on the permanent buildings for the new fort. The parade ground was laid out where it remains today, and adobe officers quarters and two large stone barracks were built. An administration building, barns and other support buildings surrounded the housing, and by the fall of 1868, the fort had taken shape. One source claims that the specifications for the fort "called for buildings enough to house 4,000 men" (11), but all other documentation targets a site for a much smaller force.

The formal delineation of the military reservation came as General Orders No. 25 from the Headquarters, Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas on August 13, 1868. This document specified the surveyed perimeter of the site, gave instructions as to marking the boundaries, and declared that the "Reservation contains nine square miles, one hundred and fourteen acres, and four thousand and eighty square yards." (12)

The initial construction of the "new" Fort Lyon is significant for establishing the broad plan on which the later construction was sited. Street were laid out, named by letters, and wrapped around the central parade ground. The primary features of the 1867-68 construction remain today and identify the site's nineteenth century roots.

**1868-1869: Sheridan's Campaign**

The only large-scale Indian Wars military campaign in which soldiers from Fort Lyon participated was that of General Philip Sheridan in the winter of 1868 and 1869. The broad plan involved three separate and coordinated columns of troops marching toward Indian groups centered in western Oklahoma and adjacent regions of Texas.

In the summer of 1868, numerous reports of Indian activity in the region had circulated and many were forwarded to Headquarters, Department of the Missouri from Fort Lyon's leadership. Although a letter of April 21 confirmed "that no Indians have been seen or heard of near" the post (13), by summer, the situation had changed. Indian leader Satanta arrived and camped across the river from the fort in July, met with Commanding Officer Penrose, and secured food rations for his people (14). For the next four months, regular communications with Headquarters tell of sightings and contain reports of raids. On October 11, Penrose telegraphed General Sheridan at Fort Harker with the news that he had "just returned from a two days scout. The Indians spoken of in my last telegram were Cheyennes and Arapahos, about 300 strong, have gone back to Cimmaron [sic] – taking large quantities of Cattle and Sheep." (15)

Regional news, not entirely accurate, of the pending campaign was noted in the *Pueblo Chieftain* on October 29, 1868:

We learn that Gen. Penrose is organizing an expedition against the Indians. It is his purpose to move southward next week with about seven companies. He has reason to believe that the villages of the Cheyennes, Arapahos, and Kiowas are located on the Cimarron, and his first object will be to find them. The expedition will be accompanied by some of the best scouts in the country, among them Tom Tobin, Mariana Autubees [sic] and Wild Bill. Gen. Penrose's well-earned reputation as a dashing fighter leads to the hope that he will strike a decisive blow and relieve us from the fear of Indian incursions for a long time. (16)

Soldiers of the Fifth Cavalry and the Tenth Cavalry left Fort Lyon on December 2, 1868 under the command of Major Eugene Carr, intending to rendezvous with other troops from Fort Lyon, which had left on November 10 under the command of Penrose, and with companies of the Seventh Cavalry under the Command of Lt. Col. George A. Custer from Fort Dodge, Kansas. Planning to converge on the panhandle of Oklahoma, on the North Canadian River, Carr's troops from Ft. Lyon were under the guidance of a young army scout, William F. (later Buffalo Bill) Cody. (17)

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Carr's troops soon overtook those of Penrose's companies and marched toward the Canadian River valley of northern Texas. Together, these troops pushed the Indians north toward the strongest column, that from Fort Dodge. Custer's troops engaged the Indians in a surprise attack at the Cheyenne camp along the Washita, destroying lodges and winter supplies. Word of the Washita event arrived as the two columns from Fort Lyon reached the Canadian River, both groups having been battered by blizzards which took the lives of four soldiers and several head of cattle. The news of the victory brought the end of Fort Lyon's participation in the campaign. Hungry and cold, the troops returned to the fort on February 19, 1869. (18)

Although Fort Lyon troops were regularly sent on scouting expeditions in response to settler and business reports of Indian activity, the fort's garrison was never again called to duty in a regional military campaign.

### Significant Dates Endnotes

1. Theodore Roosevelt, President, Executive Order, October 25, 1906.
2. W. A. Richards, Commissioner, to Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D.C., November 15, 1906; Correspondence, file 06-176870.
3. Navy Annual Report 1906, p. 1194-1195.
4. Weiber, Naval Medical Bulletin, p.3.
5. 1906 Navy Annual Report, p. 1195.
6. Weiber, p. 4-5.
7. Anon., unpublished mss., p. 13
8. O. W. Clark to Asst. Director Coordinating Services, March 3, 1926. RG 15; Entry 64.
9. Coordinating Service to O. W. Clark, March 19, 1926, RG-15, entry 64.
10. Boyd, p.3.
11. Hurd, p. 61.
12. Chauncey McKeever, Assistant Adjutant General, General Orders No. 25, August 13, 1868, U. S. Army, Headquarters, Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth.
13. Capt. Casey to Headquarters, Department of the Missouri, April 12, 1868; RG 393 – V, entry 2.
14. W. H. Penrose to Assistant Adjutant, Department of the Upper Arkansas, July 18, 1868, RG-393 – V, entry 2.
15. W. H. Penrose to Gen. P. Sheridan, telegram October 11, 1868. RG-393 – V, entry 2.
16. *Colorado Chieftain*, Pueblo Colorado, October 29, 1868. quoted in Elizabeth Cairns interview notes. Colorado Historical Society Library, Geographical Card Files, Fort Lyon.
17. Leckie, p. 70.
18. Leckie p. 41-42.

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Section number 9 Page 95**BIBLIOGRAPHY AND DOCUMENTARY RESOURCES**

Note: This listing of resources includes some federal archival material not cited in this nomination narrative, but in the holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration [henceforth "NARA"] at the National Archives Building in Washington, D. C [henceforth "NAB"], the NARA facility at College Park, Maryland [henceforth "NARA-CP"], and the NARA facility at the Denver Federal Center [henceforth "NARA-DFC"]. The listing is divided into three segments – Army, Navy, Veterans' Administration - and by documentation type within each segment.

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2. Letters and Telegrams Sent: 04/00/1868 to 11/00/1889. Missing January 1873- July 1874.
3. Endorsements Sent: 01/00/1870 to 07/00/1889. Also included General Orders January 1879-March 1881.
4. Telegrams Sent: 06/00/1884 to 11/00/1885. Also includes non-commissioned officer rosters January 1886 – January 1888.
5. Name and Subject Indexes to Registers of Letters and Telegrams Received: 01/00/1885-11/00/1889.
6. Registers of Letters and Telegrams Received: 04/00/1872-11/00/1889. Missing August 1874 to December 1881.
7. Telegrams Received: 01/00/1885-02/00/1888.
8. General Orders and Special Orders: 01/00/1870-12/00/1878. Missing orders in Entries 3 and 9 as noted.
9. Orders: 03/00/1881-11/00/1889. Missing September 1884 to March 1885, February 1887 to May 1888 and November-December 1888. Also includes Special Orders January 1879 to March 1881, and Circulars January to October 1889.
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11. Register of Charges and Specifications for Summary Courts-martial: 10/00/1885-09/00/1889.
12. Rosters of Commissioned and Noncommissioned Officers: 1869-1889.
13. Letters Received, Quartermaster: 1869-1889.

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## Maps

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F-31,797, "C-Ft Lyon (new) Oct 1929", Colorado Historical Society, Stephen Hart Library.

F41022, "Fort Lyon U.S. Naval Station 1919-1920", Post Card, Denver Public Library Western Collection.

F41021, "Fort Lyon U.S. Naval Station 1919-1920", Post Card, Denver Public Library Western Collection.

"Overview, U.S. Naval Station, 1919-1920", Denver Public Library Western Collection.

## Veterans' Administration Period: 1923 – 1956

### Archives at NAB

#### Record Group 15: Veterans' Administration. Applicable Entries:

8. UD-UP. Policy, General Administrators' Files. Fort Lyon, Colorado, Box 21, File "Fort Lyon, Colorado Hospital" 1965 only.

28. Office of the Administrator. Issuances of Field Units 1948-1954. Fort Lyon, Box 17.

64. Geographic Files, Department of Medicine and Surgery, Fort Lyon, Colorado. M/AS Office Operations Service, Box 39.

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Section number 9 Page 100**Unpublished Works and File Documents**

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**
**UTM References (cont.)**

	Zone	Easting	Northing
5.	13	664174	4215306
6.	13	663777	4215182
7.	13	663448	4215743
8.	13	662960	4215619

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The district boundaries are shown on the map which follows. In general terms, they can be described as follows.

West boundary: Northern portion of district: Bent County Road 15 from West Farm Road at the south, to Bent County Road HH at the north. Bent County Road 15 represents the western extent of intact agricultural land historically associated with Fort Lyon.

Southern portion of district: Gate Road, First Street, and the Perimeter Road, plus Buildings 363, 364, and 365 which are west of the Gate Road. First Street and the Perimeter Road are extensions of the Gate Road, and represent the western extent of the historically intact developed area.

North boundary: Bent County Road HH from Bent County Road 15 at the west to the Fort Lyon National Cemetery at the east. Bent County Road HH represents the northern extent of intact agricultural land historically associated with Fort Lyon.

East boundary: West fence of Fort Lyon National Cemetery, the Northeast Road, the alley east of Northeast Road residences, and the Perimeter Road, plus the fenced Wastewater Treatment area.

South boundary: Perimeter Road at the developed area, and West Farm Road at the west agricultural area.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundaries for the historic district were selected to include the primary developed area and the related agricultural land to the north and west. Areas around Fort Lyon that are excluded from the historic district are the dike, the lagoon, and the cemetery. The dike is excluded because its construction was not associated with the VA's use of the site, and it was built near the end of the VA period of significance. The lagoon in the southeast portion of the site is excluded because it is associated with the dike and John Martin Reservoir, rather than with Fort Lyon.

The cemetery is excluded because most of the graves do not relate to the Fort Lyon period of significance. Other than a small section of Civil War-era graves, the earliest graves date from the 1930s and do not appear to be related to the VA neuro-psychiatric facility of the 1930s.

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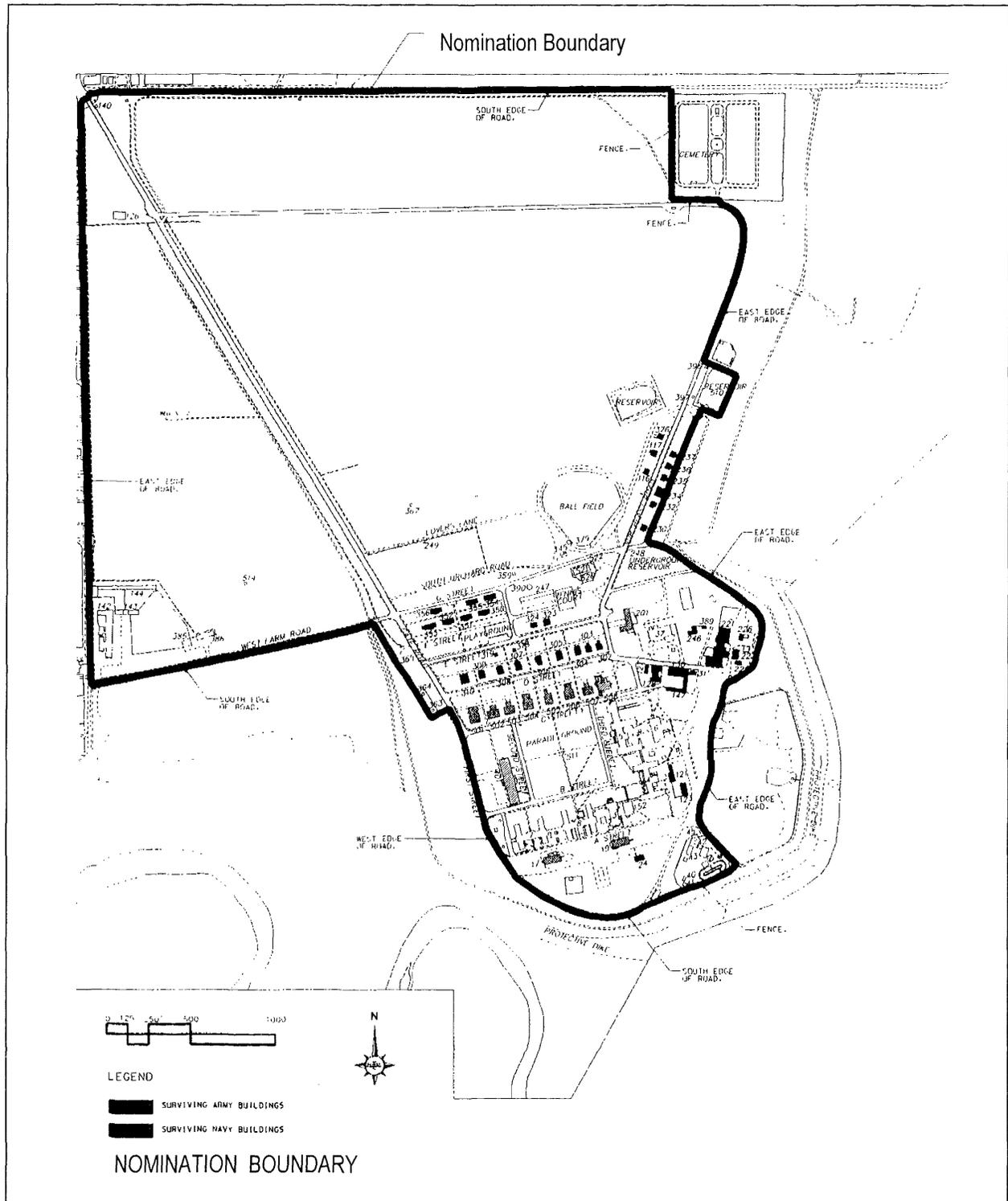


Figure 26. Nomination boundaries plotted on current site map.

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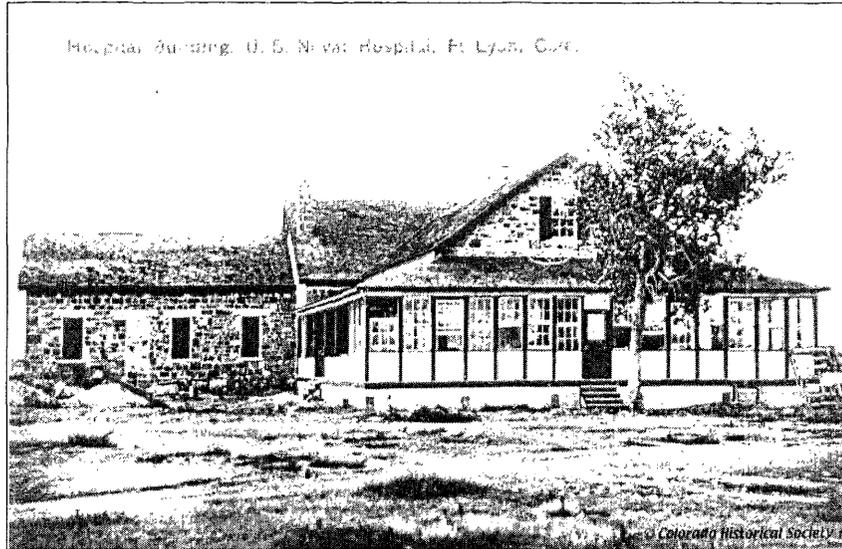
United States Department of the Interior  
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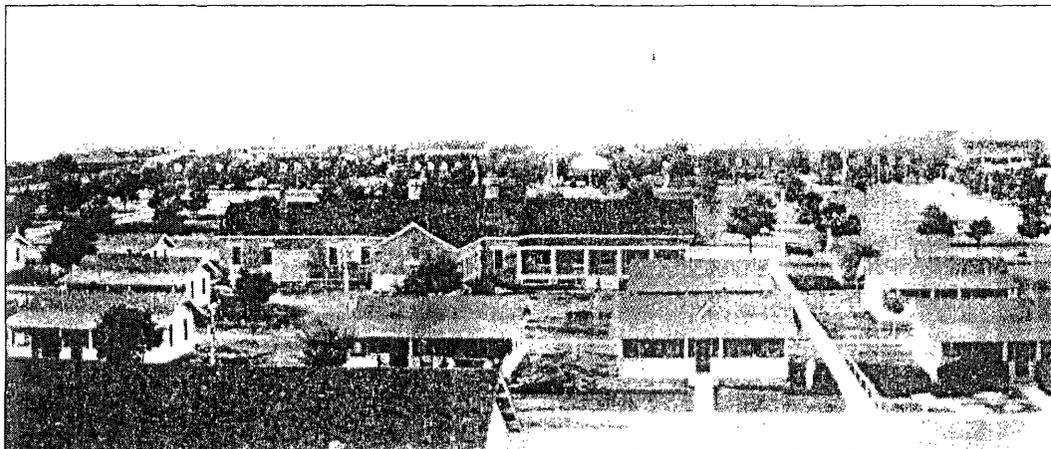
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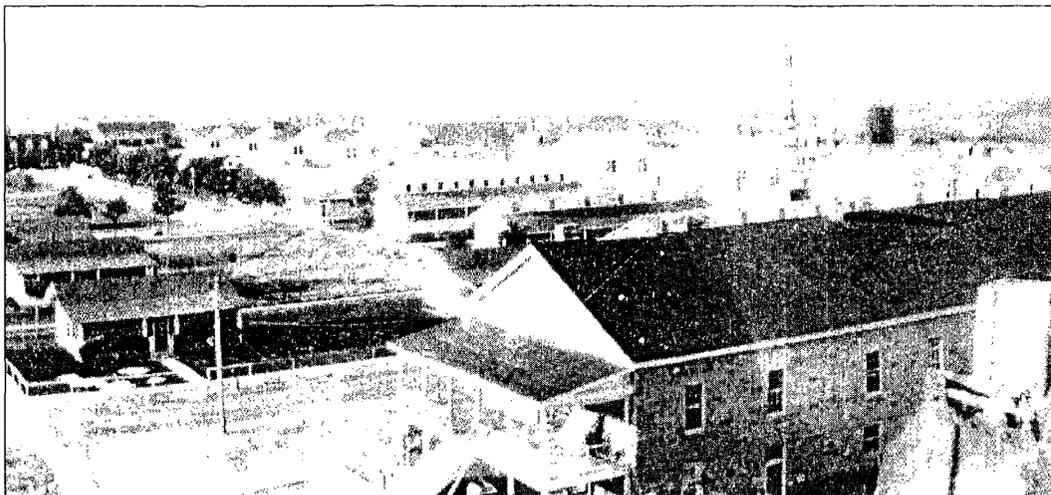
## HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS



**Figure 27.** Hospital building from a 1908 postcard. Source: Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society)



**Figures 28 & 29.** These two overviews taken from the southern edge of Fort Lyon in circa 1919-1920 show the facility looking north (above) and northeast (below). (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)



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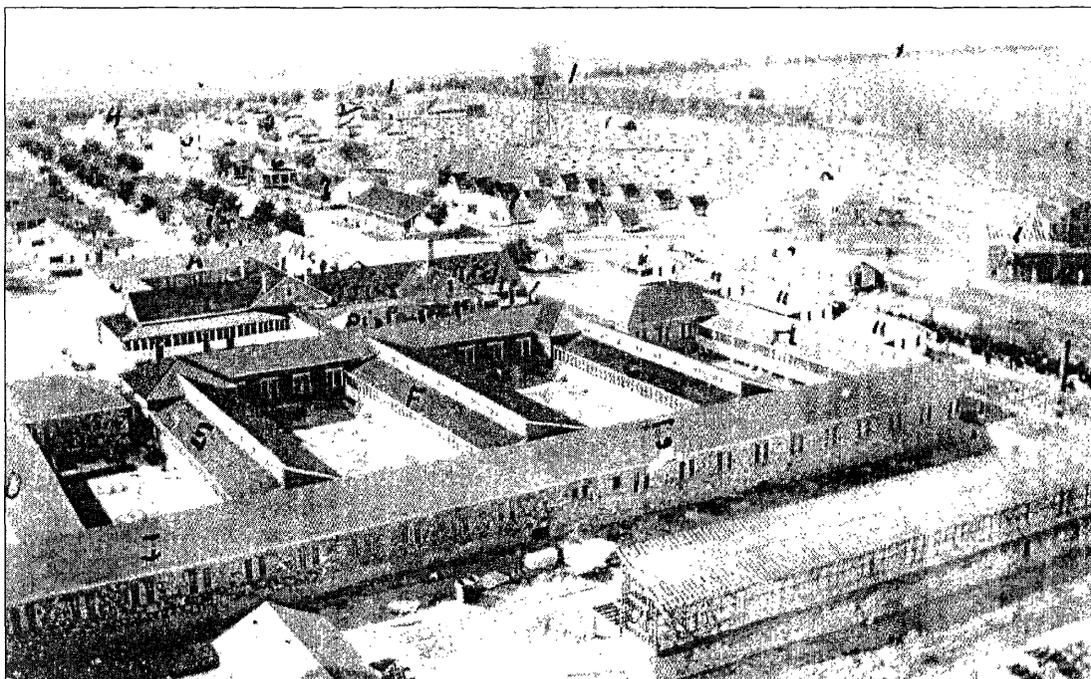
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**Figures 30 & 31.** Fort Lyon in circa 1919-1920 postcard view taken from the power plant looking west (above) and northwest (below). Identified buildings: (1) Road to Gate (2) Officers Infirmary (3) Officers Cottages (patients) (4) Nurses Infirmary- not yet of use (5) Warehouse (6) Mrs. Flemmings (unsure of name)- where we stayed at first (7) Marine Barracks and Cottages (8) New Red Cross House (9) Marine Barracks (10) Red Cross Office Quarters (11) Infirmary Cottages (12) "Where we lived in the cottage (13) Petty Officers Row (14) Nurses Quarters-Where we eat (15) Officers Row (16) West Ward (17) Convalescent Patients Quarters (18) Parade Grounds (19) Arkansas River (20) Horse Barn and Pig Pens (21) Road to West Farm (22) Chief Petty Officers Quarters (23) Quarters for Staff Officers without families (24) Quarters for Staff Officers with families (25) Tennis Courts (26) Civilians Row. Buildings lettered are Infirmary Wards-where all of my sickest bugs are." (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)



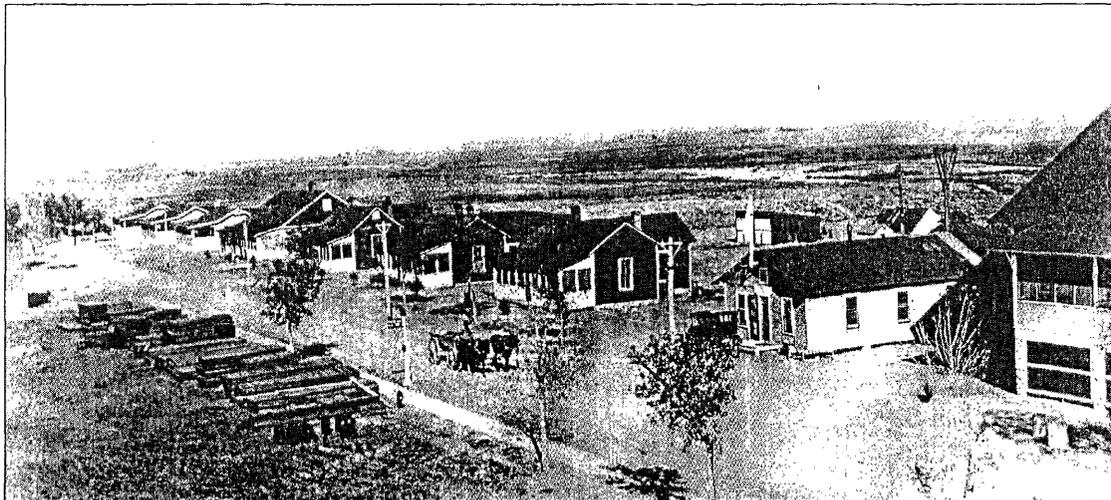
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**Figure 32.** Fort Lyons naval hospital in circa 1919-1920. The Buildings shown are no longer extant. (Source: Western History/ Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)



**Figure 33.** Marine Barracks circa 1919-1920. The buildings shown are no longer extant. (Source: Western History/ Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)

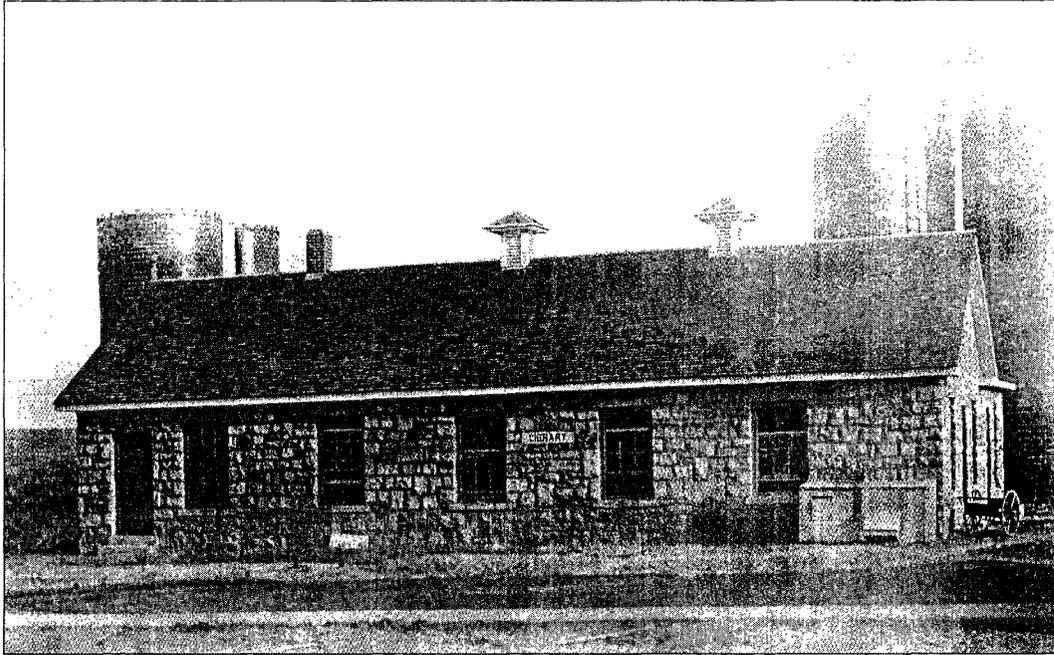


**Figure 34.** Red Cross Building as it appeared circa 1919-1920. The building is no longer extant. (Source: Western History/ Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)

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**Figure 35.** The stone library building stood next to the facility's silos. Officers' Row as it appeared on a snowy day circa 1919-1920. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)



**Figure 36.** "Jungletown" at Fort Lyon in 1919-1920. (Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)

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**Figure 37.** This 1936 bird's eye view to the northeast shows Building No. 4, the first employing the VA's Georgian Revival architectural style. (Photographer: Hazel Quinn. Source: Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library)

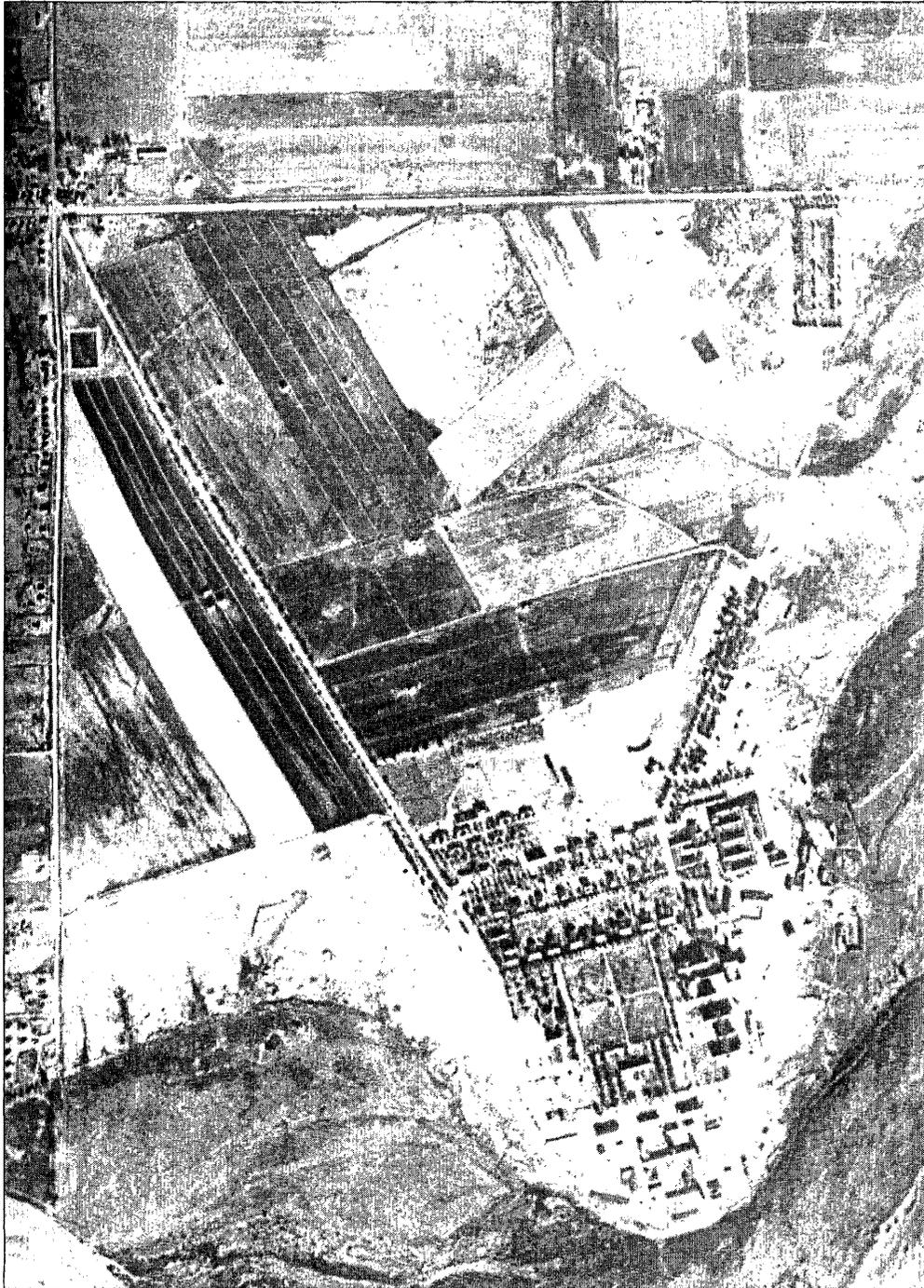
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**Figure 38.** Aerial view of Fort Lyon in 1936. (Source: USDA Soil Conservation Service)

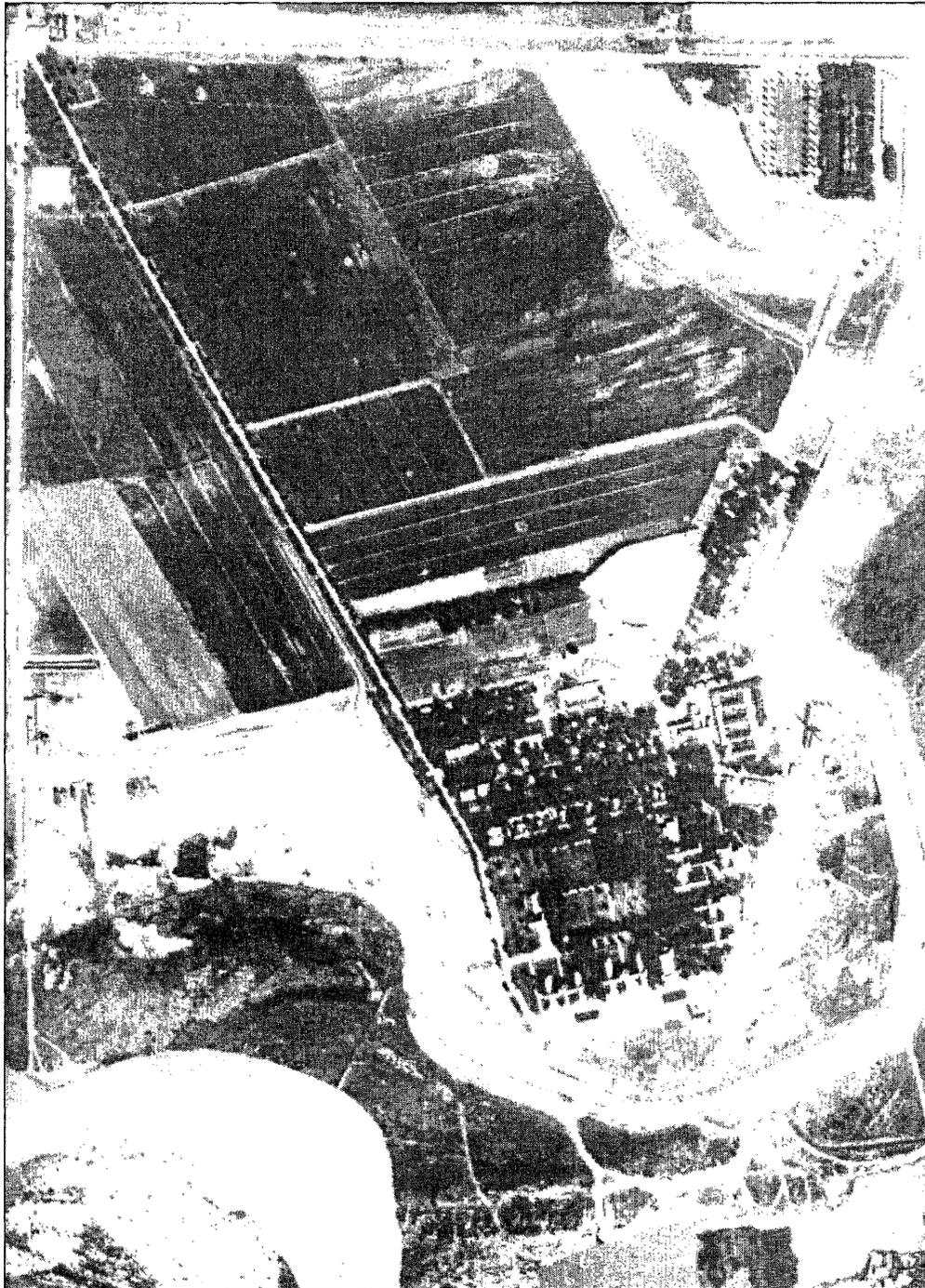
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**Figure 39.** Aerial view of Fort Lyon in 1950. (Source: USDA Soil Conservation Service)

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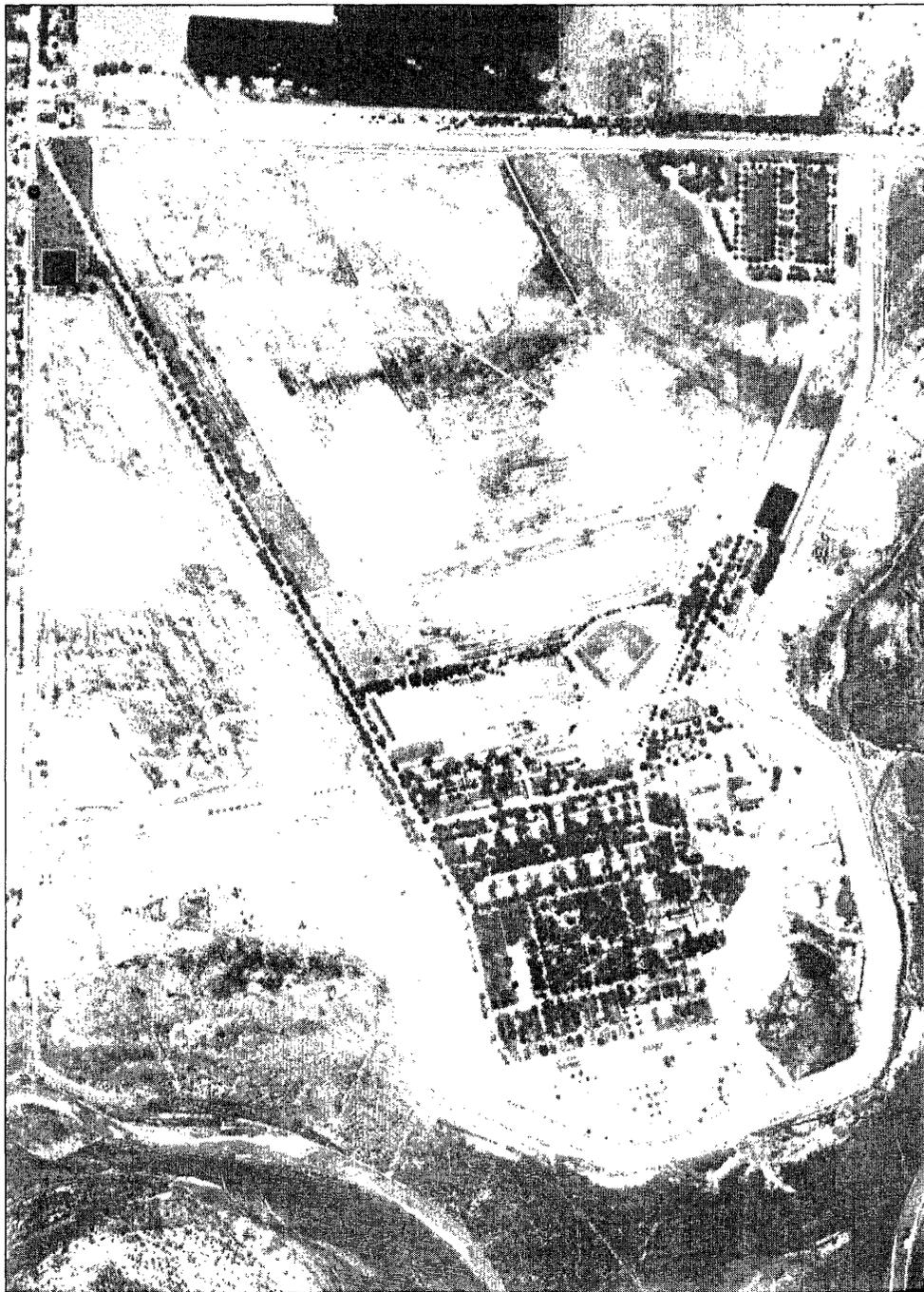
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**Figure 40.** Aerial view of Fort Lyon in 1964. (Source: USDA Soil Conservation Service)

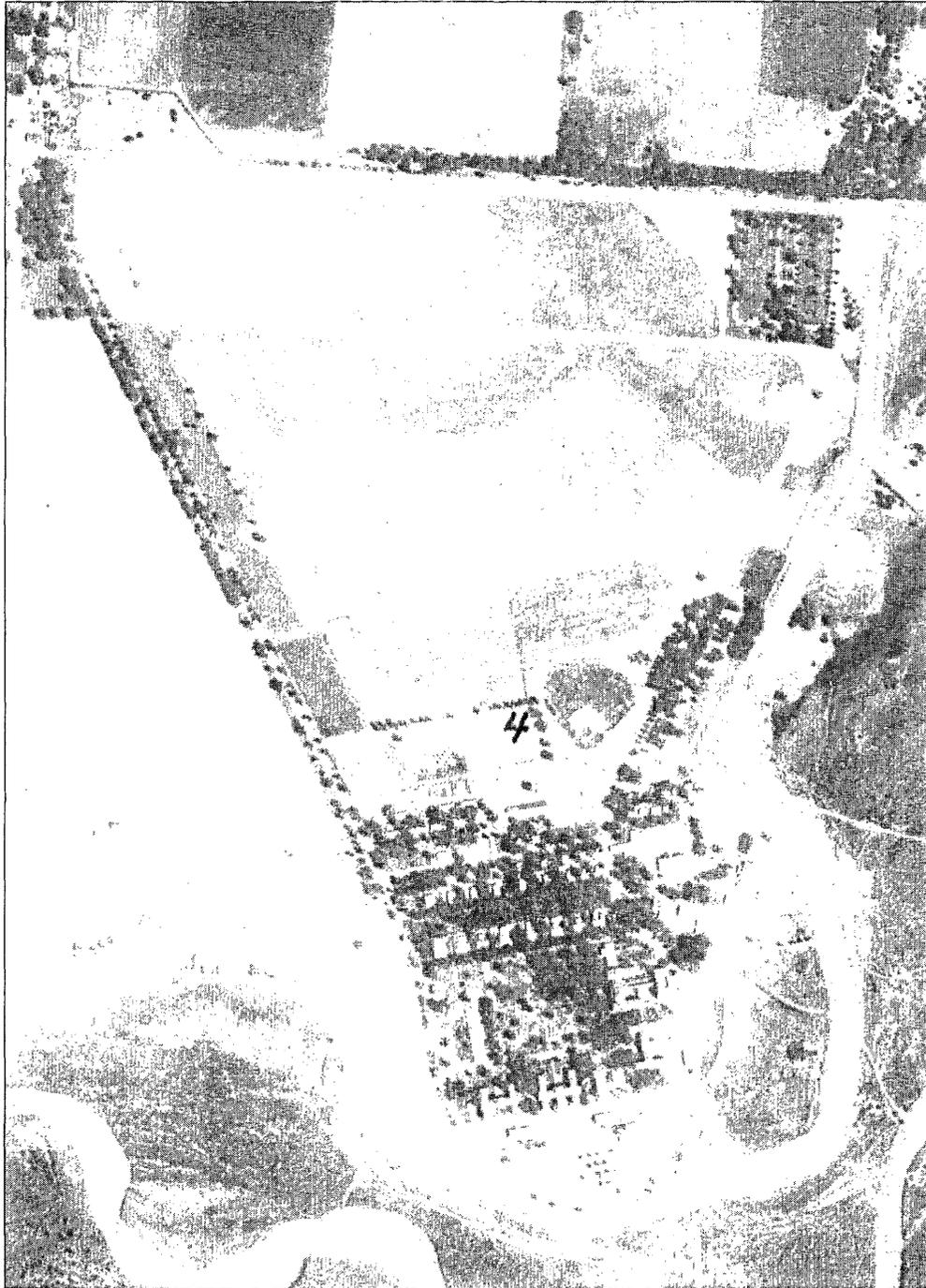
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**Figure 41.** Aerial view of Fort Lyon in 1980. (Source: USDA Soil Conservation Service)

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## PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-226:

Name of Property: Fort Lyon  
 Location: Bent County, Colorado  
 Photographer: Stephen Lingo  
 Date of Photographs: February 2003  
 Location of Negatives: Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
 Colorado Historical Society, Denver  
 Negative numbers shown in brackets ( )

<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>Photographic Information</u>
1		Main Entrance site wall, gate, signs, stone curbing (6-17)
2		Entrance Station (6-18)
3		Stone building east of Entrance Station (6-19)
4		Pumphouse along (11-8); September 2003
5	126	Chapel, (relocated), east side (6-16)
6		Looking north along Gate Road at "E" Street (3-32)
7		Parade ground, shade structure and weight lifting equipment; September 2003 (11-14)
8		Parade ground and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street, view to the north; September 2003 (11-15)
9	511	Flagpole on parade ground; September 2003 (11-13)
10	501	Southwest corner (2-18)
11	501	Northeast corner (2-19)
12	502	Southwest corner (2-20)
13	502	Northeast corner (2-21)
14	503	Southwest corner (2-22)
15	503	Northeast corner (2-23)
16	504	Southwest corner (2-24)
17	504	Northeast corner (2-25)
18	505	Southwest corner (2-26)
19	505	Northeast corner (2-27)
20	505	Interior fireplace; September 2003 (11-19)
21	506	Southwest corner (2-28)
22	506	Northeast corner (2-30)
23	506	Interior built-in cabinet; September 2003 (11-20)
24	506	Interior fireplace; September 2003 (11-22)
25	506	Interior built-in cabinet; September 2003 (11-21)
26	506	Interior staircase; September 2003 (11-23)
27	506	Second-floor dormer; September 2003 (11-24)
28	507	Southwest corner (2-31)
29	507	Northeast corner (2-32)
30	3	North side (1-8)
31	3	Northwest corner (1-7)
32	3	Northwest corner (1-9)
33	3	Southeast corner (2-1)
34	3	Interior, auditorium stage; September 2003 (11-9)
35	3	Interior, auditorium rear; September 2003 (11-11)
36	3	Interior, auditorium decorative grate; September 2003 (11-10)
37	3	Interior, post office in lower level; September 2003 (11-12)

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38	4	West side (1-5)
39	4	Northwest corner (1-4)
40	4	Southwest corner (2-2)
41	4	Southeast corner (2-5)
42	4	East side of southern courtyard (2-6)
43	4	East side of northern courtyard (2-7)
44	4	East side of northern wing (2-8)
45	152	North side (1-6)
46	152	Southeast corner; September 2003 (11-18)
47		Smoking shed
48	5	West side (1-1)
49	5	Southwest corner (1-3)
50	5	West side, north end (1-2)
51	5-6	Connection between Buildings 5 & 6, south side (2-10)
52	5	East side, looking into courtyard (2-13)
53	5	Northeast corner (2-15)
54	6	South side (2-11)
55	6	Northeast corner (2-12)
56	6	Northwest corner (2-14)
57	7	North side (1-16)
58	7	Northeast corner (1-15)
59	7	Northwest corner (1-21)
60	7	Southwest corner (1-22)
61	7	South side (1-23)
62	7	Southeast corner (1-27)
63	8	North side (1-12)
64	8	North side, center (1-13)
65	8	Northwest corner (1-10)
66	8	North side of east wing (1-11)
67	8	Northwest corner (1-14)
68	8	Southwest corner (1-28)
69	8	South side, west end (1-29)
70	8	South side, east end (1-30)
71	401	East side, center (1-18)
72	401	Southeast corner (1-17)
73	401	East side, north end (1-19)
74	401	Southwest corner (1-20)
75	401	Interior stone wall; September 2003 (11-16)
76		Looking west along "C" Street (2-34)
77	508	Entry and view west down "C" Street; September 2003 (10-1)
78	508	Southwest corner (2-33)
79	508	Northeast corner (3-1)
80	508	Northwest corner (2-35)
81	508	North side courtyard (2-36)
82	508	Interior of first floor entry, stone fireplace (6-24)
83	508	Interior at entry hall, stairwell and stone fireplace (6-25)
84	508	Interior at entry hall, stairwell, window (6-26)
85		Looking west along "D" Street (3-3)
86	302	Southeast corner (3-10)
87	302	Northwest corner (3-11)

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88	303	Southeast corner (3-12)
89	303	Northwest corner (3-13)
90	304	Southeast corner (3-14)
91	304	Northwest corner (3-15)
92	305	Southeast corner (3-16)
93	305	Northwest corner (3-17)
94	306	Southeast corner (3-18)
95	306	Northwest corner (3-19)
96	307	Southeast corner (3-20)
97	307	Northwest corner (3-21)
98	308	Southeast corner (3-24)
99	308	Northwest corner (3-25)
100	309	Southeast corner (3-26)
101	309	Northwest corner (3-27)
102	310	Southeast corner (3-28)
103	310	Northwest corner (3-29)
104		Looking west down alley between "D" and "E" Streets (3-30)
105	323	Southwest corner (4-10)
106	324	Southwest corner (4-9)
107	(318)	Southwest corner of remaining porch (3-22)
108	(319)	Southeast corner of remaining porch (3-23)
109		Looking east along "F" Street (3-34)
110	350	Southwest corner (4-4)
111	351	Southwest corner (4-2)
112	352	Southwest corner (3-35)
113	353	Southwest corner (3-33)
114	354	South side (4-5)
115	355	South side (4-3)
116	356	South side (3-36)
117		Looking northeast along Northeast Road (4-20)
118		Looking northeast along Northeast Road from "E" Street (3-9)
119	116	South side (4-36)
120	117	South side (4-34)
121	117	North side (4-35)
122	230	West side (4-17)
123	230	East side (4-18)
124	232	West side (4-19)
125	232	East side (4-21)
126	234	West side (4-22)
127	234	East side (4-23)
128	235	West side (4-24)
129	235	East side (4-25)
130	236	West side (4-26)
131	236	East side (4-27)
132	237	West side (4-28)
133	237	East side (4-29)
134	376	South side (4-31)
135	376	North side (4-32)

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136	247	Southeast corner (3-31)
137	359	Southwest corner (4-7)
138	365	Southwest corner (4-6)
139	363-364	East side (2-16)
140	366	West side (6-13)
141	367	West side (6-12)
142	396-397	Buildings 396 and 397, west side (4-30)
143		Building east of 248, east side (6-14)
144	390	West side (4-8)
145	510	Reservoir at west of Northeast Road; September 2003 (10-4)
146	510	Reservoir at west of Northeast Road; September 2003 (10-6)
147	510	Reservoir at west of Northeast Road; September 2003 (10-7)
148	17	Northeast corner 1-26)
149	17	Northwest corner (1-25)
150	17	Southwest corner (1-24)
151	19	Southwest corner (1-31)
152	19	Northeast corner (1-34)
153	19	East side (1-33)
154	19	Southeast corner (1-32)
155	24	North side (1-35)
156	24	Southwest corner (5-1)
157	24	Northeast corner (5-2)
158	121	South side (2-4)
159	121	Northwest corner (2-9)
160	123	Southwest corner (2-3)
161	201	South side (3-2)
162	201	West side (3-4)
163	201	Northwest corner (3-5)
164	201	North side (3-6)
165	201	Northeast corner (3-7)
166	201	Southeast corner (3-8)
167	37	South side (5-25)
168	37	West side (5-26)
169	37	Northeast corner (5-27)
170	127	Southeast side (5-12)
171	127	North side (5-9)
172	127	Northwest side (5-10)
173	127	Southwest side (5-11)
174	128	Southeast side (5-15)
175	128	Northeast side (5-16)
176	128	Northwest side (5-13)
177	128	Southwest side (5-14)
178	130	Northwest corner (5-19)
179	130	North side (5-18)
180	130	Southwest corner (5-20)
181	131	Northwest corner (5-24)
182	131-147	East side (5-23)
183	147	South side (5-22)
184	147	Looking into courtyard between 147 and 130 (5-21)
185	221	South wing, northwest corner (5-33)

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186	221	West side (5-34)
187	221	South side (5-35)
188	221	Southeast corner (5-36)
189	221	East courtyard/dock area (6-1)
190	221	Northeast corner (6-2)
191	221	North side (6-3)
192	223	Northwest corner (6-6)
193	223	Southeast corner (6-7)
194		Stone site wall north of building 221 in Utility Area (6-4)
195	225	Southeast corner (6-8)
196	225	Southwest corner (6-9)
197	226	Northwest corner (6-5)
198	246	Northeast corner, including shed to north (5-29)
199	246	North side (5-28)
200	246	East side (5-30)
201	246	South side (5-31)
202	389	Southeast corner (5-32)
203		Shed north of 128: Southwest corner (5-17)
204	516	Southeast corner (6-10)
205		Wastewater Treatment Area from southeast (5-6)
206	45	Northwest corner (1-36)
207	45	South side (5-8)
208	43	Southeast side (5-5)
209	45	Northwest corner (5-3)
210		Wastewater Treatment Area from southeast (5-7)
211	41	East side (5-4)
212	145	South side (4-13)
213	379	Southwest side (4-14)
214	379	North side (4-16)
215		Shed north of grandstand, looking at southwest side (4-15)
216		Tennis courts from southwest (4-11)
217		West side of Buildings 520, 521, 522, west side, looking east (4-12)
218	521	Swimming Pool; September 2003 (10-3)
219	142	Dairy barn, (6-21)
220	142	Dairy barn (6-22)
221	143	Bull barn, southwest corner; September 2003 (11-28)
222	143	Bull barn, interior; September 2003 (11-29)
223	144	Feeding barn; September 2003 (6-23)
224	385	Horse barn, southwest corner; September 2003 (11-26)
225	385	Horse barn (6-20)
226	386	Implement shed, southwest corner; September 2003 (11-27)

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The following information pertains to photograph numbers 227-251, except as noted:

Photographer: Dulaney Barclay  
Date of Photographs: April 9-18, 2003  
Location of negatives: Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
Colorado Historical Society, Denver  
Negative numbers shown in brackets ( )

<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>View</u>	<u>Photographic Information</u>
227	W	Overview of alleyway behind Officers Row from east end (9-6)
228	W	Overview of "D" Street from east end (9-7)
229	W	Overview of alleyway behind Petty Officers Row from east end (9-9)
230	W	Overview of "E" Street from east end (9-8)
231	E	Overview of "F" Street from west end (9-15)
232	E	Overview of East "F" Street from west end (9-11)
233	E	Overview of "G" Street from west end (9-17)
234	W	Overview of "West Farm Road" from east end (9-18)
235	NE	Overview of "Northeast Road" from south end (9-10)
236	E	Overview of Ditch #1 from west end (7-28)
237	SE	West side, including ditch; photographer Stephen Lingo; February 2003 (6-11)
238	SE	Pumphouse and metal headgates associated with Ditch #1 (8-4)
239	E	Lover's Lane, row of trees, and ditch; photographer Stephen Lingo; February 2003 (6-15)
240	N/NW	Overview of Ditch #2 from south end (8-5)
241	NW	North end of Ditch #2 at intersection with Ditch #3 (8-16)
242	E/NE	Overview of Ditch #2a from west end (8-6)
243	W	Overview of Ditch #3 from intersection with Ditch #4 (8-13)
244	SE	Ditch #3 from west end with metal headgates in foreground (8-17)
245	SW	West end of Ditch #3 with associated metal headgates and concrete foundation (8-18)
246	SE	Metal headgates on Ditch #3 at intersection with Ditch #4 (8-11)
247	SE	Overview of Ditch #4 from north end (8-10)
248	S	Ditch #5 from intersection with Ditch #3 with metal headgates in foreground (8-19)
249	N	Overview of Ditch #5 from intersection with Ditch #3 (8-20)
250	N	Overview of Ditch #6 from midpoint. Stone pumphouse in background (9-20)
251	SE	Overview of Ditch #6 from midpoint (9-21)

## PROPERTY OWNERS

State of Colorado, Department of Corrections  
2862 South Circle Drive Suite 400  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

National Cemetery Administration  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20420

Richard Blackford (agent for the owners)  
PO Box 264  
Swink, CO 81077

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

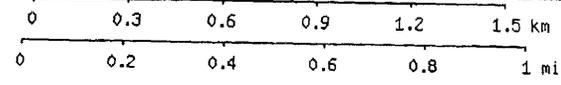
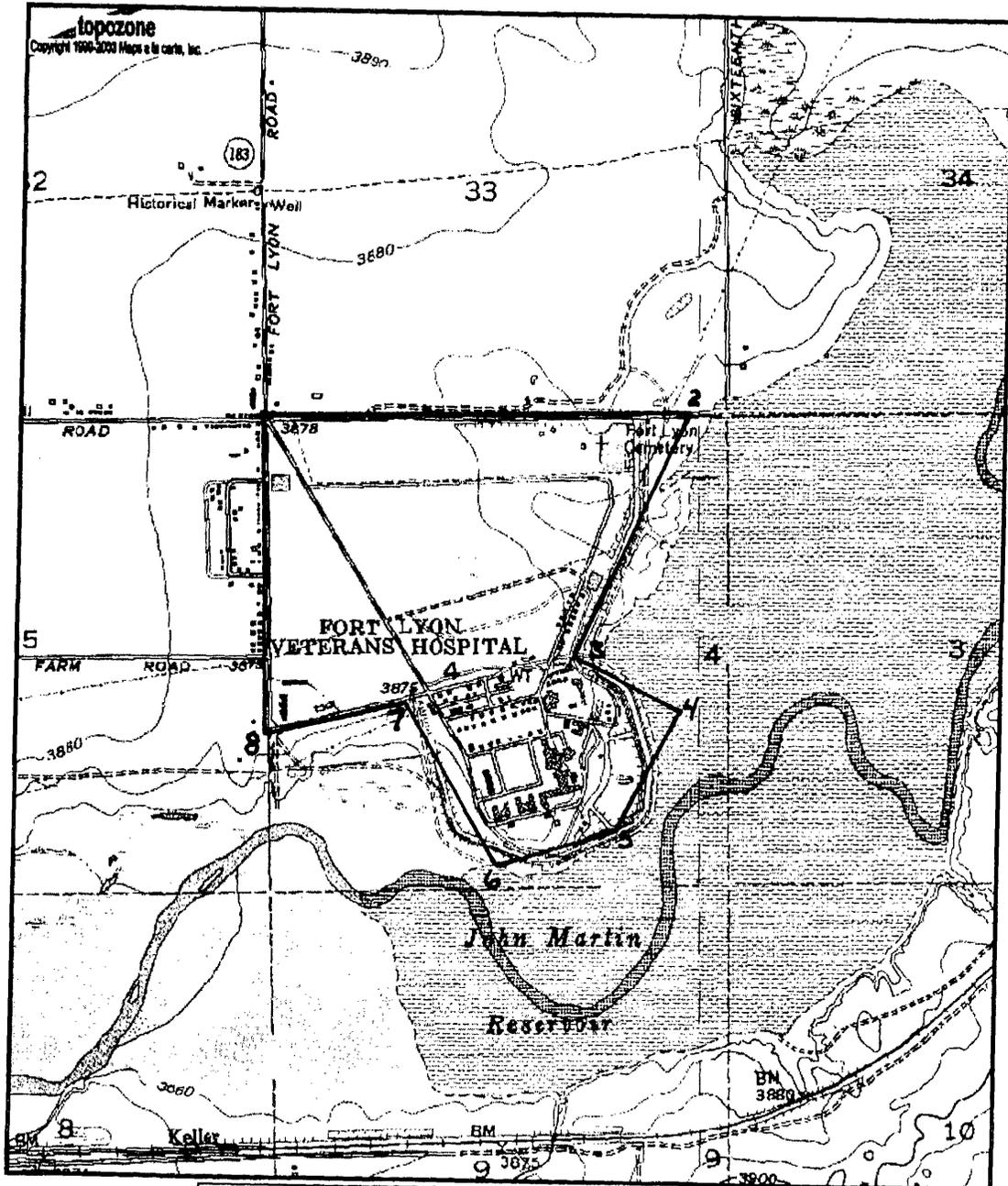
Fort Lyon

Bent County, Colorado

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## USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

Las Animas Quadrangle, Colorado  
7.5 Minute Series



Map center is UTM 13 663796E 4216090N (NAD27)  
**Las Animas** quadrangle  
 Projection is UTM Zone 13 NAD83 Datum

