

For Official Use:

I.D. #: _____

_____ Nomination Received

_____ Determined _____ Eligible _____ Not Eligible

5/1/1999 HPC Approved _____ Denied

Public Hearing Approved _____ Denied

8/2/1999 City Council Approved _____ Denied

CITY OF AURORA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

AURORA LANDMARK PROPERTIES NOMINATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic Name ENTRANCE GATEWAY, FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL

Other Name BUILDINGS 9 & 10

2. Address of Property

Street Address S. HUTTON ST. (NE CORNER OF COLFAX AVE. AND PEORIA ST.)

City AURORA County ADAMS Zip 80045

3. Legal Description of Property

P.M. 6TH Township 3S Range 67W

SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 36

Quad Map FITZSIMONS (1965, REVISED 1994)

Lot(s) N/A Block N/A Addition N/A

UTM Reference: Zone 13 Easting 513190 Northing 4398760

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the nominated property on a continuation sheet)

4. Present Owner of Property

Name UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Address US ARMY GARRISON, FITZSIMONS Phone 303/361-8270

City AURORA State CO Zip 80045

(If the property has multiple ownership, please give the names and addresses of all owners on one or more continuation sheets)

Property: Entrance Gateway, Fitzsimons General Hospital

5. Preparer of Nomination

Name RON SLADEK Date 26 FEBRUARY 1999

Organization TATANKA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATES, INC.

Address P.O. BOX 1909 Phone 970/229-9704

City FORT COLLINS State CO Zip 80522

6. Classification of Property

building(s) district site structure object area

7. Condition of Property

excellent good fair deteriorated ruins

original location moved (date of move _____)

8. Use of Property

Historic MAIN ENTRANCE GATEHOUSES

Current VACANT

9. Original Owner UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, WAR DEPARTMENT

Source of Information DENVER TIMES (22 FEBRUARY 1919)

10. Year of Construction 1919

Source of Information DENVER TIMES (22 FEBRUARY 1919)

11. Architect, Builder, Engineer, Artist or Designer

QUARTERMASTER CORPS / ARMY CONSTRUCTION DIVISION (ARCHITECT)

C.S. LAMBIE COMPANY (CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION)

DENVER BUILDING TRADES UNIONS (BUILDER)

Source of Information DENVER TIMES (22 FEBRUARY 1919)

12. Architectural Style / Engineering Type

STANDARDIZED MILITARY VERNACULAR WITH MISSION REVIVAL STYLE ELEMENTS

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

14. Alterations (Describe and date significant changes made to the original property on one or more continuation sheets)

15. Significance of Property

Nomination Criteria:

- 1 - the property (district) exemplifies or reflects the broad cultural, political, economic, or social history of the nation, state or community
- 2 - the property (district) is identified with a historic person or historic group significant to national, state, or local history
- 3 - the property (district) embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type inherently valuable to the study of a period, style, method of construction, or indigenous materials or craftsmanship
- 4 - the property (district) is representative of the work of a master builder or architect
- 5 - the property (district) contains the possibility of important archaeological discoveries in prehistory or history
- 6 - the district consists of a definite area which, due to its unique location or singular characteristics, represents established and familiar visual features of the neighborhood, community or city

Areas of Significance:

MILITARY

ARCHITECTURE

16. Significance Statement

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

AURORA HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name ENTRANCE GATEWAY, FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL

Section Number 3 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Entrance Gateway, as with most of the buildings and features on the Fitzsimons General Hospital property, has not been separated into a parcel of land distinct from the rest of the base. Consequently, it has no lot number or other identifying legal description to distinguish its boundaries from surrounding buildings or properties. Given this unique situation, it is recommended that the boundaries of the property be established as follows:

The boundaries of the Entrance Gateway property are to follow the north edge of the sidewalk along Colfax Ave. and Peoria St. on the south and west, and lines drawn parallel to and 10' distant from the north and east walls of the gatehouses on the north and east.

This description is suggested to provide reasonable, defensible, and clearly-defined boundaries in all directions. The proposed boundaries include the gatehouses, the wall and sign between the gatehouses, and a small buffer, all of which are important to the setting and overall historic integrity of the property.

AURORA HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name ENTRANCE GATEWAY, FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL

Section Number 13 Page 2

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

The Entrance Gateway at Fitzsimons is located on the northeast corner of Colfax Ave. and Peoria St., at the southwest corner of the mile square post complex. The Gateway is surrounded by the public streets to the south and west, vacant ground to the east and northeast, and by the old entry road and picnic grounds of Generals Park to the north. Covering an area of approximately 30' x 60', the Gateway consists of two gatehouses separated by a tall ornamental concrete block wall connected to the buildings by stuccoed piers. Centered in front of the gateway is a large sign resting on a stone planter, identifying the post as "U.S. Army Garrison Fitzsimons." This original entrance was replaced decades ago by a newer main entrance 1/2 mile to the east along Colfax Ave., along with two other secondary entrances on the east and west ends of the post, and is no longer in use.

The gatehouses (Building 9 on the east and Building 10 on the west) are similar in design, with only minor variations in detailing. Both are one-story rectangular structures with concrete foundations, stuccoed hollow terra cotta tile walls, and gabled roofs with wide eaves and shaped rafters. The roofs are finished with asphalt shingles, and shaped parapets are found on the gable ends. The stuccoed walls are gently battered, with water tables found at the projecting base of each building. The north gable faces contain a single narrow louvered vent flanked by small square unornamented inserts. On each of the south gable faces is a terra cotta plaque featuring an eagle, with the circular emblem of the Medical Corps (the winged caduceus flanked by the letters US) superimposed upon its abdomen. The Medical Corps emblem is missing from the plaque on Building 10, leaving a round hole in the center of the eagle. Building 9 has tall tapered stuccoed chimneys piercing the roof on each of the northeast and southeast corners, while Building 10 has a single tall tapered stuccoed chimney piercing the east roof slope at the center of the structure.

The south elevation of Building 9 has two narrow vertical windows. On the west are two wood doors in wood frames with a single concrete step. The north elevation has a single small window. On the east is a band of three windows, a five-panel wood door with a single concrete step, and a tapered stuccoed buttress on the southeast corner of the building. The south elevation of Building 10 has a wood door in a wood frame with a single concrete step. Above the door is a small wooden hood with shaped brackets and beams. This entry is flanked by two narrow vertical windows. On the west is a band of four windows. The north elevation has a wood door in a wood frame with a single concrete step, and a single window. On the east are two windows. All of the windows have stuccoed slip sills, are slightly recessed with stuccoed surrounds, and are covered with metal security mesh. The doors are all slightly recessed with angled stuccoed surrounds.

AURORA HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name ENTRANCE GATEWAY, FITZSIMONS GENERAL HOSPITAL

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ALTERATIONS TO THE PROPERTY

The Entrance Gateway has undergone moderate alterations since it was constructed in 1919, although the gatehouse buildings are relatively intact. Early photographs of the Gateway show that the buildings are virtually intact, except for a few minor changes. Included among these alterations are the fact that the circular Medical Corps emblems were originally designed with a simple red cross of the same size and placement upon the terra cotta eagles. This alteration appears to have occurred during the World War II era. In addition, the roofs were originally finished with concrete asbestos tiles and are now finished with asphalt shingles, an alteration that appears to date from several decades ago.

The more significant alteration to the Entrance Gateway was the removal of the original wrought iron gates and battered piers between the buildings, all of which were replaced with the tall ornamental concrete block wall currently found in the same location. This concrete block wall and the large sign in front appear to date from the 1960s or 1970s. The interiors of the gatehouses have been remodeled for use as bathrooms.

None of these alterations are incompatible with the original historic design and use of the Entrance Gateway, which has been left intact except for the removal of the wrought iron gates. Alterations to the gatehouses are in fact minor, and do not detract from the overall historic appearance and integrity of the Entrance Gateway.