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## **Architectural Survey of Laramie Armory, Wyoming Army National Guard**

Adam D. Smith, Megan W. Tooker, and Sunny E. Adams

July 2016



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**Cover Photo:** Laramie Armory, looking east toward the right side of the south (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



# **Architectural Survey of Laramie Armory, Wyoming Army National Guard**

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## **Final Report**

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Evaluation"

## Abstract

This document is an architectural survey of the armory that is utilized by the Wyoming Army National Guard and located in Laramie, Wyoming. The Armory was constructed in 1959, and the Field Maintenance Shop was built in 1961. This survey satisfies Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended, and it was used to determine the eligibility of this armory for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). It is the recommendation of this report that the Laramie National Guard Armory is significant under NRHP criteria, and that it retains enough integrity to be individually eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C.

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## Preface

This study was conducted for the Cultural Resources Office, Wyoming Military Department (Wyoming Army National Guard) under Project Number 455557, “Wyoming Armories Historical Context and Building Evaluation.” The technical monitor was Kenneth Humphrey, Cultural Resources Officer.

The work was performed by the Land and Heritage Conservation Branch (CNC) of the Installations Division (CN), U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center – Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (ERDC-CERL). At the time of publication, Dr. Michael Hargrave was Chief, CEERD-CNC; and Ms. Michelle Hanson was Chief, CEERD-CN. The Deputy Director of ERDC-CERL was Dr. Kirankumar Topudurti, and the Director was Dr. Ilker Adiguzel.

COL Bryan S. Green was the Commander of ERDC, and Dr. Jeffery P. Holland was the Director.

## Unit Conversion Factors

Multiply	By	To Obtain
acres	4,046.873	square meters
feet	0.3048	meters
inches	0.0254	meters
miles (U.S. statute)	1,609.347	meters
square feet	0.09290304	square meters
yards	0.9144	meters

## Abbreviations

Term	Meaning
CWA	Civil Works Administration
ERDC-	Engineer Research and Development Center – Construction
CERL	Engineering Research Laboratory
FMS	Field Maintenance Shop
HABS	Historic American Building Survey
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NPS	National Park Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OMS	Organizational Maintenance Shop
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Agency
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WYARNG	Wyoming Army National Guard
WPA	Works Progress Administration
WWI	World War I
WWII	World War II

# **1 Methodology**

## **1.1 Background**

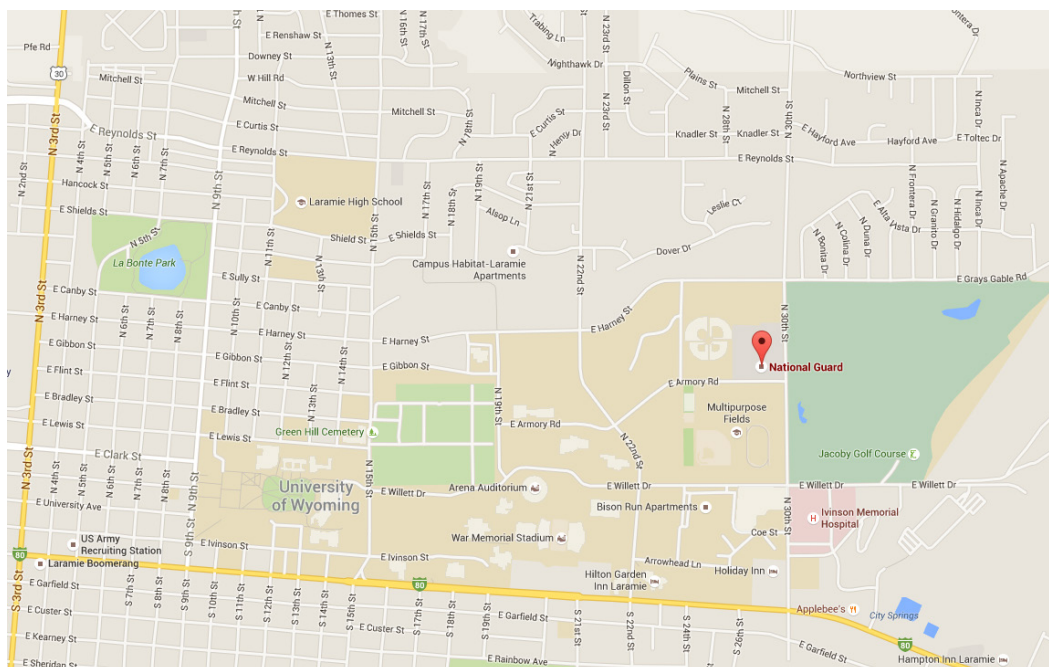
The U.S. Congress codified the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the nation's most effective cultural resources legislation to date, in order to provide guidelines and requirements for preserving tangible elements of our nation's past. This preservation was done primarily through creation of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Contained within this piece of legislation (NHPA Sections 110 and 106) are requirements for federal agencies to address their cultural resources, defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object. Section 110 requires federal agencies to inventory and evaluate their cultural resources. Section 106 requires the determination of effect of federal undertakings on properties deemed eligible or potentially eligible for the NRHP.

## **1.2 Objective**

The objective of this effort was to: research the history, inventory, and assess the Wyoming Army National Guard (WYARNG) armory located at 2901 East Armory Road, Laramie, Wyoming (Figure 1), which was constructed in 1959, and its Organizational Maintenance Shop (OMS), constructed in 1961. (OMSs across the WYARNG were renamed Field Maintenance Shops [FMSs] at an unknown date.) The armory was individually surveyed for the eligibility to the NRHP. This survey satisfies Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended, and it was used to determine the eligibility of the Laramie Armory for inclusion on the NRHP. This report includes a recommendation for the armory's eligibility to the NRHP.

An analysis of the armory and the FMS was performed, including their basic history and an assessment of their current conditions. For a property to qualify for the NRHP, it must meet at least one of the NRHP's Criteria for Evaluation, must be significantly associated with an important historic context, and must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance.

Figure 1. Location of the Laramie WYARNG armory in 2015 (www.googlemaps.com).



This final report includes an historic context, evaluation of the armory (provided on an individual form within this report), and recommendation for eligibility to the NRHP.

### 1.3 Researchers

This project was conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineering Research Development Center, Construction and Engineering Research Laboratory (ERDC-CERL), based in Champaign, IL. The research team included Adam D. Smith, Master of Architecture, as project manager with 18 years of experience in military architectural history; Megan W. Tooker, Master of Landscape Architecture, as historian with 18 years of experience in military historic landscapes and contexts; and Sunny E. Adams, Master of Architecture, as architectural historian with 13 years of experience.

### 1.4 Site visits

#### 1.4.1 Wyoming

ERDC-CERL personnel made one trip to the state of Wyoming to inventory the Laramie armory from 19–24 October 2015. During that week, members of the team evaluated the armory for its historic integrity and architectural integrity.



### 1.4.2 Archival repositories

The landscape architect conducted archival research to develop an appropriate historic context for the WYARNG armories and support buildings, to recommend eligibility to the NRHP. The following sources were examined:

- NRHP listings and nomination forms (online at <https://www.nps.gov/Nr/publications/index.htm>);
- Historic drawings, maps, and photographs provided by the cultural resources office, WYARNG, Cheyenne, Wyoming;
- Wyoming State Archives;
- Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum, Casper, Wyoming;
- Wyoming National Guard Museum in Cheyenne, Wyoming; and
- National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), College Park, Maryland (NARA 111-SC Box 836).

The Cultural Resources Office also provided the team with a copy of a previous historic buildings field inventory and evaluation report as well as a cultural properties form, both done for the WYARNG (University of Wyoming American Studies Program 2005; 2006).

### 1.4.3 Analysis and evaluation

After initial research was completed, the team analyzed the gathered information. Archival information and field information were integrated throughout the course of the project. Using archival sources, the research team extracted relevant historical information. The material was then integrated to tell the story in both text and images. The information available was contained in text documents, photographs, and historic maps.

Using information from the historic context, the overarching integrity, as defined by the NRHP, was evaluated. A cultural resource can retain or lose its historic integrity, meaning that it either does or does not convey its historic significance. From this evaluation process, a recommendation of eligibility to the NRHP was made. The evaluation followed guidelines in the National Register Bulletin #15, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (National Park Service [NPS] 1997a); National Register Bulletin #16, *How to Complete the National Register*

*Registration Form* (NPS 1997b); the National Register Bulletin, *How to Prepare National Historic Landmark Nominations* (NPS 1999); and *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (Weeks and Grimmer 1995).

## 2 Historic Context

This section is a brief synopsis of the WYARNG, to place the architectural discussion of the armories. For more in-depth historic context, please see *Military Sites in Wyoming 1790-1920: Historic Context* (Miller 2012) and *Wyoming Military Historic Context, 1920-1989* (TolTest Inc. and Tec Inc. 2009).

### 2.1 Establishment of the National Guard

The oldest among the U.S. military services, the National Guard unofficially began when early Colonial militias organized for local protection. Over the years, those early units received more training and became sufficiently proficient to have played significant roles in the Revolutionary War (Super, Miller, and Hylton 2000, 1). The militias remained after the new nation's independence was achieved, and they were called on to provide supplementary force when needed for national defense. State militia troops were used in large numbers for the Mexican-American War, the Civil War, and the Spanish-American War (Super, Miller, and Hylton 2000, 1).

State and federal legislation during these years gave the militias a more organized and nationally supported framework, and by the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, "National Guard" became their official title. Considered to constitute a federal reserve force, the National Guard is under orders from the respective state governors during peacetime, but it is under orders from the U.S. president when called up for national service (Super, Miller, and Hylton 2000, 2).

The all-volunteer Army and Air Force National Guard units are located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and in several U.S. territories. Although equipped and trained to the same level as active duty personnel, National Guard units have both state and federal missions. In addition to responding to federal defense requirements, National Guard troops often serve as first responders during local incidents or emergencies (Super, Miller, and Hylton 2000, 2).

Militia units usually had no central building for training or equipment storage. The idea for armories to fulfill these purposes arose in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in piecemeal fashion. The need for a large open space in which to

practice marching and close-order drill in bad weather could be resolved by renting a floor in a large commercial building in the largest cities. Ammunition manufacture and storage facilities (arsenals) were available in a few states, but often lacked the necessary open space (Super, Miller, and Hylton 2000, 2).

Incidents of civil unrest, such as the Civil War draft riots in New York City, and post-Civil War labor unrest sparked the construction of dedicated buildings for state militias. These buildings tended to be located in larger urban areas and were constructed to appear as fortified buildings, in a style that became known as “castellated gothic” (Super, Miller, and Hylton 2000, 3) The armories contained administrative and storage areas, and a large drill area. The drill area was used for training and also for social functions. These social functions were either organized for the troops in training, or the large area was rented by community groups for social events, which is a pattern of use that continues today (Super, Miller, and Hylton 2000, 3). More utilitarian structures were built during the Great Depression with civil works project funds, and these new armories appeared largely in the south and southwestern part of the the country. After World War II (WWII), smaller utilitarian armories were constructed across the country in smaller towns and often still serve as both military and community centers (Super, Miller, and Hylton 2000, 5).

## **2.2 Early National Guard in Wyoming**

In 1870, Wyoming Territorial Governor John A. Campbell authorized division of the territory into three military districts. A year later, Wyoming’s Territorial Assembly passed a law, effective Dec. 31, 1871, giving legal sanction to the formation of volunteer militia companies of not less than 40 men. A number of units, including “Cheyenne Rangers,” the 1st Regiment, “Wyoming Home Guard,” and the “Wyoming Rangers,” organized over concern about possible conflicts with American Indian tribes, but those units did not last long (Wyoming National Guard 2006).

The first federally recognized WYARNG unit was the “Laramie Grays,” organized in 1888. The “Grays,” Company A, 1st Wyoming Regiment, was followed the same year by Company B, known as the “Cheyenne Guards.” When Wyoming became a state in 1890, constitutional provisions allowed for the formation of units in Buffalo, Evanston, Douglas, Green River, Rock Springs, Rawlins, and Sheridan, Wyoming (TolTest Inc. and Tec Inc. 2009).

## **2.3 Spanish American War**

The WYARNG was first federally mobilized during the Spanish–American War in 1898. The 1st Regiment also served as federalized volunteers in the Philippine Islands. After being mustered out of federal service, the regiment reorganized as the 2nd Regiment Infantry, Wyoming National Guard. In 1905, the designation again changed to 3rd Regiment Infantry, Wyoming National Guard.

## **2.4 World War I**

In 1917, the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment entered federal service for World War I (WWI). Three units—Headquarters Company, Supply Company, and 1st Battalion— went with other troops to form the 148th Field Artillery; the 2nd and 3rd Battalions became the 116th Ammunition Train of the 41st Division (TolTest Inc. and Tec Inc. 2009, 149). The machine gun company became part of the 146th Machine Gun Battalion, 41st Infantry Division. All of these units served overseas. The Army disbanded these units after the war.

## **2.5 Interwar era**

The United States reorganized the National Guard under provisions of the Militia Act of 1903 and the National Defense Acts of June 16, 1916, and June 4, 1920. These acts essentially pulled the National Guard of each of the states under a coordinated national defense policy, rather than the previous, disparate state policies. This change gave the National Guard a more definite role in national defense, but it also shifted most of the financial burden of recruiting, training, equipping, and administering the Guard units from the states to the federal government. The Army defined a consistent scheme of training for the National Guard and assigned Regular Army officers to lead this training. However, the National Guard units remained under control of the respective states.

The federal government and the Wyoming state government split the expenses of maintaining the WYARNG. The federal government paid salaries or wages, and provided arms and equipment. The state government paid for rent, light, and heat of the armories; physical examinations for guardsmen; and other maintenance expenses. In 1924, the federal government provided approximately \$185,000 to Wyoming, and the state appropriated \$50,000 (TolTest Inc. and Tec Inc. 2009, 136).



The National Defense Act of 1920 allotted 800 National Guardsmen for each senator or representative in Congress, which ostensibly gave Wyoming allocation for 2,400 officers and enlisted men. While Wyoming had a tradition of strong participation in the National Guard, they had trouble meeting these allocation numbers after WWI.

By 1924 Wyoming had only two state-owned National Guard armories, which were stone and brick structures at Newcastle (Figure 2) and Lander. In March 1923, the Adjutant General signed a contract for construction of three more armories, but the succeeding Adjutant General renegotiated the contract so that only two armories were constructed in 1924, at Wheatland and Lovell.

Figure 2. Newcastle Armory, 1916 (Wyoming State Archives).



While these two armories were “of the portable type,” other National Guard units occupied rented halls that the Adjutant General described as unattractive, unsuitable for drill, and unfit for adequate storage of federal property. Wyoming’s Adjutant General, who commanded the National Guard, constantly lobbied the legislature during the 1920s and early 1930s to provide funding for armory construction.

The Wyoming legislature chose where to build armories and the level of funding for such construction. The size of the host town and the political power of its legislators often influenced the funding for armories, and this resulted in substantial inequalities in the armories. The legislature appropriated only \$7,500 for construction of an armory in Riverton, and the officers and enlisted men in Riverton had to raise an additional \$1,800

of their own money in order to complete the structure adequately for occupation in 1926. In contrast, the legislature funded construction of an armory in Sheridan in 1927 at a cost of \$46,255 and an armory in Casper in 1930 at a cost to the state of \$44,188.

WWI clearly heralded mechanized warfare, but the Wyoming National Guard remained steadfast in its attachment to its horses. In spite of that attachment, the federal government provided the 115th Cavalry with ten trucks, two five-ton tractors, six Dodge touring cars, four motorcycles, and a GMC motor ambulance by 1926 (TolTest Inc. and Ted Inc. 2009, 142). The federal government provided additional motorized vehicles in succeeding years, but it was not until 1937 that the Wyoming Guard cavalry finally fully traded its horses for motorcycles, cars, and trucks. The U.S. National Guard officially abandoned horse cavalry in 1940 under the direction of the War Department as American involvement in WWII approached. In 1942, the Wyoming National Guard gave up its last horses from units at Lovell, Sheridan, and Riverton-Lander.

## **2.6 World War II**

The nature of the Wyoming National Guard's federal service in WWII was substantially different from what it was during WWI. While one unit went to Japan, most of Wyoming's National Guard spent the duration of the war on U.S. soil. The 115th Cavalry Regiment—which then numbered 65 officers, 1 warrant officer, and 1,020 enlisted men—received coastal defense duties in the Pacific Northwest under the Western Defense Command from the declaration of war until 1944, when the unit moved to duty in Southern California. Despite one of the intentions of the 1933 amendments to the National Defense Act of 1916, many members of the Wyoming National Guard transferred to other regiments and divisions, as needed. There were twelve units spread around the state of Wyoming.

## **2.7 Cold War**

The War Department initiated studies in early 1945 regarding post-war policies for the National Guard and the Organized Reserves. On October 13, 1945, the Secretary of War approved policies and procedures covering reactivation of the National Guard. The plan included federal financial support for construction and maintenance of armories and other facilities for the National Guard (TolTest Inc. and Tec Inc. 2009, 164).

Most of the armories and other facilities of the Wyoming National Guard were outdated or otherwise inadequate for the large, mechanized ground units and the new air units that came after WWII. By 1948, the National Guard had converted cavalry horse stables to mechanized storage and shop facilities at Torrington, Douglas, Casper, Lander, and Laramie, and the Guard was conducting similar conversions at Lovell, Sheridan, and Newcastle, all at state expense. However, the federal government generally contributed 75% and the state 25% toward the cost of construction for new armories.

The State of Wyoming tried desperately to provide suitable facilities for the new National Guard units, in fear the National Guard Bureau would take away those units. State construction projects initiated in 1947 at Worland and Cody provided temporary armory and storage facilities, and Wyoming's 29<sup>th</sup> Legislature provided funding for completion of armories at Newcastle, Lovell, Riverton, Lander, and Laramie (TolTest Inc. and Tec Inc. 2009, 165). Due to rising prices for materials and labor, the state's funding was insufficient for any of those projects, and the Wyoming Adjutant General decided to forego all construction. The state continued to construct temporary buildings, include those for Evanston and Cody.

The Wyoming National Guard again entered active federal duty in 1950 for service during the Korean War Conflict. Since the United States had vastly decreased its standing Army after WWII, many National Guard units were called up to active federal duty at this time, including the 300th Armored Field Artillery and 141st Tank Battalions of the Wyoming Guard (although the 141st Tank Battalion did not deploy overseas).

The Army Guard began replacing its armories in 1956 to accommodate the modern needs of the units after experiencing the Korean War Conflict. The Wyoming Guard replaced nearly every armory in the state by the end of the Cold War era in 1989.

## **2.8 Pole Mountain Military Reserve**

Pole Mountain was established in 1879 as a wood and timber reserve for Fort Sanders in Laramie and Fort D. A. Russell in Cheyenne (Miller 2012, 145). Located six miles east of Laramie, Pole Mountain was used as a target and maneuver area for military training between 1879 and 1961. It was jointly administered by the U.S. Forest Service and the War Department until 1910, and since then by just the War Department

(TolTest Inc. and Tec Inc. 2009, 140). In 1924, the Wyoming National Guard established a temporary camp at Pole Mountain. The National Guard held encampments at Pole Mountain annually until 1937, and then moved those encampments to Camp Guernsey (Figure 3).

**Figure 3. The 115<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment of Wyoming National Guard at Pole Mountain, 1926 (Wyoming State Archives).**



## **2.9 Camp Guernsey**

In the summer of 1938, the National Guard moved its training operations from Pole Mountain to a site near the town of Guernsey in southeast Wyoming and called it Camp Guernsey. The National Guard Bureau provided funding to purchase the site as a permanent training facility in 1939. The Works Progress Administration (WPA), a New Deal public works agency, also provided additional funds for the construction and maintenance of the camp. Included in the acquisition were a garrison area and a firing range located south of the Platte River.

Construction at the camp began after the summer training session in 1939. The work commenced using \$126,494 from WPA funding under the War Department's National Defense Project initiative (TolTest Inc. and Tec Inc. 2009, 151). The WPA grant specified building projects such as mess halls, latrines, warehouses, various infrastructures, and the creation of a quarry for the source of building materials. The National Guard Bureau and the State of Wyoming undertook the project as a joint effort. The collaboration resulted in the state providing the labor force and the National Guard Bureau providing the plans and supervision for the construction (Humstone 2005, 19).

As part of the WPA's program to provide work for the unemployed, 85 workers began building the camp. To keep material costs to a minimum, the WPA obtained materials locally as much as possible. In most cases, the WPA made use of a local quarry's buff-colored sandstone as the primary building material. By 1940, the complex included 13 mess halls, warehouses, latrines, and a camp infirmary. The pace of construction at Camp Guernsey increased in 1940 under the threat of WWII.

The rush to build more buildings in time for the summer training activities in 1941 prompted the National Guard Bureau to alter design plans to expedite the construction. One significant change was that the stone masonry veneer used for the building changed from random-laid, cut ashlar masonry to uncut random rubble masonry. This change decreased construction time by nearly half. As a result, the difference in the first phase of building at Camp Guernsey is visible by the different veneer. The cantonment included 21 buildings built under the first phase of the WPA grant and eight more built under a second phase. Additionally, the facility included more than 169 concrete tent floors for use by troops, officers, and staff. The second phase of construction included the addition of sidewalks, streets, fences and other landscaping, as well as sewers and other infrastructure (Humstone 2005, 19).

As in most U.S. military installations built after the 1930s, buildings at Camp Guernsey used standardized designs for maximum efficiency in both cost and construction. Architects based the Camp Guernsey buildings on the Quartermaster General's standardized plans for hundreds of building types developed under the Quartermaster Corps. Building designs were generally utilitarian in style and adaptable for regional styles and available building materials (Humstone 2005, 19).

By 1960, the main camp area included 48 buildings and 300 concrete tent pads. The buildings included an officer's club, a noncommissioned officer's club, an enlisted men's day room and lounge, and a post exchange. The outlying artillery range covered about 25,000 acres, consisting of an area of about 5,000 acres south of the camp and the main artillery range of 20,000 acres about 14 miles north of the camp. The camp could accommodate 2,000 trainees at a time (Figure 4) (Humstone 2005, 173).



Figure 4. Photograph of Camp Guernsey, date unknown (Wyoming State Archives).



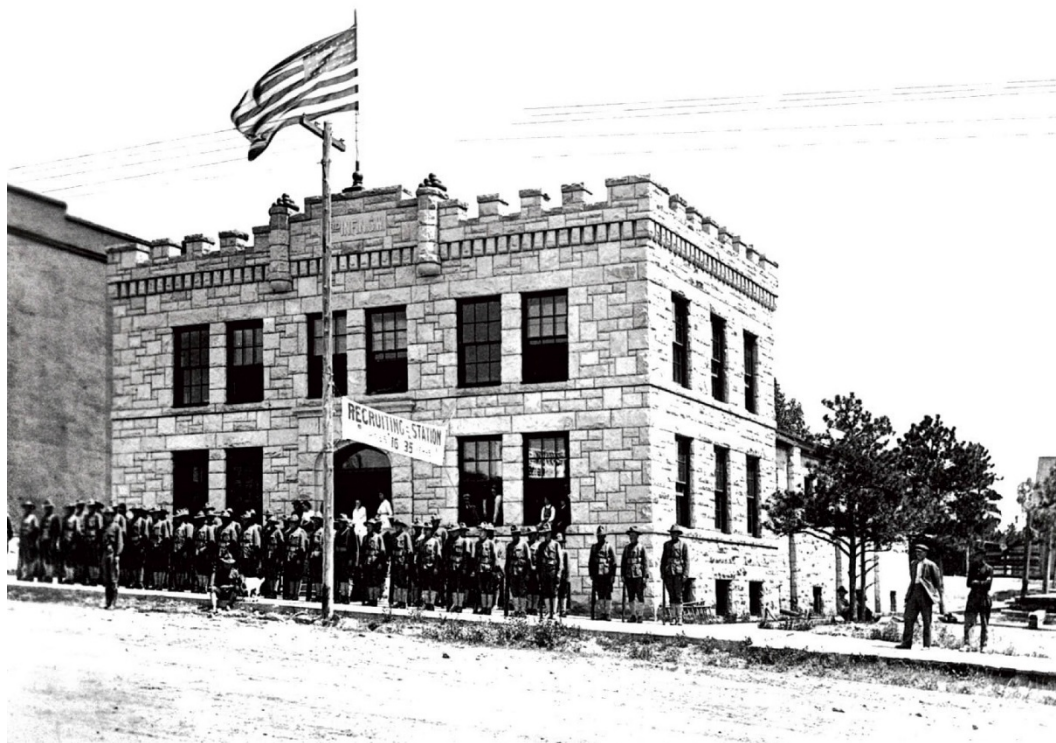
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### 3 Architectural History of Select Wyoming National Guard Properties

#### 3.1 1910–1940-era architecture

The first armory in Wyoming was completed in July 1914 in Newcastle (Figure 5). The first unit to occupy the armory was Company A of the 3rd Infantry Regiment of the WYARNG. Sources say it was the first armory built with state funds, and the state appropriated \$15,000. It stood until 1962, when a new armory was built and the old stone building was dismantled and hauled away (Weston County 1988, 82). The Newcastle Armory was designed in the Castellated style typical of National Guard armories constructed across the country from 1900 until WWII.

Figure 5. Company A of the 3rd Infantry in front of Newcastle Armory, 1916 (Wyoming State Archives).



A National Guard cavalry barn was constructed in Newcastle between 1933 and 1936. It was constructed for Company A, 115th Cavalry of the WYARNG under state authorization but using federal Civil Works

Administration (CWA) and WPA funding. The estimated cost was \$4,000. The building was constructed of hand-hewn sandstone blocks quarried from nearby Salt Creek. This building originally had three main areas: the tack room, the stables, and the sergeant's quarters (Cregger and Dumbrill 1994). A riding hall, designed to be 75' x 190' and made of sandstone, was started but never finished due to WWII. The last-known National Guard stable in Wyoming, the building today houses the Anna Miller Museum, a period history museum. The building was added to the NRHP in 1994 (Cregger and Dumbrill 1994).

Figure 6. National Guard cavalry barn in Newcastle, Wyoming, date unknown (Wyoming State Archives, State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO] Collection).



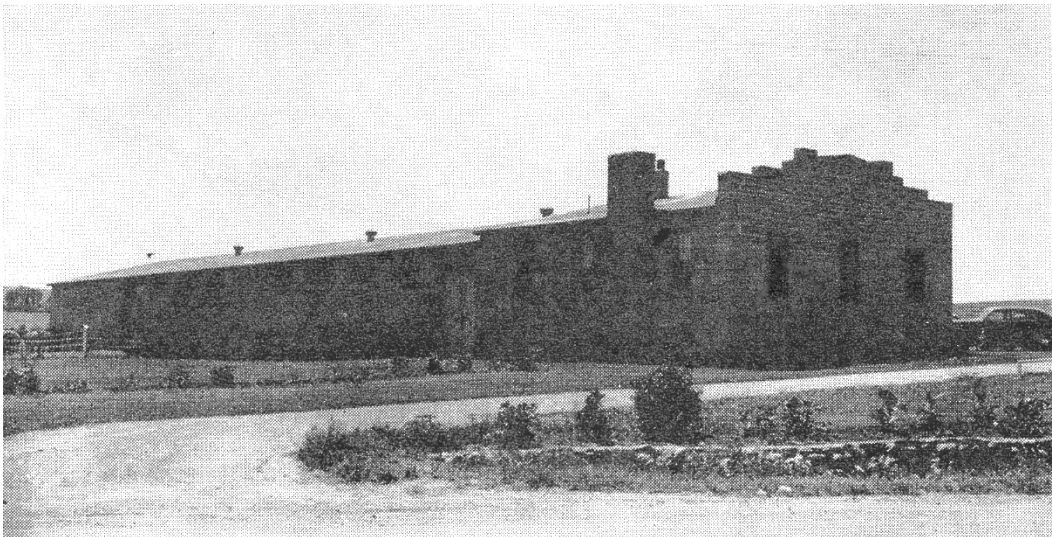
In 1914, an appropriation was made for the Lander Armory. Completed in 1915, it was the second state-owned armory in Wyoming (Figure 7). The Lander Armory utilized more Romanesque elements in its design than the Castellated style. At that time, all other drill halls for the WYARNG were being leased (State of Wyoming 1924). The stone cavalry stables in Lander were built in 1933 and 1934 with WPA funds for a cost of \$3,200 (Figure 8). The building contained a saddle room, a forage room, a wagon shed, and 32 stalls for mules or horses (State of Wyoming 1934). The plan of this stable was also used for the Newcastle stable, as discussed above (Figure 6).



Figure 7. Lander Armory, date unknown (Wyoming State Archives, SHPO Collection).

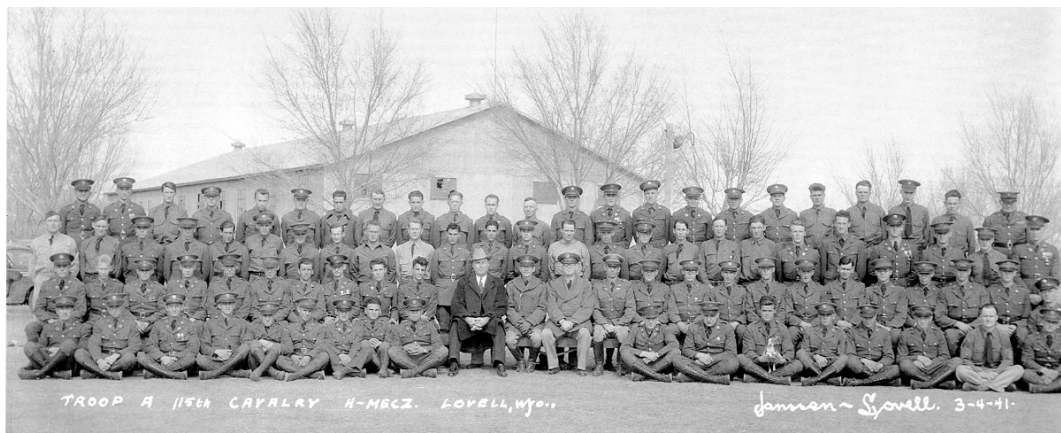


Figure 8. Lander stables, built in 1930s with WPA funds (Wyoming National Guard Museum).



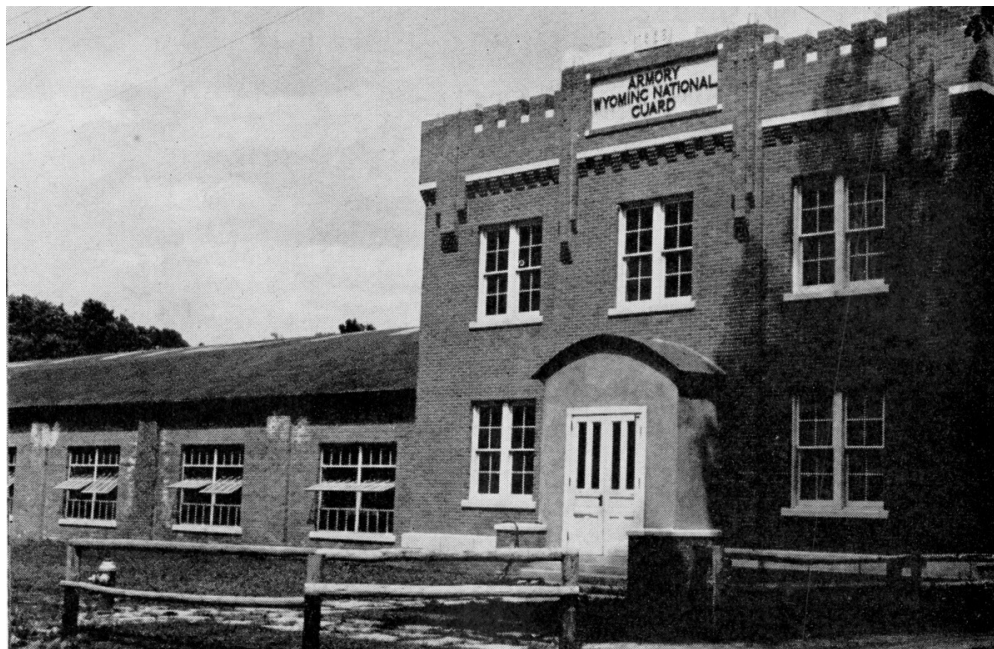
In 1923, the Adjutant General's office had a contract with the Omaha Steel Company to construct armories in Wheatland and Lovell (Figure 9). These armories appear to have been portable-type structures that were 60 feet wide and 140 feet long and constructed of steel and sheet iron (State of Wyoming 1926). The Riverton Armory, a wood frame building, was completed sometime in 1925. The contract for construction was \$7,500 and due to cost overruns, the officers and soldiers of the unit assigned there donated \$1,500 to have the armory completed (State of Wyoming 1926). The building contained stables and a dismounted hall, but no riding hall.

Figure 9. Troop A of 115<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment in front of Lovell Armory, 1941 (Wyoming National Guard Museum).



A large brick armory with stables and riding hall was erected in 1927 in Sheridan, at a cost of \$46,255.68 (Figure 10) (State of Wyoming 1932). Castellated elements were once again utilized in its design.

Figure 10. Sheridan Armory, circa 1939 (Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum).



The Lusk Armory was built in 1927 at a cost of \$15,000 (Figure 11). Built as a one-unit armory, it was designed utilizing “castellated” elements, and was constructed of brick. It was suitable for a dismounted unit only (State of Wyoming 1932). The Lusk Armory currently houses the Stagecoach Museum.

Figure 11. Lusk Armory, now the Stagecoach Museum, date unknown (Wyoming State Archives).



In spring 1930, the Casper Armory (built for \$44,183) and warehouse (built for \$7,788) were dedicated (State of Wyoming 1930). Built for the 115th Cavalry Regiment, the Casper Cavalry Training Armory was constructed by the WPA (Figure 12). The large indoor field provided room for training horses and men; the field even hosted the occasional polo match prior to WWII. The first level of the building housed the drill area, horse stalls, blacksmith shop, wagon shop, and equipment room. The second floor contained the hayloft, a viewing area, and a ballroom with hardwood floors. In 1987, the structure was razed to improve traffic flow around Casper College.<sup>1</sup> Designed by architect Leon C. Goodrich, it was called the “the last round horse cavalry barn west of Mississippi” (Garbutt and Morrison 1990, 50) (Figure 13).

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<sup>1</sup> A memorial with model of the building by the Natrona County Historic Society is located in Armory Park on the Casper College Campus.



Figure 12. Casper Armory, circa 1939 (Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum).

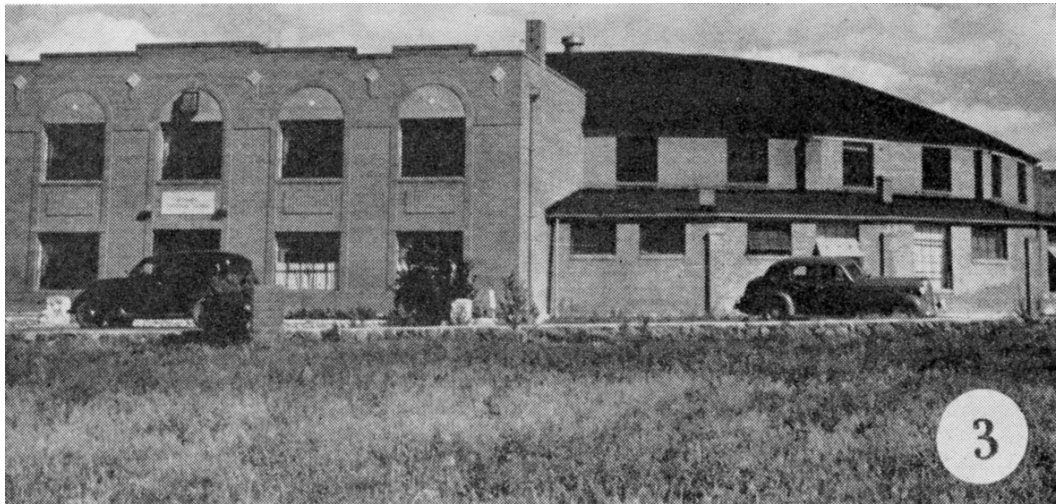


Figure 13. Interior of Casper Armory, circa 1960s (Wyoming State Archives).



The Douglas Armory was erected in 1931 at a cost of \$26,416.78. It was a brick and lumber building (State of Wyoming 1932). The riding hall was never completed. The Torrington Armory was erected in 1932 at a cost slightly higher than the Douglas Armory and was of the same design (Figure 14 and Figure 15). It was a brick and lumber building, and the riding hall was not completed (State of Wyoming 1932). The Torrington Armory at one time was headquarters for the G-1 section of the 24th Cavalry Division and Headquarters for the 24th Cavalry Recon Squadron



and therefore, it had fancier brickwork on the front of the armory and fancier woodwork inside the offices.<sup>2</sup> The Torrington Armory was demolished in the 1990s after a Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) was completed on the building. A new armory, the C.R. Gomez Armory, was built on the site in 1998. Also during the early 1930s, an armory was built at Green River (Figure 16).

Figure 14. Torrington Armory, circa 1939 (Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum).



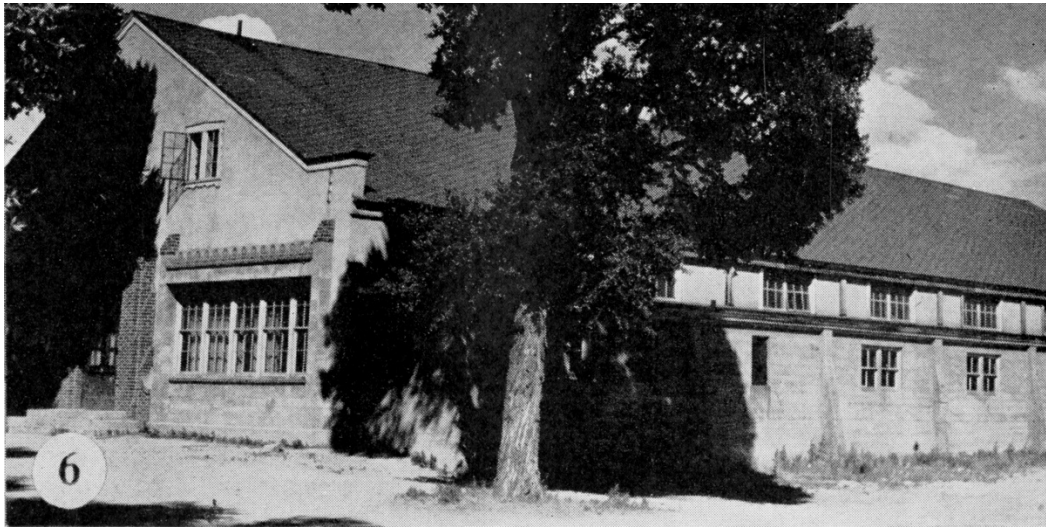
Figure 15. Torrington Armory, 1995 (Library of Congress, photo 373788p).



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<sup>2</sup> Communication with Bill Saunders, Wyoming National Guard Museum.

Figure 16. Green River Armory, circa 1939 (Wyoming National Guard Museum).



The first National Guard unit in Cheyenne used Keefe Hall on Ferguson Street as an armory during the 1880s. A “new” storage depot (warehouse) of Parco Brick was built in 1929 on East Pershing Boulevard for a sum of \$8,150.<sup>3</sup> A stone cavalry stables addition to the original brick building was completed by February 1937 (Figure 17) (State of Wyoming 1934). Today, this building serves as the Wyoming National Guard Museum.

Figure 17. Former Cheyenne Armory, now Wyoming Veterans Museum, circa 1939 (Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum).



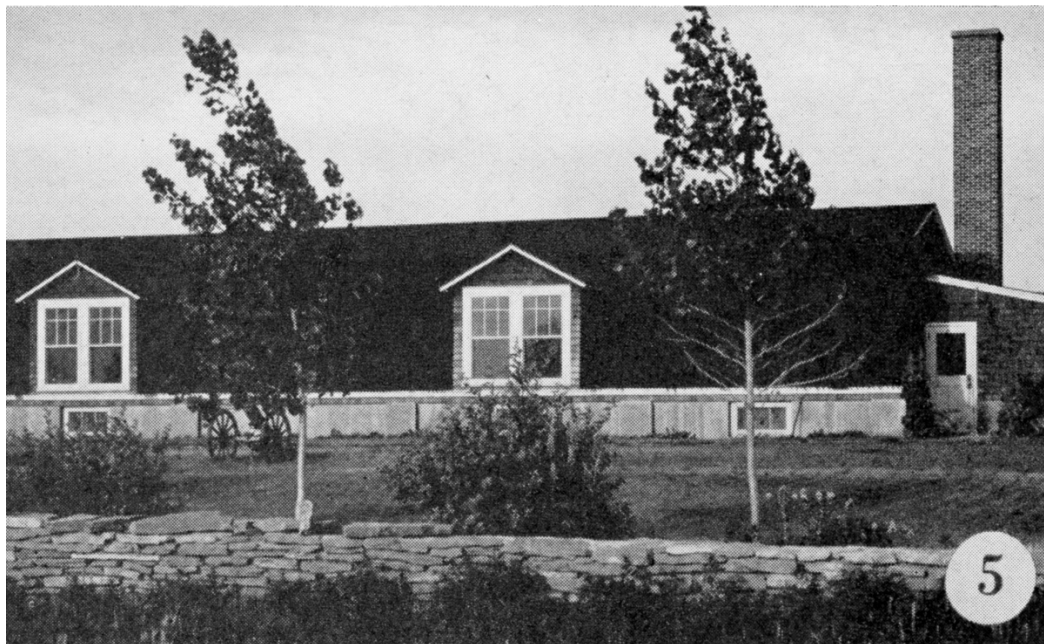
The National Guard unit in Laramie first rented a building from the (Albany) County Fair Association. In 1933, an armory using the standard

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<sup>3</sup> Communication with Bill Saunders, Wyoming National Guard Museum.

armory plan and cavalry stables was completed at a cost of \$9,444. This provided the unit with stables, storeroom, drill hall, orderly room, and locker room (Figure 18) (State of Wyoming 1934). The same plan was used to build an armory and cavalry stables for Lovell at a cost of \$8,904. The old 60 ft wide and 140 ft long steel and sheet iron armory was converted to stables and riding hall (State of Wyoming 1934).

**Figure 18. Laramie Armory, circa 1939 (Wyoming National Guard Museum).**



### **3.2 1946–1968 era architecture**

This period begins for the WYARNG with the addition of motor vehicle storage buildings to the existing armories. These construction projects were initiated at Worland and Cody to provide these units with both a temporary armory and vehicle storage facilities. These projects were started in August 1947 and consisted of two temporary prefabricated Butler steel buildings to provide a motor vehicle storage section (40' x 100') and an office, property room, class and locker room and a shop section (40' x 100') (State of Wyoming 1948). A similar building (40' x 80') was built at the Lusk Armory for use as a motor vehicle storage and shop facility. At the time of construction, there were problems with sub-quality workmanship at Cody and Lusk, and it is unknown how long these buildings lasted (State of Wyoming 1948).

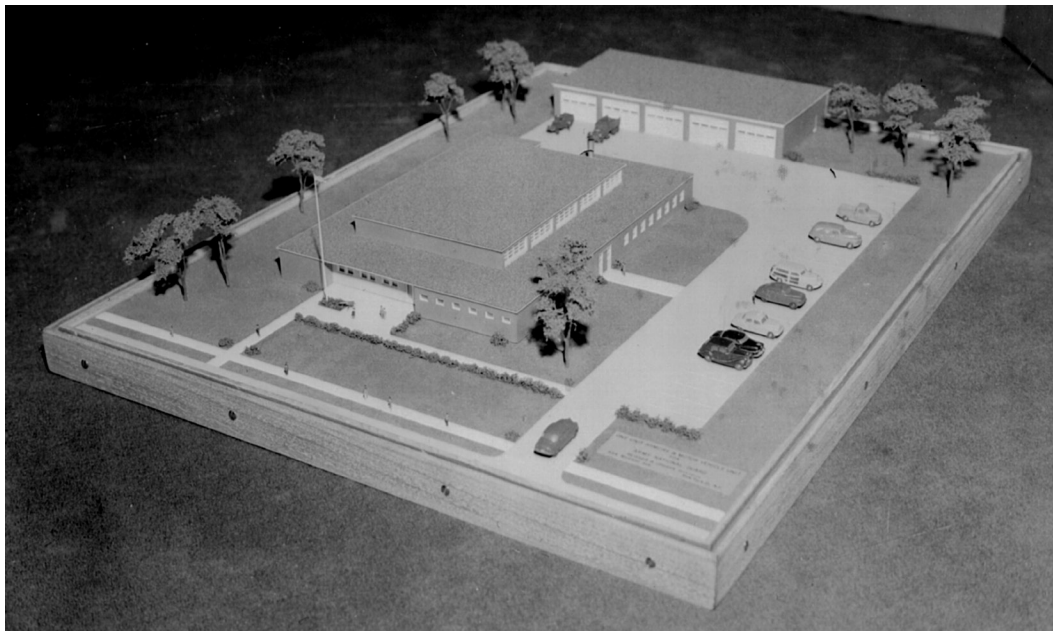
At the same time, alterations to stables to convert them to motor vehicle storage and shop facilities were being completed at Torrington, Douglas,

Casper, Lander, and Laramie, and partially completed at Lovell, Sheridan, and Newcastle. These projects cost approximately \$16,000 each (State of Wyoming 1948). In addition, a small building (the American Legion Hall) was purchased for \$3,500 at Wheatland to provide temporary facilities for the Service Company, 141st Tank Battalion. Temporary facilities at Afton, Evanston, Green River, Rock Springs, and Thermopolis were inadequate according to the 1948 Adjutant General's Biennial report (Esmay 1958). At the time, the WYARNG was considering providing 27 fabricated surplus tropical buildings (20' x 52') made of sheet metal and plywood, with five or six buildings at each station. Construction costs for each station were projected to be around \$14,000 to \$16,000 (Esmay 1958). All of these inadequacies lead to the construction of several new armories in the late 1950s and 1960s.

Following WWII, the National Guard recognized a nationwide need for modern facilities. The designs of armories drastically changed after WWII when the United States War Department and the Bureau of the Budget approved a \$500 million armory construction program for the National Guard and Organized Reserve Corps, the latter being the precursor to the U.S. Army Reserve (Moore 2008, 53). The armory construction program was brought about by the introduction in 1945 of the Gurney Bill (or the Armories Construction Bill, as it was later called) and its passage in 1950. Under this legislation, the majority of the funding for future armory construction costs would be provided by the federal government, with the state and local government paying the balance, resulting in a 75/25 agreement; 25 years after construction, the buildings would revert entirely to state ownership (Lawhon and Assoc. 2013, 28).

With federal funding came a uniformity of design. There were a few different types of standardized plans utilized during this time of armory construction. These plans and designs were done by a state armory architect interpreting the new federal standardized plan for armories. Nationally distributed plans were contracted out to local builders. Most of the armories of this era were of a "contemporary" style, meaning they were constructed with clean lines, little or no ornamentation, a primarily flat roof, rectilinear form, and open interiors. The new armories were often identical, not only from town to town but also from state to state, resulting in a lack of architectural distinction compared to that of their predecessors (Figure 19).

Figure 19. A 3 x 5 ft. model of a typical armory to be built for the National Guard Bureau, 29 FEBRUARY 1952 (NARA 111-SC Box 836 Photo 392645).



None of the new armories constructed in the 1950s and 1960s for the WYARNG followed the standardized plans put forward by the Armories Construction Bill; however, they all utilized the same elements of a large drill hall with direct access to the rear mobilization area, and then one side which contained classroom and the other side storage, and then the front would have the primary entrance and office space. A firing range was often part of the design, located either in a basement or a side wing.

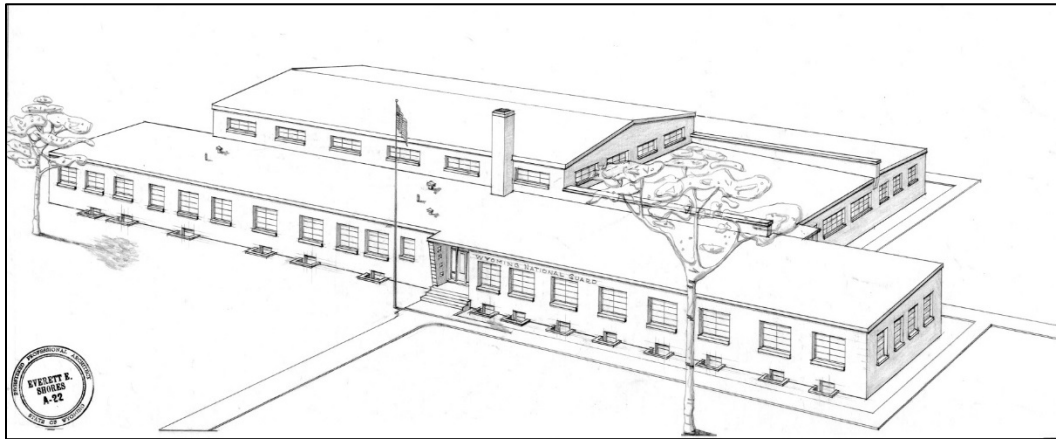
A new armory was built in 1959 in Laramie (Figure 20). The building was a two-unit design by Everett Shores Architect of Cheyenne. Everett Shores also designed new armories for Newcastle, built in 1960, and Cody, completed in 1962. The Newcastle Armory is no longer occupied by the National Guard; it was turned over to the Wyoming Department of Transportation in the 1990s.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Communication with Bill Saunders, Wyoming National Guard Museum.



Figure 20. Design for the Laramie Armory, built in 1959 (Wyoming National Guard).



A new Cheyenne Armory was constructed in 1966 (Figure 21). The building was designed by architect Frederic Hutchinson Porter of Cheyenne.

Figure 21. Cheyenne Armory, 1966 (Wyoming State Archives).



A one-unit armory was constructed in Wheatland in 1963 (Figure 22). The building was designed by Corbett/Dehnert Architects of Lander. The Evanston Armory was constructed in 1970 and designed by Kellogg and Kellogg Architects of Cheyenne (Figure 23).

Figure 22. Front elevation of Wheatland Armory (Wyoming National Guard).

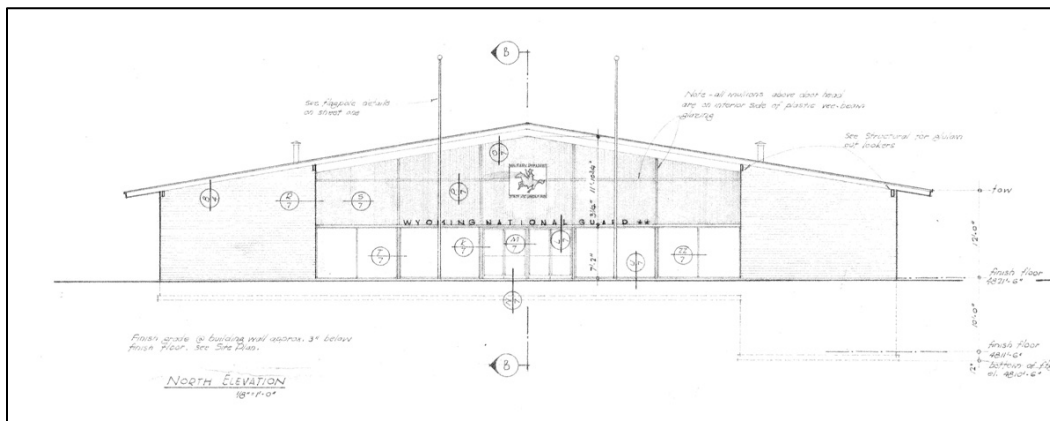
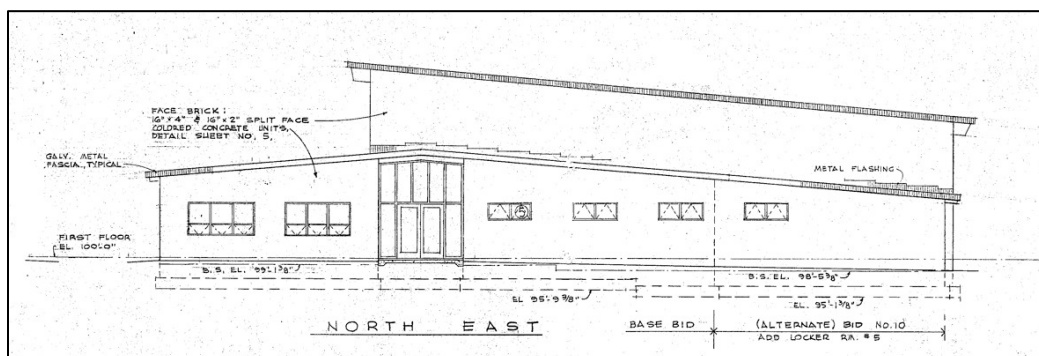


Figure 23. Front elevation of Evanston Armory (Wyoming National Guard).



A new Casper armory was built in 1969. It was designed by R.M. Holzinger Architect of Casper, Wyoming, for a cost of \$500,000. The state provided \$140,000, and the rest was federally funded. The armory included 24,805 square feet, with another 6,300 square feet for the first enclosed vehicle storage area and the shop adjacent to the armory. The armory featured a new concept in architectural design—a precast concrete twin t-beam roof.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Newspaper file cabinet, Wyoming State Archives.

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## 4 Conclusion and Survey Results

The identification of historically significant properties is achieved through the evaluation of their position within the larger historic context.

According to the NRHP, historic contexts are defined as “...the patterns, themes, or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood, and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within prehistory or history is made clear” (NPS 1997a). A historic property is determined significant or not significant based on the application of standardized NRHP criteria within the property’s historical context.

### 4.1 Criteria for evaluation

The NRHP Criteria for Evaluation describe how properties and districts are significant for their association with important events or persons (Criterion A and Criterion B), for their importance in design or construction (Criterion C), or for their information potential (Criterion D). The following is a brief description of each of the four NRHP Criteria for Evaluation, excerpted from *National Register Bulletin #15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (NPS 1997a):

1. **A. Event**—associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
2. **B. Person**—associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
3. **C. Design/Construction**—embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
4. **D. Information Potential**—yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

## 4.2 Aspects of integrity

In addition to possessing historical significance, a property must also retain sufficient physical integrity of features to convey its significance, in order to be eligible to the NRHP (NPS 1997a, 44–46).

Historic properties either retain their integrity and convey their significance, or they do not. Within the concept of integrity, the National Register criteria recognize seven aspects or qualities that, in various combinations, define integrity.

To retain historic integrity, a property will always possess several, and usually most, of its historic aspects. Retaining specific aspects of integrity is paramount for a property to convey its significance. Determining which of these aspects are most important to a particular property requires knowing why, where, and when the property is significant.

Districts and individual resources are considered to be significant if they possess a majority of the following Seven Aspects of Integrity (NPS 1997a, 44–46):

1. *Location.* Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.

*The Laramie Armory and the Laramie FMS retain their integrity of location.*

2. *Design.* Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. It results from conscious decisions made during the original conception and planning of a property (or its significant alteration) and applies to activities as diverse as community planning, engineering, architecture, and landscape architecture. Design includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials.

*The Laramie Armory retains the original aspects of its design, with major uses in their original spaces except for the medical office and the firing range. The building still has its one-story height and double-height high bay.*

*The Laramie FMS does not retain its original aspects of design due to the large addition to the rear of the building.*

3. *Setting.* Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. Setting refers to the character of the place in which the property played its historical role. It involves how, not just where, the property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space.

*The Laramie Armory and Laramie FMS retain key features of their setting such as the large grassy area in front of the armory building and the parking lot to the west. The large area to the north of the FMS is no longer utilized for training or WYARNG storage.*

4. *Materials.* Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration, to form a historic property.

*The Laramie Armory retains its key materials of brick and concrete block, window/door opening locations, interior doors, and its original stainless steel wall letters for signage. The building does not have its original windows, flooring (except for the concrete in the drill hall and the terrazzo in the lobby), firing range elements, and lockers (a key element of armories from the period of significance). For a complete list of original elements still in the building, please consult text on character-defining features in Section 4.4.*

5. *Workmanship.* Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.

*Workmanship is not a key part of integrity for either the Laramie Armory or the Laramie FMS.*

6. *Feeling.* Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time period.

*The Laramie Armory still conveys its identity as a Mid-Century Modern armory. Due to its utilitarian nature, the Laramie FMS does not evoke any particular period.*

7. *Association.* Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

*The Laramie Armory still has its association with the WYARNG, while the Laramie FMS does not since it is no longer used for maintenance of vehicles nor controlled by the WYARNG.*

### **4.3 Final recommendations of significance**

While the overall time period for the WYARNG historic context in this report was from 1870 through the 1970s, the Laramie Armory was designed and constructed during the nationwide Postwar Construction Program (1946 to 1968).

#### **4.3.1 Armory**

The following sections detail this study's findings regarding the historical significance of the WYARNG Laramie Armory building.

##### *For Criterion A – Event*

The WYARNG Laramie Armory is significant for post-WWII armory construction across the United States from 1946 to 1968; however, since the WYARNG did not utilize Congressional funds for the design and construction of the building, and its design did not follow the standardized plans from National Guard Headquarters but only loosely followed the overall design guidelines, it is significant at the statewide level rather than the nationwide level.

##### *For Criterion B – Person*

There is no significant person associated with the WYARNG Laramie Armory building.

##### *For Criterion C – Design/Construction*

The WYARNG Laramie Armory building is significant for its Mid-Century Modern design elements that were interpreted from the nationwide standardized plans by architect Everett Shores.

*For Criterion D — History*

The available historical records provided no indication that the WYARNG Laramie Armory building has yielded, or was likely to yield, any information important in history in relation to its significance as an armory.

**4.3.2 Field Maintenance Shop**

The following sections detail this study's findings regarding the historical significance of the WYARNG Laramie FMS.

*For Criterion A — Event*

The WYARNG Laramie FMS was not designed as part of the original armory complex and was added to the site in 1961. Although it does fall in the period of significance (1948 to 1968) for armory construction, the FMS does not fall under any nationwide or statewide construction program for the WYARNG.

*For Criterion B — Person*

There is no significant person associated with the WYARNG Laramie FMS.

*For Criterion C — Design/Construction*

The architect for the FMS is not known, but its design does not follow the design aesthetics of the Laramie Armory building, and the FMS has no particular style.

*For Criterion D — History*

The available historical records provided no indication that the WYARNG Laramie FMS has yielded, or was likely to yield, any information important in history in relation to its significance as an armory.

**4.4 Character-defining features**

In Preservation Brief #17, Nelson (1988) reminds readers that the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (Weeks and Grimmer 1995) embodies two important goals: (1) the preservation of historic materials, and (2) the preservation of a building's distinguishing character. Every old building is unique, with its

own identity and its own distinctive character. Character refers to all those visual aspects and physical features that comprise the appearance of every historic building. Character-defining elements include the overall shape of the building; its materials, craftsmanship, decorative details, interior spaces and features; and various aspects of its site and environment.

If the various materials, features, and spaces that give a building its visual character are not recognized and preserved, then essential aspects of its character may be damaged in the process of change.

A building's character can be irreversibly damaged or changed in many ways, and some ways that damage or change can occur are listed below.

- Inappropriate repointing of the brickwork.
- Removal of a distinctive side porch.
- Changes to the window sash.
- Changes to the setting around the building.
- Changes to the major room arrangements.
- Introduction of an atrium.
- Painting previously unpainted woodwork, etc.

The following subsections outline character-defining features for the WYARNG Laramie Armory building that is recommend in this report as eligible to the NRHP. Note that character-defining features are not defined for those buildings determined not eligible to the NRHP.

#### **4.4.1 Postwar Construction Program (1946 to 1968)**

Key character-defining features of the armories constructed during this program include but are not limited to: either one- or two-story structures that encompassed a large centrally placed double-height drill hall space, brick exterior walls, prominent entry defined by stone detailing or wood-veneer panels, and a flat roof, repetitive window patterns, multipane steel-sash awning windows, clerestory multipane steel-sash awning windows, and stone and concrete windowsills.

The interior spaces typically include a lobby, individual classrooms and offices, a kitchen, supply rooms, storage rooms, boiler room, rifle range, and a latrine with adjacent locker rooms. All of these rooms were accessible via the centrally placed drill hall space.

Architectural finishes would include metal interior doors, concrete-block interior walls, glazed sanitary tile walls in the drill hall, latrine, locker room, lobby, stairwells, corridors, mosaic tile floor in the latrine, and concrete interior windowsills.

*Intact and good condition character-defining features:*

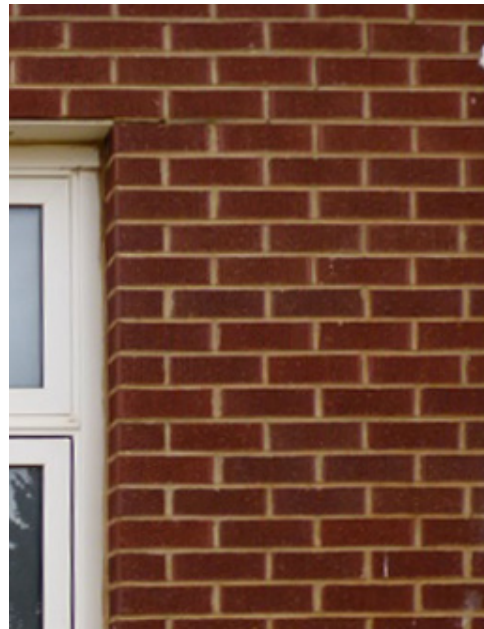
Example photos of character-defining features can be seen in Figure 24.

- Large grassy area with flag pole in front of building
- Brick veneer
- Combination of one-story and double-height drill hall space with a basement level
- Gable roof over double-height space and shed roofs over one-story wings
- Clerestory window openings
- Repetitive window pattern
- Concrete windowsills
- Recessed main entry with bright-aluminum and plate-glass doors, with sidelights and transom and a decorative brick wall framing entry
- Original stainless steel lettering “Wyoming National Guard”
- Overall layout of the spaces around the drill hall (interior)
- Open double-height drill hall space with concrete floors, concrete block walls, and exposed steel structure (interior)
- Original glazed sanitary tiles in vestibule and latrines (interior)
- Concrete-block interior walls
- Interior hallways with concrete floor and large-paned windows, looking into offices and drill hall (interior)
- Bright-aluminum and plate-glass vestibule doors with sidelights and transom (interior)
- Metal doors with divided panes (interior)
- Wood doors with divided panes (interior)

Figure 24. Examples of character-defining features for the Laramie Armory (ERDC-CERL 2015).



Large landscaped area with flagpole.



Brick veneer.



Combination of one-story and double-height drill hall space with a gable roof over double-height space and shed roof over one-story windows.



Clerestory window openings.





Repetitive window pattern.



Concrete windowsills.



Recessed main entry with bright aluminum and plate glass doors, with sidelights, a transom, and a decorative brick wall framing the entry.



Original stainless steel letters spelling "Wyoming National Guard."



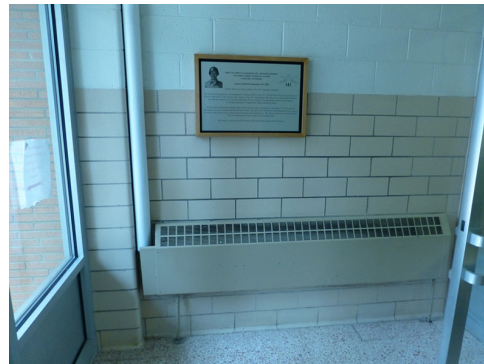
Open double-height drill hall space with concrete floors, concrete block walls, and exposed steel structure.



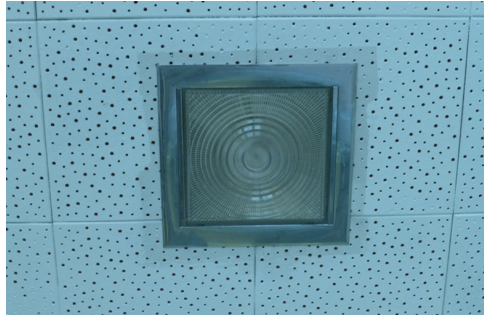
Bright-aluminum and plate-glass vestibule doors with sidelights and transom.



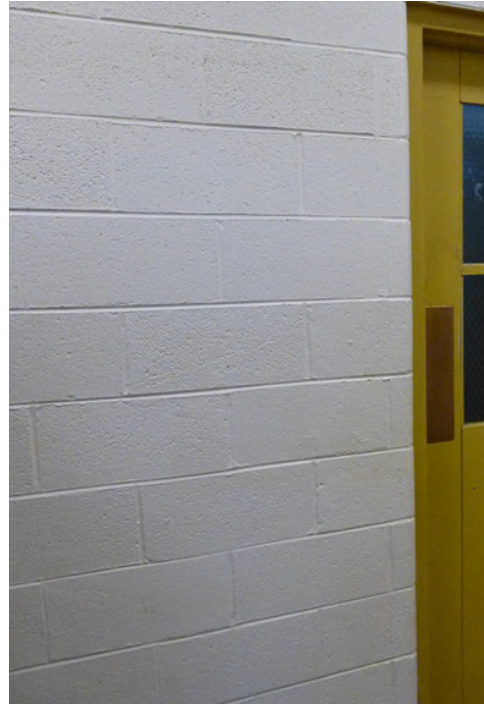
Original terrazzo floor in the lobby,



Original glazed sanitary tiles in the vestibule and latrines,



Original square, flush, ceiling light fixture in vestibule.



Concrete-block interior walls.



Interior hallways with concrete floor and large-paned windows, looking into the offices and drill hall.



Metal doors with divided panes.





Wood doors with divided panes.



Original interior glazed windowsills.

*Noncharacter-defining features:*

See Figure 25 for photographic examples of the noncharacter-defining features listed below.

- Group of three replacement vinyl sash, single-pane, clerestory windows (original, six-light, steel-sash, industrial-style clerestory windows)
- Replacement one-over-two vinyl sash awning windows (original four-pane, six-pane, and eight-pane steel-sash windows)
- Metal entry doors (replaced)
- Locker rooms (modified into smaller storage, classroom, and workout rooms)
- Firing range in the basement removed and now used for storage (interior)

Figure 25. Examples of noncharacter-defining features for the Laramie Armory (ERDC-CERL 2015).



Group of three replacement vinyl sash, single-pane, clerestory windows (original were six-pane, steel-sash, industrial-style clerestory windows).



Replacement one-over-one vinyl sash awning windows (original were four-pane, six-pane, and eight-pane steel-sash windows).



Metal entry doors (replacement).



Former locker rooms (modified into smaller storage, classroom, and workout rooms).



Firing range in the basement removed and now used for storage.

#### 4.5 Final recommendation for eligibility

The identification of historically significant properties is achieved only through an evaluation which associates a property within a larger historic context. According to the NRHP, “Historic contexts are those patterns, themes, or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within prehistory or history is made clear” (NPS 1997a, 7). Therefore, to qualify as historic, a property must have an association with a relevant historic context as well as having retained its physical integrity through which its historic significance is conveyed.

The following sections detail this study’s findings regarding the historical significance of the two buildings located at the WYARNG Laramie Armory. Just because a building falls into a period of significance does not make it eligible; it still would have to be found individually eligible, and either retain its integrity or be part of a potential historic district that retains its integrity.

##### 4.5.1 Armory

The researchers determined that the WYARNG Laramie Armory building possesses integrity of design, setting, materials, feeling, and association (refer to the next chapter for character-defining features).

It is the recommendation of this report that the WYARNG Laramie Armory building is individually **ELIGIBLE** for the NRHP at the statewide

level under Criterion A, due to its association with the National Guard Bureau's goal to upgrade state armories across the country from 1946 to 1968 and under Criterion C for its association with standardized armory design and its Mid-Century Modern characteristics.

#### **4.5.2 Field Maintenance Shop**

It is the recommendation of this report that the WYARNG Laramie FMS is **NOT ELIGIBLE** for the NRHP at the national, state, or local levels under any of the criteria, due to a lack of significance for WYARNG vehicle maintenance buildings, and that it was not part of the original layout and concept for the WYARNG Laramie Armory.

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## Appendix – WYARNG Laramie Historic Property: ERDC-CERL Inventory Form

### Armory

WYOMING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM			
<b><u>PROPERTY BOUNDARIES</u></b> Laramie WYARNG armory is located at 2901 Armory Drive, Laramie, Wyoming, in Albany County. -East Harney Road is to the north -North 30 <sup>th</sup> Street is to the east -East Armory Road is to the south -North Television is to the west	<b><u>COMMON/HISTORIC NAME</u></b> Laramie Armory Donald L. Dewees Armory (2000)		<b><u>STATUS</u></b> Usable
<b><u>ARCHITECT/BUILDER</u></b> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Everett L. Shores, Architect	<b><u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u></b> 1959  <b><u>DATE OF ALTERATIONS</u></b> Window replacement, unknown	<b><u>NO. OF STORIES</u></b> 1-story (admin and classroom space) with a basement  Double-height drill hall	<b><u>FOOTPRINT</u></b> Complex
<b><u>ROOF FORM</u></b> Gable roof - drill hall  Shed – administrative and classroom wings	<b><u>FOUNDATION</u></b> Concrete	<b><u>WALLS</u></b> Brick veneer	<b><u>ROOF</u></b> Built-up

<u>PROPERTY FUNCTION</u>		<u>NOTABLE FEATURES</u>
HISTORIC USE(S)	CURRENT USE	
Training/Community	Training/Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Two-unit armory</li><li>- Irregularly shaped building with one-story administrative and classroom wings and a double-height drill hall space</li><li>- Brick exterior walls</li><li>- Gable roof over assembly hall, shed roofs over one-story wings</li><li>- Clerestory windows (replaced)</li><li>- Repetitive window pattern</li><li>- Concrete windowsills</li><li>- Stainless-steel lettering spelling “Wyoming National Guard”</li><li>- Recessed main entry with bright-aluminum and plate-glass doors, sidelights, and transom, and brick detail wall</li><li>- Open double-height space of assembly hall with exposed steel-truss roof system (interior)</li><li>- Glazed sanitary tile walls in the latrines and lobby (interior)</li><li>- Metal doors with panes (interior)</li><li>- Concrete floors in assembly hall and hallways</li></ul>
<u>RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER BUILDINGS</u> <p>The Laramie WYARNG site is located in the eastern portion of the town of Laramie, Wyoming, and just north of Interstate 80. The site is a large, rectangular parcel that includes the armory at the southern end of the property, and an organized maintenance shop (leased to the University of Wyoming) directly to the north. Paved parking is located on the east and west sides of the armory. A large fenced-in lot is located to the north of the armory, and the lot is also leased to the university. A grassy lawn with large trees is to the south of the armory, an athletic field is to the west of the WYARNG site, Jacobs Park Golf Course is to the east of the site, and the Laramie High School and athletic fields are to the south of the site.</p>		



Photo 1. Laramie Armory at 2901 Armory Drive, south (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 2. Laramie Armory, main entry with bright-aluminum and plate-glass doors with sidelights, transom, and a brick detail wall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





**Photo 3. Laramie Armory at 2901 Armory Drive, left side of the south (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 4. Laramie Armory, close-up of one of the replacement window types on the left side of the south (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**





Photo 5. Laramie Armory, three window openings with replacement windows on the left side of the (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 6. Laramie Armory, basement window-well on the left side of the south (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 7. Laramie Armory, looking east toward the right side of the south (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 8. Laramie Armory, replacement windows, concrete windowsills, and stainless steel lettering to the right of the main entry on the south (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 9. Laramie Armory, close-up of the replacement clerestory windows on the right side of the south (front) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 10. Laramie Armory at 2901 Armory Drive, west elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**





Photo 11. Laramie Armory, close-up of replacement window, clerestory window, and door on the west elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 12. Laramie Armory, close-up of the wood/metal fascia and soffit system on the west elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 13. Laramie Armory at 2901 Armory Drive, north (rear) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 14. Laramie Armory entry, with replacement doors and transoms and replacement windows on the north (rear) elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**





Photo 15. Laramie Armory, close-up of the gutter/downspout system on the north elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 16. Laramie Armory at 2901 Armory Drive, northeast oblique (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 17. Laramie Armory at 2901 Armory Drive, east elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 18. Laramie Armory, close-up of the modified brick-enclosed basement entry on the east elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**





**Photo 19. Laramie Armory, close-up of modified brick-enclosed basement entry on the east elevation (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 20. Laramie Armory, northeast oblique, showing the east entrance (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**





Photo 21. Laramie Armory, original bright-aluminum and plate-glass vestibule doors (ERDC-CERL, 2015).

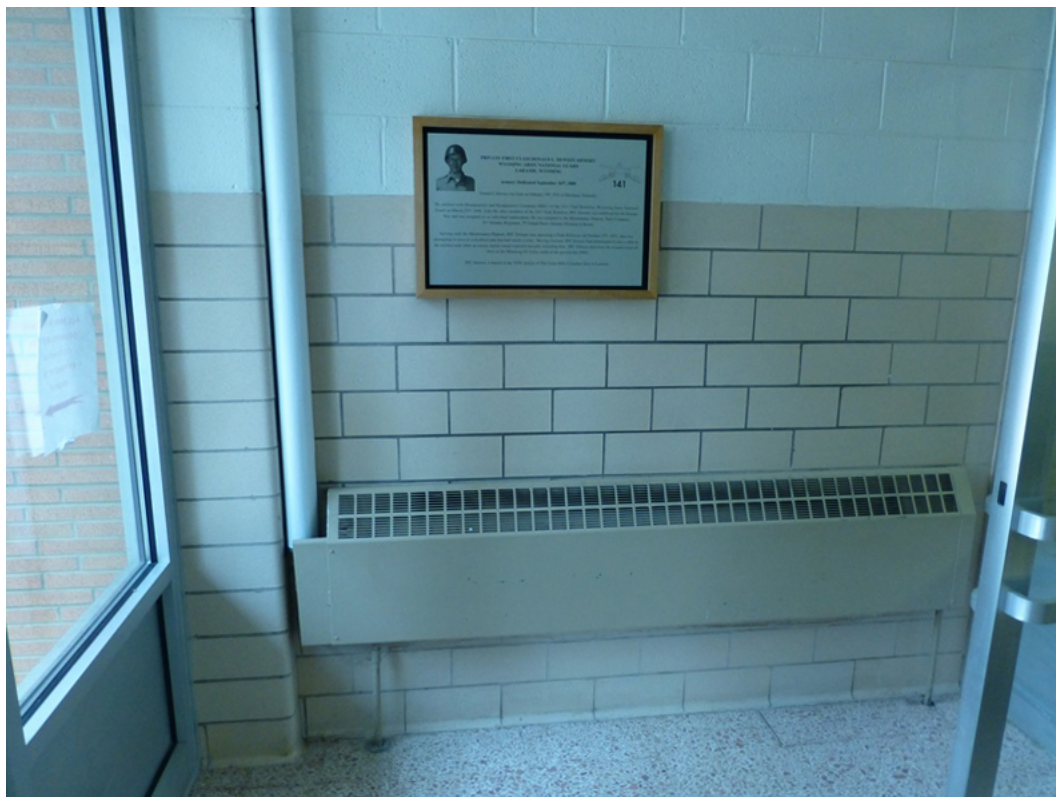


Photo 22. Laramie Armory, original sanitary glazed tile walls in the south vestibule and memorial plaque dedicating the armory to PFC Donald L. Dewees (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 23.** Laramie Armory, close-up of original acoustic tile ceiling and square ceiling light fixture in the south vestibule (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 24.** Laramie Armory, new door addition leading from the south vestibule into adjacent office (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 25. Laramie Armory, looking toward the south vestibule (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 26. Laramie Armory, original terrazzo tile floor in the lobby area (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 27. Laramie Armory, office located on the east end of the administrative wing (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 28. Laramie Armory, original glazed tile windowsill in the office (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 29. Laramie Armory, original blonde wood doors with panes, leading from the east office into the hallway (ERDC-CERL, 2015)

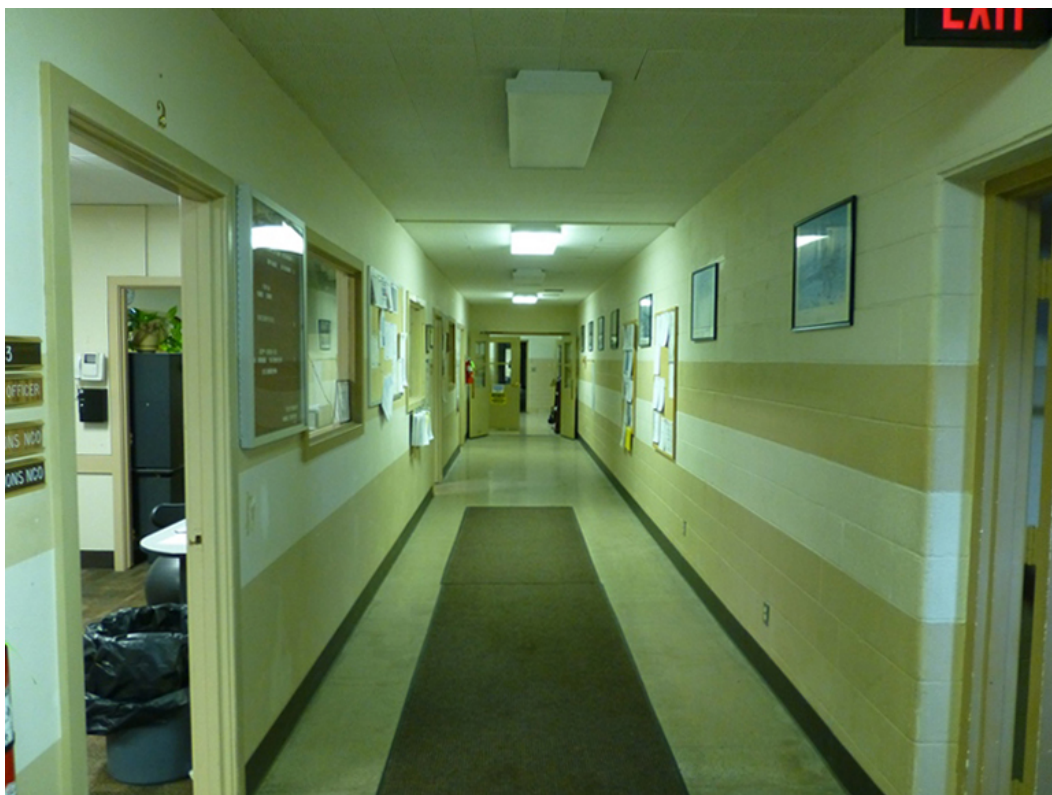


Photo 30. Laramie Armory, looking west down hallway from the east office (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





**Photo 31. Laramie Armory, original metal door with glass panes, leading from hallway to the northeast exit vestibule (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 32. The original flooring was removed leaving concrete floors in the hallway of the Laramie Armory (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



Photo 33. Laramie Armory, interior view of an office space (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 34. Laramie Armory, original metal doors with glass panes, leading from the east hallway into the lobby space (original metal door in background leads to the basement) (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





**Photo 35. Laramie Armory, original metal doors with glass panes, leading from the lobby into the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 36. Laramie Armory, original metal door with glass panes, leading into the women's latrine (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



Photo 37. Laramie Armory, interior view of the modified women's latrine (originally an anteroom) (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 38. Laramie Armory, original metal door leading into the women's latrine (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 39. Laramie Armory, original mirrors, sinks, glazed sanitary tile walls, and tile floor in the women's latrine (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 40. Laramie Armory, original women's urinal (tank is an add-on) in the women's latrine (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 41. Laramie Armory, view from the west hallway toward the lobby, with exposed concrete floor in the foreground and original terrazzo floor in the background (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 42. Laramie Armory, looking west toward offices in the west hallway, showing exposed concrete floor (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 43. Laramie Armory, interior view on an office on the west side of the administrative wing (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 44. Laramie Armory, original fixed-pane windows in the west hallway wall, looking into the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 45. Laramie Armory, original metal door with glass panes, leading into the kitchen (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 46. Laramie Armory, interior view of the kitchen (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 47. Laramie Armory, newer kitchen expansion [area originally was part of a classroom] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 48. Laramie Armory, original classroom space that has been modified into smaller offices, on the west end of the administrative wing (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**





**Photo 49.** Laramie Armory, smaller office space created by modifying the original large classroom on the west end of the administrative wing (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 50.** Laramie Armory, interior view of the drill hall, looking northeast (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 51. Laramie Armory, replacement door, window, and clerestory window on the left side of the west wall of the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 52. Laramie Armory, replacement metal overhead door on the west wall of the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 53. Laramie Armory, right side of the west wall of the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 54. Laramie Armory, looking toward the south wall of the drill hall space (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 55. Laramie Armory, exposed metal truss roof system in the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 56. Laramie Armory, looking at the south wall of the drill hall from the northeast corner (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 57. Laramie Armory, looking west in the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 58. Laramie Armory, classroom located on the west end of the classroom/locker wing (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 59. Laramie Armory, original glazed tile windowsill in the classroom (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 60. Laramie Armory, interior view of a lecture/storage room [originally a locker room] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



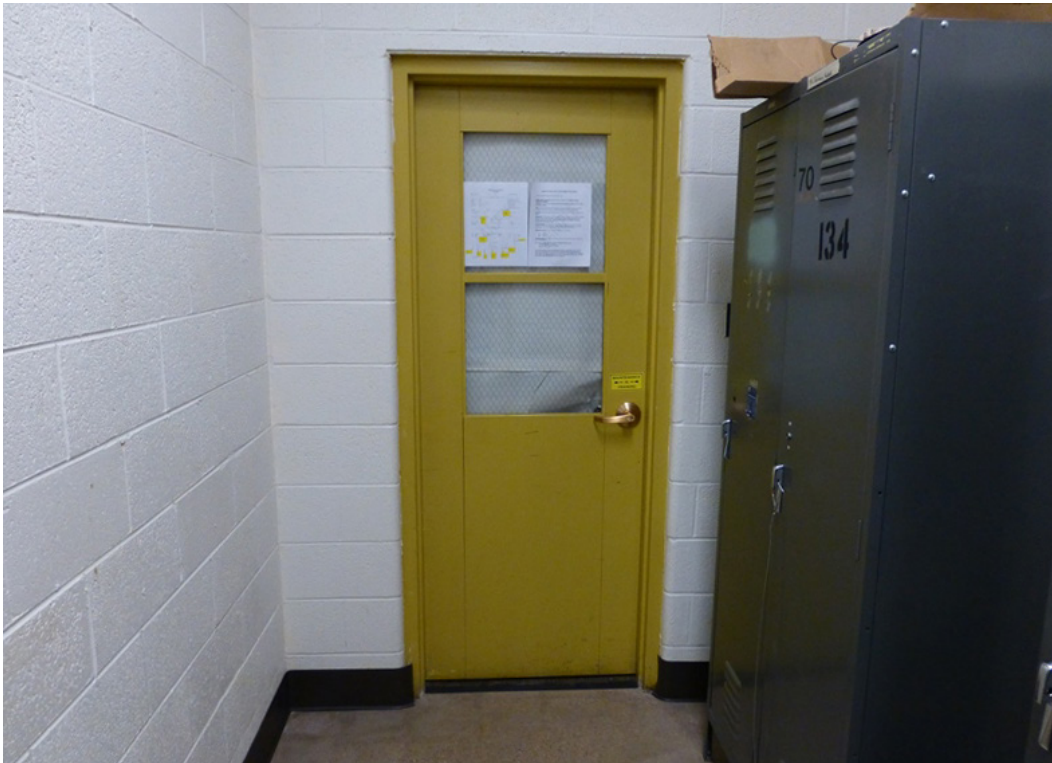


Photo 61. Laramie Armory, new partition wall in the lecture/storage room [originally a locker room] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).

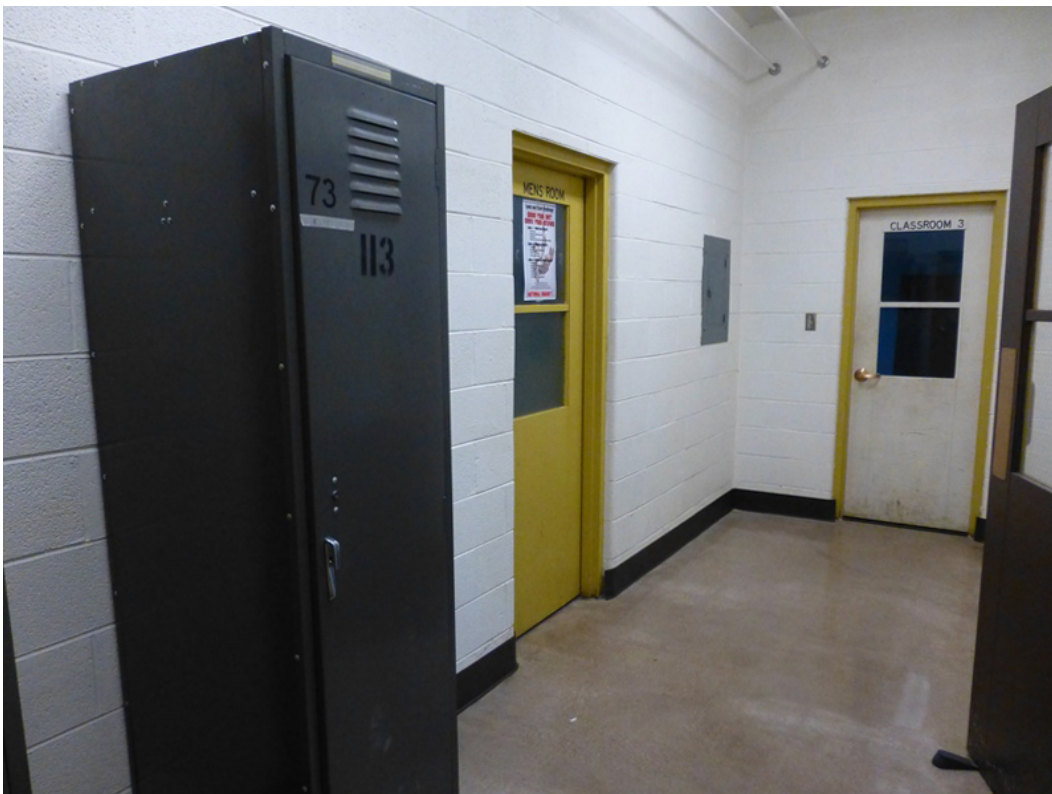


Photo 62. Laramie Armory, doorway leading into the men's room on the north wall of the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





**Photo 63.** Laramie Armory, original metal door with glass panes, leading from small hallway into the old locker room (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 64.** Laramie Armory, men's room hallway, showing exposed concrete floor and doors (ERDC-CERL, 2015).

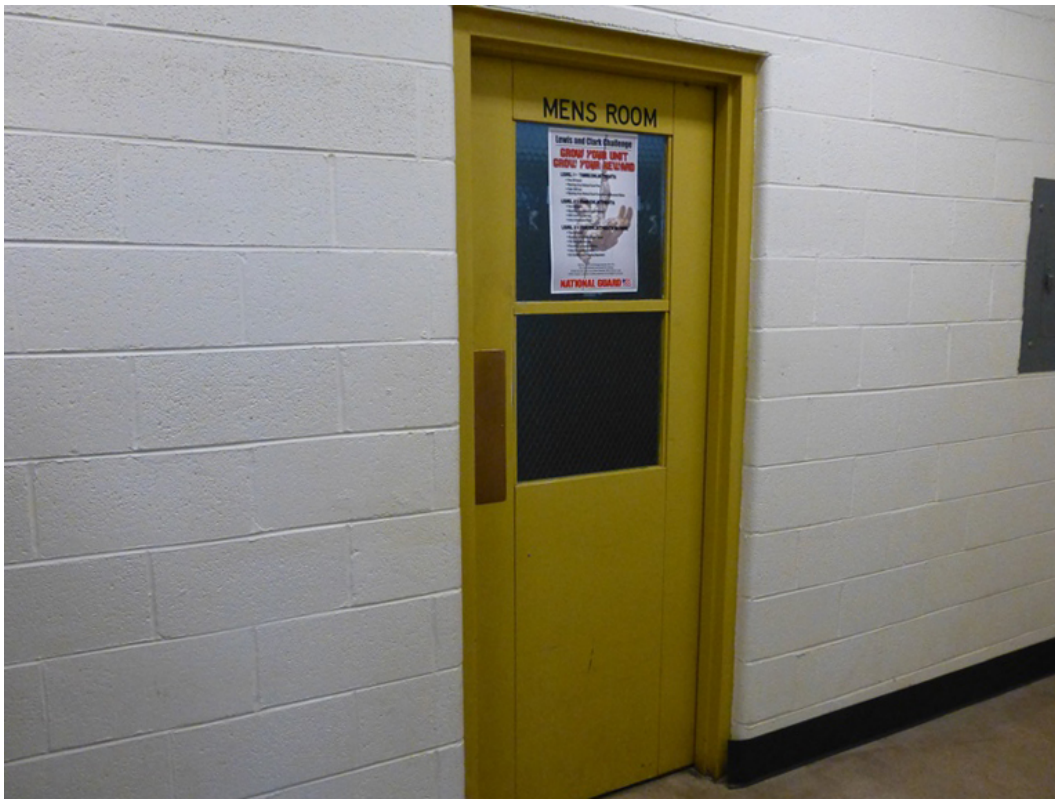


Photo 65. Laramie Armory, original metal door with glass panes, leading into the men's latrine (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 66. Laramie Armory, men's latrine with original glazed sanitary tile walls and mosaic tile floor (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 67. Laramie Armory, men's latrine with original sinks, toilet stalls, and tile floor (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 68. Laramie Armory, men's latrine with original shower stalls and glazed sanitary tile (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 69. Laramie Armory, view of a classroom (originally part of a larger locker room) (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 70. Laramie Armory, view of a workout area (originally part of a larger locker room) (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 71. Laramie Armory, original metal doors with glass panes, leading into the north vestibule (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 72. Laramie Armory, replacement metal doors, leading from north vestibule to the exterior (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 73. Laramie Armory, view of the maintenance room with newer partition wall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 74. Laramie Armory, original mop sink in maintenance room (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 75. Laramie Armory, interior view of workout/gym area (originally the medical room in the northeast corner of the building) (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 76. Laramie Armory, original blonde wood cabinets in the former medical room (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 77. Laramie Armory, metal doors leading from workout/gym area into hallway (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 78. Laramie Armory, original metal doors with glass panes, leading from northeast hallway into the drill hall (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





**Photo 79. Laramie Armory, concrete staircase with original wood handrails, leading to the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 80. Laramie Armory, original metal doors with glass panes, in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 81. Laramie Armory, interior view of a room in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 82. Laramie Armory, original metal-sash hopper window in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**





**Photo 83. Laramie Armory, replacement vinyl hopper window in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 84. Laramie Armory, locker/storage area in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



Photo 85. Laramie Armory, door leading into the former firing range in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Photo 86. Laramie Armory, former firing range, now used as storage space in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).





Photo 87. Laramie Armory, metal brackets on target butt wall in the former firing range in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).

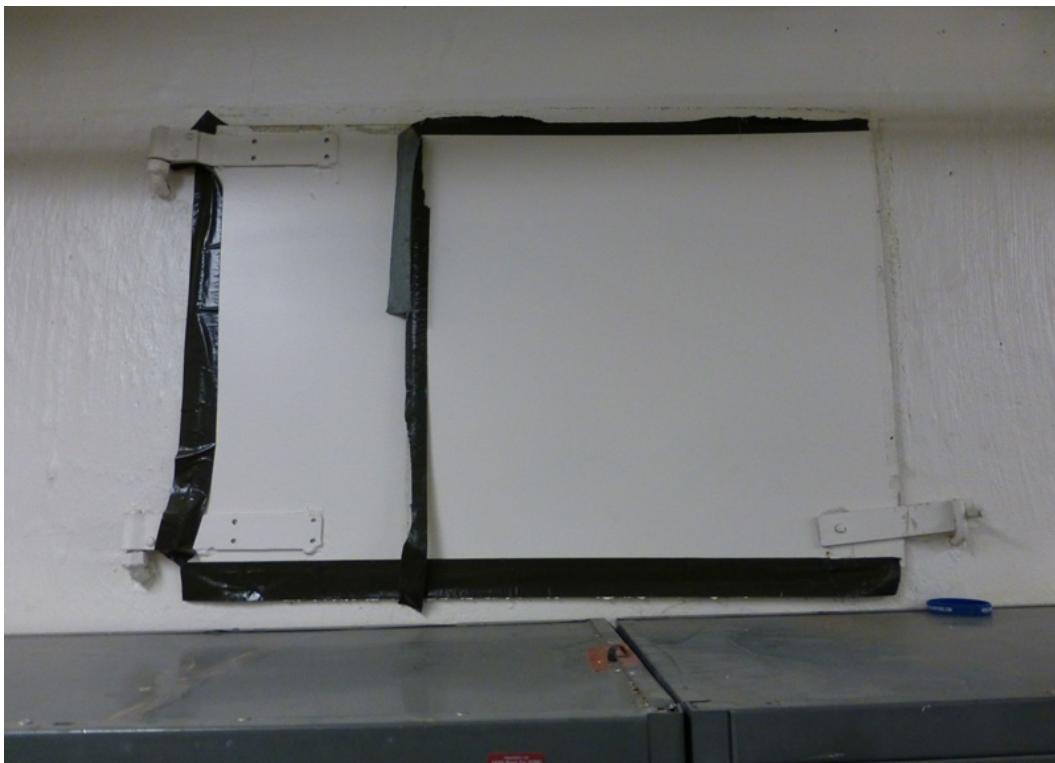


Photo 88. Laramie Armory, metal window protector in the former firing range in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



**Photo 89. Laramie Armory, original ceiling-mounted light fixture in the former firing range in the basement (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**

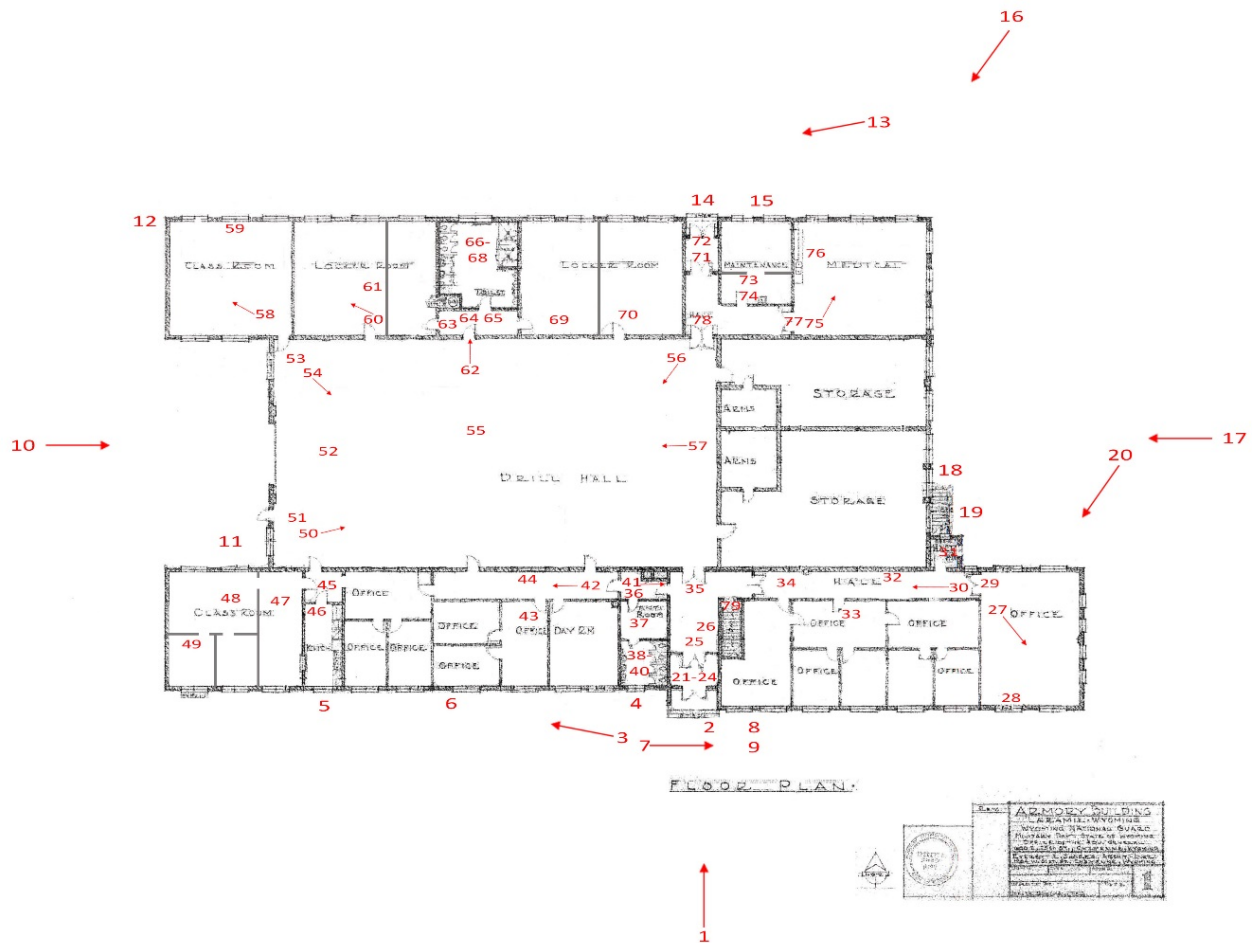
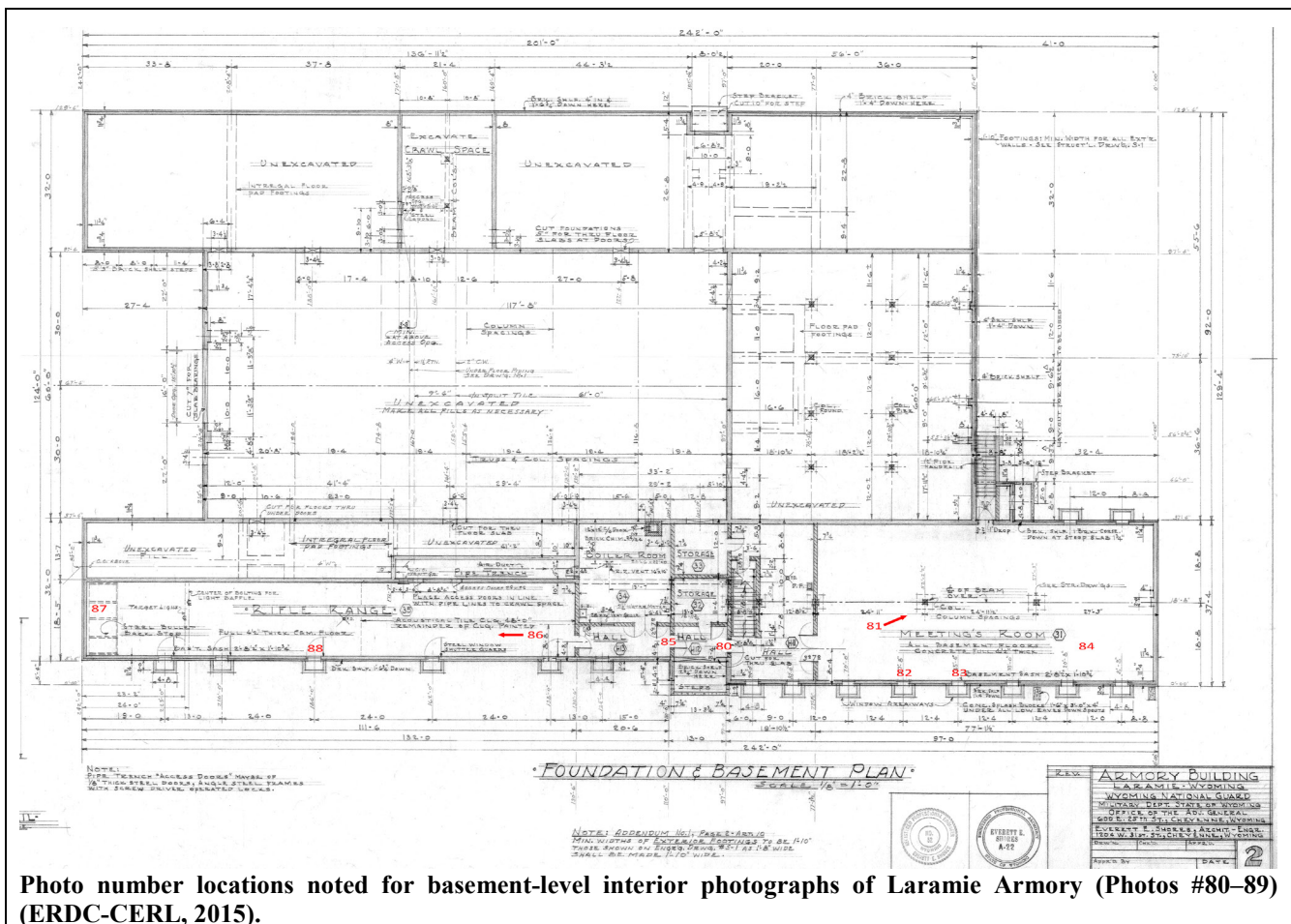


Photo number locations noted for exterior and first-floor interior photographs of Laramie Armory (Photos #1–79) (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



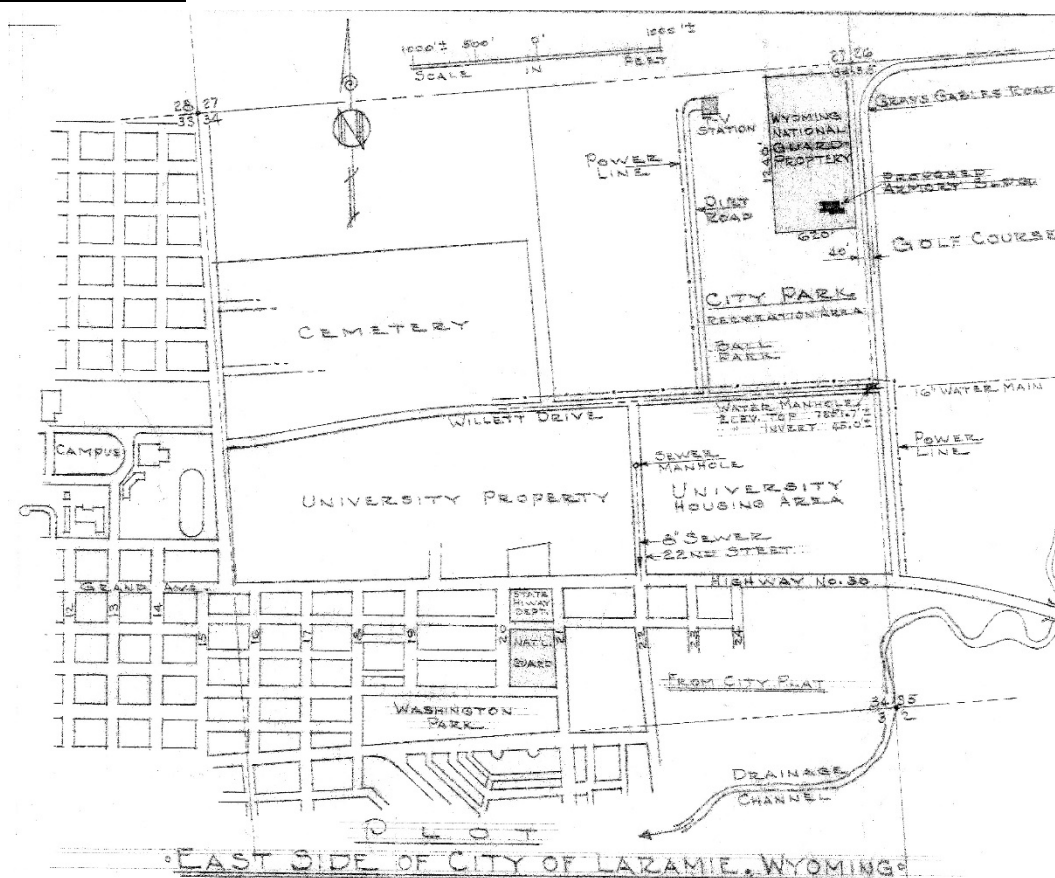


**COORDINATES**

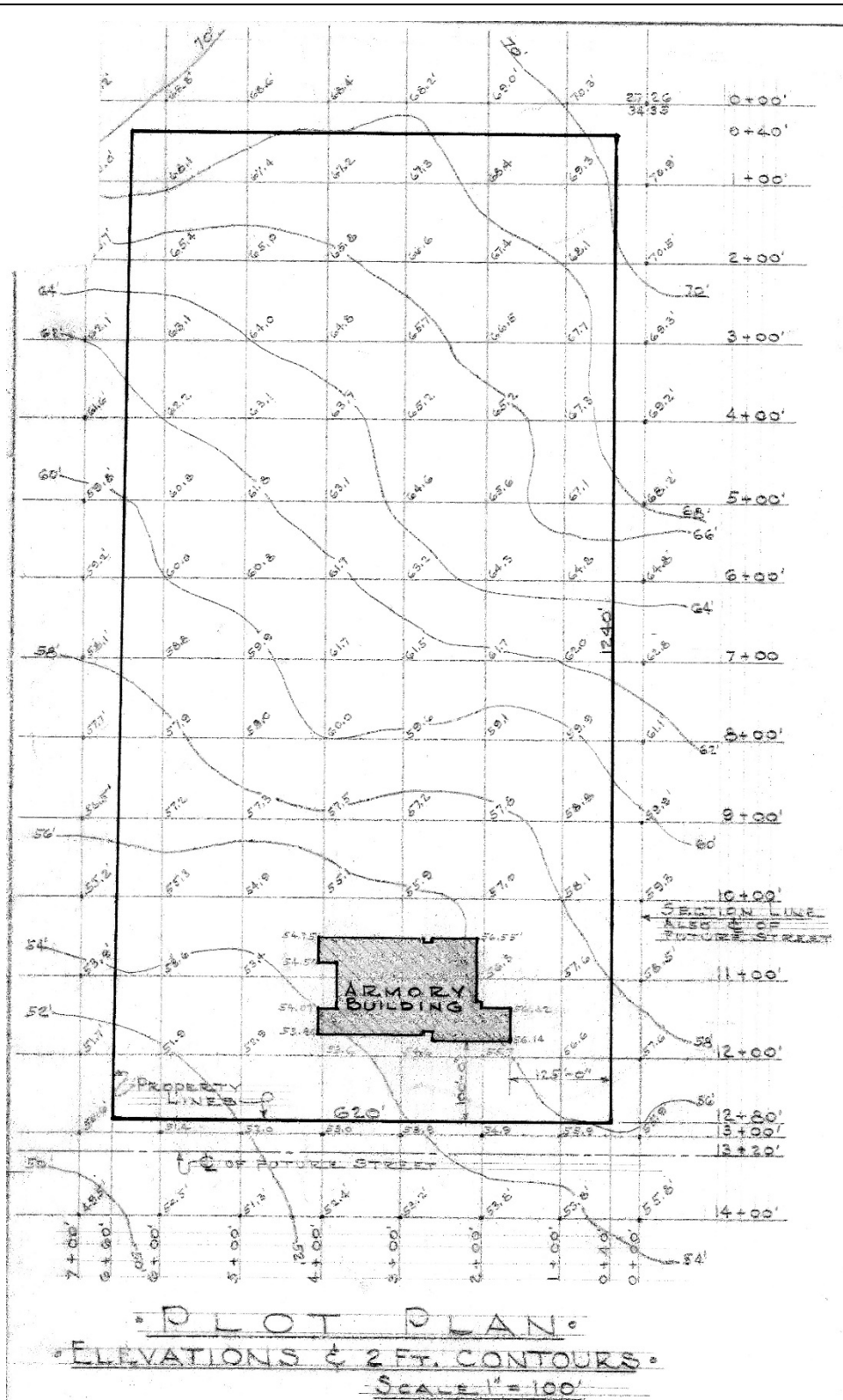
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**USGS QUAD**

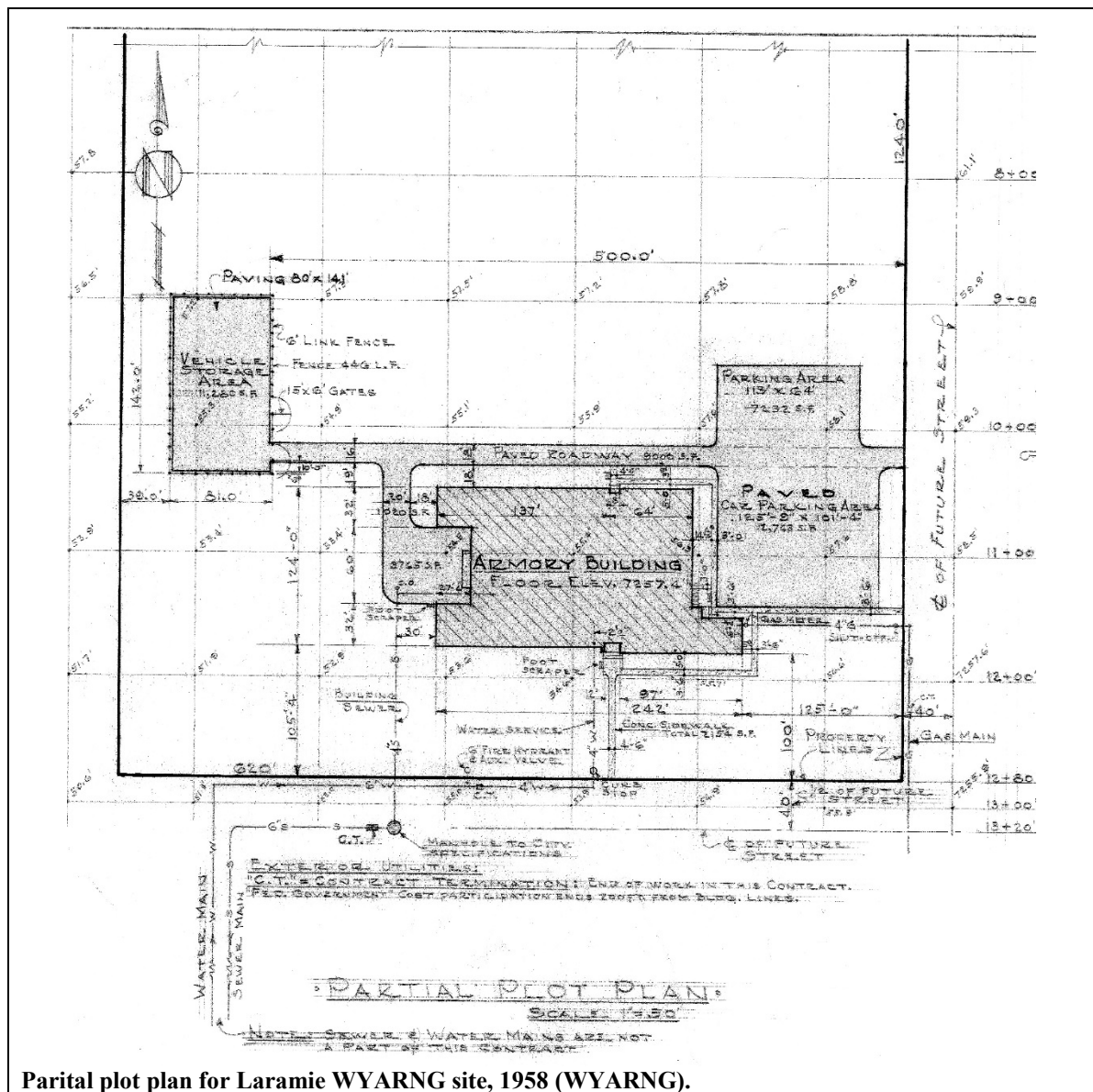
Laramie

**LOCATION MAPS**

East side of city map of Laramie, Wyoming, showing location of Laramie Armory property and buildings in upper right, 1958 (WYARNG).

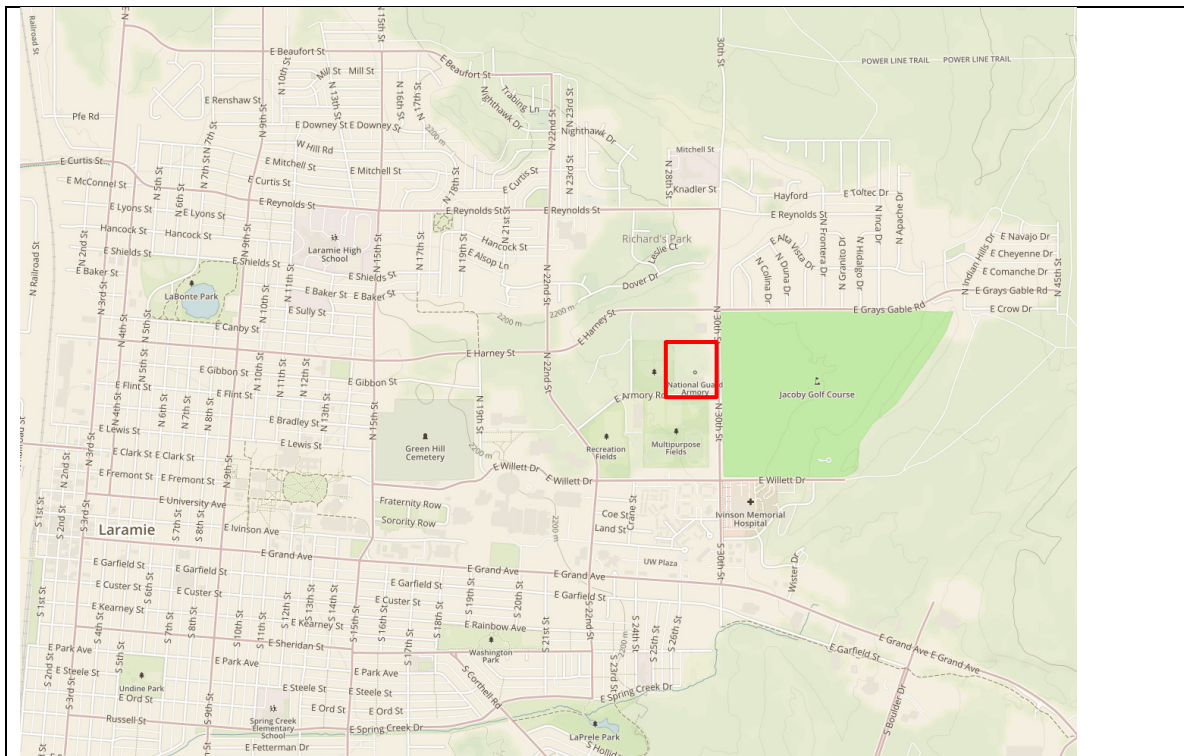


Plot plan for the location of Laramie WYARNG site, 1958 (WYARNG).



Partial plot plan for Laramie WYARNG site, 1958 (WYARNG).





Location of the Laramie WYARNG site, outlined in red (U.S. Geological Survey [USGS] map, 2016).



Location of the Laramie WYARNG site, outlined in red, with armory and field maintenance shop labeled (www.bing.com, accessed 2016).



**SITE PHOTOGRAPHS - Laramie Armory at 2901 Armory Drive**

**South grassy lawn with trees, flagpole, and sidewalk leading to the main entry (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**South grassy lawn with trees (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**

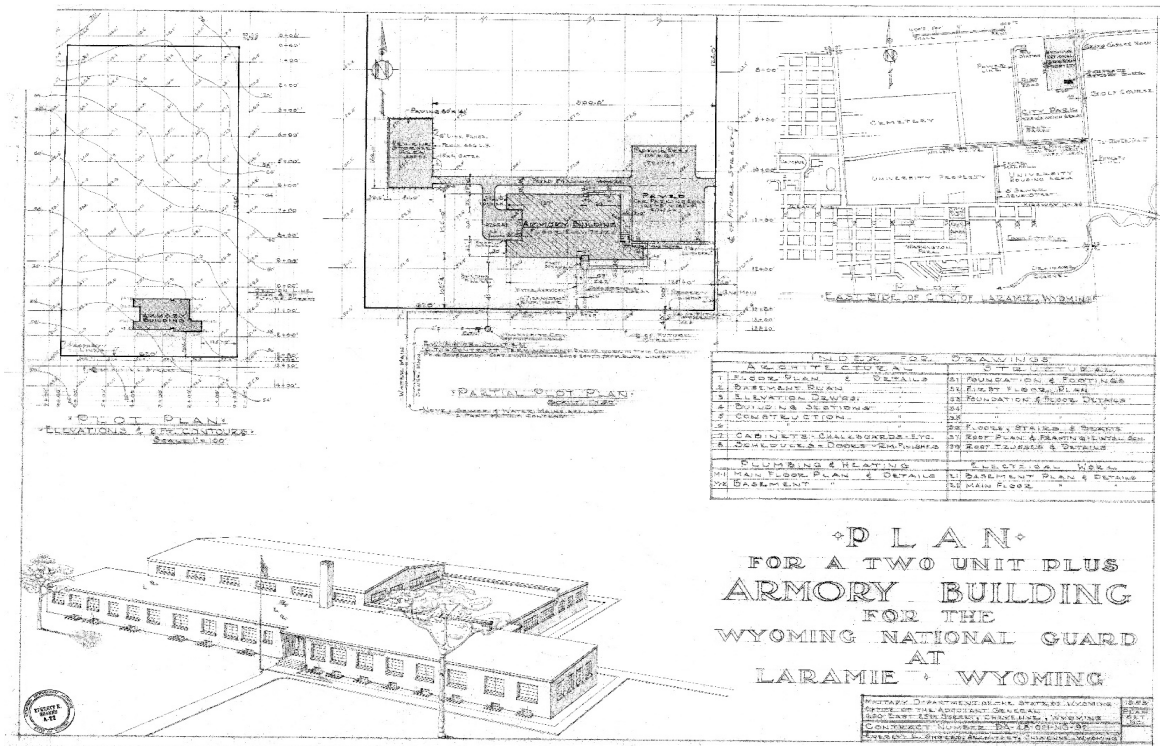




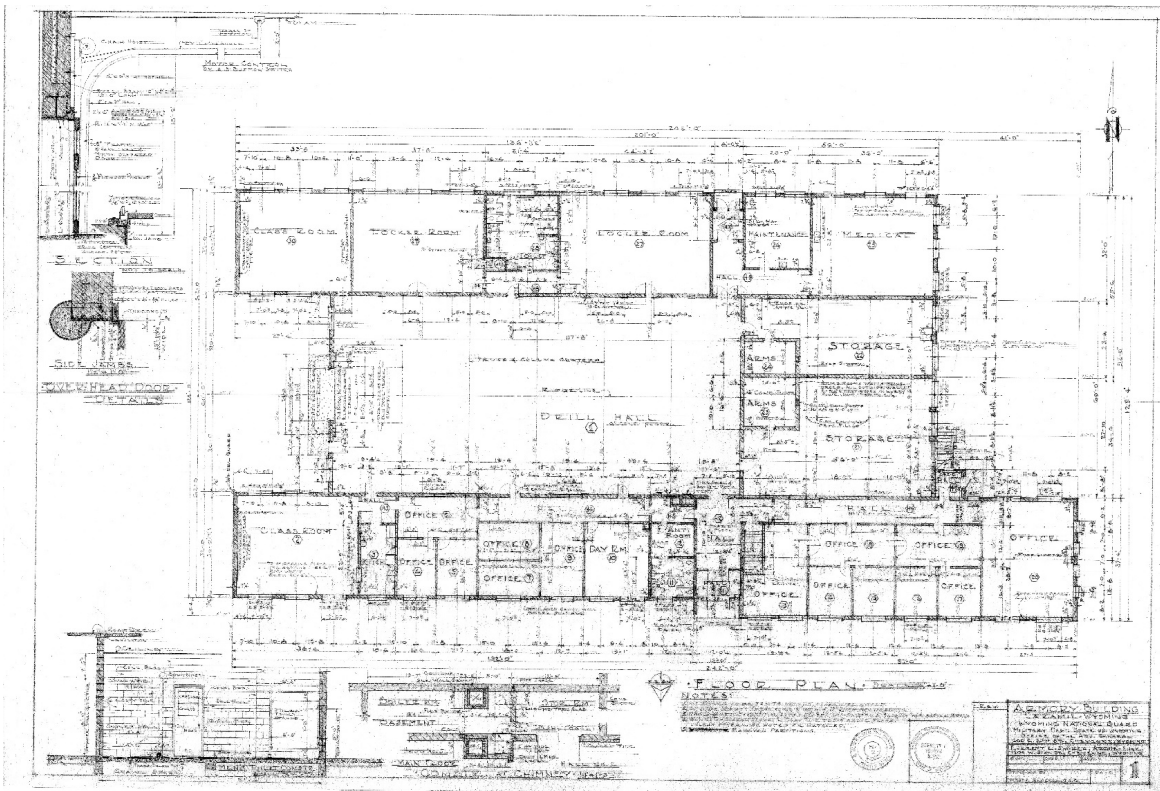
Paved drive on the west side of the site, looking south towards the athletic fields of the University of Wyoming (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Looking north at the east side's paved parking lot (ERDC-CERL, 2015).

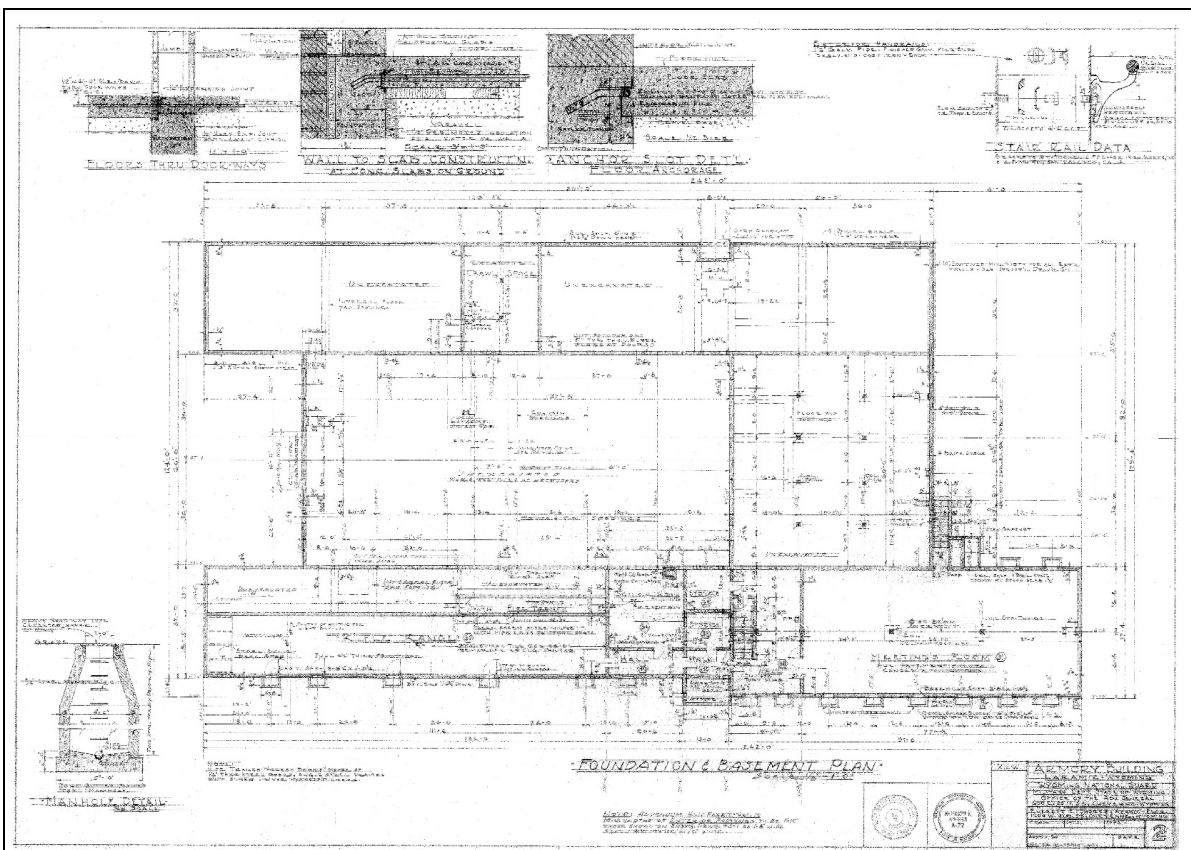
**ORIGINAL DRAWINGS**

Site plan and oblique (WYARNG).

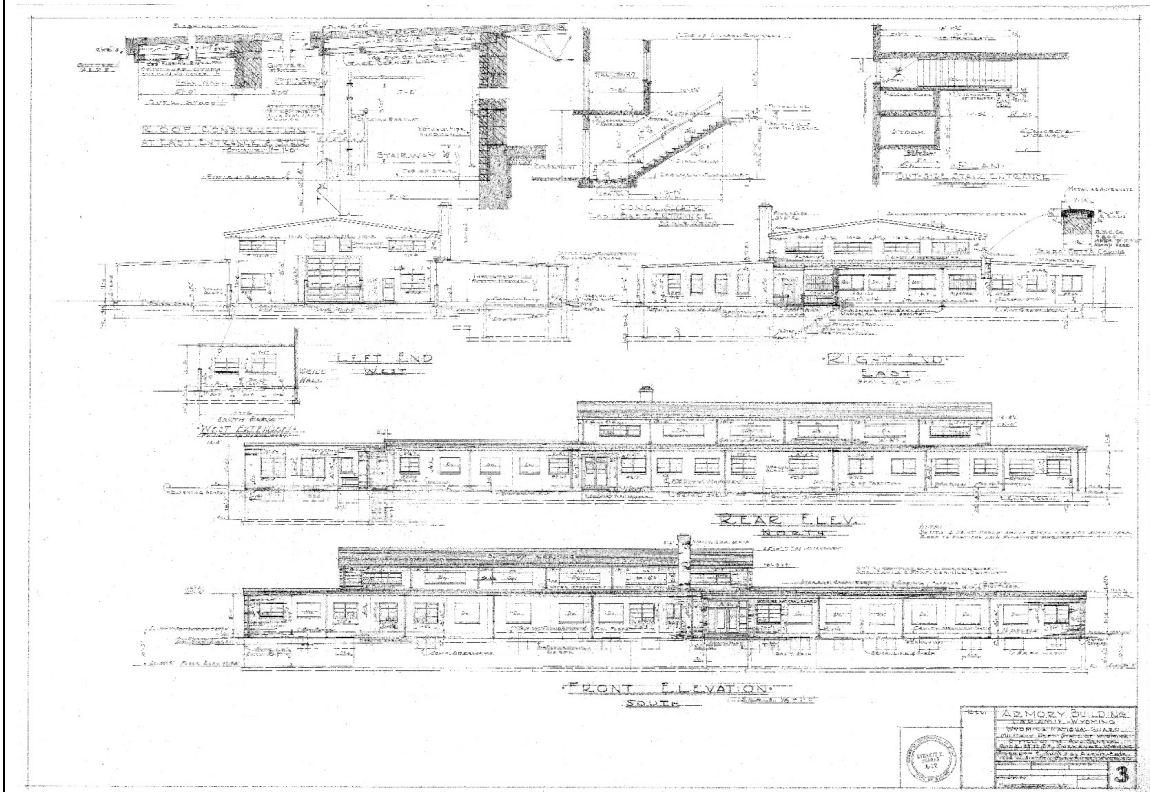


First-floor plan (WYARNG).

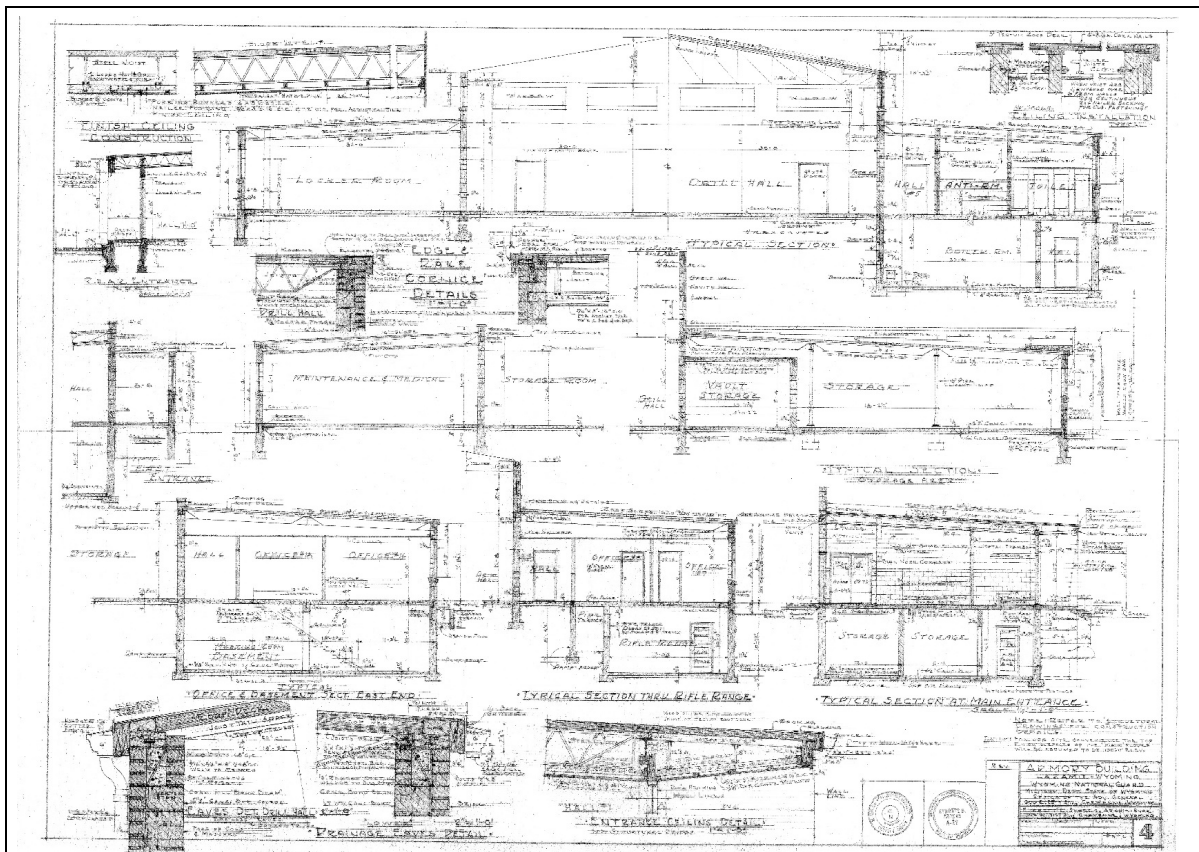




**Basement and foundation plan (WYARNG).**



**Elevations (WYARNG).**



Sections (WYARNG).

<b><u>PRESENT OWNER</u></b> Adjutant General	<b><u>OWNER ADDRESS</u></b> Wyoming Military Department Office of the Adjutant General 5500 Bishop Boulevard Cheyenne, WY 82009-3320											
<b><u>GENERAL CONDITION OF PROPERTY</u></b>  <table> <tr> <td>EXCELLENT</td> <td>GOOD</td> <td>POOR</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	EXCELLENT	GOOD	POOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b><u>ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS</u></b>  <table> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td rowspan="2">IF YES, SEE HISTORY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>YES</td> <td>NO</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IF YES, SEE HISTORY	YES	NO
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<b><u>BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCES</u></b> Drawings provided by Wyoming National Guard.  University of Wyoming American Studies Program. 2005. <i>Wyoming Army National Guard Historic Buildings Field Inventory and Evaluation Report</i> . Prepared for the Wyoming Military Department under Contract No. 05030715801. Laramie, WY: University of Wyoming.  _____. 2006. <i>Wyoming Cultural Properties Form</i> . Prepared for the Wyoming Military Department under Contract No. 05030715801. Smithsonian #48LN4454. Laramie, WY: University of Wyoming.												
<b><u>PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY</u></b>  <table> <tr> <td>ELIGIBLE/CONTRIBUTING</td> <td>NOT ELIGIBLE/ NON-CONTRIBUTING</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	ELIGIBLE/CONTRIBUTING	NOT ELIGIBLE/ NON-CONTRIBUTING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b><u>FORM PREPARED BY:</u></b> Sunny Adams and Adam Smith Engineer Research and Development Center Construction Engineering Research Laboratory 2902 Newmark Drive Champaign, IL 61822  <b>DATE: January 2016</b>							
ELIGIBLE/CONTRIBUTING	NOT ELIGIBLE/ NON-CONTRIBUTING											
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>											
<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b> <p>The Laramie WYARNG site is located at 2901 Armory Drive, on the eastern portion of the town of Laramie, Wyoming, and just north of Interstate 80, in Albany County. The site is a large, rectangular parcel that includes the armory and a field maintenance shop (FMS), located north of the armory and leased to the University of Wyoming. Paved parking is located on the east and west sides of the armory. A large fenced-in lot that includes the FMS is located to the north of the armory, and the lot is also leased to the university. A grassy lawn with large trees is to the south of the armory, an athletic field is to the west of the WYARNG site, Jacobs Park Golf Course is to the east of the site, and the Laramie High School and athletic fields are to the south of the site. East Harney Road is to the north, North 30th Street is to the east, East Armory Road is to the south, and North Television is to the west.</p> <p>The building is a combination of a one-story structure that has a centrally placed double-height drill hall space encompassed by one-story wings on the north, east, and west sides. This building was designed as a two-unit armory. The armory is a large, irregularly shaped brick building (measuring approximately 280' x 165'). The double-height drill hall has a gable built-up roof, while the one-story wings have shed roofs. The majority of the original windows have been removed and replaced with vinyl-sash windows. The original window pattern is intact, but the openings have been filled with three different sizes of replacement one-over-two windows and one-over-one windows. The original concrete windowsills are intact. The original clerestory windows have been removed and replaced with vinyl-sash single-pane fixed windows. The clerestory windows are in groups of three. The fascia/soffit system is made up of both wood and metal materials.</p> <p>The south (front) elevation faces East Armory Road. The front elevation is defined by the recessed entry bay. The recessed entry is called out by a decorative brick wall, original bright-aluminum and plate-glass doors, sidelights, and a transom. The name of the armory and address is painted in gold letters on the transom. There are two original square ceiling light fixtures located on the overhang protecting the entry.</p>												



There are original stainless steel letters spelling out “Wyoming National Guard” that are placed just to the right of the entry, above two replacement windows. The left side of the elevation consists of six larger replacement windows, three smaller replacement windows, and two narrow replacement windows (latrine windows). The right side of the elevation consists of eight of the larger replacement windows. The background of the south elevation is the double-height wall of the drill hall. There are five evenly spaced replacement windows placed on this part of the wall. A brick chimneystack extends from the one-story shed roof and projects above the double-height gable roof of the drill hall.

The west elevation faces a paved lot and is characterized by the north and south wings that extend beyond the double-height drill hall, forming a rough U-shape. There are no window or door openings on the one-story west elevation; however, the projecting part of the wings, the north and south walls, each have two replacement windows. The central (drill hall) area has a centrally placed large overhead wood door topped with two small, individual, replacement fixed single-pane windows. A large replacement window flanks either side of the overhead doors. A single entry metal replacement doors is located to the right of the overhead door. There are two clerestory windows on the top portion of the wall.

The north elevation faces the fenced-in area for the military vehicles. There are sixteen evenly spaced replacement windows. Between the fifth and sixth windows (from the left) is a set of replacement metal doors. There is a small transom above each door. The far left side of the elevation is recessed. There are two replacement windows located on this portion of the elevation. The background of the north elevation is the double-height drill hall. There are six replacement clerestory windows placed on this portion of the wall.

The east elevation faces a large paved parking lot. This side of the building assumes a rough L-shape, with the southern (left side) end projecting outward from the rest of the elevation. There are four one-over-one replacement windows evenly spaced on this portion of the east wall. The right side of the east elevation has three larger replacement windows. The middle section of the elevation has the only four remaining steel-sash six-pane windows with metal security grates. There is a single-entry metal door with a pane and a porch roof adjacent to a recently added brick-enclosed addition. There is a large, paired, single-pane window placed in the new brick wall of the addition. (\*Note: an original fifth window is located “inside” the recently added brick-enclosed addition for the basement stairs.) The background of the east elevation is the double-height wall for the drill hall; there are four evenly spaced clerestory windows on this portion of the wall.

The first-floor interior spaces include a main vestibule, a lobby, a drill hall, two latrines, a kitchen, several classrooms, several small offices, interior hallways, two arms rooms, storage rooms, and workout areas. The interior walls are concrete block. The interior doors are metal with divided panes or wood with divided light. The hallway floors are concrete. There are four large fixed-pane windows located on the south wall of the east hallway looking into the offices. There are two large two-pane fixed windows located on the north wall of the west hallway looking into the drill hall space. The ceilings in the two one-story wings angle upwards following the shape of the shed roof. The majority of the ceilings are original acoustical tiles. The interior glazed tile windowsills are original. The majority of the original layout and floor plan for the second floor is intact. Some of the original uses of the rooms have been changed, and a few newer partition walls have been constructed to divide larger rooms into smaller spaces.

The vestibule has the original terrazzo tile floor, glazed sanitary tile walls, acoustic tile ceiling, square ceiling light fixtures, and original bright-aluminum and plate-glass vestibule doors with sidelights and transom, leading into the lobby space. A newer door opening has been cut into the east wall of the vestibule.

The drill hall is an open double-height space with concrete floor, concrete block walls, exposed steel truss system and metal roof decking, and replacement pendent light fixtures. The drill hall is the heart of the building, providing access to all of the interior rooms. Some of the architectural features include: glazed sanitary tile walls in the latrines, bottom half of the drill hall walls, and old locker room; concrete block walls; and metal doors (metal, metal and glass, and metal with louvered vent). The lobby, kitchen, latrines, and rifle range have all been modified with newer finishes (such as flooring, drop-ceilings, and light fixtures).

The right side of the south wing is still being used as office space, as originally designed and laid out. The kitchen on the left side of the south wing has been enlarged by making the adjacent classroom smaller in size with the addition of the partition wall. The two original locker rooms located in the north wing have been modified and made smaller with the addition of partition walls. These spaces are no longer used as locker

rooms. The original medical room on the northeast corner of the north wing is currently being used as a workout area; however, the original blonde wood cabinets, sink, and countertop are still in place. For the most part, both latrines are intact with: original glazed sanitary tile walls, mosaic tile floors, sinks, mirrors, toilets, and shower stalls.

The armory has a partial basement. There are two access points: one is located near the lobby area, and the other is located near the northeast corner of the south wing. The basement has concrete floors, concrete block walls, and a few original light fixtures. The majority of the basement layout is intact; however, the basement is currently used for storage. The firing range is no longer used, and the space is now storage. There are a few original metal hopper basement windows intact.

### **HISTORY**

See Chapters 2 and 3 for a detailed history related to the WYARNG in particular and armories in general.

The Laramie Armory was built in 1959 and named after Donald L. Dewees in 2000. When federal funds for armory construction finally became available to Wyoming in the 1950s, Laramie was the third community in the state to get a new armory (after Afton and Rawlins). The armory has been in continuous use by WYARNG and the community of Laramie for 57 years.

Although much larger in size, the Laramie Armory approximates the overall design of the “Type B” model armory that was designed by the Army Corps of Engineers in the late 1940s. The Type B, measuring approximately 150' x 100', was designed for a single unit, with one-story administrative space and classrooms on three sides of an assembly (or drill) hall, and a 1,000-inch small-arms range. According to the drawings provided by the WYARNG, Everett L. Shores of Cheyenne, Wyoming designed the armory.

The building has undergone few renovations. The exterior change to the armory would be the removal of the original steel sash four-pane, six-pane, and eight-pane windows and the addition of the replacement vinyl-sash one-over-two windows (with the exception of five original windows on the east elevation). In addition, all of the clerestory windows have been removed and replaced with vinyl-sash single-pane windows. The overall window pattern did not change or alter with this modification. At an unknown date, a small brick addition was constructed on the east elevation, enclosing the original exterior access to the basement level.

Overall, the interior floor plan and layout has remained the same, with a one-story administrative wing on the south side of the building and one-story classroom/storage/kitchen wing on the north side of the building. A few newer partition walls have been added to make some of the larger spaces smaller, seen in the two original locker rooms, which are no longer used as locker rooms.

The majority of the interior light fixtures have been replaced, and carpet has been added to the majority of the offices and classrooms.

### **SIGNIFICANCE**

The WYARNG Laramie Armory is significant for post-WWII armory construction across the United States from 1946 to 1968; however, since the WYARNG did not utilize Congressional funds for the design and construction of the building, and its design did not follow the standardized plans from National Guard Headquarters but only loosely followed the overall design guidelines, it is significant at the statewide level rather than the nationwide level.

The WYARNG Laramie Armory building is significant for its Mid-Century Modern design elements that were interpreted from the nationwide standardized plans by architect Everett Shores.

**CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES**

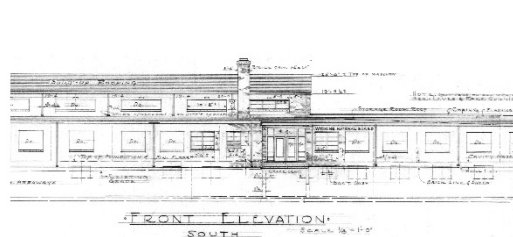
Intact and good condition:

- Large grassy area with flagpole at front
- Brick veneer
- Combination of one-story and double-height drill hall space
- Gable roof over double-height space and shed roofs over one-story wings
- Clerestory window openings
- Repetitive window pattern
- Concrete windowsills
- Recessed main entry with bright-aluminum and plate-glass doors with sidelights and transom and a decorative brick wall framing entry
- Original stainless steel lettering spelling out “Wyoming National Guard”
- Overall layout of the spaces around the drill hall (interior)
- Open double-height drill hall space with concrete floors, concrete block walls, and exposed steel structure (interior)
- Original glazed sanitary tiles in vestibule and latrines (interior)
- Concrete block interior walls
- Interior hallways with concrete floor and large paned windows looking into offices and drill hall (interior)
- Bright-aluminum and plate-glass vestibule doors with sidelights and transom (interior)
- Metal doors with divided panes (interior)
- Wood doors with divided panes (interior)

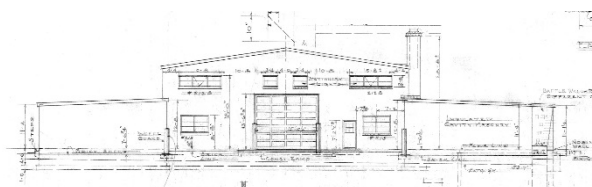
**Noncharacter-defining features (due to modification or replacement):**

- Group of three replacement vinyl-sash single-pane clerestory windows (original six-light steel-sash industrial-style clerestory windows)
- Replacement one-over-two vinyl-sash awning windows (original four-pane, six-pane, and eight-pane steel-sash windows)
- Metal entry doors (replaced)
- Locker rooms (modified into smaller storage, classroom, and workout rooms)
- Firing range in the basement replaced with storage (interior)

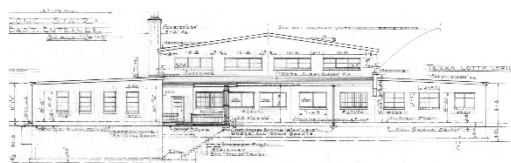


**COMPARISON PHOTOS**

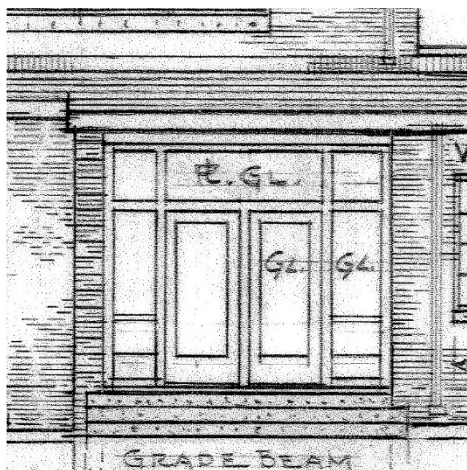
**South (front) elevation: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the elevation with replacement windows in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



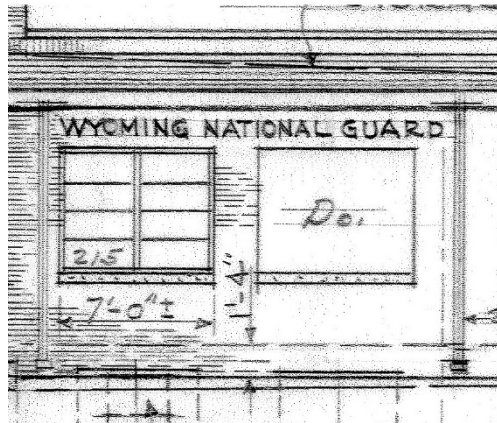
**West elevation: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the elevation with replacement windows in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



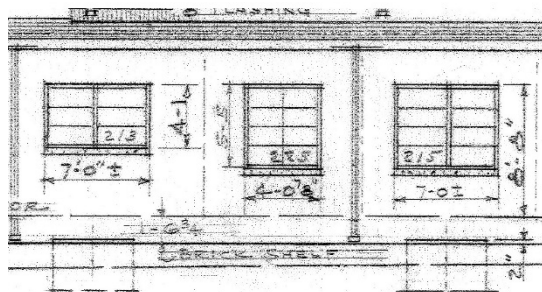
**East elevation: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the elevation with replacement windows in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



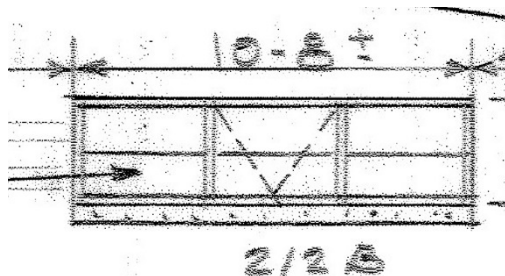
**Main entry on the south (front) elevation: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the elevation with doors, sidelights, and transom in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



Eight-pane steel-sash windows and stainless-steel lettering on the south (front) elevation: Original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the replacement vinyl one-over-two windows and original lettering in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).

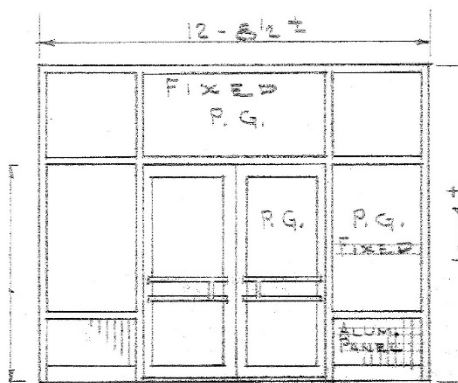


Three different size multipane steel-sash windows: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the different sizes vinyl one-over-two replacement windows in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).

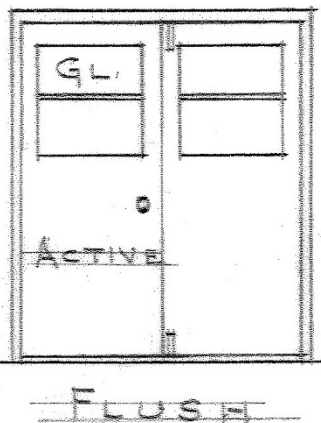


Clerestory windows: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the vinyl-sash single-pane replacement windows in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).

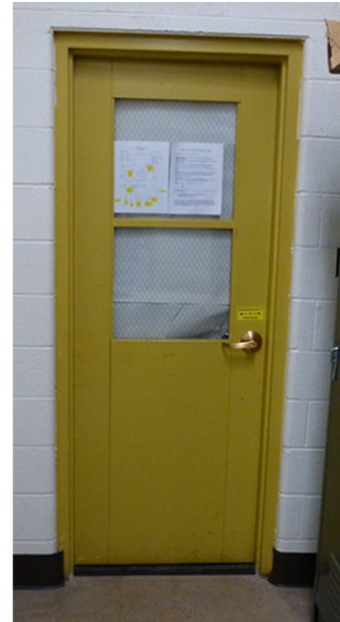
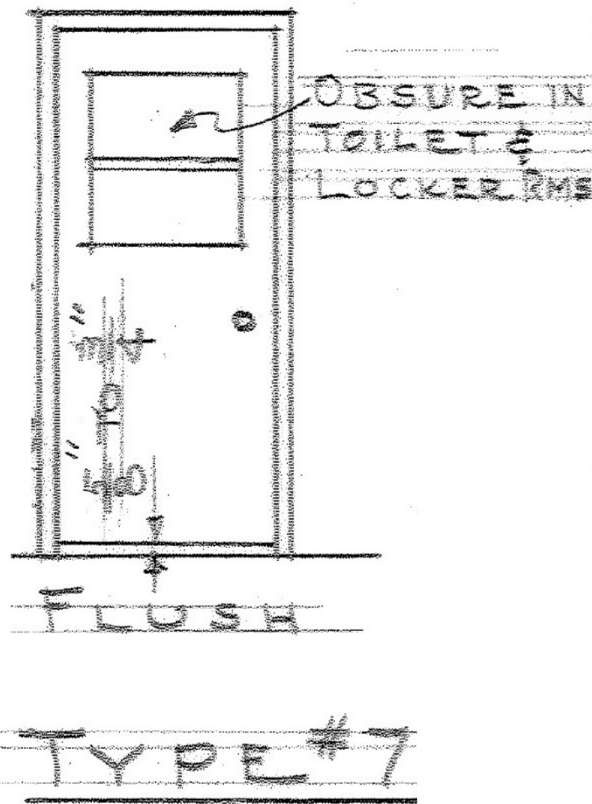




South vestibule doors, sidelights, and transom: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the original bright-aluminum and plate-glass doors, sidelights, and transom in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Set of metal doors with divided lights: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the original doors that lead from the lobby into the drill hall in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



Typical metal door with divided pane: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of an original door in 2015 [right], as located throughout the building (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



SQUARE  
RECESSED  
LENS UNIT



Square recessed light fixture: original drawing from 1957 [left], compared to the condition of the original light fixture located in the vestibule and lobby in 2015 [right] (ERDC-CERL, 2015).



## Organizational Maintenance Shop

WYOMING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM			
<b><u>PROPERTY BOUNDARIES</u></b> Laramie WYARNG armory is located at 2901 Armory Drive, Laramie, Wyoming in Albany County. -East Harney Road is to the north -North 30 <sup>th</sup> Street is to the east -East Armory Road is to the south -North Television is to the west	<b><u>COMMON/HISTORIC NAME</u></b> Laramie Armory Field Maintenance Shop (FMS) Organizational Maintenance Shop (OMS)		<b><u>STATUS</u></b> Usable
<b><u>ARCHITECT/BUILDER</u></b> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Everett L. Shores, Architect	<b><u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u></b> 1961  <b><u>DATE OF ALTERATIONS</u></b> Large rear addition in 1978 Window replacement, unknown	<b><u>NO. OF STORIES</u></b> 1-story	<b><u>FOOTPRINT</u></b> Complex
<b><u>ROOF FORM</u></b> Flat – 1961 portion Flat – 1978 portion	<b><u>FOUNDATION</u></b> Concrete	<b><u>WALLS</u></b> Concrete block	<b><u>ROOF</u></b> Built-up
<b><u>PROPERTY FUNCTION</u></b> <b>HISTORIC USE(S)</b> <b>CURRENT USE</b>		<b><u>NOTABLE FEATURES</u></b> - Irregularly shaped building	
Maintenance                      Unknown			
<b><u>RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER BUILDINGS</u></b> The Laramie WYARNG FMS (leased to the University of Wyoming) is located directly to the north of the armory. It and the surrounding land to the east, north, and west are fenced.			



**Photo 1. The Laramie Armory is on the left, and the FMS is on the right (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 2. South elevation of the FMS (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**Photo 3. Southeast oblique of the FMS, showing part of the 1978 rear addition with the lower roofline on the right (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



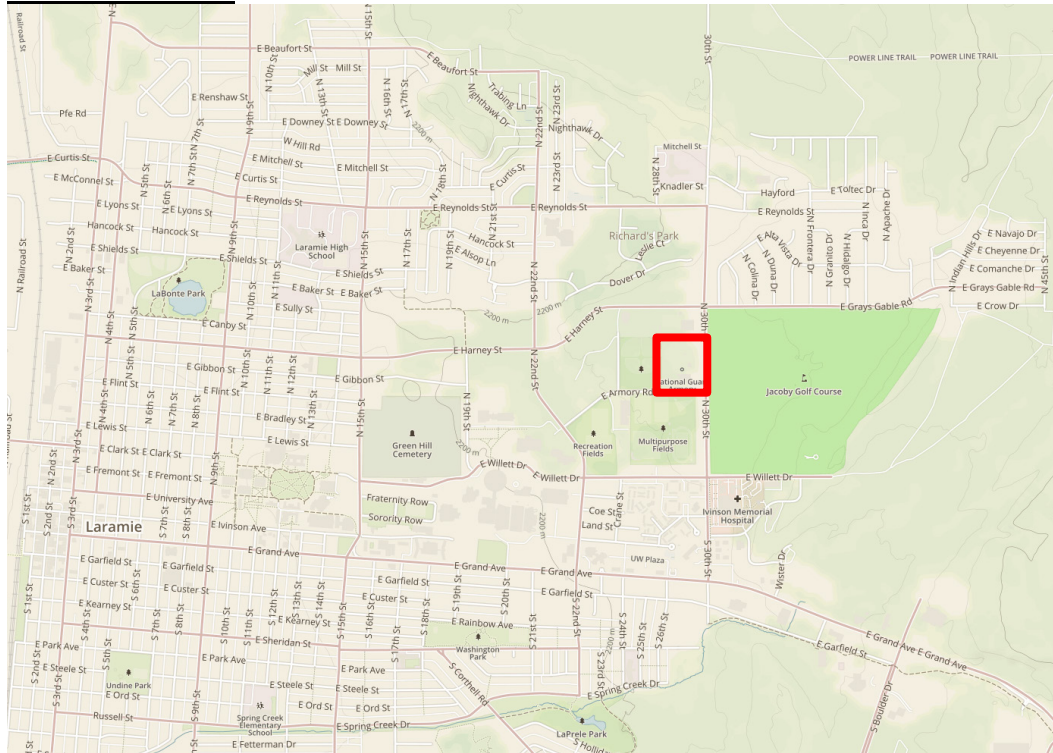
**Photo 4. Southwest oblique of the FMS, showing part of the 1978 rear addition on the left (ERDC-CERL, 2015).**



**USGS QUAD**

Laramie

## LOCATION MAPS



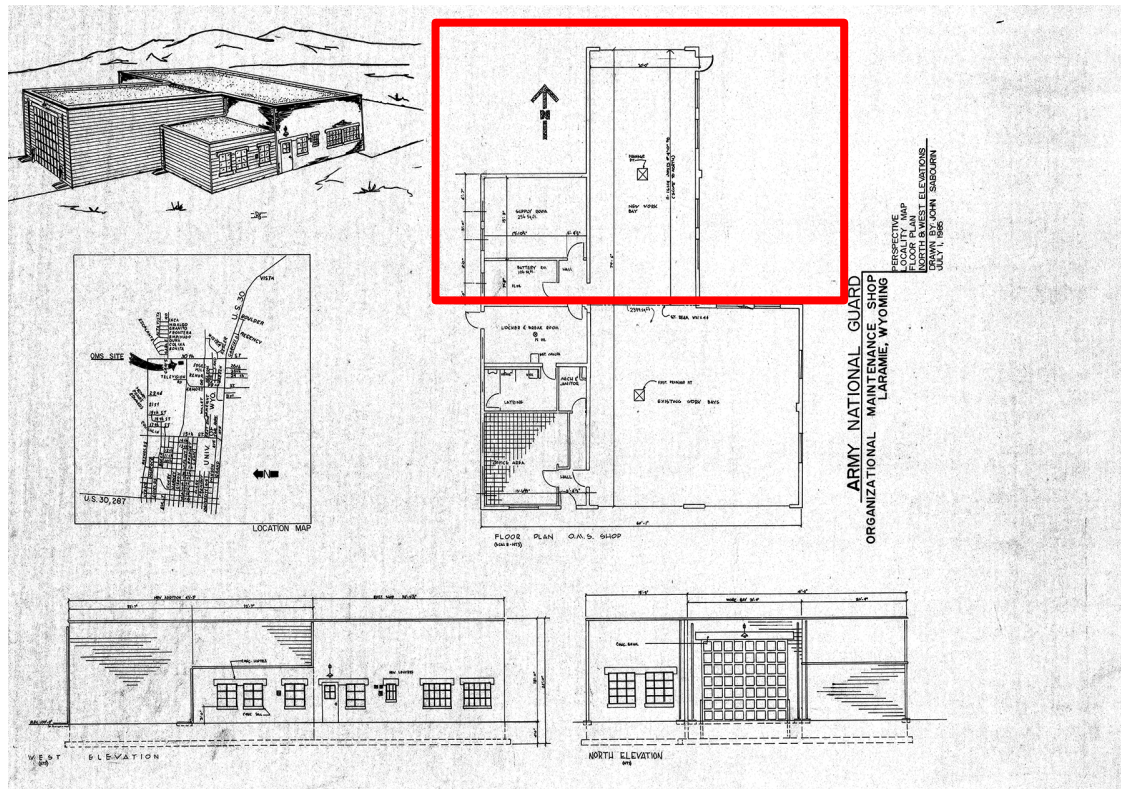
**Location of the Laramie WYARNG site, outlined in red (USGS map, 2016).**



Location of the Laramie WYARNG site, outlined in red, with armory and field maintenance shop labeled ([www.bing.com](http://www.bing.com), accessed 2016).



## ORIGINAL DRAWINGS



Floor plan, elevations, and oblique (area within red box is the 1978 rear addition) (WYARNG).

<b><u>PRESENT OWNER</u></b> Adjutant General	<b><u>OWNER ADDRESS</u></b> Wyoming Military Department Office of the Adjutant General 5500 Bishop Boulevard Cheyenne, WY 82009-3320											
<b><u>GENERAL CONDITION OF PROPERTY</u></b>  <table> <tr> <td>EXCELLENT</td> <td>GOOD</td> <td>POOR</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	EXCELLENT	GOOD	POOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b><u>ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS</u></b>  <table> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td rowspan="2">IF YES, SEE HISTORY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>YES</td> <td>NO</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IF YES, SEE HISTORY	YES	NO
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IF YES, SEE HISTORY										
YES	NO											
<b><u>BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCES</u></b> Drawings provided by Wyoming National Guard.  University of Wyoming American Studies Program. 2005. <i>Wyoming Army National Guard Historic Buildings Field Inventory and Evaluation Report</i> . Prepared for the Wyoming Military Department under Contract No. 05030715801. Laramie, WY: University of Wyoming.  _____. 2006. <i>Wyoming Cultural Properties Form</i> . Prepared for the Wyoming Military Department under Contract No. 05030715801. Smithsonian #48LN4454. Laramie, WY: University of Wyoming.												
<b><u>PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY</u></b>  <table> <tr> <td>ELIGIBLE/CONTRIBUTING</td> <td>NOT ELIGIBLE/ NON-CONTRIBUTING</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	ELIGIBLE/CONTRIBUTING	NOT ELIGIBLE/ NON-CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b><u>FORM PREPARED BY:</u></b> Sunny Adams and Adam Smith Engineer Research and Development Center Construction Engineering Research Laboratory 2902 Newmark Drive Champaign, IL 61822  <b>DATE: January 2016</b>							
ELIGIBLE/CONTRIBUTING	NOT ELIGIBLE/ NON-CONTRIBUTING											
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>											
<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b> <p>The Laramie WYARNG Armory FMS is located to the north of the armory building which is located at 2901 Armory Drive, on the eastern portion of the town of Laramie, Wyoming, and just north of Interstate 80, in Albany County. The site is a large, rectangular parcel that includes the armory and FMS (leased to the University of Wyoming). Paved parking is located on the east and west sides of the armory. A large fenced-in lot is located to the north of the armory which includes the FMS and is also leased to the university. A grassy lawn with large trees is to the south of the armory. An athletic field is to the west of the WYARNG site, Jacobs Park Golf Course is to the east of the site, and the Laramie High School and athletic fields are to the south of the site. East Harney Road is to the north, North 30th Street is to the east, East Armory Road is to the south, and North Television is to the west.</p> <p>The FMS is a one-story concrete masonry unit structure with a primary elevation that faces south towards the armory. This elevation has a double set of replacement vinyl windows, an original door, and two large service bays with replacement doors. The west elevation, starting from the southwest corner, has two double sets of replacement vinyl windows, a small window opening with replacement vinyl window, a large single window opening with a replacement vinyl window, and an original door. Past that is the 1978 addition, with three window openings with replacement vinyl windows. The remainder of this side is a wall without fenestration. The north elevation is from the large 1978 rear addition, and the addition has two large window openings with replacement vinyl windows and a single service bay with a replacement door. The east side of the FMS, starting from the southeast corner, has two large window openings with replacement vinyl windows on the 1961 portion of the building, four large window openings with replacement vinyl windows on the 1978 addition, and an original door.</p> <p>The interior of the FMS contains two service bays in the original 1961 portion of the buildings, a small office, a latrine, and a break room. The 1978 addition to the rear contains an additional service bay, a supply room, and a battery storage room.</p>												

**HISTORY**

The site plan for the 1959 Laramie Armory did not include the FMS, since all vehicle repair was expected to be done inside the drill hall of the armory building. The FMS was added to the site in 1961, according to the real property records, and then in 1978 a large addition to the rear containing a third service bay was added. The architects for the original 1961 portion and the 1978 addition are not known. In 2013, the FMS and the land to the east, west, and north was leased to the University of Wyoming and physically separated from the armory by a chain-link fence.

**SIGNIFICANCE**

The Laramie FMS is not significant for the WYARNG in its construction or in its use under Criterion A. Its construction of concrete masonry units is typical for the era, and it does not have significant architectural design or engineering under Criterion C.



REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY) 30-07-2016		2. REPORT TYPE Final Technical Report		3. DATES COVERED (From - To)	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Architectural Survey of Laramie Armory, Wyoming Army National Guard				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S) Adam D. Smith, Megan W. Tooker, and Sunny E. Adams				5d. PROJECT NUMBER 455557	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) 2902 Newmark Drive PO Box 9005 Champaign, IL 61826-9005				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER ERDC/CERL TR-16-11	
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Cultural Resources Wyoming Military Department (Wyoming Army National Guard) 5410 Bishop Blvd Cheyenne, WY 82009				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S) WYARNG	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release. Distribution is unlimited.					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT  This document is an architectural survey of the armory that is utilized by the Wyoming Army National Guard and located in Laramie, Wyoming. The Armory was constructed in 1959, and the Field Maintenance Shop was built in 1961. This survey satisfies Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended, and it was used to determine the eligibility of this armory for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). It is the recommendation of this report that the Laramie National Guard Armory is significant under NRHP criteria, and that it retains enough integrity to be individually eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C.					
15. SUBJECT TERMS Wyoming--Army National Guard; Historic preservation--Evaluation; Architectural surveys; Historic districts; Military bases; National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), Cultural resources management, Armory, Armory construction					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF PAGES	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
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