

PRESIDIO PHYSICAL HISTORY REPORT
BUILDING INVENTORY

BUILDING NUMBER: 1214 (former Fort Winfield Scott number 10)

O.Q.M.G. PLAN NUMBER: 61-H

NAME: Barracks, Coastal Artillery Company Band (Headquarters,
Command Battalion)

PLAN TYPE: Two and one-half story concrete structure, tile roof,
main gable flanked by cross-gables at ends, mission revival design.

BUILDING CHRONOLOGY:

- 1912 Building completed on June 19 of this year for a total cost of \$17,386.60. Door and window screens were installed the following month.
- 1924 Two water meters were installed.
- 1926 Nine window shades were installed. Three more were installed the following year.
- 1930 One electric meter for the oil burner was installed.
- 1932 An additional electric meter was installed.
- 1935 One enameled iron eight-gallon flush tank installed.
- 1937 Five window shades installed.
- 1938 Total expenditures on the building through June of this year amounted to \$7,979.52.
- 19-- The three bays of the second story of the front porch were enclosed for additional office space.
- 1939 Maintenance and repairs for this fiscal year came to \$3,779.01.
- 19-- Exterior color altered from gray stucco to tan.
- 1940 Maintenance and repairs for this fiscal year came to \$1,295.87. That same year an intercom system was installed in the building.
- 1941 Maintenance and repairs for this fiscal year came to \$3,642.02. More window shades went up in the building that year, too.
- 1942 Two large fluorescent light fixtures were installed

- in the building, along with 39 window shades and one motor.
- 1943 A 60 amp switch was installed in the building.
- 19-- Iron bars added over most windows
- 1940 Burglar alarm system installed "for the protection of four safes."
- 19-- Basement areas re-done into office spaces with acoustical tile ceilings and carpet over linoleum on concrete floor, fluorescent lights.
- 19-- Security lights added to the exterior of the structure.
- 19-- Central portion of building, second floor, recently repartitioned.

CHARACTER-DEFINING/SIGNIFICANT FEATURES:

EXTERIOR:

HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO ALTERATION:

- building form, shape, massing, symmetry, materials
- intersecting gable roofs, main block, perpendicular end wings
- tile roof
- decorative stepped and arched parapets, gable end walls
- fenestration pattern
- lug sills
- bevel-edged water course
- louvered, arched vent openings centered on gable ends
- two-story central porch, three bays wide (second story now enclosed)
- stucco finish
- six-over-six wood frame double hung windows throughout majority of structure, with six-light fixed or hopper window in basement
- concrete stoops flanking concrete entrance steps, front porch
- single story back porch with hip roof, iron railing, latticework around foundation
- original back door: nine lights over inset panel
- expansive eaves with decorative rafter tails supported by paired joists that in turn are supported by decorative brackets
- solid porch railings, front porch

LESS SENSITIVE TO ALTERATION:

- exterior stucco and wood trim colors

INTERIOR:

HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO ALTERATION:

- original room configuration (compare original with current)
- original ceiling height (in a few places such as the first floor offices the ceiling is suspended acoustical tile, but the original remains hidden underneath that)
- original radiators
- bullnosed corners on staircase
- chair rails at window sills
- half-round moldings framing doors and windows
- original baseboards
- door openings in walls of original configurations
- central hall staircase
- original hardware on windows including hand holds
- exposed structure (8x8 or 8x10 beams set in concrete walls in basement)
- original basement doors, paired six-light doors with two inset panels below
- exposed concrete walls in basement, with impression of wooden formwork
- historic lighting fixtures in basement boiler room
- two ash removal doors, basement

LESS SENSITIVE TO ALTERATION:

- brick partition wall in southwest corner of basement
- Mosler safe in basement

OVERALL ARCHITECTURAL: The building is part of the group of Fort Winfield Scott structures executed in a simplified version of mission revival design. The use of this architectural style was an evolution from the more staid and traditional colonial and neoclassical revival styles used by the army. Also, the placement of this group of structures--in a horseshoe shape gently following the topography--is a departure from the typical placement of army buildings around a rectilinear parade ground.

Like the brick band barracks on the main post, this structure was a slightly modified, smaller version of a normal barracks. The bands were smaller groups, and thus did not require barracks as large as those provided for regular troops. Despite the slightly smaller building, the architectural details on the band barracks, in both the Fort Winfield Scott and Presidio instances, were similar to the adjacent barracks in the respective developments.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: An 1840 cannon is centered on the front porch.

DATE OF SITE VISIT: 7/27/92

SOURCES:

National Archives, Record Group 77, Entry 393, Box 237,

Quartermaster Corps form 117.

National Historic Landmark Nomination Form, available at Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Quartermaster Corps Form 117, Presidio Army Museum.

Thompson, Erwin N. and Sally B. Woodbridge, Special History Study--Presidio of San Francisco, An Outline of Its Evolution as a U.S. Army Post, 1847-1990.