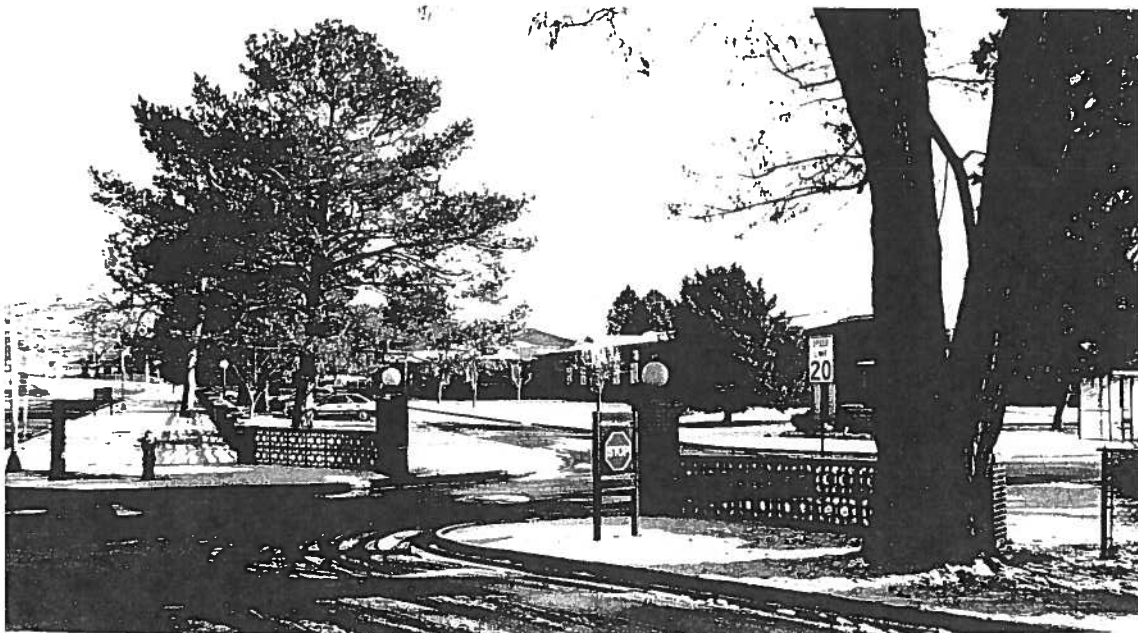
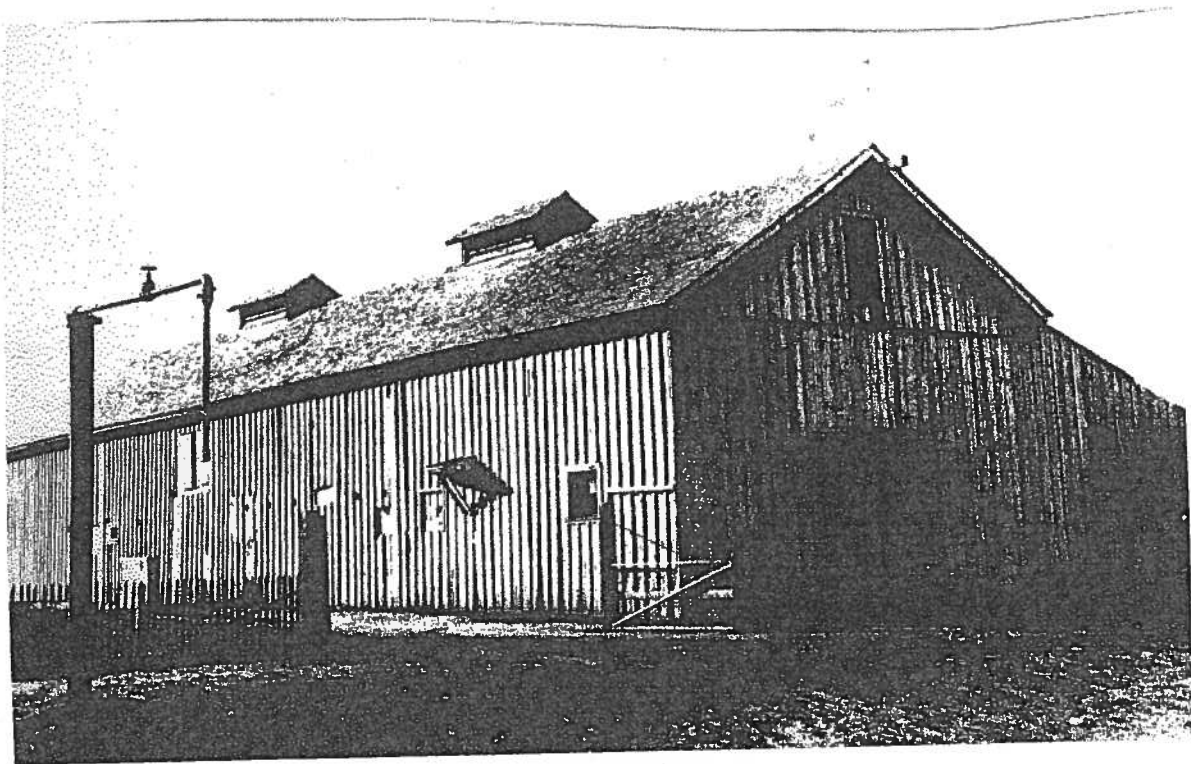


This residence, using background reference points, schematic maps, and some guesswork identifies it as the commissary sergeants quarters situated where the parking lot for the Idaho State Veterans Home now is. Size, materials and construction was quite similar to bldg 1 with the exception it had no 2nd floor other than attic space. Given the designator 19, it was built during the brief construction boom of the early 1880's that included wash houses for the soldiers; blacksmith quarters, and even an icehouse behind Officers Row that was later used for an Ammo dump.



This picture is identified as Quartermaster's stables 1890's. Water via pipe from the reservoir on the hill was completed by that time, the creek had been diverted away from the post and close to this structure were cavalry stables with another temporary stables another 100 feet closer to town. This area is now on the other side of the fenced National Guard grounds.

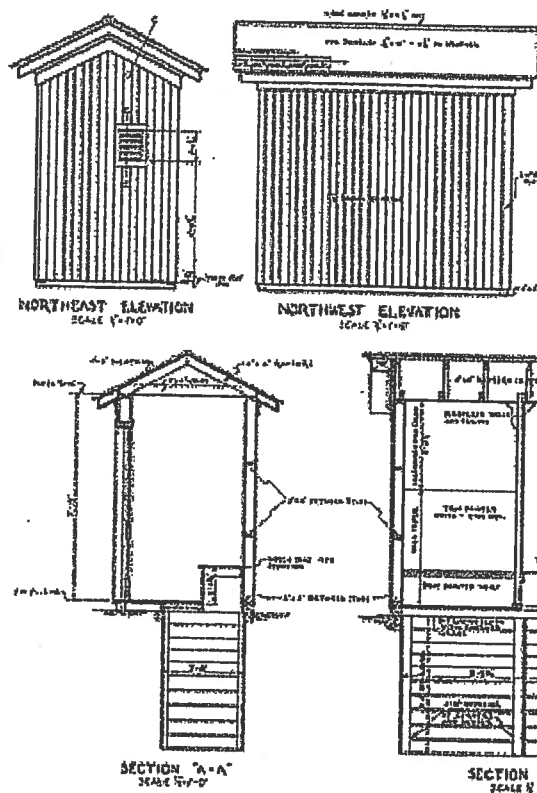


The cavalry barracks early 1900's. Referenced as bldg 12 it originated as sandstone barracks in 1864 with a separate mess hall and wash house eventually becoming one large imposing but very drafty sandstone, brick, and wood building. Its location, immediately to the right of bldg 13 is now grass and parking.

The infantry barracks (#14) was very similar to the cavalry barracks with the same drafty amenities, and located immediately to the left of bldg 13 where building 67 now is.

A strong attempt was made in the 1950's to save the cavalry building but too late. It was beyond repair and demolished.

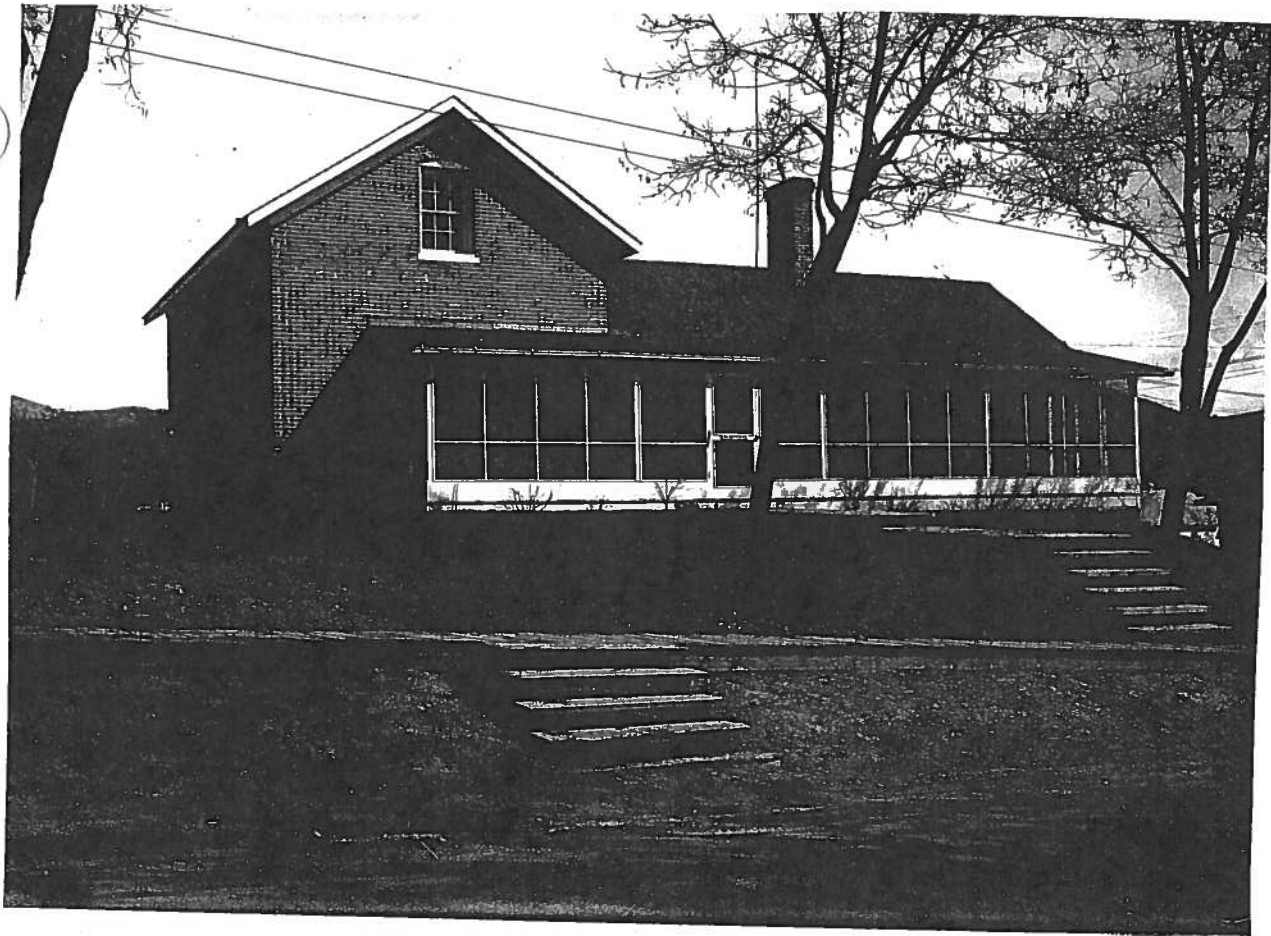


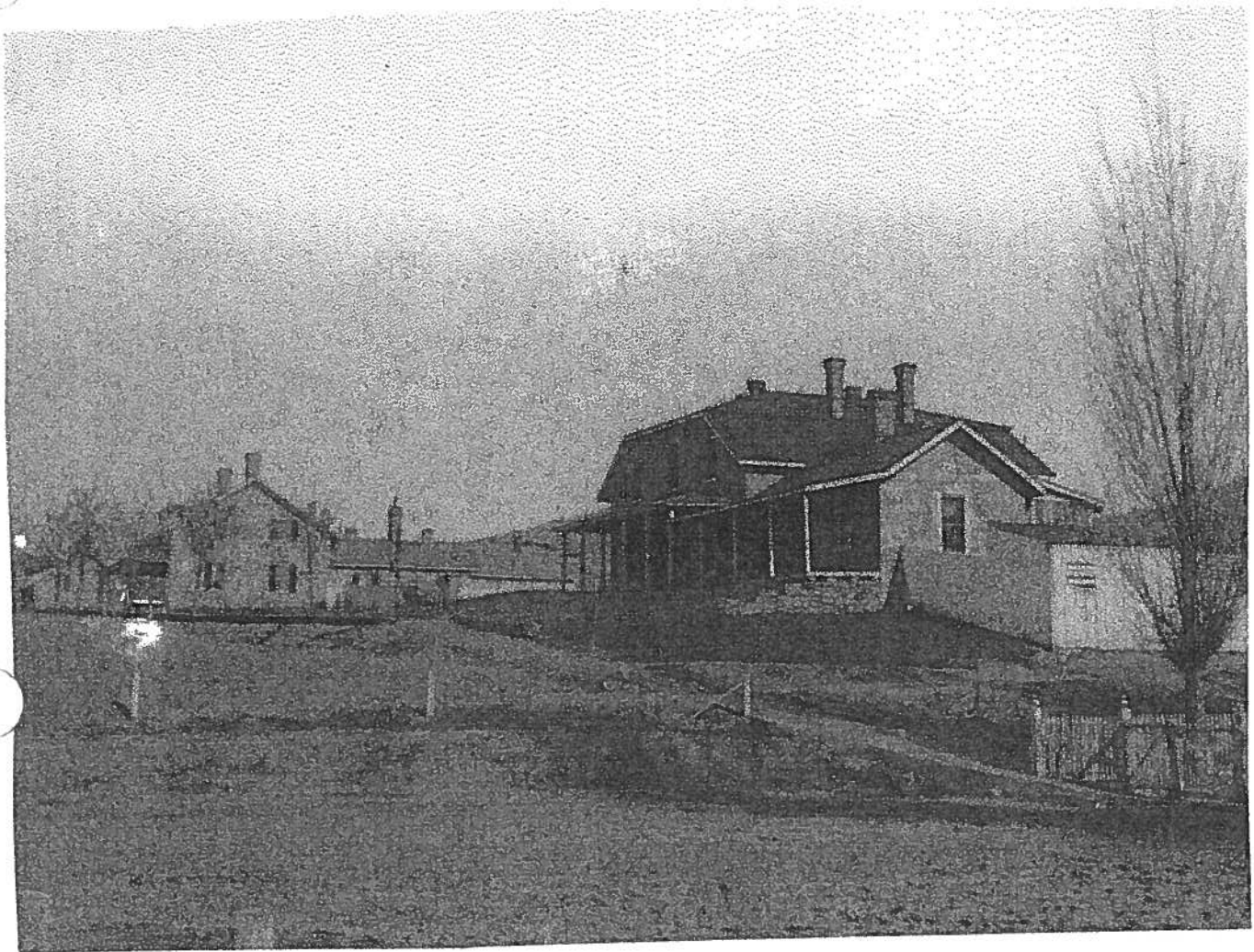


This little publication could not be complete without a small article about the “privies”.

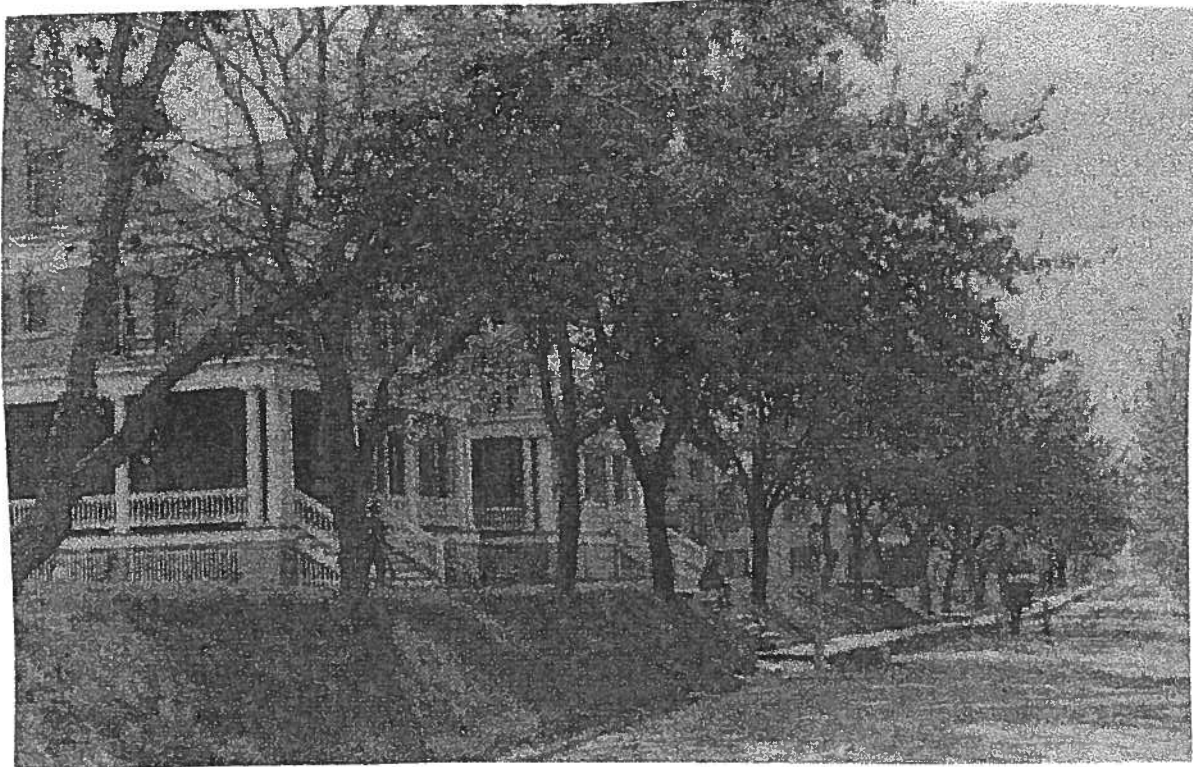
This is the standard plans issued from Washington DC for constructing outhouses on Military posts. The quartermaster’s bldgs and stables built large ones. Each building on officer’s row had it’s own, situated where the cement and blacktop road is in back. Eventually each building finally got “indoor plumbing” usually installed in a walk-in closet or storage room or even taking over an entire smaller room. The behavioral health bldg in 2001 was the first building on the hill constructed WITH indoor plumbing.

Building 4 had the most questions when I first started to research. Why is there a large attic with no access? Why such a small sandstone bldg section? Why is there such a change in the brick pattern on the left side? Seems the original building of sandstone was a 2 room building with rooms 14 by 16 feet that was for the post surgeon and part of the 1863 construction. This gave him an office plus a bit of room for quarters. Later a porch was added in both front and back, and in 1870, a large 2-story addition was added for the new post surgeon and his family. In the 1950's the 2nd floor caught on fire and what remains are what were salvaged. The left side of the house still shows the re-used brick and the old studding from the original 2nd floor addition.





A nice view of building 4 with its full-size addition. That is bldg 3 and 1 to the left, with the road to Idaho City in front, in this 1890's picture.



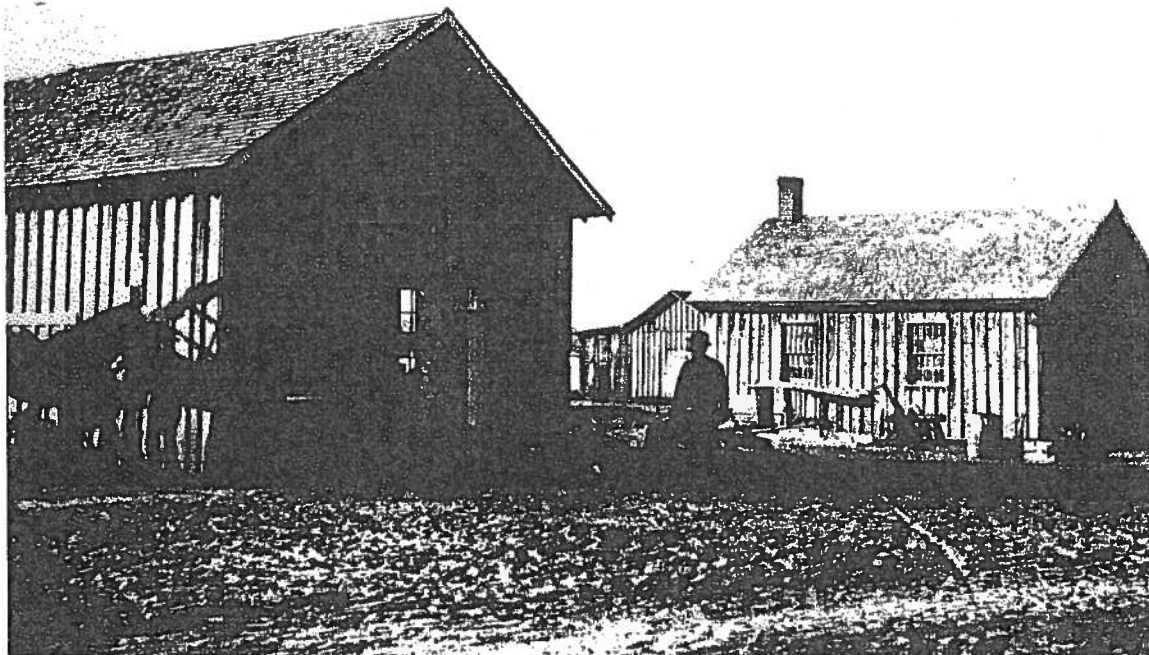
1910.
A shot of "officer's row" taken in the 1890's. Note the gravel drive with the horse buggy parked next to the boardwalk. That is bldg 23 in the front, with one soldier using a push mower to cut the grass while another soldier takes a break on the wood steps.



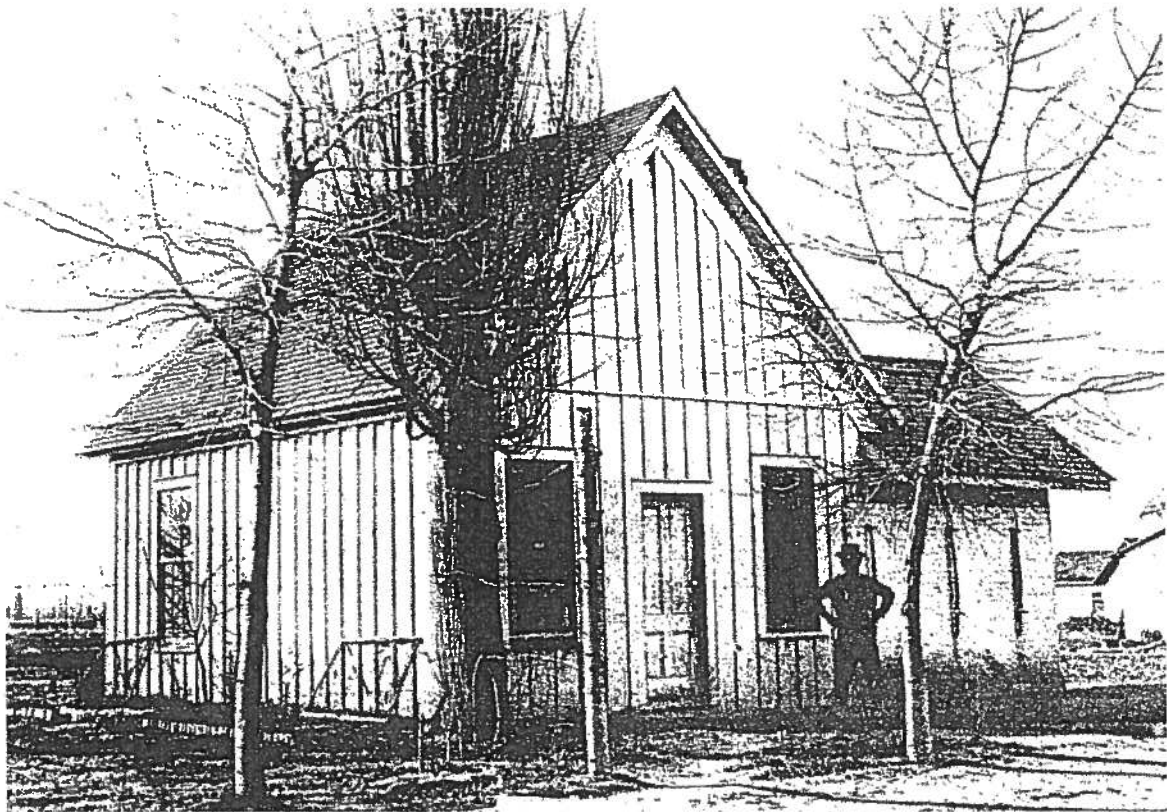
The first Bldg 5, of sandstone and built in 1863, was "removed" in 1890 according to a notation on one of the maps. Built in its place and using the same designator 5 was this beautiful single family residence constructed for the post commander who required more room than what was available in bldg 1. This fine building was a prominent fixture between bldg 23 and bldg 1 until it was demolished in June 1957.

A picture of both the Blacksmith shop and Carpenter shops at their first location, which is now one of our parking lots in front of our ECU.

A few hundred feet towards town were the cavalry stables measuring aprox. 50 by 200 feet and the enlisted men's stables at aprox 80 by 120 feet, both wood frame with large logs for their structural beams. These buildings were also constructed in 1863.



The 1st bakery on the post, almost directly in front of our existing bldg 6 and hopefully upwind from the stables.





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NURSES DUTIES IN 1887

The following job description was given to floor nurses by a hospital in 1887.

In addition to caring for your 50 patients, each nurse will follow these regulations:

1. Daily sweep and mop the floors of your ward, dust the patient's furniture and windowsills.
2. Maintain an even temperature in your ward by bringing in a scuttle of coal for the day's business.
3. Light is important to observe patient's condition, therefore, each day fill kerosene lamps, clean chimneys, and trim wicks. Wash windows once a week.
4. The nurse's notes are important in aiding the physician's work. Make your pens carefully; you may whittle the nibs to individual taste.
5. Each nurse on day duty will report every day at 7:00 AM and leave at 8:00 PM, except on the Sabbath, on which day you will be off from 12 noon till 2:00 PM.
6. Graduate nurses in good standing with the Director of Nursing will be given an evening off each week for courting purposes or two evenings a week if you go regularly to Church.
7. Each nurse should lay aside from each pay day a goodly sum of her earnings for her benefits during her declining years so that she will not be a burden. For example: if you earn \$30 a month, you should set aside \$15.
8. Any nurse who smokes, uses liquor in any form, gets her hair done at a beauty parlor or frequents dance halls will give the Director of Nurses good reason to suspect her worth, intentions and integrity.
9. The nurse who performs her labors and serves her patients and doctors without fault for 5 years will be given an increase of 5 cents a day providing there are no hospital debts outstanding.

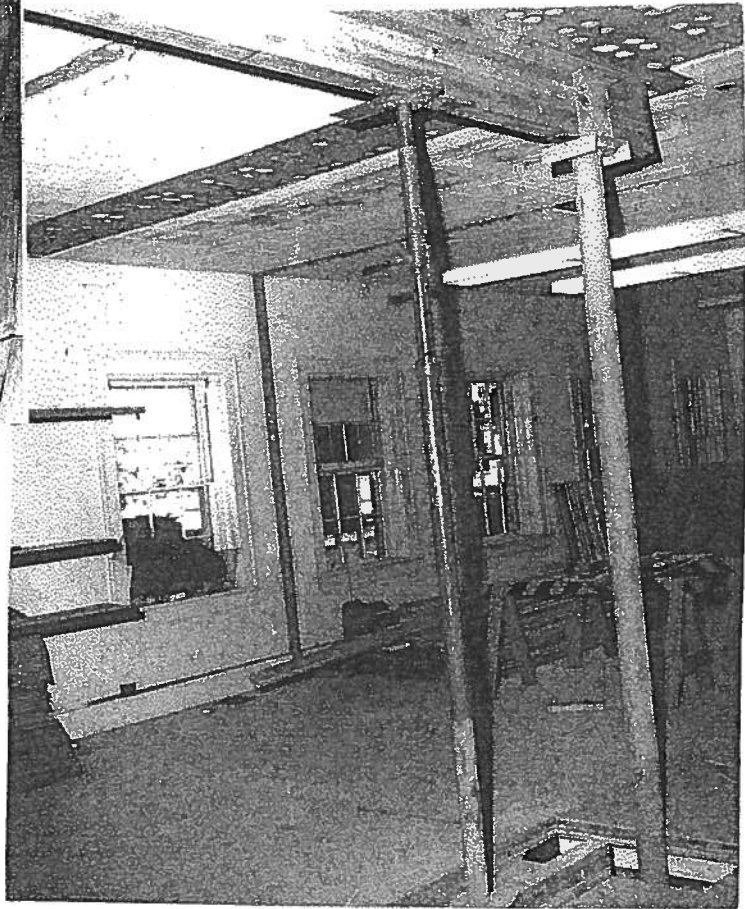
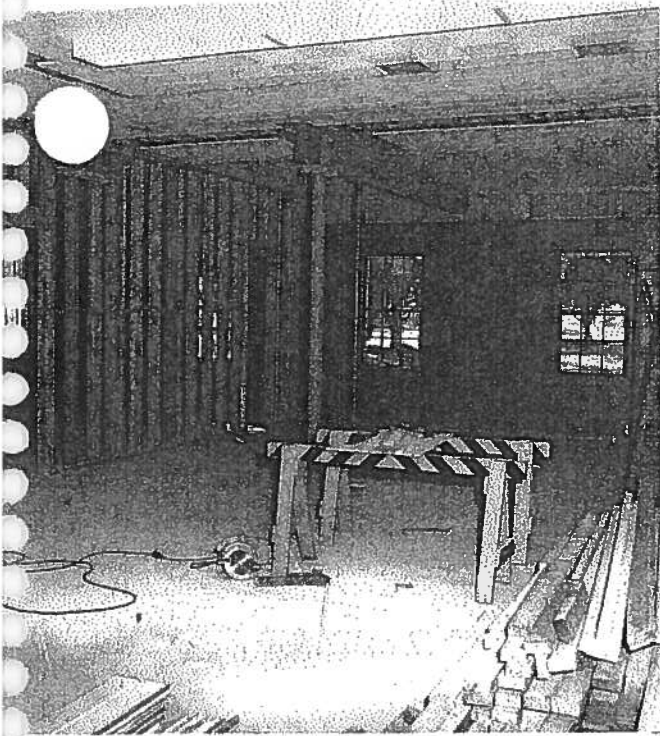


The Directors suite, designated as bldg 13 and built in 1886 of sandstone, just a few years later was demolished and replaced with a nice square brick building. It's front door faced the flagpole and the hill, and this area below "Officer's Row" was also the designated troop parade grounds.



In 1927, wings were added on both sides, the back door became the main front entrance, and now faces the relocated flagpole and downtown Boise. Next time you are in the Directors Suite, notice the front door and entry area is smaller than the back door and entry.





1968 brought some very serious remodeling to bldg 13's interior. We now have an extremely strong building, with an interior changed from a 1950's NCO club style to a modern warm setting with private offices.

The most versatile building on campus is bldg 27, built as the post barracks. Constructed in 1907 at a staggering 47,500 square feet, it's front door faced "Officer's Row" on the hill as did the LRC recreation bldg and Directors suite. Through the years, bldg 27 gained an elevator; both front and back porches were bricked in, a new brick facing to hide the many scars of remodeling, and a constant change in housing various departments including the first kitchen on campus.

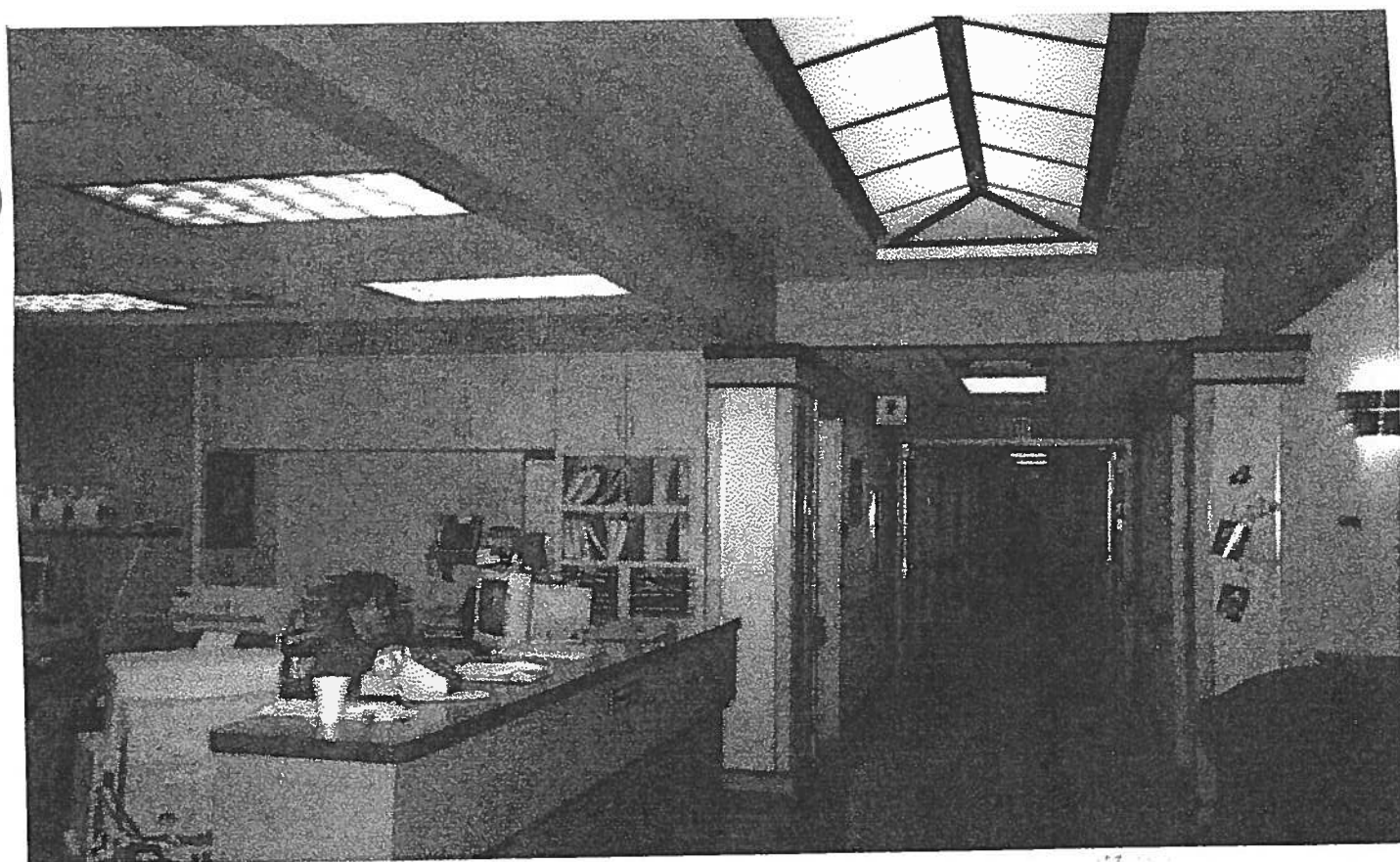


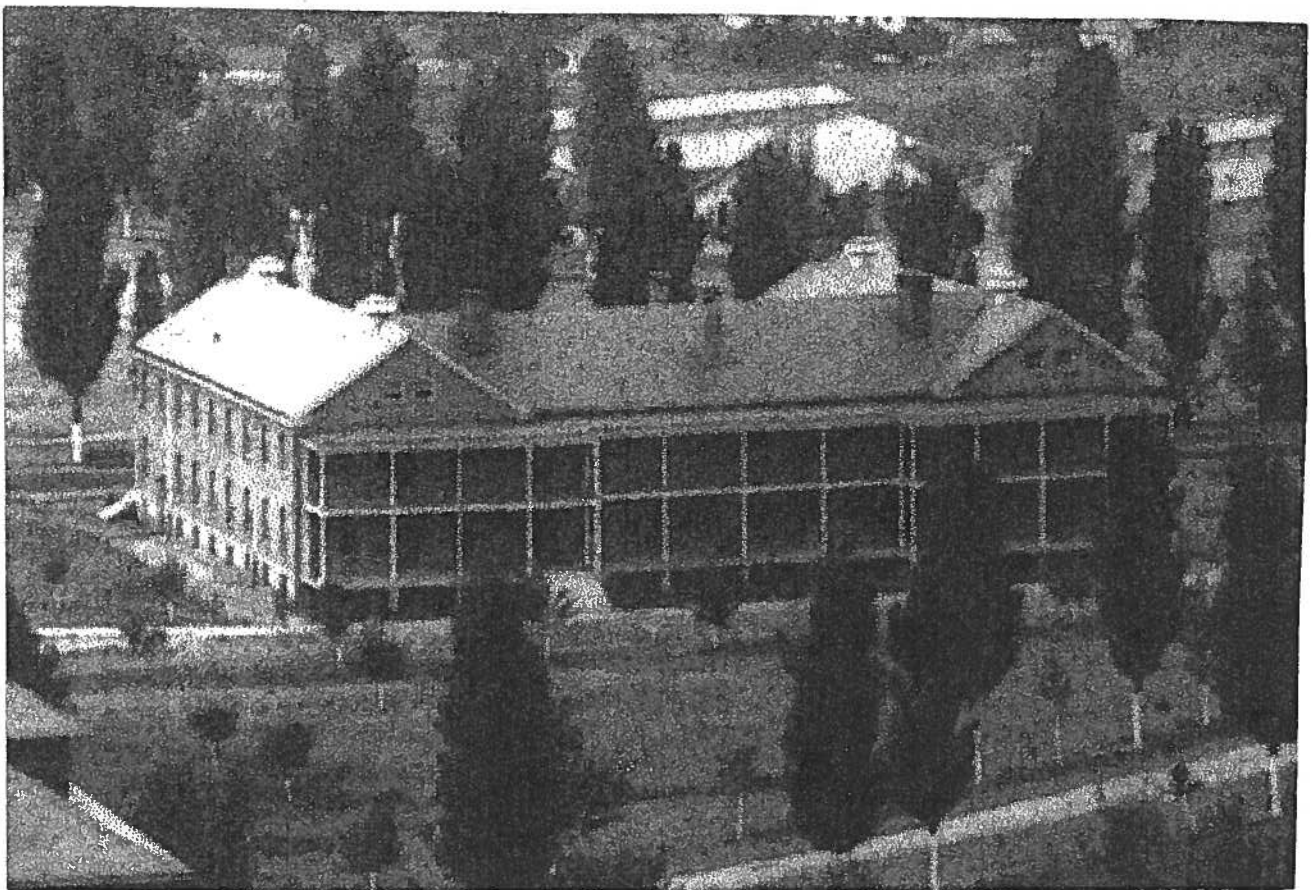
This is a 1960's shot of the rear of bldg 27 after the VA staff constructed solarium railings above both bricked-in porch wings for the patients.



A great interior view of the soldiers barracks, 2nd floor, bldg 27 taken 1909 giving us a glimpse of the bayonets, rifles, foot and wall lockers, and overall order of military life.

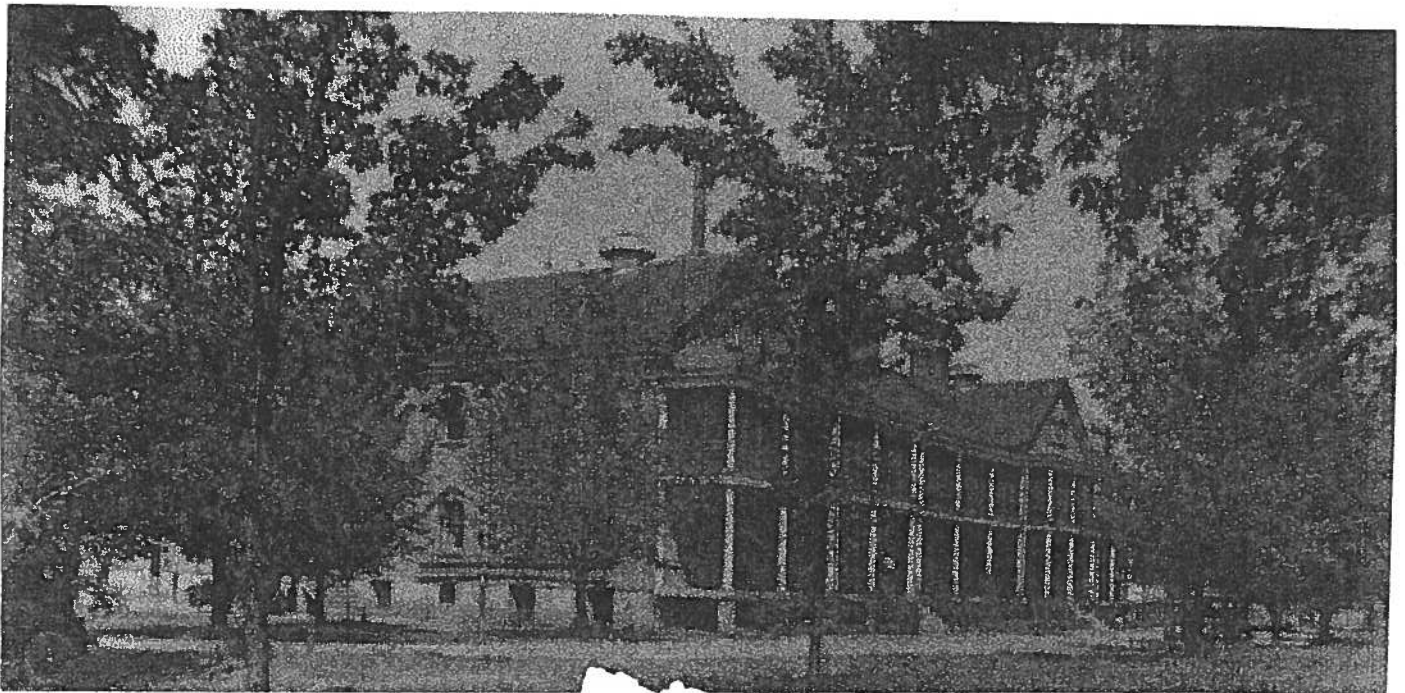
The present interior view of the 2nd floor "Step Down unit" of bldg 27, taken March 2002



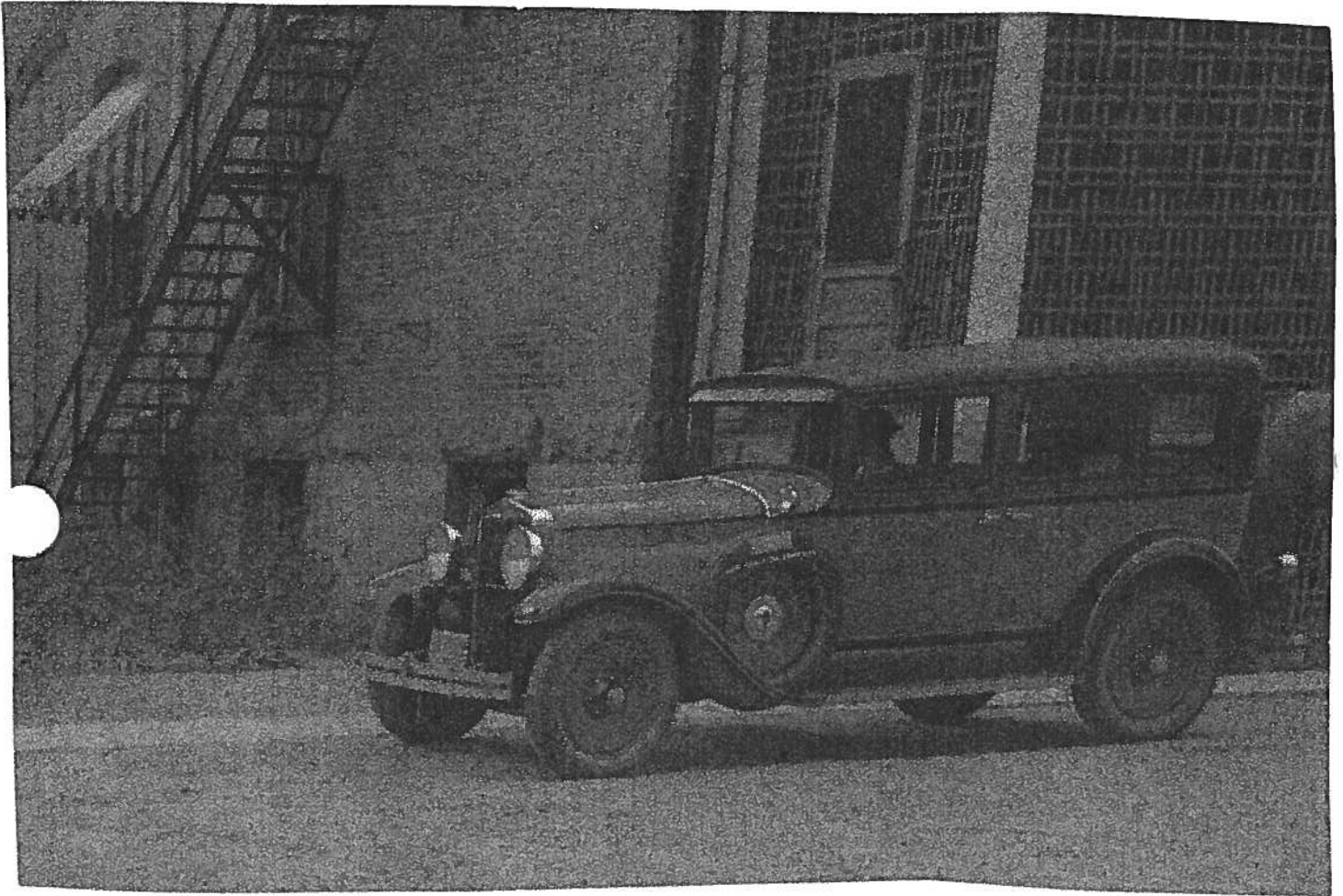


A magnificent view of building 27 taken in 1909. Note the top of both stables (buildings 34 and 35) in the rear of the picture. Only bldg 34 survives.

This lower picture of bldg 27 was taken about 15 years later.

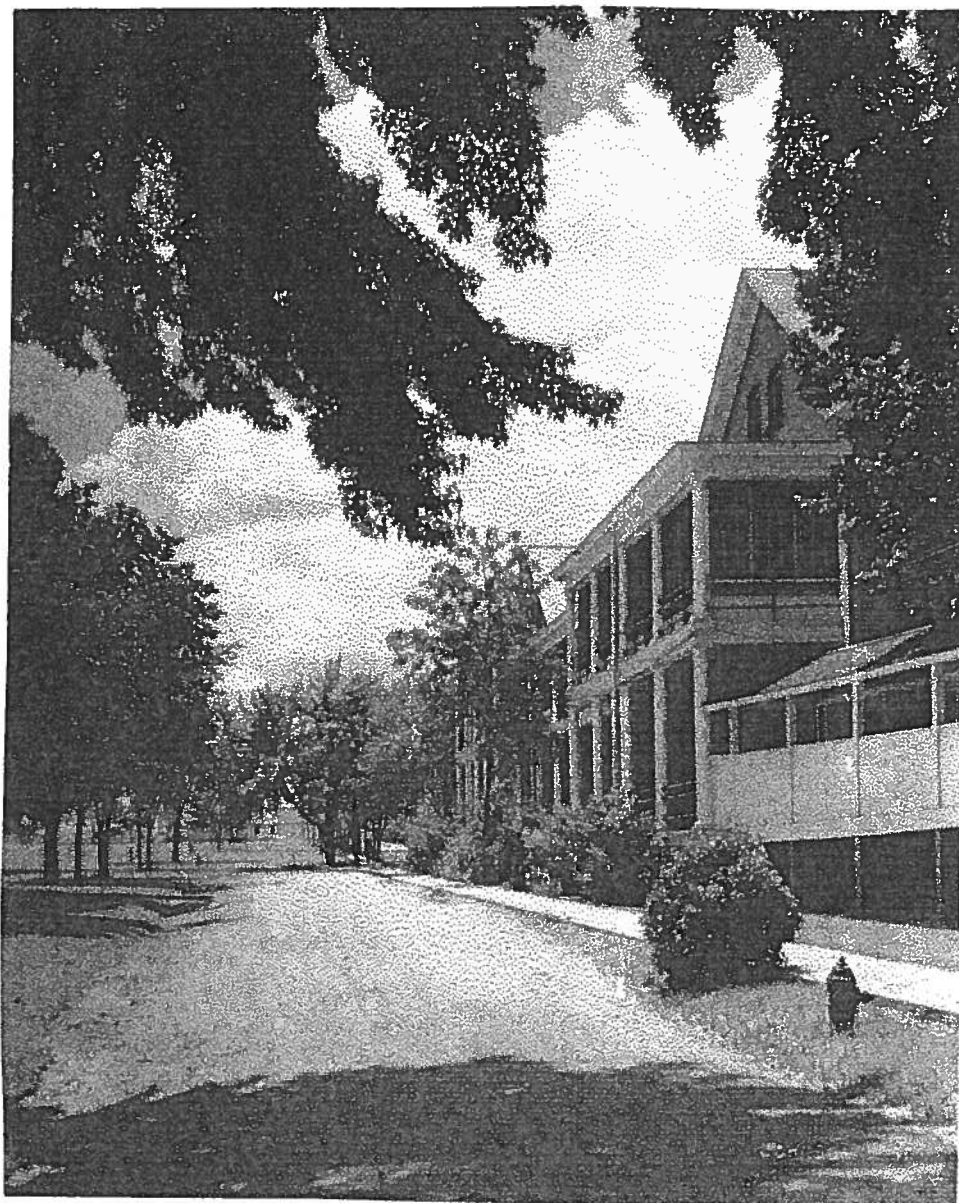


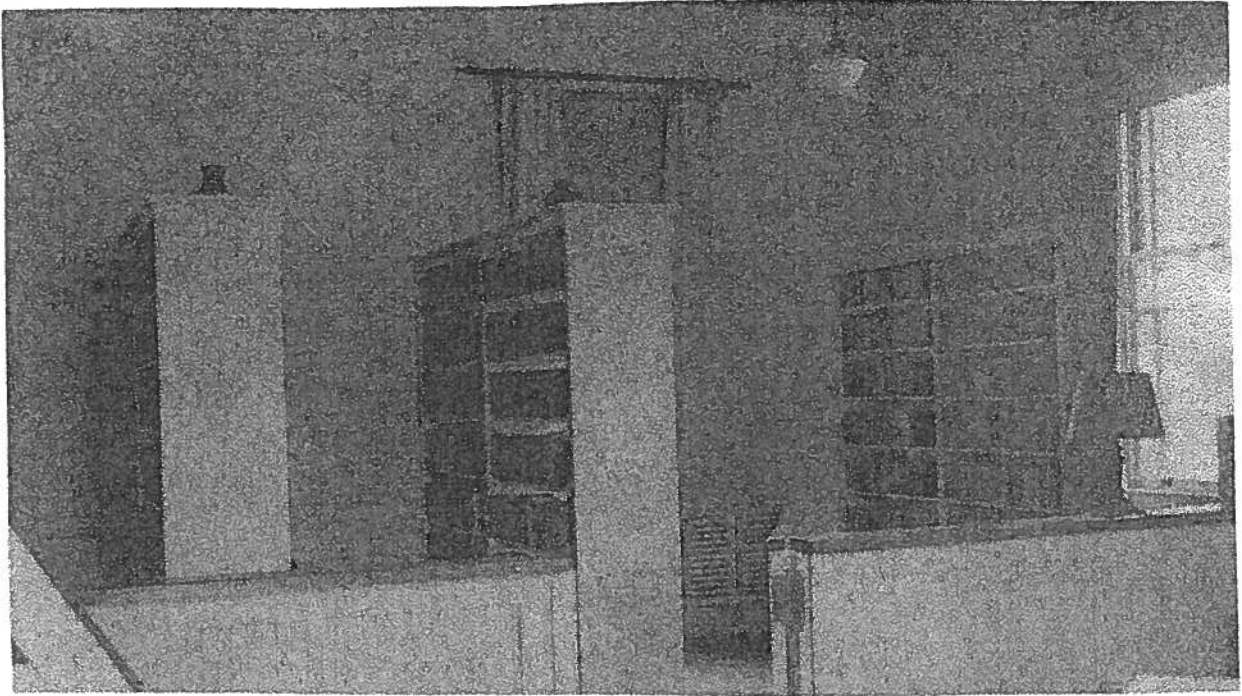
Must be a doctor's chauffeur and automobile waiting at the corner of bldg 27
While the doctor makes a quick hospital call, vintage 1930's



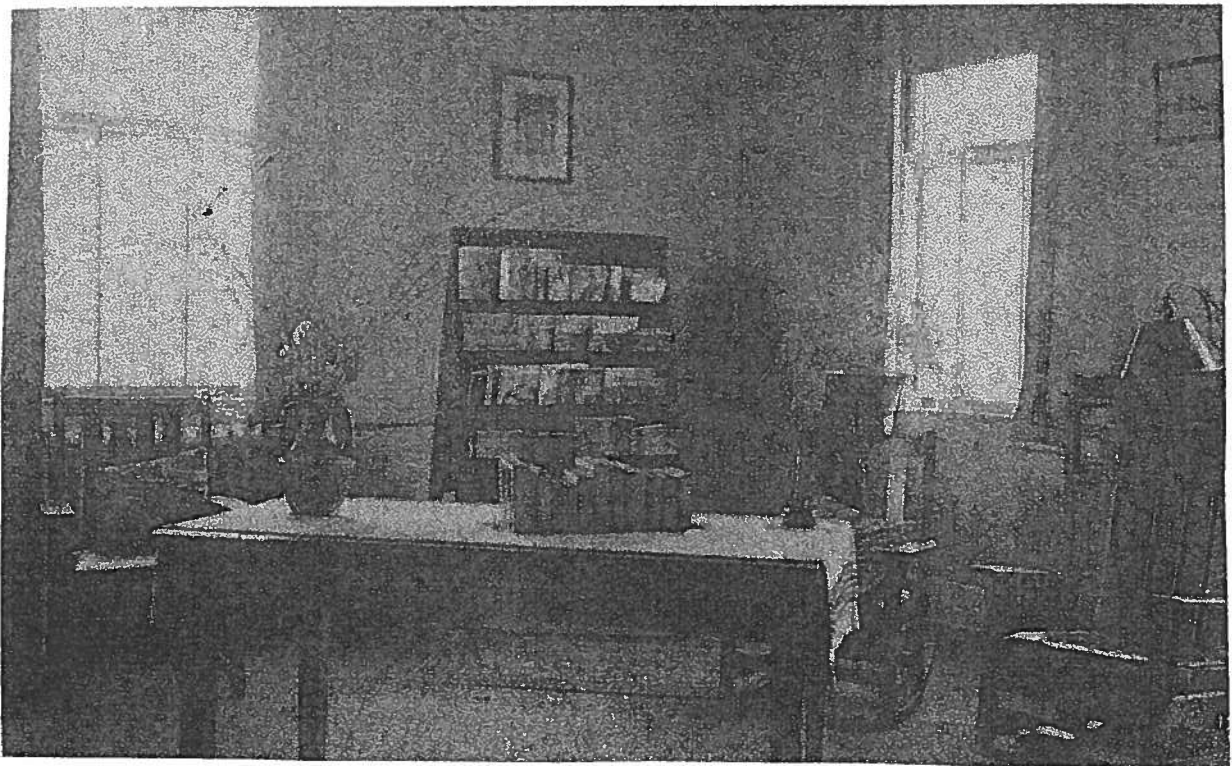
An event occurred in 1929 that caused celebration for many. Building 27 now had an electric passenger elevator! At a cost of \$3,855. it ended the transporting of patients via gurney up and down the stairs. A relief for both patients and staff.

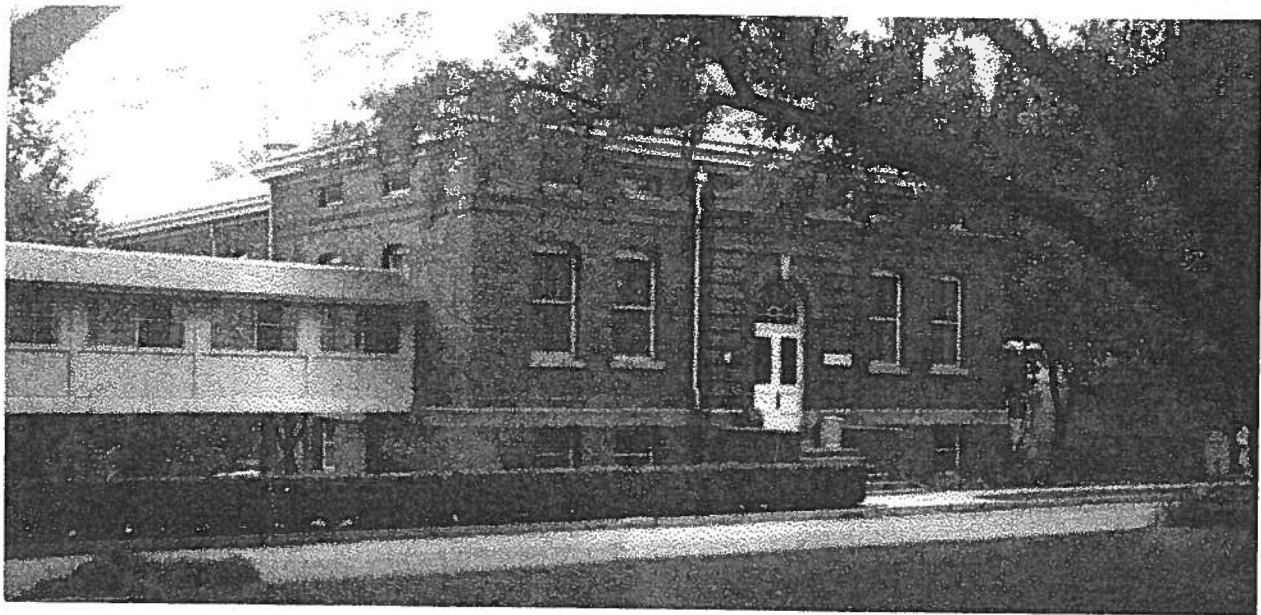
A view of the road passing by bldg 27 on the right, as it continues heading to bldg 7 quartermasters stores in the distance (now a parking lot)



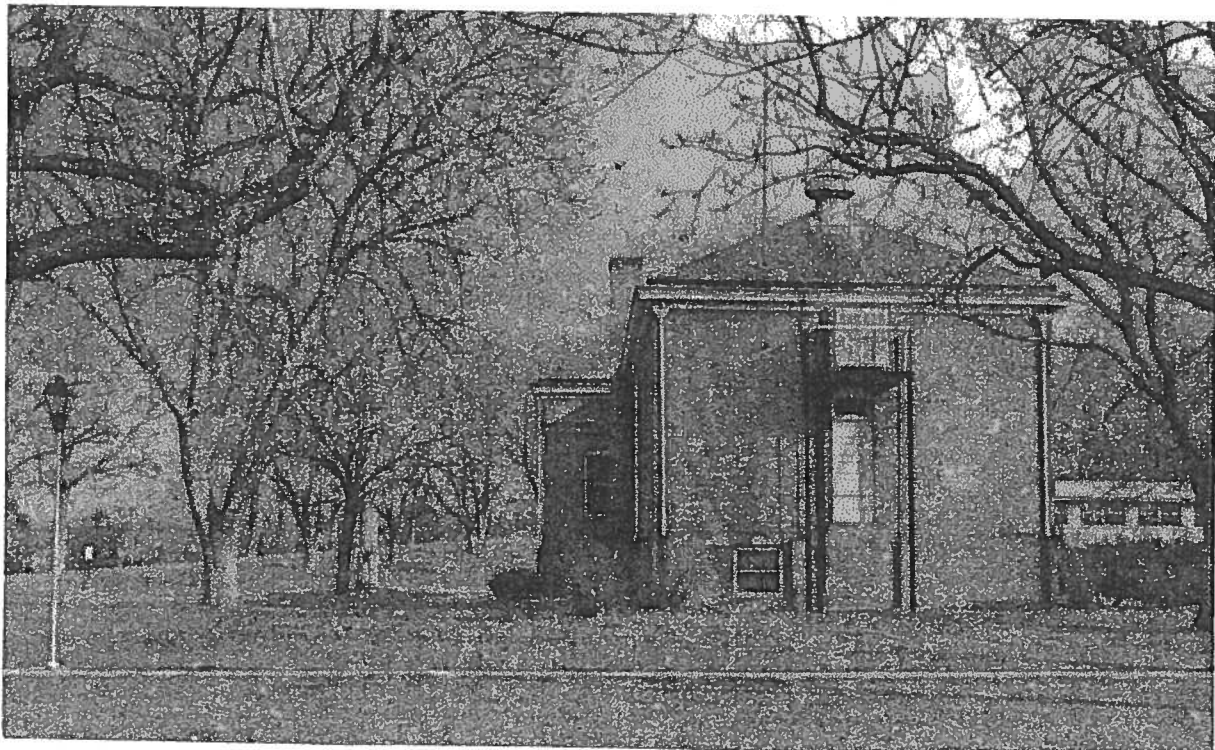


The post/VA library was relocated about as often as the post guardhouse has been. These two pictures show the library tucked in a little corner of bldg 27. The very first library on post was started by an infantry sergeant in the 1870's who, while attempting to arrest a drunken soldier in downtown Boise City, was shot and killed. The present library occupies a good portion of the basement in the LRC. With the huge volume of information they have on file in their crowded space, I would imagine an environmental impact statement would have to be filed prior to relocating this library again.



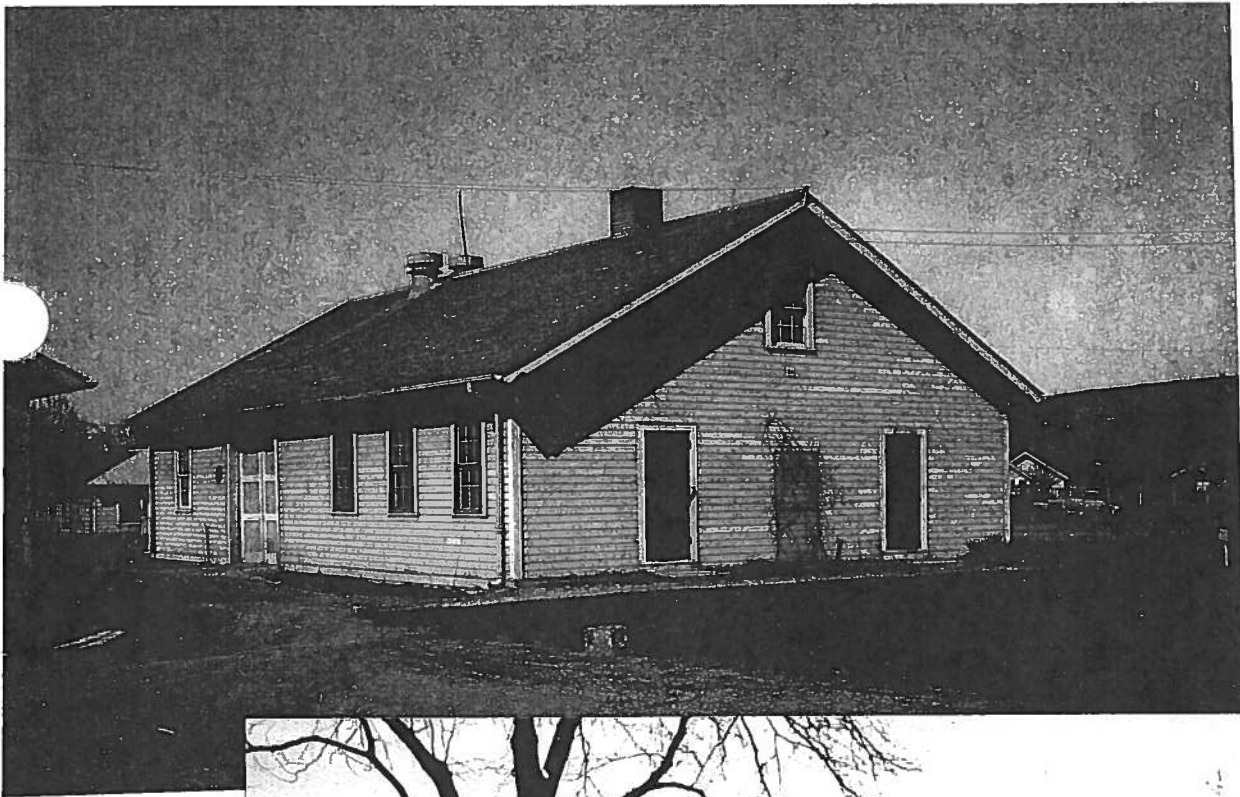


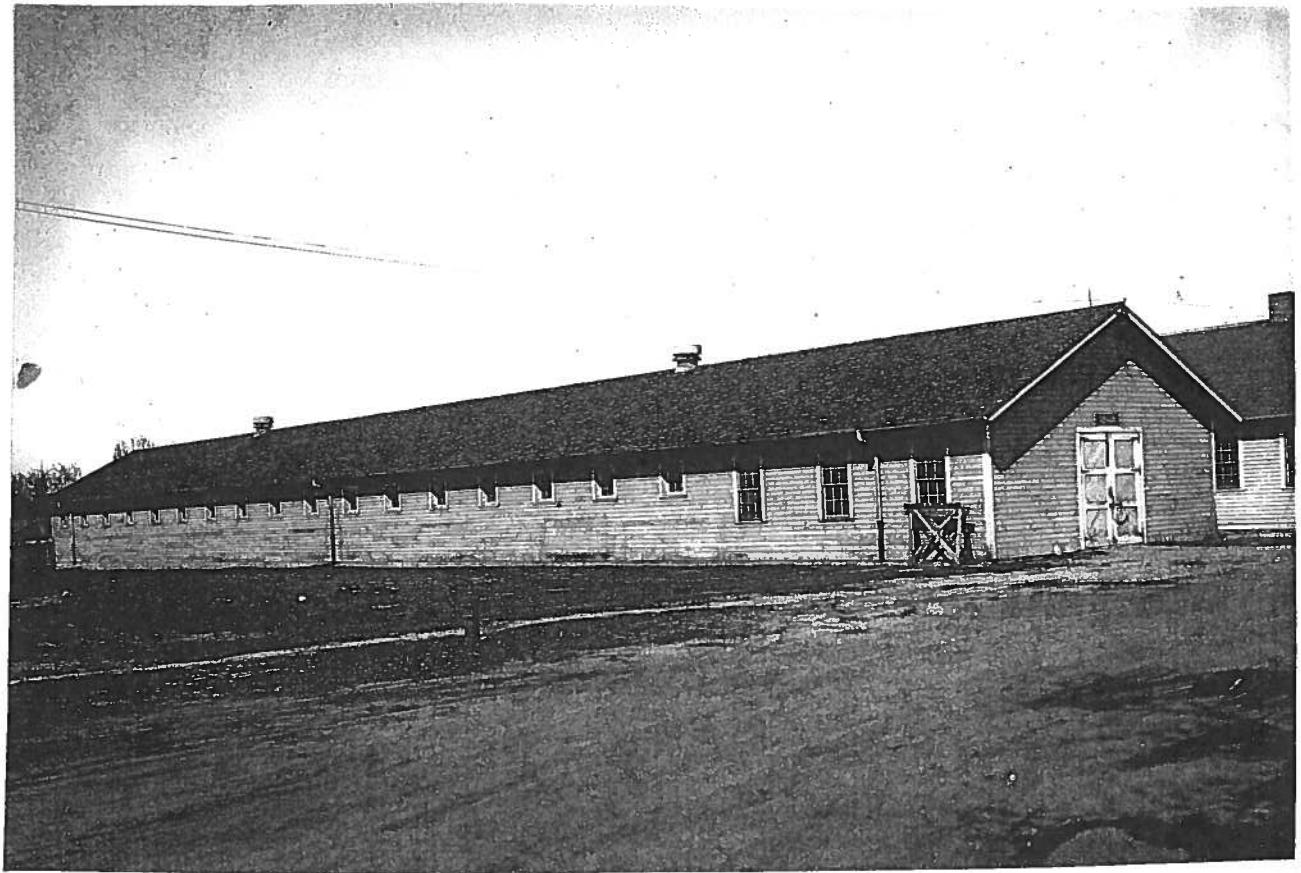
The AW Horsley Learning Resource Center built in 1907 during the little construction boom on post. The original purpose of this fine building was for a Post Exchange and gym for the patients. Note the wood connector on the left leading to bldg 27, and on the right is the Quonset hut housing the cafeteria. At various times this building designated as 29, was home to many services including Red Cross organized activities which included weekly 1st run movies, a surgery suite during one of bldg 67's remodeling, accounting, the morgue, and not necessarily in this particular order. It is now home to the library and coding offices in the basement, classrooms and the auditorium on the main floor.



BACK VIEW LRC

Building 50 has some fuzzy origins. Some records indicate it was constructed in 1890 on the other side of the post, but then would have had to be moved to its present location around 1907? Until then I find no record of buildings constructed in this area. The 1907 schematic map lists 2 wood structures both designated bldg 50, identical in shape and size, and used for stable shops and guard posts for the new Calvary stables, but then we have a master building list that shows these were not constructed until 1910? Another prime example of how questionable and confusing the documents can be. Whatever the case, we still have this building # 50, used for engineering, safety, ergonomics, and housekeeping offices.



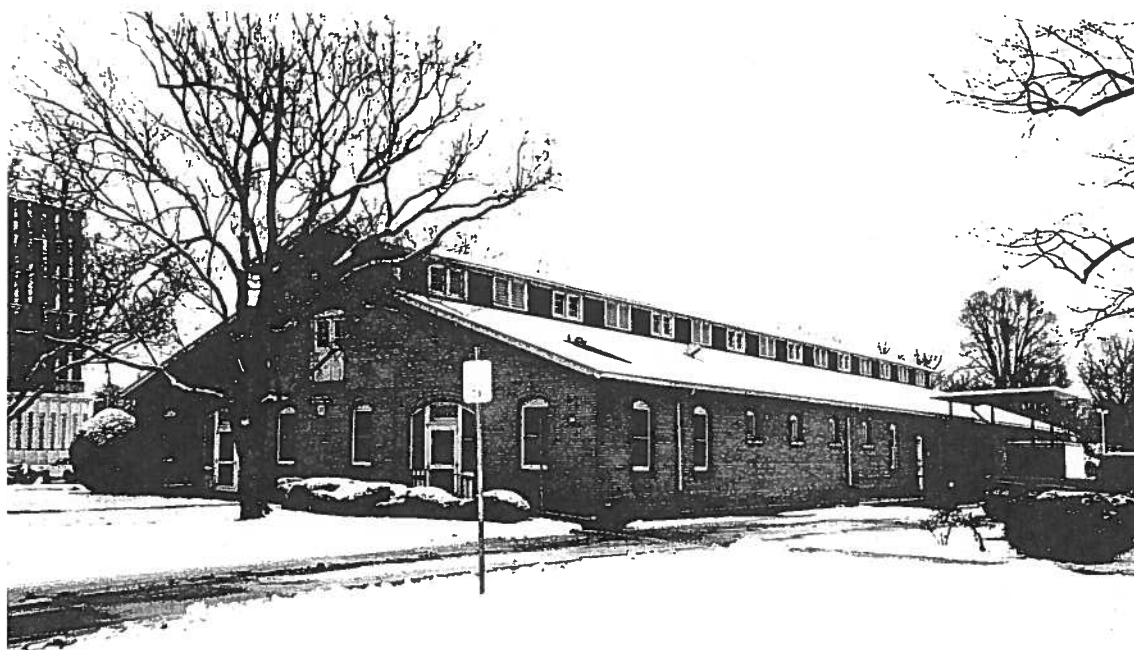


Bldg 43, part of the 1909 bldg boom, built for storage and now occupied by VISN Optical lab and TMS, and of course, storage. Unable to find the reason why but the rear 1/3 of this bldg has disappeared.



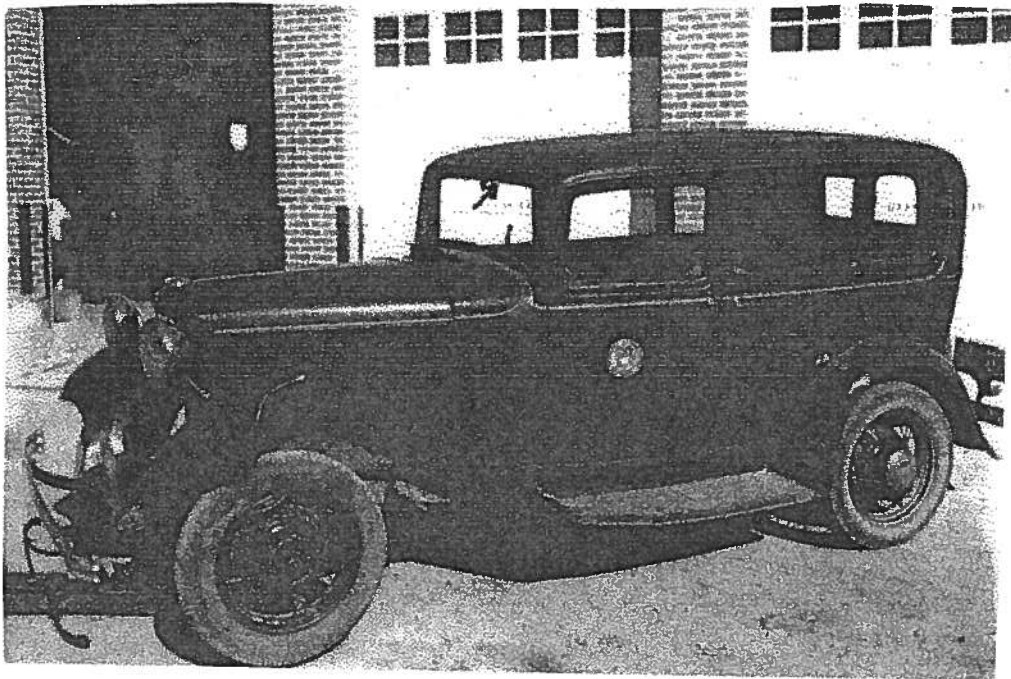


A 1930's shot of building 51 and 34. Building 51 along with bldg 35 that was located to its left and identical to bldg 34, were both demolished to make room for the new Federal building? This lower picture taken January 2002 shows building 34 and a glimpse of the Federal building at the far left.



A bit of trivia

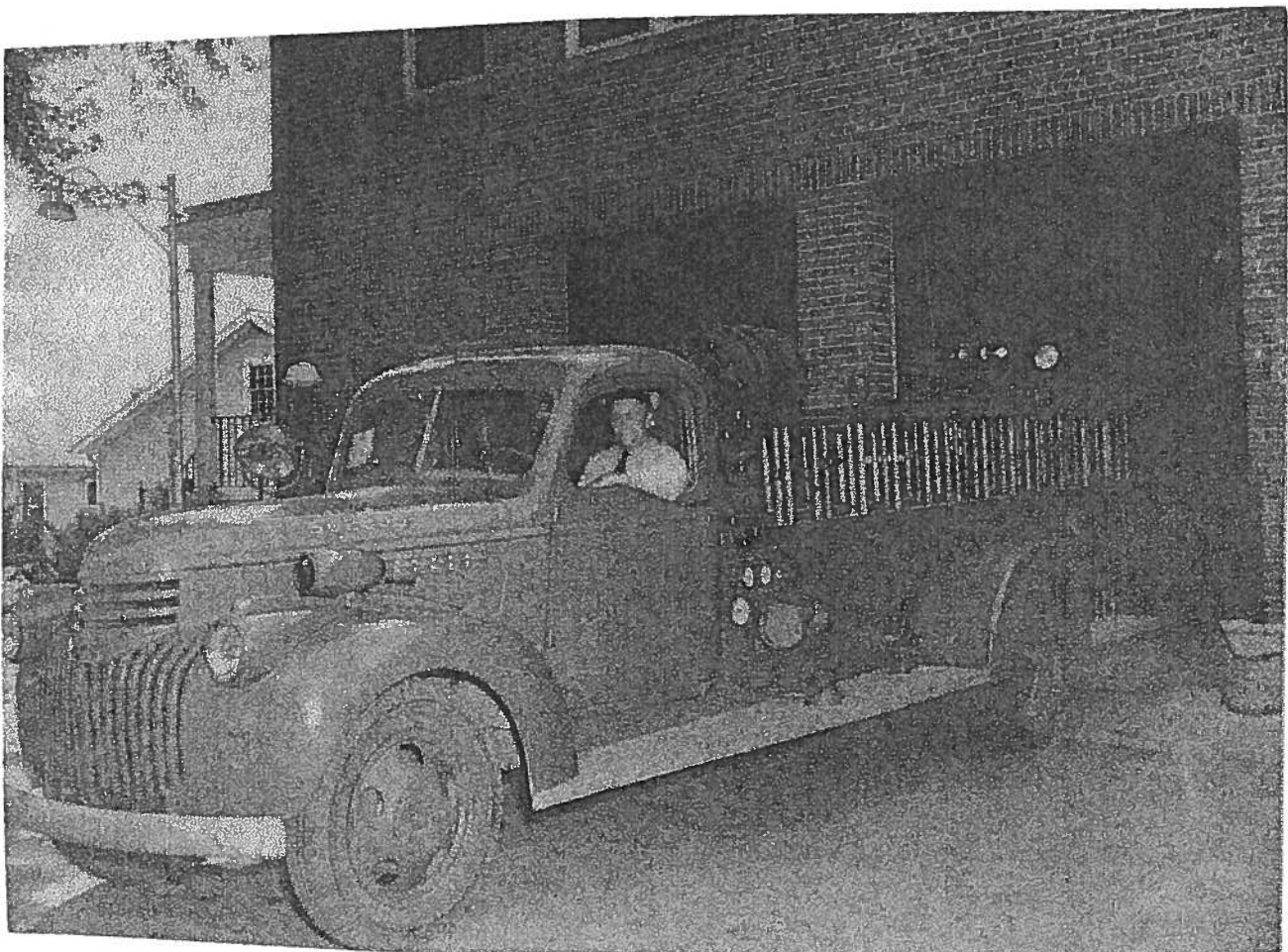
About this time, Varney Airways and Northwest were flying mail in and out of the Boise airport located where BSU is now. Varney is the predecessor to United Airlines, and Northwest came up with the idea for their red tail. As was common in those days, many aircraft were involved in forced landings. Northwest solved the difficult problem of spotting their downed aircraft by painting the tails bright red.



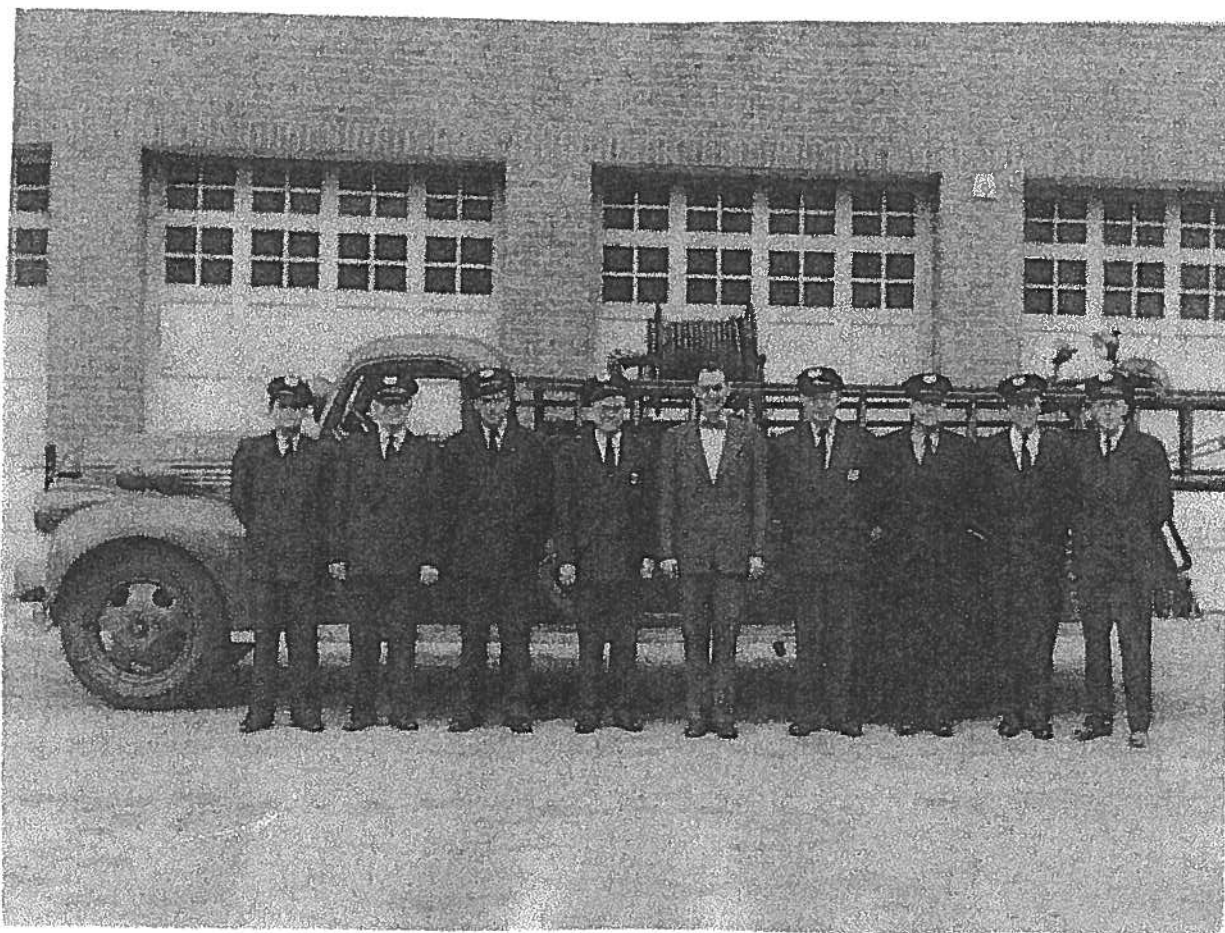
The VA police auto, vintage 1930's. Unable to find any reference of what caused the slight damage to the front fender. Parked in front of the fire dept attendants bldg (#8)

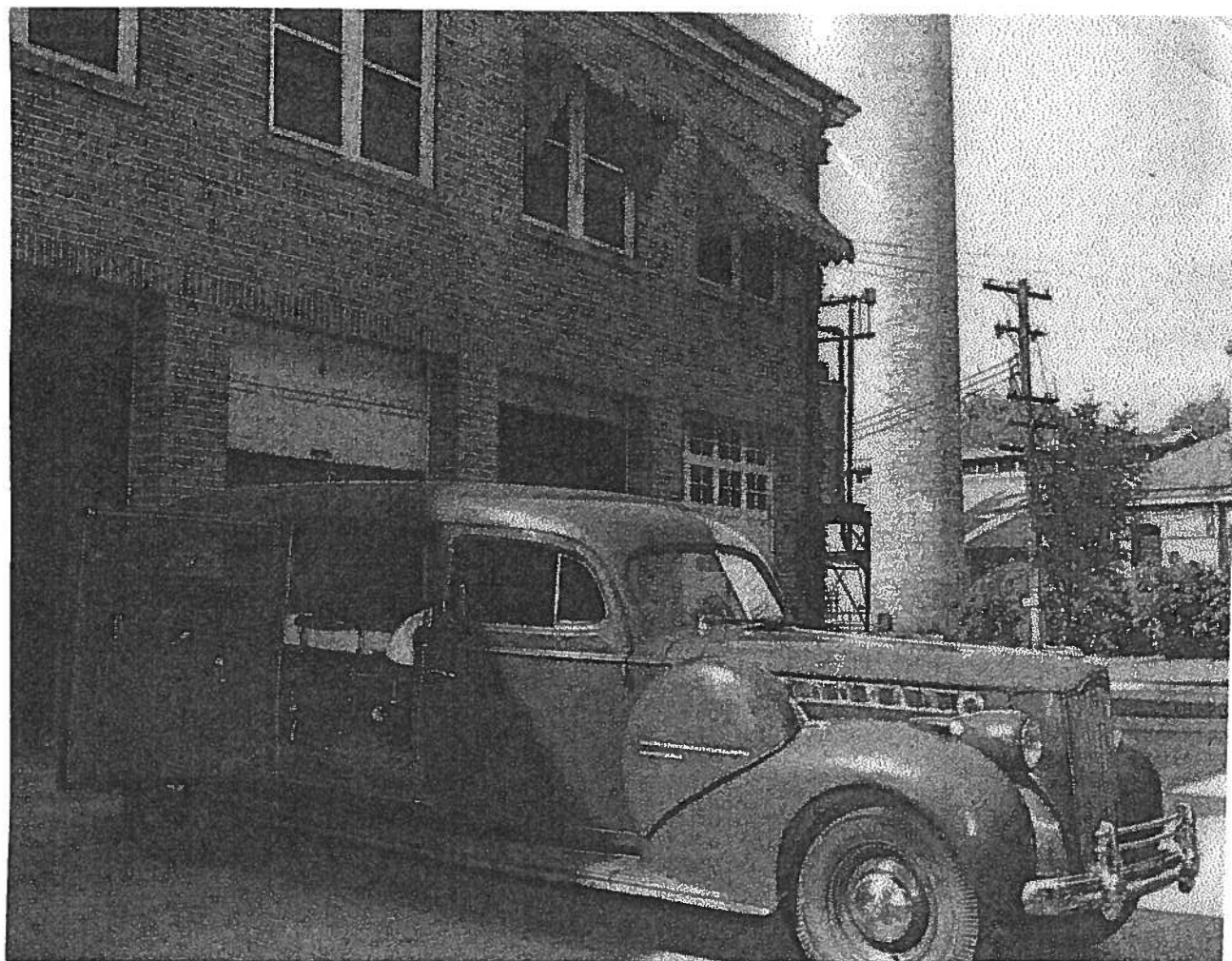
A brief note found in the old VA newsletter in the early 1920's

A total of 9 nurses are taking the time to enjoy their summer vacation trips this week, each one receiving a certain number of days leave to be spent in any way they so desire and a vacation well earned by each of them. Each nurse; when on duty has a twelve-hour shift, either day or night shift. Usually about once each month they are transferred from one ward to another, and from day to night duty, so as to relieve the monotony of the work as much as possible. The nurse's homes are bldg 23 and 45 on the pretty drive above the hospital grounds. Each nurse has a nicely furnished room, a fine dining room in bldg 23, and screened porches connecting the two buildings which overlook the beautiful city of Boise.



Our very own fire department at the Boise VA housed at bldg 8 built in 1932 with close to 9,000 square feet.. Most of the bay doors are now bricked up, the fire department is gone, with fire service now provided by the city. This grand structure now houses engineering shops first floor, student dorm 2nd with a new 1000 sq. ft. addition that gives the required second access to the dorm plus a kitchen/lounge area.





The Boise VA's very own ambulance. This picture taken in front Of bldg 8 in the 1950's, and this 2nd shot taken January 2002.





Present day shot of the laundry (bldg28), boiler/eng. shop (46), and shop/dorm (8).

From 1866 to the 1930's there were many changes in the location of the post guardhouse. Two of the locations were in the laundry and engineering shop. The left side of the eng. shop has numerous bolts and holes in the brick close to the window openings, probably the result of temporary iron grills over the windows. This bldg 46 was initially built as the post bakery that replaced the dilapidated small wood bakery on the other side of the post.

The three small windows on the right side of the laundry building still has the remains of the iron bars imbedded in the brick that provided the security for these jail cell windows which confirms the original plans for this bldg 28 was for post guardhouse and laundry. During one of the remodels of bldg 13, all the accounting and administration offices were located in this building. At this time the VA had no need for a guardhouse and all the cells and bars had been removed.



Bldg 54 was part of the original hospital complex when the campus was still classified as Boise Barracks. This bldg originally built as the hospital Sergeants quarters. Used later for a residence for doctors, then nurses, and now part of Mountain Cove School.

There is little information about the first hospital on the post. The 1866 map shows a small secluded building about 100 yards to the right and down the slope from bldg 4 with a notation it burned down. It was replaced with a 1-story L-shaped structure about 1870, and the early 1900's show this structure was replaced by a 3-story brick structure. Also added close by was a 2 story residence for the hospital sergeants quarters and a smaller structure between the two buildings for the hospital sergeant office. The hospital building (bldg 33) was used for many years for TB patients and the residence buildings used for doctors, then nurses. In the late 70's the remaining buildings and grounds they are on were granted to the city and is now part of the Boise city school district.



Building 33, Originally the TB ward, now part of Mountain Cove School