

DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)
FOR
THE REHABILITATION OF BUILDING 347
AT
F. E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, WYOMING

JULY 2017

Prepared by: 90 CES/CEIEC
Francis E. Warren AFB, Wyoming
Point of Contact: Mr. Travis Beckwith, (307) 773-3667

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1. INTRODUCTION

F. E. Warren Air Force Base (FEW) proposes to rehabilitate Building 347 to accommodate the 582nd Helicopter Group (582 HG). The proposed action includes facility and infrastructure upgrades required for rehousing the 582 HG Headquarters (HQ) in Building 347. The proposed action would remove Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM), original windows, and alter historic interiors as part of the rehabilitation. The FEW Environmental Planning Function (EPF) conducted the Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proposed action. This EA resulted in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) signed by the 90th Missile Wing (90MW) Commander on DATE. Two EAs are incorporated by reference. The first is the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Minor Construction Projects at F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming. The second is the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Hazardous Materials Removal at F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming.

2. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

The purpose of this action is to provide permanent facilities for the 582 HG HQ. The 582 HG became a new mission at FEW on 27 March 2015 and was temporarily housed in Building 218. The need for the proposed action is to rehabilitate Building 347 to accommodate the 582 HG mission objectives by providing permanent HQ facilities.

3. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

FEW conducted an economic analysis to determine the most cost effective alternative which would fulfill operational requirements of the group. The findings determined that the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of Building 347 met both financial and mission needs. This proposed project rehabilitates approximately 9,400 square feet within Building 347. It is currently being programmed for Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17). The 582 HG is a component of the 20th Air Force under Global Strike Command (AFGSC) of the United States Air Force (USAF). The 582 HG provides operations, maintenance, and flight safety for three helicopter squadrons and one support squadron at the 90th, 91st, and 341st Missile Wings.

A description of the proposed action and alternative is as follows:

- a. Building 347 Option (Preferred Alternative): The preferred alternative would rehabilitate Building 347 to house the 582 HG. The site is a historic building individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and lies within the Fort D. A. Russell National Historic Landmark District (NHLD). The site is located south of the main cantonment area and is bounded by railroad tracks to the north and Crow Creek to the south.
- b. New Construction Option: This option requires the construction of a new facility for the 582 HG HQ.
- c. No action alternative: This alternative would take no action. This alternative would not meet mission objectives as it would not address the shortcomings of current operational space.

4. SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

This Environmental Assessment (EA) is required by the Air Force Environmental Impact Analysis Process (32 CFR §989), the National Environmental Policy Act (Public Law 91-190) and Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 CFR §1500-1508). This EA identifies, describes, and evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts that could result from the execution of the proposed action.

FEW conducted a scoping meeting on 27 June 2017. During the scoping process the EPF determined that the proposed action has the potential to affect Safety and Occupational Health and Cultural Resources.

5. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

- a. Safety and Occupational Health: The proposed action has the potential to impact safety and occupational health. Specifically, there is a potential to encounter ACM during rehabilitation.
- b. Cultural Resources: The proposed action impacts cultural resources. Specifically, Building 347 would be adversely affected by the removal of original windows and considerably alterations to historic interior spaces.
- c. Biological Resources: The proposed action has the potential to impact biological resources with the short-term displacement of wildlife.
- d. Air Quality: The proposed action has the potential to impact air quality.
- e. Auditory Impacts: The proposed action has the potential to impact noise levels. Specifically, the proposed action has the potential to create temporary noise impacts for local residents during construction.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Environmental Impact analysis includes consideration of direct, indirect and cumulative impacts.

- a. Safety and Occupational Health. There is expected to be a direct impact to base safety and occupational health. The impact of most concern is ACM removal during rehabilitation. The proposed action would demolish interior spaces of Building 347 to remove ACM and ACM suspect materials. The interior ACM mitigation includes: patches to historic plasters, removal of partition walls erected in the 1950s, and replacement of tiles on the staircase and throughout both the first and second floors.
- b. Cultural Resources. Building 347 is individually eligible for the NRHP and stands as part of the Fort D. A. Russell NHL. This rehabilitation fails to meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation because of the demolition of interior features, removal and replacement of original windows with new blast-proof windows, and alteration of historic floor plans. The FEW Cultural Resources Manager (CRM) determined the proposed action to be an adverse effect on the historic property and the Wyoming State Historic Preservation

Office (WYSHPO) concurred with this finding (Appendix 3). Overall the potential impacts to cultural resources from the Preferred Alternative are considered significant. FEW is in the process of developing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to mitigate adverse effects to cultural resources.

- c. Biological Resources. The Preferred Alternative neither adversely impacts the two threatened species on base nor their habitats; the Preble's meadow jumping mouse (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*) and the Colorado butterfly plant (*Gaura neomexicana coloradensis*). Other wildlife species may be affected by short-term displacement during construction. However, species adapted to urban development, such as pronghorn antelope (*Antilocapra americana*) would likely return after project completion. Herd management shall follow guidelines in the Pronghorn Management Plan and the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, both incorporated by reference. The pronghorns could be affected due to increased traffic during the rehabilitation process but, with appropriate management of the herd, this impact would be negligible.
- d. Air Quality. The Preferred Alternative could affect air quality. Short-term detrimental effects to air quality include those associated with construction. Contaminants from construction activities include particulate matter generated from demolition. These effects would be localized and negligible. There are no foreseen long-term effects to air quality caused by this project.
- e. Auditory Impacts. The Preferred Alternative would generate temporary noise impacts during construction. The equipment used for installation generates noise levels up to 80 decibels (dBA). To minimize noise impacts, construction activities would be scheduled on normal workdays and during typical working hours. The location of the APE further minimizes noise impacts because the project is situated away from residential areas. Therefore, potential noise impacts from the Preferred Alternative would be short-term and negligible.

7. PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

The following agencies/individuals were contacted and/or provided a copy of the EA during its original preparation in order to afford an opportunity for comment on the content of the document. Agency consultations are required per 32 CFR 989.14(d).

Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office
2301 Central Avenue
Barrett Building, Third Floor
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington DC 20001-2637

NPS Intermountain Region
National Historic Landmarks Program
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225-0287

8. REFERENCES

- 29 CFR §1910, Occupational Safety and Health Standards
- 32 CFR §989, Department of the Air Force Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP)
- 36 CFR §800, Protection of Historic Properties
- DoDI 6055.06, DoD Fire and Emergency Services (F&ES) Program
- FEW Engineering Specification Section 01010 Environmental Protection
- FEW Installation Development Plan, 2013
- FEW Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, 2016
- FEW Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, YEAR
- Final Programmatic EA for Minor Construction Projects, FONSI signed 7 August 2013
- Final Programmatic EA for Hazardous Material Removal, FONSI signed 31 May 2013
- Final Pronghorn Management Plan,

9. LIST OF PREPARERS AND REVIEWERS

a. Preparers

Name	Background	Experience (years)
Travis Beckwith, NEPA Coordinator/ Cultural Resources Manager	B.A. History; M.A. History	10
Andy McKinley, Environmental Element Chief	B.S. Environmental Engineering; M.E. Civil Engineering	8
Nicole Wittig, Cultural Resource Specialist	B.A. Archaeology; M.A. History	4

b. Reviewers

Name	Agency	Title
Travis Beckwith	90 MW/CEIEC	NEPA Coordinator/Cultural Resources Manager
Kurt Warmbier	USAF, 90 MW/JA	Attorney Advisor, Environmental Law

TABLE 1: COMPARISON OF PREDICTED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.

	Alternative A: Rehabilitate Building 347	Alternative B:	Alternative C: No Action
Safety and Occupational Health	Potential impact. Adherence to all applicable laws, standards and regulations minimizes risk to human health.	Potential impacts to Safety and Occupational Health.	No Impact.
Cultural Resources	Potential impact. Consultation with WYSHPO, NPS, and ACHP to write an agreement document to ensure impacts are avoided or mitigated.	No Impact	No Impact.
Biological Resources	No impact.	No Impact	No impact.
Air Quality	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact

APPENDIX 1: LOCATION MAP

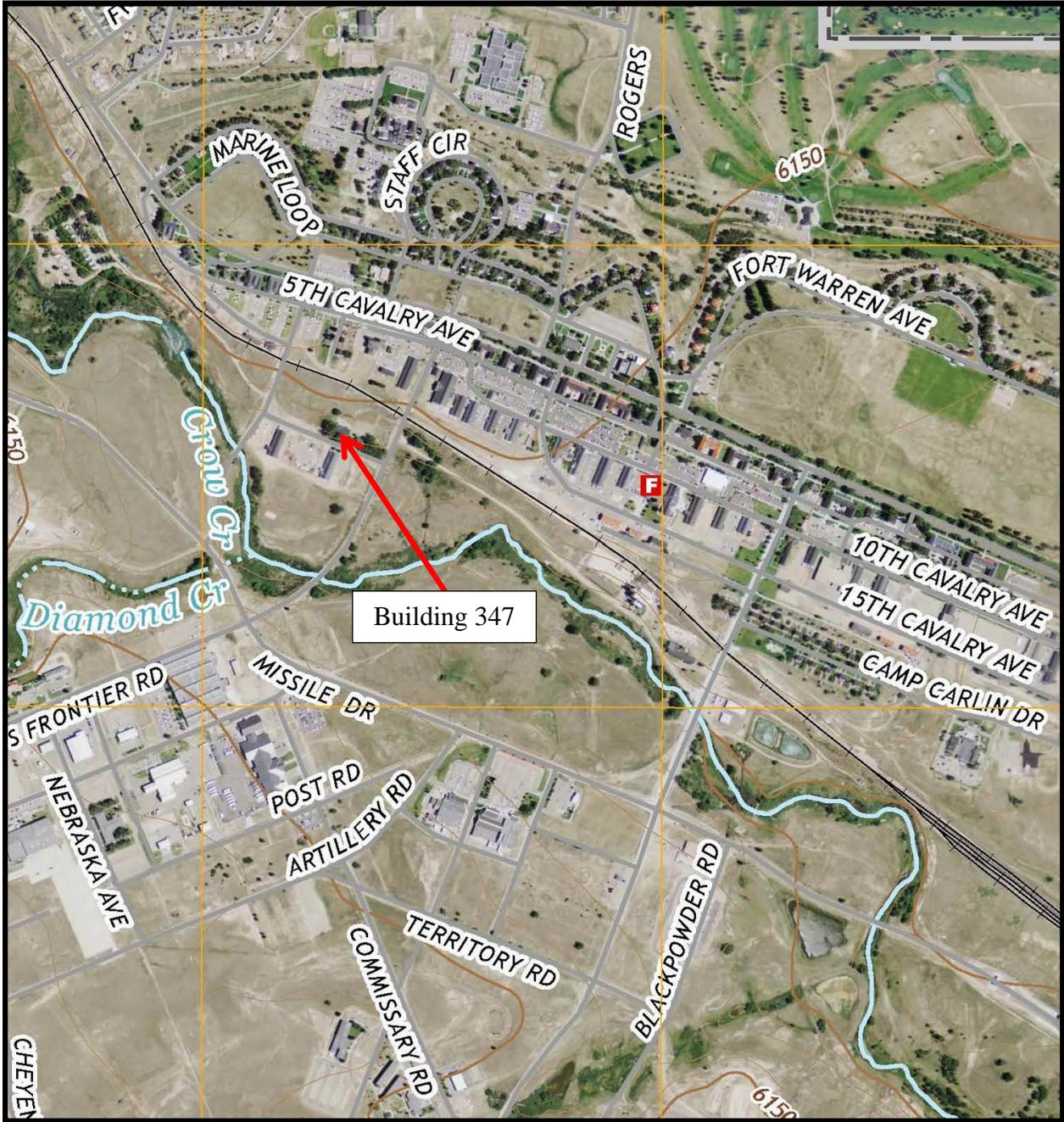


Figure 1: USGS topographic map illustrating the location of Building 347 (U. S. Geological Survey. *Cheyenne North Quadrangle, Wyoming*. 1:24,000. 7.5 minute series. Reston, Virginia: USGS 2015).

APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph 1: View of the southwest corner of Building 347 (Photograph by T. Beckwith).



Photograph 2: View of the northwest corner of Building 347 (Photograph by T. Beckwith).

APPENDIX 3: AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 90TH MISSILE WING (AFGSC)

Mr. Travis Beckwith
Cultural Resources Manager
300 Vesle Drive, Ste 600
F. E. Warren AFB WY 82005

07 NOV 2016

Mrs. Mary Hopkins
State Historic Preservation Office
Barrett Building, Third Floor North
2301 Central Ave
Cheyenne WY 82003

Dear Mrs. Hopkins

F. E. Warren Air Force Base (FEW) proposes to rehabilitate Building 347. Building 347 is a contributing element to the Fort D. A. Russell National Historic Landmark District and is individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As part of the proposed undertaking, FEW proposes to remove the historic windows. The attached documentation illustrates the nature of the proposed undertaking.

In accordance Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act we are submitting the proposed undertaking for your review and comment. If you have any questions, contact Mr. Travis Beckwith at (307) 773-3667.

Sincerely

TRAVIS A. BECKWITH, DAF
Cultural Resources Manager

Attachments:

1. USGS Map
2. Photographs
3. Design Documents Windows for Historic Building 347

cc:
90 CES/CEIE

ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources
December 5, 2016

State Historic Preservation Office
2301 Central Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001
Phone: 307-777-7697
Fax: 307-777-6421
<http://wvoshpo.state.wv.us>

Mr. Travis Beckwith
Cultural Resources Manager
300 Vesle Drive, Ste 600
F.E. Warren AFB, WY 82005

RE: FEW – removal of historic windows, replacement with blast resistant windows and removal/modification of interior materials in Building 347 (SHPO File #1216LMK001)

Dear Mr. Beckwith:

Thank you for consulting with the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the associated report and find the documentation meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716-42). We concur that Building 347 is a contributing element to the Fort D.A. Russell national Historic landmark District and is individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

We find that Building 347 will be adversely impacted. In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.6, we recommend that FEW develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), specifying the terms under which the adverse effects to the historic property will be minimized or mitigated. The agency official, SHPO and the Advisory Council (should they choose to participate) are the signatories and consulting parties to the MOA. The agency official and the SHPO, in agreement with the agency official, may choose to invite additional parties to be signatories and to concur in the MOA. Invited signatories and consulting parties may include Native American tribes that attach religious or cultural significance to the historic property and any party that assumes a responsibility under the MOA.

Please refer to SHPO project #1216LMK001 on any future correspondence regarding this undertaking. If you have any questions, please contact me at 307-777-7566.

Sincerely,



Linda Kiisk, AIA
Historic Preservation Architect
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office



Matthew H. Mead, Governor
Darin J. Westby, P.E., Director



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
90TH MISSILE WING (AFGSC)



Mr. Travis Beckwith
Cultural Resources Manager
300 Vesle Drive, Ste 600
F. E. Warren AFB WY 82005

FEB 1 0 2017

Mrs. Mary Hopkins
State Historic Preservation Office
Barrett Building, Third Floor North
2301 Central Ave
Cheyenne WY 82003

Dear Mrs. Hopkins

F. E. Warren Air Force Base (FEW) previously consulted with you on the rehabilitation of Building 347 (SHPO File No. 1216LMK001). FEW proposes to complete abatement activities in Building 347 prior to commencement of rehabilitation activities. The proposed undertaking will remove both asbestos containing material and lead-based paint from non-contributing elements. The enclosed documents illustrate the nature of the proposed undertaking.

The FEW Cultural Resources Manager reviewed the proposed undertaking and determined it would have no adverse effect to historic properties. In accordance Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act we are submitting the proposed undertaking for your review and comment. If you have any questions, contact Mr. Travis Beckwith at (307) 773-3667.

TRAVIS A. BECKWITH, DAF
Cultural Resources Manager

Attachment:
Bldg. 347 (Helicopter Group HQ) Proposed Abatement Plan January 19, 2017

cc:
90 CES/CEIE



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION
12795 West Alameda Parkway
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287



IN REPLY REFER TO:
H34 (IMDE-HPP)

Travis A. Beckwith
90CES/CEIEC
Cultural Resources Manager
300 Vesle Drive, Ste. 600
F.E. Warren AFB, WY 82005

JAN 13 2017

RE: D.A. Russell National Historic Landmark District - Building 347

Dear Mr. Beckwith:

Thank you for your letter dated December 16, 2016, providing us with information regarding the proposed undertaking for Building 347, a contributing resource within the D.A. Russell National Historic Landmark (NHL) District in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

We also thank you for the invitation to participate in the consultation for this project. As stated in 36 CFR Part 800.10 (c), federal agencies are required to notify the Secretary of the Interior (delegated to the National Park Service) of any consultation involving an undertaking involving an NHL. The Intermountain Region of the National Park Service administers the National Historic Landmark program within an eight-state region, including Wyoming.

That same section of the regulations specifies that the agency will invite the Secretary to participate in the consultation where there may be an adverse effect on the NHL. As such, the National Park Service accepts your invitation to participate as a consulting party for this project.

We look forward to consulting with your office as plans are refined and details developed. Please feel free to contact Tom Keohan at (303) 969-2897 and tom_keohan@nps.gov with any questions or future correspondence about this project.

Sincerely,

Amy Cole
Program Manager
Heritage Partnerships Program

cc:

Mary Hopkins, Wyoming SHPO, 2301 Central Ave., 3rd Floor, Cheyenne, WY 82002

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
Chairman

Teresa Leger de Fernandez
Vice Chairman

John M. Fowler
Executive Director



Preserving America's Heritage

January 3, 2017

Honorable Deborah Lee James
Secretary of the Air Force
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

Ref: *Rehabilitation of Building 347*
F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Laramie County, Wyoming
ACHPConnect Log Number: 011136

Dear Secretary James:

In response to a notification by the 90th Missile Wing, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) will participate in consultation to develop a Section 106 agreement document for the referenced undertaking. Our decision to participate in this consultation is based on the *Criteria for Council Involvement in Reviewing Individual Section 106 Cases*, contained within our regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). The criteria are met for this proposed undertaking because it has the potential for presenting policy and procedural concerns regarding its impact to historic properties.

Section 800.6(a)(1)(iii) of our regulations requires that we notify you, as the head of the agency, of our decision to participate in consultation. By copy of this letter, we are also notifying Colonel Stephen M. Kravitsky, Wing Commander, of this decision.

Our participation in this consultation will be handled by Ms. Katharine R. Kerr who can be reached at (202) 517-0216 or via e-mail at kkerr@achp.gov. We look forward to working with your agency and other consulting parties to consider alternatives for this undertaking that could avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential adverse effects on historic properties and to reach a resolution.

Sincerely,

John M. Fowler
Executive Director

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

401 F Street NW, Suite 308 • Washington, DC 20001-2637
Phone: 202-517-0200 • Fax: 202-517-6381 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov

APPENDIX 4: MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT