

OVERHILLS, SHOP
(Building No. 31)
Overhills Historic District
West of Railroad ROW & South of Overhills Lake
Fort Bragg
Harnett County
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-R
NC-407-R

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
100 Alabama St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

OVERHILLS, SHOP

(Building No. 31)

HABS No. NC-407-R

- Location: West of railroad ROW & south of Overhills Lake, Fort Bragg, Harnett County, North Carolina
USGS Overhills, North Carolina, United States Quadrangle,
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: Zone 17.3899319.678992
- Present Owner: Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Fort Bragg
- Original Use: Workshop
- Present Use: Vacant
- Significance: The Shop in the Shops Complex portion of the Overhills area at Fort Bragg is a contributing part of an eligible Fort Bragg historic district for the National Register of Historic Places. The Shop was constructed ca. 1935 and was utilized as a large shop facility for the maintenance area of the compound and golf course. The Shops Complex area is at the center of the Overhills historic district as identified in the Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Overhills Tract, Fort Bragg, May 2000.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of Erection: Ca. 1935.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and Subsequent Owners: Rockefeller Family, Fort Bragg.
4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Unknown.
5. Original plans and construction: None could be located.
6. Alterations and additions: A 5'-1"x 16'-4" addition with a concrete masonry unit foundation was built at the eastern end of the south side of the workshop. This addition contains a restroom added Ca. 1976.

A small storage addition was built in the middle of the south wall of the workshop.

A 6'-6"x 8'-1" addition, also used for storage, was added on the west end of the south side.

On the west elevation, the garage door on the north end of the facade has been replaced with plywood and a hollow core door.

B. Historical Context:

See HABS No. NC-407 for Overhills context.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: The shop is a large, utilitarian building with a gable roof, poured concrete foundation, and corrugated metal siding. The west elevation has a pair of large openings, the window on the south side of the facade, is fitted with an overhead garage door and the other was covered by sheets of plywood and converted to a smaller entry. The east elevation has a similar garage door and a smaller entry door. There are three small shed additions along the south wall which house a restroom, storage rooms, and welding equipment. The interior consists of two workshop areas divided by a plywood partition wall.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The foundation, structure, and roof structure are in excellent condition. The metal siding and metal roofing are in poor condition and the windows are missing glass.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The shop is a large, one story, rectangular mass measuring 52'-0"x 32'-0" with an east-west orientation. There are three small additions measuring 8'-1"x 6'-6", 4'-1"x 2'-6", and 16'-4"x 5'-1" on the south elevation. The entire building sits on a concrete foundation wall with a concrete slab floor for the main block. The ridge height of the large mass is 17'-2" above grade. The small room on the southwest corner has a ridge height of 7'-4" and the southeast addition has a ridge height of 8'-7". The differences in roof height and window and door placement produce distinct elevations for all facades.

The north elevation (Photo NC-407-R-1 and Photo NC-407-R-2) is blind with vertical metal siding.

The east elevation (Photo NC-407-R-1) is composed of a garage door located on the north end of the facade and a smaller door on the south end. There is a window on the addition at the south end.

The south elevation (Photo NC-407-R-3) has three additions. The southeast restroom addition is located 1'-9" from the southeast corner. The middle storage

addition is 3'-10½" from the west edge of the restroom. The other storage addition is located 3" from the west end of the facade. There are two window openings, two door openings, and a vent on this facade. One window is located between the middle and the west addition, and the other is located between the middle and the east addition. A metal vent is located between the two windows, to the west of the middle addition. The middle addition has a door in the center and the restroom addition has a double door opening.

The west elevation (Photo NC-407-R-2) is composed of a garage door to the south end of the facade and a smaller entry door to the north end. There is also an opening on the west facade of the southwest addition.

2. Foundations: The foundation for the main building is a cast-in-place concrete foundation wall with a concrete slab. The concrete foundation wall has a 5" to 9" reveal with an undetermined thickness. The additions have concrete masonry foundation walls with dirt floors.
3. Wall Construction: The walls are constructed of 2"x 4" wood studs that are connected to the double 2"x 4" top plate and the 4"x 6" sill plate. The sill plate is bolted to the cast-in-place concrete foundation wall. There are 4"x 4" diagonal braces at each corner and the metal siding is attached directly to the wall studs.
4. Structural System, Framing: The roof support is composed of a truss system with 2"x 6" wood rafters, 2"x 6" ceiling joists running north to south, and 2"x 6" truss members. The king posts are 1"x 6" and the trusses are a pitched Pratt truss. There is 1"x 8" wood decking nailed to the top of the rafters.
5. Porches, Balconies: There are none.
6. Chimney: The building has a concrete masonry unit chimney, seen on the south elevation. The chimney is located on the roof of the east addition, 6'-11" from the east facade. The chimney measures 1'-3"x 1'-4" with ½" mortar joints. The total height of the chimney is 15'-7".
7. Openings:
 - a. Openings: There is a 6'-1"x 9'-0" opening framed by 2"x 4" boards on the west facade of the shed. This opening is 5" from the southwest corner. A vent is located on the south facade, 12'-6" from the west edge of the restroom addition. The vent measures 3'-0"x 3'-0" and projects 2'-0" from the wall at the top and 10" at the bottom.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: There are five entrances to the building and two additional doors that provide access to storage areas. Two entrances are located on the east facade. One entrance is a hollow core door in a 3'-½"x 6'-9" opening with 1"x 4" trim. This doorway is located 6'-4" from the

southeast corner of the building. The other entry is a metal overhead garage door in a 9'-10"x 9'-0" opening with 1"x 8" trim and 1¾" metal drip edge. This door is located 11'-7" north of the hollow core door opening. Neither of these doors are original.

The south facade has three doors. One door is located on the south facade of the southeastern restroom addition. The opening gives access to the restroom and can also be used to enter the main structure. It is located 7'-5" from the southeast corner of the facade and measures 2'-0"x 6'-9" with 1"x 4" trim. This six-panel door is not original to the Shop. The storage space in the restroom addition is accessed by double doors. The opening measures 5'-3"x 5'-7" and is located 1'-1" west of the restroom door opening. Each double door measures 2'-7"x 5'-5", plus an additional 1½" of overlap for the east door. The doors are composed of 1"x 3" horizontal wood supports and double galvanized corrugated metal siding, oriented vertically. The third door is located on the south facade of the middle addition and provides access to a storage space. The opening is located 7" from the east edge of the addition and measures 3'-1"x 3'-6" with a 1"x 4" trim.

The west facade has two openings for overhead garage doors. The northern opening has been covered with plywood and a new doorway with a hollow core door has been added. The opening is located 4'-4 ¾" from the northwest corner and measures 3'-½"x 6'-9" with 1"x 4" trim. The other opening retains its garage door and is located 13'- 6½" south of the hollow core door opening. It measures 9'-10"x 9'-0" with 1"x 8" trim and a 1¾" metal drip edge. Neither door is original.

- c. Windows: Both windows on the south facade are two-over-two double-hung windows set in 3'-0"x 4'-7" openings. Windows are located 3'-11" above grade and each pane of glass measures 1'-0"x 2'-8". The trim for the east window meets the edge of the southeast restroom addition. The second window is located 19'-7" west of the east window.

There is also a two-over-two double-hung window on the east facade of the restroom addition.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, Covering: The roof of the main mass is a gable roof. The 1"x 8" wood decking is covered by metal seam roofing. The roofs of the additions are shed roofs with metal seam roofing.
- b. Cornice, Eaves: The rake boards measure 2"x 4" and are wrapped in metal. The eaves are open and extend 1'-6" past all four facades. The

fascia on the east and west facades is composed of open rafter tails and no trim.

c. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers: There are none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plan: The floor plan is a rectangle with three smaller rectangles added to the south side. The main mass is divided into two similar size bays. The north bay measures 51'-2"x 17'-10" and the south bay measures 51'-2"x 12'-11". The eastern-most addition has two rooms. The east room measures 7'-8"x 6'-1" and the west room measures 3'-3"x 2'-1". The middle addition is 5'-9"x 4'-8" and the west addition is 9'-4"x 4'-8".

2. Stairways and Ladders: There are none.

3. Flooring: The floor in the restroom addition is concrete. The floors in the main structure and the remaining two additions are crushed stone.

4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: The inside of the walls are not covered by any structure or material. The main elements of the structure and the siding are displayed.

There is no ceiling; the main elements of the structure and the roofing material are displayed.

5. Openings:

a. Openings: There are none.

b. Doorways and Doors: There are two doorways inside the building. The first one is in the partition wall of the main mass and is located 3'-0" from the east wall. The second doorway leads from the south bay to the southeast addition and is 3'-0" wide.

c. Windows: There are none.

6. Decorative Features and Trim: There are no decorative features.

7. Hardware: Original hardware appears to be extant for all of the windows and doors in the Shop. No manufacturer for the hardware could be found.

8. Mechanical Equipment:

a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: No HVAC equipment exists.

b. Lighting: There are three porcelain lights that are original to the Shop that hang from the underside of the roof deck. Caged lights are not original.

c. Plumbing: The toilet in the southeast addition has the year 1976 stamped inside the tank. The sink is 1'-8"x 1'-6" and is located 2'-3" above the floor.

d. Fixtures: There are none.

9. Original Furnishings: There are no original furnishings.

D. Site:

1. General Setting: The Shop is sited to the east of the Oil House (No.30) and to the west of the Fuel Storage Shed (No.29). It is southeast of the Equipment Shed (No.33) and north of the creek which runs from the northwest to the southeast of the site. The dirt road from the main Overhills road curves around the shop complex and leads toward the golf course.

2. Landscaping, Enclosures: There is no overall planting scheme for the Shop.

The north facade faces an open area consisting primarily of dirt as a ground cover with a medium-size long leaf pine tree located near the middle of the elevation 9'-2" from the building. An unidentified volunteer plant is located on the northwest corner. The south elevation faces a wooded area in the distance. This elevation has no landscaping, only a 21'-0" x 13'-11" concrete slab next to the restroom addition in the southeast corner. Surrounding the concrete slab are volunteer pine saplings. The east side faces an open area of dirt, grass, and pine straw with no landscaping. A mixture of volunteer ferns and pine saplings occupy the area. A 6½" wide wooden beam extends east 10'-1" from the northeast corner of the building, next to the garage door. The west side faces another open area with scattered volunteer pine saplings. On the northwest corner, a concrete retaining wall and three 6½" wide wooden beams enclose a 9'-11" x 12'-1" section of the ground. The concrete retaining wall extends west 12'-7" from the northwest corner of the building. A wooden beam connects with the wall and extends south 9'-11". The remaining two beams are stacked, forming a step; the bottom beam is 7½" wider. The beams extend east for 4'-4". There is an 8'-0" gap between the edge of the bottom beam and the building on the south side of the enclosed area.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural Drawings: There are none.

B. Historic Views: There are none.

C. Interviews: None

D. Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

2. Secondary and published sources:

Alexander, Frances and Richard Mattson. "Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: Overhills Tract, Fort Bragg, Harnett and Cumberland Counties, North Carolina, Final Report." Charlotte, NC: Mattson, Alexander and Associates prepared for US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, May 2000.

Hood, Davyd Foard. "Overhills Historic District. Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places" (draft), 1992. On file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

E. Likely sources not yet investigated: None.

PART IV: PROJECT INFORMATION

The Cultural Resources Management Program in the Directorate Public Works at Fort Bragg, North Carolina sponsored this project. The project was completed at the Land and Heritage Conservation Branch of the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) part of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC). The project historian was Adam Smith (CERL). Adam Smith, with assistance from Christella Lai and Jennifer Feucht, produced the architectural description section of the report. Martin Stupich produced the large-format photographs contained in the report. Documentation was coordinated with the Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program through preservation planner Cris Armstrong and architectural historian Michelle Michael. The documentation was completed May 2007.

