

OVERHILLS, GRANARY
(Building No. 32)
Overhills Historic District
West of Railroad ROW & South of Overhills Lake
Fort Bragg
Harnett County
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-S
NC-407-S

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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, GRANARY
(BUILDING No. 32)

HABS No. NC-407-S

- 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 17.3899350.678944
- Present Owner: Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Fort Bragg
- Original Use: Granary and equipment shed
- Present Use: Vacant
- Significance: The Granary 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 Granary was constructed ca. 1935, and was utilized as a large granary and equipment storage area 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: Unknown.

B. Historical Context:

See HABS No. NC-407 for Overhills context.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: The Granary is a three-story building with a poured concrete foundation, corrugated metal exterior, and a front gabled roof. The building is banked so the basement level can accommodate four large garage bays for equipment storage. The entrance on the north elevation consists of double leaf, batten doors that open onto a wooden loading platform. The south elevation is broken by six-over-six windows on the two upper levels. The interior has a center passage flanked by grain bins, and a staircase leading to the upper level used for grain storage.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The condition of the Granary is remarkably good. The foundation is in excellent condition and the roof and structure show no signs of structural defect. The siding is also in good condition, but there are missing windows.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The Granary is a three-story 40'-4" x 26'-5" rectangular block orientated north-south with a front gabled roof. The building sits on a concrete foundation wall with a dirt floor. The ridge height for the gable is 8'-4" above the second level. Differences in grade levels and window/door placement produce four distinct elevations.

The north elevation (Photo NC-407-S-3) is symmetrical with a double door entrance on the first floor and a wooden stoop on the central axis. An original six-over-six double-hung window, which has been boarded with plywood, is located on the second floor on the central axis.

The east elevation (Photo NC-407-S-1 and Photo NC-407-S-4) is symmetrical with four garage doors, two doors on each side of the central axis, at the basement level.

The south elevation (Photo NC-407-S-1 and Photo NC-407-S-2) is symmetrical with one original six-over-six double-hung window opening at the second floor and a second original six-over-six double-hung window boarded with plywood on the first floor on the central axis.

The west elevation (Photo NC-407-S-2, Photo NC-407-S-3) is symmetrical with two original six-over-six double-hung windows, which have been boarded with plywood, on each side of the central axis at the basement level.

2. Foundations: The foundation is a concrete wall with a sand floor and six concrete piers below the interior wood columns. The thickness of the concrete wall is 1'-4"

at the south and west walls and 1'-0" at the north wall. The north concrete wall and 9'-1" of the west wall are 5'-8" tall and the remaining west wall is 1'-11" above grade. The south wall is 1'-4". The concrete piers are 10" above grade tapering from an 8"x 8" top to a 10"x 10" base. The piers are positioned on a two by three grid beginning 8'-7" from the north wall and spaced evenly at 9'-4" from there and 7'-6¼" from the west wall and 8'-0¼" for the next pier.

3. Wall Construction: The walls are constructed of 2"x 4" wood studs which are connected to the double 2"x 4" top plate and the 3½"x 1" sill plate for the first and second floor. The second floor walls are 2'-8" tall. The basement sill plate is 4"x 6" and is bolted to the cast-in-place concrete foundation wall. There is 4"x 4" diagonal bracing at each corner and the window and door openings are framed by 2"x 4"s. The metal siding is attached to the wall studs.
4. Structural System, Framing: The roof support is composed of 2"x 6" wood rafters and 2"x 6" wood roof ties spanning north-south at 4'-0" on center. The roof ties are 7'-1" above the floor decking and the rafters are attached to the 2"x 8" ridge beam. There is 1"x 8" wood decking nailed on top of the roof supports. The first floor is supported by six 8"x 8" wood columns supported by concrete piers in the basement (Photo NC-407-S-5). The floor joists for the first and second floors are 7½"x 2".
5. Porches, Balconies: There is a wooden stoop, measuring 3'-10 ½"x 6'-2" and 2'-9" above grade, at the north facade to allow entry to the first floor. The five steps, measuring 11"x 6'-2", are nailed to the 2" thick stringers on each side. These steps are not original. The stoop is supported by an 8" diameter tree trunk with 2"x 4" framing.
6. Chimney: There is none.
7. Openings:
 - a. Openings: There are none.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: There is one entrance which provides access to the first and second floor of the building located on the north facade. The opening for this entry originally held double doors and measured 5'-2 ½"x 6'-8", but it has been modified for a single door which measures 2'-7"x 6'-8". The 5 ½" trim from the original opening is still extant on the facade; the top piece of this trim has a wooden drip edge covered in metal. The original double doors were replaced by a single hollow core door, but the original doors were kept to serve as decoration, as they are nailed to each side of the current opening. Each of the double doors measure 2'-7"x 6'-8" and are composed of varied width boards nailed to a "Z" frame.

The east facade has four garage door openings at the basement level, each measuring 9'-9"x 7'-3" (Photo NC-407-S-4). The garage doors are not original.

- c. **Windows:** The window on the north facade is located on the second floor and is covered from the exterior by a sheet of plywood. It is an original six-over-six double-hung window in a 2'-10 ½"x 4'-6" opening. Each pane of glass measures 10"x 1'-0". The window is located 11'-3 ½" from the northeast corner of the building and 3'-1" above the second floor decking.

The south facade has two windows. One is located on the first level and another is located directly above on the second level. These windows are located on the centerline of the facade. Each window has a 2'-10½" x 4'-6" opening and both windows have had the sashes removed. The window on the first level has a sheet of plywood lodged in the opening.

The windows on west facade are located at the basement level and are boarded up with plywood. They are original six-over-six double-hung windows in a 3'-4"x 5'-0" opening. One is located 10'-3" from the south facade and the other is 9'-4" from the north facade.

8. Roof:

- a. **Shape, Covering:** The roof is a front gable with metal seam roofing covering the 1"x 6" wood decking.
- b. **Cornice, Eaves:** The rake boards are comprised of 1"x 3" boards wrapped in metal. The eaves are open and extend 1'-0" past the walls on all four facades. The fascia on the east and west facades is composed of open rafter tails with no trim.
- c. **Dormers, Cupolas, Towers:** There are none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. **Floor Plan:** The basement level has an open plan and measures 38'-7"x 24'-6". The basement has no access to the first level. The first floor of the Granary is divided into six rooms and a hallway. The 5'-8" wide hallway runs down the middle of the building from the north end to the south end, separating four small rooms on the east side from two large rooms on the west side. The small rooms measure 9'-5"x 9'-10½", 9'-6½"x 9'-10½", 9'-8"x 9'-10½", and 9'-6"x 9'-10½" from south to north. The large rooms measure 15'-4½"x 9'-10½" and 17'-7"x 9'-10½" south to north. The stair case that leads to the second level is located in the northwest corner of the building. The second floor also has an open plan. The first and second floors have overall measurements of 39'-4"x 25'-5".

2. Stairways and Ladders: The stairs from the first floor to the second floor are located in the northwest corner of the building. The stairs are 2'-10" wide with six 10½" treads leading to the 3'-0"x 5'-8" landing. The railing is 3¾"x 1¾" and located 2'-11" off the floor. The post at the end of the railing is 3½"x 1" on the first floor and 5½"x ½" on the second floor.
3. Flooring: The first floor and second floor are composed of 5½" tongue and groove wood decking. The basement floor is concrete covered by a thick layer of sand.
4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: The basement level shows the interior of the poured concrete foundation wall along with the framing and interior side of the corrugated metal covering. The inside of the walls are not covered by any structure or material on the first floor, but there is tongue and groove board on the outer side of the studs. The second floor walls are 5¼" tongue and groove planks on the interior side up to where the wall meets the roof structure.

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

5. Openings:
 - a. Openings: There are none.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: There are seven doorways on the first floor of the Granary. None of them are original to the structure. The openings are 3'-0"x 6'-8" for all. The first doorway on the east inner wall is located 3'-2½" from the south wall. The next openings are 6'-11½", 6'-11¾", and 7'-0" from the edge of the openings. The first doorway on the west interior wall is 8'-11½" from the south wall and the next opening is 13'-8½".

There are two trap doors in the building. One is located on the first floor and measures 3'-10"x 3'-10" and the second measures 4'-4½"x 4'-8½" and is located on the second floor (Photo NC-407-S-6).

- c. Windows: There are none.
6. Decorative Features, and Trim: There is a 1" quarter round trim along the second level walls and floor. There are no other decorative features.
7. Hardware: The hardware on the trap door is original. It has a 5" hinge with a 6" strap and the ring handle is 3" in diameter. The double doors retain their original 5½" hinges. No manufacturer was found for the hardware.
8. Mechanical Equipment:
 - a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: No HVAC equipment exists.

b. Lighting: There is no original lighting.

c. Plumbing: There is no plumbing.

d. Fixtures: There are none.

9. Original Furnishings: There are no original furnishings.

D. Site:

1. General Setting: The Granary is sited to the east of the Equipment Shed (No.33). It is northwest of the Fuel Storage Shed (No.29) and southeast of Worker House No.2 (No.39). The Granary is 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 leading toward the golf course.

2. Landscaping, Enclosures: There is no overall planting scheme for the Granary. The north facade faces an open grass and dirt area with no landscaping. The south elevation also faces an open grass and dirt area with several large pine trees. There is a row of three large pine trees that stretches north to south along the southeast corner of the building. The closest pine tree (a loblolly) is located 13'-0" from the building and 6'-3" from the southeast corner. A second pine tree (a longleaf) is 6'-7" from the first tree and the third tree (a longleaf) is 4'-4" from the second tree. A single longleaf pine tree is located 7'-0" away from the building. The west elevation faces a dirt and grass area with one large loblolly pine tree located on the northwest corner, 21'-0" from the building and 16'-0" from the northwest corner. Unidentified volunteer plantings are located along the wall, close to the corners. The east elevation faces an open area consisting primarily of dirt with two small loblolly pine trees located next to the concrete retaining wall on the northeast corner. The first is 8'-11" from the building on the south side of the wall. The second is located 17'-2" from the building on the north side of the wall on the bank.

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.

