

OVERHILLS, WORKER HOUSE No. 1  
(Building No. 36)  
Overhills Historic District  
West of Railroad ROW & South of Overhills Lake  
Fort Bragg  
Harnett County  
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-T  
NC-407-T

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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, WORKER HOUSE No.1

(Building No. 36)

HABS No. NC-407-T

- 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 17.3899342.679070
- Present Owner: Department of Defense  
Department of the Army  
Fort Bragg
- Original Use: Residence
- Present Use: Vacant
- Significance: Worker House No.1 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 Worker House No.1 was constructed ca. 1915, and was utilized originally as a house for one of the Overhills Country Club investors. For most of its history, employees of the estate used it as a residence. 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. 1915.
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: The front and back porches may be additions.

#### B. Historical Context:

See HABS No. NC-407 for Overhills context.

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT

### A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: Although the Worker House No.1 was used as a home for employees of the estate for most of its history, the house may have initially been built for one of the original Overhills Country Club investors. The floor plan of the house is three rooms wide and two rooms deep. This is basically the same floor plan that exists in the houses used for the servants.

The one story, frame dwelling has a long, rectangular form, side gable roof, weatherboard siding, six-over-six windows, and a brick pier foundation, which has now been filled. The north side of the house has a screened porch that is supported by skinned-pole columns; the west end of this porch is enclosed. There is another, smaller, screened porch on the south side of the house.

Most of the original horizontal paneled doors remain in the house, although a few have been replaced with hollow core doors. The corbelled brick mantels remain intact, as does a built-in corner cupboard in the dining room.

2. Condition of the Fabric: The condition of the Worker House No.1 is good although the roof is covered in pine needles.

### B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The Worker House No.1 is a single story house with a gable roof and front and rear screened porches. The long side of the building measures 51'-1" and the short side is 35'-6½". The ridge of the roof runs east-west and is located 16'-6" above the foundation. The rear screened porch is located on the southeast corner of the building and measures 5'-11"x 28'-7".

The north elevation (Photo NC-407-T-5) is an asymmetrical facade comprised of a large screened porch and a smaller covered portion on the west end of the porch. Two windows are located on the covered part of the porch. The screened porch is accessed by two screen doors.

The east elevation (Photo NC-407-T-4, Photo NC-407-T-5) is a gable wall with weatherboard siding. It is a symmetrical facade with four windows. The front and rear screened porches are visible to either side of the east elevation.

The south elevation (Photo NC-407-T-2, Photo NC-407-T-3, Photo NC-407-T-4) is an asymmetrical facade with a screened porch to the east end of the facade and three windows on the remainder of the facade.

The west elevation (Photo NC-407-T-1, Photo NC-407-T-2) is a gable wall with weatherboard siding. It is an asymmetrical facade with five windows.

2. Foundations: The foundation is a wall comprised of 1'-8" square brick piers and brick infill. The bricks used for the piers are 7½"x 2½" and the infill bricks are 7"x 2½". The walls meet the foundation at 9" above grade.
3. Wall Construction: Undetermined
4. Structural System, Framing: The roof support is composed of 2"x 6" wood rafters and 2"x 6" ceiling joists. There is no ridge beam. The roof decking is 1"x 4" boards with 2" spaces.

The front porch support consists of three skinned-pole columns along the outer edge. The roof structure is composed of 2"x 5" rafters and 2½" decking with ¼" spaces. The front porch addition rafters are 2"x 6" dimension lumber with 2½" decking.

The rear porch roof is supported by three 4"x 4" posts.

5. Porches, Balconies: The front porch (Photo NC-407-T-6, Photo NC-407-T-7) on the north facade is screened and measures 36'-3½"x 7'-4". The height of the porch where it meets the main building is 7'-4". The porch has three skinned pine tree trunks for columns that extend from floor to ceiling. They have an average diameter of 9". The screening runs between the columns, and is supported by 1"x 4" vertical and horizontal framing members. The horizontal screen brace is 3'-6½" above the porch floor. There are two entrances on the north facade of the porch. Three concrete masonry unit steps lead up to the porch at the east door and two at the west door.

The back porch (Photo NC-407-T-10) measures 28'-7"x 5'-11" and has a height of 8'-8". Three 4"x 4" posts support the roof. The screening is in alignment with the posts. The vertical and horizontal screen bracing is 1½"x 2½" with the horizontal brace located 3'-11½" above the porch floor. There is one screen door on the south facade of the porch. There are two steps to the back porch.

6. Chimney: The house has three brick chimneys. A chimney is located near each end of the house and another is located in the center of the house. The bricks in the end chimneys measure 7 ½"x 2½"x 3½" and have ½" mortar joints. The east chimney serves the kitchen and the west chimney serves the two bedrooms. The bricks in the center chimney measure 7 ½"x 2½"x 3½" and have ½" mortar joints. All chimneys are located to the south side of the roof ridge.

7. Openings:
  - a. Openings: There are none.
  - b. Doorways and Doors: There are four entrances to the building; three are located on the north facade and sheltered by the front porch, and the other is located on the south facade and is sheltered by the rear porch. One of

the doors on the north facade is located 6'-5" from the northeast corner and provides entry to the bedroom. The door has a 2'-0"x 2'-6" window over four horizontal wood panels and no original hardware. A second door is located 31'-7" from the northeast corner and provides entry to the living room. It is a 2'-7½"x 6'-10¼" six-panel door with 1'-11"x 8" horizontal panels. The door to the enclosed portion of the porch is a six-panel door with four coupled, vertical panels and two square panels above. This door is located 3'-10¾" from the north facade, measures 2'-8¼"x 6'-9", and is not original to the house.

The north facade of the front porch has two screen doors. The east screen door opening measures 2'-6"x 6'-5½" and is located 6'-1½" from the east wall. The west screen door is located 31'-5½" from the east wall and measures 2'-6"x 6'-5½".

The rear entrance is located off the rear porch, 6'-1½" from the east facade. The door is an original six-panel door with 2'-11"x 8" horizontal panels, and framed in a 2'-8"x 7'-½" opening. The hinges for this door are original, but the lockset is not.

The south facade of the rear porch has one screen door located 5'-6" from the west corner of the screened porch and measures 3'-0"x 6'-5½".

- c. Windows: All of the windows in the Worker House No.1 are six-over-six double-hung windows. The addition has the same style windows, but they are slightly different in size and placement.

The east elevation has four windows in 2'-10¾"x 4'-5" openings. The south window is located 8'-10¾" from the southeast corner of the rear porch. The next two windows are located 14'-7" and 22'-8¼" from the southwest corner of the rear porch. The last window is located 28'-5¼" from the southwest corner of the rear porch.

The south elevation has three windows in 2'-10¾"x 4'-5" openings. The west window is located 1'-8½" from the southwest corner. The middle window is located 7'-5¾" from the southwest corner. The east window is located 15'-3" from the southwest corner of the building.

The west elevation has five windows. Four of the windows are in 2'-10¾"x 4'-5" openings. The north window is a later addition and measures 2'-10½"x 4'-5½". The three middle windows are located 10'-2", 14'-11¼", and 24'-2½" from the northwest corner. The south window is located 29'-11" from the northwest corner of the building.

The north facade has two windows, neither of which are original to the building, but both are contemporary to the porch addition. The west

window is located 2'-3½" from the northwest corner and the east window is located 9'-6" from the northwest corner of the building. The openings measure 2'-10½"x 4'-5½". Both windows are located 1'-8" above the finished floor. The glass panes measure 10" x 12".

There are also four windows located on the north facade under the shelter of the front porch; all four are six-over-six double-hung windows. Two windows, which are located in the northeast bedroom, are placed 1'-10¼" and 10'-9" from the northeast corner of the house. Both windows are 2'-11" wide, 4'-7" tall, and 2'-0" above the floor. Two more windows are located in the living room and measure 2'-11" wide, 4'-5" tall, and are located 2'-1½" from the finished floor.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, Covering: The roof of the Worker House No.1 is a gable roof. The 1"x 4" wood deck is covered by plywood spaced 2" apart which is covered with gray rolled asphalt roofing.
- b. Cornice, Eaves: The east and west facades have close rakes with little overhang. The fascia on the east facade is 2"x 6" with a beadboard trim. A 1"x 6" is used for the fascia on the west facade, but has no trim. The north and south facades have open eaves, leaving the rafter tails exposed.
- c. Dormers, Cupolas, and Towers: There are none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plan: The floor plan is a rectangle with a screened porch that stretches across the entire north facade and a second rectangular screened porch located on the east end of the of the south facade. There are three rooms on the north half of the building, a central living room with a bedroom to the west and a dining room to the east. The south half of the building has a kitchen on the east end, a bathroom and storage room to the west of the kitchen, and two more bedrooms to the west of the bathroom.
2. Stairways and Ladders: There are none.
3. Flooring: The original pine floors have been covered by carpet or linoleum. The floors of the living room, west bedroom, and south bedrooms are carpeted. The dining room floor is 3" tongue and groove boards. The kitchen, bathroom, and storage room have vinyl flooring.
4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: The original tongue and groove walls and ceiling have been covered by sheetrock or modern paneling. Vertical paneling covers most walls. The vertical panels are in different widths and are painted white. The

storage room (NC-407-T-11) is covered in beadboard running horizontally and painted white. The beadboard is a 3¼" plank with two beads.

The ceilings throughout the house are covered by white 1'-0" square fiberboard panels.

5. Openings:

a. Openings: There are none.

b. Doorways and Doors: The house has three types of interior doors: a five-panel with glass, a recent vintage six-panel, and a hollow core door. The glass for the five-panel door measures 2'-0" x 2'-6" and the lower wood panels measure 10"x 2'-6". A typical doorway between the main rooms of the building measures 2'-10"x 6'-10" and the bathroom doorways measure 2'-6"x 6'-10". Closet doors are folding louver doors or hollow core doors. The closet doors vary between 2'-0"x 6'-10" and 2'-9"x 6'-10". All doors in the house are painted white. The doors between the living room and the west bedroom and west bedroom to the kitchen are missing.

c. Windows: There are none.

6. Decorative Features and Trim: The windows and doors original to the house retain their original moldings. The width of the headers and side trim is 3½"x 1". The aprons on the original windows are 3½"x 1". All door and window trim is painted white, as are the sashes of the original windows.

Baseboards overall are 7" high with ½" quarter round on top. The baseboards are painted white throughout the house.

Crown molding is 2½"x 1½" and painted white.

The fireplace in the living room (Photo NC-407-T-9) is composed of 7½"x 2½"x 3½" brick painted white. The mortar joints are ½" on all sides of the bricks. The firebox opening is 3'-0"x 2'-9"x 1'-4". The hearth is a stained piece of wood with a quarter round trim that measures 4'-11"x 1-7". The mantelshelf measures 5'-6"x 1'-4½"x 2 ½" and rests on an 11"x 2½" corbel on each side of the fireplace. The top of the mantelshelf is located 5'-0" above the floor. The mantel is painted white.

The fireplace in the north bedroom is identical to the living room fireplace. The only difference is that the firebox has been covered by a stove.

The valance above the front window in the west room measures 3'-8"x 9"x 7".

7. Hardware: Original hinges appear to be extant for all doors. The kitchen cupboards have original hardware; the twist knobs on the doors are 1¼"x 2" and

the butterfly hinges are 1"x 1½". No manufacturer for the hardware could be found.

8. Mechanical Equipment:

- a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: There is none.
- b. Lighting: Lighting is extant, however it is unknown if it is original to the house.
- c. Plumbing: The plumbing network was inaccessible and its type is unknown.
- d. Fixtures: There are no original fixtures.

9. Original Furnishings: There is an original cupboard in the dining room (Photo NC-407-T-8). The cupboard is 4'-½"x 7'-9½" and 1'-¾" deep. The lower portion is 2'-11" tall and has two wooden doors. Each door measures 1'-9¼"x 2'-4" with 2¼" trim all around and in the middle. The top portion is 4'-10½" tall and has two wood trimmed, six-pane, glass doors. Each door measures 1'-9¼"x 3'-4¼" with 2¾" trim all around the glass panes and 1" trim between panes. Each glass pane measures 7¼"x 10¼". The top of the cupboard has a 2½" crown molding.

D. Site:

1. General Setting: The Worker House No.1 is sited to the northeast of the Servants' House (No.38) and northwest of the Worker House No.1 Garage (No.37). It is east of the Woodworking Shop (No.35) 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: The building is situated east of the unpaved access road to the Shops Complex. There is an overall planting scheme for the Worker House No. 1 as evident on all elevations of the building.

The north facade has several plantings along the screened porch with two holly bushes that line the porch steps; the holly to the east of the steps is 4'-0" from the building and the west holly is 3'-0" from the building. An azalea bush and a privet bush are located next to the east holly and a fern is next to the west holly. Tiger lilies line the foundation to the west side of the porch. In front of the lilies are four azalea bushes surrounding a remnant of a mimosa and a gallberry. Near the middle of the elevation, there is a dogwood tree 8'-0" from the building. A yellow poplar tree is located on the west side of the elevation, 4'-4" from the building, with a heavenly bamboo next to it. A gallberry and an azalea bush are located on the west side near the northwest corner.

The south elevation faces an expanse of grass and weeds, including dog fennel. There are several plantings located along the elevation. Three camellias (two located in the southwest corner), one heavenly bamboo, and several remnants of unidentified plantings are located to the west of the screened porch. Another camellia marks the west end of the porch with a glossy abelia is located next to it. A mimosa is located to the west of the porch steps, and a loblolly pine tree is located 15'-9" from the building near the southeast corner.

The east elevation faces a wooded area in the distance with overgrown grass and weeds closer to the building. A tulip poplar tree is near the middle of the elevation, 8'-7" from the building. Two heavenly bamboos are located on the north side 6'-3" from the building. Next to the heavenly bamboo in the northeast corner is a blueberry patch containing six blueberry plants. Two camellias are also located in the northeast corner approximately 6'-0" from the building.

The west elevation faces an open area with several pine trees scattered in the distance. There are five glossy abelia plants along the elevation approximately 4'-6" from one another and 1'-5" from the building. A camellia is located in the northwest corner approximately 3'-0" from the building. An abelia and an unknown plant are located in the middle of the elevation in front of the glossy abelia plants.

### 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.

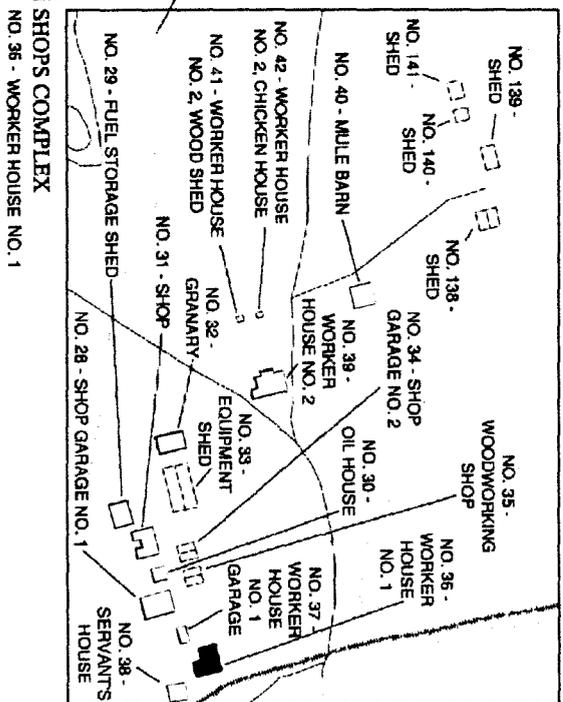
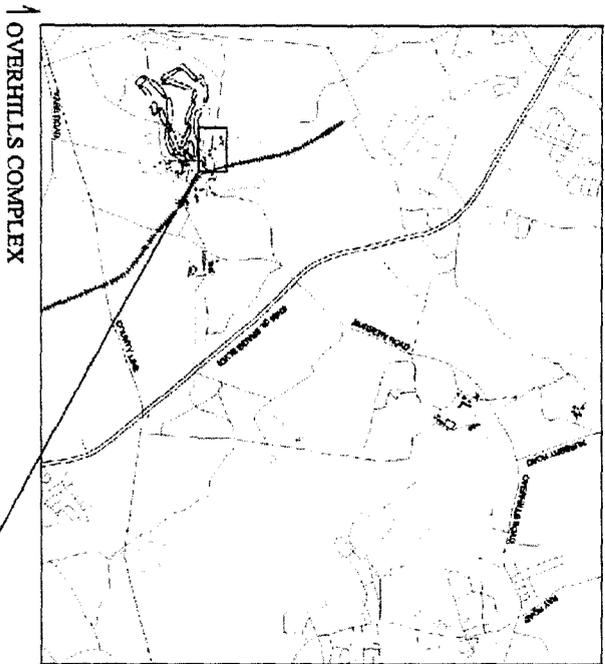
Hood, Davyd Foard. "Overhills Historic District. Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places" (draft), 1992. On file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

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.

MAPS NOT TO SCALE



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