

OVERHILLS, SERVANT'S HOUSE
(Building No. 38)
Overhills Historic District
West of Railroad ROW & South of Overhills Lake
Fort Bragg
Harnett County
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-V
NC-407-V

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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, SERVANT'S HOUSE

(Building No. 38)

HABS No. NC-407-V

- 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 17.3899307.679079
- Present Owner: Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Fort Bragg
- Original Use: Residence
- Present Use: Vacant
- Significance: The Servant's House 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 Servant's House was constructed ca. 1930 as a support building for Worker House No. 1. 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.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of Erection: Ca. 1930.
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 north shed is an addition to the building.

B. Historical Context:

See HABS No. NC-407 for Overhills context.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: The Servant's House is a small, side gable building with a two room plan and a frame shed addition to the north. The front doors of the house face south and open into modest rooms; the east room has a small fireplace.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The foundation and overall structure of the house are in poor condition; there are missing windows, the floor has rotted, and the roof has been penetrated.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The Servant's House is a small, rectangular mass with a gable roof and a shed addition on the north elevation. The overall dimension of the building is 21'-10"x 23'-0" and the gable ridge height is 15'-6" above grade. Differences in materials, window/door placement, and addition treatments produce distinct elevations for all facades.

The north elevation (Photo NC-407-V-2) is the north wall of the addition. It is blind, but shows the changes in the roof slope.

The east elevation (Photo NC-407-V-3) is asymmetrical with a single window centered under the gable. The wall of the addition extends up to the lowest point of the shed roof and has a triangular opening above.

The south elevation (Photo NC-407-V-3) has two doors at different heights.

The west elevation (Photo NC-407-V-1, Photo NC-407-V-2) is asymmetrical with a single window under the gable. The addition has weatherboard starting from the lowest point of the shed roof slope and continuing up to the point where the shed and main roof meet, the area below this is open.

2. Foundations: The shed foundation is a concrete block wall composed of 1'-4"x 8"x 4" blocks. The foundation for the house is undetermined.
3. Wall Construction: The walls of the house are composed of 4"x 4" framing members with diagonal braces. 6½"x ¾" weatherboards are nailed directly to the wood studs on the exterior with end caps at the corners.

The walls of the shed addition are framed with modern dimension lumber. The walls are comprised of 1½"x 3½" studs, 3¾"x 7" double top plates, and a 3¾"x 7" sill plate. There are diagonal braces along the north wall of the shed. 7½"x 1" weatherboards are nailed to the exterior side of the studs and end caps are located at the corners.

4. Structural System, Framing: The walls of the Servant's House are composed of 4"x 4" framing members with diagonal braces.

The walls of the frame shed addition are composed of modern dimension lumber. The studs are 1½"x 3½" with 3¾"x 7" double top plates and a 3¾"x 7" sill plate. The roof structure is composed of 5½"x 1½" rafters with 7½"x 1" decking placed 8½" on center.

5. Porches, Balconies: There is a small stoop outside the west door on the house that leads to the Servant's House. The stoop is composed of three courses of brick in a running bond pattern.

6. Chimney: The building has a brick chimney located in the middle of the roof, slightly off center to the north of the ridge. The chimney measures 1'-8"x 2'-½" and is composed of 7½"x 4"x 2½" bricks with ¾" mortar joints. The top of the chimney has two courses of brick that are corbelled slightly to serve as a cap.

7. Openings:

- a. Openings: There is a 10'-3½"x 11'-2" opening on the west elevation. The opening is located 5" from the northwest corner.
- b. Doorways and Doors: There are two doorways on the building, both of which are located on the south facade of the building. The west doorway is located 4'-9½" from the west end of the facade and measures 2'-10"x 7'-1". The east doorway is located 4'-3" from the east end of the facade and measures 2'-9¾"x 7'-0". Each doorway has 6½" trim on the top and sides of the opening. The doors are five-panel doors that measure 2'-9½"x 6'-11½"; each horizontal panel is 11"x 24½". While the doors are contemporary to the period of the building, they do not appear to be original to the building. The doors have no lockset and the hinges are not original.
- c. Windows: The house has two windows, one on the west facade and the other on the east facade. The west facade window is located 5'-8½" from the north corner, and 2'-0" above the ground. The opening measures 2'x 2'-11" and contains a fixed sash window with a single glass pane measuring 1'-8"x 2'-7".

The east facade window is located 5'-9½" from the south corner, and 2'-8" above the ground. The opening measures 2'-0"x 2'-11" and contains a fixed sash window with a single glass pane measuring 1'-8"x 2'-7".

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, Covering: The gable roof of the main structure runs east to west and is located directly over the center of the servant's rooms. The roof

over the main structure is not original to the house and both the main roof and the shed addition are covered in metal sheathing.

The roof of the shed addition is a half-gable with a less shallow slope than the main roof. This roof meets the main roof at the north wall of the main house. The roof sheathing is metal.

- b. **Cornice, Eaves:** The roof of the servant rooms has a 3'-6" overhang on the south facade. The east and west overhang is 5½". The eaves are open with exposed rafter tails and no fascia board.
- c. **Dormers, Cupolas, Towers:** There are none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. **Floor Plan:** The floor plan of the house is divided into two equal rooms that functioned as servant's quarters and are accessed from the south side. The shed addition to the north is accessed from the west. The servant's rooms each measure 10'-3"x 11'-5½" and the shed addition measures 21'-5"x 10'-2½".
2. **Stairways and Ladders:** There are none.
3. **Flooring:** The floor in the west room has 6"x1" wood decking and the floor in the east room is concrete slab. The shed addition has a dirt floor.
4. **Wall and Ceiling Finish:** The inside of the walls are 3½" tongue-and-groove wood paneling, painted white. The ceilings are 3½" tongue-and-groove wood paneling in natural wood coloring.
5. **Openings:**
 - a. **Openings:** There are none.
 - b. **Doorways and Doors:** There is a doorway between the rooms located 5" from the south wall. The doorway measures 2'-8"x 7'-0" and the door measures 2'-6½"x 6'-11".
 - c. **Windows:** The north wall of the servant rooms has two windows. The west window is 4'-6½" from the west wall, and 3'-0" above the ground. The opening measures 2'-¾"x 2'-11¾" and contains a fixed sash window with a single 1'-8"x 2'-7" glass pane. The window has 3½"x ¾" trim on all sides.

The east window is located 10'-½" from the west window and 3'-0" above the ground. The opening measures 2'-¾"x 2'-11¾" and contains a fixed

sash window. The single glass pane measures 1'-8"x 2'-7". The window has 3½"x ¾" trim on all sides.

6. Decorative Features and Trim: A fireplace is located on the west wall of the east room. The fireplace is 2'-½" wide, 2'-0" tall, and 8" deep. A 6½" diameter stove pipe is located on the same wall, 6'-4" above the floor.
 7. Hardware: There is no original hardware.
 8. Mechanical Equipment:
 - a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: There is none
 - b. Lighting: There is none.
 - c. Plumbing: There is none.
 - d. Fixtures: There are none.
 9. Original Furnishings: There are no original furnishings.
- D. Site:
1. General Setting: The Servant's House is sited to the south of the Worker House No. 1 (No.36), west of the Worker House No. 1 Garage (No.37), and east of the railroad tracks.
 2. Landscaping, Enclosures: There is no overall planting scheme for the Servant's House. The south facade has a two-foot wide dirt and grass walkway running the length of the elevation; the remainder of the area consists of grass with a covering of pine straw. The north elevation faces a wooded area in the distance with three trees located close to the building. A dogwood tree is located 2'-10" from the building near the northeast corner and a magnolia and loblolly pine are located approximately 18'-0" from the building to the northeast. The east and west elevations face open grass areas overgrown with weeds including dog fennel. A wooded area is located in the distance to the east.

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:

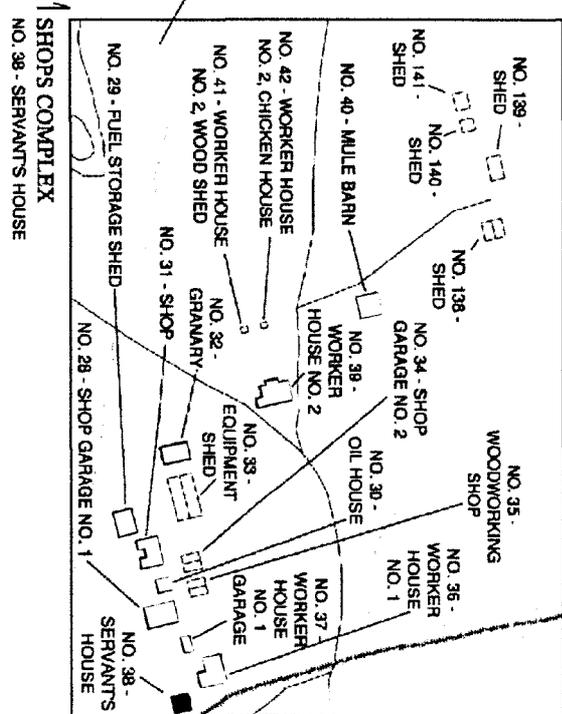
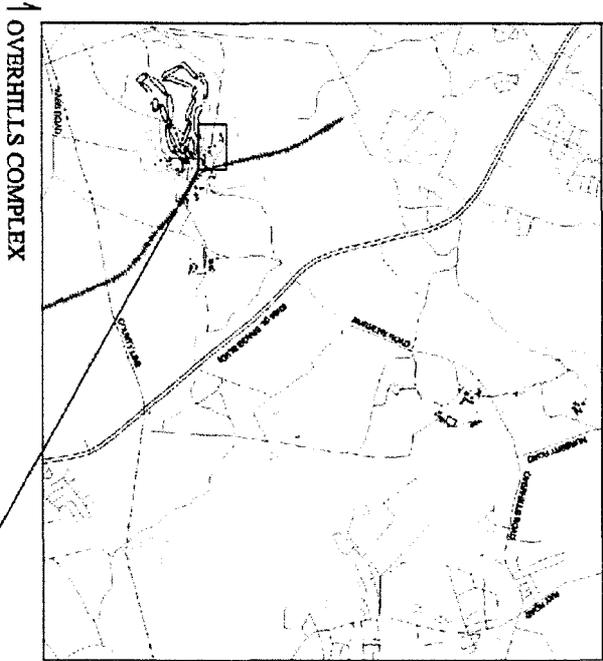
Alexander, Frances and Richard Mattson. "Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: Overhills Tract, Fort Bragg, Harnett and Cumberland Counties, North Carolina, Final Report." Charlotte, NC: Mattson, Alexander and Associates prepared for US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, May 2000.

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 October 2003.



MAPS NOT TO SCALE