

OVERHILLS, MULE BARN
(Building No. 40)
Overhills Historic District
West of Railroad ROW & South of Overhills Lake
Fort Bragg
Harnett County
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-X
NC-407-X

HABS
NC407X

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, MULE BARN

(Building No. 40)

HABS No. NC-407-X

- 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 17.3899445.678779
- Present Owner: Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Fort Bragg
- Original Use: Barn
- Present Use: Vacant
- Significance: The Mule Barn 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 Mule Barn was constructed ca. 1935 and was utilized as a barn to house the mules that were used in the maintenance of the 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 Mule Barn is a large, wood framed barn with a front gable roof, weatherboard siding, a hayloft, and a rear shed. The side elevations have broad, overhanging eaves to shelter the openings to the stalls. The north gable-end elevation is open, revealing the partition wall that divides the two rows of stalls.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The condition of the Mule Barn is poor. The west exterior wall has detached from the main structure and the supports for the east and west porches are missing. The metal roof is rusty, exterior windows and stall doors are missing, and floor boards are missing on the interior.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The mule barn has a rectangular plan measuring 32'-6" x 20'-5", orientated north-south. A hayloft is located on the second level of the barn. The ridge height of the building is 17'-8" above grade and the overhangs are 8'-2". The ridge height for the shed at the south is 11'-11". Differences in window/door placement and level changes produce three distinct elevations.

The north elevation (Photo NC-407-X-3) is made up of two large openings on the first level, and a door that is centered in the weatherboard gable, and opens to the hayloft, on the second level.

The east and west (Photo NC-407-X-1) elevations are mirror images of one another. The elevation is asymmetrical with three equally spaced sets of a stall door with a small window located next to it. The east and west facades of the south shed each have a single door and weatherboard siding.

The south elevation (Photo NC-407-X-2) has no openings and shows the rear shed.

2. Foundations: Foundation is undetermined.
3. Walls: The main perimeter walls are constructed out of 2" x 4" wood studs. The exterior sides of the walls are composed of 1" thick weatherboards with a 6½" reveal.
4. Structural System, Framing: The roof framing is constructed out of 2" x 6" rafters without a ridge beam. The 6" x 1¾" wood joists are attached to the top plate of the wall. The walls are 2" x 4" studs with 'Y' bracing at the corners. The studs are nailed to a 7" x 9" sill plate. The roof deck is composed of 6 ½" x 1" boards.

5. Porches, Balconies: There are two open porches on the east and west facades, which are 2'-10" deep. Ghost outlines of 6" diameter tree trunk columns that would have been used for roof support are located at the corners of the porches. The height of the porch is 9'-8" above grade.
6. Chimney: There is none.
7. Openings:
 - a. Openings: There are two large openings on the north facade. The east opening measures 8'-11" x 8'-2" and is located 6" from the northeast corner; the west opening measures 9'-2" x 8'-2" and is 6" from the west exterior wall. Both openings are framed by 2" x 4"s.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: The north facade has a hayloft door 9'-6" above grade. The opening measures 6'-11½" x 5'-8½" and is centered on the facade. The east facade has four doorways. The first doorway is 3'-11¾" from the northeast corner and measures 2'-6" x 7'-½". The second doorway is located 3'-10½" from the first doorway and measures 2'-6" x 6'-9½". The third doorway is located 4'-5" from the second one and measures 3'-3½" x 7'-0". The fourth doorway is 5'-11¼" from the third one and measures 2'-10½" x 7'-0". The door trims are wood 2" x 4" boards. The doors on the west facade mirror those on the east facade.
 - c. Windows: The east facade has three windows. The first window is 6'-5¾" from the northeast corner and measures 1'-11½" x 2'-0". The second window is 12'-10¼" from the edge of the first window and measures 1'-11½" x 2'-0". The third window is 20'-6¾" from the edge of the second window and measures 1'-11½" x 2'-0". All windows are located 4'-4" above grade. The windows on the west facade mirror those on the east facade.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, Covering: The main roof is a gable roof orientated north-south and a shed roof covers the south portion of the building. The shed roof slopes from 11'-11", where it meets the building, to 8'-2" above grade. The 6½" x 1" wood decking with 1'-0" spacing is covered by metal standing seam roofing.
 - b. Cornice, Eaves: The rake boards are constructed out of 2" x 4"s. The eaves extend 2'-10" beyond the east and west facades and 1'-0" beyond the north and south facades. The eaves are open. There is no fascia on the east and west facades, which have open rafter tails and no trim.
 - c. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers: There are none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plan: The floor plan is divided into 6 rooms; two rooms make up the north half of the building and measure 15'-0"x 9'-6" and four rooms make up the south half of the building and measure 7'-9"x 9'-6" each. The four rooms are accessed only from the east or west facade. Of the two larger rooms, the east room can be accessed through the east and north facades and the west room can be accessed can through the west and north facades. The rooms do not connected internally. The two southernmost rooms lead to the hayloft.
2. Stairways and Ladders: Two ladders are located on the partition walls at the south end of the building. They are constructed of 2"x 4" studs and lead to the hayloft.
3. Flooring: The floor is comprised of various width wood decking, 10" above grade. The hayloft has 1'-0" decking nailed to the joists.
4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: The interior of the perimeter walls and the partition walls consist of 1'-0" wide boards nailed horizontally to the studs. The studs are exposed at the top of the partition walls.

There is no ceiling; the wood structure and the metal seam roofing on the second floor are displayed.

5. Openings:
 - a. Openings: Openings along the top of the partition walls are 6'-5" above grade and extend up to the bottom of the rafter ties.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: There are none.
 - c. Windows: There are none.
6. Decorative Features and Trim: There are no decorative features.
7. Hardware: There are original hinges on the doors and windows. The window hinge measures 3½" with a 1" strap. Original door hinges are 3"x 8" with an 11" strap.
8. Mechanical Equipment:
 - a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: There are 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 Mule Barn is sited to the north of the Worker House No. 2 Chicken House (No.42) and northwest of the Worker House No. 2 (No.39). The Mule Barn is located to the north of the creek that runs from the northwest to the southeast across 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 Mule Barn. The north facade has a dogwood tree 6'-11" from the building near the northwest corner, and near the middle of the elevation, a group of five dogwood trees are located approximately 12'-0" from the building. The south elevation faces a wooded area in the distance consisting of pine trees, oak trees, and other trees. The south facade has one maple tree, located in the southwest corner, 6'-6" from the building. Overgrown grass, weeds, and volunteer pine saplings are located near the building on the south facade. The east and west elevations face a wooded area, and there is no landscaping located near the building. Overgrown grass, weeds and various types of volunteer trees are located along the elevations.

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.

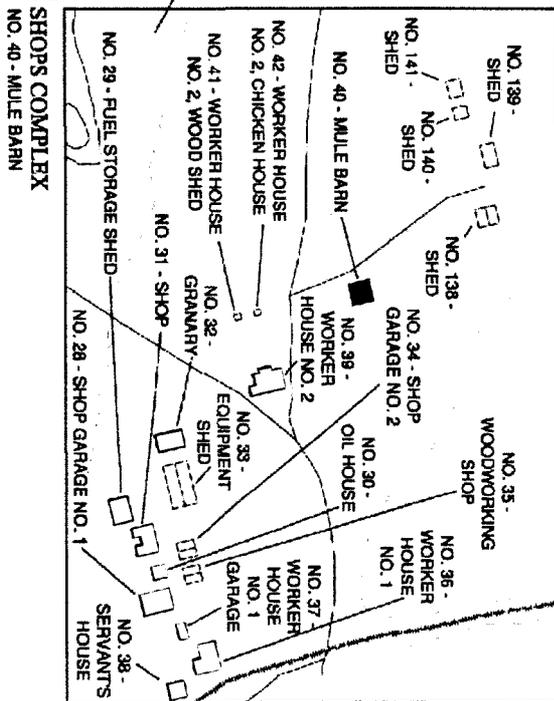
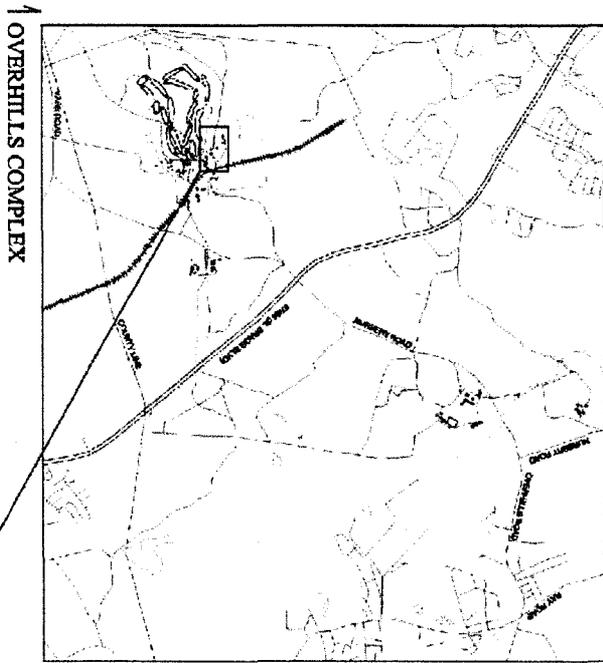
Hood, Davyd Foard. "Overhills Historic District. Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places" (draft), 1992. On file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

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.

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HABS No. NC-407-X (page 7)



MAPS NOT TO SCALE