

OVERHILLS, PAUL CAMERON LINDLEY HOUSE
(Building No. 69)
Overhills Historic District
West & North of Nursery Road
Fort Bragg
Harnett County
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-AF
NC-407-AF

HABS
NC-407-AF

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, PAUL CAMERON LINDLEY HOUSE
(Building No. 69)

HABS No. NC-407-AF

Location: West & north of Nursery Road, Fort Bragg, Harnett County, North Carolina
USGS Anderson Creek, North Carolina, United States Quadrangle,
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: Zone 17.3904145.682034

Present Owner: Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Fort Bragg

Original Use: Residence

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The Paul Cameron Lindley House in the Lindley Nursery 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 Paul Cameron Lindley House was constructed ca. 1918 for Paul Cameron Lindley, president of the Lindley Nursery. The Lindley Nursery area is in the eastern portion 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. 1918.
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 northwest bay of rooms is not original to the house and was added at an unknown date.

B. Historical Context:

See HABS No. NC-407 for Overhills context.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: The Paul Cameron Lindley House is a one-story, wood frame building with a rectangular plan and front and rear porches. The front porch is supported by skinned pole columns and the rear porch is screened. The front elevation has a shed roof dormer with six-light casement windows, all of which are original to the house. Two chimneys flank the building. The northwest bay of rooms is not original to the house; a break in the weatherboards on the front and rear elevations, as well as differences in ceiling finishes in the second floor, indicate that the northwest bay of rooms is a later addition to the house.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The structure, roof, and weatherboard siding are all in good condition, as are the fireplace and chimney. Glass and muntins are missing for most windows, and some doors are no longer extant. The interior beadboard finish is also in good condition.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The footprint of the Lindley house is a simple rectangle with a front and rear porch. The building measures 47'-5½"x 27'-7". The front porch is 9'-9" deep and spans the entire front facade. The rear porch is smaller, and not a part of the rectangular plan, measuring 17'-6½"x 8'-11" and located 7'-8¼" from the east corner of the house. Weatherboard siding covers all facades and there are no corner boards; weatherboards are 1" thick with 6" reveals.

The northeast elevation (Photo NC-407-AF-3), the rear elevation, is composed of a modest rear screened porch with a shed roof that frames into the ridge of the main gable roof. There are two windows under the porch roof and three more along the rear facade to the sides of the porch. A small chimney is located to the left of the rear porch. Weatherboards are mitered at the corners with no corner boards.

The southeast elevation (Photo NC-407-AF-2) is a gable wall with a large chimney centered in front of the gable. The chimney is stepped just below the second level, making the chimney much smaller as it rises past the second floor. Two windows flank the chimney on the first and second level, and a triple window on the first level is located to the right end of the elevation.

The southwest elevation (Photo NC-407-AF-1) is composed largely of an incised front porch supported by six skinned pole columns. Four windows and a door are located on the first level, and a shed dormer with four six-light casement windows is located on the second level above the front door. A break in the weatherboards indicates that the northwest bay may have been a later addition.

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The northwest elevation (Photo NC-407-AF-4) is a gable wall with a chimney similar to the chimney on the opposite facade; this chimney has a corbelled cap. There are five windows on this facade, three on the first level and two on the second. The front porch is located on the west corner of the northwest facade.

2. Foundations: The foundation is a brick pier foundation that has been filled with concrete masonry units. Brick piers are located under the porch posts on the addition, and directly under the space where the addition meets the original house. Porch posts on the original part of the house are supported by concrete masonry unit piers that likely replaced older piers.
3. Wall Construction: Exterior wall construction is undetermined. Interior partition walls are composed of 1¾" x 3¾" wall studs and diagonal braces (Photo NC-407-AF-14) in the second floor and 2" x 4" on the first floor. The original beadboard is nailed to the frame.
4. Structural System, Framing: The house is a wood frame house with diagonal corner braces. Interior wall studs and diagonal braces are 1¾" x 3¾" for the second floor and 2" x 4" (actual dimension) on the first floor. Exterior wall framing is undetermined.

The roof is composed of 2" x 3¾" rafters covered by 1" x 2¾" decking with 3" spacing. There is no ridge beam and second floor ceiling joists are 2" x 6".

5. Porches, Balconies: There are two porches. The front porch (Photo NC-407-AF-5) stretches the length of the southwest facade, is 9'-9" deep, and shares a roof with the rest of the house. The roof over the porch is supported by six skinned pole posts that are painted red (Photo NC-407-AF-7). The four posts on the southeast end of the porch are 10" in diameter; the other two are 8" in diameter and were added at a later date. The porch floor beam is 4" x 7½", and joists are 2" x 7½". Floor boards are 4" x 1" and spaced ¼" apart. The ceiling is located 8'-8½" above the floor and is finished in beadboard.

The rear screened porch has its own shed roof that frames into the main roof at the ridge. The porch roof is at a slightly shallower slope than the main gable roof. The roof is supported by 3½" square posts on the two outside corners of the porch. The posts support a 6½" top plate that is nailed to a 6" square beam. Screens are framed by 1½" x 1½" horizontal wood strips located along the floor, ceiling, and 2'-11" above the floor. Floor boards are 4" x 1" and the ceiling, located 7'-5" above the floor, is finished in plywood.

6. Chimney: There are three chimneys on the house. A large brick chimney is located on the southeast facade of the house, centered in front of the ridge. Bricks are 8" x 2½" with ½" mortar joints, and the bottom four courses are stepped 2", where the chimney is 7'-1" wide and 3'-2½" deep. The chimney rises 8'-1" at this size, where twelve courses are stepped 2", reducing the size of the chimney to 2'-

10" wide and 1'-8" deep; the chimney rises another 19'-4½" at that size. The top two courses are corbelled.

A second brick chimney is located on the northwest facade, centered in front of the ridge. The chimney is 5'-2" wide, and 2'-3" deep. Bricks are 7¾"x 2¼" with ½" mortar joints and the bottom five courses are stepped 1¾". At 7'-8" above the ground, eight more courses are stepped on the sides and front of the chimney, reducing the chimney to 3'-2" wide and 1'-8½" deep. One course is corbelled at the top of the chimney.

The third chimney is located on the rear facade to the southeast of the rear porch. The chimney is 2'-0"x 2'-0" and is composed of 8"x 2" bricks with ½" mortar joints. It is 16'-½" tall and has a pointed arch top. The chimney is actually detached from the house, but the space between the weatherboards and the chimney has been filled with concrete.

7. Openings:

- a. Openings: There are none.
- b. Doorways and Doors: There are two entrances to the house. The main entrance is located on the front facade, off the front porch, 11'-2½" from the southeast facade. The door, not original, is framed in a 3'-7"x 6'-8" opening and enters the living room.

The rear entrance is located off the rear porch, 16'-5" from the east corner of the house. The door is framed in a 2'-10¾"x 6'-9" opening with ¾" trim on the sides and 5" trim on the top. The door is not original.

- c. Windows: Windows throughout the first floor of the house are four-over-four double-hung windows with 4½" exterior trim with ¾" drip edge and 1¼" sill. The four windows on the front facade are identical, with 1'-0"x 1'-2" glass panes and sashes framed in 2'-4½"x 5'-2" openings. All windows are 1'-9" above the floor and are located 4'-9", 12'-5½", 24'-11½", and 41'-2¼" from the west corner of the house.

The northwest facade has three windows, located 1'-6", 11'-11", and 20'-4¼" from the west corner. The windows are identical in size and configuration to those on the front facade.

The five windows on the northeast facade are four-over-four, double-hung windows, but differ from others in the house. The northwest window is 2'-1" x 5'-2", not original, and located 5'-1½" from the north corner and 1'-8" above the floor. The second window is 2'-1" x 4'-6" and is located 12'-9½" from the north corner and 2'-4" above the floor; muntins in this window do not match those in other windows. The bathroom window measures 2'-1"x

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4'-6" and is located 22'-9½" from the north corner of the house and 2'-3" above the floor. The next window is the same size as the bathroom window and is located 8'-½" from the east corner. The southeast window measures 2'-1"x 4'-6" and is located 3'-4¼" from the east corner.

There are five windows on the southeast facade; two are in the living room, and three in the kitchen. The kitchen window is a triple window, with three double-hung windows, each in 2'-½"x 4'-6" openings. The windows are separated by 7½" mullions and are located 2'-6" from the east corner. The living room windows are located 10'-8½" and 22'-2½" from the south corner of the front porch; both windows are framed in 2'-4½"x 5'-2" openings and are 1'-9" above the floor.

Second floor windows on the southeast and northwest facades are six-over-six double-hung windows. There are two windows on the northwest facade, one on each side of the chimney, located 11'-3" and 21'-8" from the west corner and 1'-8½" above the second floor. The windows have 10"x 1'-2" glass panes and are in 2'-0"x 5'-3" openings. Two windows on the southeast facade are identical in size, configuration, and location to those on the northwest facade. The four windows in the dormer are six-light casement windows (Photo NC-407-AF-13) framed in 5'-4½"x 3'-7" openings. Each window opening has two six-light windows with 9"x 1'-6½" glass panes. Latches are 1"x 2", and original 1½"x 3½" hinges remain for all windows.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, Covering: The roof of the Lindley house is a gable roof that covers the house and front porch. The rear porch has its own half gable roof that frames into the main gable roof at its ridge. The roofing material is corrugated metal.
- b. Cornice, Eaves: Eaves are open with exposed rafter tails on the front and rear of the house, including the shed dormer. Overhang is 1'-0" on the front and rear of the building, including the rear porch, and 6" on the gable ends.
- c. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers: There is a shed dormer on the front of the house (Photo NC-407-AF-6) containing four casement windows.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plan: The first floor plan is divided into six unequal rooms and front and rear porches. The living room, directly off the front porch, has a fireplace and measures 14'-8½"x 14'-9½". The room directly northwest of the living room measures 11'-7½"x 14'-9½". The west corner room contains the other fireplace,

and is 19'-2½"x 14'-9½". This room has two closets, one in the east corner and one in the south corner, measuring 2'-3"x 2'-10" and 2'-6"x 4'-6", respectively. The other three rooms are located along the rear wall of the house. The north corner bedroom is only accessible through the west corner room, and is 14'-2½"x 11'-3½" with a 4'-6"x 6'-6½" bathroom and a 2'-8"x 4'-3" closet on the southeast wall. The rear bathroom measures 7'-2"x 11'-3½", and the east corner room is 19'-1"x 11'-3½". The front porch stretches the length of the house, measuring 47'-5½"x 9'-9"; the rear porch measures 17'-6½"x 8'-11".

The second floor plan is divided into seven rooms, five of which are accessed from the hallway at the landing of the stairs. That hallway has four closets along the rear wall of the house. The north corner room is 19'-7"x 11'-3½", and the east corner room measures 9'-9½"x 11'-3½". Three center rooms are located under the ridge of the roof, and the central and southeastern rooms contain the four dormer windows. The northwest room measures 19'-7"x 14'-9½". The central room measures 9'-10"x 14'-9½" a portion of the room measures 6'-½"x 9'-9" that stretches to the southwest wall of the house and contains two dormer windows. The southeast room is 16'-2"x 14'-9½" and has a similar portion stretching to the southwest wall, 6" above the rest of the room with two dormer windows. The west corner room is 23'-5"x 9'-4" and the south corner room measures 9'-6"x 9'-4".

2. Stairways and Ladders: A stairway (Photo NC-407-AF-8) is located in the west corner of the east corner room. Stairs are 3'-2" wide, 9" deep, and 1" thick. A 5"x 5" newel post is 3'-7" tall and supports a 3"x 1¼" handrail; two 1¼"x 1¼" balusters on each step support the handrail. The railing around the stairwell is composed of 5"x 5" corner posts with 2"x 3" rails and 1¼"x 1¼" balusters 2½" apart.
3. Flooring: The first floor is carpeted, with the exception of the east corner room, which has a linoleum floor; original floor surfaces are undetermined.

The second floor is ¾" tongue-and-groove wood in all rooms but the north corner room, which has a 10" plank floor with ½" spaces. The floors in the rooms along the southwest side of the house, above the porch, are 6" above the rest of the floors in the second floor.

4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: Throughout the first floor, the original 2½" tongue-and-groove beadboard wall surfaces have been covered by gypsum wall board (Photo NC-407-AF-10). The original ceilings have also been covered with gypsum, the original finish is undetermined.

The second floor walls and ceiling retain their original finishes. The walls and ceiling surfaces are 2½" beadboard finishes in most rooms. The south corner

room has a 1½" horizontal v-groove board finish; the same finish is found inside the closets along the northeast wall.

5. Openings:

- a. Openings: There are none.
- b. Doorways and Doors: Original doors in the house are five-panel doors with paired top and bottom vertical panels and a middle horizontal panel; vertical panels are 8¾"x 2'-11½" and 8¾"x 1'-5", respectively, and the middle panel is 1'-10¼"x 7". The door between the south corner room and front middle room is 2'-8" wide and 6'-7½" tall, framed in 2'-8"x 6'-9" opening, and is located 4'-1¾" from the front wall of the house. Hardware for this door is not original. Another door is located on the opposite wall of the same room, 6'-5½" from the front wall. The doorway is 2'-10"x 6'-10" and appears to be an original opening. There are two closets in this room, one in the east corner and one in the south corner; the doors, not original, are framed in 1'-8"x 6'-9" and 2'-2"x 6'-9" openings, respectively. The doorway between the west corner room and the north corner room is 2'-8½"x 6'-7½" and has an original five-panel door that measures 2'-8"x 6'-6½". A closet and bathroom are located in this room, and have 2'-0"x 80½" doors, not original.

Original doors for the second floor are plank doors, 2'-8" wide, and 6'-8" tall (Photo NC-407-AF-12). Three random width vertical planks, ¾" thick, are supported by three 1¼"x 5½" horizontal rails. The 1¾"x 4" hinges are original, and the lockset is missing; the door is held together with cut nails. Doors of this construction are located in the original part of the house, and four are located along the northeast wall of the second floor hall (Photo NC-407-AF-11). Doors in the addition are five-panel doors with coupled top and bottom panels and a middle horizontal panel. Top and bottom panels are 6"x 2'-5" and 6"x 1'-7"; the middle panel is 1'-4"x 6½".

- c. Windows: None.

6. Decorative Features and Trim: There is a brick fireplace (Photo NC-407-AF-10) on the southeast wall of the south corner room; the existing opening is 3'-6" wide and 3'-0" tall, but the original opening appears to have been 4'-10"x 3'-7". Original bricks are nude and measure 8"x 2¼" with ½" mortar joints; infill bricks are 8½"x 2" with ½" mortar joints, and have a rough texture. The hearth, not original, is 7'-0" wide, 2'-0" deep, and 7½" thick; the size of the original hearth is undetermined. The original mantel is also missing.

Another fireplace is located in the west corner room (Photo NC-407-AF-9). The fireplace is on the northwest wall 5'-6" from the southwest wall; the original

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bricks are identical to those on the other fireplace. The opening is 3'-0" tall and 2'-6" wide; the hearth, not original, measures 5'-2" wide, 1'-11" deep, and 7½" thick. The mantel is 7" wide on either side of the firebox, and 1'-0" wide above. A 1"x 4½" board is nailed to the surrounds on the sides and top. Two triangular brackets support the mantel shelf on each side of the firebox; the shelf is 5'-5½" wide, 9" deep, and 2½" thick. A 1½" strip of molding is located under the mantel along the back of the shelf. The mantelpiece is original, but has been removed from the wall.

Trim throughout the house is not original. The second floor has 1" quarter-round trim along the floors, ceilings, and corners of the house.

7. Hardware: Original hardware appears to be extant in windows and doors unless noted otherwise. No manufacturer for the hardware could be found.
8. Mechanical Equipment:
 - a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: There is a forced air closet in the living room. A forced air chase is located along the ceiling on the northeast wall of the living room and front middle room. The chase runs to the forced air closet in the west corner room; none of this mechanical equipment is original.
 - b. Lighting: There is no original lighting in the house. Light fixtures have been replaced with ceramic fixtures.
 - c. Plumbing: The plumbing network was inaccessible and its type is unknown.
 - d. Fixtures: There are no original fixtures, the toilet stamp in the main bathroom dates 1986. The smaller bathroom in the north corner room is not original to the house and has a toilet stamp of 1973.
9. Original Furnishings: There are no original furnishings.

D. Site:

1. General Setting: The building is situated southeast of the unpaved road to the nursery. A circular driveway encompasses the building connecting to the unpaved road in two locations – the north and west corners of the building.
2. Landscaping, Enclosures: There are remnants of an overall planting scheme for the Paul Cameron Lindley House. The southeast facade faces a grassy yard with a wooded area in the distance. A privet bush is located on the east side of the porch steps, 4'-0" from the building and a large loblolly pine tree is located to the south of the driveway, 12'-2" from the building. Several volunteer maple saplings are located between the building and the driveway.

The northwest facade faces an expanse of grass with several pine trees spread across the area. There are two raised planting beds that flank the porch steps and continue to the southwest and northeast sides of the building, 1'-0" beyond the chimneys. The west planting bed contains no plant remnants other than a camellia 5'-6" from the west corner of the building. The east planting bed contains three boxwoods and two holly bushes in the north corner.

Two privet bushes are located in the planting bed along the northeast elevation 4'-0" in front of the chimney and five longleaf pine trees are located beyond the planting beds on the northwest side. There is a single tree located 19'-6" from the building, 6'-0" from the west corner. The remaining four trees are in a group located off the north corner of the building, approximately 20'-0" from the house.

The southwest elevation faces an open area of grass, pine straw, and volunteer maple trees and the northeast elevation faces a similar open area beyond the planting bed.

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

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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.

