

OVERHILLS, NURSERY WORKER HOUSE No.2
(Building No. 71)
Overhills Historic District
West & North of Nursery Road
Fort Bragg
Harnett County
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-AH
NC-407-AH

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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, NURSERY WORKER HOUSE No.2
(Building No. 71)

HABS No. NC-407-AH

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 17.3904215.682119

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

Original Use: Residence

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The Nursery Worker House No.2 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 Nursery Worker House No.2 was constructed ca. 1911. 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. 1911.
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 rear porch, rear bedroom, and bathroom are additions; however the date of these additions is unknown.

B. Historical Context:

See HABS No. NC-407 for Overhills context.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: The Nursery Worker House No.2 is a side gable, two-story, balloon frame structure, with the front facade facing southwest. Several additions, which are visible on the facade of the structure, have been made to the house at unknown dates. A break in weatherboards on the front facade, to the left of the front porch, indicates that the front bedrooms on the first and second floors are later additions. Differences in roof slopes and heights on the rear facade of the house indicate that the rear bedroom and porch were also later additions. The kitchen has a separate roof from the main structure, but it is undetermined if this room is actually original to the structure. The main two story portion of the house has no end caps; instead weatherboards are mitered at the corners (Photo NC-407-AH-5). The one story portions on the rear of the house all have end caps.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The structure of the house is good and the roof and weatherboards are in fine condition. Inside the house, floor boards have rotted. The porch floor has also rotted and one porch post is missing.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The Nursery Worker House No.2 is a two-story, balloon-frame structure. The front facade wall of the house is 42'-4¼" long. The main structure is two rooms deep, measuring 24'-7"; front and rear porches make the widest portion of the house 39'-7½". The structure has a side gable roof, with the ridge located 21'-7" above the foundation. Siding on all facades is ¾" weatherboard with a 7" reveal.

The northeast elevation is the rear elevation, and the different changes to the house are visible on this facade. The rear porch, which is partially screened and partially enclosed, is a later addition with a shed roof that frames into the main roof of the house. There is one screen door on the porch which is visible on this facade. A rear bedroom and bathroom addition, 6'-9½" from the porch, also has a shed roof with a peak lower than the porch roof. The two windows located on the rear facade are double-hung, one is four-over-four, and the other is six-over-six. Weatherboards are red.

The southeast elevation (Photo NC-407-AH-2, Photo NC-407-AH-3) is a gable wall with a large chimney running down the wall, centered in front of the ridge. The rear bay of rooms and the rear porch under shed roofs are part of this elevation, stepped back 3'-9¼" from the rest of the facade. A second chimney is located on this facade, 7'-10½" from the northeast end. Two windows, one on the first level and another on the second level, are found on this facade, only one of which retains its sashes and glass. The weatherboards on this elevation are painted red.

The southwest elevation (Photo NC-407-AH-1) is the front facade, characterized by a large front porch with a shed roof. The porch roof frames into the front wall of the house 11'-11" above the foundation. Three windows and a front entry are located on the facade. Windows are four-over-four double-hung windows, and the front door is no longer extant. There are no end caps on the front elevation; instead, weatherboards are mitered at the corners (Photo NC-407-AH-5). Weatherboards on this elevation are painted blue-grey. Window trim on the porch is painted white, and the other window has red trim.

The northwest elevation (Photo NC-407-AH-4) is a gable wall with three windows, two on the first level, and one on the second. The shed roof above the rear bedroom and bathroom frames into the rear wall 14'-0" above the foundation. Weatherboards are red.

2. Foundations: The foundation is a brick pier foundation. Piers generally extend 1'-0" above grade.
3. Wall Construction: The main perimeter walls are composed of 4"x 4" and 2"x 4" studs with weatherboards nailed directly to the structure.
4. Structural System, Framing: The house is a balloon frame structure with 4"x 4" and 2"x 4" alternating studs, all spaced 2'-0" on center. The floor and roof structure is undetermined.
5. Porches, Balconies: There are two porches. The front porch, located on the southwest facade, 9" from the south corner, is 24'-5" long and 8'-3" deep. Two posts that support the porch roof are located 1'-0" and 8'-11" from the south corner, and both are located 1'-0" from the front edge of the porch. The posts support a 5"x 1" top plate nailed to a 4"x 4" beam that supports the rafters. The ceiling of the porch is 7'-3¼" above the floor and finished in beadboard, painted white. Floor boards are 3½" wide.

The rear porch is screened, and the southeast bay of the porch is enclosed. The screened portion is 10'-11" long and 6'-9½" deep, and the enclosed bay is 7'-8" long. The screened porch has a half wall, with a wood plank exterior sheathing. The roof is supported by 4"x 4" posts with a 6"x 1" bottom plate. The floor for the porch and v-groove sheathing is not original. The doorway to the enclosed portion of the porch is 2'-8"x 6'-4½", 2'-1" from the northeast wall. This porch is an addition.

6. Chimney: There are two chimneys, both located on the southeast facade. The larger chimney is 4'-0" wide and 1'-9¼" deep at its base, and has six stepped courses 6'-3" above the ground. Bricks are 8"x 4"x 2½" with ½" mortar joints, and the chimney is 23'-7" tall.

The second chimney is located 7'-10½" from the northeast facade. The chimney is composed of concrete masonry units and measures 1'-3½"x 1'-3½". The chimney has ten courses of CMU at the bottom, three courses of brick at the center of its height, and ten more courses of CMU on top of this. The chimney is capped with a pointed five course brick arch.

7. Openings:

- a. Openings: There are none.
- b. Doorways and Doors: There are two entrances to the house. The main entrance is through the front door, located on the southwest facade, 11'-9½" from the south corner of the house. The door, not extant, is framed in a 2'-8½"x 6'-7¾" opening, and has ¾"x 4½" trim on the sides and top. The rear entrance is located on the northeast facade, off the rear porch into the kitchen, 7'-4" from the southeast wall of the kitchen.
- c. Windows: Windows throughout most of the house are four-over-four double-hung windows. Glass panes are 1'-0"x 1'-2". Sashes are original, where extant, as is the ¾"x 4½" trim. The three windows on the southwest facade are all original and located 5'-3", 18'-9", and 33'-0" from the south corner of the house. Windows are all framed in 2'-4½"x 5'-2" openings.

There are three windows on the northwest facade. The window in the front bedroom is identical to those on the front facade, and is located 5'-11½" from the southwest facade and 3'-1" above the foundation. The bathroom window is smaller, located 4'-8½" from the north corner of the house and 3'-11" above the foundation, measures 3'-0"x 3'-2", and is a four-over-four double-hung window with 7½"x 8" glass panes. The second floor bedroom window is 2'-5½"x 4'-6½", four-over-four double-hung, and is located 5'-11½" from the front facade.

The northeast facade bathroom window is 2'-4" wide and 3'-2" tall, and located 1'-6½" from the north corner and 3'-10" above the foundation. One other window located on the rear facade is 9'-8" from the north corner and 2'-5" above the foundation. It is a six-over-six double-hung window, not original, framed in a 3'-0"x 4'-6" opening.

The southeast facade has one window on the first level, located in the kitchen 3'-7½" from the rear wall of the room. The window, which is no longer extant, was framed in a 2'-0"x 4'-7" opening. On the second level, an original window, located 2'-5½" from the south corner, is framed in a 2'-5½"x 4'-6½" opening.

8. Roof:

- a. **Shape, Covering:** The main roof, located over the front rooms and second floor bedrooms, is a gable roof with the ridge located 21'-7" above the foundation. The roof of the kitchen and rear bedroom is a shed roof that connects to the main roof and creates a continuous roofline. The roof of the rear porch frames into the rear wall of the house below the main roof eaves. The ridge of the front porch shed roof meets the wall of the house at 11'-11" above the foundation. The roof sheathing is corrugated metal.
- b. **Cornice, Eaves:** The eaves are open with exposed rafter tails.
- c. **Dormers, Cupolas, Towers:** There are none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. **Floor Plan:** The first floor plan is divided into four unequal rooms and a bathroom. The main entrance provides access to the 25'-4"x 13'-4" living room, off of which a 15'-6½"x 13'-4" bedroom is accessible. This bedroom connects to the rear bedroom, which measures 14'-4"x 9'-9", and has a 6'-6"x 2'-11" closet in the south corner. The rear bedroom connects to the 4'-11"x 9'-9" bathroom to the northwest, and the kitchen, in the east corner of the house, which measures 17'-4"x 9'-9".

The second floor is divided into two unequal rooms. The east bedroom, located at the top of the stairs, measures 25'-4"x 13'-4". The west bedroom is accessible through the east bedroom, and measures 15'-6¼"x 13'-4".

2. **Stairways and Ladders:** There is one 2'-9" wide stairway located in the east corner of the living room. The newel post and railing for the stairs are still extant; the newel post is 3½" square, the balusters are 1½" square, spaced 2" apart, and the railing is 3½"x 1" (Photo NC-407-AH-7). The stairway is enclosed underneath for a closet (Photo NC-407-AH-6).
3. **Flooring:** The floors throughout the house are 3½" wood strip floors, with the exception of the living room, which has 2½" floor boards.
4. **Wall and Ceiling Finish:** The wall finish in the living room and kitchen is 2½" horizontal beadboard, painted blue. Ceilings in these rooms are the same beadboard, but painted white. Beadboard walls and ceiling in the second floor east bedroom are white.

Walls and ceilings in the first floor bedrooms, bathroom, and second floor west bedroom are covered in gypsum and painted blue, but the original beadboard is extant under the wall boards.
5. **Openings:**

- a. Openings: There are none.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: Most doors in the house are five-panel doors with coupled top and bottom vertical panels and one middle horizontal panel. Upper and lower vertical panels are 9"x 2'-11" and 9"x 1'-7", the middle panel is 1'-10"x 6¼". The closet door under the stairs and the door between the second floor bedrooms are both five-panel doors. The door between the two front rooms is no longer extant, but the opening is located 5'-6" from the rear wall and measures 2'-5½"x 6'-6¾". The doorway between the front bedroom and the rear bedroom has no door, is located 6'-2" from the northwest wall, and measures 2'-10"x 6'-8". The bathroom door is 2'-6¼" wide and 6'-9" tall, and is not original to the house. The rear bedroom closet has no door; the doorway is 3'-6"x 6'-8½". The kitchen doors, one leading to the rear bedroom and the other leading to the living room, are 3'-0"x 6'-8¼" and 2'-8"x 6'-8¼", and neither opening retains its doors. The door at the top of the stairs is a 2'-8"x 6'-½" trap door which swings open into the bedroom and is comprised of 3½" tongue-and-groove strips (Photo NC-407-AH-7).
 - c. Windows: There are none.
6. Decorative Features and Trim: A fireplace in the living room on the southeast wall is no longer extant. The firebox still exists and is 4'-0" wide and 3'-11" tall.
- Original window and door trim is ¾"x 4½", butt jointed. Baseboards in the front bedroom consist of a ½"x 4" strip with a ½" quarter-round base molding and a ½" quarter-round shoe.
7. Hardware: Original hardware appears to be extant for all of the windows and doors in the Nursery Worker House No.2. No manufacturer for the hardware could be found.
8. Mechanical Equipment:
- a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: There is none.
 - b. Lighting: The original light fixtures are missing. There is one porcelain fixture on the front porch in the middle of the ceiling and another is located on the back porch.
 - c. Plumbing: The plumbing network was inaccessible and its type is unknown.
 - d. Fixtures: There are no original fixtures in the house. The toilet is dated 1978.
9. Original Furnishings: None.

D. Site:

1. General Setting: The Nursery Worker House No. 2 is sited north of an unpaved road that runs through the Nursery complex. The Worker House No. 1 (No.70) is located to the northwest and the Granary-Shop (No.72) is across the road to the south.
2. Landscaping, Enclosures: The area around the Nursery Worker House No. 2 is overgrown and no designed landscaping scheme can be identified.

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

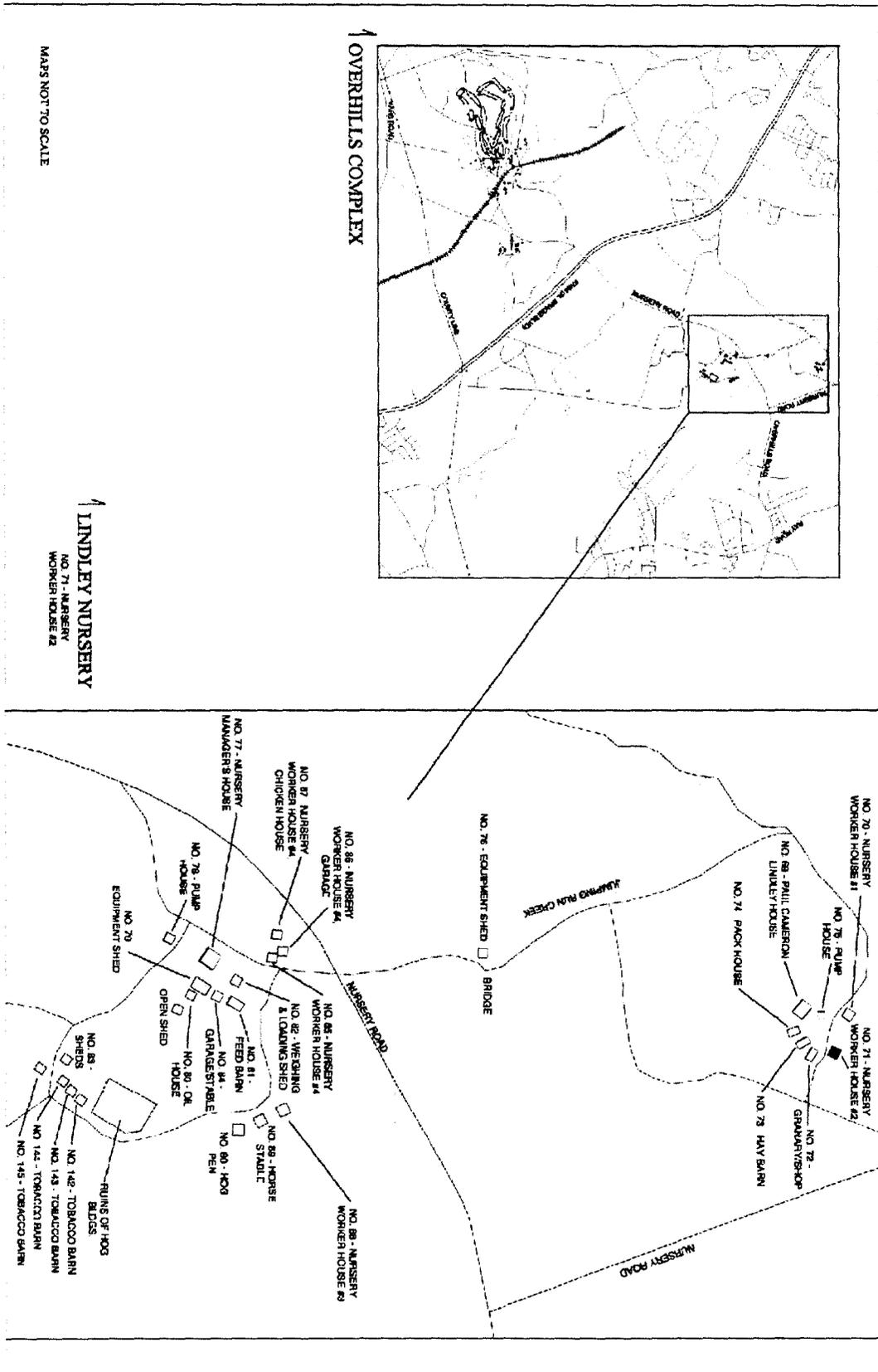
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Armstrong and architectural historian Michelle Michael. The documentation was completed May 2007.

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MAPS NOT TO SCALE