

OVERHILLS, FEED BARN
(Building No. 81)
Overhills Historic District
East of NC 87 & South of Nursery Road
Fort Bragg
Harnett County
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-AN
NC-407-AN

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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, FEED BARN

(Building No. 81)

HABS No. NC-407-AN

Location: East of NC 87 & south of Nursery Road, Fort Bragg, Harnett County,
North Carolina
USGS Olivia, North Carolina, United States Quadrangle,
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: Zone 17.3902715.6819500

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

Original Use: Barn

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The Feed Barn 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 Feed Barn 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: Open shed additions along the northwest and southwest facades.

B. Historical Context:

See HABS No. NC-407 for Overhills context.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: The Feed Barn is a large building with a gable roof and a deep open shed addition on the northwest and southwest sides. The barn is a post and beam framed structure with two storage cribs and a corner stall on the first level, and a hayloft on the second level. Walls of the storage cribs have 2³/₄" wood slats with 1¹/₄" spaces between for ventilation, and the northeast and southeast facades have weatherboard siding, stained red.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The structure of the building is in excellent condition. The roof is in poor condition; it is missing some metal panels which allows water to get into the building. All windows are missing glass panes and weatherboards are missing in several places.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The Feed Barn is a large, gable building with an open shed addition along the northwest and southwest facades. The barn is 36'-4"x 65'-0", and the shed is 19'-2" deep on the northwest side and 13'-8" deep on the southwest. The ridge of the gable is located 26'-9" above the foundation wall. The ground slopes to the west, where the foundation wall is six courses tall.

The northwest elevation (Photo NC-407-AN-2, Photo NC-407-AN-3, Photo NC-407-AN-4) is characterized mainly by a large open shed with nine posts. Above the shed roof, 1'-9" of the facade is open for ventilation under the eaves. Under the shed, there is a large opening for the open barn area and two doors, leading into different areas of the barn, which are raised above ground level and sit 6¹/₂" above the foundation wall (Photo NC-407-AN-8).

The northeast elevation (Photo NC-407-AN-4, Photo NC-407-AN-5) is a gable wall with two windows on the first level located 8'-5" from the ends and a loft window centered under the gable on the second level. Weatherboard siding with a 6¹/₂" reveal covers this facade.

The southeast elevation (Photo NC-407-AN-1, Photo NC-407-AN-5) is a long elevation with two windows to the right of a double door, which is located 6'-4" from the south corner of the building. A loft door is located in the center of the facade. The facade is covered with weatherboard siding.

The southwest elevation (Photo NC-407-AN-1, Photo NC-407-AN-2) is dominated by an open shed with five stripped trunk posts. A gable above the shed roof contains weatherboard siding and a window centered under the ridge. Under the shed, two doors are located above the ground and 6¹/₂" above the concrete

masonry unit foundation wall. Siding under the shed is spaced 1¼" apart for ventilation of the storage cribs.

2. Foundations: The foundation is a concrete masonry unit wall with 15½"x 7½"x 7½" concrete blocks and ½" mortar joints. The foundation wall is six courses at the west corner of the barn and two courses at the east corner.

Foundations for the posts are 1'-4" square concrete piers. The floors of the storage cribs are supported by concrete masonry unit block piers.

3. Wall Construction: Weatherboard sheathing on the northeast and southeast facades is nailed directly to the structure. Weatherboards are ¾"x 7¾" with a 6½" reveal; the top weatherboard was left off on the southeast facade for ventilation. The walls of the northwest and southwest facades are composed of 1¼"x 2¾" strips of wood nailed to the frame with 1¼" spaces for ventilation. A wire mesh is nailed to the frame under the wood strips.

4. Structural System, Framing: The Feed Barn is a post and beam structure with fourteen 3½"x 6" interior posts and 4"x 10" ceiling beams (Photo NC-407-AN-13). Walls are framed with 2"x 4" wall studs, 4"x 4" corner braces, and 1½"x 4" double top plates. Ceiling joists are 2"x 10" with 1"x 3" bridging. Roof rafters are 2"x 6¾" with a 1½"x 8" ridge beam and 2"x 6¾" rafter ties. The 1"x 5½" roof decking is spaced at 1'-4" on center (Photo NC-407-AN-18). Floors in the storage cribs are supported by 4"x 8" floor beams.

The shed roof is supported by 8" stripped trunk posts (Photo NC-407-AN-11), nine along the northwest side and five on the southwest side. The corner post has a diagonal brace. Rafters are 1½"x 6" and supported by a 3½"x 8" beam.

5. Porches, Balconies: None.

6. Chimney: None.

7. Openings:

- a. Openings: There is a large opening on the northwest wall of the barn. The opening is 28'-8" wide and 10'-9" tall, measured from the floor. The opening is three bays wide; the bays are 9'-7", 9'-11", and 7'-10" wide, starting from the northeast. Bays are separated by 8"x 8" posts.
- b. Doorways and Doors: There are five doorways on the first level; two on the northwest facade, two on the southwest, and one on the southeast facade. A sixth door is located at the loft level on the southeast facade. The doors on the northwest (Photo NC-407-AN-10) and southwest facades are framed in 3'-8" wide, 6'-9" tall, and 5½" deep openings with 3¾" trim on the sides and top. The openings are located 6½" above the foundation wall and have a 1" thick threshold. The doors are composed of 5¼"

tongue-and-groove planks with three 1¼"x 5¾" horizontal battens and two diagonal supports; doors are 1½" taller and wider than the openings. The doors on the northwest facade are located 5'-9" and 24'-8" from the west corner; doors on the southwest facade are 7'-2½" and 25'-5" from the same corner.

The southeast facade doorway is located 6'-4" from the south corner, measures 5'-3"x 6'-3½", and has double doors. The doors are composed of three wood planks with 1"x 4" horizontal battens and 1"x 2¼" diagonal supports (Photo NC-407-AN-6). The doors are 6'-10" tall and extend 6½" below the sill. The loft doorway (Photo NC-407-AN-7) is 3'-11"x 4'-5" with 2"x 4" trim and a 1" thick sill. The door is composed of 5¼" tongue-and-groove planks with two horizontal battens and a diagonal support. The door is located 8'-7" above the foundation wall.

- c. **Windows:** There are six, double-hung windows; three are located on the northeast facade, two are on the southeast facade, and one is on the southwest. Windows on the northeast facade are framed in 2'-8½"x 4'-7" openings with 2"x 4" trim and 7"x 1½" sills. Glass panes are missing from the sashes of the northeast windows. The windows are located 8'-5" from the ends of the facade and 2'-7" above the foundation wall. The loft window centered under the gable and is the same size and configuration as the first level windows and is located 14'-7" above the foundation.

Windows on the southeast facade are six-over-six, double-hung windows with 9¼"x 1'-0" panes; windows are framed in 2'-8"x 4'-7¼" openings. Trim is a 1¾"x 1" brick mold with a 1½" metal drip edge and 7"x 1" sill. Windows are located 2'-5" above the foundation.

The loft window on the southwest facade is centered under the gable and is the same size and configuration as the opposite loft window.

8. Roof:

- a. **Shape, Covering:** The main structure has a gable roof. The covered shed area has a shed roof; the shed roofs form a shallow hip at the west corner. Both roofs are covered with galvanized sheet metal roofing.
- b. **Cornice, Eaves:** The eaves are open with exposed rafter tails on both the main structure roof and the shed roof.
- c. **Dormers, Cupolas, Towers:** None.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plan: The floor plan is divided into four rooms. A small 10'-11"x 21'-10" stall is located in the east corner of the barn. The stall is located in the 35'-5"x 33'-

9" open barn area. Two storage cribs are located to the southwest of the open barn area. The northeast crib is 35'-5"x 9'-11½" and the southwest crib is 35'-5"x 19'-5½". The shed addition is 19'-2" deep along the northwest facade (Photo NC-407-AN-9) and 13'-8" deep on the southwest side. There is also a second level which serves as a hay loft.

2. Stairways and Ladders: There are two ladders leading to the loft. Both ladders are composed of 1"x 3" rungs nailed to 2"x 4" studs. One ladder is located on the southeast wall of the east corner stall (Photo NC-407-AN-15). The ladder is 2'-8" wide and is located 12'-9" from the northeast wall. A trap door is located directly above the ladder. A second ladder is located in the north corner of the barn on the northeast wall (Photo NC-407-AN-17).

There are three concrete masonry unit steps at the southeast door to the northeast storage crib.

3. Flooring: The floors in the covered shed area, open barn area, and east stall are dirt. Floors in both storage cribs are 7½" wide wood planks of an undetermined thickness.
4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: The interior of the main structure walls are not covered by any material, and the structure and weatherboards are exposed.

The walls of the east corner stall are covered with 1"x 5" tongue-and-groove planks. The stall wall is 6'-11" tall above its foundation. The wall between the open barn area and the northeast storage crib is finished with 1"x 5" tongue-and-groove planks on the barn side (Photo NC-407-AN-12); there is no covering on the storage crib side of the wall. The other interior walls of the northeast storage crib have a 3'-6" tall wainscoting composed of 1"x 5" horizontal tongue-and-groove planks (Photo NC-407-AN-16). Walls in the southwest crib are covered with 1¼"x 2¾" wood strips with 1¼" spaces (Photo NC-407-AN-19).

There is no ceiling; the loft floor and floor joists are exposed to the first floor, and the roof structure and decking are exposed in the loft.

5. Openings:
 - a. Openings: There are none.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: The door to the east corner room is located on the northwest wall of the room. The doorway is 3'-6" wide and 6'-11" tall. The door is a plank door with three horizontal battens and a lower diagonal support.

Doorways in the storage cribs no longer retain their doors, but the strap hinges and wood block latches remain in both doorways (Photo NC-407-AN-20).

There is a trap door in the loft floor above the ladder on the southeast wall. The door is 2'-0" x 2'-8".

- c. Windows: There are no interior windows.
6. Decorative Features and Trim: There are no decorative features.
7. Hardware: Original hardware appears to be extant for all of the windows and doors in the Feed Barn. Doors have iron strap hinges and latches are wood blocks that pivot on screws to hold doors shut. No manufacturer for the hardware could be found.
8. Mechanical Equipment:
 - a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: None.
 - b. Lighting: The light fixtures are porcelain and mounted to ceiling beams and roof ties; electrical wires are run in a conduit. Light fixtures are located in the storage cribs and open barn area.
 - c. Plumbing: None.
 - d. Fixtures: None.
9. Original Furnishings: There is a feed trough mounted on the northwest wall of the east corner room (Photo NC-407-AN-14). The trough is 5'-9" long, 2'-1" wide, and 2'-6" deep. The trough tapers to 1'-8" wide at the bottom.

The southwest storage crib has a wall mounted cabinet 2'-7" above the floor (Photo NC-407-AN-21). The cabinet is 2'-0" wide, 2'-1" deep, and 4'-0" tall. The cabinet door is 1'-3" x 3'-3"; hardware consists of two strap hinges and a latch.

D. Site:

1. General Setting: The building is sited to the west of the unpaved road leading to the Nursery Manager's House (No.77). The Garage/Stable (No.84) is located south of the Feed Barn in the distance.
2. Landscaping, Enclosures: There is no overall planting scheme for the Feed Barn. The south facade faces an expanse of grass with a wooded area in the distance. An erosion ditch runs the length of the elevation with tiny pine trees lining the south wall of the ditch. The north elevation faces an open area primarily made of sand with a few clumps of grass and weeds with the Garage/Stable (No.84) in the

distance. The north elevation has no landscaping. The west and east elevations face open, grassy areas with dog fennel, brush, and dirt. From the west elevation, a wooded area of pine trees can be seen in the distance.

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.

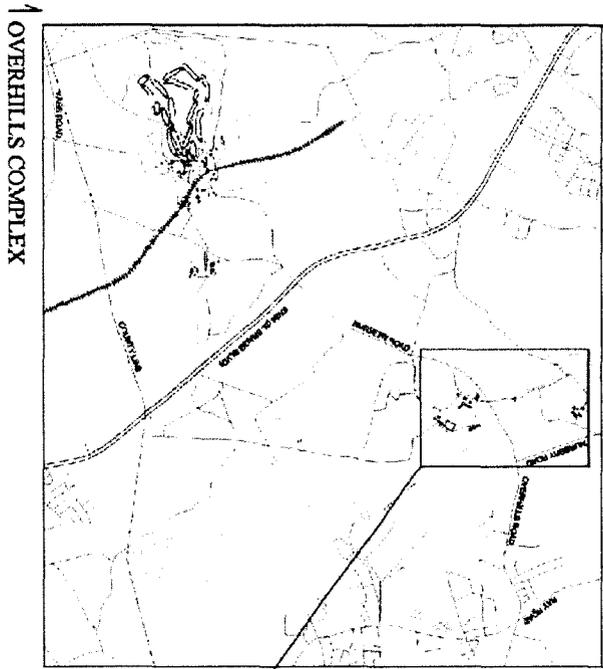
Hood, Davyd Foard. "Overhills Historic District. Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places" (draft), 1992. On file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

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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MAPS NOT TO SCALE

LINDLEY NURSERY
 NO. 81 - FEED BARN

