

OVERHILLS, NURSERY WORKER HOUSE No.4
(Building No. 85)
Overhills Historic District
East of NC 87 & South of Nursery Road
Fort Bragg
Harnett County
North Carolina

HABS NC-407-AP
NC-407-AP

HABS
NC-407-AP

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.4
(Building No. 85)

HABS No. NC-407-AP

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 17.3902876.681929

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

Original Use: Residence

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The Nursery Worker House No.4 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.4 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: A bathroom 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: Built on an east-west axis, the Nursery Worker House No.4 is a one-story, wood frame house with a cross plan. The front rooms have a gable roof, and a rear ell has a cross gable. Front and rear porches have shed roofs. A shed addition containing a bathroom was built at an unknown date. Original windows are four-over-four, double-hung, although some have been replaced with six-over-six sashes. The structure has white weatherboard siding.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The structure and roof are in good condition; the chimney is weathered as some mortar is missing. Windows are missing glass panes and the front door is in poor shape. The front porch is missing a post.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The Nursery Worker House No.4 is a single-story house with a cross plan on an east-west axis. The long dimension of the house is 55'-1", including front and rear porches. The front facade is 26'-4" long and the rear facade is 14'-2½". A bathroom addition in the northwest corner of the cross is 5'-7½" x 12'-0". The ridge of the gable over the front rooms is 17'-2" above the foundation. Weatherboards are ¾" thick with a 6½" reveal, and most corners are mitered with no corner boards.

The north elevation (Photo NC-407-AP-5, Photo NC-407-AP-6) is the long side of the house. The gable wall of the front rooms is located to the east end and has no windows. The shed addition containing the bathroom is located along the middle of the facade and has one two-over-two double-hung window and a 2" x 4" corner board. One four-over-four window is located on the kitchen ell.

The east elevation (Photo NC-407-AP-1, Photo NC-407-AP-2) is the front elevation, composed mainly of a half-gable porch. The porch spans the length of the front facade and has four beveled edge posts. The front door is centered on the facade and a four-over-four double-hung window is located to either side of the doorway.

The south elevation (Photo NC-407-AP-2) is a long facade with a gable wall to the east, and a long wall of the ell to the west. One window is centered under the gable, and two are located along the ell. All windows are six-over-six and not original.

The west elevation (Photo NC-407-AP-3, Photo NC-407-AP-4, Photo NC-407-AP-5) is the rear gable wall elevation, composed mainly of a rear porch that spans the width of the westernmost wall. A rear entrance is located at the center of the facade.

2. Foundations: The foundation is a brick pier foundation. Piers are 17" square and the spaces between piers have been filled with concrete masonry units. The bathroom addition has a concrete masonry unit wall foundation.
3. Wall Construction: Undetermined.
4. Structural System, Framing: The house is a wood frame structure. Structural member sizes are undetermined.
5. Porches, Balconies: There are two porches. The front porch (Photo NC-407-AP-7, Photo NC-407-AP-8) is 6'-10³/₄" deep and spans the length of the front facade. The porch floor is composed of 1/2"x 3" tongue-and-groove floor boards. Four 3 1/2"x 3 1/2" posts are 7'-5 1/2" tall with beveled edges; the posts support a 4"x 4" beam (Photo NC-407-AP-9). The ceiling is finished with 3/4" v-channel tongue and groove boards, painted blue.

The rear porch is 7'-11" deep and 14'-2 1/2" wide. Four 3 1/2" square posts have a 5 1/2" square base and capital with 1 1/2" thick beveled edges. The posts support a 4" x 4" beam. The floor framing is composed of 1"x 10" floor joists and 1"x 10" sill boards with a 1"x 4" trim. The floor decking is 1" thick by 6" wide planks. Seven steps lead to the porch. The steps are open-riser stairs, composed of 1 1/2" thick by 6" wide wood planks. The steps are 4'-8" wide and 12" deep, risers are 7", and stringers are 1 1/2" wide. The rear porch has a brick pier foundation.

6. Chimney: There is a brick chimney centered on the ridge of the roof over the front rooms. The chimney is twelve courses tall.

An exterior galvanized metal chimney, which is 4" in diameter, is located 2'-5" above the foundation and is 11'-0" tall.

7. Openings:
 - a. Openings: None.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: There are two entrances to the building. The main entrance leads into the southeast room. The opening is 2'-8 1/2"x 7'-2 1/4" with 4 1/4" casing and the door is not original. The rear entrance is off the rear porch and provides entry to the kitchen. The opening is 2'-8 1/2"x 6'-8"; the door is a six-panel door.
 - c. Windows: Original windows are four-over-four, double-hung windows. Glass panes are 1'-0"x 1'-2" and sashes are framed in 2'-5"x 5'-5" openings. The south facade windows have been replaced with six-over-six, double-hung windows; the openings are original, but sashes and trim are not. The window in the bathroom addition is original to the addition, but not original to the house. The window is a two-over-two, double-hung

window with 2¼" brick molding; the opening is 2'-3½"x 4'-2" and it is located 3'-5" above the foundation.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, Covering: The front two rooms have a moderate slope gable roof. A cross-gable roof covers the rear ell. The bathroom addition and front and rear porches have moderate slope shed roofs. All roofs are covered in gray asphalt roll roofing.
- b. Cornice, Eaves: The eaves have a closed cornice with a 1"x 5" fascia board. The gable roof over the front rooms has a short cornice return. There are galvanized metal gutters on the front and rear porches with no downspouts. The gutters span about half the length of the porch at the center of the porch.
- c. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers: There are none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plan: The floor plan is divided into five unequal rooms. The main entrance, off the front porch, leads into the 14'-1"x 13'-3" southeast room. An adjacent bedroom, which measures 10'-9"x 13'-3", is located to the north, and a rear ell, which consists of two rooms, is accessible to the west of the southeast room. The east room of the ell measures 13'-3 x 10'-8" and the west room, which is the kitchen, is 14'-5"x 13'-2". There is a small 11'-6"x 5'-1" bathroom addition located to the west of the northeast front room.
2. Stairways and Ladders: There are none.
3. Flooring: The original floor finish is undetermined.
4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: The wall finish in the two front rooms and the southwest room of the ell is a modern wood paneling. The original wall finish in these rooms is undetermined. The walls in the northwest addition are finished with gypsum wall board. The original wall finish, still extant in the closet, consists of v-channel wall boards with ¼" channels spaced 3" apart. The walls in the kitchen are finished in a modern wood paneling, but the original wall covering, uncovered on the south wall, consists of beadboard with 3/16" beads spaced 3¼" apart (Photo NC-407-AP-11).

The ceiling finish in the front rooms and southwest room of the ell is an acoustical panel drop ceiling. The northwest addition has a gypsum ceiling over the original v-groove finish. The original kitchen ceiling is the same beadboard as that on the walls.

5. Openings:
 - a. Openings: There are none.
 - b. Doorways and Doors: Original doors throughout the house are five-panel doors with 1'-9½"x 10¼" wood panels. The doors are 2'-6" wide, with varying heights. Original five-panel doors are located in the southeast and northeast rooms. The door to the kitchen is missing.
 - c. Windows: There are none.
 6. Decorative Features and Trim: There is a fireplace in the southeast room (Photo NC-407-AP-10). The original firebox has been filled with modern brick. The original brick is 2½"x 6". The original wooden mantle is still intact and is 7½" wide and 3¼" deep on both sides of the firebox. A 5" wide trim piece is nailed to the mantle on both sides. The mantle shelf is 4'-2½" wide, 9" deep, and 1" thick. Two brackets support the shelf. The brackets are 11" tall and have a scroll profile. The stone hearth is 3'-2¼" wide and 1'-4" deep.
 7. Hardware: Original locksets do not appear to be extant for any doors in the house. Most doors still retain original hinges, which have a scallop detail on the 2"x 3½" leaves and balls on the ends of the pins. Original hardware for the windows appears to be extant; no manufacturer could be found.
 8. Mechanical Equipment:
 - a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: There is a louvered vent in the north gable wall just under the ridge.
 - b. Lighting: There is no original lighting.
 - c. Plumbing: The plumbing network was inaccessible and its type is unknown.
 - d. Fixtures: There are no original fixtures.
 9. Original Furnishings: There are no original furnishings.
- D. Site:
1. General Setting: The building is situated west of the unpaved road leading to the Nursery Manager's House (No.77). Remnants of an unpaved driveway are located to the north of the building and lead to the Garage (No.86) and Chicken House (No.87).
 2. Landscaping, Enclosures: There is an overall planting scheme for the Nursery Worker House No. 4 as evident by the east and north elevations. The east

elevation faces an open, grassy area, consisting primarily of dog fennel, with the road in the distance. Four large holly bushes line the elevation; two are located on each side of the porch steps, 2'-6" from the front of the porch. There is a blueberry plant just north of the porch steps. The west elevation faces an open, grassy area with a wooded area in the distance. Three privet bushes occupy the corner of the rear ell and side addition. The south elevation also faces a grassy area with a dogwood tree near the southwest corner of the house; an oil tank is next to the dogwood. The north elevation faces an open area of grass, volunteer pine and maple saplings, and various types of weeds.

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

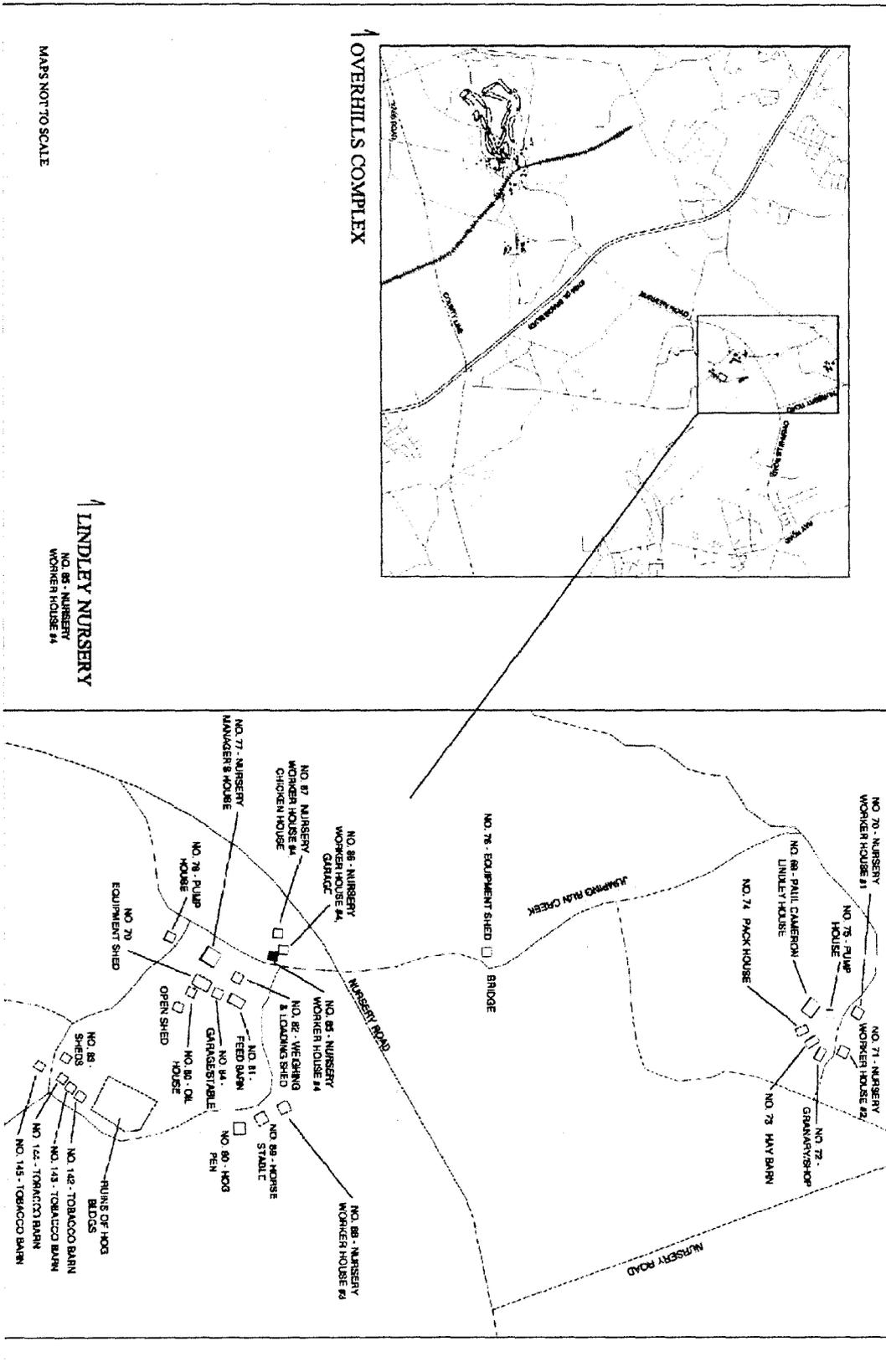
The Cultural Resources Management Program in the Directorate Public Works at Fort Bragg, North Carolina sponsored this project. The project was completed at the Land and Heritage Conservation Branch of the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) part of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, 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

OVERHILLS, NURSERY WORKER HOUSE No.4

(Building No. 85)

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

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

LINDLEY NURSERY
 NO. 85 - NURSERY
 WORKER HOUSE #4