

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

HABS NC-407-AR
NC-407-AR

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NC-407-AR

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 CHICKEN HOUSE

(Building No. 87)

HABS No. NC-407-AR

- 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 17.3902890.681884
- Present Owner: Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Fort Bragg
- Original Use: Chicken House
- Present Use: Vacant
- Significance: The Nursery Worker House No.4 Chicken 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 Nursery Worker House No.4 Chicken House was constructed ca. 1920. 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. 1920.
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 Nursery Worker House No.4 Chicken House is a small building with weather board siding and a shed roof. The south elevation has been screened and the west half of the building appears to have been used for storage.
2. Condition of the Fabric: The condition of the Chicken House is poor. Part of the structure and cladding is missing and the roof is punctured.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The Chicken House is a small, rectangular building that measures 14'-1"x 20'-0". The shed roof slopes from 8'-5" above grade on the west side to 5'-8" on the east side.

The north elevation (Photo NC-407-AR-2) has a window opening in the center of the building.

The east elevation (Photo NC-407-AR-2) has no openings and is covered in weatherboards with a 6¼" reveal.

The south elevation (Photo NC-407-AR-1) is composed of a door at the east side and a window in the middle of the facade.

The west elevation (Photo NC-407-AR-1) has a large opening at the north side and partially weatherboards.

2. Foundations: There is no foundation.
3. Wall Construction: The main perimeter walls are framed with 2"x 4" studs and have 5⁄8" thick weatherboards with a 6¼" reveal nailed directly to the frame.
4. Structural System, Framing: The Chicken House is a wood frame shed with 2"x 4" studs spaced at 1'-4" on center and 2"x 4" rafters with the same spacing. Roof decking is 1"x 4".
5. Porches, Balconies: There are none.
6. Chimney: There is none.
7. Openings:

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- a. **Openings:** A large opening on the west facade measures 9'-6½" wide and 7'-5" tall. The opening is headed by a 1"x 8" joist that spans the length of the building and supports the rafters.

The entrance to the south room is located on the south facade and measures 2'-8"x 5'-11½". The opening has 1¾"x 4" trim on the top and sides. A window opening on the south facade measures 2'-½"x 2'-9½" and has 1¾"x 4" trim on all sides. The opening is located 6'-1" from the southeast corner and 2'-7" above the ground. The opening appears as if it was never intended to hold a window. An identical opening is located on the north facade, 5'-10" from the northeast corner and 2'-4" above the ground.

- b. **Doorways and Doors:** There are none.

- c. **Windows:** There are none.

8. Roof:

- a. **Shape, Covering:** The shed roof is covered with crimp metal roofing.
- b. **Cornice, Eaves:** Eaves are open with a 1"x 5" fascia board on the front and rear overhangs. The rake is open on the south and has a 2"x 4" rake board on the north.
- c. **Dormers, Cupolas, Towers:** There are none.

C. **Description of Interior:**

1. **Floor Plan:** The floor plan is divided into two equal rooms; each room measures 9'-5½"x 13'-3¾". The north room is accessed from the large opening on the west elevation and the south room is accessed from the doorway on the south elevation.
2. **Stairways and Ladders:** There are none.
3. **Flooring:** The floor is composed of 2"x 3½" floor joists with 5½"x 1" tongue-and-groove wood planks nailed directly to the joists.
4. **Wall and Ceiling Finish:** The inside of the perimeter walls are not covered by any structure or material; the main elements of the wood structure and siding are exposed.

The interior partition wall is covered with 1"x 8" planks that are nailed directly to the frame.

There are no ceilings; the main elements of the structure and roofing material are exposed.

5. Openings:
 - a. Openings: There are none.
 - 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 none.
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 building is situated in the middle of a circular driveway, west of the Nursery Worker's House No. 4 (No.85) next to the Garage (No.86).
2. Landscaping, Enclosures: There is no overall planting scheme for the Chicken House. The south facade faces an open, grassy area; a magnolia tree in the southeast corner is approximately 3'-0" from the building. The southwest corner has two 4'-8" tall wood posts that extend perpendicular to the building. The posts are located 3'-0" and 6'-6" from the building. The north elevation faces an open area with five volunteer oak trees. The east and west elevations face expanses of grass and 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:

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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.

