New Cumberland Army Depot
New Cumberland
York County
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-80

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

New Cumberland Army Depot

PA- 80

Location:	In York County, Pennsylvania, adjacent to the Susquehanna River and five miles south of the State Capital in Harrisburg.
Date of Construction:	Established in 1918.
Owner:	Department of the Army
Significance:	New Cumberland has been in continuors operation as a supply depot since its construction by the Quartermaster Department in 1918. Fourteen of the depot's 195 buildings, remain from this period. Between world wars, it was operated primary as a reserve or dead storage depot. World War II brought increased activity to the installation, when it served as a Quartermaster and Army Service Forces, filler depot.
Historical Report Prepared by	Barbara E. Hightower, 1984
Prepared for Transmittal by:	Robie S. Lange, HABS/HAER, 1985.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

New Cumberland Army Depot, a part of the U.S. Army Depot System Command (DESCOM), is responsible for the receipt, storage, and shipment of military supplies. It is the U.S. Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command's Eastern Distribution Center for items used to support field activities on Army installations in Europe and in the eastern and midwestern United States. The depot also stores general supplies and maintains construction equipment. It is located on 832 acres in York County, Pennsylvania, adjacent to the Susquehanna River and five miles south of the state capital in Harrisburg.

New Cumberland has been in continuous operation as a supply depot since its construction by the Quartermaster Department in 1918. Fourteen of the depot's 195 buildings remain from this period. Between the World Wars, it was operated primarily as a reserve or dead storage depot. World War II brought increased activity to the installation, when it served as a Quartermaster and Army Service Forces filler depot. New construction included the 1301st Service Unit Reception Center, warehouses, open storage sheds, and a 150-bed hospital. Family housing, an enlisted barracks, a headquarters building, and warehouses have been added since war's end.

There are no Category I or II historic properties on the New Cumberland Army Depot. There are a number of Category III historic properties. A complex of 20 buildings (Buildings 251-253, 259-262, 268-271, 276-279, 285, 287, 290, 292, and 295) are important because they represent a nearly intact standard World War II military reception center and are locally important for

their association with the processing of World War II inductees from the state of Pennsylvania. The Commanding Officer's quarters (Building 30), the most architecturally distinctive building on the depot, is important as an example of standardized Army residential design and has served an important function as the residence of the Commanding Officer since its construction in 1939.

CONTENTS

Executive Summary

PREFACE..... 1

1. INTRODUCTION..... 3

Scope..... 3

Methodology..... 4

2. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW..... 11

Background..... 11

Pre-Military Land Use..... 13

World War I Construction..... 15

The Period Between the Wars..... 17

World War II Construction..... 18

Post-War Construction..... 26

3. PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS..... 30

Background..... 30

Category I Historic Properties..... 35

Category II Historic Properties..... 35

Category III Historic Properties..... 35

BIBLIOGRAPHY..... 39

PREFACE

This report presents the results of an historic properties survey of the New Cumberland Army Depot. Prepared for the United States Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command (DARCOM), the report is intended to assist the Army in bringing this installation into compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its amendments, and related federal laws and regulations. To this end, the report focuses on the identification, evaluation, documentation, nomination, and preservation of historic properties at the New Cumberland Army Depot. Chapter 1 sets forth the survey's scope and methodology; Chapter 2 presents an architectural, historical, and technological overview of the installation and its properties; and Chapter 3 identifies significant properties by Army category and sets forth preservation recommendations. Illustrations and an annotated bibliography supplement the text.

This report is part of a program initiated through a memorandum of agreement between the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of the Army. The program covers 74 DARCOM installations and has two components: 1) a survey of historic properties (districts, buildings, structures, and objects), and 2) the development of archeological overviews. Stanley H. Fried, Chief, Real Estate Branch of Headquarters DARCOM, directed the program for the Army, and Dr. Robert J. Kapsch, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) directed the program for the National Park Service. Sally Kress Tompkins was program manager, and Robie S. Lange was project manager for the historic properties survey. Technical assistance was provided by Donald C. Jackson.

Building Technology Incorporated acted as primary contractor to HABS/HAER for the historic properties survey. William A. Brenner was BTI's principal-in-charge, and Dr. Larry D. Lankton was the chief technical consultant. The MacDonald and Mack Partnership was a major subcontractor. The author of this report was Barbara E. Hightower. The author gratefully acknowledges the help of Mark Trout, Bob Graham, and Jim Bruchlacher of the Facilities Engineering Branch, and Public Affairs Officer Marvin Stern.

The complete HABS/HAER documentation for this installation will be included in the HABS/HAER collections at the Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, under the designation HAER No. PA-80.

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

SCOPE

This report is based on an historic properties survey conducted in 1984 of all Army-owned properties located within the official boundaries of the New Cumberland Army Depot. The survey included the following tasks:

- Completion of documentary research on the history of the installation and its properties.
- Completion of a field inventory of all properties at the installation.
- Preparation of a combined architectural, historical, and technological overview for the installation.
- Evaluation of historic properties and development of recommendations for preservation of these properties.

Also completed as a part of the historic properties survey of the installation, but not included in this report, are HABS/HAER Inventory cards for 68 individual properties. These cards, which constitute HABS/HAER Documentation Level IV, will be provided to the Department of the Army. Archival copies of the cards, with their accompanying photographic negatives, will be transmitted to the HABS/HAER collections at the Library of Congress.

The methodology used to complete these tasks is described in the following section of this report.

METHODOLOGY

1. Documentary Research

Initial construction, consisting primarily of storage facilities, took place in 1918. The depot greatly expanded during World War II when the number of warehouses doubled and a reception center for inductees and a hospital complex were built. Major construction programs continued into the early 1960s that added storage and housing facilities. Documentary research conducted at the New Cumberland Army Depot and the New Cumberland Public Library focused on the pre-military land use and on the physical development of the installation. The Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office was contacted about possible historic properties at the New Cumberland Army Depot, but no properties were identified through this source.

Army records used for the field inventory included current Real Property Inventory (RPI) printouts that listed all officially recorded buildings and structures by facility classification and date of construction; the installation's property record cards; and base maps and photographs supplied by installation personnel; and various reports and documents relating to master planning and environmental assessment. A complete listing of this documentary material may be found in the bibliography.

2. Field Inventory

The field inventory was conducted by Barbara E. Hightower during a three-day period in March 1984. Mark Trout of the Facilities Engineering

Branch at New Cumberland Army Depot served as the point of contact and survey escort. Bob Graham and Jim Brachlacher of the Facilities Engineering Branch provided access to installation real property records, maps, and drawings. New Cumberland Army Depot Public Affairs Officer Marvin Stern provided access to historical information and photographs on file in the Public Affairs Office.

Field inventory procedures were based on the HABS/HAER Guidelines for Inventories of Historic Buildings and Engineering and Industrial Structures.[1] All areas and properties were visually surveyed. Building locations and approximate dates of construction were noted from the installation's property records and field-verified.

Field inventory forms were prepared for, and black and white 35 mm photographs taken of all buildings and structures through 1945 except basic utilitarian structures of no architectural, historical, or technological interest. When groups of similar ("prototypical") buildings were found, one field form was normally prepared to represent all buildings of that type. Field inventory forms were also completed for representative post-1945 buildings and structures.[2] Information collected on the field forms was later evaluated, condensed, and transferred to HABS/HAER Inventory cards.

3. Historic Overview

A combined architectural, historical, and technological overview was prepared from information developed from the documentary research and the field inventory. It was written in two parts: 1) an introductory

description of the installation, and 2) a history of the installation by periods of development, beginning with pre-military land uses. Maps and photographs were selected to supplement the text as appropriate.

The objectives of the overview were to 1) establish the periods of major construction at the installation, 2) identify important events and individuals associated with specific historic properties, 3) describe patterns and locations of historic property types, and 4) analyze specific building and industrial technologies employed at the installation.

4. Property Evaluation and Preservation Measures

Based on information developed in the historic overviews, properties were first evaluated for historic significance in accordance with the elegibility criteria for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. These criteria require that eligible properties possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and that they meet one or more of the following:[3]

A. Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B. Are associated with the lives of persons significant in the nation's past.

C. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history.

Properties thus evaluated were further assessed for placement in one of five Army historic property categories as described in Army Regulation 420-40:[4]

Category I	Properties of major importance
Category II	Properties of importance
Category III	Properties of minor importance
Category IV	Properties of little or no importance
Category V	Properties detrimental to the significance of of adjacent historic properties

Based on an extensive review of the architectural, historical, and technological resources identified on DARCOM installations nationwide, four criteria were developed to help determine the appropriate categorization level for each Army property. These criteria were used to assess the importance not only of properties of traditional historical interest, but of the vast number of standardized or prototypical buildings, structures, and production processes that were built and put into service during World War II, as well as of properties associated with many post-war technological achievements. The four criteria were often used in combination and are as follows:

1) Degree of importance as a work of architectural, engineering, or industrial design. This criterion took into account the qualitative factors by which design is normally judged: artistic merit, workmanship, appropriate use of materials, and functionality.

2) Degree of rarity as a remaining example of a once widely used architectural, engineering, or industrial design or process. This criterion was applied primarily to the many standardized or prototypical DARCOM buildings, structures, or industrial processes. The more widespread or influential the design or process, the greater the importance of the remaining examples of the design or process was considered to be. This criterion was also used for non-military structures such as farmhouses and other once prevalent building types.

3) Degree of integrity or completeness. This criterion compared the current condition, appearance, and function of a building, structure, architectural assemblage, or industrial process to its original or most historically important condition, appearance, and function. Those properties that were highly intact were generally considered of greater importance than those that were not.

4) Degree of association with an important person, program, or event. This criterion was used to examine the relationship of a property to a famous personage, wartime project, or similar factor that lent the property special importance.

The majority of DARCOM properties were built just prior to or during World War II, and special attention was given to their evaluation. Those that still remain do not often possess individual importance, but collectively they represent the remnants of a vast construction undertaking whose architectural, historical, and technological importance needed to be assessed before their numbers diminished further. This

assessment centered on an extensive review of the military construction of the 1940-1945 period, and its contribution to the history of World War II and the post-war Army landscape.

Because technology has advanced so rapidly since the war, post-World War II properties were also given attention. These properties were evaluated in terms of the nation's more recent accomplishments in weaponry, rocketry, electronics, and related technological and scientific endeavors. Thus the traditional definition of "historic" as a property 50 or more years old was not germane in the assessment of either World War II or post-war DARCOM buildings and structures; rather, the historic importance of all properties was evaluated as completely as possible regardless of age.

Property designations by category are expected to be useful for approximately ten years, after which all categorizations should be reviewed and updated.

Following this categorization procedure, Category I, II, and III historic properties were analyzed in terms of:

- Current structural condition and state of repair. This information was taken from the field inventory forms and photogaphs, and was often supplemented by rechecking with facilities engineering personnel.

- The nature of possible future adverse impacts to the property. This information was gathered from the installation's master planning documents and rechecked with facilities engineering personnel.

Based on the above considerations, the general preservation recommendations presented in Chapter 3 for Category I, II, and III historic properties were developed. Special preservation recommendations were created for individual properties as circumstances required.

5. Report Review

Prior to being completed in final form, this report was subjected to an in-house review by Building Technology Incorporated. It was then sent in draft to the subject installation for comment and clearance and, with its associated historical materials, to HABS/HAER staff for technical review. When the installation cleared the report, additional draft copies were sent to DARCOM, the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer, and, when requested, to the archeological contractor performing parallel work at the installation. The report was revised based on all comments collected, then published in final form.

NOTES

1. Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service, Guidelines for Inventories of Historic Buildings and Engineering and Industrial Structures (unpublished draft, 1982).

2. Representative post-World War II buildings and structures were defined as properties that were: (a) "representative" by virtue of construction type, architectural type, function, or a combination of these, (b) of obvious Category I, II, or III historic importance, or (c) prominent on the installation by virtue of size, location, or other distinctive feature.

3. National Park Service, How to Complete National Register Forms (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, January 1977).

4. Army Regulation 420-40, Historic Preservation (Headquarters, U.S. Army: Washington, D.C., 15 April 1984).

Chapter 2

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

BACKGROUND

The New Cumberland Army Depot, a part of the U.S. Army Depot System Command (DESCOM), is responsible for the receipt, storage, and shipment of military supplies. It is the U.S. Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command's Eastern Distribution Center for items used to support field activities on Army installations in Europe and in the eastern and mid-western United States. The depot also stores general supplies and maintains construction equipment. It is located on 832 acres in York County, Pennsylvania, adjacent to the Susquehanna River and five miles south of the state capital in Harrisburg.[1] (Illustration 1)

New Cumberland has been in continuous operation as a supply depot since it was built in 1918 for the Quartermaster Department. Initial construction consisted of storage, housing, and support facilities, but only 14 of these buildings now remain. Most of the farmhouses, barns, and associated structures located on the property in 1918 and retained for the depot's use have been demolished; a farmhouse and a barn are still standing. Between the World Wars, New Cumberland served primarily as a reserve or dead storage depot, and only a small number of buildings were constructed. World War II brought increased activity to New Cumberland, when it served as a Quartermaster and Army Service Forces filler depot responsible for channeling supplies to east coast ports. To support this supply mission, the number of storage facilities was doubled in 1942-1943. Two years earlier, in 1940-1941, the

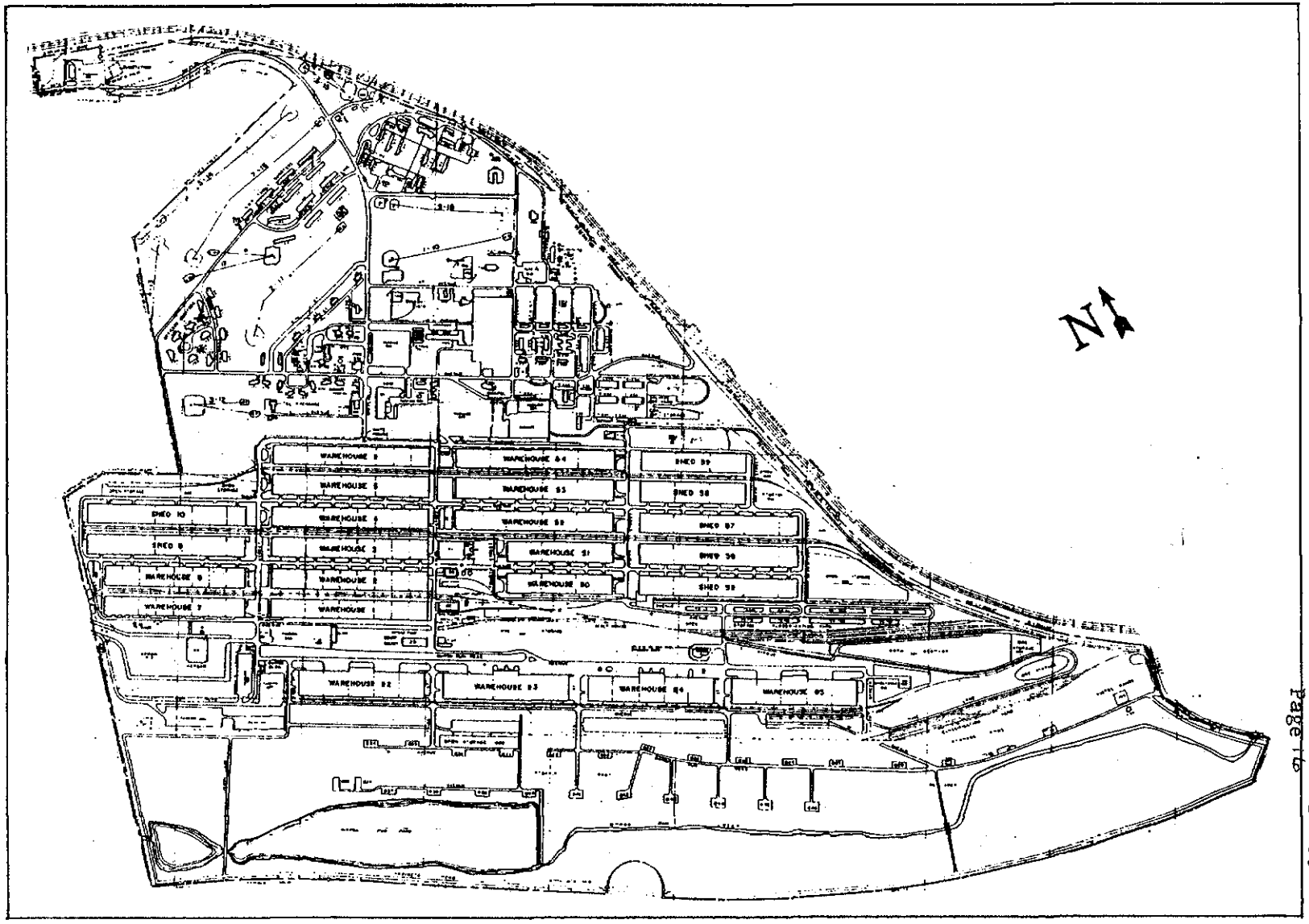

Illustration 1 Map of the New Cumberland Army Depot. The installation is located on 832 acres in York County, Pennsylvania, adjacent to the Susquehanna River. Warehouses and open storage sheds are located at the south end of the depot, and administrative and housing facilities are situated north of the warehouses. (Source: DARCOM Installation and Activity Brochure, New Cumberland Army Depot, December 31, 1977).

1301st Service Unit Reception Center was built at the depot to process troops entering the Army. A 150-bed hospital was added to the depot in 1943. Of the depot's current 195 buildings, 74 were constructed between 1940 and 1945. Major construction projects since the war included a considerable expansion of family housing and storage facilities, an enlisted barracks, and a headquarters building. Between 1956 and 1983, the depot overhauled, repaired, and modified aircraft (primarily the CH-47 "Chinook" helicopter) and aircraft components. Several hangars were erected on the depot for this mission.[2]

PRE-MILITARY LAND USE

Before acquisition by the Army in 1918, the New Cumberland site consisted of eight farms. Following construction of the depot, the Army continued to use the farms' houses, barns, and associated structures, but most were demolished in the 1930s and 1940s. Only two pre-military buildings, a farmhouse and a barn, remain. The farmhouse (Building 76), which was probably built during the last half of the nineteenth century, is an undistinguished two-story, wood-frame building with a gable roof and scrolled eave brackets. (Illustration 2) The building has been altered considerably since the early 1940s and currently serves as family housing.[3] The barn (Building 79), constructed around the turn of the century on the Jacob Haldeman farm, is a wood-frame structure with a stone foundation. Following acquisition by the Army, it was used to stable the horses and mules that pulled the depot's supply wagons. In 1942, the barn was remodeled and converted into the Officers' Club.[4] (Illustration 3)

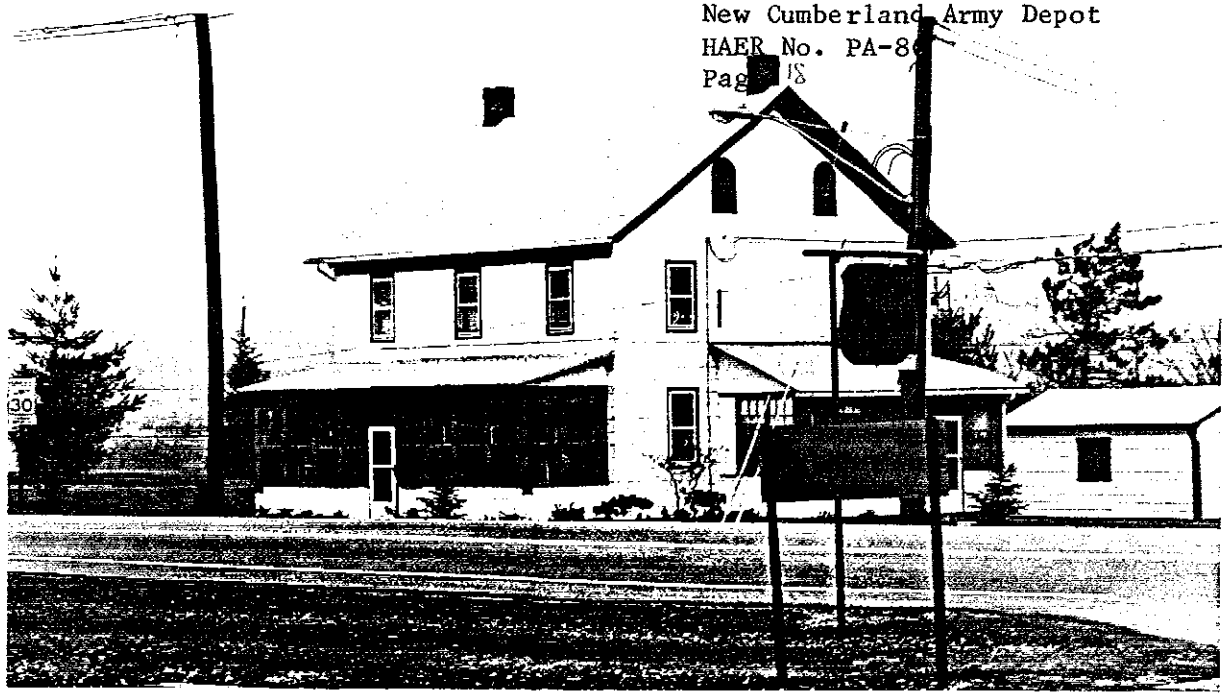

Illustration 2 View of Building 76. This two-story building, located on one of the farms acquired by the Army in 1918, was probably constructed during the last half of the nineteenth century. It has been altered considerably and now serves as housing. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

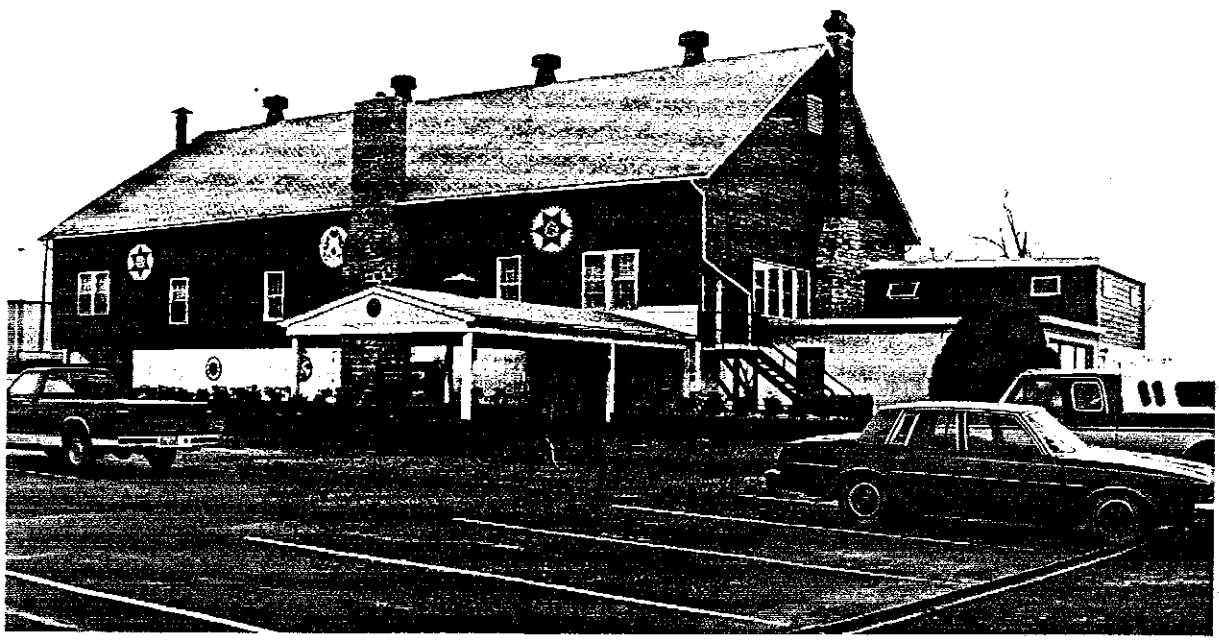

Illustration 3 View of the Officers' Club (Building 79). This wood-frame structure set on a stone foundation was originally constructed around the turn of the century as a barn. It was remodeled and converted into the Officers' Club in 1942. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

WORLD WAR 1 CONSTRUCTION

In 1918, the Army purchased an 831 acre site adjacent to the Susquehanna River and the North Central Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad for construction of a Quartermaster supply depot. Work began in April under the direction of Construction Quartermaster Major Wensel Morava. The Bates and Rogers Construction Company and the James Black Construction Company erected storage facilities, an infirmary, bakery, pump house, barracks, mess halls, officers' quarters, post exchange, and guardhouse. Work on the majority of these facilities was completed in November, the same month the war ended.[5]

Fourteen buildings remain from this initial phase of construction. Eight are one-story warehouses constructed with clay tile and brick walls on concrete foundations (Buildings 1-8). The principal elevations of these buildings are lined with freight doors for rail loading on one side and truck loading on the other. The northwest end of Building 1 is a two-story brick structure, the second floor of which originally contained administrative offices. Two open sheds (Buildings 9 and 10), built with heavy timber posts and trusses supporting slightly pitched roofs, complete the World War 1 storage facilities. The warehouses and open sheds are located in the storage area at the south end of the depot.[6] (Illustration 4)

The remainder of the World War 1 buildings are located north of the warehouses in the present depot administration area. They include a one-story stone guardhouse (Building 102), a two-story brick electrical substation (Building 12), a gable-roofed, wood-frame structure originally built as the

Illustration 4 View of Building 7. This brick and clay tile structure was one of eight warehouses built during the depot's initial phase of construction in 1918. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

Illustration 5 View of Building 102. This stone building originally served as the guardhouse. It is one of 14 buildings remaining from the depot's initial construction in 1918. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

depot bakery and converted to a garage in 1939 (Building 132), and a small brick magazine (Building 103). (Illustration 5)

THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE WARS

The depot's original mission of shipping supplies to troops in the field was short-lived. World War I ended less than three months after receipt of the first shipment of knocked-down wagons and saddles at the partially completed installation. Following the armistice, the depot was inundated with supplies that had been in contractors' factories or enroute to ports for overseas shipment. Additional supplies also returned from the war zone. By April 1919, the new warehouses were nearly filled with quartermaster, signal, medical, engineer, chemical warfare, and ordnance supplies. Over the next five years, surplus stocks were disposed of, and the depot's primary mission became one of reserve or dead storage. Only the installation's Signal Section had an active supply role in the years between the World Wars; it was the Army's principal distribution point for pigeon equipment between 1920 and 1932 and for field wire beginning in 1930. Excess warehouse space and open storage areas were leased to federal agencies, including the Department of Agriculture, the Post Office Department, the Forest Service, and the Treasury Department.[7]

Little permanent construction took place on the depot during the years between the two World Wars. A two-story, stuccoed, clay tile fire station (Building 153) was completed in 1919, and a one-story, reinforced concrete building used by the Signal Corps as a code vault (Building 104) was built in 1937. Two years later, a pair of standard Type B NCO duplex quarters (Buildings 40 and 41)

was added. A camp, comprised of approximately 30 single-story, wood-frame buildings, was erected on the depot by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the late 1930s. The camp was transferred to the Army in 1942 and demolished at the end of World War II.[8]

The Commanding Officer's Quarters (Building 30), a two-story Georgian Revival style house, was constructed in 1939. This brick structure, embellished with brick quoins and splayed brick lintels with keystones, has a hip roof covered with slate. It was built according to standard plans developed during the late 1920s, when the Army instituted a building program designed to improve its image and the quality of life for its personnel. These plans, which were used through the 1930s, were based on what were considered national architectural styles; the Georgian Revival style was adopted for construction on posts in the eastern United States.[9] (Illustration 6)

WORLD WAR II CONSTRUCTION

The construction of the 1301st Service Unit Reception Center, although begun in 1940 before American entry into World War II, was directly related to war-time expansion at New Cumberland. Passage of the Selective Service Act in September 1940 necessitated the construction of reception centers across the country for processing inductees into the Army. A contract for the erection of wood-frame mobilization structures for a standard 1,000-man reception center was awarded to the Joseph Light Construction Company of Washington, D.C. in November 1940. These included barracks, a mess hall, officers' quarters, an infirmary, a recreation hall, post exchange, theater, guardhouse, processing buildings, and shops. The Reception Center was activated in early 1941, and by war's end a half million persons--90% of the

Illustration 6 Commanding Officer's Quarters (Building 30). This two-story Georgian Revival style house was built according to standard Army plans. It has served as the Commanding Officer's quarters since its construction in 1939. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

Pennsylvanians entering the Army—had been processed through New Cumberland. The Center expanded later in 1941 with construction of over 30 additional buildings, and again in 1942 when the adjacent Civilian Conservation Corps camp was transferred to the Army. In 1945 part of the Center's facilities housed German and Italian prisoners of war, and at the end of that year it was converted to a branch U.S. Military Disciplinary Barracks that remained on the depot until 1959. Many of the buildings were subsequently demolished; only 20 now remain (Buildings 251-253, 259-262, 268-271, 276-279, 285, 287, 290, 292, and 295).[10] (Illustrations 7-10)

Buildings at the Reception Center were constructed according to the Army's standard Series 700 plans, which were originally developed after World War I and used until appropriations for military construction declined during the early depression years. Under Roosevelt's administration, use of the Series 700 plans resumed and continued into 1941, when the Series 800 plans went into effect.[11]

The dead storage mission at the depot was ended by America's entry into World War II. Supplying millions of troops in a global war necessitated a considerable expansion of activities at existing Quartermaster depots. With the onset of the war, New Cumberland was designated to serve as a Quartermaster (and later an Army Service Forces) filler depot that channeled materiel to east coast ports for overseas shipment. Concurrently the work load of the technical service sections housed at the depot increased sharply. This was especially true for the Signal Corps, which had maintained an active supply mission at the depot in the years between the wars. During World

Illustration 7 Construction of the 1301st Service Unit Reception Center, 1940-1941. Construction of the barracks, mess hall, and processing building is shown at the right side of the photograph. Most of the barracks buildings have been demolished. The Civilian Conservation Corps camp at the left of the photograph was built in the late 1930s and transferred to the Army in 1942 as part of the Reception Center. (Source: Public Affairs Office, New Cumberland Army Depot)

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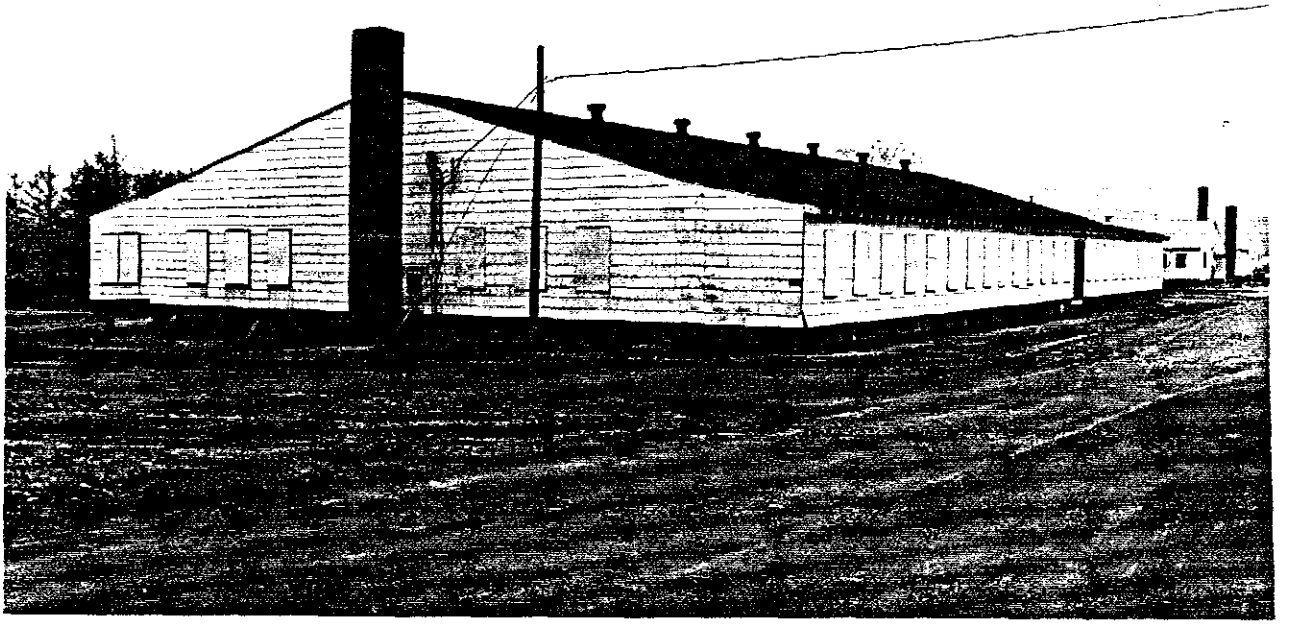

Illustration 8 View of Building 277. This structure served as the clothing issue building for the 1301st Service Unit Reception Center. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

Illustration 9 View of Building 279. This building is one of the barracks originally constructed for the Reception Center. Only four of these barracks are still standing. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

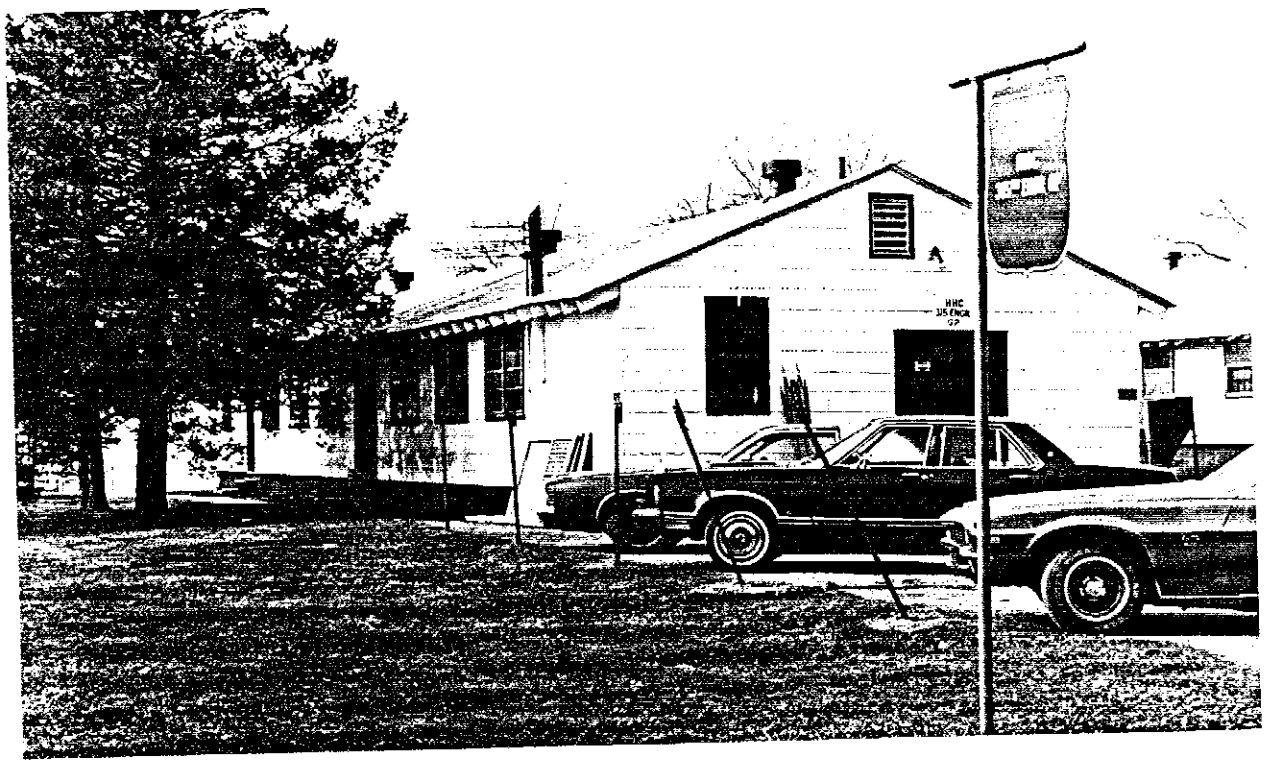

Illustration 10 View of Building 269. This one-story building housed the Reception Center's administrative offices. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

War II, New Cumberland became a key depot for Signal Corps lend-lease materiel, serving as a repository and issue point for over 4,000 kinds of items. The Signal Section also processed electron tubes to salvage scarce precious metals.[12]

To meet this increased activity, construction began in 1942 to double the depot's storage facilities. A site east of the World War I warehouses was chosen for this purpose since rail lines could be extended without interrupting rail service to the existing storage buildings. The architectural-engineering firm of Modjeski and Masters was awarded the design contract for the new storage facilities and for the expansion of site utilities. Five warehouses with clay tile walls (Buildings 50-54), five open storage sheds (Buildings 55-59), an inflammable materials storage building constructed of clay tile (Building 60), and a one-story concrete block cafeteria (Building 62) were erected during the 1942 expansion program.[13]

Initial directives specified the use of standard Army plans for wood-frame warehouses, but a shortage of timber and skilled carpenters made this type of building infeasible. Instead, a semi-fireproof construction similar to that used in the World War I warehouses was found to be more economical and permanent. The depot's World War II warehouses, built by McCloskey and Company of Philadelphia, have 6-inch hollow clay tile walls on concrete foundations and slightly pitched roofs supported by timber posts and trusses. Freight doors provide for truck loading on one side of the building and rail loading on the opposite side.[14] (Illustration 11)

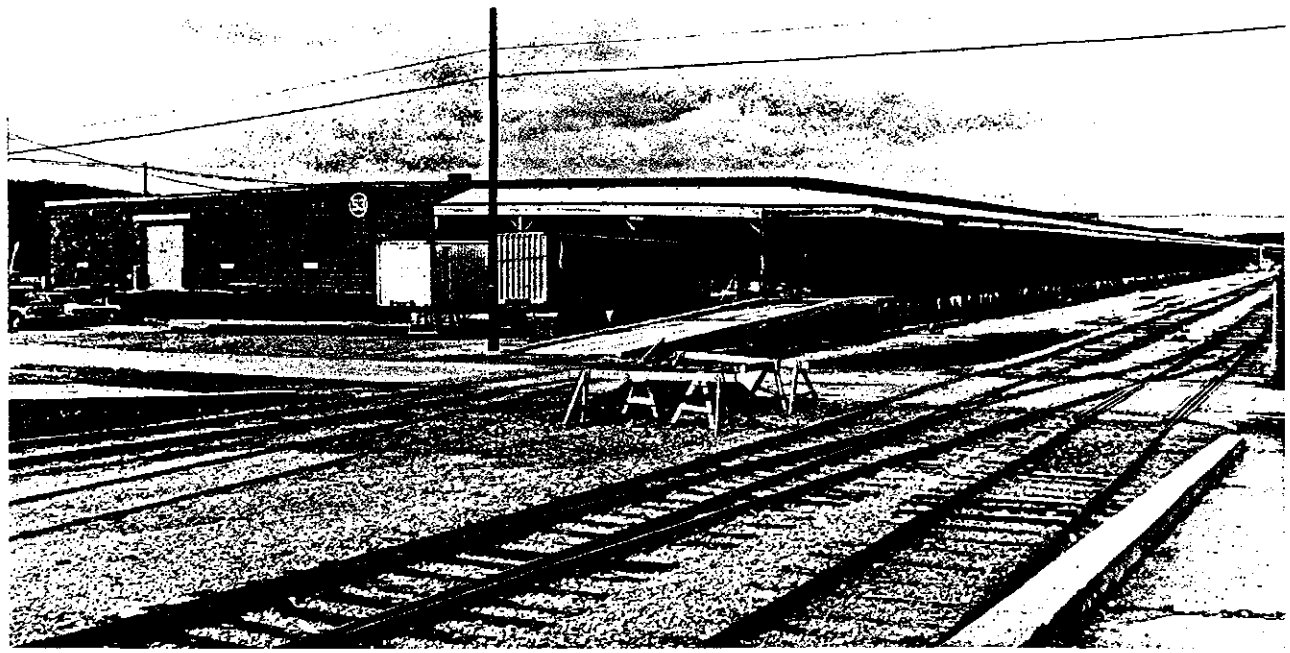

Illustration 11 View of Building 53. This warehouse, constructed with hollow clay tile walls, was built during the expansion program that doubled the depot's number of storage facilities in 1942-1943. (Source: Field inventory photograph, 1984, Barbara Hightower, Building Technology, Inc.)

The discovery of a new impregnite, CC-2, in 1924 vastly increased the effectiveness of clothing issued to protect troops against the effects of mustard gas. Maintaining a supply of protective clothing that could be issued on very short notice required construction of impregnating plants in the United States and overseas. One of these plants was built in the warehouse area at New Cumberland in 1941. The building, a two-story, steel-frame structure clad with asbestos siding (Building 21), was converted to a laundry in 1945 and is currently used for storage.[15]

A 150-bed hospital complex was constructed in 1943 overlooking the Susquehanna River at the north side of the depot. It consists of 22 buildings (Buildings 501, 503-505, 507-509, 511-515, 517-519, 521-526, and 528) built according to standard Army plans. Most of these one-story, wood-frame or concrete block structures are connected by wood-frame walkways.

POST-WAR CONSTRUCTION

The post-war years saw considerable expansion of the depot's housing facilities, beginning in 1947 with construction of the Hilltop Heights Housing Area. This area contains seven two-story, brick duplexes (Buildings 31-37). Eight one-story, brick, single-family houses (Buildings 164-171) and three brick and frame, two-story buildings containing eight units each (Buildings 133-135) were built in 1956. Two Capehart housing projects totaling 91 units in 20 buildings were completed in 1958. Of these, 11 single-story, brick and frame duplexes (Buildings 187-197) are located in the Tee Side View Housing Area, and nine two-story, multi-unit buildings (Buildings 136-144) are in the Green View Housing Area. The family housing units built in the 1940s and 1950s

are located west of Mifflin Avenue at the north end of the depot. The expansion of the depot's housing was completed in 1958 with construction of a three-story enlisted barracks, Minick Hall (Building 400), on the site of the former Civilian Conservation Corps camp.

A new headquarters building was constructed on the depot in 1952. This two-story building with concrete frame and concrete block walls is located at the south end of the administration area.

New facilites were also constructed in the warehouse area in the post-war period. In 1953, four large concrete block warehouses (Buildings 82-85) were built south of the existing warehouses. Five steel-framed, metal clad warehouses (Buildings 112-114, 116, and 117) and six steel-framed open shelters (Buildings 106-111) were erected in the storage area in 1961. A heating plant (Building 86) and a locomotive maintenance shop (Building 24), both built of concrete block, were added in 1952 and 1964. In 1956 New Cumberland was given responsibility for field maintenance of Army aircraft stationed in the First and Second Army Areas and the Military District of Washington. Growth of this mission, which centered on the maintenance of helicopters, led to the construction of three hangars (Buildings 87, 88, and 92) in 1958 and 1960.[16]

NOTES

1. New Cumberland Army Depot, Installation and Activity Brochure, DARCOM, December 31, 1977.

2. "New Cumberland Army Depot, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania" (no date), p. 11.

3. A small single bay entrance porch with Eastlake trim was replaced with a larger porch that extends across the full width of the front facade, and a second porch was added on the south side. Dormers were removed and the house was covered with asbestos cement shingles. A photograph attached to early real property records shows the house prior to these alterations: Historical Record of Public Buildings and Utilities, New Cumberland General Reserve Depot, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, c. 1941; New Cumberland General Depot, Pa. "List of Buildings" (July 28, 1923, August 3, 1938, and January 19, 1940).

4. Since the early 1940s, Building 79 has been enlarged and covered with aluminum siding. A photograph attached to early real property records shows the building prior to alteration: Historical Record of Public Buildings and Utilities, New Cumberland General Reserve Depot, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, c. 1941; New Cumberland Army Depot, "History of Building Occupied by the Officers' Club" (prepared January 21, 1981); Gilbert W. Beckley, New Cumberland Frontier (New Cumberland, Pennsylvania: Gilbert W. Beckley, 1973), pp. 38-44.

5. "U.S. Military Depot at Marsh Run Complete," Unidentified Harrisburg, Pennsylvania newspaper, October 25, 1918 (copy in Public Affairs Office files); Public Affairs Office files, "Construction Period" (no date).

6. Two of the warehouses (Buildings 7 and 8) and the two open storage sheds (Buildings 9 and 10, which have been partially enclosed with corrugated metal siding since their construction) are slated for demolition in 1985. A building covering 40 acres and housing what is planned to be "the largest, most technologically sophisticated supply distribution center in the world" will be built on the site. "Depot Prepares to Meet Challenge," NCAD Conveyor, January 1984, pp. 1 and 8.

7. Public Affairs Office files, "The Depot Administration and Operation, as a Whole to 1941 (Including, for those Years, the Quartermaster Supply Section" and "Peace Time Activities" (no date); New Cumberland ASF Depot, New Cumberland, Pa., "History of Missions - 1918 to 1946" (14 January 1946); George Raynor Thompson, Dixie R. Harris, Pauline M. Oakes, and Dulany Terrett, The Signal Corps: The Test (December 1941 to July 1943) (Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief of Military History, 1957), p. 517. Although widely used as field messengers by European armies since the 1870s, the pigeon was not adopted as a means of communication by the American Army until 1917, when the birds proved highly effective by successfully delivering about 95% of the messages they carried. Following the war, the Signal Corps maintained pigeon training, breeding, and experimental operations. Major General James B. Allison, "The Signal Corps in Action: Maintaining Communications in the Theater of Operations," Army Ordnance, September-October 1936, p. 77.

8. Historical Record of Public Buildings and Utilities, New Cumberland General Reserve Depot, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, c. 1941.

9. David William Rhyne, "Army Posts in American Culture: A Historical Geography of Army Posts in the United States" (M.S. thesis, Pennsylvania State University, 1979), pp. 236-237. A standard Quartermaster plan for a Georgian Revival style company officer's quarters similar to the original appearance of Building 30 (since construction, the building has been altered with the addition of sun porches and a one-story entrance offset and porch) is illustrated in: Lt. Col. John S. Chambers, "Quarters For Our Army," The Quartermaster Review, March-April 1928, p. 24.

10. Public Relations - Special Services Office, 1301st Service Unit Reception Center, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, "1301st Service Unit Reception Center, New Cumberland, Pa., February 13, 1941 - February 13, 1942" (prepared February 13, 1942); Public Affairs Office files, "World War II" (no date).

11. William R. Henry, Jr. and Irene Jackson Henry, "An Overview of Standardized Military Construction, 1917-1945" (unpublished report, HABS/HAER Inventory, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland), p. 65; Rhyne, "Army Posts in American Culture," pp. 242-243.

12. Thompson, Harris, Oakes, and Terrett, The Signal Corps: The Test, p. 517.

13. Modjeski and Masters, "Completion Report: Extension of New Cumberland Quartermaster Depot, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, March 1942 to May 1943" (New Cumberland, Pennsylvania: War Department, U.S. Engineer Area Office, 1943), pp. 1-4 and 1-5.

14. Ibid, pp. 1-7 and 1-9.

15. Leo P. Brophy, Wyndham D. Miles, and Rexmond C. Cochrane, The Chemical Service: From Laboratory to Field (Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief of Military History, 1959), pp. 90-91 and 329-332; New Cumberland ASF Depot, New Cumberland, Pa., "History of Missions - 1918 to 1946."

16. The depot's aircraft maintenance mission was discontinued in 1983, and the three hangars are slated for demolition in 1985 as part of the supply distribution center project.

Chapter 3

PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

BACKGROUND

Army Regulation 420-40 requires that an historic preservation plan be developed as an integral part of each installation's planning and long range maintenance and development scheduling.[1] The purpose of such a program is to:

- Preserve historic properties to reflect the Army's role in history and its continuing concern for the protection of the nation's heritage.
- Implement historic preservation projects as an integral part of the installation's maintenance and construction programs.
- Find adaptive uses for historic properties in order to maintain them as actively used facilities on the installation.
- Eliminate damage or destruction due to improper maintenance, repair, or use that may alter or destroy the significant elements of any property.
- Enhance the most historically significant areas of the installation through appropriate landscaping and conservation.

To meet these overall preservation objectives, the general preservation recommendations set forth below have been developed:

Category I Historic Properties

All Category I historic properties not currently listed on or nominated to the National Register of Historic Places are assumed to be eligible for

nomination regardless of age. The following general preservation recommendations apply to these properties:

a) Each Category 1 historic property should be treated as if it were on the National Register, whether listed or not. Properties not currently listed should be nominated. Category I historic properties should not be altered or demolished. All work on such properties shall be performed in accordance with Sections 106 and 110(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended in 1980, and the regulations of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP) as outlined in the "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR 800).

b) An individual preservation plan should be developed and put into effect for each Category I historic property. This plan should delineate the appropriate restoration or preservation program to be carried out for the property. It should include a maintenance and repair schedule and estimated initial and annual costs. The preservation plan should be approved by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council in accordance with the above referenced ACHP regulation. Until the historic preservation plan is put into effect, Category 1 historic properties should be maintained in accordance with the recommended approaches of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Revised Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings[2] and in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

c) Each Category I historic property should be documented in accordance with Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Documentation Level II, and the documentation submitted for inclusion in the HABS/HAER collections in the Library of Congress.[3] When no adequate architectural drawings exist for a Category 1 historic property, it should be documented in accordance with Documentation Level I of these standards. In cases where standard measured drawings are unable to record significant features of a property or technological process, interpretive drawings also should be prepared.

Category II Historic Properties

All Category II historic properties not currently listed on or nominated to the National Register of Historic Places are assumed to be eligible for nomination regardless of age. The following general preservation recommendations apply to these properties:

a) Each Category II historic property should be treated as if it were on the National Register, whether listed or not. Properties not currently listed should be nominated. Category II historic properties should not be altered or demolished. All work on such properties shall be performed in accordance with Sections 106 and 110(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended in 1980, and the regulations of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP) as outlined in the "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR 800).

b) An individual preservation plan should be developed and put into effect for each Category II historic property. This plan should delineate the appropriate preservation or rehabilitation program to be carried out for the property or for those parts of the property which contribute to its historical, architectural, or technological importance. It should include a maintenance and repair schedule and estimated initial and annual costs. The preservation plan should be approved by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council in accordance with the above referenced ACHP regulations. Until the historic preservation plan is put into effect, Category II historic properties should be maintained in accordance with the recommended approaches in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Revised Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings[4] and in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

c) Each Category II historic property should be documented in accordance with Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Documentation Level II, and the documentation submitted for inclusion in the HABS/HAER collections in the Library of Congress.[5]

Category III Historic Properties

The following preservation recommendations apply to Category III historic properties:

a) Category III historic properties listed on or eligible for nomination to the National Register as part of a district or thematic group should be treated in accordance with Sections 106 and 110(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended in 1980, and the regulations of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation as outlined in the "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR 800). Such properties should not be demolished and their facades, or those parts of the property that contribute to the historical landscape, should be protected from major modifications. Preservation plans should be developed for groupings of Category III historic properties within a district or thematic group. The scope of these plans should be limited to those parts of each property that contribute to the district or group's importance. Until such plans are put into effect, these properties should be maintained in accordance with the recommended approaches in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Revised Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings[6] and in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

b) Category III historic properties not listed on or eligible for nomination to the National Register as part of a district or thematic group should receive routine maintenance. Such properties should not be demolished, and their facades, or those parts of the property that contribute to the historical landscape, should be protected from modification. If the properties are unoccupied, they

should, as a minimum, be maintained in stable condition and prevented from deteriorating.

HABS/HAER Documentation Level IV has been completed for all Category III historic properties, and no additional documentation is required as long as they are not endangered. Category III historic properties that are endangered for operational or other reasons should be documented in accordance with HABS/HAER Documentation Level III, and submitted for inclusion in the HABS/HAER collections in the Library of Congress.[7] Similar structures need only be documented once.

CATEGORY I HISTORIC PROPERTIES

There are no Category I historic properties at New Cumberland Army Depot.

CATEGORY II HISTORIC PROPERTIES

There are no Category II historic properties at New Cumberland Army Depot.

CATEGORY III HISTORIC PROPERTIES

1301st Service Unit Reception Center (Buildings 251-253, 259-262, 268-271, 276-279, 285, 287, 290, 292, and 295)

- Background and significance. This complex of buildings was one of the many military reception centers built across the country to process inductees following passage of the Selective Service Act in September 1940. (See Chapter 2, World War II Construction and Illustrations 7-10.)

By war's end, 90% of the Pennsylvanians who entered the Army--a total of about 500,000 persons--had passed through New Cumberland's 1301st Service Unit Reception Center.

The Reception Center was built in two stages: a 1,000-man center begun in late 1940 and completed in early 1941 and a second section constructed to the north later in 1941. In 1942 the adjacent Civilian Conservation Corps camp was transferred to the Army, further expanding the Reception Center's facilities. The complex of 20 buildings, erected according to the Army's standard Series 700 plans, comprises the Center's only remaining structures. Except for the 16 barracks buildings that have been demolished, they also represent the original 1,000-man reception center completed in early 1941. The buildings are Category III historic properties because they represent a nearly intact standard World War II military reception center, and because they are locally important for their association with the processing of World War II inductees from the state of Pennsylvania.

Condition and potential adverse effects. The buildings vary in physical condition from good to deteriorated. Those in active use receive routine maintenance and repair. All buildings have been covered with asbestos cement shingles or aluminum siding, and some have been altered with window and door replacements and additions. There are no immediate plans to alter or demolish the properties, but long range plans call for their demolition.

- Preservation recommendations. Because of their original construction as temporary mobilization structures and the high cost of maintenance, it is unreasonable to expect long term preservation of these buildings. However, while they are in active use, the general preservation recommendations for Category III historic properties not eligible for nomination to the National Register should apply. If the buildings must be demolished, they should first be documented in accordance with HABS/HAER Documentation Level III, and such documentation should be submitted for inclusion in the HABS/HAER collections at the Library of Congress.

Commanding Officer's Quarters (Building 30)

- Background and significance. The Commanding Officer's quarters is a two-story Georgian Revival style house built in 1939. (See Chapter 2, The Period Between the Wars and Illustration 6.) This hip-roofed brick house is embellished with brick quoins at its corners and splayed brick lintels with keystones above the first-story windows. Since construction, the screened porch on the southeast side has been bricked in and the sun porch on the northwest side has been added. The original entrance, consisting of a segmental pediment supported by engaged columns, was replaced by a gabled entrance porch with wood paneled door, fanlight, and sidelights. The brick quoins on the main block are repeated at the corners of the porch. The house was constructed according to standard Army plans based on what were considered national architectural styles at the time. The Commanding Officer's quarters, the most architecturally distinctive building on the depot, is a Category III historic property because it is important as an example of standardized Army residential design and has served an important function as the residence of the Commanding Officer since its construction in 1939.

- Condition and potential adverse impacts. The building is in good condition and receives routine maintenance and repair. Although it has been altered, it still retains its basic architectural character. There are no current plans to alter or demolish this property.

- Preservation recommendations. Refer to the general preservation recommendations at the beginning of this chapter for Category III historic properties not eligible for nomination to the National Register.

NOTES

1. Army Regulation 420-40, Historic Preservation (Headquarters, U.S. Army: Washington, D.C., 15 April 1984).

2. National Park Service, Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Revised Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, 1983 (Washington, D.C.: Preservation Assistance Division, National Park Service, 1983).

3. National Park Service, "Archeology and Historic Preservation; Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines," Federal Register, Part IV, 28 September 1983, pp. 44730-44734.

4. National Park Service, Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

5. National Park Service, "Archeology and Historic Preservation."

6. National Park Service, Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

7. National Park Service, "Archeology and Historic Preservation."

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Brophy, Leo P., Miles, Wyndham D., and Cochrane, Rexmond C. The Chemical Service: From Laboratory to Field. Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief of Military History, 1959.

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Modjeski and Masters. "Completion Report: Extension of New Cumberland Quartermaster Depot, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, March 1942 to May 1943." New Cumberland, Pennsylvania: War Department, U.S. Engineer Area Office, 1943. Report prepared by the architectural/ engineering firm responsible for expansion of warehouse facilities at the depot during World War II. Includes information on construction requirements, contracts, cost, design, and construction.

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"New Cumberland Army Depot, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania." No date. Pamphlet describing history, mission, and community facilities at the installation.

New Cumberland ASF. "Description of Buildings and Facilities, NCASF Depot." 2nd ed. 27 June 1941. (Public Affairs Office) Information compiled from official depot files and historical records. Also includes information on proposed future expansion.

New Cumberland ASF Depot. "History of Missions - 1918 to 1946." 14 January 1946. (Public Affairs Office) Briefly describes changes in mission during this period.

New Cumberland General Depot, Pa. "List of Buildings." July 28, 1923, August 3, 1938, and January 19, 1940. (Facilities Engineering Branch).

Public Affairs Office files. The files contain a number of papers written on depot construction and operation throughout its history. None are footnoted and most are undated. Among these are: "Construction Period," "History of Building Occupied by the Officers' Club" (prepared January 21, 1981), "The Depot Administration and Operation, As a Whole - To 1941 (Including, for Those Years, The Quartermaster Supply Section," "Early Operations," "Peace Time Activities," "Activities Between the Wars," "World War II," and "Reception Center." The files also contain a small number of photographs of World War 1 and World War II era construction.

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"U.S. Military Depot at Marsh Run Complete." Unidentified Harrisburg, Pennsylvania newspaper, 15 October 1918. (Public Affairs Office) Identifies firms responsible for World War I construction on the depot.