

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
GARDENER'S TOOL SHED
(Gazebo)

Between Williamson Drive and Green Street,
adjacent to northern driveway behind Medical
Officer's Quarters C

Portsmouth
~~Portsmouth County~~
Virginia

HABS No. VA-1287-C

HABS
VA
65-PORTM,
2C-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Northeast Field Area
Chesapeake/Allegheny System Support Office
National Park Service
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
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(Gazebo)

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65-PORTM,
2C-

Location: Between Williamson Drive and Green Street,
adjacent to northern driveway behind Medical Officer's Quarters C,
Portsmouth, Virginia
UTM: 18.383610.4078340
QUAD: Norfolk South, VA; 1965 (photorevised 1986)

Significance: The Gardener's Tool Shed, one of two outbuildings associated with Medical Officer's Quarters C (HABS No. VA-1287-B), is significant as an example of a Vernacular-style utilitarian building that forms part of the most significant residential compound at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital. It is also significant as the only extant structure associated with the former Medical Officer's Quarters A, "the Myrtles" (demolished).

Description: The Gardener's Tool Shed is located behind Medical Officer's Quarters C just north of the northern driveway off Green Street. It is a wood-frame, one-story, octagonal building on a concrete slab, with weatherboard siding. The Gardener's Tool Shed has rectangular vents under the eaves with vertical, scrolled-wood grilles, and overhanging eaves with solid-wood soffits. The building is crowned by a simple wood cornice, and has an asphalt-shingled, hipped roof topped by a Turkey weathervane. It is a one-room building with an entrance on the east side facing Medical Officer's Quarters C, and has a six-paneled entrance door with a simple door casing.

The Gardener's Tool Shed is in a garden setting surrounded by a lawn, shrubs, and trees. There is a small shrub planted at the foundation of the building on the south elevation.

History: The Gardener's Tool Shed was originally one of a group of outbuildings associated with the 1857 Officer's Quarters A, "the Myrtles." According to the Class 2 Property Record, the Gardener's Tool Shed was built in 1907; however, it could be earlier due to its association with Officer's Quarters A. The architect and builder are not known. A plot plan from 20 May 20 1918 shows the Gardener's Tool Shed in its original location in the yard behind Quarters A, just south of the house. The Gardener's Tool Shed was still in its original location in 1944 ("U.S. Naval Hospital Plot Plan," November 25, 1944), and is clearly visible in a 1955 photograph (VA-1287-27) showing the group of outbuildings located behind Officer's Quarters A. The Gardener's Tool Shed was moved to its present location in 1956

when Officer's Quarters A and its associated outbuildings were removed in preparation for the construction of the 1960 Hospital.

The Gardener's Tool Shed will be moved to a new site on Hospital Point as part of the relocation of Medical Officer's Quarters C, to make way for the proposed new hospital. The property is owned by the United States Department of the Navy with caretaker responsibility assigned to the Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Portsmouth.

Sources:

Bush, Ted J., "99-Year-old Quarters at Hospital Being Torn Down for New Building." *Virginian-Pilot*, section G, January 29, 1956.

Class 2 Property Record, Public Works Office, Facilities Management, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA.

Cutchin, Al, telephone conversation, February 6, 1991. Public Works Office, Facilities Management, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA.

Department of the Navy, Bureau of Yards & Docks. "Emergency Hospital Buildings Plot Plan," 20 May 1918. Public Works Office, Facilities Management, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA. Yards & Docks #76701.

Department of the Navy, Bureau of Yards & Docks. "General Development Plan, Existing and Planned Peacetime," June 7, 1957. Public Works Office, Facilities Management, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA. D.P.W. #3, Yards & Docks #4377.

Photographic copy of historic photograph, outbuildings behind Officer's Quarters A, "the Myrtles"; Service Building on left, Gardener's Tool Shed on right, 1955. Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum, Portsmouth, VA.

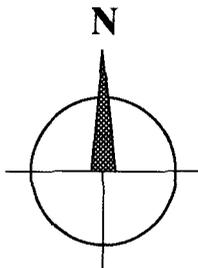
Scope of Work for Cultural Resources and Planning Services at the Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia. Attachment A: Buildings Within the Historic District and Level of Documentation. Prepared by LANTNAVFACENGCOM, 1990.

"U.S. Naval Hospital Plot Plan," November 25, 1944. Public Works Office, Facilities Management, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA.

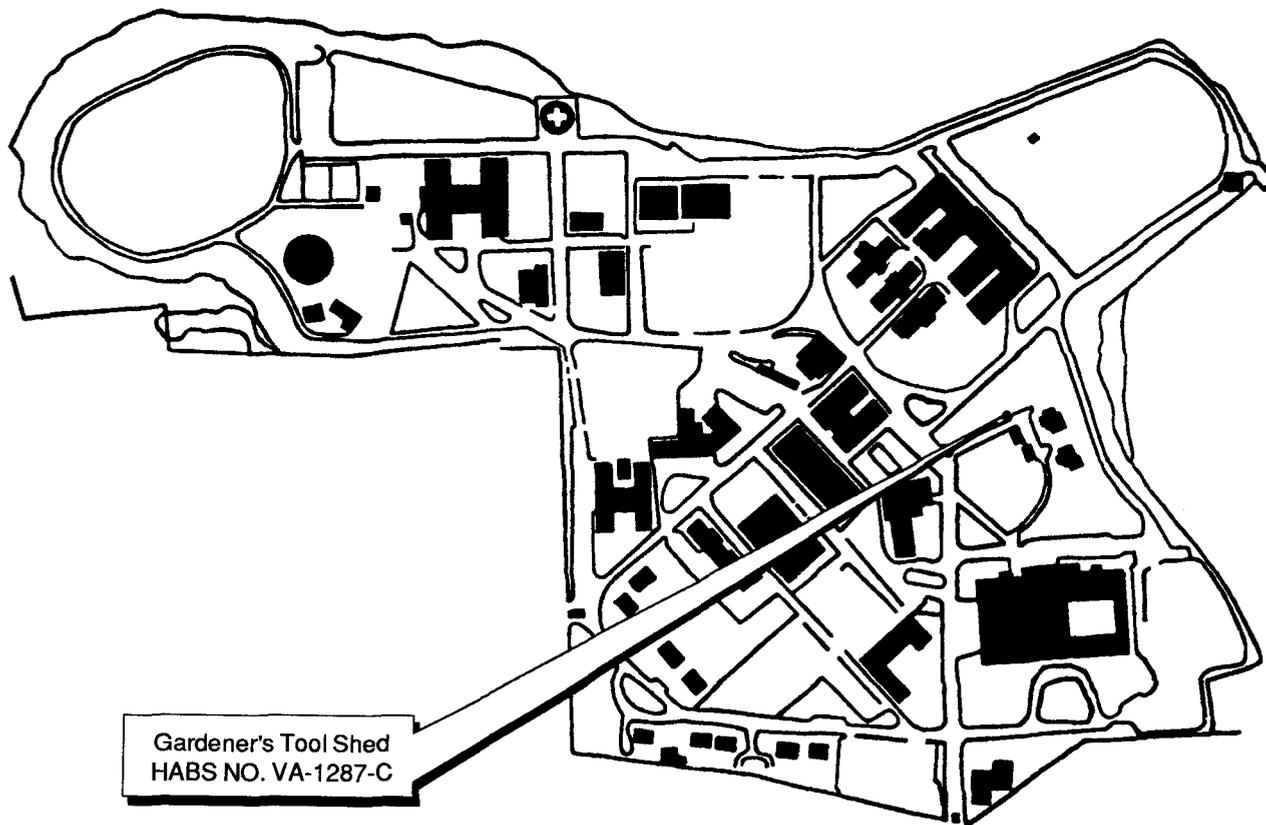
Historians:

M.J. Wuellner, Frederick Schneider, Land and Community Associates, November 1991.

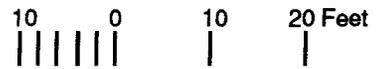
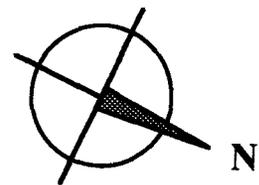
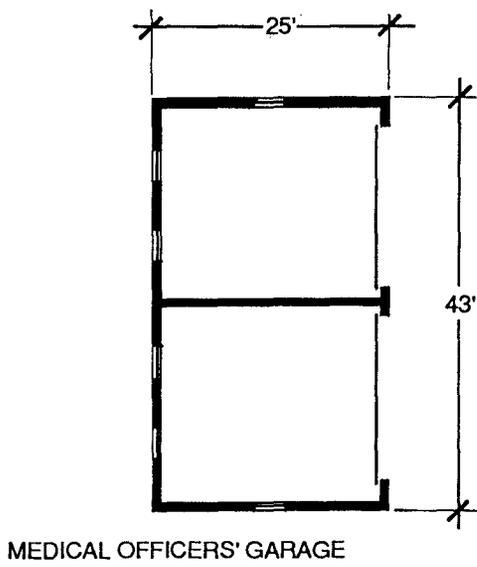
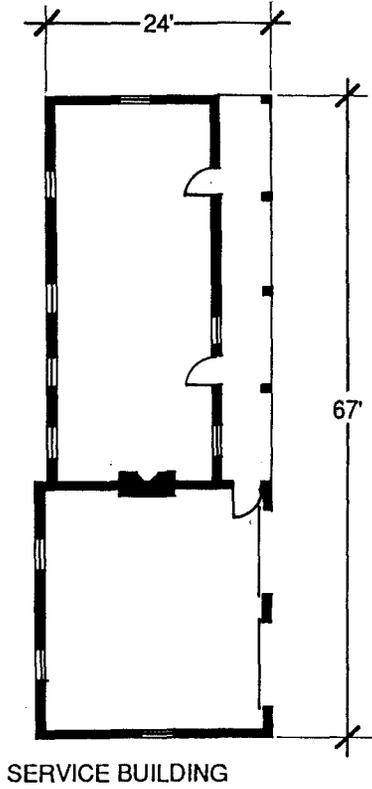
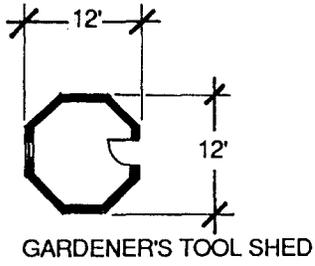
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
GARDENER'S TOOL SHED (Gazebo)
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NAVAL HOSPITAL Portsmouth, Virginia



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Scale: 1" = 20 feet