Survey No. AA-34G

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name) Fort Meade - Health Care Bldg. Type

historic Camp Meade, Fort Leonard Wood

and/or common Fort Meade

2. Location

street & number Fort George G. Meade ___ not for publication

city, town Odenton _X_ vicinity of congressional district 3

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	_X_ public	_X_ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
_X_ building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	_X_ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	_X_ not applicable	___ no	_X_ military	_X_ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name United States Department of the Army

street & number The Pentagon telephone no.: 703-545-6700

city, town Arlington state and zip code VA

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber

street & number 7 Church Circle folio

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

(See Attached Sheet)

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	X community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	X military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: X A ___ B X C ___ D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Level of Significance: X national ___ state ___ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

(See Attached Sheet)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

Region:	Western Shore
Period:	Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930 Modern Period, 1930-Present
Theme:	Military
Resource Type:	Health Care Buildings
Buildings:	Hospital - 4411
	Support Facility - 4413, 4415
Total Building Count:	3

Summary

Fort George G. Meade (Fort Meade) was established in 1918 as a World War I temporary mobilization camp. From 1918 to 1974, Fort meade served as a training facility for infantry and cavalry units. Since 1974, Fort Meade has served as the administrative center for the 1st Army Corps. Surviving building stock related to the practice of medicine at Fort Meade befroe 1954 is associated with teh Inter-war period (1919-1939).

Building Type Summary

Heath Care Buildings

Hospitals and hospital complexes are the primary resource type constructed for military heath care. The size of a hospital complex is related directly to the size of the host installation. the use of an organized hospital system grew from U.S. and Confederate experiences during the Civil War. During that conflict, both sides established locations behind the lines of conflict where wounded combatents could be tended to, and helped to recuperate. Following the Civil War, the Army continued to provide hospital services to garrisoned troops. The Surgeon General issued

standardized hospital plans between 1867 and 1910. Character-defining features of early permanent military hospital buildings included distinctive designs that incorporated a two-story principal block flanked by wings and wide verandas.

Often the hospital was isolated from the main cantonment to contain the spread of disease. During the 1930s, the hospital frequently was a major design element in the overall installation. During this period, hospital designs generally retained the central block and side wings, but verandas were replaced by smaller sun porches. The Quartermaster Department tailored the designs of these buildings to compliment the general architectural style of the installation. The Georgian Colonial Revival style was used widely on the east coast north of Virginia and in the Pacific Northwest.

During the 1930s, post hospitals were often constructed as complete building complexes. Separate nurses' quarters frequently were constructed as part of these medical complexes. Other complex buildings frequently included isolation wards, laboratories, power plants, and laundry facilities.

Historic Context

World War I (1917-1919)

In April, 1917 the United States entered World War I, which had been raging in Europe since 1914. For the United States Army, this war posed new problems that fully challenged its capabilities. The war spurred the introduction of new weapons, such as machine guns, poison gas, airplanes, tanks, and indirect artillery. It also resulted in greatly increased numbers of military personnel. In 1916 the Army's total strength was 108,399 officers and enlisted personnel; by 1918 America's mobilization effort raised that number of personnel to 2,395,742 (Weigley 1984:599).

The Army's ability to provide built facilities to support the new recruits, and to shelter them while they were trained and organized, was crucial to this expansion. The magnitude of the Army's expansion led to the establishment of temporary cantonments to accommodate the

burgeoning number of new recruits. One of the National Army cantonments was established near the town of Admiral, Maryland. It was named Camp Meade, in honor of the Union Commander at the Battle of Gettysburg.

Although Camp Meade was purchased by the Army after the First World War, no new structures were constructed to supplement or replace the temporary structures that were built when the camp was established. By the mid-1920s the exceptionally poor condition of First World War temporary structures located at the Army's posts became a source of frequent complaints throughout the Army, because of both the miserable living conditions they provided and the danger of fire. In his 1925 *Annual Report* the Secretary of War complained that "No graver problem faces the War Department to-day than that of providing adequate shelter. The officers ... are in constant dread of ... [fire] in the groups of temporary wooden buildings" (War Department, *Annual Report*, 1925:19).

No buildings associated with health care survive from this World War I period.

Inter-War Period (1919-1939)

Between 1921 and 1926 the average yearly construction budget for the entire Army was approximately $755,800. World War I temporary structures that had been designed to last no longer than five years were deteriorating faster than repairs were being funded. During the mid-1920s, the condition of these temporary structures at Army posts was brought to public attention. Pressure was put on Congress to alleviate the poor living conditions at Army installations throughout the nation. In response, Congress authorized the War Department to sell 43 military installations, or portions thereof, and to deposit the money received from sales into a special fund designated the "Military Post Construction Fund." By the second half of the 1920s the Office of the Quartermaster General, which had responsibility for post construction, was conducting a major renovation of Army installations (Risch 1962:713-715).

The Construction Service of the Quartermaster Corps organized all aspects of the nationwide construction program. Led by Major General B. F. Cheatham, Quartermaster General, the Construction Division assembled an impressive group of both military and civilian architects, engineers, planners, designers, and landscape architects to oversee the program. The first chief of the Construction Service's Engineering Division was Lt. Col. Francis B. Wheaton who had worked at the architectural firm of McKim, Mead, and White. The Supervising Architect was Luther M. Leisenring, who had worked with Cass Gilbert (Grashof 1986:54). Installation plans were reviewed by George B. Ford, a noted urban planner who had been retained by the Quartermaster Department as a consultant. Ford combined efficient, workable plans with planning concepts used in the "City Beautiful" and "Garden City" movements. The goal of these professionals was to develop efficient, cohesive, and pleasant environments with reasonable expenditures. Curved streets were used wherever possible in place of the linear designs that had characterized previous installations.

New standardized building plans were issued that incorporated current building techniques such as reinforced concrete framing. Barracks were generally larger, and they housed more men than earlier barrack designs; experiments designed to house an entire regiment in a single barracks were conducted. Officers' housing became compact, utilizing one- or two- story designs. Apartments were constructed at training installations to accommodate student officers. Design elements were planned to be appropriate to local materials, climate, and history of the locations of the installations. The Georgian Colonial Revival architectural style was used for installations located from New England to Virginia, the Midwest, and the Pacific Northwest. Spanish Colonial Revival styles were used in the South, Western Plains, Southwest, and California.

In 1928 the War Department decided to upgrade Camp Meade from "camp" status to that of a permanent post. Normally, facilities which are upgraded retain their "patron" name, and merely exchange the prefix which designates them as temporary, such as "Camp," for the prefix which designates them as permanent, or "Fort." However, the Army already had a Fort Meade in

South Dakota, so Camp Meade was given an entirely new name. On March 2, 1928 the Secretary of War re-named Camp Meade as Fort Leonard Wood, in honor of a former Army Chief of Staff. The name change angered some Pennsylvania residents, who felt that the change slighted General Meade, who had been a resident of Pennsylvania. They complained to their Congressmen, who responded by inserting a clause in an appropriations bill designating the post as Fort George G. Meade. On March 5, 1929 the War Department implemented the legislation in General Order #6, March 5, 1929 (RG 407, Project File Ft. Meade, 680.9; Maryland Historical Society 1950:129-130).

Construction already had begun on permanent facilities at Camp Meade when it was upgraded to Fort status. The structures at Fort Meade were built in the Georgian Colonial Revival style, like structures at other posts throughout the northeast. Francis Wheaton, a Quartermaster Corps architect, noted that Camp Meade's architecture had been modified slightly to resemble Doughoregan Manor, the estate house of Maryland Revolutionary War statesman Charles Carroll (Wheaton 1928:101-3; Nurse 1928:14-16; Ford 1929:19-22).

The first permanent structures built at Fort Meade were barracks for enlisted soldiers assigned to the tank units at the post. Construction commenced on officer and non-commissioned officer (NCO) family housing in 1931, and continued through 1934.

Along with improved quarters came associated personnel support buildings. A new hospital was completed in 1930. Other additions to the post included the post chapel in 1934, the post theater and brick stables in 1934, and a headquarters building and a fire station in 1935. This phase of construction at Fort Meade was centered around the Rogue's Harbor Branch of the Little Patuxent River, which runs through the post. The structures built during this building campaign form the present core of Fort Meade.

World War II (1940-1945)

Fort Meade experienced another period of major construction activity between 1940 and 1942. Once again construction at Fort Meade was spurred by conflict in Europe, and once again the buildings constructed were temporary structures.

United States Army mobilization plans between 1919 and 1940 anticipated training green American recruits at European facilities. Consequently, plans for mobilization in the United States during this period concentrated on developing and utilizing facilities where recruits could be assembled into units and transported to Europe for appropriate military training. In 1931, Douglas MacArthur, Army Chief of Staff, had stated "That great cantonments, such as we had in the World War, will not be constructed. Full utilization of Federal, State, County, and municipal buildings will be made as troop shelter. Where necessary, arrangements will be made to use privately owned buildings" (Fine & Remington 1972:66-67).

When the German Army conquered most of continental Europe by June of 1940, they also captured many of the facilities that the United States Army had intended to use as training centers in the event of American mobilization. In response, Congress authorized a massive, nation-wide mobilization program, like that undertaken during the First World War. The mobilization program was implemented in anticipation of possible American involvement in the war.

This mobilization program expanded the size of the Army and established training installations for new recruits. The War Department implemented the supplemental manpower program through measures such as the inclusion of the National Guard into Federal service, an increase in the size of the regular Army, and the 1940 Selective Service Act.

During the 1930s, a set of comprehensive building plans for temporary mobilization structures had been drafted by the Office of the Quartermaster General. This set of plans, known as the 700 Series, improved upon the designs of structures built during the First World War mobilization. When Congress passed the Emergency Construction Act in June 1940, these plans were implemented. The standardized plans were flexible, easily adaptable to base-specific

architectural programs, and capable of being constructed rapidly (Fine & Remington 1972:73,115-117; Wasch et al. [1992]:7-10).

As part of the Emergency Construction Program, Fort Meade officials began to construct buildings to accommodate mobilized National Guard Infantry divisions, anti-tank battalions, and a tank battalion (Fine & Remington 1972:199; RG 160, Box 2, Mobilization Division, Command Installations Branch, Construction History, 1942-1946). In the early fall of 1940, officials picked an architect-engineer firm and a contractor for the project, and decided about locating and constructing the new cantonment areas at Fort Meade. The J.E. Greiner Company of Baltimore received the architect-engineer contract on 24 September 1940, and the Consolidated Engineering Company of Baltimore signed the constructing contractor's agreement on 26 September 1940.

Construction of the cantonment began on October 2, 1940, and ended on May 1, 1941 (RG 77, Completion Reports, Vol.6; RG 77, Completion Reports, Vol. 6A). During this time, officials expanded the installation of "251 permanent brick and 218 wooden temporary buildings" with the addition of barracks, officers' quarters, post exchanges, repair shops, dental clinics, and other buildings (Fort Meade Museum 1985:12; RG 77, Completion Reports, Vol. 6A). Some 18,000 workers completed $15,680,055.97 in building construction during the building period (Maryland Historical Society 1950:130; RG 77 Completion Reports, Vol. 6).

In late 1941, Fort Meade also grew in size as the government acquired additional land for the post. The purchase of 6,137.87 acres increased the installation's area to 13,878.65 acres, the majority of which subsequently was deeded to the Interior Department in 1989 (Maryland Historical Society 1950:130; Washington Star December 6, 1940).

Through the construction of the 700 Series (and 800 Series--an improvement of 700 Series plans implemented in 1941) temporary wood-frame buildings, the United States Army increased its housing capacity from 200,000 persons in 1939 to 6,000,000 persons by the conclusion of the mobilization program during the fall of 1944. Innovations in construction technologies were developed during the war mobilization program. Standardized plans and prefabrication of building

units were refined in the design and construction of 700 and 800 Series buildings. Contractors employed to erect mobilization structures during the program used same building techniques after the war as a basis for cost-effective civilian housing construction.

No permanent buildings associated with health care survive from this period.

Post World War II (1946-1953)

After the last veterans of the Second World War were processed through the discharge center at Fort Meade, the post returned to its peacetime quiet. In June 1947, the United States Second Army established its headquarters at Fort Meade; Second Army exercised control of Army units within the Mid-Atlantic region. Another indication of a return to peacetime patterns was the return of R.O.T.C. summer camp at the conclusion of the war (Ft Meade Museum 1985:17).

The peacetime pace of the post suddenly changed to wartime commotion when the Korean Conflict erupted in 1950. The World War II barracks were reopened to process new draftees into the Army; the 2053d Reception Center, an Army Reserve unit, performed this function at Fort Meade beginning in 1950 (*Washington Star*, January 28, 1951).

Armored units returned to Fort Meade during the late 1940s when the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment arrived on the post. The regiment remained at Fort Meade through the 1950s (Fort Meade Museum 1985:16; *Washington Star*, October 24, 1954). The last armored vehicles left Fort Meade when the 6th Armored Cavalry transferred to Texas in 1974 (Ft. Meade Museum 1986 16).

Other units have transferred in and out of Fort Meade during the post World War II years. Among the most important of the Army units was the 2nd Region Army Air Defense Command. A 1966 guide to Army posts published by the editors of the *Army Times* described Fort Meade units as a conglomeration of activities (Army Times 1966:149).

In 1952 the Department of Defense announced plans to move the National Security Agency to Fort Meade. By 1954 construction had begun of facilities for the communications intelligence agency. The first building project was complete by 1957, but the agency had

expanded so rapidly that further construction began in 1963. Today the National Security Agency, with accompanying security personnel, is one of the largest activities on Fort Meade (Bamford 1982:59-60).

The physical plant of the post has improved steadily. World War II temporary buildings have been replaced by more modern quarters and administrative buildings. Some of the more significant additions include the Capehart Housing project in the 1960s; a new Post Exchange and Commissary complex; and Pershing Hall; the new First Army headquarters building. Tipton Army Airfield was constructed in 1960. No Post-War period health care buildings were identified during the current investigations.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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(See Attached Sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Ca. 6000

Quadrangle name Portions of U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute Laurel, Md; Odenton, Md; Savage, Md; and Relay, Md.

Quadrangle scale

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

(See Attached Sheet)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Hugh McAloon & Geoffrey Melhuish/Architectural Technicians

organization R. Christopher Goodwin & Assoc., Inc. date July 7, 1993

street & number 337 East Third Street telephone 301-694-0428

city or town Frederick state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: ~~Maryland Historical Trust~~
~~Shaw House~~
~~21 State Circle~~
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~
~~(301) 269-2438~~

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PS-2746

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Fort Meade's southwestern boundary is defined by Maryland Route 32. Fort Meade's northeastern boundary begins at the intersection of Route 32 and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, Route 295. The northwestern boundary of Fort Meade parallels Route 295 towards the northeast until the intersection of that roadway with Maryland Route 175, Annapolis Road. From that intersection, the installation boundary parallels Annapolis Road in an arch to the southeast, until Route 175 intersects with Maryland Route 32. The boundary parallels Route 32 southwestward until the road arches westward. At that point the boundary turns south to encompass a circle of ammunition magazines constructed during World War II, and returns northward to Route 32. The post boundary continues to follow route 32 until the road turns northwest-ward. At that point the boundary diverges to the south, extending approximately 1600 feet, and turns west to parallel the Tipton Army Airfield runway. At the end of the runway the boundary turns north to rejoin Route 32, encompassing Tipton Army Airfield. The post boundary continues to parallel Route 32 to the northwest until that road intersects with the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. The territory bounded by this perimeter encompasses the current remainder of lands purchased in 1920 to establish the post. Original Camp Meade territory situated south of the current post boundaries was ceded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the auspices of the Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1988.