NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 5/31/2012)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Quarters 1

other names/site number Building 1, DHR – DSS File #114-0002-0004

2. Location

street& number 151 Bernard Road ☐ not for publication

city or Fort Monroe ☐ vicinity

town

state Virginia code 51 county Hampton (Ind. City) code 650 zip code 23651

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

X **national** ___ **statewide** X **local**

Signature of certifying official

Title SHPO

Date 7/12/10

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Title Federal Preservation Officer

Date December 2, 2010

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government U.S. Army

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:) _____

Patrick Andrus
Signature of the Keeper

3/28/2011
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [ ] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [X] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box)

- [X] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
0	0	**Total**

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Office Building

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Concrete and Brick
walls: Brick
roof: Asphalt Shingles / Tin
other: N/A

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

See Continuation Sheets

Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheets

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

[X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[X] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[X] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

[ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

[ ] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

[ ] B removed from its original location.

[ ] C a birthplace or grave.

[ ] D a cemetery.

[ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

[ ] F a commemorative property.

[ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Military

Social History

Period of Significance

1819-1909

Significant Dates

1819 (completion date), 1861 (Butler makes Contraband Decision), 1864 (Lincoln Visits), 1871 (remodeled)

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Major General Benjamin F. Butler
Major General John Wool

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Col. (Brevet Brigadier General) Charles Gratiot

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance is 1819-1909, corresponding to the time in which Quarters 1 was constructed, remodeled and later altered to modernize the Quarters, the period in which it was associated with important architectural trends. This period of time also reflects the period which Quarters 1 was associated with important military figures and events.

Criteria Consideratons (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of signficance and applicable criteria)

See Continuation Sheets.

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance)

See Continuation Sheets.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

N/A

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been Requested)
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
X recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # HABS VA,28-HAMP,2A
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR Number 114-0002-0004

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18N	383803	4095998	3			
2				4			

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The boundary is shown on the attached scaled map.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The proposed boundaries form the core of the land associated with Quarters 1 at present. Since the 19th Century various ancillary structures were constructed in association with the Quarters, however, these structures no longer exist and are not included within the present boundary.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Katherine D. Klepper
Organization J.M. Waller, Inc. date December 2009
street & number 318 Cornog Lane, Building 28 telephone 757-788-5947
city or town Fort Monroe state Va zip code 23651
e-mail katherine.klepper@us.army.mil

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

The following information is common to all photographs:

Property: Quarters 1
Locality: Fort Monroe, Hampton, Virginia
Photographer: Katherine Klepper
Date Photographed: August 2009

Photo 1 of 8: East Elevation

Photo 2 of 8: Elliptical Dome

Photo 3 of 8: Hall Stair and Decorative Niche

Photo 4 of 8: Granite Mantle

Photo 5 of 8: East View Center Hall

Photo 6 of 8: Lincoln Room

Photo 7 of 8: Central Stair

Photo 8 of 8: West Elevation

Property Owner: (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Fort Monroe Directorate of Public Works
street & number 318 Cornog Lane, Building 28 telephone 757-788-5947
city or town Fort Monroe (Hampton) state VA zip code 23651

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. fo the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Quarters 1

Hampton, VA

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
N/A

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary Description

Built as the first permanent set of quarters at Fort Monroe in 1819, Quarters 1 is a large three-story, central block, double-pile residence with flanking, two-story winged residence. The northern wing, containing a large kitchen and cistern below, was erected as a separate building in 1823 and later connected to the main building in 1871 according to survey documents. Quarters 1 was altered once more when an octagonal solarium was added to the west elevation during the same period that the two buildings were connected. It was a short period after this 1871 alteration that the porches of the east elevation were constructed. The most elegant feature of the house is the staircase, which rises from the second-floor entry hall in an elliptical curve of elegant proportions. An elliptical dome in the ceiling echoes the curvature of the stair and is painted sky-blue and ornamented with twenty-seven gold stars. The porches, with their carpenter Gothic railings, were added during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. In 1905 and 1909 several major interior changes were made including the addition of electricity and radiators. This landmark remains surprisingly unchanged in its 190 years, and while the function of the building has changed over the years, the distinguished interiors of Quarters 1 survives essentially as designed as a residence and headquarters for Fort Monroe's commanding officer.

Narrative Description

The permanent military occupation of Fort Monroe in the early nineteenth-century reflected the changing political climate, as well as advances in architectural and military technology. The stately architecture of Quarters 1 stands prominently against the backdrop of the largest defensive structures in the United States. Designed as the first Third System fort in America, Fort Monroe covers approximately sixty-three acres of ground. The implementation of the Third System fortification represented an important shift in defensive fortification strategy that focused on the construction of massive brick and stone forts built on the entrances to major American harbors between 1816 and 1867.[1] This system of massive brick and stone fortifications evolved from the work of a Board of Engineers for Fortifications appointed by then President James Madison. Under the leadership of fortification expert Simon Bernard, the Third System type of seacoast defense was the most comprehensive, most uniform, and the most advanced the nation had yet to have.[2] These main defensive works were often large structures, based on a combining of the Montalembert concept, with many guns concentrated in tall thick masonry walls, and the Vauban concept, with layers of low, protected masonry walls. Fort Monroe was built as a seven front, brick and masonry fort with 10-foot thick walls and a wet moat of varying depth. The Fort was garrisoned 25 July 1823 and by 1825 the garrison was the largest in the United States. Quarters 1 is located at the entrance of the east gate within the boundaries of Fort Monroe's moat system.

Situated on axis with the Fort's east gate, Quarters 1 faces east-southeast and is located 2.8 miles east of downtown Hampton, Virginia in the Tidewater region of Virginia at the confluence of the James River and the Chesapeake Bay. Although land on Army posts is not formally divided into lots, the present yard immediately surrounding the house is irregularly shaped, bounded to the east by Bernard Road, the west by the Parade Ground, and on the north and south by two officers', multi-family residences. This area measures .524 acres. It is important to note however that this is the present site boundary associated with Quarters 1 and does not include buildings no longer standing that were once associated with the Quarters. Four individuals are associated with the design and construction of the stone fort—General Simon Bernard, who is believed to have designed the Fort; his aide, Captain William T. Poussin, who is believed to have drawn the final plans for the Fort; Major Charles Gratiot, supervising engineer; and Bolitha Laws, the prime contractor. While it is uncertain if one of these individuals was also responsible for the design of Quarters 1, Major Gratiot and Contractor Bolitha would presumably have been closely associated with the design and construction of Quarters 1 and are generally given credit for the original design and construction.

An 1818 map shows a formal ornamental garden flanked by two identically shaped outbuildings located behind Quarters 1.[3] Similar historic maps indicate that the basic arrangement of the garden was not altered until recent years. However, the location and the number of outbuildings has changed continuously throughout the years. Beginning in the 1820s and through at least 1869, a privy was located along the south boundary of the rear yard. A second privy was also located along the north yard boundary. Archaeological evidence reveals that the foundation remnant for these two ancillary structures was two brick courses wide and two deep, indicating that the privies would both have been 10-foot square.[4] These identical structures appear in plans through 1869. By 1887 the privies and all ancillary structures with Quarters 1 disappear from survey area plans.

Exterior

Quarters 1, originally built in 1819, is a double-pile, rectangular block residence with flanking wings and kitchen with an asphalt shingled, parapeted, side-gable roof. A projected octagonal bay solarium is located on the west elevation. In 1958 the slate roof was removed and is now covered by asphalt shingle roofing material. Further exploration of the Quarters 1 attic revealed a nail pattern that suggested the slate roof was not originial to the residence and more likely the original roof was constructed with cedar shingles. A red tin roof presently covers the wings and porches of the house. The roof for both the wings and main house is supported by a mix of heavy and light timber framing. Resting upon a concrete and brick foundation, Quarters 1 is three stories (two floors atop an above-ground basement) and five bays wide. All original walls are solid brick and load bearing. In all, there are six exterior brick chimneys located in Quarters 1: two brick, exterior end chimneys on the wings of the house, two brick interior end chimneys, and two central brick chimneys located respectively on the east and west elevations.

Erected in three stages, the building is constructed with two types of brick and two different bond patterns. The various bond patterns help identify the date of connection between the kitchen and main house, as well as when the west elevation addition became the interior space commonly referred to as the solarium. Bricks used for the main house and kitchen, with the exception of the solarium, are 9-inch x 2 ¾ -inch laid in Flemish bond with ½-inch joints, painted white. The join between the main house and kitchen is clearly visible on both the east and west elevations. For a distance of 9-feet, a wall of 8-inches x 2 ½-inches brick, laid in five course American bond, extends between the two portions of the building. This same brick and bond are used in the projecting solarium addition to the main house. All brick has been painted white. Unfortunately, these bricks are so heavily coated with paint at present that it is nearly impossible to distinguish individual bricks and details in many places. Historic maps further document the changes to the building and help interpret the stages of construction at Quarters 1. Fortress survey plans in 1869 shows Quarters 1 as two distinct and separate buildings, a main living building and separate kitchen. Later plans show that by 1883 the main house and kitchen had been connected and the west elevation solarium addition completed.

The east and west doors are of an unusual size measuring 43-inches wide and 45-½ inches tall. These doors are constructed of wood with two panels, above which is an 18-¾ inch square of glass, around which are eight 8 ½-inch by 5 ½-inch glass panes and four 5 ½-inch by 5 ½-inch glass panes set in a wood frame band of 5 ½-inches. There is a seven-pane transom above both the east and west entrance door, and three-pane side-lights. A 1937 Works Progress Administration Historical Inventory documented the west entrance door as identical to the east entrance door.[5] However, further on-site investigation reveals the west entrance was modified after the 1937 report, as the original west entrance door no aligns with the east entrance. The solarium has a thirteen-light, two-panel door with eight-light, two-panel sidelights, and six-light transom. Wear markings on the wooden floor that do not match the present setting of the door also suggest that this door is no longer in its original location. The six-over-six double-hung sash windows with jack arches and stone lug sills on the east, north and south elevations are original, as are the nine-over-nine double hung sash

windows on the west façade. The solarium has two-over-two sash windows set in a paneled opening. Exterior shutters are located on the first and second stories, with quarter-circle louvered lunette vents in the gable ends.

Typical of southern federal-period buildings, Quarters 1 originally possessed a columned entrance portico, however this simple design was replaced in the late nineteenth century by a multi-story projecting gallery with entablatures and a box cornice with brackets. The present full façade, three-story wooden porch with a red tin roof, is supported by modern Tuscan columns on the first and second levels that are supported by rusticated square brick piers on the basement level. The porches, with their carpenter Gothic fretwork and balustrade, were added during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and are constructed of wood tongue and groove decking with beaded ceilings. Decorative brackets accent the cornice along the east elevation. Italianate brackets adorn the west elevation solarium addition. A portion of the upper story porch was closed off to create an additional bathroom. In 2000, during a lead abatement of the east elevation porch columns, it was determined that the present columns, square piers on octagonal bases and square plinths with deteriorated steel cores, were not original to the building as once believed. A circa 1890 photograph clearly shows the original columns with circular piers, bases and plinths. The existing square columns were removed and replaced with structural wood columns that matched the Tuscan style of the original columns shown in the 1890 photograph. A false fiberglass base was attached to surround the wood to imitate the profile of the original Tuscan columns allowing for the appearance of the original column profile while managing the load-bearing capacity of the structural wood.

A monumental stairway on both the east and west elevations provides access to a piano nobile atop the above-ground basement. The design of the exterior concrete stairs leading to the front and back porches of the main house is virtually identical and are both supported upon stone ashlar masonry with cupboards beneath. Treads are 13 ¼-inch, with 6-inch risers that are constructed of solid stone with cut moldings under the nosings. Concrete was used at Fort Monroe to build the Endicott Batteries in the 1890s and in the first decade of the twentieth century and it is possible that the present concrete stairs and steel rails on the east and west elevations replaced the original stair during this later period. Early in the twentieth century, concrete walks and planters were placed around the building and additonal shrubbery was added. In 1989, the concrete modifications were replaced with brick planters to match the existing wall that bounds the building to the east seperating the eastern yard from the sallyport and street.

Interior

On the interior, sophisticated features and attenuated details adorn every room of Quarters 1 further expressing the simple and elegant forms associated with Federal-period buildings. Upon entering the east entrance, the 10-foot by 20-foot reception hall greets visitors with a sense of stately formality. Stephen Calloway and Elizabeth Cromley write in *The Elements of Style*, "In Neoclassical architecture the staircase was a significant feature of the entrance floor, whereas in Classical Revival houses it was considered a waste of space and was less prominently displayed."[6] The prominent placement of the staircase, with its refined elliptical rise, richly carved stair ends and stately sophistication reflects the importance associated with a commanding officers' residence and headquarters. A circular open-string stairway further exaggerates the ellipitical twist of the stair with a rounded solid-mahogany handrail that measures 6 ½-inches wide, original to Quarters 1.[7] The newel post is rounded, with a decorative central button and is 1 ¼-inches in diameter. The balusters are made of wood and metal for support, and the steps are made of 11 ½-inch pine boards, now varnished dark oak. Following the stairway on the wall side is a 3-inch rounded band of solid mahogany positioned 23 ½-inches above the steps. This band goes the length of the steps and around the wall in the upstairs hall. This band mostly likely dually functioned as a handrail. The twist of the stair is echoed by an elliptical ceiling recess painted sky-blue and ornamented with twenty-seven gold stars, measuring 4-feet long and 2-feet wide. The center staircase rises to an elliptical turn and reverses direction, running from just opposite the front door on the main floor to the present bathroom on the top floor.

Treads are 39-inches wide, 11-inches deep, ith 6 ½-inch risers. The ovate handrail, supported on simple, straight ballusters, follows the curve of the stairway and ends in a plain newel. The open string stairs have shaped brackets and a half-handrail on the wall. Two decorative niches at the turn of the stairs further signal the importance of the stairwell in Quarters 1.

Floors throughout the house are hardwood and supported by wood floor joists. The floors in this main reception room are made of three-inch pine and varnished dark oak. Doors in the main rooms have elaborate moldings with decorative flutes and ropes elements. Casing for the doors on either side of the reception hall are elegant 9 ½-inches wide Doric column pilasters with doors of six panels. Both doors and frames to the south and north rooms are painted white.

The room on the south side of the hall originally functioned as a parlor in the early part of the twentieth century, but the room presently serves as office space. This light-filled room has three windows, two on the east side of the room and one on the south. These windows measure 25-inches from the floor and aproximately two-feet from the ceiling. Each has four panes 14-inch by 35 ½- inches, with orginal splayed paneled window jambs with insets for pocket shutters. The wood panels below the windows and the ornate and complex molding with roping and bulls-eyes on the windows and doors are original. The original mantel is at the south end of the room and is constructed of solid gray marble with marble gray slabs. The fireplace, also orginal, includes a brick front, jack arch, and tile hearth. It also has a wood paneled cabinet inset at the right edge, measuring 11-inches wide,18 ½-inches long. Resting above this closet is another closet type space measuring 54-inches wide and 11-inches deep with four shelves and a door.

The room opposite the parlor has been associated with varied functions over the years. A mirror image of the parlor, this room has served as both a bedroom and a library in the twentieth century and presently serves as office space. Original features in this room include the plaster walls, plaster ceiling, the wood chair rail, picture molding and the simple cornice. The fireplace is also a significant original element in this room. Similar to the parlor room the fireplace is capped by a gray marble mantel with proto-ionic pilasters, with cantons at the chimney brest. Like the parlor fireplace, this fireplace is accompanied by a wood paneled cabinet inset at the right edge. The doors and windows have ornate molding with roping and bulls-eyes, with wood panels beneath the windows. The window jambs have insets for pocket shutters. The door casings have reeded engaged pilasters with banded entablature and crown molding.

The solarium is located off the rear of the reception hall. From the exterior one can enter this room through the west elevation main entrance, a wooden panel door with nine glass panels. This sun-filled room has six windows set into west elevation wall. The room, an 1871 addition, is ornamneted with tongue and groove beaded wainscot of alternating yellow pine and mahogany. Ornate roping and bulls-eyes molding trim the windows and doors. All are original to the 1871 construction. Also original to the room are the plaster walls and ceiling, as well as the wood chair rail, picture modling and the cornice. While presently a conference room, floor plans from 1905 and 1909 depict this room as the main dining room. Its original function is generally thought to have served as a solarium since the floor is raked, however the room would have been on the smaller side for solariums of this period. A 2009 renovation of the solarium revealed a single pocket door that had been covered adding further questions to the original function of this elegant room.

The southern wall of the solarium grants access into what was was originally identified as a small guestroom or sitting room; in the 1970s this space was converted into a bathroom connecting the solarium to the 'Lincoln Room". During the Civil War's Peninsula Campaign President Abraham Lincoln stayed at Quarters 1 and is thought to have slept in this room. Original elements include the fireplace, the paneled wood door jamb, the wood panels below the windows, and the plaster walls and ceiling. The fireplace is also a significant element within the room with its brick front and tile hearth. A

wood mantel with bowed pilasters adorn the fireplace capped with a simple entablature and a shelf. There is a roped corner canton at the chimney brest. Similar to the other rooms in Quarters 1, the wood panels below the windows and the splayed paneled window jambs with insets for pocket shutters are original.

To the north side of the solarium is the original pantry and bedroom. Functioning currently as office space, this room has an original fireplace with a brick front and tile hearth. The wood mantel has fluted Doric columns, a paneled entablature and a shelf. The narrow part of the room adjoining the solarium historically occupied as a distinct space operating as the pantry for the dining room. The walls that partitioned this section were removed sometime in the twentieth century. A dumbwaiter was located in the space that now functions as a closet. Over the cistern on the main floor, is a modern kitchen. This space has been modified many times during the twentieth century to upgrade the equipment and configuration to meet Army family housing livability standards.

There are two room upstairs, one on either side of the hall, extending the length of the house and directly over the two lower room. These rooms originally functioned as bedrooms, and now function as storage and office space. Each room has six windows, each with 7-inch frames with rope beading in the middle and extend out from the side walls about 11-inches. The windows have splayed paneled window jambs with insets for pocket shutters. The 3-inch board floors are pine and have been varnished dark oak. The fireplaces in both rooms are also significant interior features with their brick front, jack arch, tile hearth, gray marble mantel with proto-Ionic pilasters, and cantons at the chimney brest. The ceilings in the two bedrooms are barrel vaulted with a height of about 8-feet in the middle to about 7-feet on the sides, and painted cream. In the upstairs hall, the window to the east is used as a door to go out on the porch, and also serves as light for the bath room, as this part of the hall has been made into a bathroom about 6-feet by 8-feet.

Near the turn of the century, Quarters 1 was remodeled into quarters for bachelors and junior officers, and was later divided into four apartments. Until its recent transition into office space, the building served as the home for a general officer and his family. The architectural integrity of Quarters 1 is remarkably high. The original materials as well as that of the historic additions is mostly present. While relatively few intrusive elements have been added over the years they are mostly additive, and are easily reversible. The greatest material deterioration is the severe build up on both the exterior and interior woodwork and trim. Missing elements are limited to several of the original paneled doors.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

Quarters 1 was the first permanent structure erected by the Army at Fort Monroe. Quarters 1 is significant nationally under Criterion A in the area of Social History and Military, for the importance of the war time decisions made by those living there, especially the 1861 contraband decision by General Benjamin F. Butler. It is significant locally as a fine example of Federal style architecture, and the only example of this style on Fort Monroe. Built in 1819, before the completion of the fortification walls, the building served as quarters for engineer Col. (Brevet Brigadier General) Charles Gratiot and as the office of the chief engineer in charge of construction. Although originally intended for the commanding general, the house was first appropriated for use by Col. Gratiot where he resided for twelve years, until 1831. This period of residence was longer than any other individual who called Quarters No. 1 home. In 1831, the Quartermaster General ordered the engineers to live in other officers' quarters on the post, and divided Quarters 1 into a multiple dwelling residence for bachelors and junior officers during the turn of the century. For many years Quarters 1 was the largest residence on post and was home to the highest-ranking officer on post, whether it was the commander of Fort Monroe or a higher-ranking officer in charge of a specialized command based at Fort Monroe. The occupant list for this period includes Colonels through Brevet Brigadier Generals and is a record of many of the leaders who have helped to shape American military history.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Military Occupants

The list of officers who resided in Quarters 1 during the ninethenth century contains names which are siginficant in our Nation's military history and particularly conscpicuous within the artillery branch. Colonel (Brevet Brigadier General) Abraham Eustis served as the first assistant commandant (and later was commandant) of the Army's Artillery School of Practice, formed at Fort Monroe in 1824.[7] The Marquis de Lafayette, as a guest of the Nation, visited Fort Monroe Octover 24-25, 1824. At that time, he was one of the few surviving figures of the American Revolution. The night of his arrival at Fort Monroe, Lafayette received all the Fort Monroe officers at Quarters 1.[8] The room marked Lafayette Room on the 1987 HABS plan is where Lafayette is reputed to have stayed during his visit to Fort Monroe.

Both Generals Butler and George B. McClellan resided in Quarters 1 during their tours of duty as commanders of Union Forces at Fort Monroe during the Civil War. It is recorded in 1861 that Gen. Butler confiscated escaped slaves as contraband of war to prevent their Confederate masters from reclaiming them. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant was a guest in April 1864, when he conferred with Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler to outline the strategy of the campaign which finally won the Civil War for the Union Forces. Maj. Gen. Nelson A. Miles lived in the house when he was sent to Fort Monroe to supervise the imprisonment of Jefferson Davis in 1865. Davis, whose best-known relationship with Ft. Monroe was his two-year imprisonment there following the fall of the Confederacy, was a frequent visitor to the famous house during the pre-Civil War days when he served as U.S. Secretary of War.[9]

Headquarters

General Butler's post was taken by Major General John Wool, a senior ranking major general in the army and by 1862, Quarters 1 was well known as General Wool's headquarters. While in command at Fort Monroe, two very important

military operations took place under the command of Maj. Gen. John Wool. The first was the famous battle in 1862 between the USS Monitor and the CSS Virginia (Merrimack). Just a few days later, Major General McClellan's Army of the Potomac began to land at the Fort in preparation for the Peninsula Campaign against Richmond, however the campaign proceeded slowly.

By the beginning of May 1862, President Lincoln's patience had reached its end. Accompanied by his Secretaries of War and Treasury, he came to Fort Monroe on May 6, 1862, to confer with General Wool and Commodore Louis Goldsborough. The mission of the President was primarily to visit McClellan's camp before Yorktown but the movement upon Norfolk was timed to accommodate his presence.[10] From May 6 through the 11, President Lincoln stayed at Quarters 1 and slept in the northwest bedroom on the main floor . A historical marker outside the house reads, "*In this house President Abraham Lincoln stayed during his visit of May 6-11, 1862. It was here that President Lincoln, General Wool and Commodore Goldsborough planned the attack on Norfolk, Virginia.*" From Quarters 1 it was decided an an attempt must be made to capture Norfolk, the base of the *Merrimack*. Deprived of her base, the Merrimack would be forced to withdraw up the James River to Richmond or else attempt to run past Forts Monroe and Wool into the Chesapeake Bay.[11] Lincoln also issued an order to Commodore Goldsborough to send the Galena and two gunboats up the James River toward Richmond to support General McClellan. Lincoln and Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton remained at Quarters 1 while Sectretary of Treasury Salmon P. Chase and General Viele went back to the *Miami* to spend the night.[12] To get a better view of the action, Lincoln journeyed over to Fort Wool and watched the bombardment from its ramparts.[13] This bombardment marks the first recorded use of a forward artillery observer by the Army.[14] Returning to Quarters 1 at Fort Monroe, President Lincoln expressed his displeasure about the way the operation was being conducted and summoned Colonel Joseph B. Carr and Brigadier General Jeseph K. F. Mansfield from Camp Hamilton to Fort Monroe. Here it was determined to attack the batteries on Sewell's Point, and, under cover of bombardment, troops from Fort Monroe would be landed for a march on Norfolk.

Intense battles ensued over the next few days and late in the evening on May 10, Chase and General Wool returned to Fort Monroe and went straight to the Presidents's room at Quarters 1 with the news Norfolk had been captured.[15] Immediately after the capture of Norfolk, the President tenured his congratulations to General Wool and his troops in the following order:[16]

The skillful and gallant movements of Maj. Gen. John E. Wool and forces under his command, which resulted in the surrender of Norfolk and the evacuation of strong batteries erected by the revels on Sewell's Point and Craney Island and the destruction of the rebel iron-clad steamer *Merrimack*, are regarded by the President as among the most important successes of the present war. He therefore orderes that his thanks, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, be communicated by the War Department to Maj. Gen. John E. Wool and the officers and soldiers of his command for their gallantry and good conduct in the brilliant operations mentioned.

By ordered of the President, made at the city of Norfolk on the 11th day of May, 1862.
Edwin M. Stanton
Secretary of War

As the presidential party readied to leave Quarters 1, Commodore Goldsborough came in with the news that the Confederates had blown up the Merrimack just off Craney Island at 5:00 A.M. In a letter to his daughter on the return voyage, Secretary of Treasury Chase wrote, "so ended a brilliant week's campaign by the President."[17]

To look back at the officers' careers who occupied and were headquartered at Fort Monroe's Quarters 1 is to see the history of the Army for the better part of two centuries. Fort Monroe has been especially fortunate in stationing men who have been at the very top of the Army's roster of professional officers. These officers have guided not only the fortunes of this important post in peace and war, but have been instrumental in the development of the nation's defense policy and very structure and mission of the United States Army.[18] While Quarters 1 no longer serves as the residence or headquarters of the commanding officer at Fort Monroe, this important building has been home to some of the nation's most important military officers and witness to significant moments in American History.

Contraband Decision

Major General Benjamin Butler made his "Contraband of War" declaration of 1861 while an occupant of Quarters 1. Butler occupied Quarters 1 twice while at Fort Monroe, once in 1861 and again from 1863 to 1864. On May 22, 1861, Major General Benjamin F. Butler was assigned by Lincoln as the commanding general of the newly-created War Department of Virginia, headquartered at Fort Monroe. Before the War, Butler had been a successful attorney and member of both the Massachusetts House of Representatives and its Senate. Under his direction, troops from Fort Monroe engaged in the first land battle of the Civil War. The Battle of Big Bethel was fought approximately eight miles from the fort and was a distinct loss for the Union. While not known for having abolitionist beliefs, Butler made several decisions that changed the lives of thousands of slaves in the Hampton Roads area. In 1861, a Confederate Colonel demanded that Butler return three slaves who had escapted from him and sought asylum at Fort Monroe. Butler decreed, on May 23, 1861, that, since the three were considered property and not people, they were technically "Contraband of War," which did not need to be returned to the enemy. These important decisions subsequently altered the history of the area and influenced the course of Civil Rights history in the United States.

In August of 1861, Congress passed the Confiscation Act providing a de facto ratification to Butler's action. The result was a surge of African American refugees seeking out what they called "Freedom's Fortress." This policy would have a far reaching impact. News of this decision spread rapidly throughout the slave community and thousands sucessfully made their way to Fort Monroe where they labored in the defensive preparations in and around the Fort. The American Missionary Association (AMA) was the first Northern organization to aid the contraband. The association was already fifteen years old by 1861 and from its inception, had been dedicated to "preaching the Gospel free from all complicity with slavery and caste." [19] Lewis Lockwood, when he arrived at Fort Monroe on 3 September 1861, wrote as part of the AMA contingent, "On the contraband, under God, perhaps hinges the destiny of this Republic."[20] The first war time census of freedmen, conducted by the Army in December of 1863, and published in February of the following year, reported 10,449 black refugees in the four counties of the lower penninsula and of those 5,401 were drawing army rations.[21] By the time the War ended in 1865, over 10,000 African Americans had sought refuge at Fort Monroe. Butler's contraband decision placed Fort Monroe as a major starting point on the pathway to the freedom eventually codified in Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was read to the contrabands and free blacks declaring that the slaves who had made their way to Fort Monroe were thereby free forever. Now that blacks under Rebel control were officially free, the government finally established policies on how they were to be treated. A Bureau of Negro Affairs in the War Department was created, and C.B. Wilder made superintendent for Hampton, Virginia. In General Butler's latter tenure in Quarters 1, he directed and supported the efforts of Wilder, listening to the grievances of blacks and missionaries, and, when possible, acted in their behalf.[22]

The Contraband decision would also influence the education of free African Americans in the United States. Although it was illegal in Virginia to educate African Americans in public meeting places during the time, Butler promoted the education of slaves who made their way to Fort Monroe. In 1863, General Butler used Government funds to build a school for black children. Known as the Butler School, the school stood south of County Street and west of Zion Baptist Church in downtown Hampton. By 1865, the Butler School was turned over by the Government to the American Missionary Academy, which supplied teachers until it was razed in 1867.[23] After the war, the presence of a thriving and educated African American community led to the founding of the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, now Hampton University, in 1868. It was through the urging of Brevet Brigadier General Samuel Chapman Armstrong, then chief of the local Freedman's Bureau, that the American Missionary Association purchased the 165 acre farm where the Federal Government had maintained a hospital during the war. Armstrong's idea was to create on this land a school to train selected men and women "who should go out and teach and lead their people, first by example...and in this way build up an industrial system for the sake, not only of self-support and intelligent labor, but also for the sake of character."[24] The contraband decision provided a foundation upon which black refugees and the contraband could build to work towards the ultimate goal of equality.

Architectural Significance

The Federal Period of development at Fort Monroe saw the creation of the fortification system, the establishment of the Artillery School of Practice and the construction of Quarters 1, a Federal style two-story residence with a two-story front porch. While built within what would become the largest of all the Third System fortifcations, Quarters 1 is in no way overshadowed by the fortification and its architectural significance stands as a noteworthy example of Federal architecture. Born out of the "Neo-classical" movement to reinterpret classical architecture, the Federal style in America represented a new style that was philosopically appropriate for the nation following the Revolution. Quarters 1 also stands as a unique architectural structure within the gates of Fort Monroe, as it provided no other building with prototypcial designs.[25]

Characterized by elegance through attenuated forms, curved or elliptical features and sophistation of detail, Quarters 1 stands as a significant and accurate example of Federal style architecture. The architecture of Quarters 1 is symbolic of a new style that was consciously associated with the ancient democracies of Greece and Rome and reflected the nationalist aspirations of the time. Particularly associated with national institutions, the use of Federal style for Quarters 1 is symbolic. Serving as both a residence and headquarters for the core of the Army's artillery activities, the architecture of Quarters 1 stands as a visual representation of the desire of Americans to affirm their independence in all domains, influencing politics, military, economics, and culture alike. Like the classical buildings of Greece and Rome, the use of columns, domes, pediments, decorative niches, and other classical forms found in Quarters 1, reflected that desire to impose principles of national sovereignty. This landmark remains surprisingly unchanged in its 190 years, and while the function of the building has changed over the years and the distinguished interiors of Quarters 1 survive essentially as designed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Quarters 1

Hampton, VA

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
N/A

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Quarters 1

Hampton, VA

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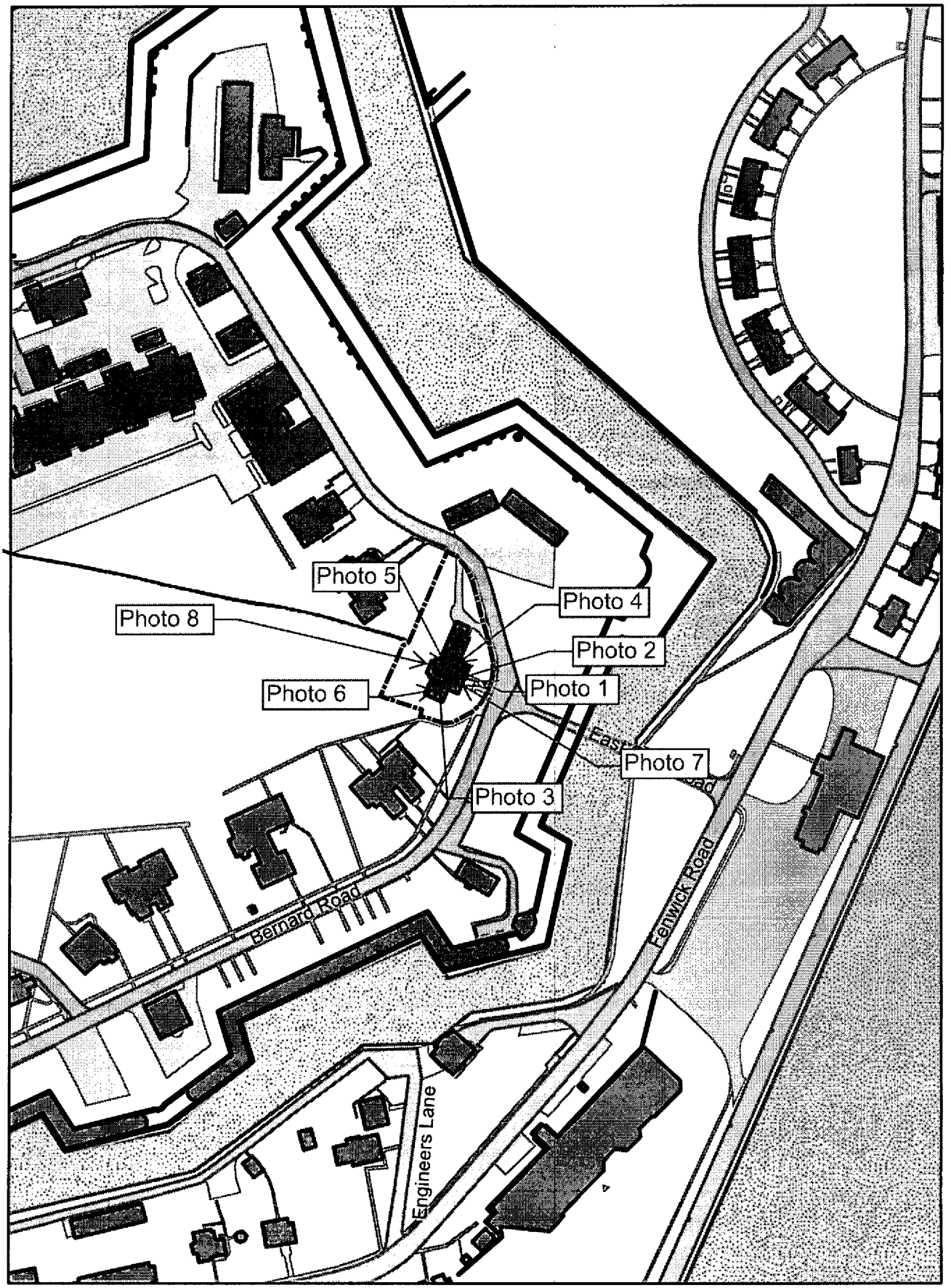
Old Quarters One - Fort Monroe
City of Hampton, VA
DHR ID#114-0002-0004



FM FADA FORT MONROE Federal Area Development Authority

Date: 3/12/2010
Source: US Army
Created by: JG

1 inch = 200 feet

0 200 400 Feet

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