

NOTE

This file is **Part 2** of a two-part digital document comprising the entirety of:

Documentation of Contributing Elements, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York, Volume 4: Buildings 65-108. Rev. 1, December 2008. Prepared by Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston, for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, Massachusetts.

This PDF version of the document was prepared from the source digital files in August 2009.

DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

YMCA (BUILDING 71)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603646.4526566

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1909

Architect/Engineer: M.L. and H.G. Emery, Architects, New York City

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2007). Demolished 2008

Significance: The YMCA (Building 71) is situated in the Drill Field and Recreation Area, immediately adjacent to the Barracks Area, of Fort Slocum. It provided recreational and athletic facilities, and enhanced the welfare and morale of personnel, contributing to twentieth-century training and defense missions of the post. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA.

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Date: July 2007 (Revision 1, December 2008)

PART I. DESCRIPTION

For Slocum's Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) building (Building 71) is situated on the eastern side of the former Parade Ground near the center of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland, and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan. Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. The island is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with now-abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 71 is situated at the northwestern corner of the Dill Field and Recreation Area. This section of the post contained many outdoor and indoor facilities for physical conditioning and recreation.

Building 71 is a ruined two-story brick building (Photos 1-7). It was destroyed by fire sometime after August 1986, when it was inventoried as intact, but vandalized and deteriorated from weather (Louis Berger and Associates 1986). Its roof, interior partitions, floors, windows, and doors are gone, and an open brick shell remains. A chimney integral with the south wall rises above the front the section of the ruin, but its mate in the north wall has collapsed to the height of the former roof line. Architectural debris partly fills the basement. .

The ruins of the structure and several lines of historical evidence show that the YMCA building had a brick bearing wall structural system and wood roof and interior floor and wall framing. Its roof was clad in slate shingles, and light colored cast concrete was used extensively for design accents. The building was designed by private architects in a well-developed Neoclassical style. Its style harmonized with and elaborated on the design of two nearby structures on the Parade Ground that were built at about the same time, including the adjacent Post Exchange (Building 70) and the Administration Building (Building 13), which was situated across the Parade Ground and to the north.

Historical photographs and the original design drawings for the building show that the floor plan of the YMCA was organized into two major sections (Figures 1-11). The front (western) section contained rooms for reading, games, and small meetings, and the rear section consisted primarily of a combination gymnasium-auditorium with an adjoining bowling alley-boiler room. The building was constructed on sloping ground, and its main entrance on the western end was at the level of the Parade Ground. In section, the building consisted of three stepped units that descended from west to east in a 3-2-1 pattern. The front unit (comprising the western section of the plan) and the middle unit, which contained the gymnasium-auditorium, each had a separate hipped roof. The roof of the front unit stood considerably higher than that of the middle. In addition, because of the sloping ground, the basement level of the front unit section was partially exposed on the north and south, and at the eastern end, its ground line was essentially the same as that of the middle and rear units. The rear unit, containing the bowling alley and boiler room, was the lowest portion of the building, rising only one floor and having a flat roof.

The principal façade of the YMCA faced west onto the Parade Ground (Photos 1-5; Figures 6, 9, and 10). Viewed from the Parade Ground, the main elevation presented a two-story building characterized by well-balanced, symmetrical massing with a broad, hipped roof surmounted by a roof-top balustrade. The center of the façade was a low, broad flight of steps rising to a shallow, full-height tetrastyle portico that featured four cast concrete Ionic columns. The pediment consisted of a raking cornice accented by dentils and a lunette window in the tympanum. The frieze was inscribed with the words "The Young Men's

Christian Association” in Roman capitals. The portico dentils were a continuation of the dentils that decorated the cornice of the entire front (western) section of the building. Flanking the portico was a narrow terrace that extended slightly beyond the length of the main façade on each side. The terrace was enclosed by a low balustrade built of poured elements. Fenestration of the main façade consisted of large, arched Palladian-style windows at the first floor level and tall double-hung six-over-nine windows on the second floor. All of the windows were outlined by slightly raised brickwork accented with cast concrete keystones, springers, and sills. The Palladian windows of the main façade and at the front on each side featured multicentered arches; the remaining windows of the western section on the front and sides were capped by flat arches. In addition, the corners of the main (western) section of the building were set off by quoins formed of large, cast concrete blocks.

The rear, or eastern, section of the building was plainer than the front section. The fenestration of the north and south sides continued the elegant appearance of the side windows of the front section, but employed six-over-six lights enclosed by segmental arches in place of the larger, flat arched windows of the main section. The broken rear façade of the rear section featured large multi-paned windows in plain rectangular surrounds.

A newspaper account of the 1909 dedication of the building described the interior first and second floors of the front section as “light and airy” and noted the presence of attractive open fireplaces. The article stated that the gymnasium-auditorium was “large [and] well-fitted.” The auditorium platform at the northern end of the room included an organ “for music for services.” Later photographs collected by Michael A. Cavanaugh (2007), who is writing a history of Fort Slocum, indicate some of the alterations that were introduced over the life of the building, including the conversion in the 1950s of the bowling alley into a bar for the Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) Club and the installation of linoleum tiling in some of the rooms.

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Davids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

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The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

YMCA (Building 71)

Building 71 is situated in the northwestern corner of the Drill Field and Recreation Area but faces the Parade Ground to the west. This section of the post is differentiated functionally by its facilities for recreation and physical conditioning. Centered on the Drill and Athletic Field, an open recreation and training area containing ball fields and, at one time, a track, the area also contains the YMCA, a gymnasium and drill hall, handballs courts, tennis courts, and skeet range, as well as two functionally-unrelated buildings, the post's firehouse (Building 79) and a sewage pump station (Building 74). In the nineteenth century, the area was somewhat marginal to adjoining sections of the post such as the Parade Ground and Barracks Area and was only developed as a functionally-distinct section in the first two decades of the twentieth century.

The building was constructed through private philanthropy, and its presence at the post reflects a period in the Army's history when development of the moral character of its soldiers was a particular concern.

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Although the YMCA served armies on both sides during the Civil War, it was not until the end of the nineteenth century that the association established an enduring national relationship with the American armed forces. Early moves in this direction included the establishment of the first permanent YMCA at an Army post (Fort Monroe, Virginia) in 1889, followed by the YMCA National Convention's endorsement in 1895 of a plan to organize facilities on other installations. However, not until 1898 during the Spanish-American War did the national YMCA organization establish a full-time Army and Navy Committee, which sent hundreds of volunteers to posts at home and abroad and began constructing large, well-equipped buildings for soldiers and sailors. The YMCA was so successful in providing enlisted personnel with wholesome recreation and relief from the dreary routine of military life that in 1902, with the support of the Secretary of War, Congress authorized the International Committee of the YMCA to build and maintain facilities on all posts and bases (Act of May 31, 1902). By 1914 there were 31 military YMCAs and 180 traveling libraries for service personnel.

This foundation led the YMCA to take a central role in organizing recreational athletics, libraries and canteens, and other morale services during the First World War, establishing more than 1,500 facilities everywhere, from stateside training camps to front-line trenches. Having demonstrated the value of such services in maintaining morale, health, and order among American servicemen, the YMCA recommended that military authorities take primary responsibility for these activities themselves. Consequently, during the Second World War, most recreational and welfare services were operated by the Army's Special Services Branch and its naval equivalent, while the YMCA played an ancillary role through its existing facilities at military installations and by its participation in the United Service Organizations for National Defense (USO). During the war, the YMCA supplied 30 percent of the staff who operated the USO facilities in communities adjacent to military installations. The YMCA continued this dual role during the Korean War and into the Cold War, operating its own facilities through its army-navy committee (renamed the Armed Services Department in 1948) and, until the 1970s, contributing staff to USO facilities. Today, the YMCA serves military personnel through the Armed Services YMCA of the USA, which was chartered in 1984 as an independent member association within the national organization to operate recreation facilities and welfare programs worldwide.

Period newspaper accounts indicate that the New York City YMCA was organizing branches on local military installations soon after 1900. A YMCA facility seems to have been established at Fort Slocum by about 1906, when evidence from maps suggests its existence near the northern end of the Parade Ground. The building in question was probably the eastern wing of the post's old wooden hospital, most of which was demolished about 1905 when it was replaced by the expansion of the later brick hospital (then designated as Building 32A, now Building 46). Map evidence suggests, however, that the eastern wing of the old hospital remained standing for a few years, apparently rotated by a quarter turn and perhaps shifted slightly south. A 1908 map designates this building as a YMCA Chapel. That building (probably then designated as Building 32B) was demolished about 1909, around the time the present YMCA building was completed.

The present YMCA (Building 71) was constructed in 1908-09 and was dedicated on May 8, 1909. The 1939 version of the Quartermaster property card for the building lists its initial cost as \$60,138 (Figure 8). Of this amount, \$50,000 was provided by philanthropist Margaret Olivia Slocum Sage (1828-1918), the widow of financier Russell Sage (1816-1906) and the principal beneficiary of his vast fortune. Mrs. Sage was a distant cousin of Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1826-1894), for whom Fort Slocum was named. Her support for the Fort Slocum facility, however, was based principally on the organization's broad commitment to the improvement of social and living conditions in the United States, a central tenet of

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Mrs. Sage's philanthropy. At her death in 1918, she had also contributed to the construction or expansion of several community and military YMCA buildings, including those at Long Island City, New York City (for the International Committee of the YMCA), Brooklyn Naval Yard, and Fort McKinley (Philippines). As George A. Sandford, Secretary of the YMCA's army branch noted in his dedication speech for the new building at Fort Slocum, Margaret Sage, "abominates shams, loves the simple life of the home, and dislikes anything that undermines character. Actions speak louder than words, and this building speaks for her today."

The YMCA at Fort Slocum was atypical of the post's buildings because it was designed by outside architects, rather than by the Quartermaster or Engineers Corps. The firm of M.L. & H.G. Emery, based at 68 Bible House, on Cooper Square in New York City, executed the commission (Figures 2-6). Marshall L. Emery (1866-1920) founded the firm in 1894, and he was soon joined by his brother, Henry G. Emery (1871-1956). During the period of the Fort Slocum commission, the firm specialized in the design of public buildings of many types, including hospitals, asylums, clinics, churches, schools, and YMCAs. The Emerys took their commissions in New York City, its northern and eastern suburbs, southwestern Connecticut, Albany, and in the Mohawk Valley, where the brothers originated. The present-day firm of Colgan Perry Lawler Aurell, Architects, of Nyack, New York, traces its origins to the Emerys' firm.

The size of the YMCA—it had a floor area of 15,000 square feet above the basement, comparable to the area of many of the permanent barracks on the post—indicates the importance of the building. A newspaper article on the 1909 dedication of the building reported that some 15,000 recruits a year passed through Fort Slocum, and these numbers presented the YMCA with an opportunity to establish a foundation of athleticism and upright living that would serve recruits through their Army careers and beyond. At the dedication, the commanding officer of Fort Slocum, Capt. Wilson Chase, observed that the YMCA played an important role in facilitating the transition of recruits from civilian to military life and went on to note that "anything that increases the happiness, contentment, and welfare of the enlisted man increases his efficiency, and is not only a benefit to him, but to the country."

The YMCA was a place where off-duty enlisted men could go for relaxation, recreation, and study without leaving the post. As originally constructed, the building included a library; reading and writing rooms; rooms for billiards, pool, and other games; a meeting room and kitchenette; a gymnasium-theater; bowling alley; and a locker room. The YMCA sponsored dances, socials, concerts, lectures, and theatricals; organized team sports such as basketball; offered a place for friendly pick-up games of different sorts; presented Bible study and other classes; and provided a place where off-duty servicemen could just write a letter or read a newspaper in relaxed surroundings.

The building was owned and operated by the YMCA until around 1950, when the post briefly closed after the departure of the Air Force, which had used it as a command administrative headquarters for several years. In March 1952, the Army purchased the building from the YMCA for \$15,000, and used it as the post Service Club for enlisted personnel until Fort Slocum closed in 1965. Material gathered by Michael A. Cavanaugh, who is writing a history of the post, shows that in many ways the building continued to be used as it had been earlier, but it also demonstrates changes, such as the conversion of the bowling alley to an NCO Club bar. Cavanaugh's material also shows that in the 1950s and 1960s, the building was often used for social events such as banquets involving the families of non-commissioned officers affiliated with the information and chaplain schools.

The YMCA was originally designated as Building 20. After the 1941 renumbering, it was known as Building 83. In 1957, it was again renumbered, receiving its present number, 71.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Published Materials

Armed Services YMCA

2007 "History." Accessed online July 3, 2007, at <http://www.asymca.org/a5.html>.

Colgan Perry Lawler Aurell Architects

2007 "CPLA Architectural Archive: Over 100 Years of Design Innovation." Accessed online March 21, 2007, at <http://www.cpl-arch.com/archive.htm>.

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2007 "History—YMCA Armed Services Department: An Inventory of Its Records." University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Accessed online, July 3, 2007, at <http://special.lib.umn.edu/findaid/html/ymca/yusa0004a.phtml>.

Lancaster, Richard C.

1987 *Serving the U. S. Armed Forces, 1861-1986: The Story of YMCA's Ministry to Military Personnel for 125 Years.* Armed Services YMCA, Alexandria, VA.

New York Times

1902 "Y.M.C.A. Work in Army: Its Benefits Discussed at a Meeting in Carnegie Hall." March 10:8.

1902 "St. Bartholomew's Clinic." May 18:7.

1903 "Gen Chaffee Praises Y.M.C.A. Army Work: Society Folk Attend Governors Island Function." March 29:12.

1904 "Full—Of Statistics—Coghlan to Y.M.C.A.: Rear Admiral Amazes, Then Convulses, Guests at Banquet." November 18:9.

1905 "Grant Extols the Y.M.C.A.: Declares the Governors Island Branch Has Aided Discipline." October 22:6.

1909 "Dedicate Mrs. Sage's Fort Slocum Gift: \$50,000 Y.M.C.A. Building Is Thrown Open for Recruits in the Army." May 9:11.

1912 "Y.M.C.A. for Greenwich: Mrs. Witherill to Give Fine Building with Valuable Plot of Ground." March 31:xxi.

1918 "Mrs. Russell Sages Dies at Her Home: Nurse Found Her Sinking and Death Followed Early This Morning." November 4:13.

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- 1918 "Mrs. Sage Leaves Millions to Charity: About \$40,000,000 of \$50,000,000 Estate Goes to Philanthropy and Education." November 14:10.
- 1920 "Death Notices: Marshall Lansing Emery." December 31:10.
- 1941 "Stresses Army Service: Y.M.C.A. Report Tells of Work at Fort Slocum, Governors Island." January 31:10.
- 1941 "Fort Slocum." October 25:21, November 22:9, and December 6:20.
- 1952 "Fort Slocum 'Y' Sold: Army Buys Building That Will Continue to Be Clubhouse." March 29:13.
- 1956 "Henry G. Emery, 85, Architect in Nyack." May 2:31.

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- 1938 *Historic New Rochelle*. Board of Education, New Rochelle, NY.

Osborn, Frederick H.

- 1942 "Recreation, Welfare, and Morale of the American Soldier." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 220:50-56.

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- 1995 "An Army of Athletes: Playing Fields, Battlefields, the American Military Sport Experience, 1890-1920." *The Journal of Military History* 59:435-456.

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- 2007 "History of the YMCA Movement." Accessed online July 3, 2007, at http://www.ymca.net/about_the_ymca/history_of_the_ymca.html.

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- 1986 *Fort Slocum, Davids Island, New York: A Historic Architectural Assessment*. Prepared for Dresdner Associates, Jersey City, New Jersey, by the Cultural Resource Group, Louis Berger & Associates, East Orange, New Jersey.

Cavanaugh, Michael

- 2007 *What Is, What Was, and What Was NOT: A Companion to the 2005 Davids Island Footage*. Los Angeles, CA. Unpublished ms.

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- 2005 *Historic Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation, Davids Island/Fort Slocum New Rochelle, New York*. Prepared for Tetra Tech FW, Inc., Morris Plains, New Jersey, by PAL, Inc., Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

- 2008 "Fort Slocum: Overview." In *Historic Building Documentation, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York*, Volume 1. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, Massachusetts, by Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston.

U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

- ca. 1905-41 Fort Slocum Property Cards (Form 117 and predecessors). Record Group 77. National Archives, Silver Spring, MD.

Maps and Drawings

March 1872 "Quarter Master Buildings, Davids Island, N.Y. Harbor." Quartermaster General's Office (QMGO), 1116 QMGO 1872. Set including map and six detail drawings of individual buildings. Each sheet is inscribed, "This sketch was furnished for file by Col. VanVliet," and some indicate the date as March 6, 1872. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

October 1894 (or undetermined month thereafter through December 1895) "Map of Davids Island, New York Harbor, U.S. Military Reservation, Drawn Under the Direction of Cap. J.W. Summerhayes, Asst. Qr. Mr. U.S.A." Date stamp from QMGO on reverse bears a date in 1895. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

July 1906; revised November 1907 "Map of Fort Slocum, David's [sic] Island, N.Y. Made by Direction of Lieut. Col. W.P. Evans, 11th Inf. by C.B. Hodges, 2nd Lieut., 4th Inf." With revisions showing authorized and proposed work by Peter Murray, Capt. and Cons. Q.M. Record Group 92. National Archives, College Park, MD.

ca. 1908 "Y.M.C.A. Building at Fort Slocum, N.Y." Set of approximately 10 drawings prepared by M.L. & H.G. Emery, Architects, 68 Bible House, New York. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.

May 1908 "Fort Slocum, Davids Island, N.Y." U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps, New York Harbor Eastern Long Island Sound Approaches Fortification Map Series. Record Group 392, National Archives, New York, NY.

March 1909 "Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, NY." Made by Direction of Peter Murray, Capt. and Construction Q.M." Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

July 1915 "Map of Fort Slocum, New York." Made by Direction of F.E. Smith, Capt. & Quartermaster. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

1943 No title [Informal guide map of Fort Slocum]. Prepared by T/3 Richard Williams. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

1961 "Map of Fort Slocum (Davids Island), New Rochelle, N.Y." Prepared under the direction of the First Army Engineer by the Engineer Intelligence Division, Governors Island, New York. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

(Except as noted, all photographs are on file at National Archives, College Park, Maryland. Digital copies examined for this research come from the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.)

1924: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island showing area between Mortar Battery and Raymond Hall (Building 57). View east. September 4.

1926: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View west. August 10.

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 11.

1936: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View southeast. June 29.

ca. 1938: Real-photo postcard showing low-angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. Summer. View north. In Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection. Also published in *New York City's Harbor Defenses* (2003), p. 92, by Leo Polaski and Glen Williford, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina.

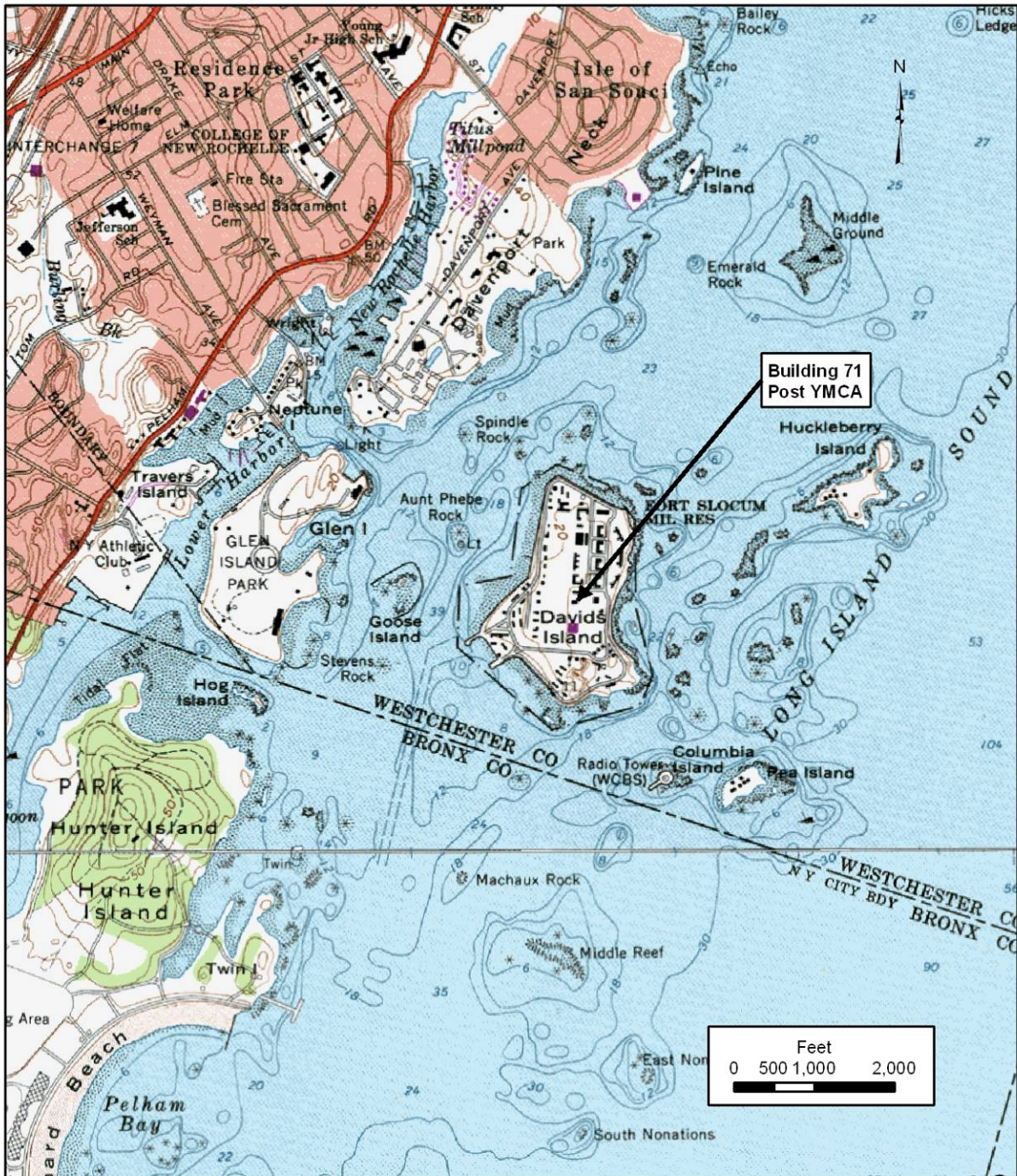
1940: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. September 4.

late 1950s: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, showing Parade Ground and adjoining areas to the east. In the Fort Slocum Collection, New Rochelle Public Library.

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection.

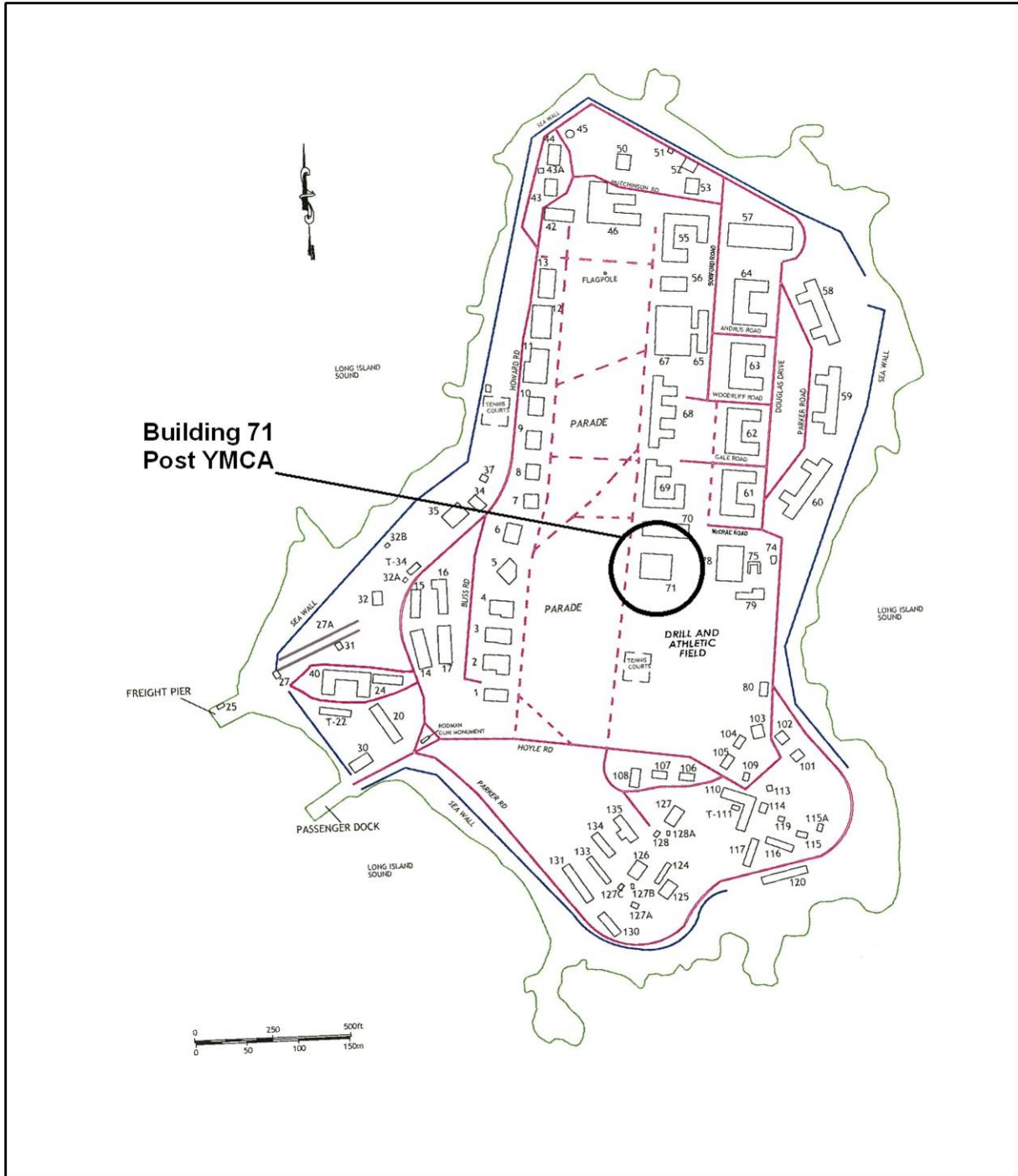
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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)
Scale: 1:24,000
1966 (Photorevised 1979)



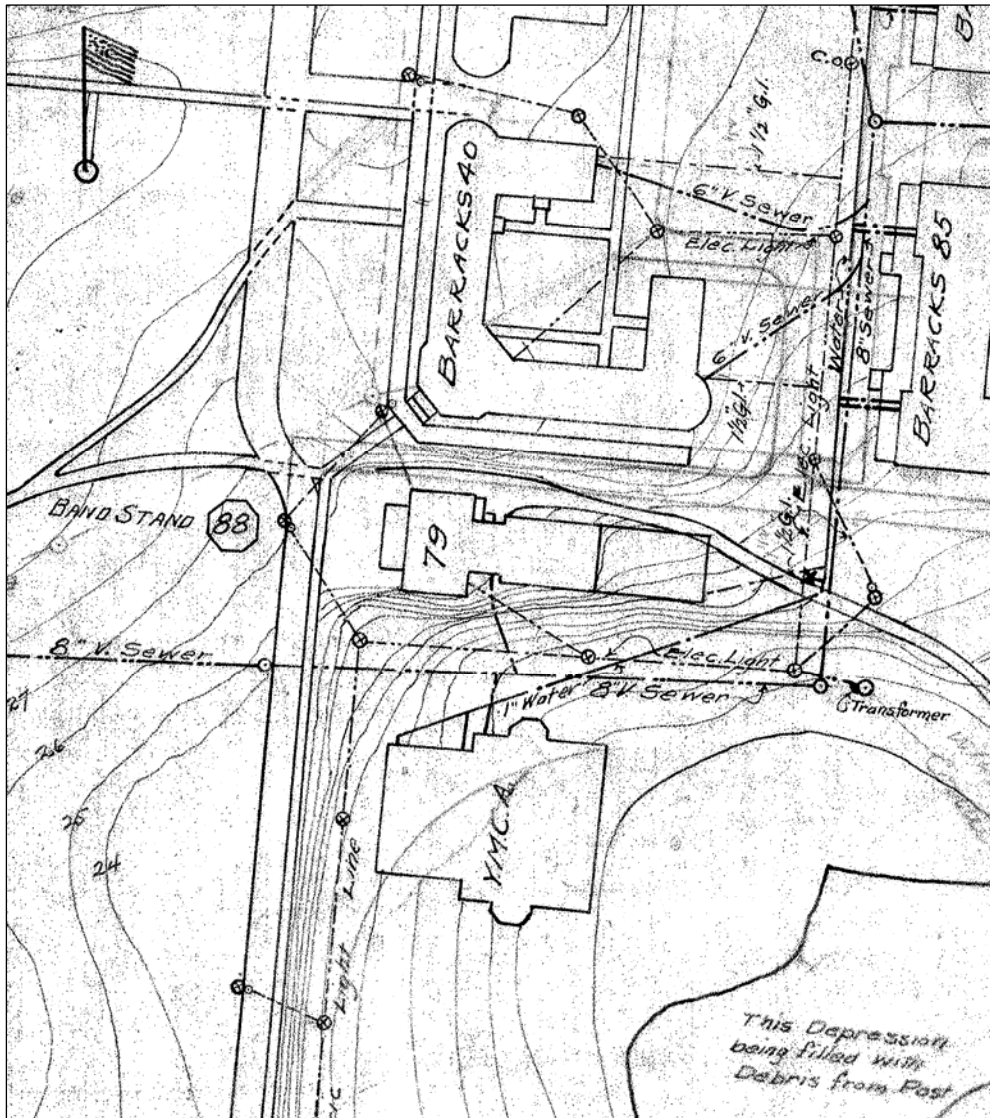
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SITE MAP



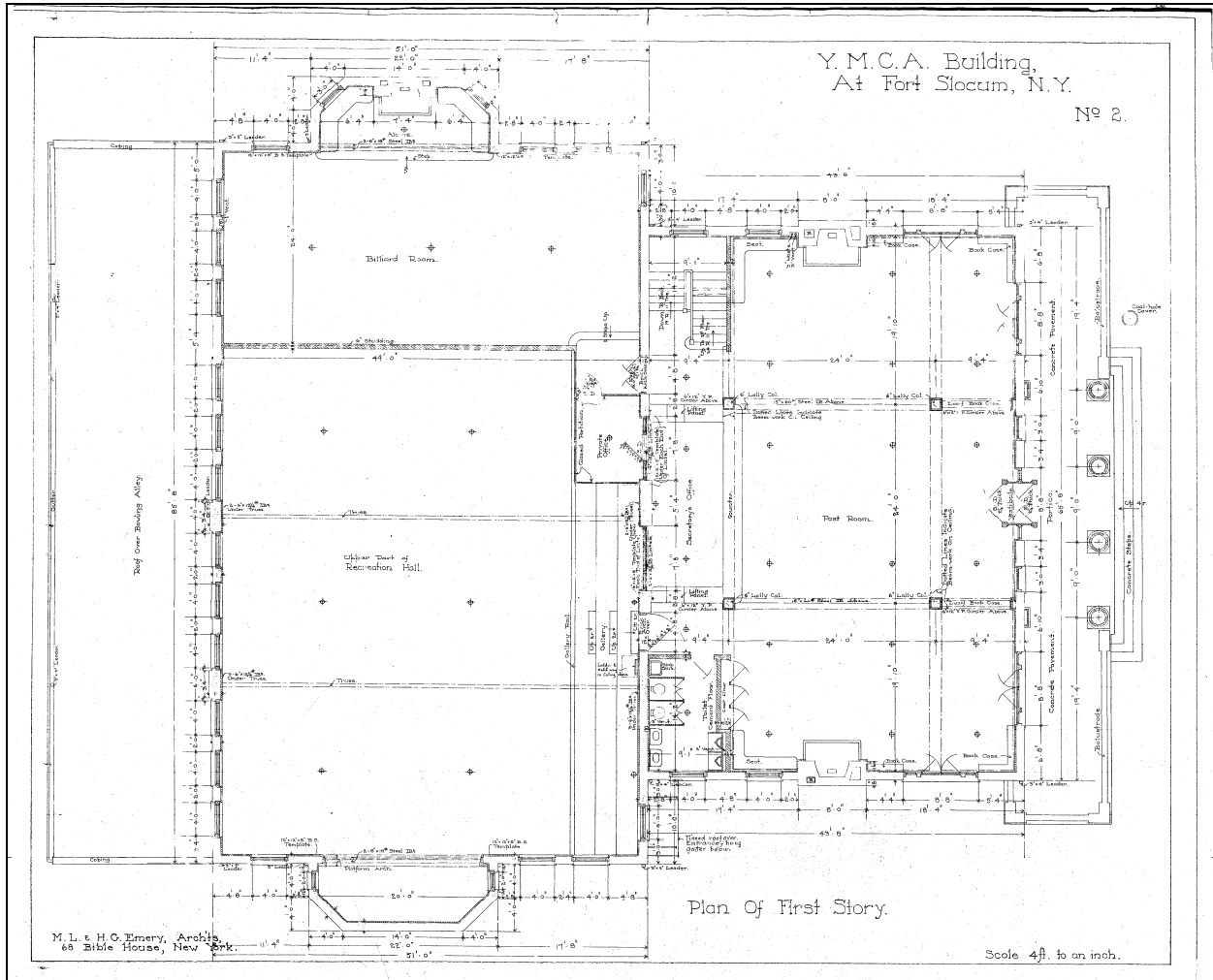
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Figure 1. Detail, March 1909 “Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, N.Y.” Note that the YMCA was not assigned a building number in the period represented by this map. North is to the top of the page. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



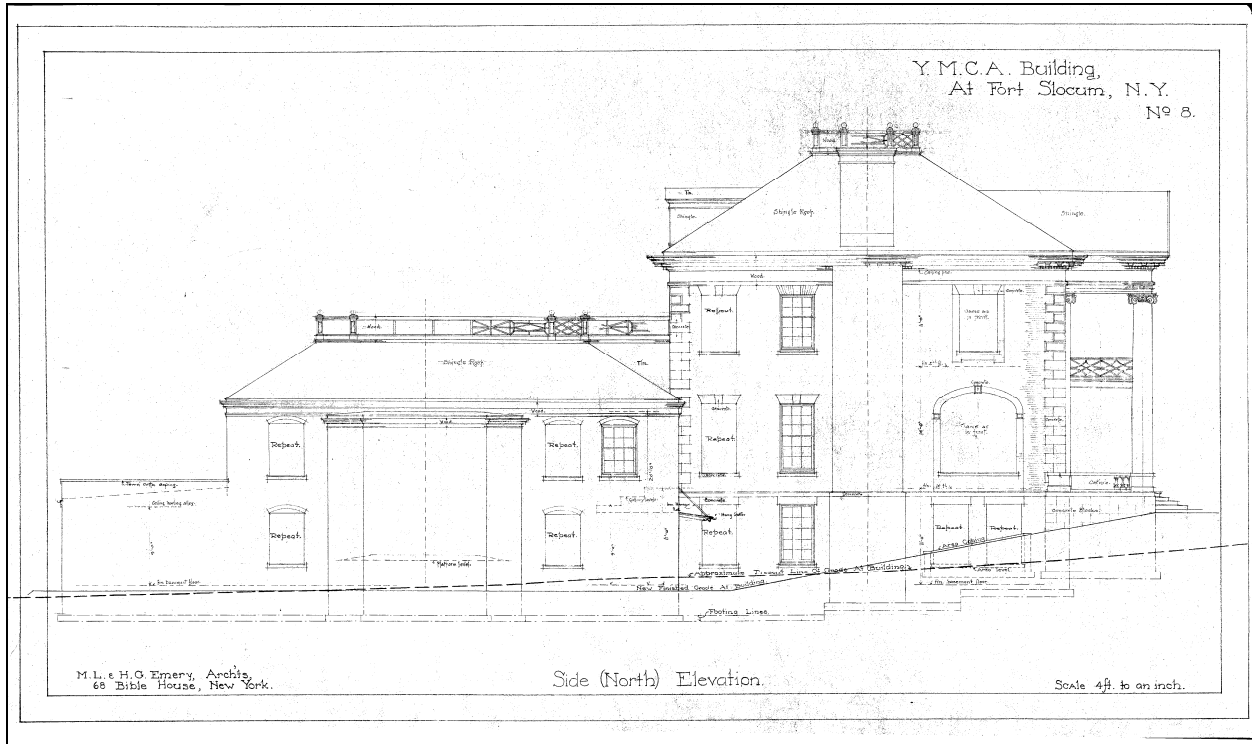
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Figure 2. "Y.M.C.A. Building...Plan of First Story," ca. 1908. Plan drawing. M.L. & H.G. Emery, Architects. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



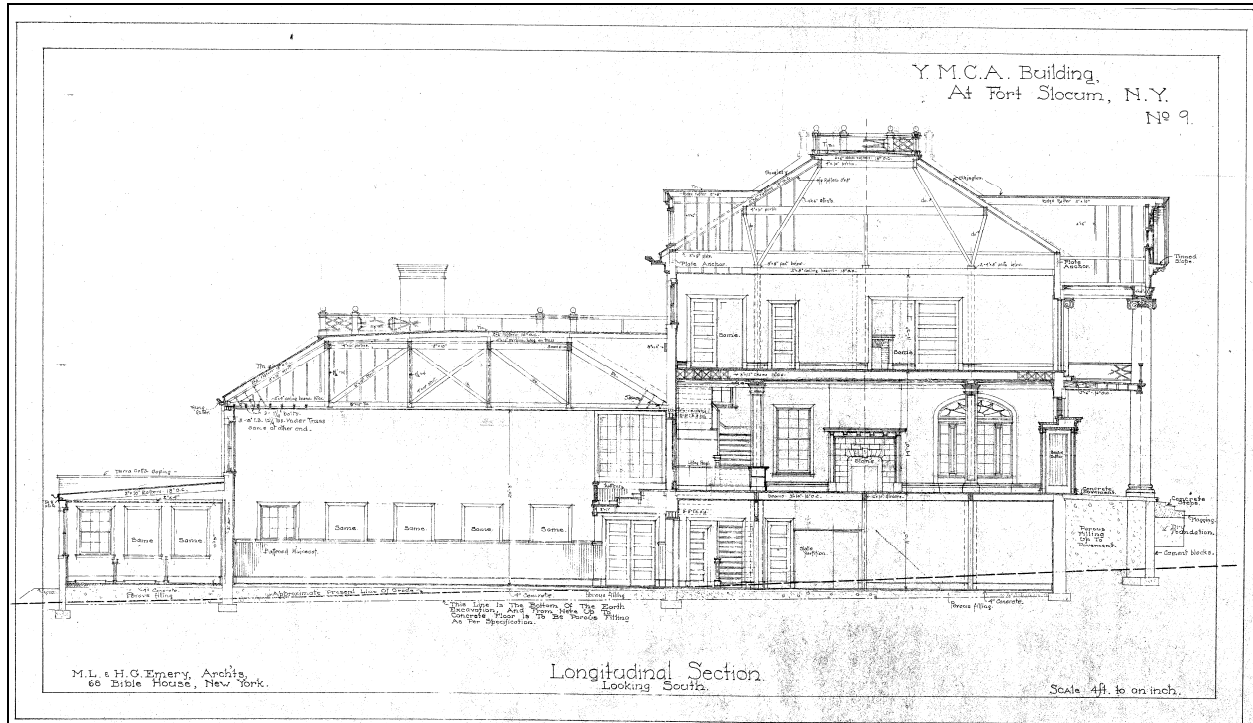
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Figure 3. "Y.M.C.A. Building... Side (North) Elevation," ca. 1908. Plan drawing. M.L. & H.G. Emery, Architects. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



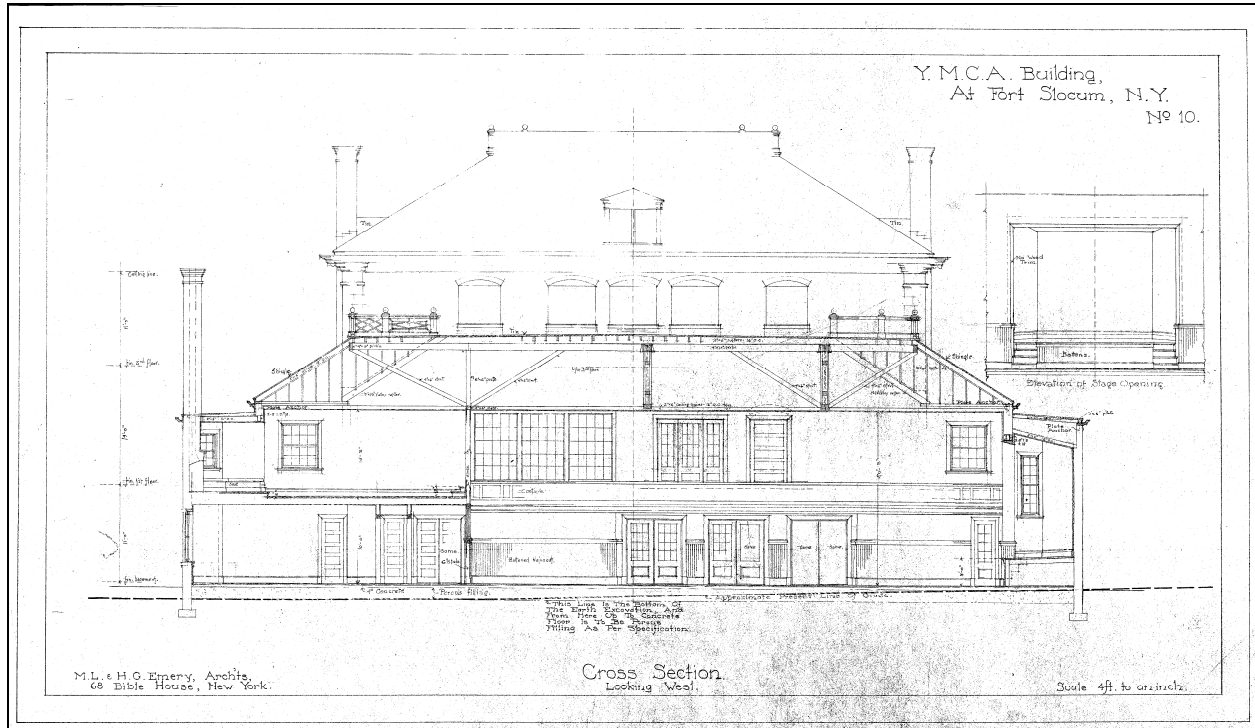
**YMCA (BUILDING 71)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
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Figure 4. "Y.M.C.A. Building... Longitudinal Section Looking South," ca. 1908. Plan drawing. M.L. & H.G. Emery, Architects. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 5. "Y.M.C.A. Building ... Cross Section Looking West," ca. 1908. Plan drawing. M.L. & H.G. Emery, Architects. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



**YMCA (BUILDING 71)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
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Figure 7. The YMCA bowling alley, ca. 1935. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



Figure 8. Property Record, August 1939. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.

Post Plan No. No. 29 83
 Building No. ... Y.A.M.C.A.A.

AUG 1939



AUG 1939

COB No. 172A

Location: FORT SLOCUM, NEW YORK.
 Designation of building: Y.M.C.A.
 Total cost, \$50,139.00 Date completed: 1902 Capacity: 15000 sq. ft.
 Material: Walls Brick Foundation Brick Floors Wood & Concrete
 of Slate
 Total floor area above basement, square feet 15,000 sq. ft. Basement 103' x 81" x 85' x 5"
 e: Main building 103' x 81" x 85' x 5" Wings None
 American Ideal Boilers #S-3605 & S-3606 Height of first floor above ground 2' 4" Rear 9' 6"
 (How heated)
 Steam (Coal Operated) How lighted Electrically
 (Type of heat) Water connections Yes
 Sewer connections Yes
 Gas connections None
 Meters installed
 Gas, No. None
 Electric, No. Two
 Oil, No. None
 Steam, No. None
 Water, No. None

COOKING RANGES INSTALLED
 No. One
 s, No. None
 etric No. One
 t, No. None
 am, No. None

MAGAZINE COAL HEATER # 115
 (Type of domestic hot water heater)

ADDITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS
 (Below enter chronologically all modifications, additions, introductions of water, sewer, lights, heating, etc.)

DATE	COST	DATE	COST
U.S.			
This building was erected by the Soldiers'			
and Sailors' Young Men's Christian Association			
of New York.			

YMCA (BUILDING 71)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 9. YMCA, facing northeast, August 1939. Detail of Quartermaster Property Record. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 10. "Army Y.M.C.A., Fort Slocum, N.Y.," ca. 1940. Postcard view of Building 71, facing east. Real-photo postcard. Unknown publisher and date of publication. Fort Slocum Collection, New Rochelle Public Library, New Rochelle, New York.



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Figure 11. Low-angle oblique aerial photograph, facing north, late 1950s. The YMCA is the southernmost building at near right. The Parade Ground is to the left. Fort Slocum Collection, New Rochelle Public Library, New Rochelle, NY.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

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YMCA (BUILDING 71)

Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographers: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2004 (Photos 4 and 6) and November 2005 (Photos 1-3).

Caleb Christopher, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, January 2007 (Photos 5 and 7).

1. Western façade, facing east.
2. Western façade, detail—main entrance and adjoining window openings, facing east.
3. Western façade, detail—quoin at northwestern corner, facing southeast.
4. Western façade, detail—northern end of porch balustrade, facing southeast.
5. Western end of northern façade, facing southwest.
6. Interior, facing northeast.
7. Interior—first- and second-story fireplaces in front section of building, facing southeast.

Photo 1. Western façade, facing east.



Photo 2. Western façade, detail—main entrance and adjoining window openings, facing east.



Photo 3. Western façade, detail—quoin at northwestern corner, facing southeast.



Photo 4. Western façade, detail—northern end of porch balustrade, facing southeast.



Photo 5. Western end of northern façade, facing southwest.



Photo 6. Interior, facing northeast.



Photo 7. Interior—first- and second-story fireplaces in front section of building, facing southeast.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

SEWAGE SUMP & PUMPING STATION A (BUILDING 74)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603766.4526577

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1933

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2006

Significance: The Sewage Sump & Pump Station A (Building 74) is situated in the Drill Field and Recreation Area and was one component of the waste disposal system in Fort Slocum’s utility infrastructure. This infrastructure supported military activities at the post during middle decades of the twentieth century. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

SEWAGE SUMP & PUMP STATION A (BUILDING 74)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

Sewage Sump & Pump Station A (Building 74) is located near the eastern shoreline of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with an abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 74 is situated near the northeastern corner of the Drill Field and Recreation Area, with which it has no specific functional association. It is one of several buildings and structures located in different parts of the post that comprised Fort Slocum's wastewater treatment system. Nearly all elements of the system are included in historic architectural inventories of the post (Louis Berger & Associates 1986; Olausen et al. 2005), but aside from the present structure, only the Sludge Drying Bed Building (Building 53) was also documented intensively (see Volume 3 of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements: Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District*).

Building 74 is a small, one-story brick building of utilitarian design (Figures 1-6; Photos 1-4). It has a hipped roof originally pierced by a small cylindrical sheet metal ventilator. The roof is framed with the all-common rafter system, decked with wood boards, and clad in slate shingles. The building is 9 feet-6 inches north-south by 11 feet-6 inches east-west. The walls are laid in common bond and stand on a poured concrete foundation above an underground vault. The vault (or an adjoining structure) continues north of the building, where it is visible as a curb-high concrete pad extending from the building. The building entrance is on the eastern side facing Parker Road, while its single window is on the western side. The door opening has a concrete lintel and a concrete sill with wood casing. The door is steel and has two-over-two glazing. The window opening in the opposite side of the building has a flat steel lintel supporting the brickwork above and a concrete sill. There is a steel-frame window; it has three-over-three glazing with a hopper-type pivoted frame for the lowest row of panes. The interior of the building has a concrete floor with a steel plate in the center. A manhole is located in the southeastern corner, and an electric pump of medium size occupies the center of the floor. An electrical rack installed on wood boards affixed to the north wall includes fuse and switch boxes. Additional boxes are located next to the window. The underground vault on the exterior north side of the building is also around 9 feet-6 inches by 11 feet-6 inches. The top of this concrete structure projects less than 6 inches above ground surface. A north-south row of three removable concrete panels in the center provides access to the vault.

At the time of fieldwork for documentation this documentation in 2004 and 2005, Building 74, including the adjoining exterior vault, was thickly covered by vines and was difficult to examine closely. Although the roof was extant, a large hole had developed in it near the center ridge. The door lay on the floor and was covered by leaf litter and vegetation. The cover for the manhole in the building interior and one of the concrete access panels for the exterior vault were missing. The vault or vaults appeared to be flooded.

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Davids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with

SEWAGE SUMP & PUMP STATION A (BUILDING 74)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 3)

the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

SEWAGE SUMP & PUMP STATION A (BUILDING 74)
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Sewage Sump & Pump Station A (Building 74)

Building 74 is located off Parker Road close to the northeastern corner of Fort Slocum's Drill Field and Recreation Area. This section of the post contains many facilities for recreation and physical conditioning. It is centered on the Drill and Athletic Field, which adjoins the island's eastern shoreline. The facilities of this functional area include the post's YMCA, an armory and gymnasium, handball courts, tennis courts for enlisted personnel, and skeet range, as well as two functionally-unrelated buildings, the post's firehouse and the building documented here, Building 74, Sewage Sump and Pump Station A.

In the nineteenth century, the Drill Field and Recreation Area contained a freshwater pond of about 0.86-acre extent, near which several wood-frame buildings stood. During and just after the Civil War, these included an icehouse, bake house, laundry, and women's dormitory. After the Army's return to Davids Island in 1878, the area around the pond was undeveloped, with only a single icehouse located nearby. Twentieth-century development of Drill Field and Recreation Area began around 1909 with closure of the pond by filling it with earth and debris and with the construction of the YMCA (Building 71) in the northwestern corner of this section of the post. Around 1912-1914, the Army built a multipurpose athletic field for football, baseball, and track on and south of the filled-in pond. Soon after, the First World War brought soldiers and recruits to Fort Slocum by the tens of thousands, and temporary buildings were erected in many places on the post to accommodate them, including near the edges of the Drill and Athletic Field. Many of these buildings stood until the 1930s, when the post entered a period of renovations and improvements. In the Drill Field and Recreation Area, this period began with the construction of Building 74 in 1933 and continued well into the Second World War. During this period, most of its later buildings and structures were constructed, including the tennis and handball courts, the Armory and Gymnasium, and the Firehouse (Building 79). The Drill and Athletic Field, as the multipurpose field in the center of this section of the post had become known by the Second World War, had the last of several renovations in the early 1950s when the turf was replaced and Little League and adult baseball diamonds were installed.

Building 74 was one of several sewage sump and pump stations erected at Fort Slocum during improvements to its sewage system in the 1930s. The purpose of these improvements was to eliminate outflows of raw sewage from the post into the waters of Long Island Sound by constructing a unified collection system that flowed to a small treatment plant at the northern end of the island, which would release treated effluent (see the documentation for Building 53 in Volume 3 of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements: Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District*).

Completed on December 5, 1933, Building 74 was built during the first phase of the sewage system improvements. Joseph DeJoseph Engineering Co., of New York City was the general contractor for this construction, and Frank Mascali & Sons of the Bronx was responsible for work such as excavation, pipe laying, concrete, brickwork, carpentry, roofing, and sheet metal fabrication. In this phase of the project, sewer lines were replaced or modified, force main pumps were installed, and a tank house for chlorination of the sewage was constructed northeast of the Isolation Hospital (Building 50). Building 74 was one of two sumps, or sewage collection and pumping stations, built at this time. The other was Building 51 (Kilpatrick 1933).

Building 74 collected sewage from much of the post, including the majority of Officers' Row and buildings to the east. According to the constructing quartermaster's report on the project:

The sewage, formerly flowing into the sea east of the Island, is collected by gravity into sump "A" [Building 74]. Here two pumps, each of 200 G.P.M. capacity, force it north about

SEWAGE SUMP & PUMP STATION A (BUILDING 74)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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1600 feet into the Tank House [predecessor of Building 52]... where it is chlorinated. After passing through the tanks, the sewage overflows through a 10" cast iron effluent to the sea (Kilpatrick 1933:2).

Building 74 had sewage and sump compartments with a shelter house (the principal structure documented here) over the pump compartment. The Quartermaster Corps property card completed for the building in 1934 indicates that it was constructed in accordance with standard Plan No. 6363-110. This plan number is not among those of the partial inventory of Quartermaster General standard plans assembled by Chattey et al. (1997).

The poured concrete sections of the sewage sump and pump station used Dragon Cement from the Lawrence Portland Cement Co., of Northampton, Pennsylvania. The shelter house was built of Washburn North River brick and fitted with steel windows and doors produced by the Truscon Steel Co., of Youngstown, Ohio. It had a 12-inch-diameter Firma galvanized iron stationary ventilator on its roof made by W.F. Hischman Co., Inc., Buffalo, New York. The pump compartment was equipped with horizontal centrifugal pumps manufactured by Ames Pump Co., of New York City, driven by 3-horsepower, 1,150-r.p.m., 220-volt totally-enclosed motors made by Star Electric Co. (Kilpatrick 1933:4-5).

Based on limited research, previous historic architectural inventories identified Building 74 as an icehouse (Berger 1986) and as a pumphouse for water or wastewater (Olausen et al. 2005). The Quartermaster Corps property card for the building, Kilpatrick's (1933) completion report on its construction, and other sources, however, clearly demonstrate its function as a sewage sump and pump station. When constructed, the building was designated as Building 63 in the 1893 numbering system. It was renumbered in 1941. Although the Quartermaster Corps property card identifies its revised designation as Building 91, other sources, including a comprehensive list of all number changes made at this time (Quartermaster Corps 1941), give its new designation as Building 92. In the final numbering system introduced while the post was active, in 1957, it was identified as Building 76. Its present identifier, Building 74, appears to have been introduced after Fort Slocum closed.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Published Materials

Chattey, Paul, Horace Foxall, Flossie McQueen, Cynthia Nielsen, Mary Shipe, Terri Taylor, and Jamie Tippet

1997 *Context Study of the United States Quartermaster General Standardized Plans, 1866-1942.* Prepared for the U.S. Army Environmental Center, Environmental Compliance Division, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Technical Center of Expertise for Preservation of Structures and Buildings, Seattle, Washington. Accessed online, January 15, 2007, at <http://handle.dtic.mil/100.2/ADA352432>.

Nichols, Herbert B.

1938 *Historic New Rochelle.* Board of Education, New Rochelle, NY.

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Unpublished Materials

Kilpatrick, John D., Maj.

- 1933 "Completion Report of Reconstruction of Sewerage System at Fort Slocum, New York." Contract No. W6511 qm-42, completed November 29, 1933. Report prepared for the Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, DC, by the Constructing Quartermaster, New York, NY. Record Group 92. National Archives, College Park, MD.

Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

- 1986 *Fort Slocum, Davids Island, New York: A Historic Architectural Assessment*. Prepared for Dresdner Associates, Jersey City, New Jersey, by the Cultural Resource Group, Louis Berger & Associates, East Orange, New Jersey.

Olausen, Stephen, Matthew Kierstead, and Jeffrey Emidy

- 2005 *Historic Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation, Davids Island/Fort Slocum New Rochelle, New York*. Prepared for Tetra Tech FW, Inc., Morris Plains, New Jersey, by PAL, Inc., Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

- 2008 "Fort Slocum: Overview." In *Historic Building Documentation, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York*, Volume 1. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, Massachusetts, by Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston.

United States Army Quartermaster Corps [Quartermaster Corps]

ca. 1905-41 Fort Slocum Property Cards (Form 117 and predecessors). Record Group 77. National Archives, College Park, MD.

- 1941 "Notation to be Made on Historical Records [Showing Changes in Building Post Numbers]." Memorandum to File, July 24. Record Group 77. National Archives, College Park, MD.

Maps and Drawings

March 6, 1872 "Quarter Master Buildings, Davids Island, N.Y. Harbor." Map and six sheets of drawings. Record Group 92. National Archives, College Park, MD.

October 1894 (or undetermined month thereafter through December 1895) "Map of Davids Island, New York Harbor, U.S. Military Reservation, Drawn Under the Direction of Cap. J.W. Summerhayes, Asst. Qr. Mr. U.S.A." Date stamp from QMGO on reverse bears a date in 1895. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

July 1915 "Map of Fort Slocum, New York." Made by Direction of F.E. Smith, Capt. & Quartermaster. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

May 1933 "Fort Slocum, New York: Reconstruction of Sewerage System, General Layout." Revisions of April 29, 1933 map. Construction Division, Office of the Quartermaster General. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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1943 No title [Informal guide map of Fort Slocum]. Prepared by T/3 Richard Williams. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

May 1949, revised through November 1957 "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines." Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum. On file at National Archives, College Park, MD.

1952 "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, NY." Prepared by Armed Forces Information School. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

1940: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. September 4. On file at National Archives, College Park, Maryland. Digital copy examined for this research come from the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

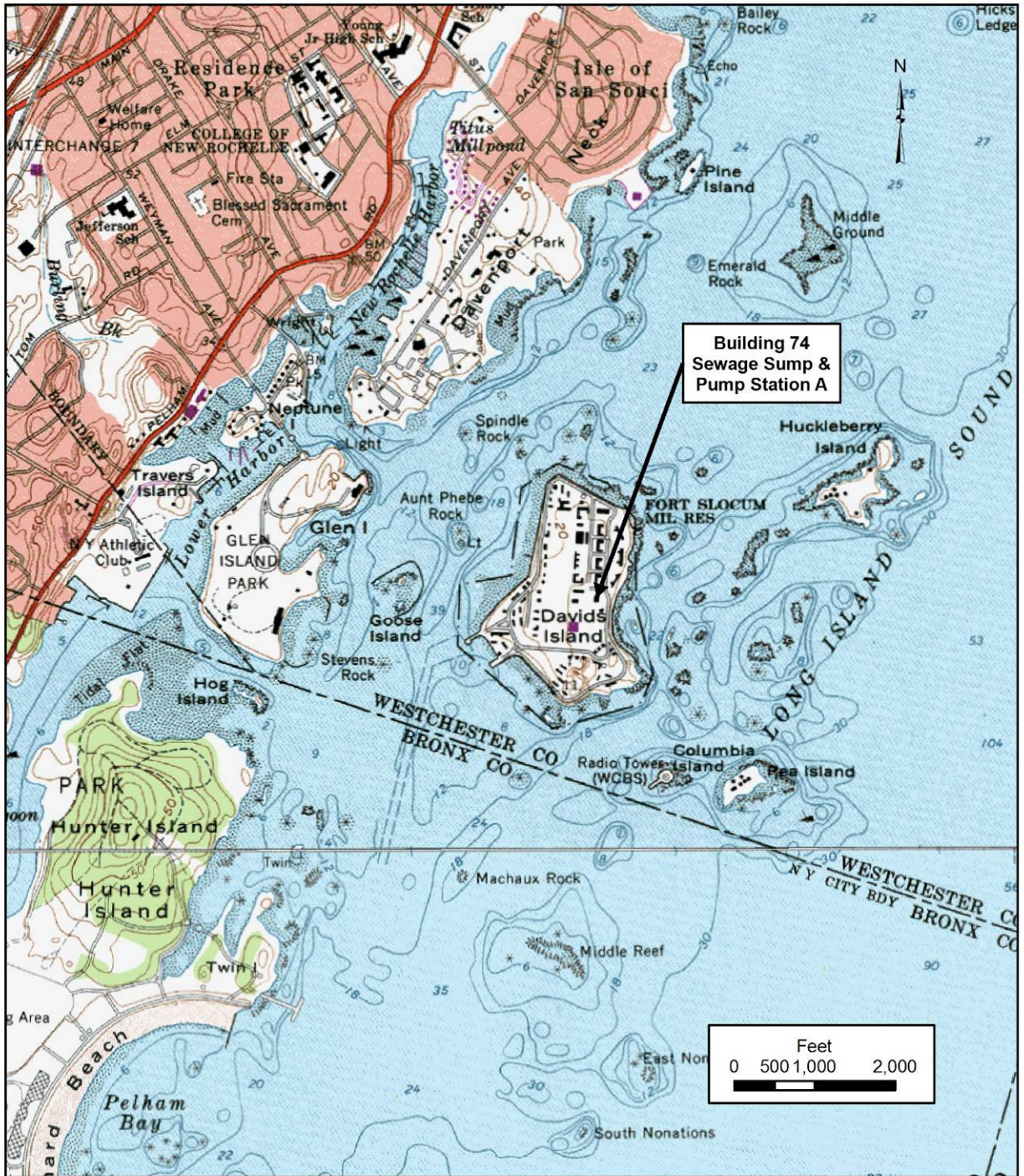
**SEWAGE SUMP & PUMP STATION A (BUILDING 74)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

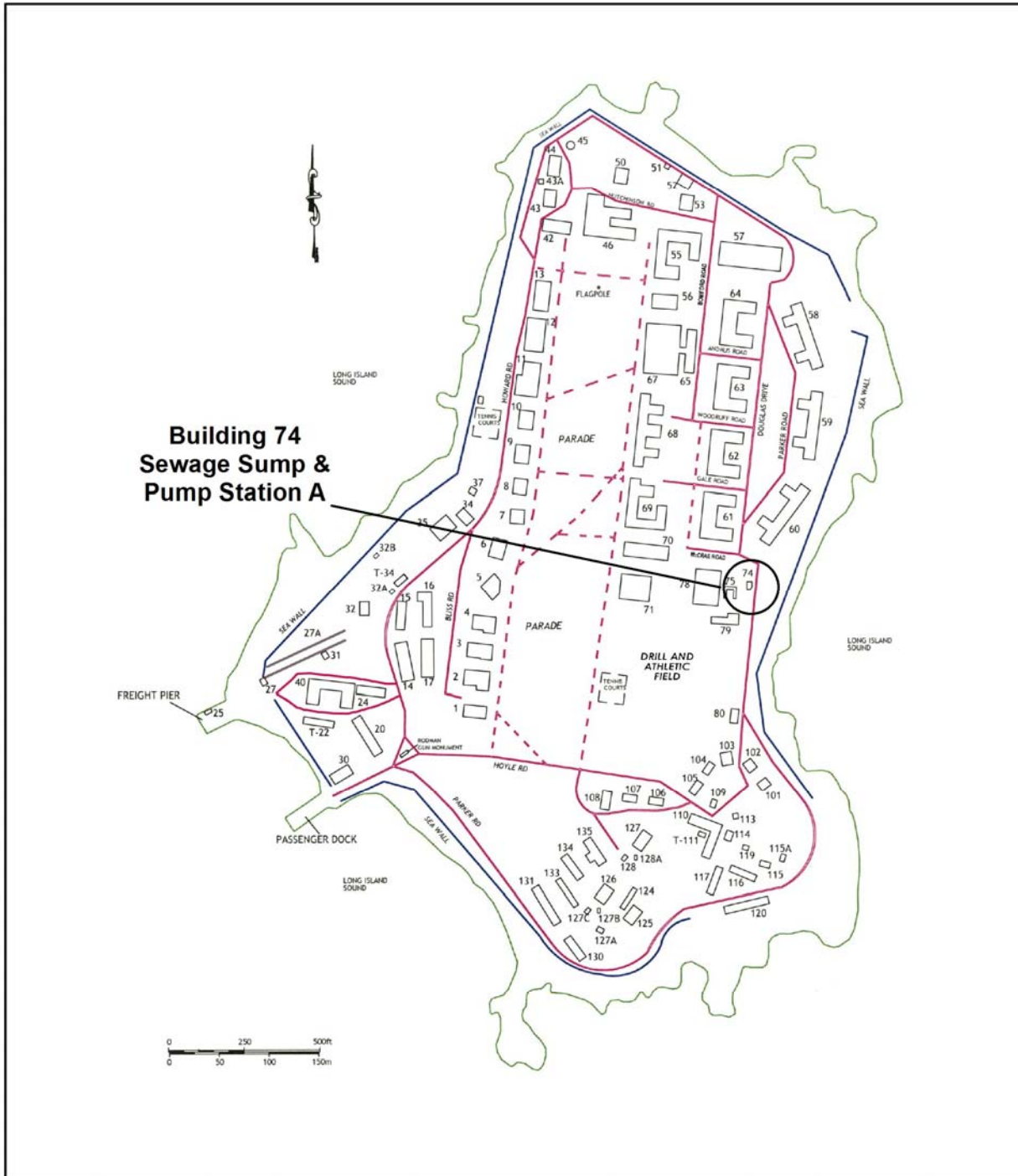
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



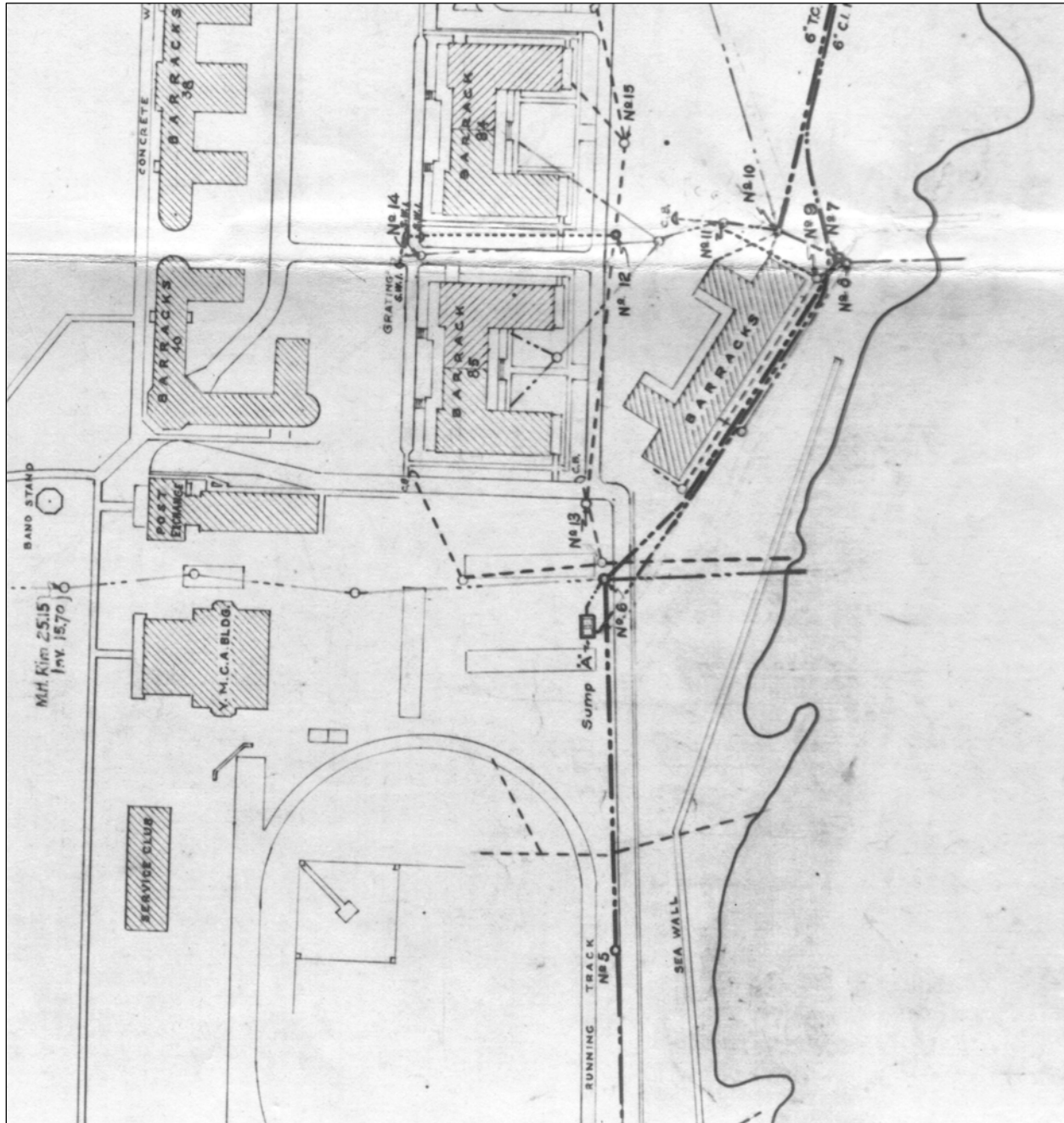
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SITE MAP



SEWAGE SUMP & PUMP STATION A (BUILDING 74)
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Figure 1. "Fort Slocum, New York: Reconstruction of Sewerage System, General Layout," May 1933, detail. Building 74, near the center of the drawing, is labeled as "Sump 'A.'" North is to the top of the drawing. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



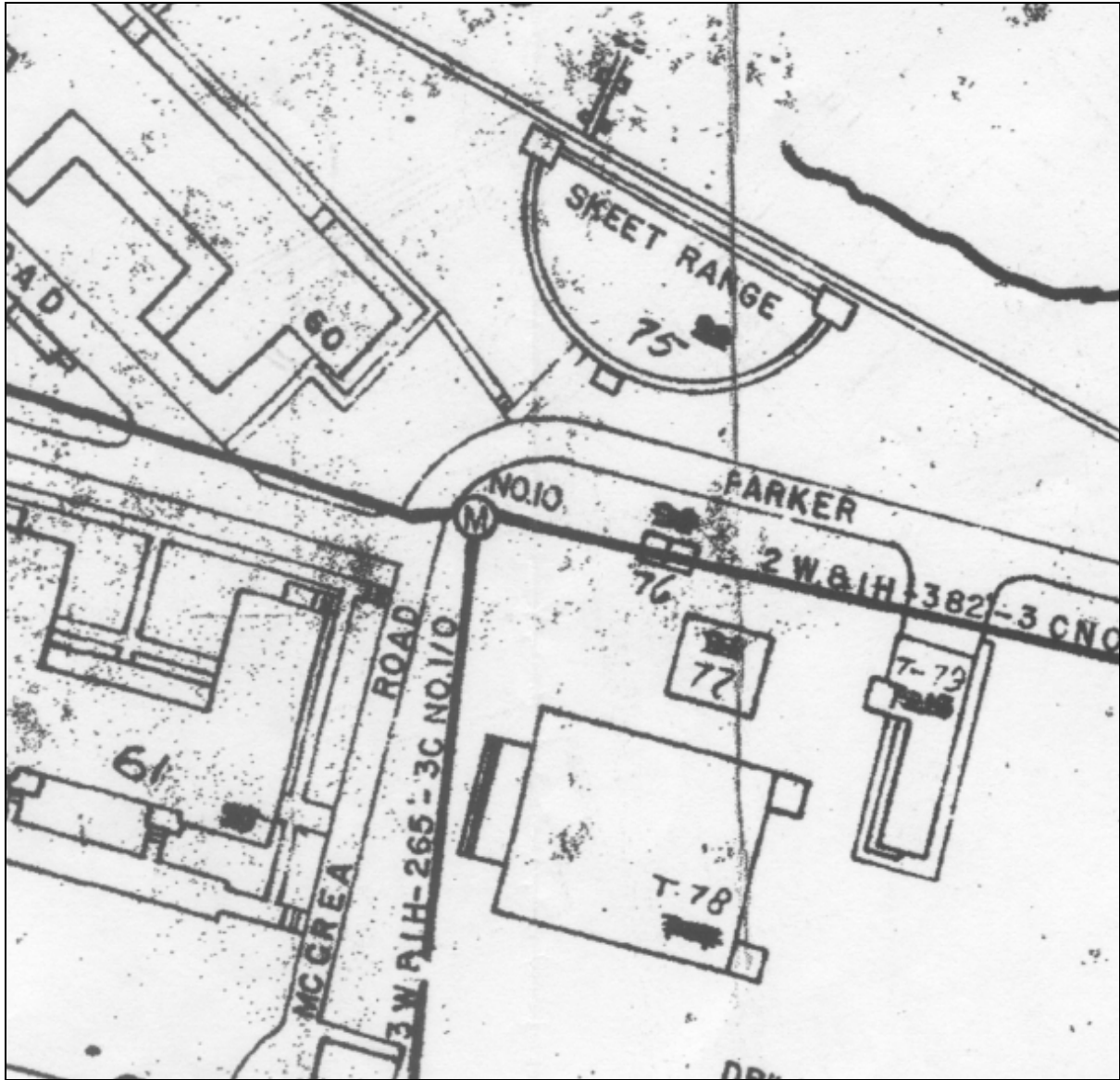
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Figure 4. Inventory Photograph, July 1934. View southwest. Building 74 was built between three wood-frame temporary barracks of First World War vintage, which were removed in ca. 1936. Two of the temporary barracks are shown here, to the left of and behind Building 74. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



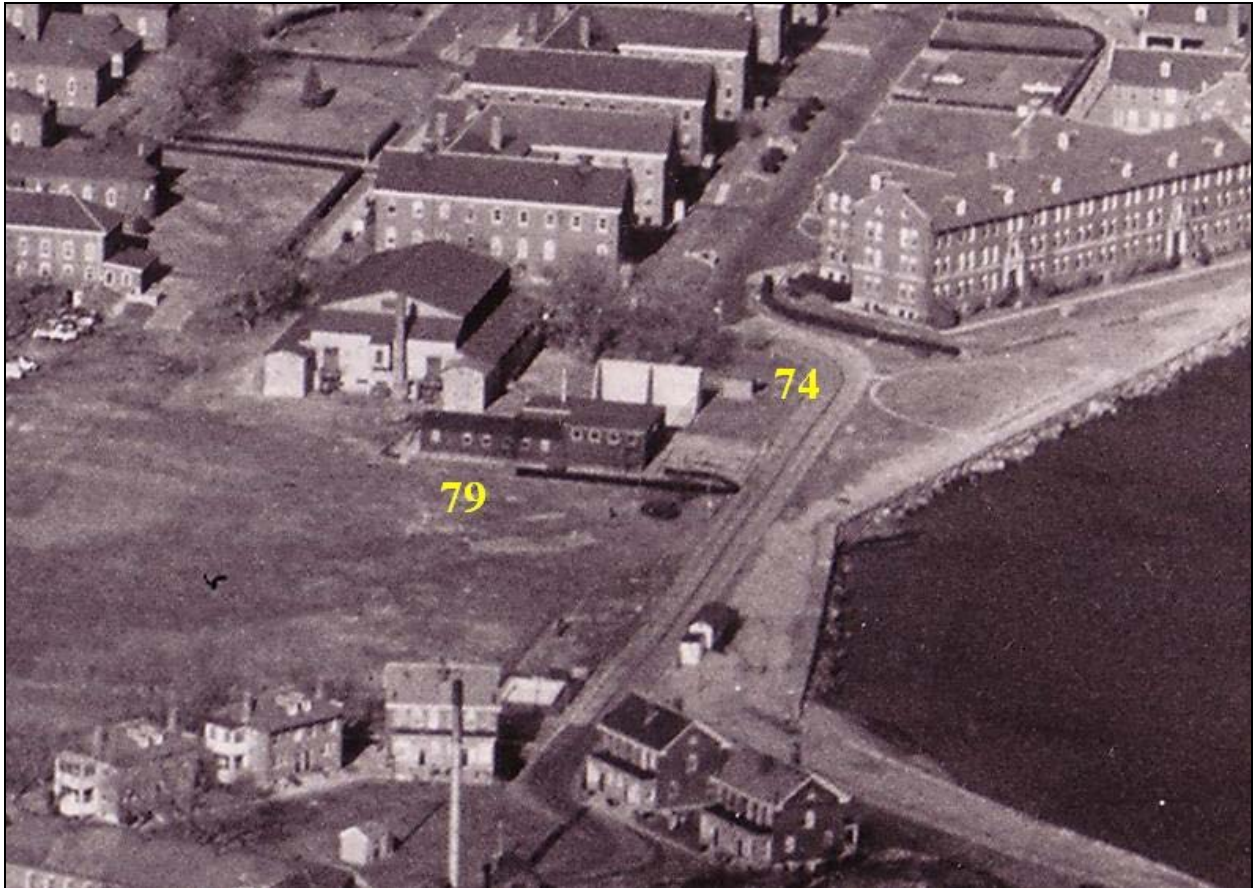
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Figure 5. "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines," May 1949, revised through November 1957, detail. Building 74 is designated Building 76 in this drawing. Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum. On file at National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 6. High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15, 1961. Building 74 is labeled. Building 79 is the Firehouse. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

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SEWAGE SUMP & PUMP STATION A (BUILDING 74)

Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Nancy Brighton, USACE, New York, NY, January 2006.

1. Eastern façade, facing west.
2. Northern façade, facing south, with open panel above underground vault visible at lower right.
3. Mosaic of three images showing partial view of interior, facing west.
4. Interior, detail of roof framing, facing west.

Photo 1. Eastern façade, facing west.



Photo 2. Northern façade, facing south, with open panel above underground vault visible at lower right.



Photo 3. Mosaic of three images showing partial view of interior, facing west.



Photo 4. Interior, detail of roof framing, facing west.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

FIREHOUSE (BUILDING 79)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603744.4526539

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1943

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or Fort Slocum Post Engineer

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2006

Significance: The Firehouse (Building 79) is situated in the Drill Field and Recreation Area and was associated with the provision of basic supply and support services to Fort Slocum’s military activities during the mid-twentieth century. The structure is an element in the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

FIREHOUSE (BUILDING 79)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Firehouse (Building 79) is located near the eastern shoreline of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with an abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 79 is situated in the northeastern quadrant of the Drill Field and Recreation Area, with which it has no specific functional association.

Building 79 is a one-story concrete-block building with an L-shaped footprint. It appears to stand on a concrete block foundation and is approached by a wide driveway apron opening off Parker Road. The building faces east onto Parker Road and the island's eastern seawall. The building is immediately north of the post's athletic field, which was the site of several baseball diamonds in the years just before 1965, when Fort Slocum closed. The building is now a ruin. Its roof is gone, and the building's interior is open. Sections of wall have failed, leaving overturned articulated wall sections and piles of rubble around the building site. The ruins are heavily overgrown by small trees and vines.

The southern and western façades of the building preserve the best evidence of the building's fenestration. Near the southwestern corner, several rectangular window openings are preserved in the south wall. These have concrete lintels and sills. The western façade has a door opening which is reached through a south-facing vestibule of concrete block. An interior concrete block bearing wall is preserved near the middle of the building's footprint, and east of this wall, the building is collapsed. The building to the west of this wall was built over a crawlspace that has a line of concrete block piers along the east-west centerline to support floor joists. To the east, the building floor is at grade and is an extension of the concrete apron of the approach. Wall stubs and a heavily corroded furnace in the northern section of the ruin mark off the remnants of a boiler room.

Historical photographs document that the main section of the Firehouse was a gabled building with a low-pitch roof. By the 1950s, there were three vehicle bays in this section at the front of the building. A narrow ell extended west from the south side of the building, apparently from west of the aforementioned concrete block bearing wall, and had a separate roof set at a slightly lower height. A chimney, no longer extant, rose from the north central part of the building in approximately the location of the apparent boiler room.

No floor plan for this building was found during archival research for this documentation project.

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Davids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it

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outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

Firehouse (Building 79)

Building 79 is located off Parker Road in the northeastern quadrant of Fort Slocum's Drill Field and Recreation Area. This section of the post contains many facilities for recreation and physical conditioning. It

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is centered on the Drill and Athletic Field, which adjoins the island's eastern shoreline. The facilities of this functional area include the post's YMCA, an armory and gymnasium, handball courts, tennis courts for enlisted personnel, and skeet range, as well as two functionally-unrelated buildings, a sewage pumping station (Building 74) and the building documented here, the post's fire station.

The western end of Building 79 probably crosses what was once the northern shoreline of a small freshwater pond. The pond was located in what is now the north-central part of the Drill Field and Recreation Area. During and just after the Civil War, several wood frame buildings stood around this pond, including an icehouse, bake house, laundry, and laundresses' dormitory. After the Army's return to Davids Island in 1878, the area around the pond was undeveloped, with only a single icehouse located nearby. Twentieth-century development of Drill Field and Recreation Area began around 1909 with closure of the pond by filling it with earth and debris and with the construction of the YMCA (Building 71) in the northwestern corner of this section of the post. Around 1912-1914, the Army built a multipurpose athletic field for football, baseball, and track on and south of the filled-in pond. Soon after, the First World War brought soldiers and recruits to Fort Slocum by the tens of thousands, and temporary buildings were erected in many places on the post to accommodate them, including near the edges of the Drill and Athletic Field. Many of these buildings stood until the 1930s, when the post entered a period of renovations and improvements. In the Drill Field and Recreation Area, this period began with the construction of Building 74 in 1933 and continued well into the Second World War. During this period, most of its later buildings and structures were constructed, including the tennis and handball courts, the Armory and Gymnasium, and the Firehouse. The Drill and Athletic Field, as the multipurpose field in the center of this section of the post had become known by the Second World War, had the last of several renovations in the early 1950s when the turf was replaced or restored and Little League and adult baseball diamonds were installed.

Building 79 was at least the fourth structure built on Davids Island to house firefighting equipment and apparatus. The first of these buildings was a small structure erected in the early 1880s a bit south of the southeastern corner of the later barracks, Building 58. Maps and other sources from the 1880s and 1890s identify this building as the "Fire Engine House," and record that it was built of brick. The building was completed shortly before the first elements of the post's water supply system, including a number of hydrants, was constructed. Around 1899, with the start of construction of Battery Fraser-Kinney in the area subsequently occupied by Building 58, the fire station was relocated to a temporary wood-frame building situated directly behind the Post Guardhouse (Building 56). This temporary building was replaced in 1910 by a brick masonry addition to the Guardhouse, and the fire station was located in the basement at the rear of that building. It remained there until 1943, when it was relocated to the present building, which was apparently constructed specifically as a fire station.

Building 79 was completed and occupied in July 1943. According to an account published in the post newspaper, the *Casual News*, on July 13, 1943, the new building was "more modern, more sanitary, encompass[ed] larger quarters for both men and apparatus than the old fire building behind [sic] the guardhouse. In addition, it [was] more centrally placed, enabling the engines to reach the furthest parts of the island in less time." The article also reported that the "new fire house contain[ed] two stalls for the engines, a squad room, a chief's room, and the sergeant's room." Besides the two engines kept at the new firehouse, a third engine was stationed "inside the garage" (presumably the Post Garage, Building 40, in the Quartermaster Area, on the opposite side of the island), but an expansion to add a third vehicle bay to the new building was planned. A system of hydrants distributed water throughout the post for firefighting, and with the construction of the new firehouse, the post also acquired a sea hydrant, designed to allow water to be drawn directly from Long Island Sound for firefighting in an emergency if the regular water supply failed. In 1943,

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the post's fire brigade consisted of ten soldiers and eight civilians, along with a civilian fire chief and a post fire marshal, a position occupied by the officer serving as Post Engineer. A sergeant led the soldier-firefighters, and it was expected that these men would soon be replaced by civilians to free them for duty elsewhere (Casual News 1943).

Though constructed of concrete block, Building 79 was originally designated as a temporary (T-series) building. Research for this documentation obtained no information about its design, as no historical property card was available. By the time the building was erected in 1942-43, responsibility for construction of buildings on Army posts had shifted from the Quartermaster Corps to the Corps of Engineers, a service-wide change implemented in July 1941. It is unknown whether the building was designed specifically for Fort Slocum by the Post Engineer or if it followed a standardized plan.

By the 1950s, the firehouse had three vehicle bays and had probably been otherwise expanded as well, judging by changes in the building's footprint depicted on different historic maps. Details of these changes and the interior layout, however, remain to be documented specifically.

When constructed, the Firehouse was designated as Building T-13. This designation was changed to T-79 in the post-wide numbering system revision of 1957. The T-prefix appears to have dropped from the designation only sometime after Fort Slocum closed in 1965.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Published Materials

Casual News [Fort Slocum's post newspaper in the Second World War-era]

1943 New Fire House for GI, Civ's Fire Fight: Civilian Personnel to Shortly Replace Soldiers. July 13:1.

Nichols, Herbert B.

1938 *Historic New Rochelle*. Board of Education, New Rochelle, NY.

Unpublished Materials

Olausen, Stephen, Matthew Kierstead, and Jeffrey Emidy

2005 *Historic Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation, Davids Island/Fort Slocum New Rochelle, New York*. Prepared for Tetra Tech FW, Inc., Morris Plains, New Jersey, by PAL, Inc., Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

2008 "Fort Slocum: Overview." In *Historic Building Documentation, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York*, Volume 1. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, Massachusetts, by Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston.

United States Army Quartermaster Corps [Quartermaster Corps]

ca. 1905-41 Fort Slocum Property Cards (Form 117 and predecessors). Record Group 77. National Archives, College Park, MD.

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Maps and Drawings

March 6, 1872 “Quarter Master Buildings, Davids Island, N.Y. Harbor.” Map and six sheets of drawings. Record Group 92. National Archives, College Park, MD.

March 1884 “David’s Island, N.Y. Harbor... [Showing] Buildings as They Stand, March 12, 1884.” Prepared by George H. Cook, Capt. & A.Q.M. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

July 1888 “Map of Davids Island, New York Harbor.” Prepared under the direction of George H. Cook, Capt. & Asstg Q.M. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

October 1894 (or undetermined month thereafter through December 1895) “Map of Davids Island, New York Harbor, U.S. Military Reservation, Drawn Under the Direction of Cap. J.W. Summerhayes, Asst. Qr. Mr. U.S.A.” Date stamp from QMGO on reverse bears a date in 1895. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

May 1908 “Fort Slocum, Davids Island, N.Y.” U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps, New York Harbor Eastern Long Island Sound Approaches Fortification Map Series. Record Group 392, National Archives, New York, NY.

March 1909 “Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, NY.” Made by Direction of Peter Murray, Capt. and Construction Q.M.” Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

July 1915 “Map of Fort Slocum, New York.” Made by Direction of F.E. Smith, Capt. & Quartermaster. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

May 1933 “Fort Slocum, New York: Reconstruction of Sewerage System, General Layout.” Revisions of April 29, 1933 map. Construction Division, Office of the Quartermaster General. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

1943 No title [Informal guide map of Fort Slocum]. Prepared by T/3 Richard Williams. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

May 1949, revised through November 1957 “Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines.” Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum. On file at National Archives, College Park, MD.

1952 “Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, NY.” Prepared by Armed Forces Information School. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

1961 “Map of Fort Slocum (Davids Island), New Rochelle, N.Y.” Prepared under the direction of the First Army Engineer by the Engineer Intelligence Division, Governors Island, New York. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

ca. 1942: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, Columbia Island, and Huckleberry Island. View northeast. U.S. Air Force Historical Research Agency, Maxwell Air Force Base. Digital copy in the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection.

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1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

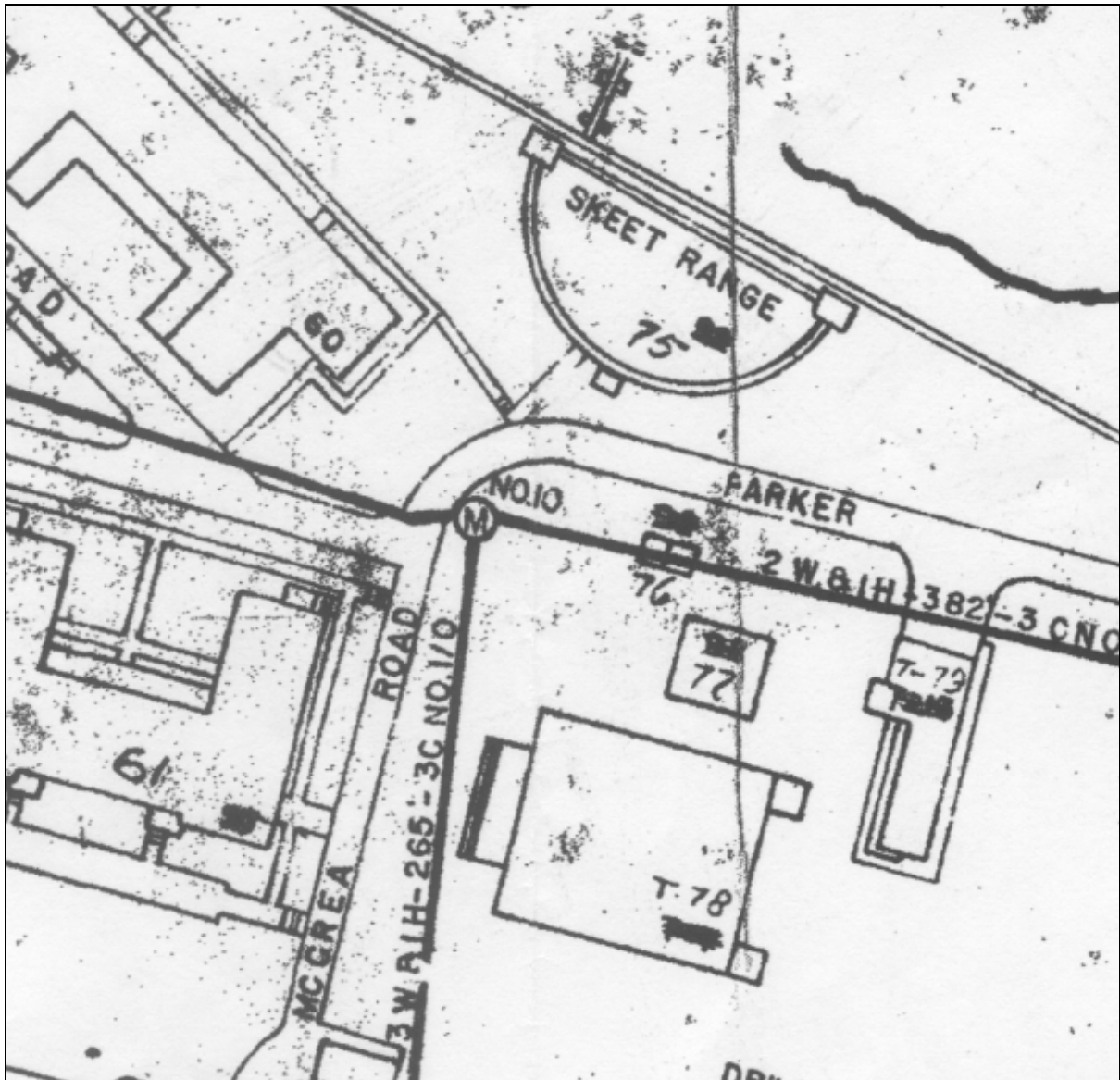
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



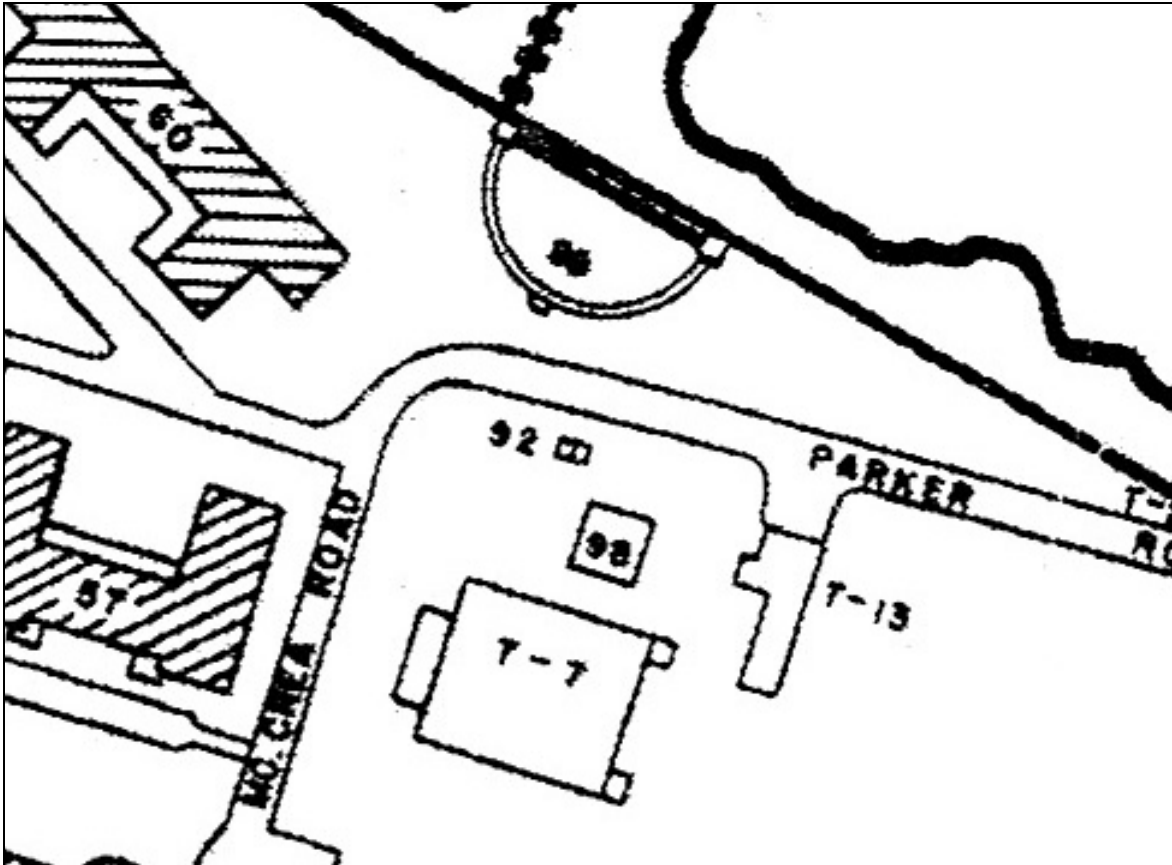
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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 1. "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines," May 1949, revised through November 1957, detail. The Firehouse is designated Building T-79. North is to the left. Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum. On file at National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 2. "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, NY," 1952, detail. The Firehouse is designated Building T-13 in this drawing. Prepared by Armed Forces Information School. North is to the left. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



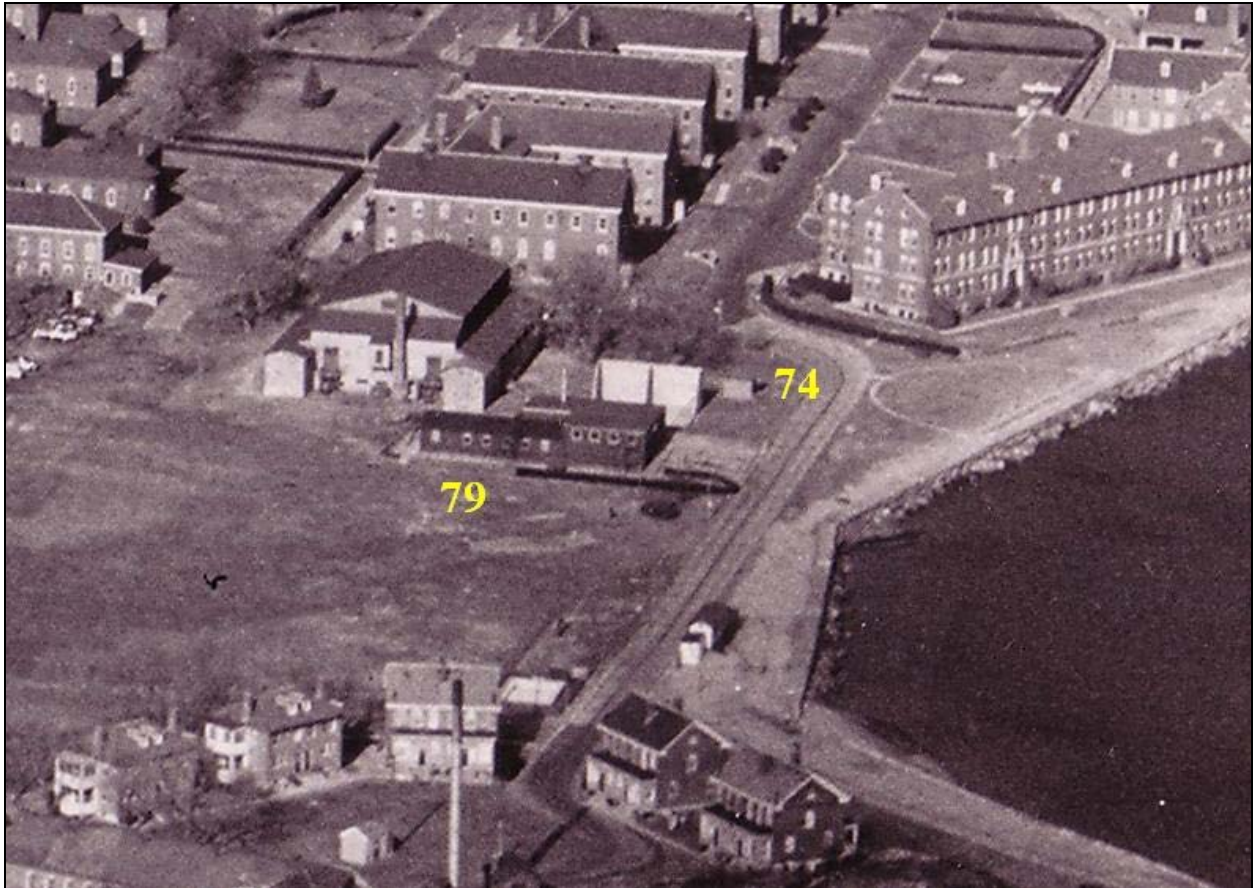
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Figure 3. Eastern side of Fort Slocum from Building 60, ca. 1960. View south along Parker Road. The Firehouse (Building 79) is third structure from the bottom on the right side of the building. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



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Figure 4. High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1961. View north. Building 79 is labeled. Building 74 is the Sewage Sump and Pump Station. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

FIREHOUSE (BUILDING 79)

Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Nancy Brighton, USACE, New York, NY, January 2006.

1. Eastern façade, facing west.
2. Interior view of auxiliary mechanical remains, facing west.
3. Interior view.
4. Southern façade, facing northwest.
5. Interior view, facing west.
6. Southern façade, facing northeast.

Photo 1. Eastern façade, facing west.



Photo 2. Interior view of auxiliary mechanical remains, facing west.



Photo 3. Interior view.



Photo 4. Southern façade, facing northwest.



Photo 5. Interior view, facing west.



Photo 6. Southern façade, facing northeast.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603785.4526377

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1909

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2006

Significance: The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 101) is associated with the provision of housing to non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families in support of Fort Slocum's twentieth-century military activities. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 2)

PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 101) is located in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland, and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with now-abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 101 is the easternmost building of the Non-Commissioned Officers' Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum contains seven duplex dwellings built to house non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families, as well as several other buildings. The seven sets of quarters are built to two common plans, one of which is represented by Buildings 101-103 and the other of which encompasses Buildings 104-107.

Building 101 was destroyed by fire in August 1981 (Cavanaugh 2007). It is in ruins, with only parts of two walls remaining. One wall, running from northwest to southeast across the short axis of the building, formerly divided it into two units. The wall includes two chimneys, located toward the eastern and western ends of the wall—i.e., toward the front and back of the building. The eastern chimney rises to its original height while the western one is broken off short of the top. This dividing wall intersects with the one-story remnant of the building's western façade. The ruined façade contains two arched window openings on each side of the dividing wall. The building has no roof, other extant walls or interior elements (Photos 1-3).

Photographs, which form the basis of this description, show that when extant, Building 101 was a two-and-a-half story Colonial Revival building with a rectangular plan and a side-gabled roof (Figures 1-5). It was a residential duplex with the two halves being mirror images of each other. The eastern, primary façade featured two matching sets of elements reflected around the midline, indicating the two, side-by-side residential units. The eastern façade had two entrances, each of which was set toward the corner. The entrances were sheltered by a full-width porch set on stone piers, shared in common by the two units. The porch was reached by staircases located at each end of the porch, each with four wooden steps rising straight up towards the entries from what appears to have been a concrete pad and first step. The hipped roof of the porch was supported by square posts decorated with applied moldings at the top and bottom. To the inside of the doors, two large rectangular windows were located on each side of the midline. The windows were six-over-six double hung sash windows, with limestone sills and a double row of headers forming a segmental arch for the opening. Similar windows on the second floor were directly over those on the first. The bricks of the façade between the roof of the porch and the top of the sash windows appear to have been covered with stucco in historic photos of the building. The wall was topped with an elaborate wood cornice situated below the gutter and eaves of the roof.

The gable ends of the building appear to be identical. In each façade, there were three six-over-six double hung sash windows, with two of equal spacing on the first floor and one centered on the second floor. A fanlight window was placed in the middle of the gable. All of the windows appear to have had limestone sills. The brick wall sat on a limestone water table atop the schist foundation. The wall was capped by a raking cornice with returns.

The rear façade of the building was, like the front, bilaterally symmetrical and had a hipped-roof, enclosed porch uniting the two halves of the building. Each side of the duplex had a central door reached by a set of stairs and flanked by windows. There was a large, six-over-six double hung wood sash window at the outside

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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corner and the back door was flanked by two smaller four-over-four double hung wood sash windows. The window between the door and large window was located with its sill at the same height as the sill of the larger window. The smaller windows closer to the midline of the building were placed so their lintels are even with the lintels of the larger windows. The end walls of the enclosed porch had a single window. There were three windows above the porch on each side. Two large windows sat to the inside of a smaller window located near the edge of the building. The rear door was reached by a set of five precast concrete steps with open risers and a pipe hand rail. These probably replaced earlier wooden steps and were most likely installed during the 1950s.

Two tall brick chimneys emerged below the roof's ridgeline with one on the front slope and one in the rear. A small plumbing ventilation stack emerged from the lower, outside corners of the rear slope of the roof.

The 1939 Quartermaster Corps property card for this building (Figure 3) does not include a floor plan, nor are floor plans available for the other buildings at Fort Slocum that were built to the same plan.

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Davids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 101)

Building 101 is one of seven duplex dwellings for NCOs and their families situated near the eastern shore of Davids Island. Together with the Post Chapel (Building 108), the NCO Children's Swimming Pool (Building 80), and Transformer House No. 3 (Building 109), these dwellings comprise the NCO Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a small functional area wedged between the Drill and Athletic Field to the north and the Defense and Support Area (which includes the Mortar Battery) to the south. Buildings 101 to 103 were built from a common design in 1908-1909 at the area's eastern end (Figure 2).

The NCO Family Housing Area was established in the early twentieth century. Before then, its eastern two-thirds was little used, and no permanent structures stood in it. Its western third was occupied during the Civil War, but in the last decades of the nineteenth century, it was also empty. During and immediately after the Civil War, three long wood-frame buildings stood at the western end of the present functional area, occupying the future sites of the Post Chapel and the most western two NCO quarters (Buildings 106 and 107) and the land immediately to the south. The buildings were a hospital pavilion, an officers' quarters, and a mess, and like most of the buildings of the hospital, they were apparently little more than shed-like shelters. They were apparently removed in the 1870s.

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NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 5)

The history of NCO housing at Fort Slocum in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries appears to have been fairly typical, and the size, quality, and numbers of such quarters seem characteristic of Army posts of similar size elsewhere. In the 1880s and 1890s, NCO quarters were divided between those for specialists, like the commissary and quartermaster sergeants, and those for company NCOs. Company NCOs were housed in the Barracks Area near the enlisted men for whom they were responsible, while the specialist NCOs, who had responsibilities covering the entire post, were housed elsewhere, generally in the vicinity of the Quartermaster Area. If unmarried, company NCOs were quartered in the barracks with their men, but if married, they lived in one of the two wood-frame apartment-style quarters nearby, in areas later occupied by Building 57 and 58 (Summerhayes 1893, 1894-95). This disposition of specialist and company NCO housing continued until 1908-1909, when the Army built three new duplexes for NCOs, Buildings 101 to 103, on the southeastern side of the island in what is now the NCO Family Housing Area. With the construction of these dwellings, the older frame dwellings for NCOs in the Quartermaster and Barracks areas were removed. The year 1909 also saw the construction of the Post Chapel at the western end of the NCO Family Housing Area.

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Hoagland (2004:figure 4-17) provides a sketch comparing this design with several other variants that were built between the 1900s and the 1930s at Fort Russell. A floor plan of an earlier variant of standard Plan No. 82 can be found in the Historic American Buildings Survey documentation of an NCO quarters at Fort Myer, Virginia (Massey 1988). No information about later alterations to the building is presently available.

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NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 6)

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PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
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Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

(Except as noted, all photographs are on file at National Archives, College Park, Maryland. Digital copies examined for this research come from the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.)

1923: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. November 20.

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 11.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 8)

ca. 1938: Real-photo postcard showing low-angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. Summer. View north. In collection of Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles. Also published in *New York City's Harbor Defenses* (2003), p. 92, by Leo Polaski and Glen Williford, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina.

1940: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. September 4.

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection.

ca. 1968: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north.

**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

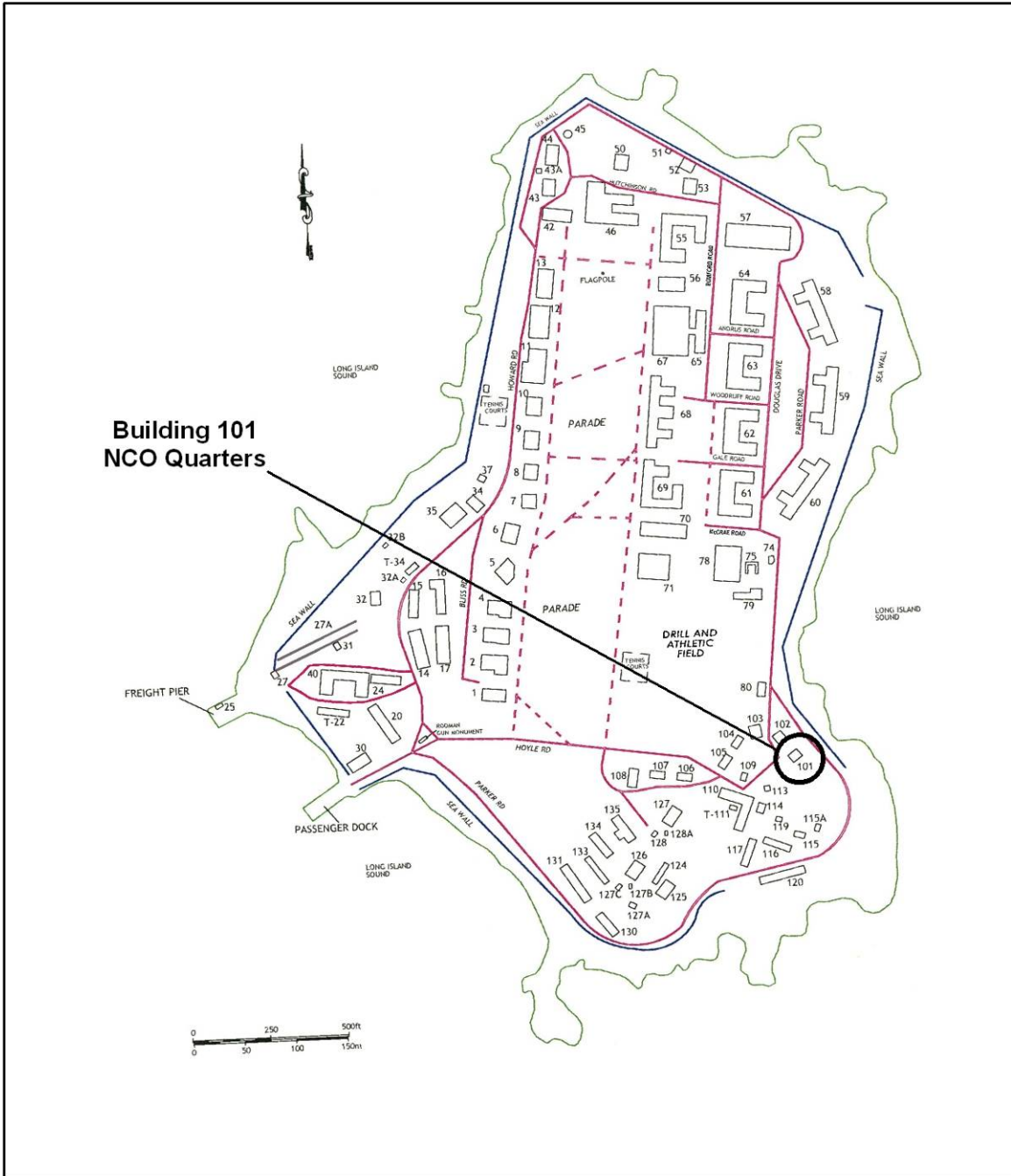
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



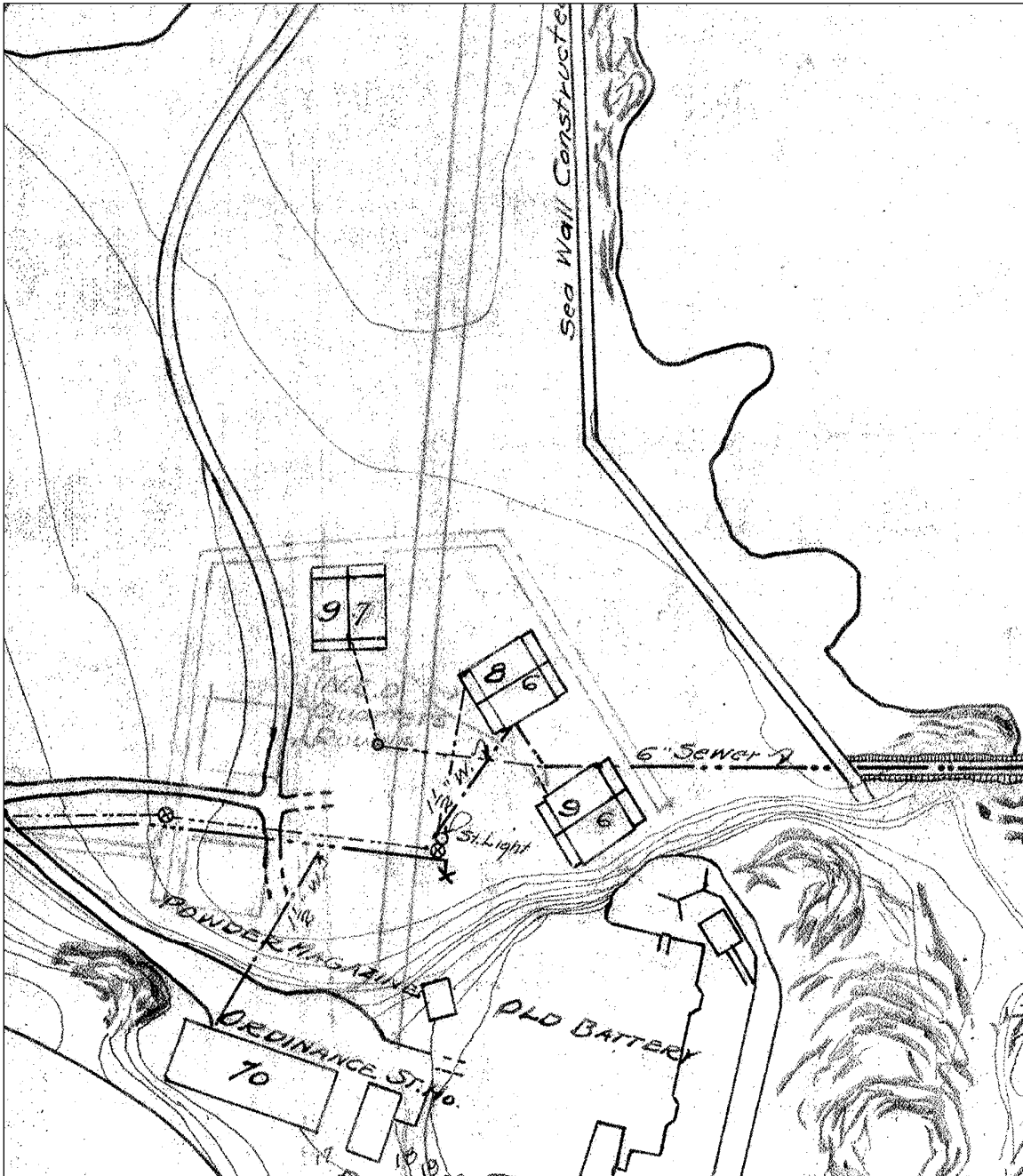
**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
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SITE MAP



NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
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Figure 1. "Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, NY," 1909, detail. Building 101 is designated as Building 96 in this drawing. North is to the top of the page. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 2. Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1932, detail. View north. The five buildings at the top of the image are in the NCO Family Quarters, from left to right, Building 105, 104, 103, 102, and 101. The L-shaped building in the center of the image is Building 110. At the lower left is Battery Overton Pit A of the Endicott-era Mortar Battery. Original in National Archives, College Park, MD; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
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Figure 3. Property Record, July 1940. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.

<p>17 (Old No. 17A)</p> <p>Place... Fort Slocum, N.Y. Designation of building... N.C.O. Quarters Total cost, \$... 8077.00 Material: Walls... Brick Roof... Slate Total floor area above basement, square feet... 1,672 Sq. Ft. Size: Main building... 27'5" x 37' a. Newport # 5 Adjustable (86-E) Pierce Butler #1E-20(96-A) b. Steam - Coal Operated c. Ideal #75-F (2) (Type of domestic hot water heater) COOKING RANGES INSTALLED Coal, No. None Gas, No. None Electric No. Two Oil, No. None Steam, No. None</p>		<p>Post Plan No. O.Q.M.C.: Plan No. 83-K Building No. 96-34</p>	
<p>Date completed Nov. 15, 1909. Foundation Stone Floors Wood Wings None Height of first floor above ground 4.6" How lighted Electrically Water connections Yes Sewer connections Yes Gas connections None METERS INSTALLED Gas, No. None Electric, No. Four (4) Oil, No. None Steam, No. None Water, No. None</p>		<p>JUL 1940</p>	
<p align="center">ADDITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS (Below enter chronologically all modifications, additions, introductions of water, sewer, lights, heating, etc.)</p>			
DATE	DESCRIPTION	COST	DATE
	Total cost of repairs to June 30, 1939.	\$7090.26	

**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 4. Inventory photo, July 1940. View southwest. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
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Figure 5. Eastern end of the NCO Family Housing Area in the 1950s. View north of rear (southwestern) façades. Building 101 is to right, Building 102 to left. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 101)

Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005 (Photo 1) and November 2004 (Photos 2-3).

1. Western façade, facing east.
2. Southern façade, facing north.
3. Remnant interior wall, facing south.

Photo 1. Western façade, facing east.



Photo 2. Southern façade, facing north.



Photo 3. Remnant interior wall, facing south.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 102)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603771.4526394

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1908

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2006

Significance: The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 102) is associated with the provision of housing to non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families in support of Fort Slocum's twentieth-century military activities. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 102)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 2)

PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 102) is located in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland, and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with now-abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 102 is near the eastern end of the Non-Commissioned Officers' Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum contains seven duplex dwellings built to house non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families, as well as several other buildings. The seven sets of quarters are built to two common plans, one of which is represented by Buildings 101-103 and the other of which encompasses Buildings 104-107.

Building 102 was destroyed by fire in August 1981 (Cavanaugh 2007). The remaining ruin is a brick shell of variable height obscured by dense overgrowth. While the front and rear walls are largely intact and rise to their original height of two stories, the gables have collapsed, leaving the building's side walls at the same height as those of the building's front and rear walls. The central partition wall, which divides the structure into two residential units is largely intact and retains its full two-and-a-half story height including the gable. The wall includes two chimneys, both of which rise to their original heights, which are located toward the eastern and western ends of the wall—i.e., toward the front and back of the building (Photos 1-2).

The easterly, or front, façade of the ruin retains all of its fenestration. There are door openings at the outside corners of the first story with four evenly-spaced window openings between them, two for each unit of the duplex. The window openings of the second floor line up with those of the first floor. Evidence of the front porch roof remains visible on the façade's wall and includes a line of joist pockets in the brickwork, traces of roof flashing, and stuccoing above the porch roofline. These traces show that the porch roof originated just below the second floor window sills and sloped down at each corner. The northerly façade contains a single central rectangular window opening on the second story and two symmetrically-placed rectangular window openings on the first story; this fenestration is all crowned by a double row brick segmental arch. The westerly, or rear, façade retains many of its basic elements that reflect the symmetrical arrangement of a duplex. The northern portion of this façade is largely intact, while the southern portion is partly collapsed. The intact section includes a door centered between large window openings on the ground floor and three window openings on the second floor that line up with the first floor openings. The outermost window opening has a higher sill than the other two second story window openings. The southerly façade contains a pair of window openings on the ground floor. The second story wall is only partially intact: the lower portion of a window opening is visible in its center. The building does not have a roof, and the interior walls, floors, and framing are gone.

Historic photographs show that when extant Building 102 was a two-and-a-half story Colonial Revival building with a rectangular plan and a side-gabled roof (Figures 1-5). Both the front and rear had one-story, full width porches. Building 102 was built to the same plan as Building 101 and resembled it closely. The description of that building is representative of the appearance of Building 102. (See the documentation for Building 101, also in Volume 4 of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements: Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District*.)

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 102)
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PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Dauids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 102)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 4)

By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 102)

Building 102 is one of seven duplex dwellings for NCOs and their families situated near the eastern shore of Davids Island. Together with the Post Chapel (Building 108), the NCO Children's Swimming Pool (Building 80), and Transformer House No. 3 (Building 109), these dwellings comprise the NCO Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a small functional area wedged between the Drill and Athletic Field to the north and the Defense and Support Area (which includes the Mortar Battery) to the south. Buildings 101 to 103 were built from a common design in 1908-1909 at the area's eastern end (Figure 2).

The NCO Family Housing Area was established in the early twentieth century. Before then, its eastern two-thirds was little used, and no permanent structures stood in it. Its western third was occupied during the Civil War, but in the last decades of the nineteenth century, it was also empty. During and immediately after the Civil War, three long wood-frame buildings stood at the western end of the present functional area, occupying the future sites of the Post Chapel and the most western two NCO quarters (Buildings 106 and 107) and the land immediately to the south. The buildings were a hospital pavilion, an officers' quarters, and a mess, and like most of the buildings of the hospital, they were apparently little more than shed-like shelters. They were apparently removed in the 1870s.

The Army had no specific provisions or standardized plans to quarter NCOs and their families—at Fort Slocum or elsewhere—until the 1880s. Thereafter, the service began to build NCO housing, which was one of many improvements introduced toward the end of the century to enhance the circumstances of NCOs and encourage their reenlistment. As the nineteenth century became the twentieth, retention of NCOs became ever more important as the Army embraced new technologies, whose successful installation, maintenance, and operation required increasing numbers of experienced NCO specialists (Chattey et al. 1997:269-271; Coffman 2004; Cooling 1968).

The history of NCO housing at Fort Slocum in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries appears to have been fairly typical, and the size, quality, and numbers of such quarters seem characteristic of Army posts of similar size elsewhere. In the 1880s and 1890s, NCO quarters were divided between those for specialists, like the commissary and quartermaster sergeants, and those for company NCOs. Company NCOs were housed in the Barracks Area near the enlisted men for whom they were responsible, while the specialist NCOs, who had responsibilities covering the entire post, were housed elsewhere, generally in the vicinity of the Quartermaster Area. If unmarried, company NCOs were quartered in the barracks with their men, but if married, they lived in one of the two wood-frame apartment-style quarters nearby, in areas later occupied by Building 57 and 58 (Summerhayes 1893, 1894-95). This disposition of specialist and company NCO housing continued until 1908-1909, when the Army built three new duplexes for NCOs, Buildings 101 to 103, on the southeastern side of the island in what is now the NCO Family Housing Area. With the construction of these dwellings, the older frame dwellings for NCOs in the Quartermaster and Barracks areas were removed. The year 1909 also saw the construction of the Post Chapel at the western end of the NCO Family Housing Area.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 102)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 5)

Buildings 101 to 103 became the nucleus of a new functional area at the post. It is not clear why these buildings were situated where they were. On the one hand, they seem to be separated from both single enlisted men and officers so as to form a new residential area on the post. On the other hand, the place chosen for the new quarters seems isolated and is immediately adjacent to buildings with non-residential functions, such as the handling of explosives (Buildings 110 and 113), the temporary storage of human remains (Building 119), and incineration of the post's garbage (Building 115). Given the restricted size of the island, perhaps there were few alternatives available. Annotations made on a 1906-1907 map of the post indicate the Army considered, but evidently rejected, other locations for the quarters in the southeastern quadrant of the post.

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PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Published Materials

- Chattey, Paul, Horace Foxall, Flossie McQueen, Cynthia Nielsen, Mary Shipe, Terri Taylor, and Jamie Tippet
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NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 102)
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May 1949, revised through November 1957 "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines." Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum. On file at Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, from materials supplied by Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.

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ca. 1968: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north.

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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

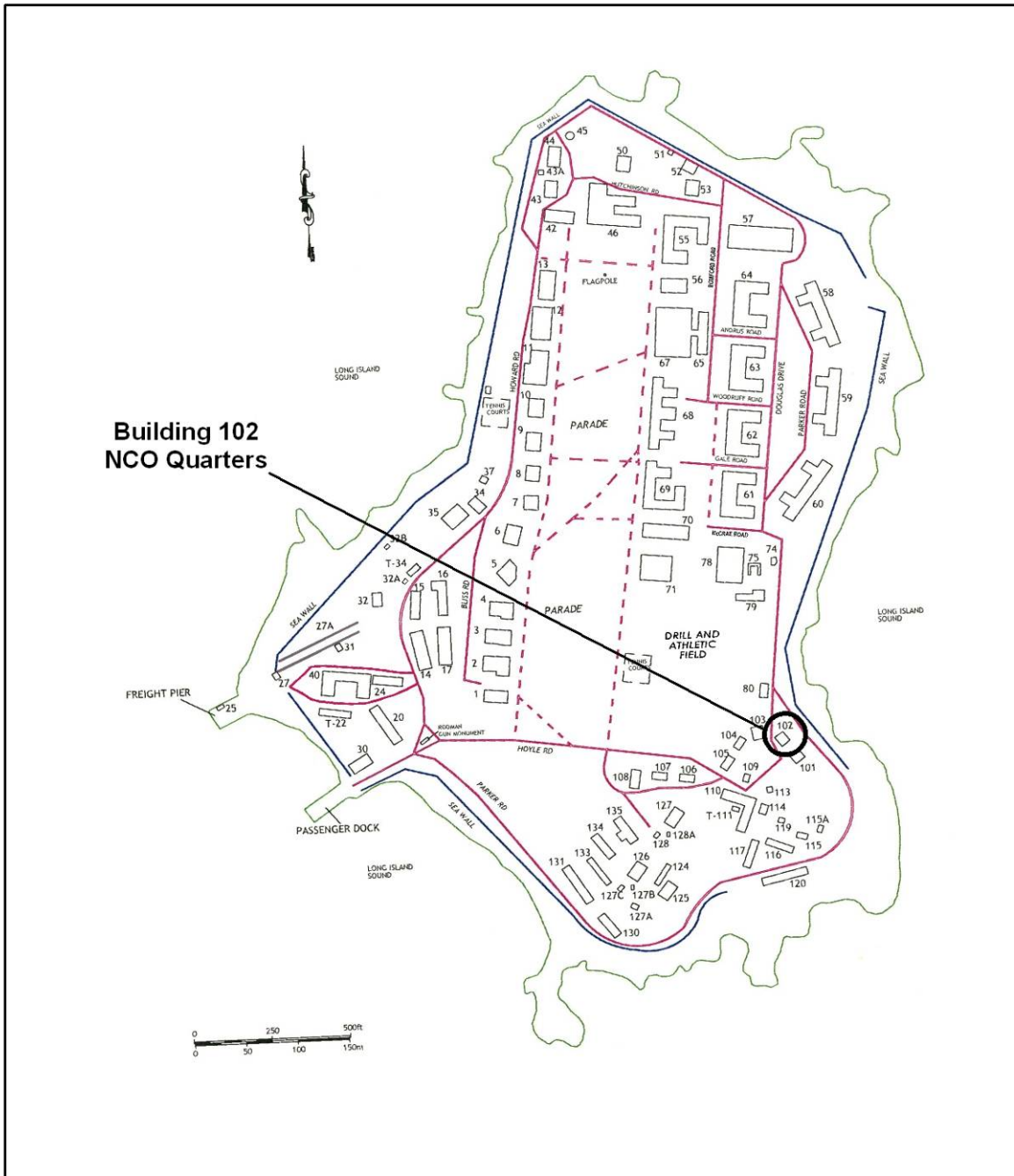
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



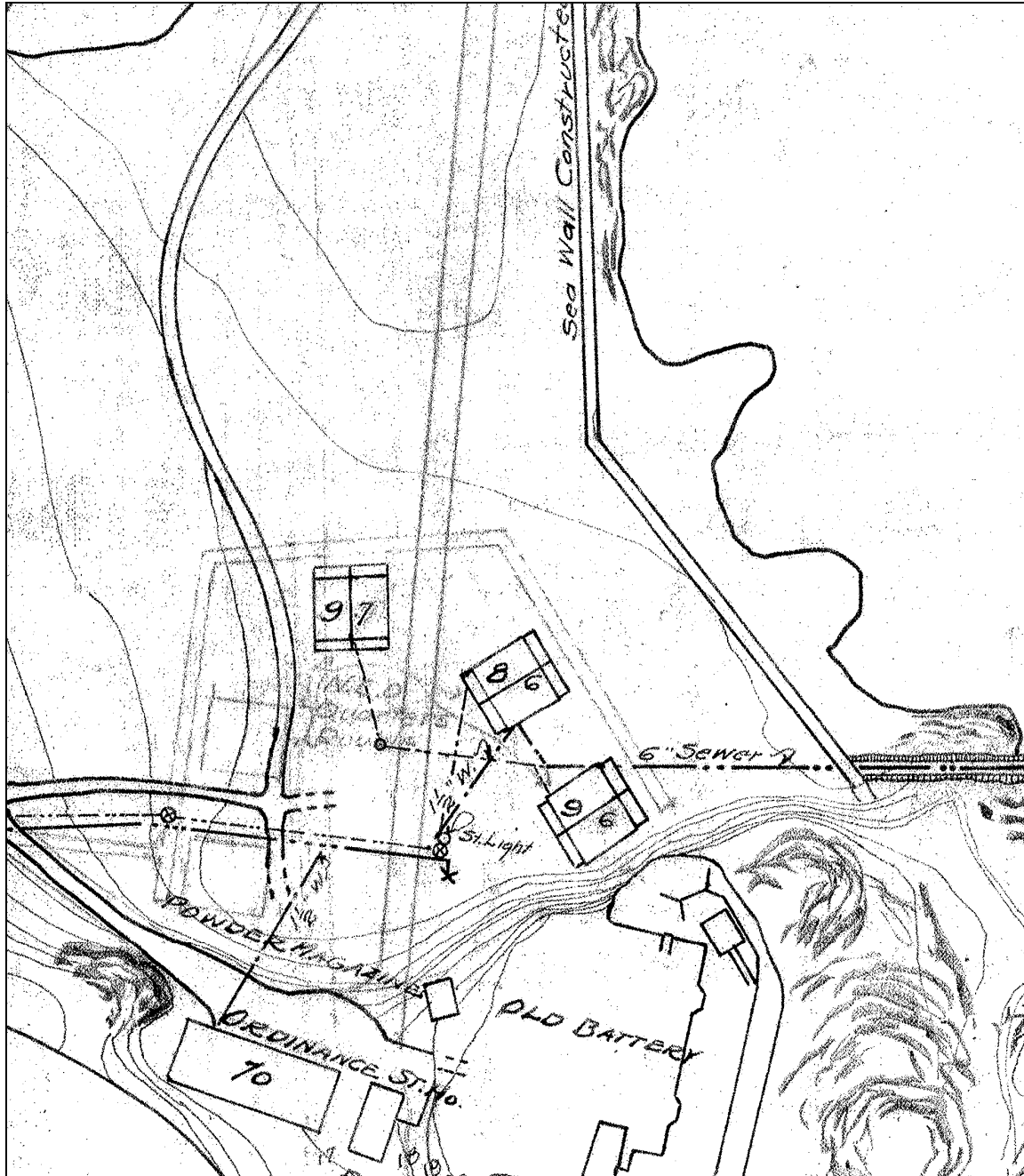
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 102)
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SITE MAP



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Figure 1. "Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, NY," 1909, detail. Building 102 is designated as Building 86 in this drawing. North is to the top of the page. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 2. Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1932, detail. View north. The five buildings at the top of the image are in the NCO Family Quarters, from left to right, Building 105, 104, 103, 102, and 101. The L-shaped building in the center of the image is Building 110. At the lower left is Battery Overton Pit A of the Endicott-era Mortar Battery. Original in National Archives, College Park, MD; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



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Figure 4. Inventory photo, July 1940. View southwest. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 5. Eastern end of the NCO Family Housing Area in the 1950s. View north of rear (southwestern) façades. Building 101 is to right, Building 102 to left. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

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Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005 (Photo 1) and November 2004 (Photo 2).

1. Northern and western façades, facing southeast.
2. Western façade, facing northeast.

Photo 1. Northern and western façades, facing southeast.



Photo 2. Western façade, facing northeast.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 103)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603746.4526402

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1909

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2006

Significance: The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 103) is associated with the provision of housing to non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families in support of Fort Slocum's twentieth-century military activities. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 103)
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 103) is located in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland, and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with now-abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 103 is in eastern section of the Non-Commissioned Officers' Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum contains seven duplex dwellings built to house non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families, as well as several other buildings. The seven sets of quarters are built to two common plans, one of which is represented by Buildings 101-103 and the other of which encompasses Buildings 104-107.

Building 103 was destroyed by fire in August, 1981 (Cavanaugh 2007). The ruin that remains is a two-story brick shell surrounded by dense overgrowth (Figures 1 to 4). Little remains above grade of the western unit of the duplex, with only portions of the foundation wall, short stretches of the water table, and wall remnants rising to about eight feet at the northwest corner. The eastern unit is more intact, with the brick walls rising to the height of the second floor in most places. In this half of the ruin, the northern wall retains the entrance, with a segmental brick arch, set within the corner of the first story with two rectangular window openings (each with a segmental brick arch and a limestone sill) toward the west. The second story is largely missing, and with no fenestration remaining. The eastern façade contains remnants of a single central rectangular window opening on the second story and two symmetrically-placed rectangular window openings on the first story. The southern portion of the eastern unit contains a centrally located door opening flanked by windows on the ground floor. The southern corners of the second floor of the eastern unit remain intact, but the central section has collapsed. Stone piers and steps, remnants of the back porch, sit to the south of the buildings rear wall. The building does not have a roof, and the interior walls, floors, and framing are gone (Photos 1-3).

Historic photographs show that when extant Building 103 was a two-and-a-half story Colonial Revival building with a rectangular plan and a side-gabled roof (Figures 1-4). Both the front and rear had one-story, full width porches. Building 103 closely resembled Building 107 and was evidently constructed from the same design. The detailed description of Building 107 is representative of the appearance of Building 103. (See the documentation for Building 107, also in Volume 4 of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements: Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District*.)

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Davids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold

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it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

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Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 103)

Building 103 is one of seven duplex dwellings for NCOs and their families situated near the eastern shore of Davids Island. Together with the Post Chapel (Building 108), the NCO Children's Swimming Pool (Building 80), and Transformer House No. 3 (Building 109), these dwellings comprise the NCO Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a small functional area wedged between the Drill and Athletic Field to the north and the Defense and Support Area (which includes the Mortar Battery) to the south. Buildings 101 to 103 were built from a common design in 1908-1909 at the area's eastern end.

The NCO Family Housing Area was established in the early twentieth century. Before then, its eastern two-thirds was little used, and no permanent structures stood in it. Its western third was occupied during the Civil War, but in the last decades of the nineteenth century, it was also empty. During and immediately after the Civil War, three long wood-frame buildings stood at the western end of the present functional area, occupying the future sites of the Post Chapel and the most western two NCO quarters (Buildings 106 and 107) and the land immediately to the south. The buildings were a hospital pavilion, an officers' quarters, and a mess, and like most of the buildings of the hospital, they were apparently little more than shed-like shelters. They were apparently removed in the 1870s.

The Army had no specific provisions or standardized plans to quarter NCOs and their families—at Fort Slocum or elsewhere—until the 1880s. Thereafter, the service began to build NCO housing, which was one of many improvements introduced toward the end of the century to enhance the circumstances of NCOs and encourage their reenlistment. As the nineteenth century became the twentieth, retention of NCOs became ever more important as the Army embraced new technologies, whose successful installation, maintenance, and operation required increasing numbers of experienced NCO specialists (Chattey et al. 1997:269-271; Coffman 2004; Cooling 1968).

The history of NCO housing at Fort Slocum in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries appears to have been fairly typical, and the size, quality, and numbers of such quarters seem characteristic of Army posts of similar size elsewhere. In the 1880s and 1890s, NCO quarters were divided between those for specialists, like the commissary and quartermaster sergeants, and those for company NCOs. Company NCOs were housed in the Barracks Area near the enlisted men for whom they were responsible, while the specialist NCOs, who had responsibilities covering the entire post, were housed elsewhere, generally in the vicinity of the Quartermaster Area. If unmarried, company NCOs were quartered in the barracks with their men, but if married, they lived in one of the two wood-frame apartment-style quarters nearby, in areas later occupied by Building 57 and 58 (Summerhayes 1893, 1894-95). This disposition of specialist and company NCO housing continued until 1908-1909, when the Army built three new duplexes for NCOs, Buildings 101 to 103, on the southeastern side of the island in what is now the NCO Family Housing Area. With the construction of these dwellings, the older frame dwellings for NCOs in the Quartermaster and Barracks areas were removed. The year 1909 also saw the construction of the Post Chapel at the western end of the NCO Family Housing Area.

Buildings 101 to 103 became the nucleus of a new functional area at the post. It is not clear why these buildings were situated where they were. On the one hand, they seem to be separated from both single enlisted men and officers so as to form a new residential area on the post. On the other hand, the place chosen for the new quarters seems isolated and is immediately adjacent to buildings with non-residential functions, such as the handling of explosives (Buildings 110 and 113), the temporary storage of human remains (Building 119), and the incineration of the post's garbage (Building 115). Given the restricted size of the island, perhaps there were few alternatives available. Annotations made on a 1906-1907 map of the post

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indicate the Army considered, but evidently rejected, other locations for the quarters in the southeastern quadrant of the post.

The Quartermaster Corps property cards for Buildings 101, 102, and 103 indicate all were constructed according to standard plan No. 82-K. This plan number is included in Chattey et al.'s (1997:389) partial inventory of Quartermaster Corps standardized plans, and it seems to have been one of several revisions of a design that was introduced around 1890. The property cards for these buildings do not include floor plans, but floor plans and extant examples for 82-series quarters built elsewhere provide the probable layout of the Fort Slocum buildings. At Fort D.A. Russell (now F.E. Warren Air Force Base), Wyoming, six sets of quarters similar to Fort Slocum's Buildings 101-103 were constructed in 1908-1910. Each set of quarters was a duplex that:

...provided two units of two stories with mirror-image floor plans, each measuring 18½ by 27 feet. Entrance in the outside bay led to a side hall containing a straight-run stairway. A "sitting room" and kitchen occupied the first floor, while two bedrooms and a bathroom were on the second. The houses were snug, but larger than ... NCO quarters [built earlier]. The disadvantage of the new quarters was that they were double houses, with a common porch across the front (Hoagland 2004:230-231).

Hoagland (2004:figure 4-17) provides a sketch comparing this design with several other variants that were built between the 1900s and the 1930s at Fort Russell. A floor plan of an earlier variant of standard Plan No. 82 can be found in the Historic American Buildings Survey documentation of an NCO quarters at Fort Myer, Virginia (Massey 1988). No information about later alterations to the building is presently available.

When completed in 1909, Building 103 was designated as Building 97. In 1941, all buildings on the post were renumbered, and the structure became Building 35, with its two separate units designated as A (to the left, or west) and B (right, or east). Building 103 received its present designation in 1957 during the final post-wide renumbering of structures.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Published Materials

Chattey, Paul, Horace Foxall, Flossie McQueen, Cynthia Nielsen, Mary Shipe, Terri Taylor, and Jamie Tippet

1997 *Context Study of the United States Quartermaster General Standardized Plans, 1866-1942.* Prepared for the U.S. Army Environmental Center, Environmental Compliance Division, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Technical Center of Expertise for Preservation of Structures and Buildings, Seattle, Washington. Accessed online, January 15, 2007, at <http://handle.dtic.mil/100.2/ADA352432>.

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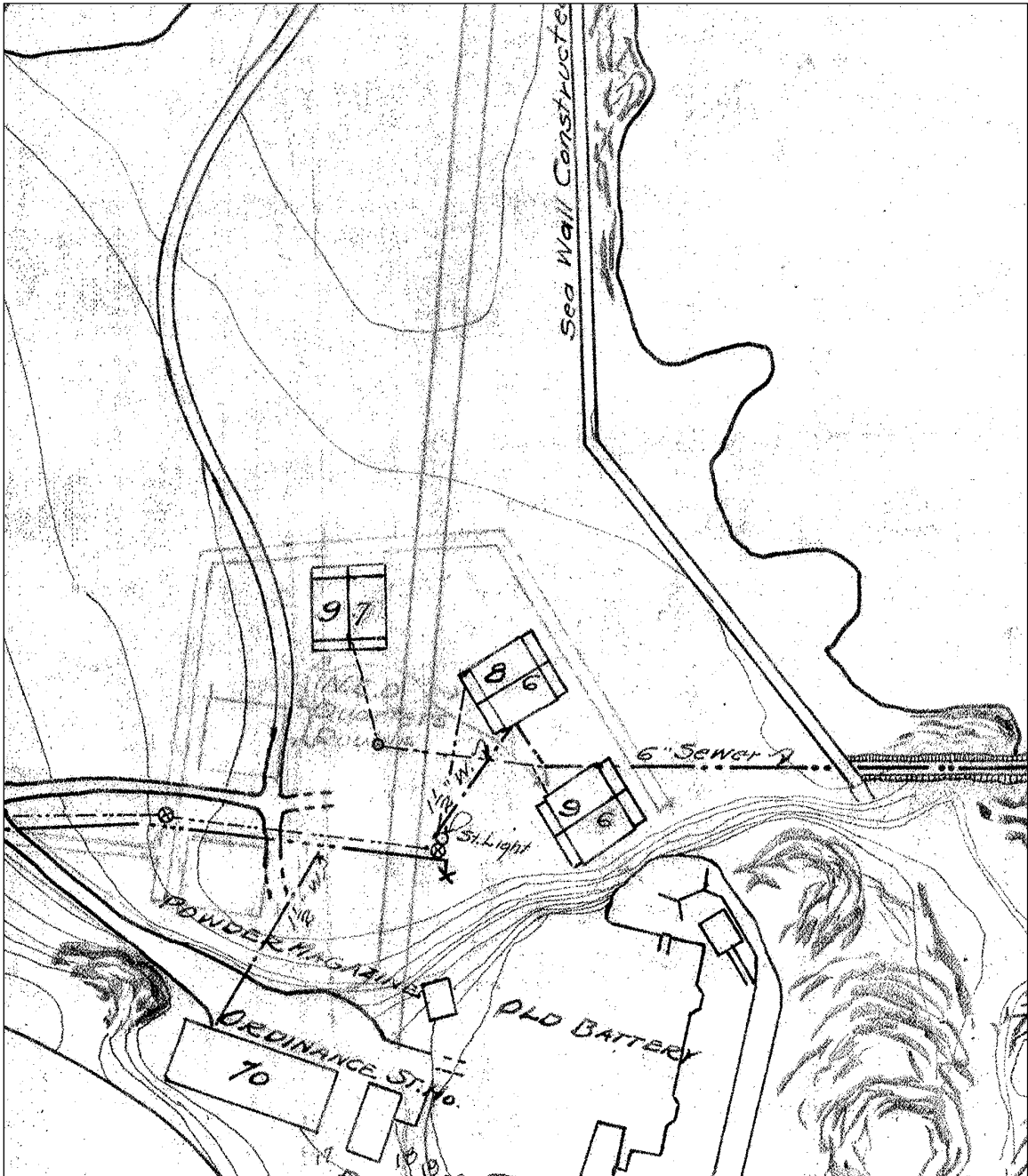
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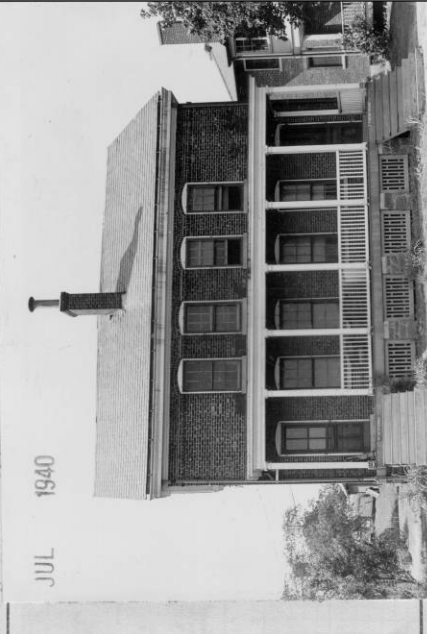
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Figure 3. Property Record, July 1940. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.

<p>7 (Old No. 173A)</p> <p>Place Fort Slocum, N.Y.</p> <p>Designation of building M.C.O. Quarters</p> <p>Total cost, \$ 8077.00</p> <p>Material: Walls Brick</p> <p>Roof Slate</p> <p>Total floor area above basement square feet 1672 Sq. Ft.</p> <p>Size: Main building 27'5" x 37'</p> <p>(97-A) Newport #6 Adjustable. (97-B) Pierce.</p> <p>Butler Steam Boiler <small>(w heated)</small></p> <p>Steam - Coal Operated</p> <p>Ideal # 75-F (2) <small>(Type of furnace but water heater)</small></p> <p>Coal, No. None</p> <p>Gas, No. None</p> <p>Electric No. Two (2)</p> <p>Oil, No. None</p> <p>Steam, No. None</p>	<p>Date completed November 15, 1909.</p> <p>Capacity 2 Families</p> <p>Foundation Stone</p> <p>Floors Wood</p> <p>Wings None</p> <p>Basement 2 (16'6 1/2" x 24'9")</p> <p>Height of first floor above ground 4'4"</p> <p>How lighted Electrically</p> <p>Water connections Yes</p> <p>Sewer connections Yes</p> <p>Gas connections None</p> <p>METERS INSTALLED</p> <p>Gas, No. None</p> <p>Electric, No. Four (4)</p> <p>ENL No. None</p> <p>Steam, No None</p> <p>Water, No None</p>	<p>COOKING RANGES INSTALLED</p> <p>Refrigerators Installed</p> <p>Gas... None</p> <p>Electric... Two (2)</p> <p>Ice... None</p>	<p>ADDITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS</p> <p align="center"><small>(Below enter chronologically all modifications, additions, introductions of water, sewer, lights, heating, etc.)</small></p>	<p>DATE</p> <p>DATE</p> <p>COST</p> <p>COST</p>
				<p>Total cost of repairs to June 30, 1939. \$6905.81</p>



**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 103)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 13)**

Figure 4. Inventory photo, July 1940. View south. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' (BUILDING 103)

Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005 (Photo 1) and November 2004 (Photos 2 and 3).

1. Southern and eastern façades, facing northwest.
2. Northern and western façades, facing east.
3. Southern façade, facing north.

Photo 1. Southern and eastern façades, facing northwest.



Photo 2. Northern and western façades, facing east.



Photo 3. Southern façade, facing north.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 104)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603730.4526390

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1930

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2006

Significance: The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 104) is associated with the provision of housing to non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families in support of Fort Slocum's twentieth-century military activities. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA, which requires that the NYSHPO and Corps determine an appropriate level of documentation for buildings and structures that are to be demolished.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 104)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 2)

PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 104) is located in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland, and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with now-abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 104 is located in the middle of the Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters Family Area. This section of Fort Slocum contains seven duplex dwellings built to house non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families, as well as several other buildings. The seven sets of quarters are built to two common plans, one of which is represented by Buildings 101-103 and the other of which encompasses Buildings 104-107.

Building 104 was destroyed by fire in August 1981 (Cavanaugh 2007), leaving a roofless shell (Photos 1-3). The exterior walls and the center partition wall are extant, and two chimneys, one at each end of the building, rise to their original heights. Burned timber framing, heating and plumbing components, and other debris have collapsed into the basement. A steel beam supported by a center post rising from the basement spans the interior of each unit of the duplex at the height of the first-story floor. The building is built of hollow terra cotta construction blocks, which are faced on the exterior with standard bricks, and it stands on a concrete foundation. It has rectangular window and door openings spanned by flat arches, but no traces of windows or doors remain. The front and rear entrances are reached by solid concrete stairs. Pairs of short concrete piers, which formerly supported two-story wood-frame porches, stand approximately 8 feet off each end of the building. These freestanding piers are matched by pairs of engaged concrete piers that jut out from the main foundation of the building. Ghosting on the end walls and a few burned framing members also indicate where the porches once stood.

Historic photographs show that when extant, Building 104 was a two-and-a-half story streamlined Colonial Revival building with a rectangular plan and a low-pitched hipped roof (Figures 1-4). The dwelling had a small two-story porch and a tall chimney at each end. The main façade faced northwest toward the Drill and Athletic Field.

Building 104 closely resembled Building 107, the only one of the group of four NCO quarters built in 1930 to have survived without major fire damage, and the two buildings were evidently constructed from a common plan. A ca. 1939 floor plan for Building 104 is available (Figure 4). The detailed description of Building 107 is representative of the appearance of Building 104. (See the documentation for Building 107, also in Volume 4 of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements: Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District*.)

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Davids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 104)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 3)

from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 104)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Buildings 104)

Building 104 is one of seven duplex dwellings in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island for NCOs and their families. Together with the Post Chapel (Building 108), the NCO Children's Swimming Pool (Building 80), and Transformer House No. 3 (Building 109), these dwellings comprise the NCO Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a small functional area wedged between the Drill and Athletic Field to the north and the Defense and Support Area (which includes the Mortar Battery) to the south. Buildings 104 to 107 were evidently built from a common design in 1930 in the west-central section of the area.

The NCO Family Housing Area was established in the early twentieth century. Before then, its eastern two-thirds was little used, and no permanent structures stood in it. Its western third was occupied during the Civil War, but in the last decades of the nineteenth century, it was also empty. During and immediately after the Civil War, three long wood-frame buildings stood at the western end of the present functional area, occupying the future sites of the Post Chapel and the most western two NCO quarters (Buildings 106 and 107) and the land immediately to the south. The buildings were a hospital pavilion, an officers' quarters, and a mess, and like most of the buildings of the hospital, they were apparently little more than shed-like shelters. They were apparently removed in the 1870s.

The Army had no specific provisions or standardized plans to quarter NCOs and their families—at Fort Slocum or elsewhere—until the 1880s. Thereafter, the service began to build NCO housing, which was one of many improvements introduced toward the end of the century to enhance the circumstances of NCOs and encourage their reenlistment. As the nineteenth century became the twentieth, retention of NCOs became ever more important as the Army embraced new technologies, whose successful installation, maintenance, and operation required increasing numbers of experienced NCO specialists (Chattey et al. 1997:269-271; Coffman 2004; Cooling 1968).

The history of NCO housing at Fort Slocum in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries appears to have been fairly typical, and the size, quality, and numbers of such quarters seem characteristic of Army posts of similar size elsewhere. In the 1880s and 1890s, NCO quarters were divided between those for specialists, like the commissary and quartermaster sergeants, and those for company NCOs. Company NCOs were housed in the Barracks Area near the enlisted men for whom they were responsible, while the specialist NCOs, who had responsibilities covering the entire post, were housed elsewhere, generally in the vicinity of the Quartermaster Area. If unmarried, company NCOs were quartered in the barracks with their men, but if married, they lived in one of the two wood-frame apartment-style quarters nearby, in areas later occupied by Building 57 and 58 (Summerhayes 1893, 1894-95). This disposition of specialist and company NCO housing continued until 1908-1909, when the Army built three new duplexes for NCOs, Buildings 101 to 103, on the southeastern side of the island in what is now the NCO Family Housing Area. With the construction of these dwellings, the older frame dwellings for NCOs in the Quartermaster and Barracks areas were removed. The year 1909 also saw the construction of the Post Chapel at the western end of the NCO Family Housing Area.

The line of duplexes for NCOs was extended in 1930 when the interval between Building 103 and the Post Chapel was filled by four new dwellings, Buildings 104 to 107. These buildings were among the NCO quarters built by the Army during the late 1920s and 1930s to alleviate a severe nationwide housing shortage. "During this period..., the Army built more NCO family housing than ever before...." Funding for this construction program was generated through the sale of excess real estate (Chattey et al. 1997:270). Buildings 106 and 107 at the western end of the line of duplexes occupied an area where two temporary

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 104)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 5)

barracks had recently stood. The two temporary barracks were among more than 50 temporary wood-frame buildings erected on the post in 1917 to handle the thousands of recruits needed for the First World War.

The Constructing Quartermaster's "Completion Report of Four Double Quarters for Non-Commissioned Officers" noted that the construction contract began on February 21, 1930 and was completed by September 30, 1930. The report described the project as follows:

[The project] comprises four double quarters, all alike. Each building is two stories high and has basements, attics and two story porches. Each family quarters has a living room, kitchen and porch in the first story, two bedrooms, a bathroom and porch in the second story, and boiler room and coal bin in the basement. There are no stairways to the attics. Each building is 25 x 37.3 feet overall exclusive of porches and entrance steps. The side porches are 8 x 12 feet. The story heights are 8 feet from basement floor to first floor, 9.5 feet from first floor to second floor and 8 feet clear height for second story. The basement walls are of concrete, 13 inches thick; first and second story walls are 12 inches thick of brick backed with 8-inch terra cotta tile. There is an 8-inch [hollow terra cotta brick wall] between the apartments from the basement floor to the underside of the roof. The floor, partition and roof construction is of wood. The main roofs are of slate and the porch roofs are of copper. [Window sills are of Indiana limestone.] The outside walls are furred with wood and wood lath are used throughout. Walls and ceilings of first and second stories are plastered with gypsum plaster. The bath rooms have ceramic mosaic floors and a 4-inch base.

The total value of the contract for the four buildings was \$51,225 (Constructing Quartermaster 1930).

The Quartermaster Corps property cards for Buildings 104 to 107 do not record the plan number used for their construction, but the common completion date and many identical features indicate the duplexes were built from a shared design. The façades and floor plans resemble those in a drawing of a duplex at Fort Riley, Kansas, reproduced by Chattey et al. (1997:276). The building in the plan was probably also constructed in 1930, from standard Plan No. 625-1530, which is designated as a "Double NCO Quarters, 2-[Story], Brick." It appears that by the 1930s, the Quartermaster Corps assigned unique plan numbers for a particular construction project, so the specific plan number(s) used for Buildings 104-107 at Fort Slocum was likely different from that used for the Fort Riley building. Nonetheless, the Quartermaster Corps' 625-series plans appear to have been developed primarily for quarters, many of which were duplex NCO dwellings (Chattey et al. 1997:385-386, 396). Hoagland (2004::230-233) regards the Army's 1930s NCO duplex quarters as a later variant of those built in the first decade of the century using 82-series plans, like those employed for Fort Slocum's Buildings 101-103. The two groups of quarters at Fort Slocum had broadly similar dimensions and floor plans. On the other hand, their roofs and façades differed in detail. The earlier buildings had gabled roofs; segmental arch window and door openings; entrances at the outside corners; and one-story, full-width front porches. The later buildings had hipped roofs; flat (jack) arch window and door openings; centered entrances; and two-story porches at the two sides of the building.

When completed in 1930, Building 104 was designated as Building 53, with its two units identified as A (to the right, or west) and B (left or east). In 1941, all buildings on the post were renumbered, and the structure became Building 32. Building 104 received its present designation in 1957 during the final post-wide renumbering of structures.

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PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Published Materials

Chattey, Paul, Horace Foxall, Flossie McQueen, Cynthia Nielsen, Mary Shipe, Terri Taylor, and Jamie Tippet

- 1997 *Context Study of the United States Quartermaster General Standardized Plans, 1866-1942.* Prepared for the U.S. Army Environmental Center, Environmental Compliance Division, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Technical Center of Expertise for Preservation of Structures and Buildings, Seattle, Washington. Accessed online, January 15, 2007, at <http://handle.dtic.mil/100.2/ADA352432>.

Hoagland, Alison K.

- 2004 *Army Architecture in the West: Forts Laramie, Bridger, and D.A. Russell, 1849-1912.* University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.

Nichols, Herbert B.

- 1938 *Historic New Rochelle.* Board of Education, New Rochelle, NY.

Unpublished Materials

Cavanaugh, Michael

- 2007 *What Is, What Was, and What Was NOT: A Companion to the 2005 Davids Island Footage.* May 2007 version. Unpublished ms in possession of author, Los Angeles, CA.

Constructing Quartermaster

- 1930 "Completion Report of Four Double Quarters for Non-Commissioned Officers." On file at National Archives, College Park, MD.

Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

- 1986 *Fort Slocum, Davids Island, New York: A Historic Architectural Assessment.* Prepared for Dresdner Associates, Jersey City, New Jersey, by the Cultural Resource Group, Louis Berger & Associates, East Orange, New Jersey.

Olausen, Stephen, Matthew Kierstead, and Jeffrey Emidy

- 2005 *Historic Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation, Davids Island/Fort Slocum New Rochelle, New York.* Prepared for Tetra Tech FW, Inc., Morris Plains, New Jersey, by PAL, Inc., Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Summerhayes, J.W., Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, U.S.A.

- 1893 "Building Numbers of the Army Post on Davids Island, New York Harbor, Showing Numbers Assigned Previous to March 10, 1893, and the New Numbers Adopted on that Date." Record Group 77. National Archives, College Park, MD.

Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

- 2008 "Fort Slocum: Overview." In *Historic Building Documentation, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York*, Volume 1. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, Massachusetts, by Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston.

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United States Army Quartermaster Corps [Quartermaster Corps]
ca. 1905-41 Fort Slocum Property Cards (Form 117 and predecessors). Record Group 77. National Archives, College Park, MD.

Maps and Drawings

March 1872 "Quarter Master Buildings, Davids Island, N.Y. Harbor." Quartermaster General's Office (QMGO), 1116 QMGO 1872. Set including map and six detail drawings of individual buildings. Each sheet is inscribed, "This sketch was furnished for file by Col. VanVliet," and some indicate the date as March 6, 1872. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

October 1894 (or undetermined month thereafter through December 1895) "Map of Davids Island, New York Harbor, U.S. Military Reservation, Drawn Under the Direction of Cap. J.W. Summerhayes, Asst. Qr. Mr. U.S.A." Date stamp from QMGO on reverse bears a date in 1895. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

July 1906; revised November 1907 "Map of Fort Slocum, David's [sic] Island, N.Y. Made by Direction of Lieut. Col. W.P. Evans, 11th Inf. by C.B. Hodges, 2nd Lieut., 4th Inf." With revisions showing authorized and proposed work by Peter Murray, Capt. and Cons. Q.M. Record Group 92. National Archives, College Park, MD.

March 1909 "Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, NY. Made by Direction of Peter Murray, Capt. and Construction Q.M." Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

May 1933 "Fort Slocum, New York: Reconstruction of Sewerage System, General Layout." Revisions of April 29, 1933 map. Construction Division, Office of the Quartermaster General. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

May 1949, revised through November 1957 "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines." Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum. On file at Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, from materials supplied by Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.

Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

(Except as noted, all photographs are on file at National Archives, College Park, Maryland. Digital copies examined for this research come from the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.)

1923: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. November 20.

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 11.

1936: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 17.

ca. 1938: Real-photo postcard showing low-angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. Summer. View north. In collection of Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles. Also published in *New York*

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City's Harbor Defenses (2003), p. 92, by Leo Polaski and Glen Williford, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina.

1940: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. September 4.

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection.

ca. 1968: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north.

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

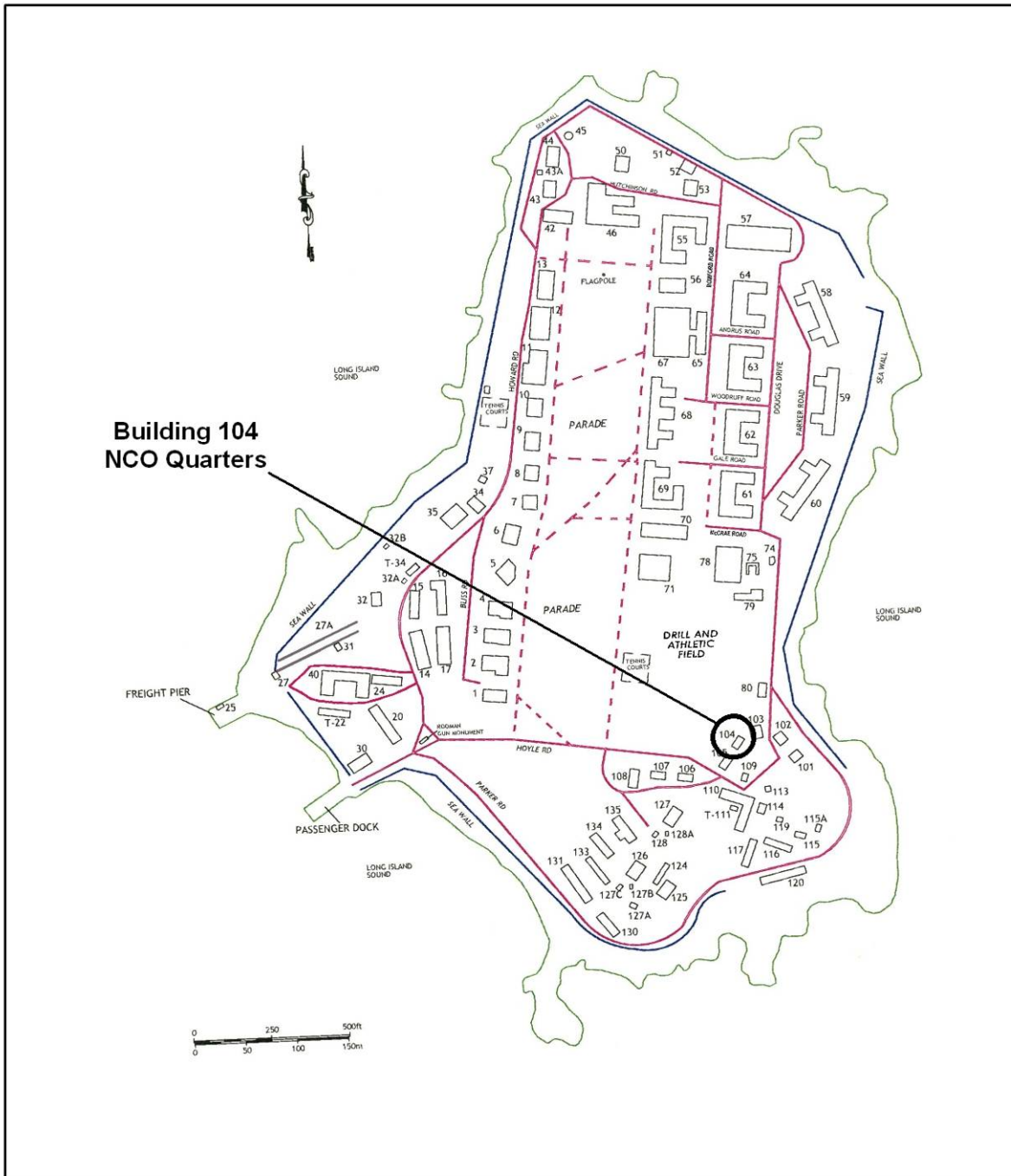
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 104)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 10)**

SITE MAP



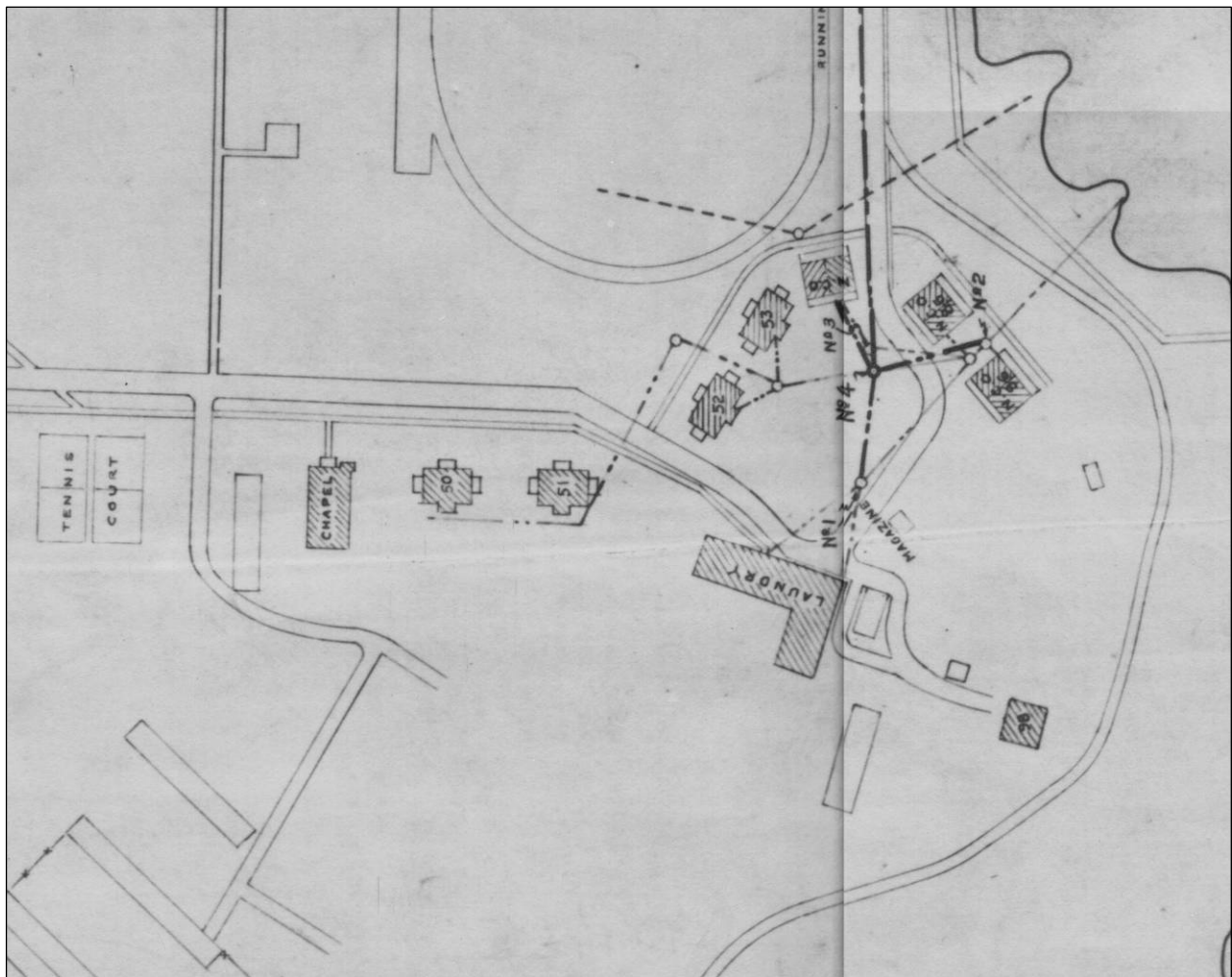
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 104)
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Figure 1. Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1932, detail. View north. The five buildings at the top of the image are the NCO Family Quarters, from left to right, Building 105, 104, 103, 102, and 101. The L-shaped building in the center of the image is Building 110. At the lower left is Battery Overton Pit A of the Endicott-era Mortar Battery. Original in National Archives, College Park, MD; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



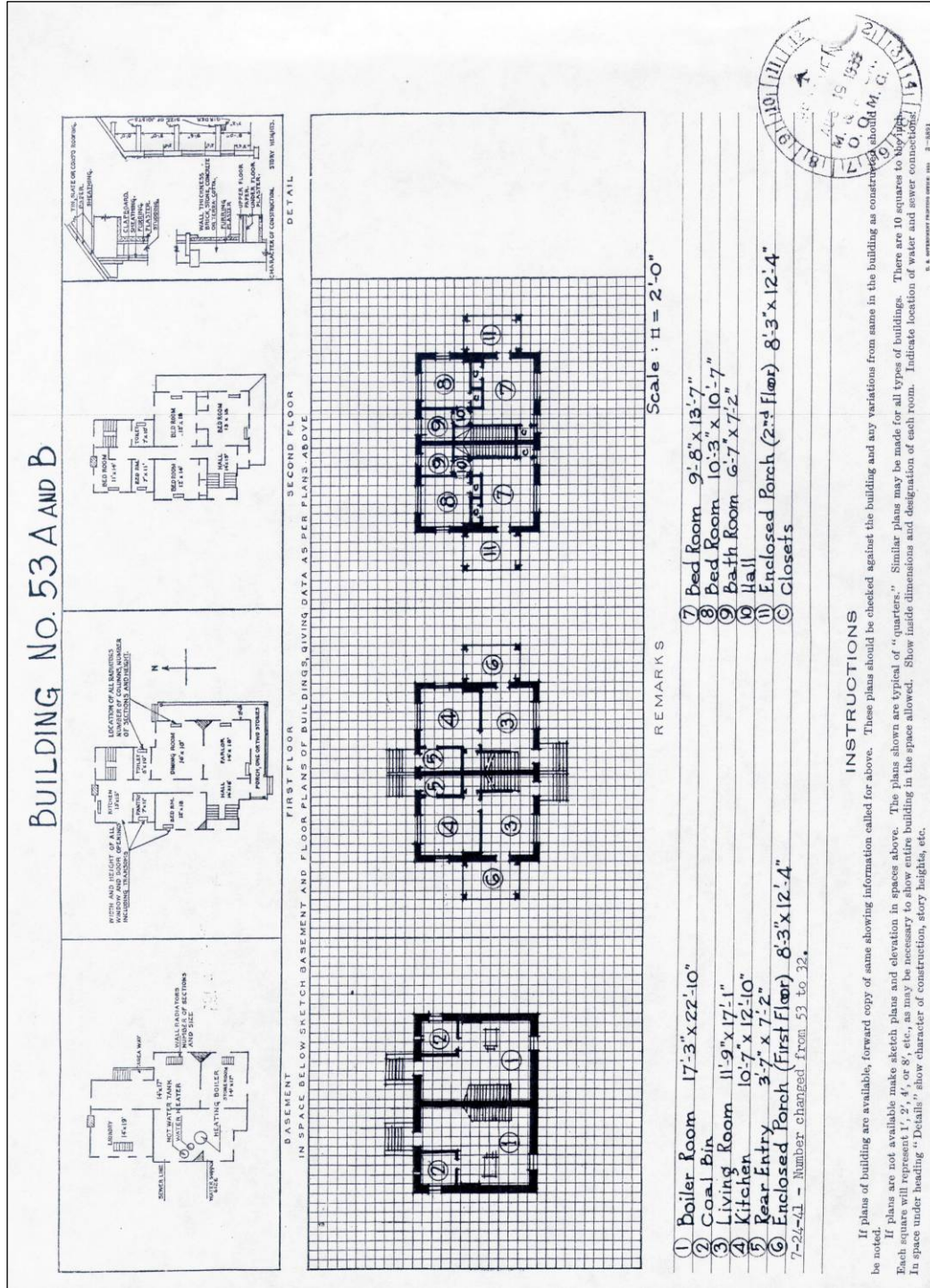
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Figure 2: "Fort Slocum, New York: Reconstruction of Sewerage System, General Layout," 1933, detail. The core of the NCO Family Housing Area is the sickle-shaped line of buildings extending from the Post Chapel (center left) to Building 101 (here designated as Building 96) (center right). Building 104, near the center of the line, is here labeled as Building 53. Structures in the adjacent Defense and Support Area include the Laundry (formerly Ordnance Storehouse, Building 110), Incinerator (Building 115, here designated as Building 98), and Magazine (later Blacksmith Shop, Building 113). The southern half of the Drill and Athletic Field is shown above the NCO duplexes. The Mortar Battery is not depicted, but occupied the blank space below and to the left of the Laundry. Most of the unlabeled open rectangles on the map represent temporary wood-frame buildings erected during the First World War. North is to the top of the page. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 4. Property Record (back), August 1939. National Archives, College Park, MD.



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New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005 (Photo 1) and November 2004 (Photos 2 and 3).

1. Western and southern façades, facing northeast.
2. Southern and eastern façades, facing north.
3. Northwestern façade, facing southeast.

Photo 1. Western and southern façades, facing northeast.



Photo 2. Southern and eastern façades, facing north.



Photo 3. Northwestern façade, facing southeast.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 105)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603718.4526373

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1930

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2006

Significance: The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 105) is associated with the provision of housing to non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families in support of Fort Slocum's twentieth-century military activities. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA, which requires that the NYSHPO and Corps determine an appropriate level of documentation for buildings and structures that are to be demolished.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 105) is located in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland, and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with now-abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 105 is located in the middle of the Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters Family Area. This section of Fort Slocum contains seven duplex dwellings built to house non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families, as well as several other buildings. The seven sets of quarters are built to two common plans, one of which is represented by Buildings 101-103 and the other of which encompasses Buildings 104-107.

Building 105 was destroyed by fire in August 1981 (Cavanaugh 2007), leaving a roofless shell (Photos 1-5). The exterior walls and the center partition wall are extant, and two chimneys, one at each end of the building, rise to their original heights. Burned timber framing, heating and plumbing components, and other debris have collapsed into the basement. A steel beam supported by a center post rising from the basement spans the interior of each unit of the duplex at the height of the first-story floor. The building is built of hollow terra cotta construction blocks, which are faced on the exterior with standard bricks, and it stands on a concrete foundation. It has rectangular window and door openings spanned by flat arches, but no traces of windows or doors remain. The front and rear entrances are reached by solid concrete stairs. A pair of short concrete piers, which formerly supported a two-story wood-frame porch, stands approximately 8 feet off the easterly end of the building and is matched by a pair of engaged piers jutting out from the foundation wall. Similar piers are present at the westerly end of the building, along with a fragment of half-height clapboard wall and some burned timbers from the porch.

Historic photographs show that when extant, Building 105 was a two-and-a-half story streamlined Colonial Revival building with a rectangular plan and a low-pitched hipped roof (Figures 1-4). The dwelling had a small two-story porch and a tall chimney at each end. The main façade faced northwest toward the Drill and Athletic Field.

Building 105 closely resembled Building 107, the only one of the group of four NCO quarters built in 1930 to have survived without major fire damage, and the two buildings were evidently constructed from a common plan. A ca. 1939 floor plan for Building 105 is available (Figure 4). The detailed description of Building 107 is representative of the appearance of Building 105. (See the documentation for Building 107, also in Volume 4 of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements: Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.*)

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Davids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 105)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 105)
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Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Buildings 105)

Building 105 is one of seven duplex dwellings in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island for NCOs and their families. Together with the Post Chapel (Building 108), the NCO Children's Swimming Pool (Building 80), and Transformer House No. 3 (Building 109), these dwellings comprise the NCO Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a small functional area wedged between the Drill and Athletic Field to the north and the Defense and Support Area (which includes the Mortar Battery) to the south. Buildings 104 to 107 were evidently built from a common design in 1930 in the west-central section of the area.

The NCO Family Housing Area was established in the early twentieth century. Before then, its eastern two-thirds was little used, and no permanent structures stood in it. Its western third was occupied during the Civil War, but in the last decades of the nineteenth century, it was also empty. During and immediately after the Civil War, three long wood-frame buildings stood at the western end of the present functional area, occupying the future sites of the Post Chapel and the most western two NCO quarters (Buildings 106 and 107) and the land immediately to the south. The buildings were a hospital pavilion, an officers' quarters, and a mess, and like most of the buildings of the hospital, they were apparently little more than shed-like shelters. They were apparently removed in the 1870s.

The Army had no specific provisions or standardized plans to quarter NCOs and their families—at Fort Slocum or elsewhere—until the 1880s. Thereafter, the service began to build NCO housing, which was one of many improvements introduced toward the end of the century to enhance the circumstances of NCOs and encourage their reenlistment. As the nineteenth century became the twentieth, retention of NCOs became ever more important as the Army embraced new technologies, whose successful installation, maintenance, and operation required increasing numbers of experienced NCO specialists (Chattey et al. 1997:269-271; Coffman 2004; Cooling 1968).

The history of NCO housing at Fort Slocum in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries appears to have been fairly typical, and the size, quality, and numbers of such quarters seem characteristic of Army posts of similar size elsewhere. In the 1880s and 1890s, NCO quarters were divided between those for specialists, like the commissary and quartermaster sergeants, and those for company NCOs. Company NCOs were housed in the Barracks Area near the enlisted men for whom they were responsible, while the specialist NCOs, who had responsibilities covering the entire post, were housed elsewhere, generally in the vicinity of the Quartermaster Area. If unmarried, company NCOs were quartered in the barracks with their men, but if married, they lived in one of the two wood-frame apartment-style quarters nearby, in areas later occupied by Building 57 and 58 (Summerhayes 1893, 1894-95). This disposition of specialist and company NCO housing continued until 1908-1909, when the Army built three new duplexes for NCOs, Buildings 101 to 103, on the southeastern side of the island in what is now the NCO Family Housing Area. With the construction of these dwellings, the older frame dwellings for NCOs in the Quartermaster and Barracks areas were removed. The year 1909 also saw the construction of the Post Chapel at the western end of the NCO Family Housing Area.

The line of duplexes for NCOs was extended in 1930 when the interval between Building 103 and the Post Chapel was filled by four new dwellings, Buildings 104 to 107. These buildings were among the NCO quarters built by the Army during the late 1920s and 1930s to alleviate a severe nationwide housing shortage. "During this period..., the Army built more NCO family housing than ever before...." Funding for this construction program was generated through the sale of excess real estate (Chattey et al. 1997:270). Buildings 106 and 107 at the western end of the line of duplexes occupied an area where two temporary

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 105)
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barracks had recently stood. The two temporary barracks were among more than 50 temporary wood-frame buildings erected on the post in 1917 to handle the thousands of recruits needed for the First World War.

The Constructing Quartermaster's "Completion Report of Four Double Quarters for Non-Commissioned Officers" noted that the construction contract began on February 21, 1930 and was completed by September 30, 1930. The report described the project as follows:

[The project] comprises four double quarters, all alike. Each building is two stories high and has basements, attics and two story porches. Each family quarters has a living room, kitchen and porch in the first story, two bedrooms, a bathroom and porch in the second story, and boiler room and coal bin in the basement. There are no stairways to the attics. Each building is 25 x 37.3 feet overall exclusive of porches and entrance steps. The side porches are 8 x 12 feet. The story heights are 8 feet from basement floor to first floor, 9.5 feet from first floor to second floor and 8 feet clear height for second story. The basement walls are of concrete, 13 inches thick; first and second story walls are 12 inches thick of brick backed with 8-inch terra cotta tile. There is an 8-inch [hollow terra cotta brick wall] between the apartments from the basement floor to the underside of the roof. The floor, partition and roof construction is of wood. The main roofs are of slate and the porch roofs are of copper. [Window sills are of Indiana limestone.] The outside walls are furred with wood and wood lath are used throughout. Walls and ceilings of first and second stories are plastered with gypsum plaster. The bath rooms have ceramic mosaic floors and a 4-inch base.

The total value of the contract for the four buildings was \$51,225 (Constructing Quartermaster 1930).

The Quartermaster Corps property cards for Buildings 104 to 107 do not record the plan number used for their construction, but the common completion date and many identical features indicate the duplexes were built from a shared design. The façades and floor plans resemble those in a drawing of a duplex at Fort Riley, Kansas, reproduced by Chattey et al. (1997:276). The building in the plan was probably also constructed in 1930, from standard Plan No. 625-1530, which is designated as a "Double NCO Quarters, 2-[Story], Brick." It appears that by the 1930s, the Quartermaster Corps assigned unique plan numbers for a particular construction project, so the specific plan number(s) used for Buildings 104-107 at Fort Slocum was likely different from that used for the Fort Riley building. Nonetheless, the Quartermaster Corps' 625-series plans appear to have been developed primarily for quarters, many of which were duplex NCO dwellings (Chattey et al. 1997:385-386, 396). Hoagland (2004::230-233) regards the Army's 1930s NCO duplex quarters as a later variant of those built in the first decade of the century using 82-series plans, like those employed for Fort Slocum's Buildings 101-103. The two groups of quarters at Fort Slocum had broadly similar dimensions and floor plans. On the other hand, their roofs and façades differed in detail. The earlier buildings had gabled roofs; segmental arch window and door openings; entrances at the outside corners; and one-story, full-width front porches. The later buildings had hipped roofs; flat (jack) arch window and door openings; centered entrances; and two-story porches at the two sides of the building.

When completed in 1930, Building 105 was designated as Building 52, with its two units identified as A (to the right, or west) and B (left or east). In 1941, all buildings on the post were renumbered, and the structure became Building 31. Building 105 received its present designation in 1957 during the final post-wide renumbering of structures.

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PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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- 2004 *Army Architecture in the West: Forts Laramie, Bridger, and D.A. Russell, 1849-1912.* University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.

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Unpublished Materials

Cavanaugh, Michael

- 2007 *What Is, What Was, and What Was NOT: A Companion to the 2005 Davids Island Footage.* May 2007 version. Unpublished ms in possession of author, Los Angeles, CA.

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- 1930 "Completion Report of Four Double Quarters for Non-Commissioned Officers." On file at National Archives, College Park, MD.

Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

- 1986 *Fort Slocum, Davids Island, New York: A Historic Architectural Assessment.* Prepared for Dresdner Associates, Jersey City, New Jersey, by the Cultural Resource Group, Louis Berger & Associates, East Orange, New Jersey.

Olausen, Stephen, Matthew Kierstead, and Jeffrey Emidy

- 2005 *Historic Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation, Davids Island/Fort Slocum New Rochelle, New York.* Prepared for Tetra Tech FW, Inc., Morris Plains, New Jersey, by PAL, Inc., Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

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Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

- 2008 "Fort Slocum: Overview." In *Historic Building Documentation, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York*, Volume 1. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, Massachusetts, by Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston.

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United States Army Quartermaster Corps [Quartermaster Corps]
ca. 1905-41 Fort Slocum Property Cards (Form 117 and predecessors). Record Group 77. National Archives, College Park, MD.

Maps and Drawings

March 1872 "Quarter Master Buildings, Davids Island, N.Y. Harbor." Quartermaster General's Office (QMGO), 1116 QMGO 1872. Set including map and six detail drawings of individual buildings. Each sheet is inscribed, "This sketch was furnished for file by Col. VanVliet," and some indicate the date as March 6, 1872. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

October 1894 (or undetermined month thereafter through December 1895) "Map of Davids Island, New York Harbor, U.S. Military Reservation, Drawn Under the Direction of Cap. J.W. Summerhayes, Asst. Qr. Mr. U.S.A." Date stamp from QMGO on reverse bears a date in 1895. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

July 1906; revised November 1907 "Map of Fort Slocum, David's [sic] Island, N.Y. Made by Direction of Lieut. Col. W.P. Evans, 11th Inf. by C.B. Hodges, 2nd Lieut., 4th Inf." With revisions showing authorized and proposed work by Peter Murray, Capt. and Cons. Q.M. Record Group 92. National Archives, College Park, MD.

March 1909 "Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, NY. Made by Direction of Peter Murray, Capt. and Construction Q.M." Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

May 1933 "Fort Slocum, New York: Reconstruction of Sewerage System, General Layout." Revisions of April 29, 1933 map. Construction Division, Office of the Quartermaster General. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

May 1949, revised through November 1957 "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines." Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum. On file at Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, from materials supplied by Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.

Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

(Except as noted, all photographs are on file at National Archives, College Park, Maryland. Digital copies examined for this research come from the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.)

1923: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. November 20.

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 11.

1936: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 17.

ca. 1938: Real-photo postcard showing low-angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. Summer. View north. In collection of Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles. Also published in *New York*

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City's Harbor Defenses (2003), p. 92, by Leo Polaski and Glen Williford, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina.

1940: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. September 4.

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection.

ca. 1968: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north.

**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 105)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

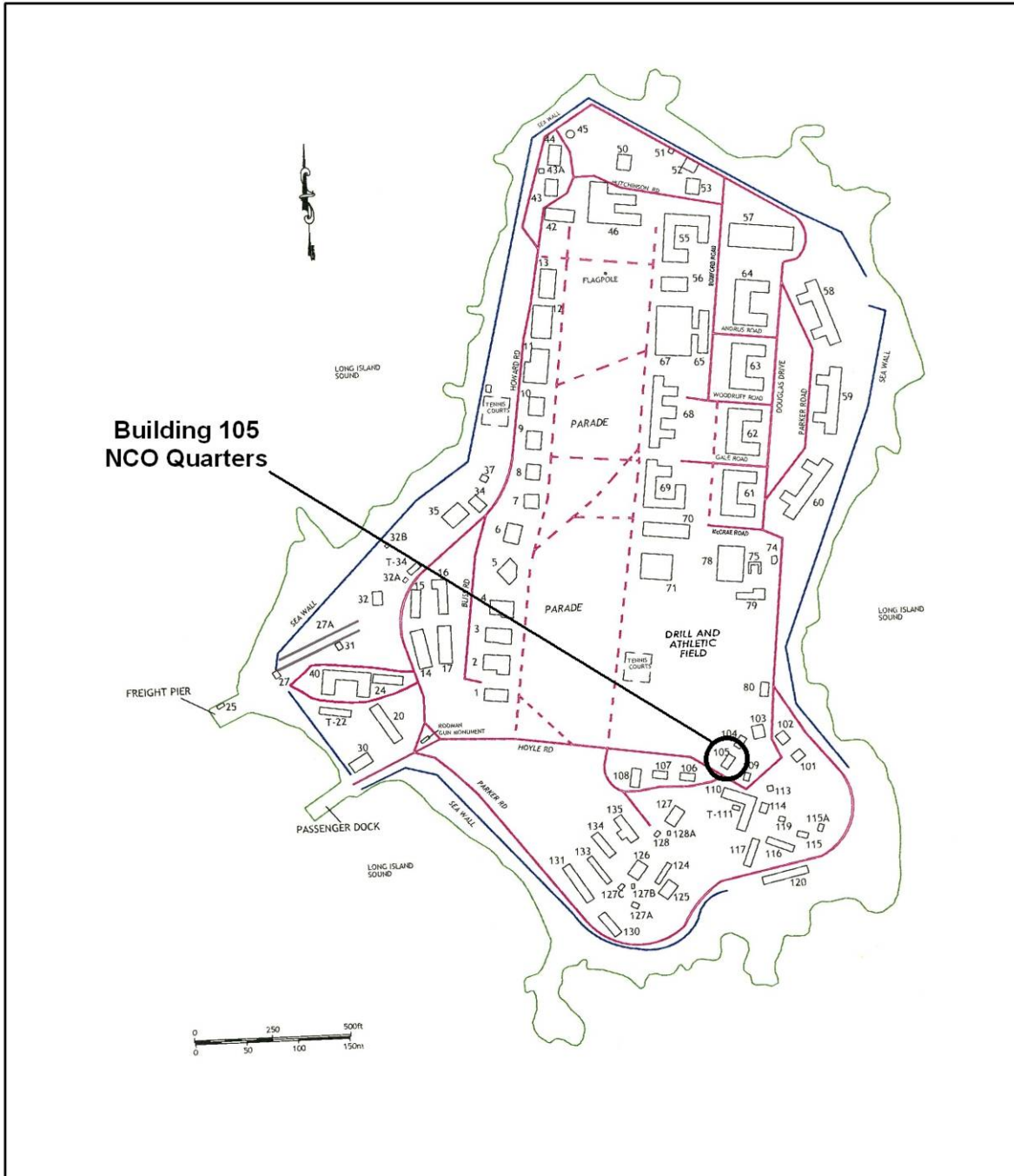
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 105)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 10)**

SITE MAP



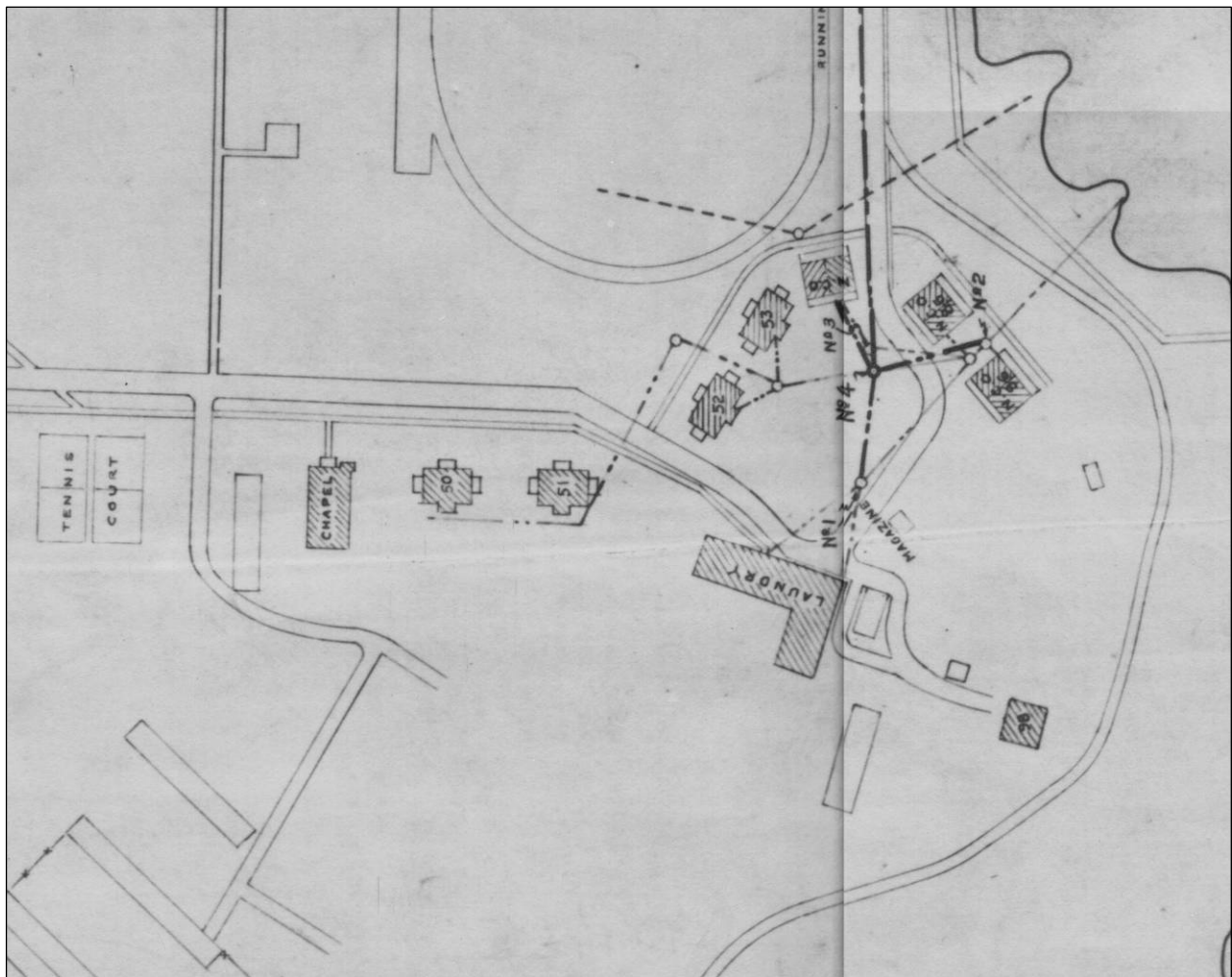
**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 105)
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Figure 1. Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1932, detail. View north. The five buildings at the top of the image are the NCO Family Quarters, from left to right, Building 105, 104, 103, 102, and 101. The L-shaped building in the center of the image is Building 110. At the lower left is Battery Overton Pit A of the Endicott-era Mortar Battery. Original in National Archives, College Park, MD; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



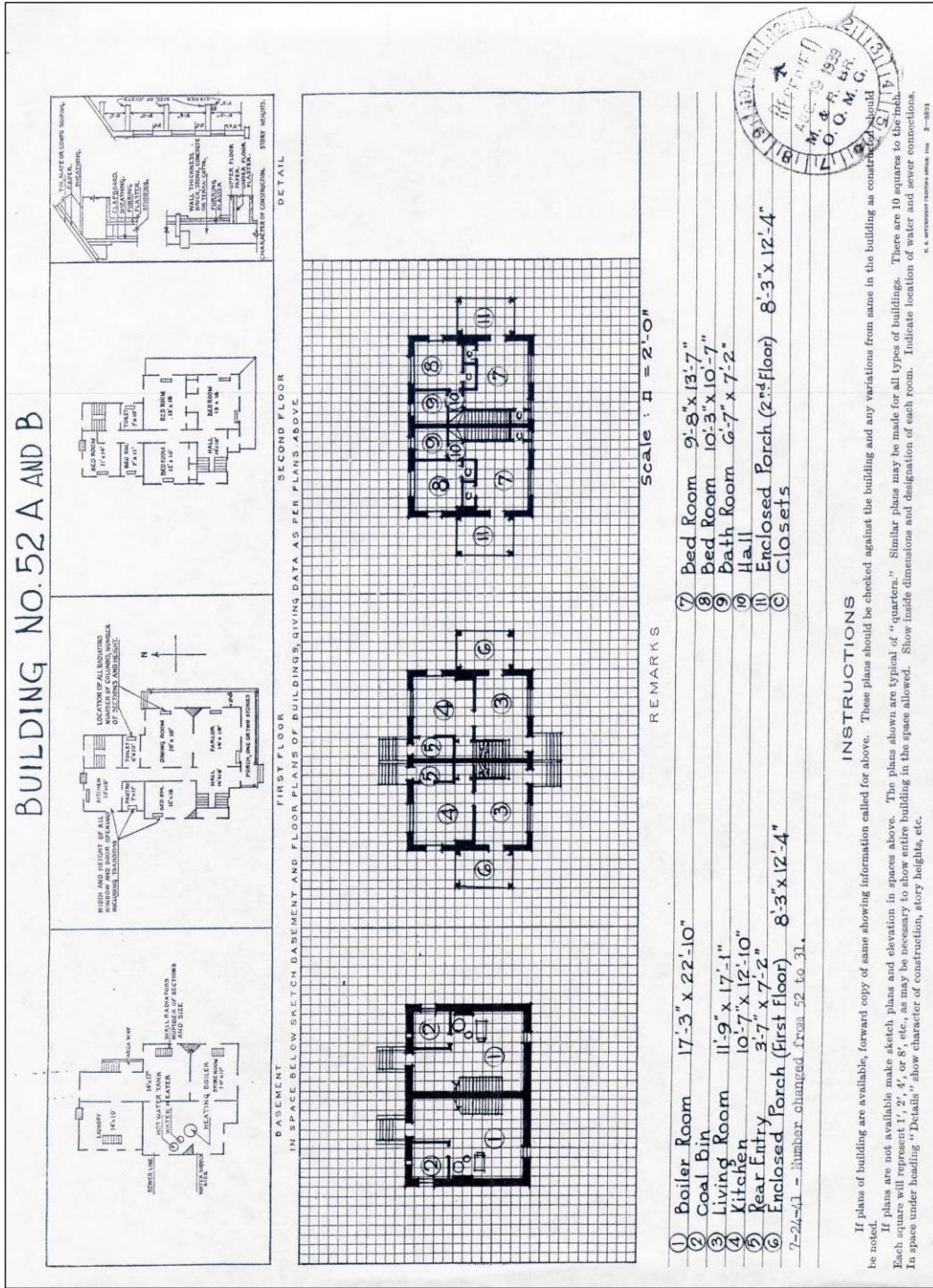
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Figure 2: "Fort Slocum, New York: Reconstruction of Sewerage System, General Layout," 1933, detail. The core of the NCO Family Housing Area is the sickle-shaped line of buildings extending from the Post Chapel (center left) to Building 101 (here designated as Building 96) (center right). Building 105, near the center of the line, is here labeled as Building 52. Structures in the adjacent Defense and Support Area include the Laundry (formerly Ordnance Storehouse, Building 110), Incinerator (Building 115, here designated as Building 98), and Magazine (later Blacksmith Shop, Building 113). The southern half of the Drill and Athletic Field is shown above the NCO duplexes. The Mortar Battery is not depicted, but occupied the blank space below and to the left of the Laundry. Most of the unlabeled open rectangles on the map represent temporary wood-frame buildings erected during the First World War. North is to the top of the page. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 105)
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Figure 4. Property Record (back), August 1939. National Archives, College Park, MD.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

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New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005 (Photo 1) and November 2004 (Photos 2-5).

1. Western façade, facing east.
2. Eastern and northern façades, facing south..
3. Northern and western façades, facing east.
4. Western and southern façades, facing north.
5. Southern and eastern façades, facing southwest.

Photo 1. Western façade, facing east.



Photo 2. Eastern and northern façades, facing south.



Photo 3. Northern and western façades, facing east.



Photo 4. Western and southern façades, facing north.



Photo 5. Southern and eastern façades, facing southwest.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 106)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603677.4526358

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1930

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2007

Significance: The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 106) is associated with the provision of housing to non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families in support of Fort Slocum's twentieth-century military activities. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA, which requires that the NYSHPO and Corps determine an appropriate level of documentation for buildings and structures that are to be demolished.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 106)
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 106) is located in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland, and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with now-abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 106 is located toward the western end of the Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters Family Area. This section of Fort Slocum contains seven duplex dwellings built to house non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families, as well as several other buildings. The seven sets of quarters are built to two common plans, one of which is represented by Buildings 101-103 and the other of which encompasses Buildings 104-107.

Building 106 was destroyed by fire in August 1981 (Cavanaugh 2007), leaving a roofless shell (Photos 1-4). The exterior walls and the center partition wall are extant, and two chimneys, one at each end of the building, rise to their original heights. Burned timber framing, heating and plumbing components, and other debris have collapsed into the basement. A steel beam supported by a center post rising from the basement spans the interior of each unit of the duplex at the height of the first-story floor. The building is built of hollow terra cotta construction blocks, which are faced on the exterior with standard bricks, and it stands on a concrete foundation. It has rectangular window and door openings spanned by flat arches, but no traces of windows or doors remain. The front and rear entrances are reached by solid concrete stairs. Pairs of short concrete piers, which formerly supported two-story wood-frame porches, stand approximately 8 feet off each end of the building. These freestanding piers are matched by pairs of engaged concrete piers that jut out from the main foundation of the building. Ghosting on the end walls and a few burned framing members also indicate where the porches once stood.

Historic photographs show that when extant, Building 106 was a two-and-a-half story streamlined Colonial Revival building with a rectangular plan and a low-pitched hipped roof (Figures 1-4). The dwelling had a small two-story porch and a tall chimney at each end. The main façade faced north toward Hoyle Road.

Building 106 closely resembled Building 107, the only one of the group of four NCO quarters built in 1930 to have survived without major fire damage, and the two buildings were evidently constructed from a common plan. A ca. 1939 floor plan for Building 106 is available (Figure 4). The detailed description of Building 107 is representative of the appearance of Building 106. (See the documentation for Building 107, also in Volume 4 of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements: Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District*.)

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Davids Island

Prior to the Civil War, Davids Island, named for owner Thaddeus Davids, had been used for farming. The U.S. Army leased Davids Island in 1862 for use as a hospital to treat Union and as many as 2,500 Confederate wounded prisoners. The U.S. Army formally acquired the island in 1867 for the establishment of a permanent administrative and support facility for other New York harbor defense posts. In 1878 Davids Island was made a Principal Depot of the U.S. Army General Recruiting Service, marking the beginning of the

**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' (BUILDING 106)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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installation's longstanding mission as a U.S. Army recruitment and preliminary training center. At about the same time, the Army selected the island as a location for a general medical facility.

The Davids Island post was formally renamed Fort Slocum in 1896. In 1898 the garrison size doubled with the addition of infantry companies mobilized for the Spanish-American War. President Grover Cleveland appointed the Endicott Board in 1885 to review the state of U.S. coastal defenses. The board recommended installation of gun batteries to protect major cities against waterborne attack and a large-scale construction program to upgrade military training capabilities. In 1891, construction began on Davids Island of Battery Haskin and Battery Overton, which contained sixteen, 12-inch mortars. Additional batteries, Battery Fraser and Battery Kinney, were built on the east edge of the island in 1901 and 1904. In 1905 President Theodore Roosevelt's Taft Board recommended expansions of the facilities at Fort Slocum that led to the most significant period of development in the fort's history. By 1910 many new buildings, including officers' quarters, enlisted men's barracks, mess halls, hospital buildings, and support facilities were erected at the fort to support an increase of personnel associated with its recruitment, preliminary training, and medical missions.

The necessity for recruit training and processing was great throughout the First World War, and Fort Slocum became one of the busiest of the Army centers with some 140,000 enlistees passing through the post between 1917 and 1919. The period between the two world wars at Fort Slocum was characterized by a continuation of its long-time established recruitment and training missions. During the Second World War, Fort Slocum was an embarkation post and rest station for U.S. Army troops.

Between 1951 and 1965, Fort Slocum supported a variety of military training activities, including the U.S. Army Chaplain School, the Army Information School, an Officers Training school, and Military Police school. The U.S. Army Chaplain School was located at Fort Slocum in 1951 and remained there until 1962. From 1955 to 1961 Fort Slocum was an element in the Nike missile defensive system established to protect New York City from Soviet air attack during the early years of the Cold War. The Fort Slocum Nike Battery (NY-15) was one of 19 Nike Ajax surface-to-air missile control and launch sites in and around New York City. Fort Slocum was closed in November 1965, and Davids Island was eventually sold to the City of New Rochelle, NY. The island has since become overgrown and the more than 100 buildings and structures are now in varying states of decay.

Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Buildings 106)

Building 106 is one of seven duplex dwellings in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island for NCOs and their families. Together with the Post Chapel (Building 108), the NCO Children's Swimming Pool (Building 80), and Transformer House No. 3 (Building 109), these dwellings comprise the NCO Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a small functional area wedged between the Drill and Athletic Field to the north and the Defense and Support Area (which includes the Mortar Battery) to the south. Buildings 104 to 107 were evidently built from a common design in 1930 in the west-central section of the area.

The NCO Family Housing Area was established in the early twentieth century. Before then, its eastern two-thirds was little used, and no permanent structures stood in it. Its western third was occupied during the Civil War, but in the last decades of the nineteenth century, it was also empty. During and immediately after the Civil War, three long wood-frame buildings stood at the western end of the present functional area, occupying the future sites of the Post Chapel and the most western two NCO quarters (Buildings 106 and 107) and the land immediately to the south. The buildings were a hospital pavilion, an officers' quarters, and a mess, and

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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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like most of the buildings of the hospital, they were apparently little more than shed-like shelters. They were apparently removed in the 1870s.

The Army had no specific provisions or standardized plans to quarter NCOs and their families—at Fort Slocum or elsewhere—until the 1880s. Thereafter, the service began to build NCO housing, which was one of many improvements introduced toward the end of the century to enhance the circumstances of NCOs and encourage their reenlistment. As the nineteenth century became the twentieth, retention of NCOs became ever more important as the Army embraced new technologies, whose successful installation, maintenance, and operation required increasing numbers of experienced NCO specialists (Chattey et al. 1997:269-271; Coffman 2004; Cooling 1968).

The history of NCO housing at Fort Slocum in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries appears to have been fairly typical, and the size, quality, and numbers of such quarters seem characteristic of Army posts of similar size elsewhere. In the 1880s and 1890s, NCO quarters were divided between those for specialists, like the commissary and quartermaster sergeants, and those for company NCOs. Company NCOs were housed in the Barracks Area near the enlisted men for whom they were responsible, while the specialist NCOs, who had responsibilities covering the entire post, were housed elsewhere, generally in the vicinity of the Quartermaster Area. If unmarried, company NCOs were quartered in the barracks with their men, but if married, they lived in one of the two wood-frame apartment-style quarters nearby, in areas later occupied by Building 57 and 58 (Summerhayes 1893, 1894-95). This disposition of specialist and company NCO housing continued until 1908-1909, when the Army built three new duplexes for NCOs, Buildings 101 to 103, on the southeastern side of the island in what is now the NCO Family Housing Area. With the construction of these dwellings, the older frame dwellings for NCOs in the Quartermaster and Barracks areas were removed. The year 1909 also saw the construction of the Post Chapel at the western end of the NCO Family Housing Area.

The line of duplexes for NCOs was extended in 1930 when the interval between Building 103 and the Post Chapel was filled by four new dwellings, Buildings 104 to 107. These buildings were among the NCO quarters built by the Army during the late 1920s and 1930s to alleviate a severe nationwide housing shortage. “During this period..., the Army built more NCO family housing than ever before....” Funding for this construction program was generated through the sale of excess real estate (Chattey et al. 1997:270). Buildings 106 and 107 at the western end of the line of duplexes occupied an area where two temporary barracks had recently stood. The two temporary barracks were among more than 50 temporary wood-frame buildings erected on the post in 1917 to handle the thousands of recruits needed for the First World War.

The Constructing Quartermaster’s “Completion Report of Four Double Quarters for Non-Commissioned Officers” noted that the construction contract began on February 21, 1930 and was completed by September 30, 1930. The report described the project as follows:

[The project] comprises four double quarters, all alike. Each building is two stories high and has basements, attics and two story porches. Each family quarters has a living room, kitchen and porch in the first story, two bedrooms, a bathroom and porch in the second story, and boiler room and coal bin in the basement. There are no stairways to the attics. Each building is 25 x 37.3 feet overall exclusive of porches and entrance steps. The side porches are 8 x 12 feet. The story heights are 8 feet from basement floor to first floor, 9.5 feet from first floor to second floor and 8 feet clear height for second story. The basement walls are of concrete, 13 inches thick; first and second story walls are 12 inches thick of brick backed with 8-inch terra cotta tile. There is an 8-inch [hollow terra cotta brick wall] between the apartments from the basement floor to the underside of the roof. The floor, partition and roof

**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' (BUILDING 106)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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construction is of wood. The main roofs are of slate and the porch roofs are of copper. [Window sills are of Indiana limestone.] The outside walls are furred with wood and wood lath are used throughout. Walls and ceilings of first and second stories are plastered with gypsum plaster. The bath rooms have ceramic mosaic floors and a 4-inch base.

The total value of the contract for the four buildings was \$51,225 (Constructing Quartermaster 1930).

The Quartermaster Corps property cards for Buildings 104 to 107 do not record the plan number used for their construction, but the common completion date and many identical features indicate the duplexes were built from a shared design. The façades and floor plans resemble those in a drawing of a duplex at Fort Riley, Kansas, reproduced by Chattey et al. (1997:276). The building in the plan was probably also constructed in 1930, from standard Plan No. 625-1530, which is designated as a "Double NCO Quarters, 2-[Story], Brick." It appears that by the 1930s, the Quartermaster Corps assigned unique plan numbers for a particular construction project, so the specific plan number(s) used for Buildings 104-107 at Fort Slocum was likely different from that used for the Fort Riley building. Nonetheless, the Quartermaster Corps' 625-series plans appear to have been developed primarily for quarters, many of which were duplex NCO dwellings (Chattey et al. 1997:385-386, 396). Hoagland (2004::230-233) regards the Army's 1930s NCO duplex quarters as a later variant of those built in the first decade of the century using 82-series plans, like those employed for Fort Slocum's Buildings 101-103. The two groups of quarters at Fort Slocum had broadly similar dimensions and floor plans. On the other hand, their roofs and façades differed in detail. The earlier buildings had gabled roofs; segmental arch window and door openings; entrances at the outside corners; and one-story, full-width front porches. The later buildings had hipped roofs; flat (jack) arch window and door openings; centered entrances; and two-story porches at the two sides of the building.

When completed in 1930, Building 106 was designated as Building 51, with its two units identified as A (to the right, or west) and B (left or east). In 1941, all buildings on the post were renumbered, and the structure became Building 30. Building 106 received its present designation in 1957 during the final post-wide renumbering of structures.

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October 1894 (or undetermined month thereafter through December 1895) "Map of Davids Island, New York Harbor, U.S. Military Reservation, Drawn Under the Direction of Cap. J.W. Summerhayes, Asst. Qr. Mr. U.S.A." Date stamp from QMGO on reverse bears a date in 1895. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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July 1906; revised November 1907 "Map of Fort Slocum, David's [sic] Island, N.Y. Made by Direction of Lieut. Col. W.P. Evans, 11th Inf. by C.B. Hodges, 2nd Lieut., 4th Inf." With revisions showing authorized and proposed work by Peter Murray, Capt. and Cons. Q.M. Record Group 92. National Archives, College Park, MD.

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Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

(Except as noted, all photographs are on file at National Archives, College Park, Maryland. Digital copies examined for this research come from the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.)

1923: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. November 20.

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 11.

1936: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 17.

ca. 1938: Real-photo postcard showing low-angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. Summer. View north. In collection of Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles. Also published in *New York City's Harbor Defenses* (2003), p. 92, by Leo Polaski and Glen Williford, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina.

1940: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. September 4.

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection.

ca. 1968: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north.

**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 106)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

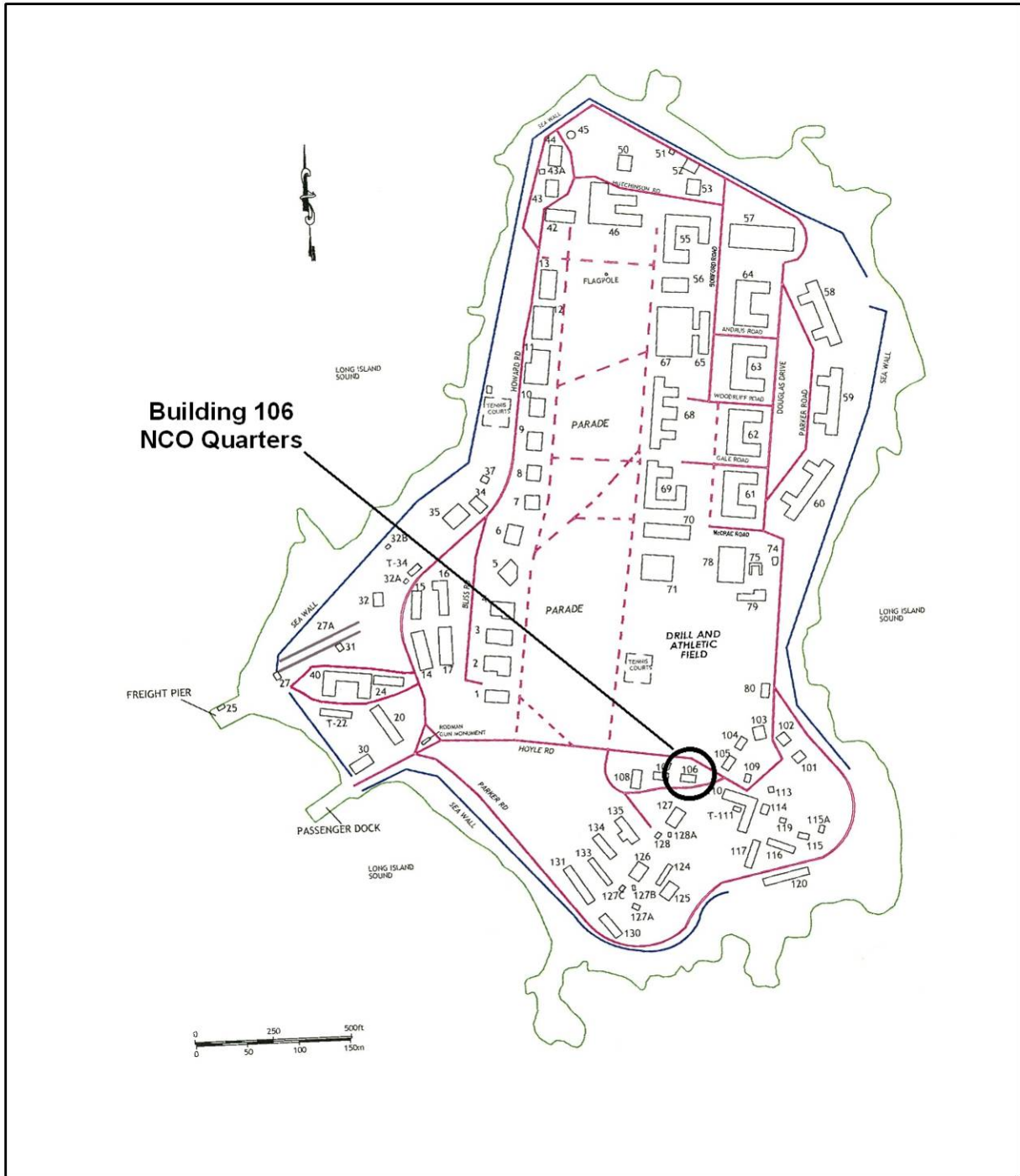
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



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SITE MAP



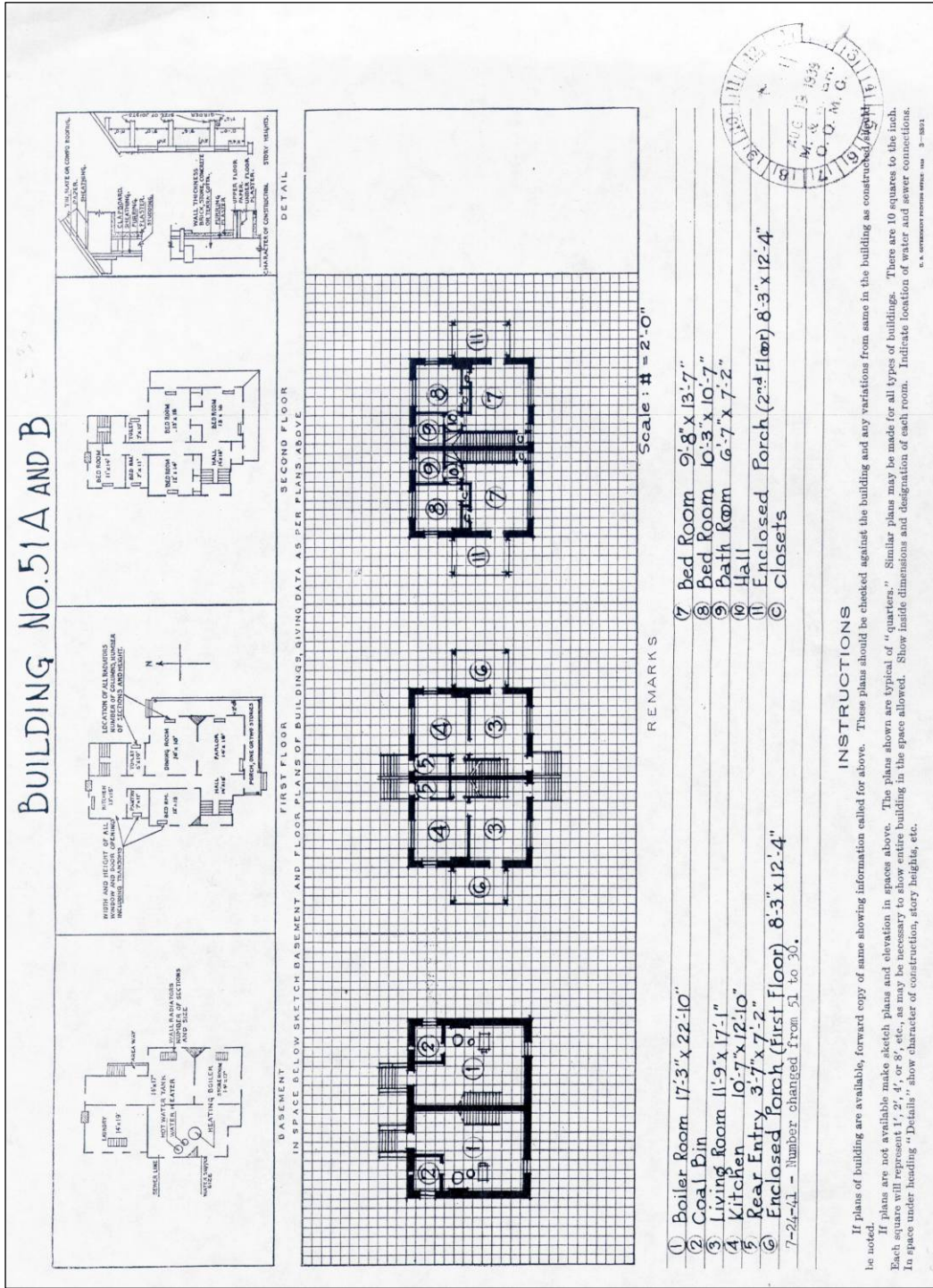
**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' (BUILDING 106)
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Figure 1. Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1932, detail. View north. Building 106 is the second building from left. In the foreground is the Fort Slocum Mortar Battery (In clockwise fashion from top are Batteries Overton Pit B, Overton Pit A, the partially obscured Haskins Pit A, and the mostly obscured Haskins Pit B). Original in National Archives, College Park, MD; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



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Figure 4. Property Record (back), August 1939. National Archives, College Park, MD.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

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NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 106)

Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2004.

1. Eastern and southern façades, facing southwest.
2. Western and northern façades, facing east.
3. Eastern and northern façades, facing northwest.
4. Southern and western façades, facing northeast.

Photo 1. Eastern and southern façades, facing southwest.



Photo 2. Western and northern façades, facing east.



Photo 3. Eastern and northern façades, facing northwest.



Photo 4. Southern and western façades, facing northeast.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS’ QUARTERS (BUILDING 107)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603654.4526359

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1930

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2007). Demolished 2007

Significance: The Non-Commissioned Officers’ Quarters (Building 107) is associated with the provision of housing to non-commissioned officers and their families in support of Fort Slocum’s twentieth-century military activities. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA, which requires that the NYSHPO and Corps determine an appropriate level of documentation for buildings and structures that are to be demolished.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: August 2006 (Revision 1, December 2008)

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 107)
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building 107) is located in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland, and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with now-abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 107 is the westernmost dwelling of the Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters Family Area. This section of Fort Slocum contains seven duplex dwellings built to house non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and their families, as well as several other buildings. The seven sets of quarters are built to two common plans, one of which is represented by Buildings 101-103 and the other of which encompasses Buildings 104-107.

Building 107 is a brick-clad two-and-a-half story duplex in deteriorated condition (Figures 1-5; Photos 1-5. It retains its exterior walls, chimneys, and much of its roof, along with remnants of many of its windows and doors. Side porches have collapsed, but remnants are visible as debris piles next to the building. The roof has several large holes. Downspouts and exterior lights are gone. The interior is extant, but is also deteriorated.

Building 107 escaped the fire in August 1981 that gutted the other quarters of the NCO Family Housing Area (Cavanaugh 2007). Its appearance at the time it was documented in 2004-2007 and certain details that could be observed in the ruins of the adjoining quarters, supplemented by the few available historic photographs, provide the basis for describing the appearance of the building when Fort Slocum was active. This description also generally represents the appearance of Buildings 104, 105, and 106, which, based upon numerous similarities and common date of construction, were evidently built to the same plan.

Building 107 was a two-and-a-half story streamlined Colonial Revival duplex with an essentially rectangular plan and a low-pitch, hipped roof clad in slate. Small two-story wood-frame porches projected from each side of the building, and a tall chimney rose from the center of each side walls beside the interior rear corner of the porch. The duplex was made up of two mirror-image units reflected around a midline perpendicular to the ridge of the roof (i.e., north-south in Building 107). Its main façade faced north onto Hoyle Road. The building had a structural system comprised of hollow terra cotta construction blocks (also called hollow clay blocks or tiles), faced on the exterior with standard bricks. A steel beam and post supported a wood-frame interior bearing wall on the first floor. Aside from the two chimneys, the roof was also pierced by a small plumbing ventilation stack at each front corner, and there were a pair of small hip-roofed dormers at the rear. The decorated rafter tails were visible under the deep overhang of the roof.

The main (northern) façade had a pair of front doors at the center of the first story, each flanked by a pair of six-over-six double-hung sash windows under a shared flat arch lintel. The entries had pared-down, classically-inspired trabeated surrounds and doors with five horizontal panels. Copper flashing, possible installed during a post-construction alteration, protected the top of the surround from water infiltration. Although the two entrances were adjoining, each was approached by a separate flight of four concrete stairs ending at a small landing at the doorway. The landings had simple railings of bar steel or iron. The fenestration of the second floor lined up with the openings on the first—a pair of narrow two-over-two double-hung wood-sash windows was over each door, and a pair of six-over-six double-hung wood-sash windows was above the matching first-story window. A photograph taken in about 1939 indicates that at least

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some of the windows of the building were protected by twelve-light wood-sash storm windows hung from hinges; no storm windows were extant when the building was documented. The concrete foundation held a single, horizontal three-light window under the pair of ground floor windows. A downspout ran from the eaves to the ground near each corner of the front façade.

The side (eastern and western) façades were dominated by the two-story porches and the adjoining central chimneys. The porches were offset toward the front of the building. Toward the rear of the building, outside the area covered by the porches, the brick walls of the end façades were pierced by a single six-over-six double-hung wood sash window on each story. The porches were of wood frame construction supported by concrete piers. Wood lattice connected the piers beneath the porch decking to exclude large animals from underneath. The first-story porches were originally open and had square balusters and simple wood railings. The railings were later replaced with half-height clapboarding. The second-story porches were enclosed. They originally had half-height bead board (possibly later replaced by clapboards) beneath eight-light window panels, placed in groups of three on each outer side of the porch. The porches were covered by very-low-pitch shed roofs. Doors opened onto the porches from the interior of the building at both floors.

The rear (southern) façade was similar to that of the front, with the same number of apertures arranged in a similar pattern. There were, however, differences in detail between the two façades. Most importantly, the rear doors lacked the elaborate surrounds found in the front, the windows over the doors were six-over-six double-hung wood-sash windows, and the sills of the first floor windows were higher than those in the front. The rear doors were approached by a wide flight of concrete steps that was shared in common by the two units of the duplex, unlike the separate stairways of the front entrances. A handrail of bar iron or steel divided the stairs down the middle, with railings of similar material at either end of the landing in front of the doorways. Bulkhead entrances to the basement areas were located beside the common flight of steps, and coal chute doors were set in the rear foundation between these entrances and the corners of the building. The rear façade also had a pair of dormers in the slope of the building's roof, which were situated above the rear entrances.

When documented, the interior of Building 107 was extant but had been extensively damaged by vandals and weather. It included wood floors and simple cabinetry and plasterwork. In each unit a straight flight of stairs rose to the second floor from the entrance area adjoining the front door. These stairs were framed against the terra cotta block partition wall at the center of the building. Behind these stairs were interior flights of stairs leading to the basement, also framed against the partition wall. The Quartermaster Corps property card for Building 107 provides a ca. 1939 floor plan (Figure 4).

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Davids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold

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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 4)

it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

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Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Buildings 107)

Building 107 is one of seven duplex dwellings in the southeastern quadrant of Davids Island for NCOs and their families. Together with the Post Chapel (Building 108), the NCO Children's Swimming Pool (Building 80), and Transformer House No. 3 (Building 109), these dwellings comprise the NCO Family Housing Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a small functional area wedged between the Drill and Athletic Field to the north and the Defense and Support Area (which includes the Mortar Battery) to the south. Buildings 104 to 107 were evidently built from a common design in 1930 in the west-central section of the area.

The NCO Family Housing Area was established in the early twentieth century. Before then, its eastern two-thirds was little used, and no permanent structures stood in it. Its western third was occupied during the Civil War, but in the last decades of the nineteenth century, it was also empty. During and immediately after the Civil War, three long wood-frame buildings stood at the western end of the present functional area, occupying the future sites of the Post Chapel and the most western two NCO quarters (Buildings 106 and 107) and the land immediately to the south. The buildings were a hospital pavilion, an officers' quarters, and a mess, and like most of the buildings of the hospital, they were apparently little more than shed-like shelters. They were apparently removed in the 1870s.

The Army had no specific provisions or standardized plans to quarter NCOs and their families—at Fort Slocum or elsewhere—until the 1880s. Thereafter, the service began to build NCO housing, which was one of many improvements introduced toward the end of the century to enhance the circumstances of NCOs and encourage their reenlistment. As the nineteenth century became the twentieth, retention of NCOs became ever more important as the Army embraced new technologies, whose successful installation, maintenance, and operation required increasing numbers of experienced NCO specialists (Chattey et al. 1997:269-271; Coffman 2004; Cooling 1968).

The history of NCO housing at Fort Slocum in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries appears to have been fairly typical, and the size, quality, and numbers of such quarters seem characteristic of Army posts of similar size elsewhere. In the 1880s and 1890s, NCO quarters were divided between those for specialists, like the commissary and quartermaster sergeants, and those for company NCOs. Company NCOs were housed in the Barracks Area near the enlisted men for whom they were responsible, while the specialist NCOs, who had responsibilities covering the entire post, were housed elsewhere, generally in the vicinity of the Quartermaster Area. If unmarried, company NCOs were quartered in the barracks with their men, but if married, they lived in one of the two wood-frame apartment-style quarters nearby, in areas later occupied by Building 57 and 58 (Summerhayes 1893, 1894-95). This disposition of specialist and company NCO housing continued until 1908-1909, when the Army built three new duplexes for NCOs, Buildings 101 to 103, on the southeastern side of the island in what is now the NCO Family Housing Area. With the construction of these dwellings, the older frame dwellings for NCOs in the Quartermaster and Barracks areas were removed. The year 1909 also saw the construction of the Post Chapel at the western end of the NCO Family Housing Area.

The line of duplexes for NCOs was extended in 1930 when the interval between Building 103 and the Post Chapel was filled by four new dwellings, Buildings 104 to 107. These buildings were among the NCO quarters built by the Army during the late 1920s and 1930s to alleviate a severe nationwide housing shortage. "During this period..., the Army built more NCO family housing than ever before...." Funding for this construction program was generated through the sale of excess real estate (Chattey et al. 1997:270). Buildings 106 and 107 at the western end of the line of duplexes occupied an area where two temporary

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 107)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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barracks had recently stood. The two temporary barracks were among more than 50 temporary wood-frame buildings erected on the post in 1917 to handle the thousands of recruits needed for the First World War.

The Constructing Quartermaster's "Completion Report of Four Double Quarters for Non-Commissioned Officers" noted that the construction contract began on February 21, 1930 and was completed by September 30, 1930. The report described the project as follows:

[The project] comprises four double quarters, all alike. Each building is two stories high and has basements, attics and two story porches. Each family quarters has a living room, kitchen and porch in the first story, two bedrooms, a bathroom and porch in the second story, and boiler room and coal bin in the basement. There are no stairways to the attics. Each building is 25 x 37.3 feet overall exclusive of porches and entrance steps. The side porches are 8 x 12 feet. The story heights are 8 feet from basement floor to first floor, 9.5 feet from first floor to second floor and 8 feet clear height for second story. The basement walls are of concrete, 13 inches thick; first and second story walls are 12 inches thick of brick backed with 8-inch terra cotta tile. There is an 8-inch [hollow terra cotta brick wall] between the apartments from the basement floor to the underside of the roof. The floor, partition and roof construction is of wood. The main roofs are of slate and the porch roofs are of copper. [Window sills are of Indiana limestone.] The outside walls are furred with wood and wood lath are used throughout. Walls and ceilings of first and second stories are plastered with gypsum plaster. The bath rooms have ceramic mosaic floors and a 4-inch base.

The total value of the contract for the four buildings was \$51,225 (Constructing Quartermaster 1930).

The Quartermaster Corps property cards for Buildings 104 to 107 do not record the plan number used for their construction, but the common completion date and many identical features indicate the duplexes were built from a shared design. The façades and floor plans resemble those in a drawing of a duplex at Fort Riley, Kansas, reproduced by Chattey et al. (1997:276). The building in the plan was probably also constructed in 1930, from standard Plan No. 625-1530, which is designated as a "Double NCO Quarters, 2-[Story], Brick." It appears that by the 1930s, the Quartermaster Corps assigned unique plan numbers for a particular construction project, so the specific plan number(s) used for Buildings 104-107 at Fort Slocum was likely different from that used for the Fort Riley building. Nonetheless, the Quartermaster Corps' 625-series plans appear to have been developed primarily for quarters, many of which were duplex NCO dwellings (Chattey et al. 1997:385-386, 396). Hoagland (2004::230-233) regards the Army's 1930s NCO duplex quarters as a later variant of those built in the first decade of the century using 82-series plans, like those employed for Fort Slocum's Buildings 101-103. The two groups of quarters at Fort Slocum had broadly similar dimensions and floor plans. On the other hand, their roofs and façades differed in detail. The earlier buildings had gabled roofs; segmental arch window and door openings; entrances at the outside corners; and one-story, full-width front porches. The later buildings had hipped roofs; flat (jack) arch window and door openings; centered entrances; and two-story porches at the two sides of the building.

When completed in 1930, Building 107 was designated as Building 50, with its two units identified as A (to the right, or west) and B (left or east). In 1941, all buildings on the post were renumbered, and the structure became Building 29. Building 107 received its present designation in 1957 during the final post-wide renumbering of structures.

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PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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Maps and Drawings

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October 1894 (or undetermined month thereafter through December 1895) "Map of Davids Island, New York Harbor, U.S. Military Reservation, Drawn Under the Direction of Cap. J.W. Summerhayes, Asst. Qr. Mr. U.S.A." Date stamp from QMGO on reverse bears a date in 1895. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

July 1906; revised November 1907 "Map of Fort Slocum, David's [sic] Island, N.Y. Made by Direction of Lieut. Col. W.P. Evans, 11th Inf. by C.B. Hodges, 2nd Lieut., 4th Inf." With revisions showing authorized and proposed work by Peter Murray, Capt. and Cons. Q.M. Record Group 92. National Archives, College Park, MD.

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Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

(Except as noted, all photographs are on file at National Archives, College Park, Maryland. Digital copies examined for this research come from the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.)

1923: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. November 20.

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 11.

1936: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 17.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 107)
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ca. 1938: Real-photo postcard showing low-angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. Summer. View north. In collection of Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles. Also published in *New York City's Harbor Defenses* (2003), p. 92, by Leo Polaski and Glen Williford, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina.

1940: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. September 4.

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection.

ca. 1968: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north.

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

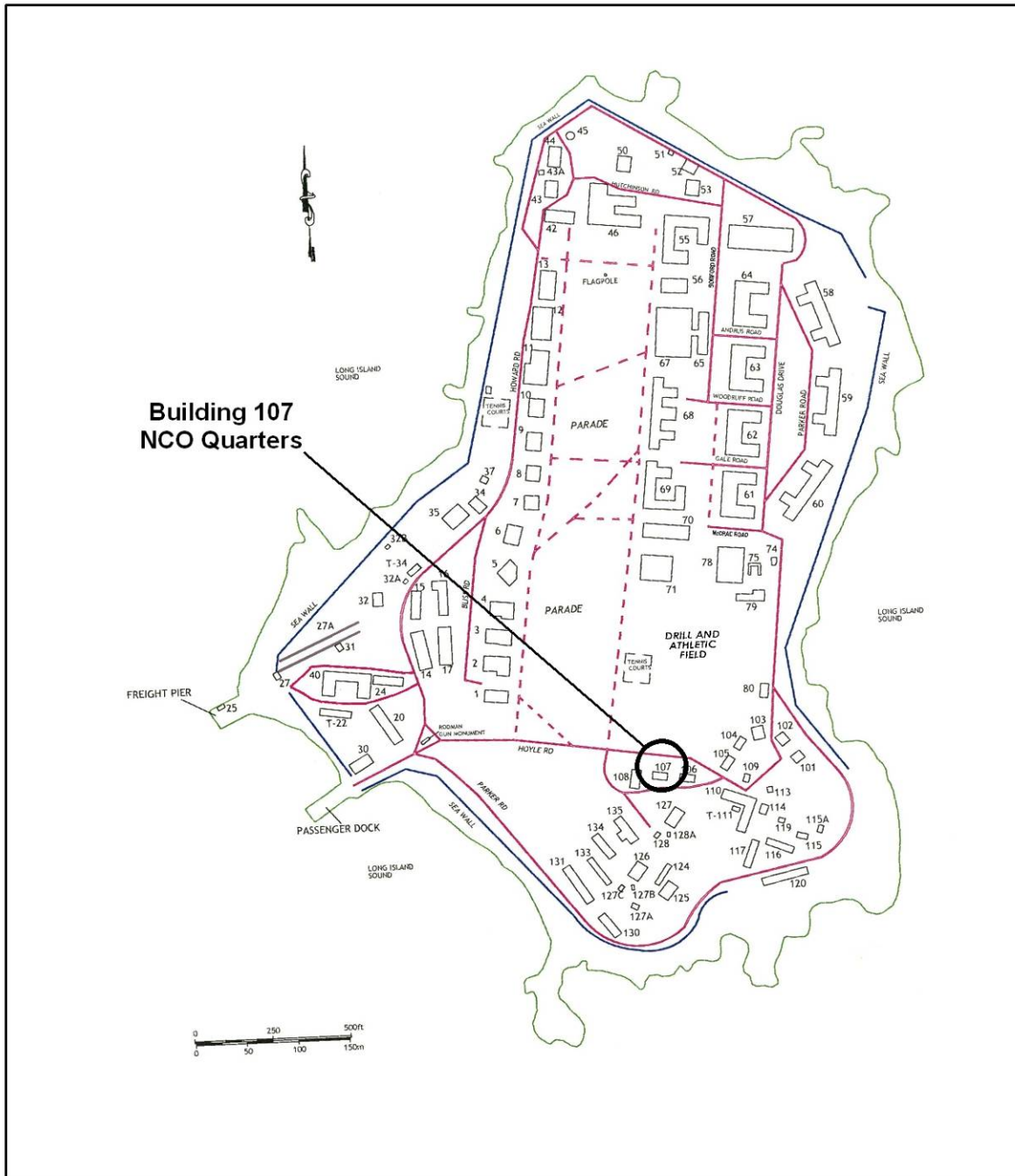
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



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SITE MAP



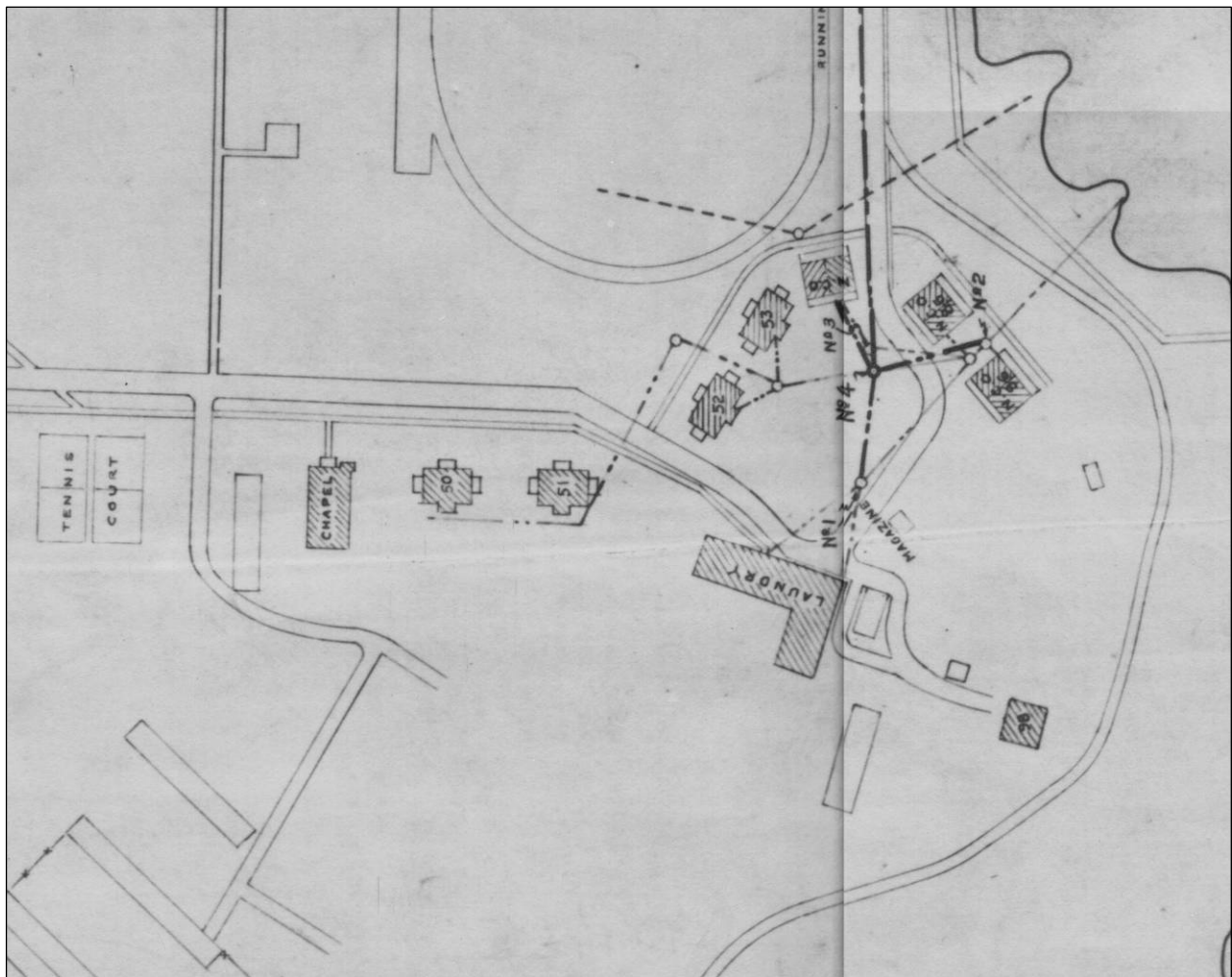
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Figure 1. Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1932, detail. View north. Building 107 is at upper left. In the foreground is the Fort Slocum Mortar Battery (In clockwise fashion from top are Batteries Overton Pit B, Overton Pit A, the partially obscured Haskins Pit A, and the mostly obscured Haskins Pit B). Original in National Archives, College Park, MD; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



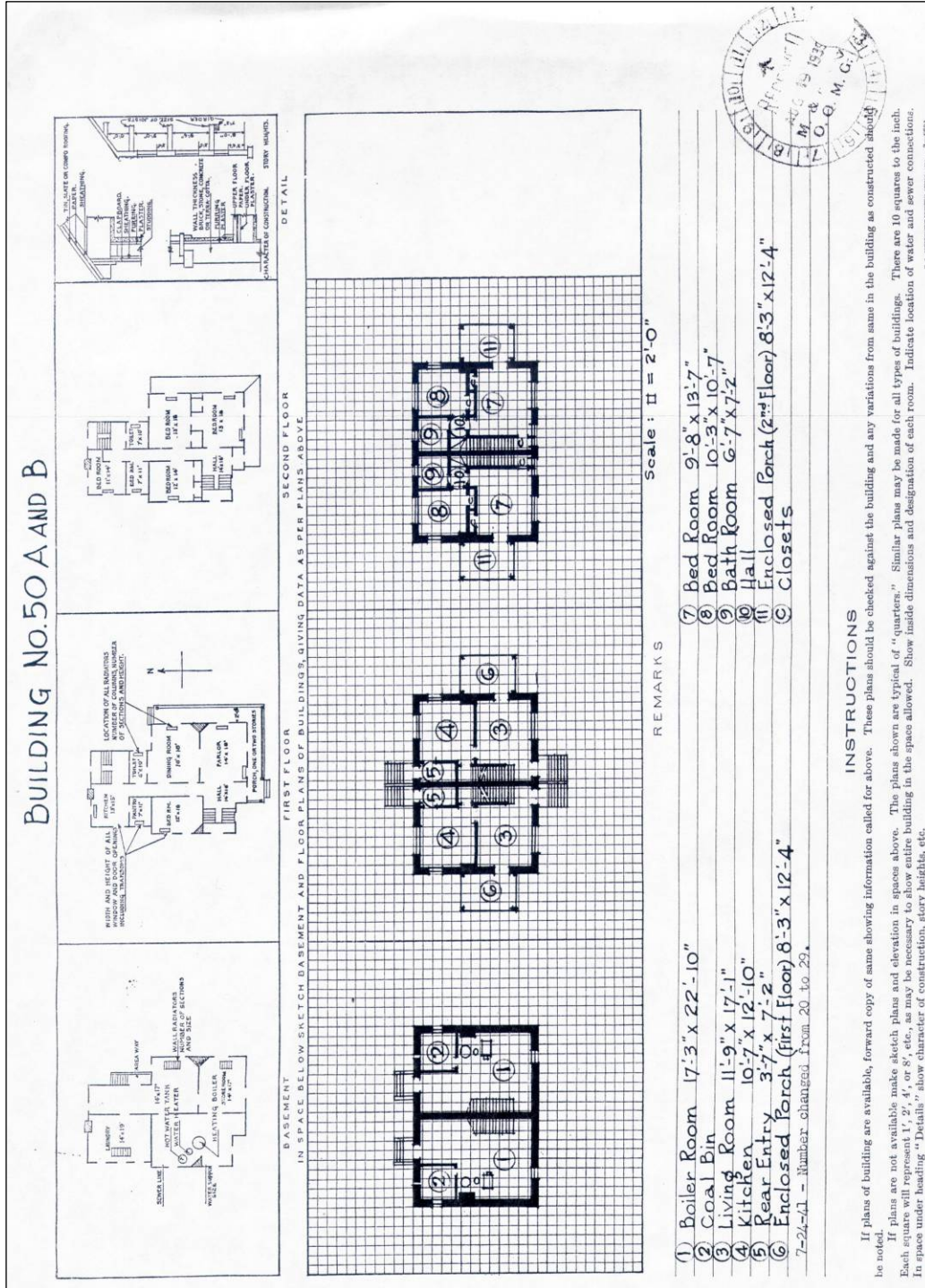
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 107)
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Figure 2: "Fort Slocum, New York: Reconstruction of Sewerage System, General Layout," 1933, detail. The core of the NCO Family Housing Area is the sickle-shaped line of buildings extending from the Post Chapel (center left) to Building 101 (here designated as Building 96) (center right). Building 107, adjacent to the Chapel, is here labeled as Building 50. Structures in the adjacent Defense and Support Area include the Laundry (formerly Ordnance Storehouse, Building 110), Incinerator (Building 115, here designated as Building 98), and Magazine (later Blacksmith Shop, Building 113). The southern half of the Drill and Athletic Field is shown above the NCO duplexes. The Mortar Battery is not depicted, but occupied the blank space below and to the left of the Laundry. Most of the unlabeled open rectangles on the map represent temporary wood-frame buildings erected during the First World War. North is to the top of the page. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 107)
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Figure 4. Property Record (back), August 1939. National Archives, College Park, MD.



**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 107)
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Figure 5. Inventory photo, ca. 1939. View southwest. This photo was also used as a stock image to depict Buildings 104 to 106 on their Quartermaster Corps property cards. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (BUILDING 107)

Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2004.

1. Northern and eastern façades, facing southwest.
2. Northern façade, detail showing entrances.
3. Southern and western façades, facing northeast.
4. Southern and eastern façades, facing northwest.
5. Northern and western façades, facing southeast.

Photo 1. Northern and eastern façades, facing southwest.



Photo 2. Northern façade, detail showing entrances.



Photo 3. Southern and western façades, facing northeast.



Photo 4. Southern and eastern façades, facing northwest.



Photo 5. Northern and western façades, facing southeast.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

POST CHAPEL (CHAPEL OF ST. SEBASTIAN) (BUILDING 108)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603627.4526356

Present Owner(s): City of New Rochelle, NY

Date of Construction: 1909

Architect/Engineer: Unknown

Present Use: Abandoned when documented (2004-2007). Demolished 2008

Significance: The Post Chapel (Chapel of St. Sebastian) (Building 108) is situated in the Non-Commissioned Officers' Family Housing Area and was a center of spiritual life in support of Fort Slocum's twentieth-century military activities. The building is a key contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.

Project Information: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps), has been authorized under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004, to perform building demolition, debris removal, and remediation of asbestos materials (Project) at the Fort Slocum on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, New York. The purpose of the Project is to remove buildings and infrastructure from the abandoned fort installation that create safety hazards as part of a long-range plan to restore Davids Island for future use. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Corps has consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (NYSHPO) regarding the effects of the Project on historic properties. The consultation resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the Corps, NYSHPO, County of Westchester, and City of New Rochelle as consulting parties. This documentation report was prepared in accordance with Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA.

Prepared by: C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
Title: Cultural Resources Documentation Team
Affiliation: Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
Date: April 2007 (Revision 1, December 2008)

PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Post Chapel (Building 108) is located in the south-central section of Davids Island. The island is in the western portion of Long Island Sound, 0.6 miles southeast of the New Rochelle, NY, mainland and 19 miles northeast of Midtown Manhattan (Location Map and Site Map). Davids Island is a roughly pear-shaped, relatively flat landmass consisting of approximately 78 acres above mean high water. It is heavily wooded and contains the ruins of more than 100 buildings and structures associated with an abandoned U.S. Army post, Fort Slocum. The ruins include barracks and quarters; quartermaster, administrative, medical, and recreation buildings; and coastal and air defense facilities. A concrete and stone seawall encircles most of the shore, and a system of roads and paths runs throughout the island. Building 108 is situated at the western end of the Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) Family Housing Area. This section of the post lies along Hoyle Road south of the Drill and Athletic Field. It contains seven duplexes that housed NCOs and their families, along with the Chapel and a small utility building for electrical transformers (Building 109).

The Post Chapel, Building 108, is a one-story front-gabled structure facing Hoyle Road (Photos 1-6). It stands diagonally across from the southeastern corner of the Parade Ground and adjacent to Hartshorn Road (Figures 1-6). This street intersects Hoyle Road west of the building and curves to the east behind it. The Chapel's long axis is north-south, and its main entrance is at the building's northern end. A small gabled bell tower projects slightly ahead of the main façade. A shed-roofed addition extends from the rear of the building. A chimney rises on the exterior of the original rear wall, but its lower section is now enclosed by the shed addition. All sections of the building's roof are clad with red clay tiles. There are exposed rafter tails with scrollwork ends in the main roof, bell tower roof, and the main entrance porch. The later rear addition has plain exposed rafter tails at the building's end (southern side) with fascias on the sides. The Quartermaster Corps property card describes the walls as constructed of brick coated with smooth, light-colored concrete stucco. The building's fenestration is dominated by semicircular arch openings in the original part of the building and rectangular openings in the rear addition. The Quartermaster Corps property card identifies the foundation as brick. All windows and doors are missing, and the building is severely deteriorated, with several holes in the roof and unreliable wood flooring in the former chapel sanctuary.

The main façade is plain and has a single circular window opening between the peak of the gable and that of the entrance porch roof. The porch itself is open with the roof supported by heavy wood brackets. Beneath is a wide semicircular arched entrance with a simple carved wood panel transom that formerly surmounted a double-leaf door. The stoop or porch platform is poured concrete standing two steps above the grade of the surrounding grade. Historical photographs show that at certain periods, shield-shaped wood plaques listing information about the chapel were mounted on one or both sides of the doors. The bell tower is to the left (east) of the doorway. It is a plain rectangular block with a narrow molding just below the belfry and narrow gabled, roof-tiled shoulders on the east face. The bell, wheel, and framework in the belfry have been removed. Likewise, crucifixes that were once attached to peaks of the belfry and porch roofs have been removed. Low down on the opposite (northwestern) corner of the main façade a hollow block has been smashed open; this may have been the building's cornerstone.

The eastern and western façades appear to be identical. A row of six large semicircular arch windows tucked beneath the eaves stretches along the wall of the main, original section of the building. Historical photographs and descriptions of the building indicate that at least eight of the windows originally contained stained glass designs, now gone. A single rectangular window lights the shed addition at the southern end of these façades. The rear façade has been altered by the addition. It appears that originally

POST CHAPEL (BUILDING 108)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 3)

this façade had only a large semicircular window, which stood above the altar. The shed roof of the addition begins immediately below this window and extends to a low rear wall pierced by four regularly-spaced rectangular openings, three of which are windows and the fourth of which has been expanded as a door.

The interior of the building is plain. The nave, occupying the northern three-quarters of the main floor, is a large open room beneath a gabled ceiling. The ceiling is planked in dark wood. The altar, now removed, stood on the centerline of the building beyond (south of) the nave and was flanked on either side by square columns that rose to arched openings. The column on the east side is gone, while that on the west side is extant. The rear addition is divided into two rooms of unidentified function separated by a corridor leading to the sanctuary. A floor plan included with the Quartermaster Corps property card shows the arrangement of the building before the construction of the addition (Figure 3).

PART II. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Fort Slocum

Dauids Island is named for Thaddeus Davids (1816-1894), a New Rochelle ink manufacturer, who owned the island between 1856 and 1867. Davids was next-to-last in a line of private owners and lessees associated with the island between circa 1700 and the 1860s. During this period, the island was used primarily as farmland, but beginning probably in the 1840s, it also became a destination for excursionists who traveled by steamboat from New York and Brooklyn to picnic by the sea. The U.S. Army leased the island in 1862 and purchased it outright in 1867. In 1967, the federal government sold Davids Island to the City of New Rochelle, which sold it in turn the following year to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Consolidated Edison returned ownership of most of the island to the city in 1976.

Two U.S. Army posts successively occupied Davids Island between 1862 and 1965. The earlier post was established as De Camp General Hospital in May 1862. The hospital treated wounded Union soldiers and, from 1863 onwards, also cared for Confederate prisoners of war. After the Civil War, the Army remained on the island, apparently using the post somewhat discontinuously as a hospital, mustering-out camp, and subdepot for recruits. By the early 1870s, the hastily-built wood frame buildings of the Civil War had deteriorated badly, and in October 1874 the Army entirely withdrew from the island, beginning a hiatus in occupation of nearly four years.

The Army returned in July 1878, when Davids Island was designated as a principal depot of the General Recruiting Service, supplanting Governors Island off lower Manhattan in that role. Originally known simply as Davids Island, the Army formally named the post Fort Slocum in 1896 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry Warner Slocum (1827-1894), a prominent Union soldier and New York politician. Recruit intake and training was a primary function of the post well into the twentieth century. Fort Slocum also saw service as an overseas embarkation station; hosted Army specialty schools for bakers, transportation officers, chaplains, public affairs personnel, and military police; provided retraining for court-martialed soldiers; and was an administrative center for the Air Force. Coastal artillery batteries operated at the post around the beginning of the twentieth century. During the Cold War, Fort Slocum supported an air defense missile battery.

POST CHAPEL (BUILDING 108)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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When the post closed in 1965, Fort Slocum's landscape integrated elements from different episodes of development into a campus-like whole. Several episodes of development were represented, particularly 1885-1910 and 1929-1940. A few wood frame buildings remained from the late 1870s and early 1880s, and at least nine such buildings represented the Second World War. However, of the more than 50 temporary wood frame buildings erected during the First World War, only a single, partial example survived. Most of the buildings at Fort Slocum followed standard Army plans, but Army personnel or outside professional architects also produced a few designs specifically for the post. The permanent buildings at Fort Slocum generally reflected conservative and eclectic interpretations of different currents in American architecture, producing an engaging mix of Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Italianate styles. The temporary buildings around the post were in contrast unadorned and starkly utilitarian, as they were designed principally for speed of construction.

The period after Fort Slocum closed in November 1965 saw severe deterioration of the former Army post. The City of New Rochelle repeatedly sought to redevelop Davids Island, at one time considering a Consolidated Edison proposal to build a nuclear power plant and later supporting proposals for luxury residences. None of these plans materialized. Neglect and vandalism took a heavy toll on the former post. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, the landscape was overgrown, and the more than 100 buildings and structures that once comprised Fort Slocum were in decay and ruin.

Detailed accounts of Fort Slocum's history can be found in the general historic overview to this documentation series (Tetra Tech 2008) and in Olausen et al. (2005), among other sources.

Post Chapel (Building 108)

The Post Chapel (Building 108) is situated on Hoyle Road and nearly faces the southeastern corner of the Parade Ground. As a facility serving the entire post, it could be considered to belong to the Parade Ground, but following the geographic logic of the present documentation, it is considered to be located within the NCO Family Housing Area. The Chapel has no specific functional connection with the adjoining NCO quarters. The NCO Family Housing Area is a narrow wedge extending west from the shoreline of Davids Island between the Drill and Athletic Field and the Defense and Support Area, including the Mortar Battery. The western end of the NCO Family Housing Area, where the Chapel was located, was occupied by buildings of DeCamp General Hospital during and immediately after the Civil War, but after their removal, the area remained undeveloped until the first decade of the twentieth century. Development of the NCO Family Housing Area began in 1908-1909, with the construction of three sets of duplex quarters (Buildings 101-103) at its eastern end and the Chapel at its western end. The intervening section was occupied by temporary buildings during the First World War, and after these were removed, four additional duplexes for NCO families (Buildings 104-107) were constructed in 1930. Building 109, a transformer house, was added to the area in about 1940.

Building 108 was at least the fourth building in the history of the Army's use of Davids Island to be designated as a chapel. Its earliest predecessor was a board-and-batten Gothic Revival-style wood-frame chapel built in ca. 1862 for DeCamp General Hospital. That building stood on the crest of a hill at the far southern end of the island, probably approximately between the southern two pits of the Mortar Battery (Buildings 125 and 126). In the 1880s, the post included a combination schoolhouse and chapel, which was also a wood-frame building that was situated about where Building 8 now stands. The schoolhouse-chapel building was probably moved to a new location along the western shoreline of the island around the time Building 8 was built (1886). The building was subsequently designated exclusively as a

POST CHAPEL (BUILDING 108)
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schoolhouse, but could well have continued to be used as a chapel until the 1900s, as dual schoolhouse-chapels were common on Army posts of the period. Around 1908, a former hospital stewards quarters south of the present Post Hospital (Building 46) was designated as the “Y.M.C.A. Chapel.” The construction in 1909 of the present Post Chapel, which was, at least nominally, available for use by all Christian denominations, seems to have replaced the Y.M.C.A. Chapel.

The Post Chapel (Building 108) was also known as the Chapel of St. Sebastian, in honor of the third-century Christian martyr and patron saint of archers, gunsmiths, and soldiers. Typical of many chapels built on Army posts until the Second World War, it was constructed with private funds. These were raised by the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in New Rochelle, the city’s oldest Roman Catholic parish, and given in honor of the silver jubilee of the ordination of the church’s rector, Rev. Thomas P. McLoughlin (also spelled McLaughlin). Rev. McLoughlin conceived the idea of building a chapel for Catholic soldiers stationed at Fort Slocum and carried it through to completion (Chattey et al. 1997:204-207; McLoughlin 1919:127-131).

Precise numbers are lacking, but Catholics comprised significant proportion—perhaps a quarter or a third—of the Army’s enlisted personnel in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. However, to the extent the service had any particular religious inclination, it was towards Protestantism. This inclination reflected both the historical roots of the nation and a strain of nativism that equated the Catholic Church with the enormous influx of immigrants who arrived in the United States in the mid- and late nineteenth century. Throughout this period, Catholic chaplains, with the instruction, guidance, and sacraments they could offer members of their faith, were rare in the Army. When soldiers were required to attend chapel on Sundays, it was almost always led by a Protestant, and Catholics (along with Jews and others) were simply expected to make the best of it (Coffman 1986, 2004). As the nineteenth century came to an end, an increased emphasis on the moral and spiritual development of soldiers, which paralleled developments in American society generally, and a gradual, modest decrease in religious intolerance, opened the way for more vigorous support to Catholics in uniform.

Rev. McLoughlin worked for several years to see a chapel built at Fort Slocum. He met with President Theodore Roosevelt in the fall of 1907 to receive his endorsement for the enterprise, and apparently proposed it as a facility to serve not just Catholics but any soldier in need of moral and spiritual support, “without regard to nationality, creed, or color” (McLoughlin 1919:127, 129; New York Times 1907). Yet, in soliciting funds for the project from his parishioners, he struck a more sectarian and competitive note. In a 1908 message, Rev. McLoughlin exhorted his parishioners:

See how active the Protestant Y.M.C.A. are! See how in earnest in their endeavors to do good for the men. See the millions spent by them throughout the United States in their buildings, gymnasiums, etc. Shame on any Catholic man or woman, possessed of the true faith of Christ, who will refuse to contribute to this magnificent work. Wake up! This is but the beginning of a movement that shall spread through the whole country wherever there exists an Army Post. Here the soldiers will have Mass and Benediction on Sundays. Here they will square up accounts with their Maker and receive the Viaticum of Life Eternal before setting out for the Philippines or Samoa or the Sandwich Islands (McLoughlin 1919:129).

In time, Rev. McLoughlin’s efforts paid off, and with permission from the War Department and funds in hand, the Chapel’s cornerstone was laid on June 13, 1909. The completed building was dedicated and sanctified just five months later, on November 14, by John M. Farley, Archbishop of the Diocese of New

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York. Although under the jurisdiction of the local Catholic diocese, newspaper accounts confirm the Chapel was available for use by all denominations. Ownership of the building apparently remained in the hands of its Catholic sponsors for several decades, but details of the relationship with the Army have not been determined. In the 1950s, the presence of the Army Chaplain School at Fort Slocum led to the installation of two Protestant chapels in a former barracks, Building 55, and Building 108 was apparently used exclusively for Catholic services. At some unknown date, the building became part of the property now comprising the former Army post owned by the City of New Rochelle, but, again, details are at present lacking. When Fort Slocum closed in 1965, stained glass windows and some other fittings from the Chapel are reported to have been removed and relocated to the Church of the Blessed Sacrament and other churches (Cavanaugh 2007; New York Times 1909a, 1909b; Valenti 2007).

The Post Chapel is stylistically atypical of Fort Slocum's buildings. Whereas the permanent buildings on the post are predominantly constructed of red brick in Colonial Revival, Neoclassical Revival, or Romanesque Revival style, the Chapel is the unique example on the post of Spanish Colonial Mission style and is also one of the few buildings with exterior stucco walls (Figures 1-6; Photos 1-6). The massing of the building and bell tower, the deep, arched windows, the form of the roof brackets, the tile roof; and the plain stucco exterior are all characteristic of Mission-style architecture. The architect is unidentified, but given the use of private funds, it is entirely possible that the building is the product of an architect unaffiliated with the Army. The Quartermaster Corps property card for the building does not record a plan number, either standard or post-specific, for the building. Though the architect is at present unknown, its builder can be identified. It was constructed by Peter Doern, a New Rochelle contractor, whose father, Valentine, rebuilt the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in the 1890s after it was destroyed by fire (McLoughlin 1919:131; New York Times 1896, 1941).

The reasons for the Mission-style design remain to be elucidated. Certainly, the building was erected during the period when the Mission style was most popular, particularly in the southwestern United States and Florida. Nonetheless, it is striking that the parish sponsoring the Chapel was predominantly Irish in origin, and it might also be noted that a chapel built on another island Army post in the New York Harbor area at about the same time, the Chapel of St. Cornelius the Centurion at Governors Island (1906), was constructed in Gothic Revival style (Historic American Buildings Survey 1984:19, 31). Perhaps the establishment of U.S. Army posts in the former Spanish colonial lands of Cuba, Panama, and the Philippines, to which men posted at Fort Slocum were being sent, played a role in the choice. Possibly also the missionary role of the Catholic Church was being alluded to. A final factor may have been that the potential simplicity of the style appealed as a matter of economy to those who planned the project.

No information is available about alterations to the building, including the date of the rear addition. Examination of historical aerial photographs suggests this section was added sometime between 1940 and 1961, and the quality of workmanship and other details of this addition seem similar to alterations made to other buildings on the post in the 1950s. Historical photographs assembled by Michael A. Cavanaugh (2007), who is writing a history of the post, indicate the belfry was originally open, but wood louvers, no longer extant, were added later. No information about interior alterations is currently available.

The Chapel was the site of frequent weddings, especially during the Second World War when many troops stationed at Fort Slocum were preparing for long and dangerous deployments overseas (Figure 5). Not all weddings were for military personnel, and in the post-Second World War era, the Chapel often served as a sanctuary for Roman Catholic weddings among civilian occupants and workers. In 1964, the post Commanding Officer, Col. Frank Castagneto walked his daughter, Esther Castagneto Bolger, down

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the aisle of the Chapel for her wedding there, attended by many of the post's officers, families, and enlisted men (Bolger 2007). The following year in one of the last weddings at Fort Slocum, Susan Edwards married a civilian employee of the post commissary, in the Chapel (Edwards 2007).

The Post Chapel (St. Sebastian's Chapel) was originally identified as Building 21 in the Fort Slocum building numbering system, changing to Building 77 during the period 1941 to 1957. In 1957, a further revision resulted in a change in designation to Building 108.

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Panoramic and Aerial Photographs

(Except as noted, all photographs are on file at National Archives, College Park, Maryland. Digital copies examined for this research come from the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.)

1924: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View northeast. March 24.

1924: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island showing area between Mortar Battery and Raymond Hall (Building 57). View east. September 4.

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View south. January 11.

1936: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View southeast. June 29.

1940: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. September 4.

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake. In the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection.

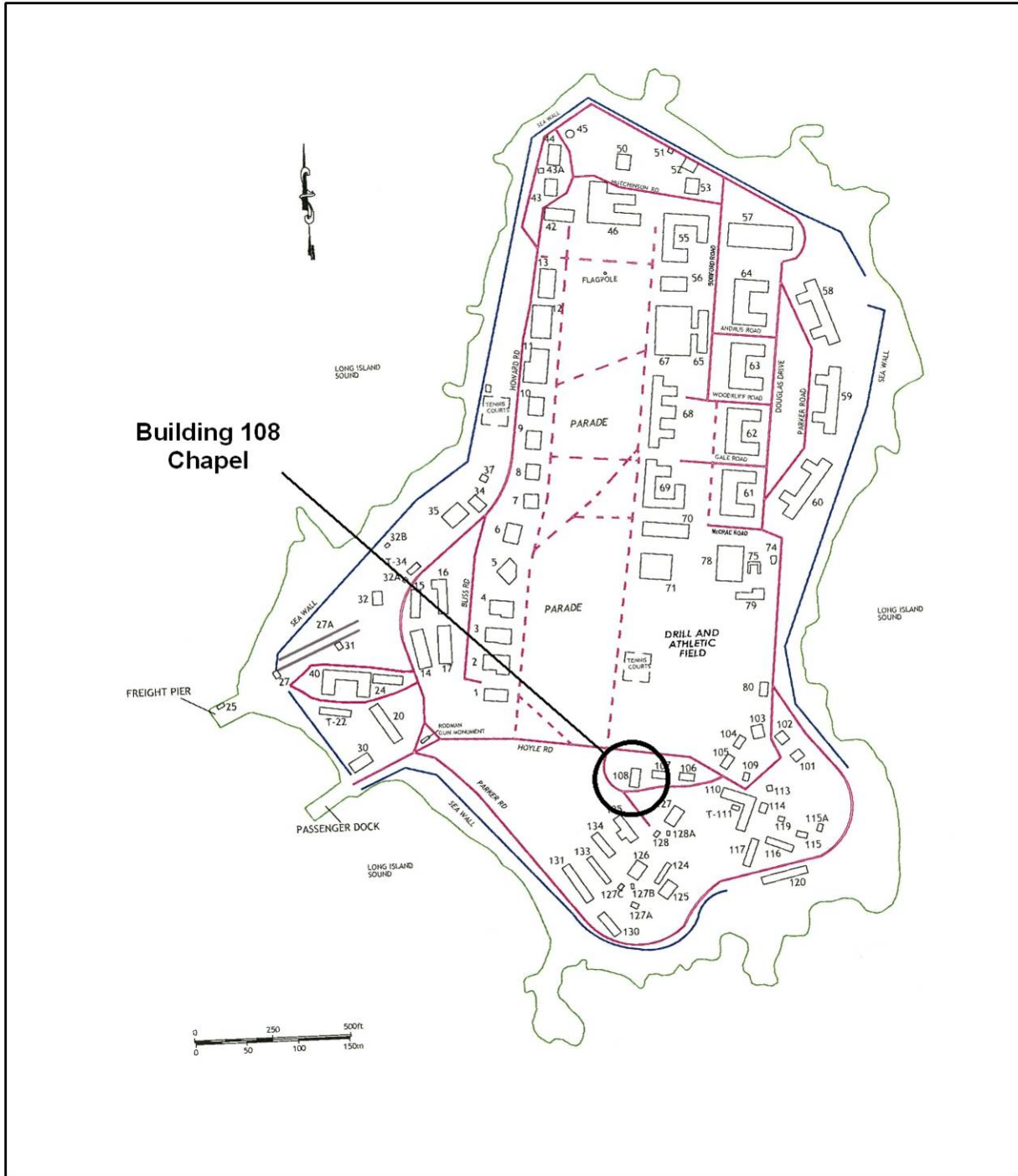
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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)
Scale: 1:24,000
1966 (Photorevised 1979)



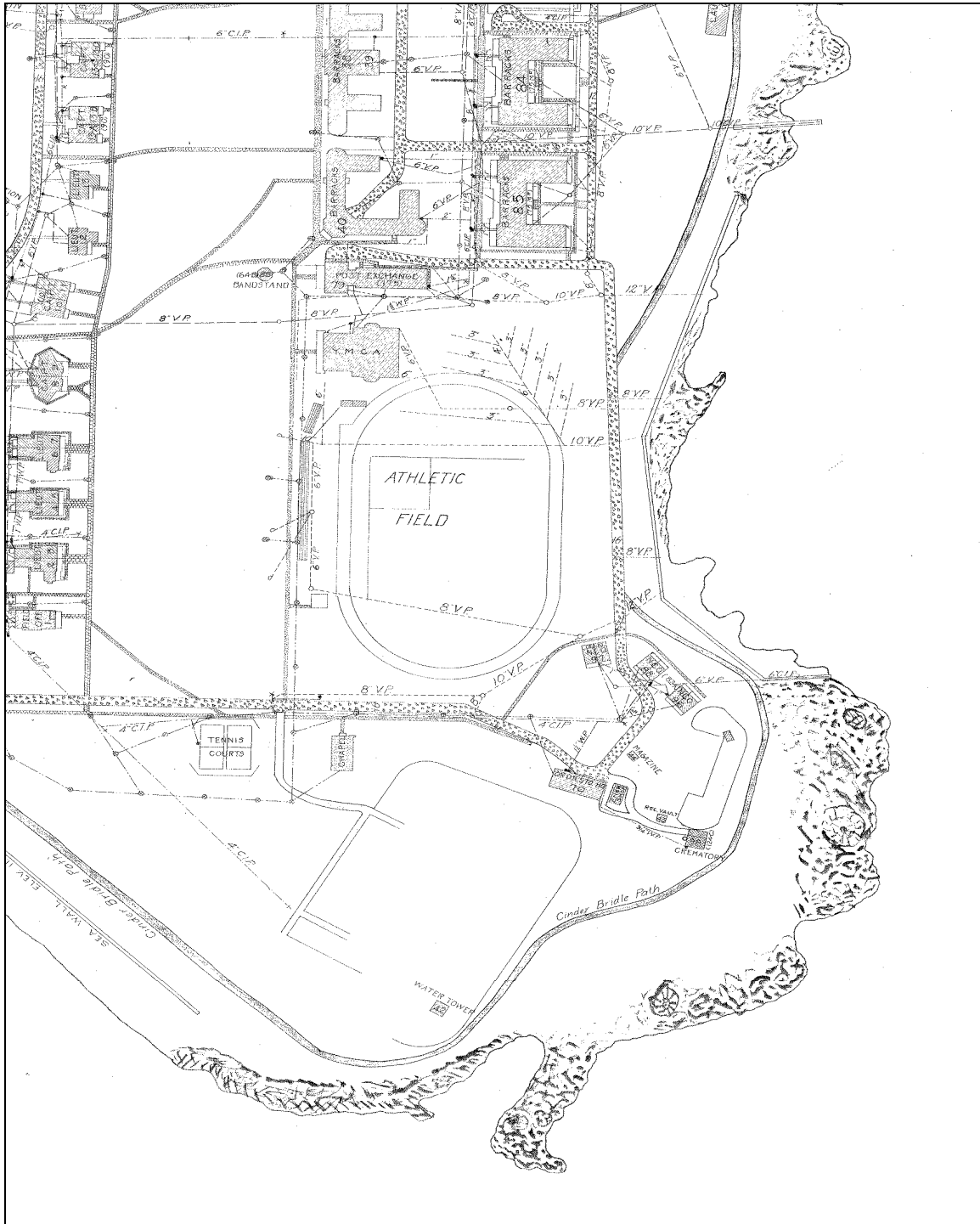
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SITE MAP



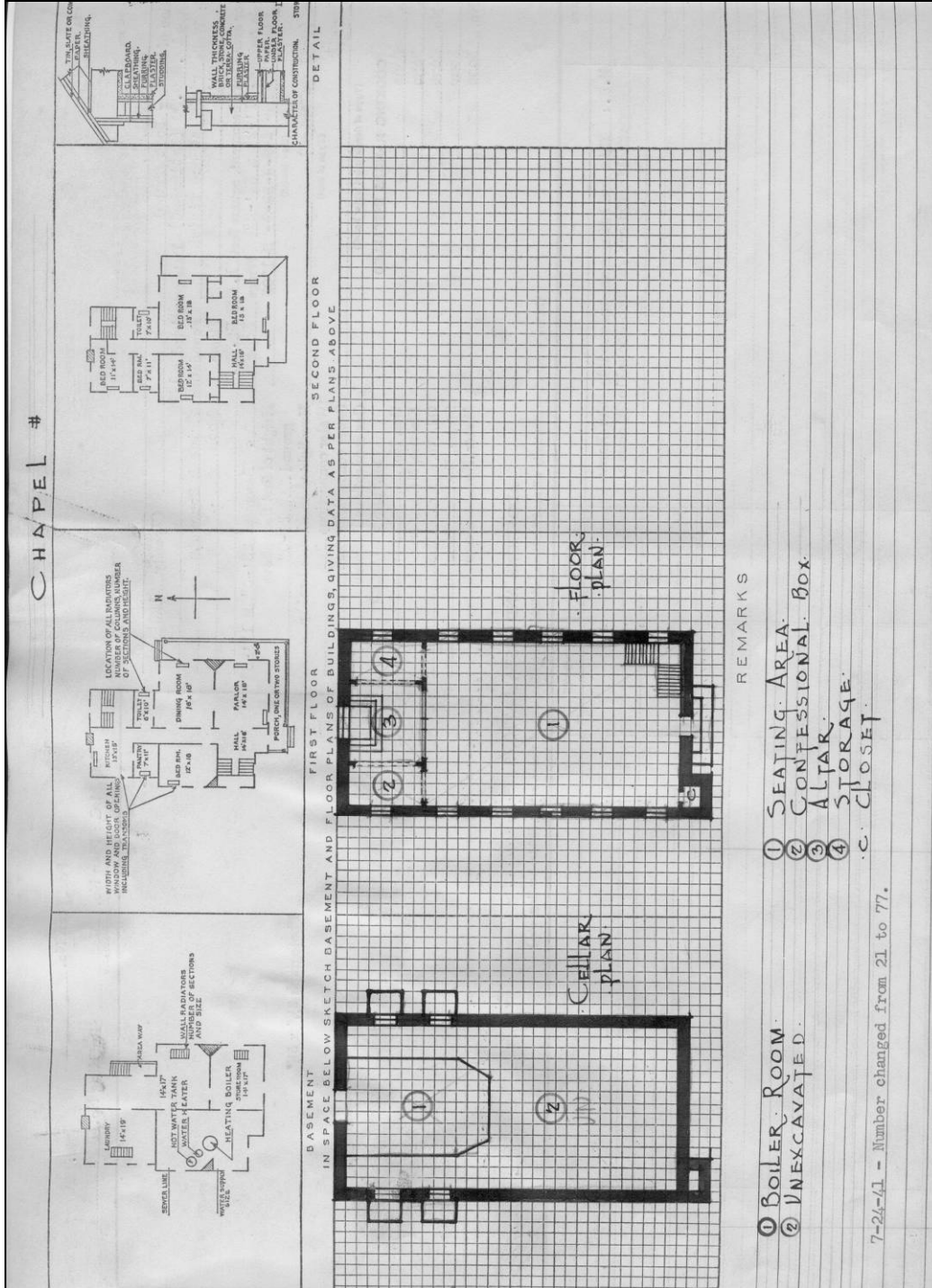
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Figure 1. "Map of Fort Slocum New York," 1915, detail. The Chapel is located below the Athletic Field and to the right of the Tennis Courts. North is to the top of the page. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 3. Property Record (back), August 1939. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 4. Postcard “The Chapel, Fort Slocum, N.Y.” ca. 1917. View southwest. Fort Slocum Collection, New Rochelle Public Library, New Rochelle, NY.



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Figure 5. A wedding ceremony in the Post Chapel, 1944. Chaplain Major Wesley Gebhard officiates. Fort Slocum Collection, New Rochelle Public Library, New Rochelle, NY.



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Figure 6. Chapel interior, early 1960s. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

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Dauids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2004 (Photos 2 and 5) and
November 2005 (Photos 1, 3, 4, and 6).

1. Northern and eastern façades, facing southwest.
2. Northern and western façades, facing southeast.
3. Northern façade, detail, showing main entrance, facing south.
4. Detail of roof at northern end of building, facing west.
5. Southern and eastern façades, including rear shed addition, facing northeast.
6. Interior, facing south.

Photo 1. Northern and eastern façades, facing southwest.



Photo 2. Northern and western façades, facing southeast.



Photo 3. Northern façade, detail, showing main entrance, facing south.



Photo 4. Detail of roof at northern end of building, facing west.



Photo 5. Southern and eastern façades, including rear shed addition, facing northeast.



Photo 6. Interior, facing south.

