

NOTE

This file is **Part 1** 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 5: Buildings 110-128A, Including the Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127), Rev. 1, January 2010. Prepared by Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston, for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, Massachusetts.

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Prepared for:

Department of the Army
New England District, Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, Massachusetts 01742-2751

Total Environmental Restoration Contract (TERC)

**Documentation of Contributing Elements
Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District
Davids Island, City of New Rochelle,
Westchester County, New York**

**Volume 5
Buildings 110-128A, Including the Mortar Battery**

January 2010 (*Revision 1*)

Contract Number:

**DACW33-03-D-0006
TASK ORDER 2**

Prepared by:

Tetra Tech EC, Inc.
133 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110

Submitted by Tetra Tech, EC, Inc., on behalf of:

Jacobs – Tetra Tech EC Joint Venture
55 Old Bedford Road
Lincoln, MA 01773

2010-O-JV02-0005

USACE CONTRACT NO. DACW33-03-D-0006
TASK ORDER NO. 0002
TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION CONTRACT (TERC)

**Documentation of Contributing Elements
Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District
Davids Island, City of New Rochelle,
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**Volume 5
Buildings 110-128A, Including the Mortar Battery
(Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127)**

JANUARY 2010 (*Revision 1*)

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
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PREFACE

The *Documentation of Contributing Elements of the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District* describes and illustrates the individual buildings, structures, objects, and features that are part of the District. The District is located on Davids Island in the City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York, and it comprises the former U.S. Army post of Fort Slocum (Olausen et al. 2005). The District is a relict landscape whose various elements illustrate significant aspects of the design of military posts and the adaptation of popular American architectural styles on a permanent post of the United States Army during the period 1878 to 1965. As discussed in the historic overview section of the documentation (see Volume 1), the District's historical significance also derives from Fort Slocum's role in the defense of New York City during two periods, 1897-1906 and 1955-1961, and from its regional and national role as a recruit depot, transit station, and training center between 1878 and 1965.

In 2005, with the concurrence of New York's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (USACE) determined that the District was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (SHPO 2005). The descriptions, photographs, and primary historical materials assembled in these volumes are intended to record the appearance and history of the buildings, structures, objects, and features that comprised the contributing elements of the District as it existed in 2004-2007. Nearly all of the elements documented in these volumes have either since been demolished or are at this writing scheduled for imminent demolition.

Documentation of the individual contributing elements in the District was completed in compliance with Stipulation II.C.1 of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed in 2005 by the USACE, SHPO, City of New Rochelle, and Westchester County. Pursuant to the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 USC 470f) and its procedural regulations (36 CFR 800), the MOA as a whole addresses the adverse effects on the District of a USACE project to demolish buildings, remove debris, and remediate asbestos at former Fort Slocum. Congress authorized this project in the Department of Defense (DoD) Appropriations Act of 2004 and provided funds through the DoD's Office of Economic Adjustment. Stipulation II.C.1 of the MOA requires the preparation of an "appropriate level of documentation" for the contributing elements of the historic district that will be adversely affected by the USACE project. The documentation was prepared by the staff of Tetra Tech EC, Inc. (Tetra Tech) under contract to the USACE, with some early assistance from a subcontractor, the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. The documentation is one element of Task Order No. 0002 of USACE Contract No. DACW33-03-D-0006, a contract held by a joint venture between Jacobs Engineering Group and TtEC ("Jacobs - Tetra Tech EC Joint Venture"). The six volumes of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements of the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District* are concerned only with historic architectural aspects of the District. Results of subsurface archeological investigations are reported elsewhere (Tetra Tech 2008a).

As defined by the National Register of Historic Places (1997:5), a district is a type of historic property that "possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development." Districts may be comprised of extant historic elements or the archeological remnants thereof. The USACE designated the district at former Fort Slocum as jointly historic and archeological to highlight the mixed character of its components, which include standing but deteriorated buildings, exposed standing ruins, and below-ground archeological deposits. Like many districts, the one on Davids Island contains both contributing and non-contributing elements. Contributing elements help to convey a district's sense of time and place and historical development or help to contain the important historical information that makes the district significant. Non-contributing elements are situated within the boundaries of a district but by virtue of their age, physical condition, historical associations, or other factors do not help to convey its defining

historical qualities or historical information. The 2004 architectural survey of former Fort Slocum inventoried 105 buildings, structures, objects, and features (Olausen et al. 2005). Of these, 92 were classified as contributing elements to the District (Table 1), and they included quarters, barracks, storehouses, medical facilities, and administrative, training, and support buildings, along with fortifications, landscape features and objects, roads and paths, and the seawall surrounding the entire island. The remaining 13 buildings and structures in the architectural inventory were categorized as non-contributing (Table 1), based upon a combination of factors that included presumed age, structural design, overall integrity, and apparent historical associations. The non-contributing elements comprised several structures associated with the post's water, sewage, or electrical utilities, and several poorly-preserved or ruinous wood-frame, ostensibly temporary buildings with minimal foundations, typically consisting of concrete piers or slab-on-grade construction.

In consultation with the SHPO, the USACE determined that each contributing element in the District should be documented through descriptions, historic imagery, and contemporary existing-conditions photographs using a format patterned after that employed by the Historic American Buildings Survey and Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) for historical reports (HABS/HAER 2000). Such documentation of historic buildings, structures, and objects provides "raw data in an accessible format for easy use by future researchers" and may also synthesize "the information, making conclusions about the building being documented, either through an analysis of the building itself and its history, or by setting it in an appropriate context." The format of HABS/HAER documentation is flexible, allowing "the kind of structure or site being documented [to] dictate the final form of that documentation" (HABS/HAER 2000:3-4). For the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, the USACE and Tetra Tech chose to document most contributing elements of the district individually, using written descriptions and historic context statements; reproductions of historical maps, photographs, plans and similar materials; and digital photographs depicting their appearance in 2004-2007. Completing a separate documentation packet for individual contributing elements ensured that each was systematically considered and described.

Tetra Tech completed field documentation of the District's contributing elements in a sequence that accommodated the order of the remediation, demolition, and cleanup work. The order of this work depended upon engineering, logistical, and funding considerations and upon the ongoing consultations among the MOA's signatories and interested parties. Field documentation and preparation of draft materials thus did not proceed in the sequential order of building numbers shown in Table 1, nor did it proceed by Fort Slocum's historic functional areas (Figure 1). Rather, Tetra Tech prepared batches of draft documentation packets that roughly anticipated the sequence in which buildings and structures would be demolished. Completion of draft documentation and USACE approval of the draft was one of several conditions to be met before the demolition team could remove a building or structure.

This version of the *Documentation of Contributing Elements of the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District* retains the format of the draft documentation, but the sequence of presentation has been altered from the drafts originally submitted to the USACE by placing the documentation generally in building number order. A general table of contents covering all volumes appears after that for the present volume. Since sequencing the documentation by building number may not serve all users of these materials equally well, the functional area map of the post with current building numbers (Figure 1) and a table listing buildings by construction date (Tables 2-3) are provided as cross-indexes at the end of this preface. Aside from the sequence of presentation, the present documentation has been revised from the draft form with editorial corrections and substantive amendments that are intended to enhance consistency and to reflect historical information that has become available since the drafts were completed.

Building names used in this documentation generally derive from the functional names originally assigned to buildings, even when there was a later substantial and longstanding change in a building or structure's use. Generally, the names employed here reflect those current around 1940, when the post

quartermaster prepared a set of record cards inventorying each building then extant (United States Army Quartermaster Corps ca. 1905-41). However, exceptions do occur, including instances where a different, less historically-reliable name had already become embedded in the overall vocabulary of the USACE's Fort Slocum Project and those in which no historical building name could be established. In addition, in a few instances, compound building names (e.g., "Magazine/Blacksmith Shop," Building 113) have been employed. These are used where it seemed essential to do so for functional or historical clarity. The historical narrative section of element's documentation usually discusses historical changes in building function.

Historical building numbers at Fort Slocum can be a source of confusion, because there were four successive numbering systems at the post, ca. 1887, 1893, 1941, and 1957. These systems are discussed in detail in the historic overview section of this documentation (see Volume 1). The numbering system used herein is that being employed currently by the USACE and Tetra Tech's demolition team. It derives from the 1957 system, but includes a few idiosyncrasies introduced at various points after the post closed in 1965.

Dates of construction are, like the building function names, also derived primarily from the Quartermaster Corps property cards (United States Army Quartermaster Corps ca. 1905-41). Where the property cards are unavailable or uninformative, the dates are drawn from study of other sources, such as historic maps and aerial photographs. As used here, the date of construction is usually taken as the year the building or structure was completed. Construction of most buildings and structures, however, stretched over months and often spanned more than one calendar year, and of course designs for buildings and structures might be executed long before the buildings were actually built. Information about the timing of the entire design and construction process is generally not available, so a single year, representing the date completed, is cited as the date of construction. Following the completion of a building or structure, they may later have been altered by expansion or substantial remodeling involving structural changes. Subsidiary dates following the original completion date reflect known significant alterations to building footprints and structural systems, but it is likely that further research would reveal additional major changes not identified herein.

Stylistic classification of the buildings and structures in the District has sometimes proven to be problematic. Only a few of the buildings at Fort Slocum were designed as high-style exemplars of a single architectural trend or movement. Constraints on construction and future maintenance costs were ever-present, as was an Army ethos that favored functionality, efficiency, and disciplined restraint over excessive and exuberant display. Such constraints probably encouraged simplification of design and ornament, sometimes complicating attribution of specific architectural styles. The tendency toward simplification and a severe lack of ornament is most pronounced among the buildings intended to be temporary, such as those erected during the First and Second World Wars (e.g., Buildings T-34 and 130-135, respectively), as well as utilitarian buildings in out of the way places (e.g., Building 52, the noncontributing Sewage Tank House). In addition, the many individual design elements and ornaments that classically define a particular style were constantly being reshuffled in new building designs and major renovations (Brand 1994; McAlester and McAlester 2000). The permanent buildings constructed at Fort Slocum between the mid-1890s and ca. 1940—which comprise around half of all the buildings on the post—were built during a period when brick construction and the Colonial Revival style dominated Army architecture in most areas of the continental United States. To harmonize buildings on these posts, the style of earlier buildings from this period tended to draw later designs toward them, resulting in elements from newer styles being subsumed by the dominant style, but not entirely eclipsed by them (Chattey et al. 1997:1-14; Hoagland 2004:211-243). Many of the buildings at Fort Slocum are therefore a more or less eclectic mix of two or more named architectural styles, a point that is highlighted as appropriate in the documentation.

Research and preparation of this documentation spanned three years and involved several authors and editors. The work proceeded somewhat episodically over this period. For general historical background, Tetra Tech initially relied upon several earlier historical and architectural studies, including ones prepared by Historical Perspectives (1986), Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (1986), and Olausen et al. (2005). Tetra Tech's early subcontractor, the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL), collected a series of nineteenth- and twentieth-century maps from the National Archives and other sources and prepared the documentation on the Freight Pier and Passenger Dock (Volume 2). Tetra Tech staff conducted additional research online and in person at the National Archives, the New Rochelle Public Library, and other repositories. Tetra Tech greatly benefited from the knowledge and research of several people knowledgeable about aspects of Fort Slocum's history. Most importantly, Michael A. Cavanaugh of Los Angeles, California, author of a forthcoming book on Fort Slocum's history and organizer of the informal Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Association, was generous in sharing his knowledge and materials. Barbara Davis, New Rochelle City Historian and member of the staff of the New Rochelle Public Library, also helped Tetra Tech's team understand the history and significance of Fort Slocum and pointed out locally-available resources. E-mail correspondence and research materials from Bolling Smith, fortifications expert and member of the Coastal Defense Study Group, clarified many aspects of the artillery batteries erected at Fort Slocum. Oral history interviews with more than twenty-five people formerly associated with Fort Slocum as service personnel, civilian employees, or dependents (Tetra Tech 2008b) supplied additional historical details about life at the post and the uses and histories of individual buildings that otherwise would have been unavailable.

Field documentation of the contributing and noncontributing buildings and structures in the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, emphasizing digital photography, was completed by the staff members from PAL, the USACE, and Tetra Tech. PAL photographed most buildings between late 2004 and early 2006. Tetra Tech supplemented and expanded this core collection of images during archeological, historic architecture, and engineering investigations conducted between 2005 and 2008. The USACE provided additional supplementary images as a result of two trips to the island in early 2006.

Tetra Tech's Cultural Resources Documentation Team based in Morris Plains, New Jersey, consisted of Caleb W. Christopher and James C. Sexton, Ph.D. (architectural historians), Christopher L. Borstel, Ph.D., RPA (archeologist and research historian), and Robert M. Jacoby (oral historian and documentation compiler). The team was supervised by Tetra Tech's discipline lead for cultural resources, Sydne B. Marshall, Ph.D., RPA, who was responsible for initial project design, task management, personnel assignments, and technical quality assurance. Tetra Tech's overall work on Davids Island is managed by George M. Willant in the company's Boston office. At the USACE, Nancy J. Brighton has planned and guided the agency's compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and reviewed the draft versions of all documentation. Gregory J. Goepfert is the USACE's project manager for its remediation, demolition, and restoration project at former Fort Slocum.

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- 2005 "RE: CORPS, Fort Slocum, Davids Island, New Rochelle, Westchester County, 04PR02680." Letter of February 25 to Gregory J. Goepfert, Project Manager, Environmental Analysis Branch, Department of the Army, New York District, Corps of Engineers, New York, NY, from Peter D. Shaver, Historic Preservation Program Analyst, State Historic Preservation Office, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Peebles Island, NY.

Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

- 2008a *Phase IB Archeological Surveys of the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York, 2005 and 2006 Field Season Reports.* Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, Massachusetts, by Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston.
- 2008b *Davids Island/Fort Slocum Oral History Project—“And by golly I’m so proud of being part of this military life:” Conversations with Members of the Fort Slocum Community, April 2008 (draft report).* 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

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

Table 1. Contributing and Non-Contributing Buildings, Structures, and Other Elements of the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, as Defined in Olausen et al. (2005), MOA (2005), and through subsequent research.

Building No.	Contributing	Non-Contributing	Building No.	Contributing	Non-Contributing
1	X		65	X	
2	X		67	X	
3	X		68	X	
4	X		69	X	
5	X		70	X	
6	X		71	X	
7	X		74	X	
8	X		75	-	X
9	X		78	-	X
10	X		79	X	
11	X		80	-	X
12	X		101	X	
13	X		102	X	
14	X		103	X	
15	X		104	X	
16	X		105	X	
17	X		106	X	
20	X		107	X	
T-22	-	X	108	X	
24	X		109	-	X
25	X		110	X	
27	X		T-111	X	
27A	X		113	X	
30	X		114	X	
31	X		115	X	
32	X		115A	-	X
32A	X		116	-	X
32B	-	X	117	-	X
T-34	X		119	X	
34	X		120	-	X
35	X		124	X	
37	X		125	X	
40	X		126	X	
42	X		127	X	
43	X		127A	X	
43A	-	X	127B	X	
44	X		127C	X	
45	X		128	X	
46	X		128A	X	
50	X		130	X	
51	-	X	131	X	
52	-	X	133	X	
53	X		134	X	
55	X		135	X	
56	X		Battery Practice	X	
57	X		Flagpole	X	
58	X		Freight Pier	X	
59	X		Officers' Tennis Courts	X	
60	X		Parade Ground	X	
61	X		Passenger Dock	X	
62	X		Rodman Gun Monument	X	
63	X		Seawall	X	
64	X		System of Roads and Paths	X	

Table 2. Index of Contributing Elements in the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District by Date of Construction.

Date Completed	Building Number	Name	Documentation Volume
ca. 1862-1950	-	System of Roads and Paths	6
ca. 1871	-	Parade Ground	6
1878	2	Officers' Quarters	1
1878	3	Officers' Quarters	1
1878	4	Officers' Quarters	1
1881	14	Quartermaster Storehouse and Quarters	2
1884	-	Passenger Dock	2
1885	113	Magazine / Blacksmith Shop	5
1886	5	Officers' Quarters	1
1886	7	Officer's Quarters	1
1886	8	Officer's Quarters	1
1886	67	Mess Hall	4
ca. 1886	119	Receiving Vault	5
1887	68	Barracks	4
1888	69	Barracks	4
1889	55	Barracks	3
1890-ca. 1942	-	Seawall	6
1891-1897	125, 126, and 127	Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin Pits A and B; Battery Overton Pit B)	5
1892	6	Officers' Quarters	1
1893	1	Commanding Officer's Quarters	1
1893	11	Officers' Mess	1
1893	25	Freight Pier	2
1893	27A	Coal Yard & Conveyor	2
1895	9	Officers' Quarters	1
1895	10	Officers' Quarters	1
1893-1898	-	Battery Practice	6
1896	56	Guardhouse	3
1896	110	Ordnance Storehouse / Laundry	5
1897	128	Mortar Battery Powerhouse	5
1898	46	Hospital	3
1900	-	Rodman Gun Monument	6
1902	24	Carpenter Shop	2
1902	34	Non-Commissioned Officer's Quarters / Officer's Quarters	2
1904	16	Quartermaster Storehouse / Commissary	2
1904	17	Quartermaster Storehouse	2
ca. 1904	127B	Mortar Battery Data Booth ("Fire Control Building"), Haskin Pit B	5
ca. 1904	128A	Mortar Battery Data Booth ("Fire Control Building"), Overton Pit B	5
1905	70	Post Exchange	4
ca. 1905	114	Searchlight Powerhouse / Laundry Boiler Room	5
1906	63	Barracks	3
1908	20	Quartermaster Storehouse / Post Engineer's Office	2
1908	40	Wagon Shed / Garage	2
1908	42	Recruit Examination Building	3
1908	64	Barracks	3

Table 2 (continued).

Date Completed	Building Number	Name	Documentation Volume
1908	102	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters	4
1909	13	Administration Building	1
1909	50	Isolation Hospital	3
1909	57	Drill Hall and Gymnasium	3
1909	61	Barracks	3
1909	62	Barracks	3
1909	71	YMCA	4
1909	101	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters	4
1909	103	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters	4
1909	108	Chapel	4
1909	115	Incinerator	5
1910	12	Officers' Quarters	1
1910	35	Officers' Quarters	2
1910	37	Electrical Substation	2
1910	43	Hospital Sergeants' Quarters	3
1917	T-34	Temporary Storehouse / Quarters	2
1929	45	Water Tower	3
1930	60	Barracks	3
1930	104	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters	4
1930	105	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters	4
1930	106	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters	4
1930	107	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters	4
1932	58	Barracks	3
1933	74	Sewage Sump and Pumping Station A	4
1938	27	Coal Conveyor Shed	2
1938	30	Passenger Waiting Room / Quarters	2
1938	31	Coal Yard Shed	2
1939	53	Sludge Drying Bed Building	3
1939	59	Barracks	3
1940	32	Paint Shop	2
1940	44	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters	3
1940	65	Post Bakery	4
1941	15	Quartermaster Storehouse	2
1942	79	Firehouse	4
1942	T-111	Firing Range Storehouse ("Pistol Range Storehouse")	5
1943	130	WAC Barracks ("Temporary Barracks")	6
1943	131	WAC Recreation & Administration Building ("Temporary Barracks")	6
1943	133	WAC Mess Hall ("Temporary Barracks")	6
1944	134	WAC Barracks ("Temporary Barracks")	6
1944	135	WAC Barracks ("Temporary Barracks")	6
1950	32A	Transformer Vault No. NE 1A	2
1954	124	Nike Sighting Station	5
1954	127A	Nike Generator Building	5
ca. 1955	127C	Transformer Vault No. 9	5
1960	-	Flagpole	6

(Table is slightly revised from versions that appear in Volumes 1 to 4 to reflect additional historical information.)

Table 3. Index of Non-Contributing Elements in the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District by Date of Construction.

Date Completed	Building Number	Name
1929	43A	Valve House
1933	51	Sewage Sump and Pumping Station B
1933	52	Sewage Tank House
1941	109	Transformer House No. 3
1941	117	Temporary Storehouse / Office
1942	T-22	Temporary Storehouse
1942	75	Handball Courts
1942	78	Armory & Gymnasium
1942	116	Temporary Storehouse
1944	120	Temporary Storehouse
1950	32-B	Pump House
1955	115A	Machine Shed
1960	80	Non-Commissioned Officers' Children's Swimming Pool

Detailed documentation has not been prepared for non-contributing elements in the District. Architectural inventory forms giving brief descriptions of these elements are included in Olausen et al. (2005).

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Firing Range Storehouse (Building T-111)

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Searchlight Powerhouse / Laundry Boiler Room (Building 114)

Incinerator (Building 115)

Receiving Vault (Building 119)

Nike Sighting Station (Building 124)

Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127)

Nike Generator Building (Building 127A)

Mortar Battery Data Booth, Battery Haskin Pit B (Building 127B)

Transformer Vault No. 9 (Building 127C)

Mortar Battery Powerhouse (Building 128)

Mortar Battery Data Booth, Battery Overton Pit B (Building 128A)

**Documentation of Contributing Elements
Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District**

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2	Officers' Quarters
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5	Officers' Quarters
6	Officers' Quarters
7	Officer's Quarters
8	Officer's Quarters
9	Officers' Quarters
10	Officers' Quarters
11	Officers' Mess
12	Officers' Quarters
13	Administration Building

Volume 2

Blg. No. Building Name

-	Passenger Dock
-	Freight Pier, including Crane (Blg. 25)
14	Quartermaster Storehouse and Quarters
15	Quartermaster Storehouse
16	Quartermaster Storehouse / Commissary
17	Quartermaster Storehouse
20	Quartermaster Storehouse / Post Engineer's Office
24	Carpenter Shop
27	Coal Conveyor Shed
27A	Coal Yard & Conveyor
30	Passenger Waiting Room / Quarters
31	Coal Yard Shed
32	Paint Shop
32A	Transformer Vault No. NE 1A
T-34	Temporary Storehouse / Quarters
34	Non-Commissioned Officer's Quarters / Officer's Quarters
35	Officers' Quarters
37	Electrical Substation
40	Wagon Shed / Garage

Volume 3

Blg. No. Building Name

42	Recruit Examination Building
43	Hospital Sergeants' Quarters
44	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters
45	Water Tower
46	Hospital
50	Isolation Hospital
53	Sludge Drying Bed Building
55	Barracks
56	Guardhouse
57	Drill Hall and Gymnasium
58	Barracks
59	Barracks
60	Barracks
61	Barracks

Volume 3 (cont.)

Blg. No. Building Name

62	Barracks
63	Barracks
64	Barracks

Volume 4

Blg. No. Building Name

65	Post Bakery
67	Mess Hall
68	Barracks
69	Barracks
70	Post Exchange
71	YMCA
74	Sewage Sump and Pumping Station A
79	Firehouse
101	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters
102	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters
103	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters
104	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters
105	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters
106	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters
107	Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters
108	Chapel

*Volume 5**

Blg. No. Building Name

110	Ordnance Storehouse / Laundry
T-111	Firing Range Storehouse
113	Magazine / Blacksmith Shop
114	Searchlight Powerhouse / Laundry Boiler Room
115	Incinerator
119	Receiving Vault
124	Nike Sighting Station
125	Battery Haskin Pit A }
126	Battery Haskin Pit B } Mortar Battery
127	Battery Overton Pit B }
127A	Nike Generator Building
127B	Mortar Battery Data Booth, Haskin Pit B
127C	Transformer Vault No. 9
128	Mortar Battery Powerhouse
128A	Mortar Battery Data Booth, Overton Pit B

*Volume 6**

Blg. No. Building Name

130	WAC Barracks
131	WAC Administration & Recreation Building
133	WAC Mess Hall
134	WAC Barracks
135	WAC Barracks
-	Battery Practice
-	Flagpole
-	Parade Ground
-	Rodman Gun & Monument
-	Seawall
-	System of Roads and Paths

**Minor revisions, January 2010.*

DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)

<u>Location:</u>	Dauids Island–Fort Slocum 0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603739.4526333
<u>Present Owner(s):</u>	City of New Rochelle, NY
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	1896; additions 1922, ca. 1929, 1940, and ca. 1951
<u>Architect/Engineer:</u>	U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps
<u>Present Use:</u>	Abandoned when documented (2004-2007). Demolished 2007
<u>Significance:</u>	The Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110) is located in the Defense and Support Area of Fort Slocum. It was initially used to store supplies and other materiel for the Endicott era coastal artillery Mortar Battery and in this capacity supported the defensive function of the post. Subsequently, it was converted to a laundry for washing the clothing, bedding, and similar items of recruits, trainees, and permanent staff, in support of the post’s varied training missions. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.
<u>Project Information:</u>	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.
<u>Prepared by:</u>	C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
<u>Title:</u>	Cultural Resources Documentation Team
<u>Affiliation:</u>	Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
<u>Date:</u>	March 2007 (Revision 1, January 2010)

ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 2)

PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110) 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 the 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 110 is situated near the northern edge of the Defense and Support Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a functionally-mixed area that adjoins and includes the 1891-1897 coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127). Building 110 is closely associated with Building 114, originally the Searchlight Powerhouse and later converted Laundry Boiler Room. Building 114 is documented elsewhere in Volume 5 of *Documentation of Contributing Elements, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, New York*.

Building 110 is an L-shaped, utilitarian structure standing on the southern side of Hoyle Road just east of Hartshorn Road (Photos 1-17; Figures 1-8). Overall, the building is approximately 142 by 134 feet, as measured along its northern and eastern perimeters; the building's north wing is around 32.5 feet wide, while the east wing is about 27 feet wide. The main part of the north wing comprises the building's earliest section. This wing has a later addition at its western end. The north wing faces Hoyle Road and is oriented roughly southeast-northwest. The east wing extends at a right angle from the southeastern corner of the north wing, and the two wings are connected by a doorway. The east wing comprises a main section and two additions, which were successively added at its southern end.

At the time of documentation (2004-2007), Building 110 was a roofless masonry shell. The building was gutted by fire sometime between 1980, the date of an aerial photograph that appears to show it intact, and 1986, when it was first inventoried by architectural historians (Louis Berger & Associates 1986). (An August 1981 brush fire is known to have destroyed several nearby buildings [Frost 1981], but it is not clear whether the fire burned Building 110.)

Building 110 is predominantly a one-and-a-half-story gabled structure. The additions at the ends of the wings are one story tall with flat roofs and very low parapets. A second addition to the east wing, which is sandwiched between the one-and-a-half story main segment and the one-story end segment, is gabled and rises to a height of two stories. Trace evidence, in the form of paint ghosting, indicates that a small addition, presumably framed in wood and no longer extant, stood at the northeastern corner of the north wing. The building does not have a basement. Historical records, including official building record photographs, aerial photos, and written records, confirm this description of the building's general form and appearance.

The masonry walls of Building 110 are largely intact. However, except for fragmentary remnants in the north wing's western addition, the building's roof is entirely missing. Most wood window frames and doors are gone, but many of the steel window frames used in the later portions of the building remain. Interior wood framing, studs, and floors are likewise no longer in existence. Interior masonry walls remain; in all cases, such walls were originally exterior walls that were enclosed by later additions. The steel framing found in the later additions to the building is extant and in many cases remains in position. An exterior steel and concrete stairway for the two-story segment of the east wing is also extant. Metal plumbing, heating, ventilation, and electrical fixtures are present throughout the building, either fixed in place to masonry walls or lying among

ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 3)

the burned and collapsed debris scattered across the interior. Prominent among the ventilation fixtures is a large fume hood suspended from the ceiling of the addition at the western end of the north wing and connected to an enclosed fan on the roof.

The structural system of Building 110 is a mix of brick and concrete block, with brick predominating. Brick is used to construct the main one-and-a-half-story segments of both wings, and concrete block is used in the one-story end sections. The two-story segment in the east wing has single courses of concrete block alternating with two or three courses of brick. The exterior Building 110 is clad in brick throughout. All of the brickwork on the building is plain. The walls apparently rise directly from the adjoining grade without a differentiated foundation. There is likewise generally no elaboration at the eaves; however, the one-story section at the end of each wing has concrete coping to cap the low parapet wall above the roof.

Window openings are of two types. Openings in the earliest section of the building, which comprises most of the north wing, are brick segmental arches with limestone sills. In other sections of the building, the openings are rectangular with steel plate lintels and concrete sills. Evidence at the time of documentation indicates that the openings contained double-hung wood sash windows and 25-light, steel sash windows with a six-light, tilting, center section. Though few traces remain, double hung windows were apparently used in the arched window openings of the north wing, and are also present as fragments in the two one-story additions at the ends of the wings. Steel sash windows are used in the one-and-a-half- and two-story sections of the east wing. Circular openings for ventilation fans are situated in the gable peaks of the north wing. Both openings have fragmentary remnants of the fans. A small rectangular window opening is present in the remaining two-story gable of the east wing.

Pedestrian entrances once occupied by human-scale single-leaf doors are located at grade at several points around the building. Entrances occur at the northern end of the east façade under the gable peak for the north wing; in the center of the western façade; and in the south façade of the one-story east wing addition. There is also a pedestrian entrance into the second floor of the two-story segment of the east wing on the east side. There are also three vehicle entrances that contain or formerly contained large, garage-style doorways. These are situated in the western end of the north wing and in the middle and at the southern end of the east façade of the east wing.

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,

ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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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.

Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110)

Building 110 is one of ten inventoried buildings and structures in the eastern part of Fort Slocum's Defense and Support Area. This functional area occupies the southeastern section of Davids Island and is centered on the Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, also designated as Buildings 125, 126, and 127). The battery was built as a 2.9-acre coastal artillery emplacement that mounted 16 heavy mortars in four groups, and it was operational from 1897 to 1906. The western part of the Defense and Support Area is bordered on the north by Hoyle Road and the NCO Family Housing Area, on the west by the Mortar Battery earthwork, and on the south and east by the shoreline of Davids Island.

ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
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The earliest military use of the eastern part of the Defense and Support Area took place during the Civil War, when the quarters for the military band attached to De Camp General Hospital were erected within it. The quarters probably stood in the vicinity of the Fort Slocum's later Buildings 115, 116, and 119. The band quarters were removed after the war, and in the 1880s the Army renewed development of this section of the post. The first structures erected during this new wave of development were the Magazine (Building 113, later used as a blacksmith shop) and the Receiving Vault (Building 119), both of which were completed in 1885. Between about 1891 and 1905, the area developed through construction of fortifications and associated support structures. The Mortar Battery was built in the area between 1891 and 1897, and Battery Practice was developed from around 1893 to 1898. The Ordnance Storehouse (Building 110) was erected in 1896, and a 60-inch searchlight with shelter and associated powerhouse (Building 114) were installed around 1905. After 1906, when Fort Slocum's Coast Artillery batteries were removed from active service, use of the eastern part of the Defense and Support Area came to be dominated by activities of the post's engineering and quartermaster departments. An incinerator was built in this section in 1909, and two temporary storehouses were built around 1917. Later activities in this section of the post involved conversions, expansions, or replacements of existing structures, mostly for engineering and other support activities.

Historical analysis of the Defense and Support Area indicates that it tended to be used for functions related to weapons and what might be broadly described as light-industrial and utility/service activities at the post (Tetra Tech 2008). Building 110 exemplified this pattern. The building was constructed as an ordnance storehouse, and it was later converted to a laundry, with still other functions tacked on as time passed. Information from the Quartermaster Corps property card, updated through April 1941, and historic maps and air photos, indicates that Building 110 was built in approximately five phases, as follows:

- Phase 1—one-and-a-half story, gabled ordnance storehouse (1896);
- Phase 2—shed-roof addition, northeastern corner of original storehouse (1922)
- Phase 3—one-and-a-half story, gabled east wing with three pairs of narrow dormer windows and also including small attic apartment (ca. 1929)
- Phase 4—two-story, gabled addition to south end of east wing, providing an expanded apartment (1940)
- Phase 5—flat-roofed, one-story additions at west end of north wing and south end of east wing (ca. 1951).

These repeated alterations gave Building 110 an irregular and somewhat eclectic roof line and asymmetric massing and façades. No information is available about whether standardized plans from the Quartermaster Corps or Corps of Engineers (Chattey et al. 1997) were employed in the design of any section of this building.

Built in 1896 as an ordnance storehouse (New York Times 1896a, 1896b), the original section of Building 110 was evidently intended to hold and protect supplies needed by Fort Slocum's artillery batteries. These materials were presumably non-critical, or the Army anticipated receiving sufficient warning to relocate them in the event of war, because the building was located on the side of the Mortar Battery that would have been most exposed to enemy fire. The specific items kept in the storehouse are at present unknown, and it is uncertain whether the materials included explosives. Both the Mortar Battery and the direct-fire batteries had magazines, where powder, primers, cartridges, fuses, and other explosive materials would have been stored (Hines and Ward 1910:35; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1920). It therefore seems likely that the Ordnance Storehouse would primarily have been used to hold non-explosive supplies and equipment; nonetheless, an accident involving explosives at a Fort Totten ordnance storehouse in 1907 indicates that explosives were sometimes handled in storehouses (New York Times 1907). Artillery equipment was probably also maintained and repaired in the storehouse, but no specific information about such activities at Fort Slocum is

ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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currently available. Proximity to the Mortar Battery suggests that Building 110 was primarily intended to serve it, and it is not known to what extent, if any, the building also supported the direct-fire batteries. These batteries, Fraser and Kinney, were situated 0.3 mile to the north of Building 110 at a location later occupied by one of the barracks, Building 58.

After the Army entirely abandoned Fort Slocum's coastal artillery fortifications around the end of the First World War, it altered and reused Building 110 as the post laundry. This adaptive reuse probably took place in 1922, as indicated by the Quartermaster Corps property card, which records 1922 as the year when the small shed-roofed addition was constructed at the northeastern corner of the original Ordnance Storehouse. It certainly took place before August 1924, when an aerial photograph shows that the post's previous laundry building had been removed.

Officers at Fort Slocum had long sought to replace the earlier laundry. Built in 1881 when the Army was gradually building up the post on Davids Island as a principal recruit depot, this predecessor to Building 110 was a one-story wood-frame building near the northeastern shoreline of Davids Island. (It stood in the area later occupied by a barracks, Building 59, and just south of Fort Slocum's direct-fire batteries.) According to testimony given to a congressional committee by Brig. Gen. R.C. Marshall, Jr., Chief of the Army's Construction Division in 1920, the old laundry had a capacity for 1,000 men, but Fort Slocum's overall capacity had increased to 5,000. The building was neither serviceable nor sanitary. It was "in a dilapidated condition.... The building [had] been condemned frequently, and [was] considered a very dangerous fire hazard." The location of Fort Slocum on Davids Island made the use of contract services by an off-post commercial laundry not viable, and in any case, in the view of Army officers commercial laundry services were almost always more costly and less satisfactory than Army facilities. Moreover, since Fort Slocum was a recruit depot, there were frequent changes of personnel. As Gen. Marshall reported, "all bedding and other equipment which may be issued to one man must, before it can be reissued to another man, be thoroughly sterilized. A laundry furnishes an approved method for sterilizing these articles" (Marshall 1920:321-322).

Although the Army had sought \$44,950 to build a new, modern sanitary laundry at Fort Slocum, Congress evidently did not provide a full appropriation. Instead, the Army received or identified funds to convert the former ordnance storehouse into the post laundry. The process seems to have been incremental. The laundry was relocated to the storehouse sometime prior to August 1924 (probably in 1922), but with only a minor expansion of space. It was not until circa 1929 that the main section of the east wing was added. (This date is based upon the estimated date of certain contract specifications described below and aerial photographs taken in 1926 and 1932.) The circa-1929 alterations tied the former Ordnance Storehouse and the adjoining Searchlight Powerhouse, by then called the Engineering Shop, into a single laundry facility. It is unclear whether they were linked together before then. The records of Fort Slocum's constructing quartermaster include contract specifications for "an addition... on the west end of the present Ordnance Building [then designated as Building 70 and now called Building 110] and altering of same; and an addition and alteration of the present Engineers machine shop [present-day Building 114] on the east end of the Ordnance Storehouse." The contract specifications described foundation work, including blasting, grading and 1-foot thick footings on a trench foundation using concrete, with the floor of the addition to be concrete 3 inches thick. The brick walls of the addition were to be matched to the existing building. The roof was to be framed with crow-footed rafters of "best quality spruce, Douglas fir or long leaf yellow pine" and covered with a slate roof, with asbestos shingles used over boilers. Certain existing windows and doors were to be replaced, though it is unclear which these were. All trim was painted with lead- and oil-based paint (Constructing Quartermaster ca. 1929). A tiny apartment reached by an external flight of stairs was also included in the attic of the new addition. Presumably these quarters were occupied by a key non-commissioned officer

ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
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responsible for the laundry.

A floor plan of Building 110 drawn in 1939 is included on the Quartermaster Corps property card for the building. It shows that the north wing was mostly occupied by the washing and pressing room, while the main floor of the east wing had the drying and sorting room.

By April 1940, an aerial photograph shows that the east wing had been extended by approximately 26 feet by a full two-story addition at the south end. This addition presumably provided an enlarged apartment on the second floor; the use of the first floor is unknown.

The final additions to the building, both of one story were made sometime in the early 1950s and are here assigned a construction date of circa 1951. They are stylistically similar to considerably larger additions made during this period to Buildings 11 and 46 (Officers' Mess and Hospital, respectively), at the time when Fort Slocum became the site of the Army Chaplain School and the Armed Forces (later, Army) Information School. Evidence from historical maps and aerial photographs indicates the additions were likely built between 1951 and 1953. The additions, 18 feet long on the south end and 24 feet long on the west end, had vehicle doors and were apparently used by the post motor pool, though in what capacity is unclear. In the 1950s and 1960s, the second-floor apartment in the east wing, by then located behind the one-story addition at the end, was used as substandard quarters for one NCO family. Use as family housing was an expression of the shortage of housing for officers and non-commissioned officers at Fort Slocum during its last two decades, when it was used as the site of the two training schools (Cavanaugh 2007; Fuller 2007).

The Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry was originally designated as Building 70. In 1941, this designation was changed to Building 78, and in 1957, it changed again to 110.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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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.)

1920: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. July [no date].

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

1924: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. August 24.

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

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

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

1954: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island, New Rochelle, NY. Date and originating agency unknown. Available online in a georeferenced photo mosaic version through [HistoricAerials.com](http://www.historicaerials.com) at <http://www.historicaerials.com>. Accessed September 25, 2009.

ca. 1958: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. Date unknown. Included in a 1966 report prepared by Cross & Brown Co., New York, for the Federal Property Resources Service, on file at the New York City branch of the National Archives, Record Group 291.

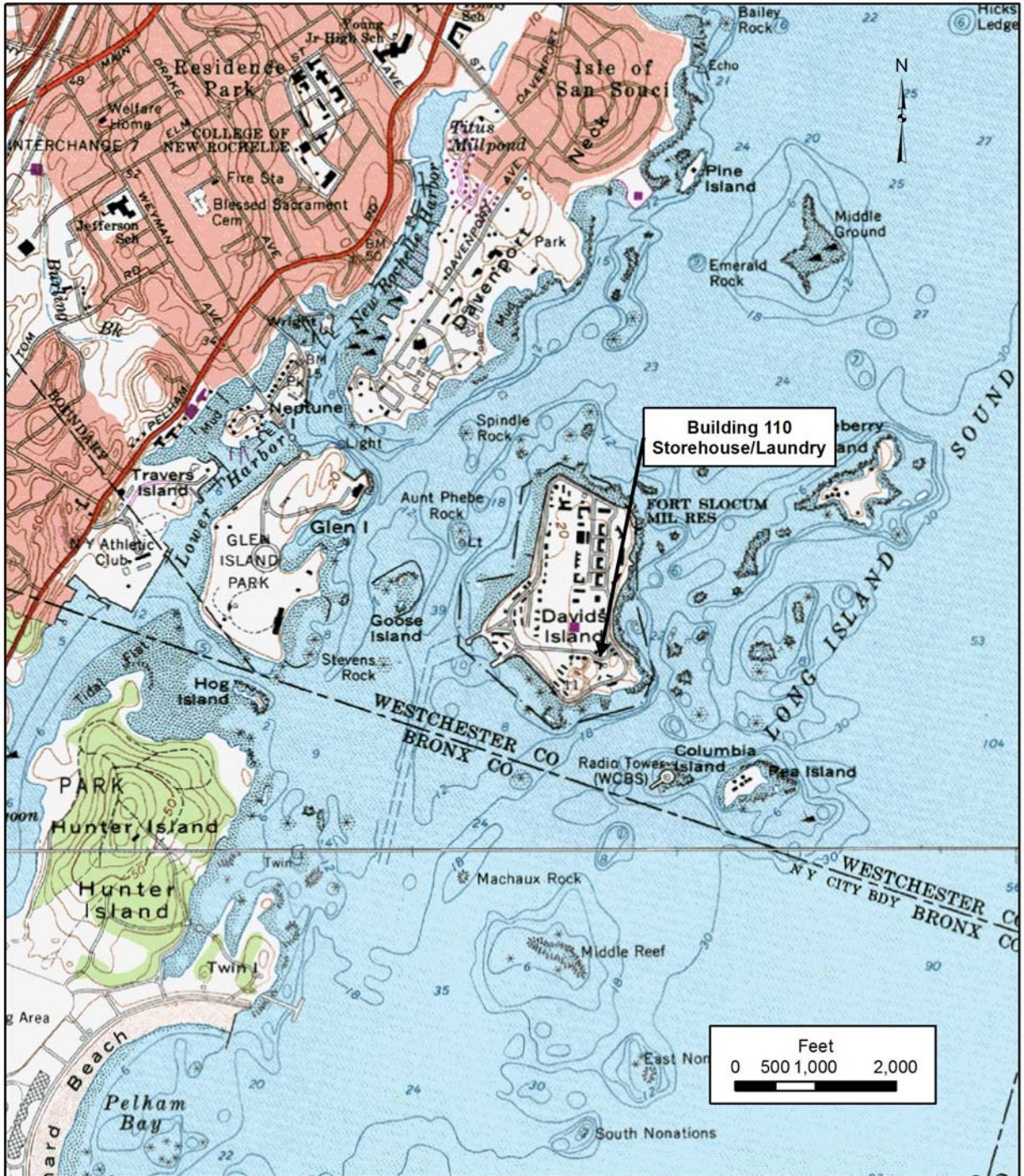
1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake.

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

1980: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island, New Rochelle, NY. Date and originating agency unknown. Available online in a georeferenced photo mosaic version through [HistoricAerials.com](http://www.historicaerials.com) at <http://www.historicaerials.com>. Accessed September 25, 2009.

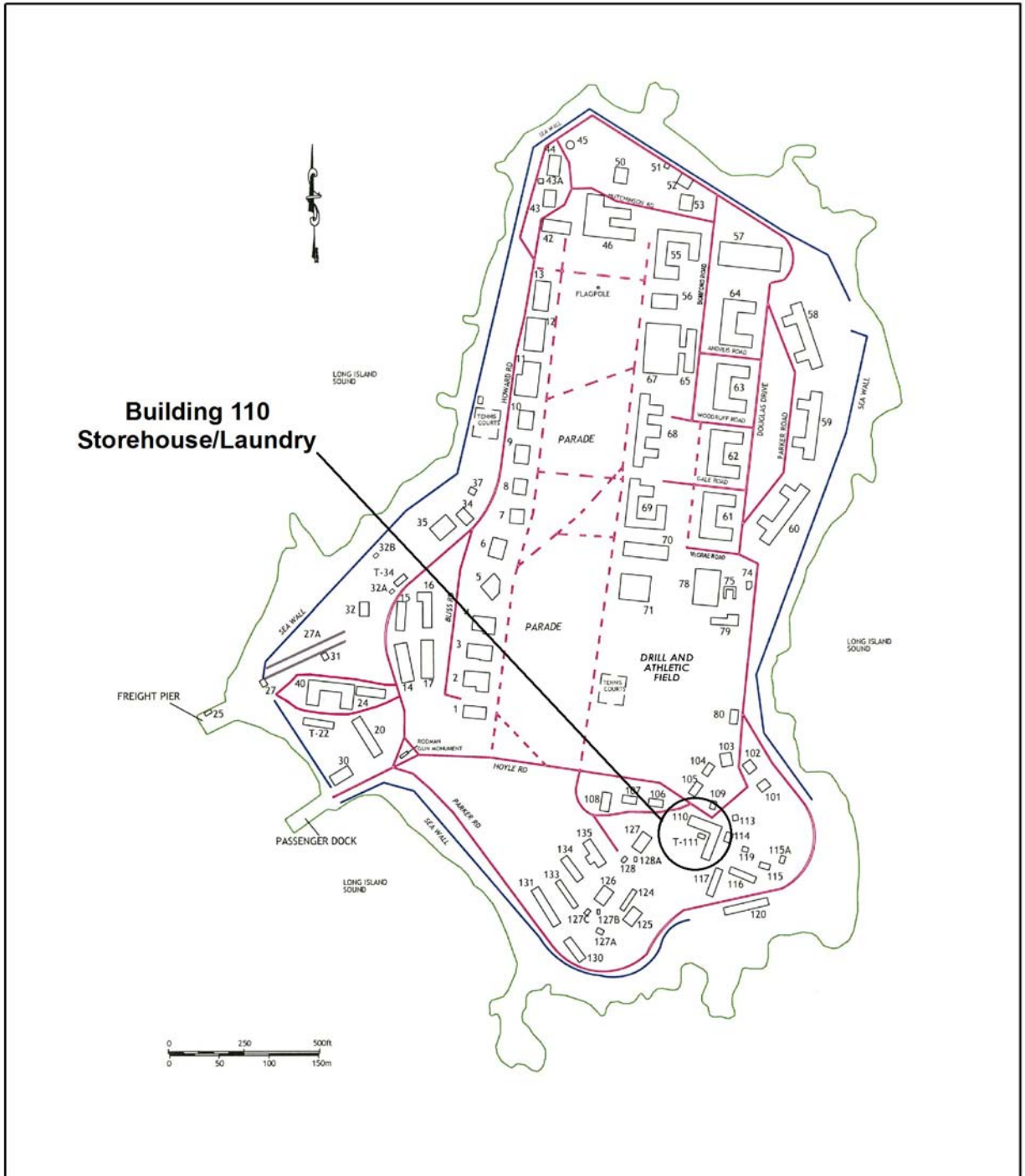
**ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
(Page 11)

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



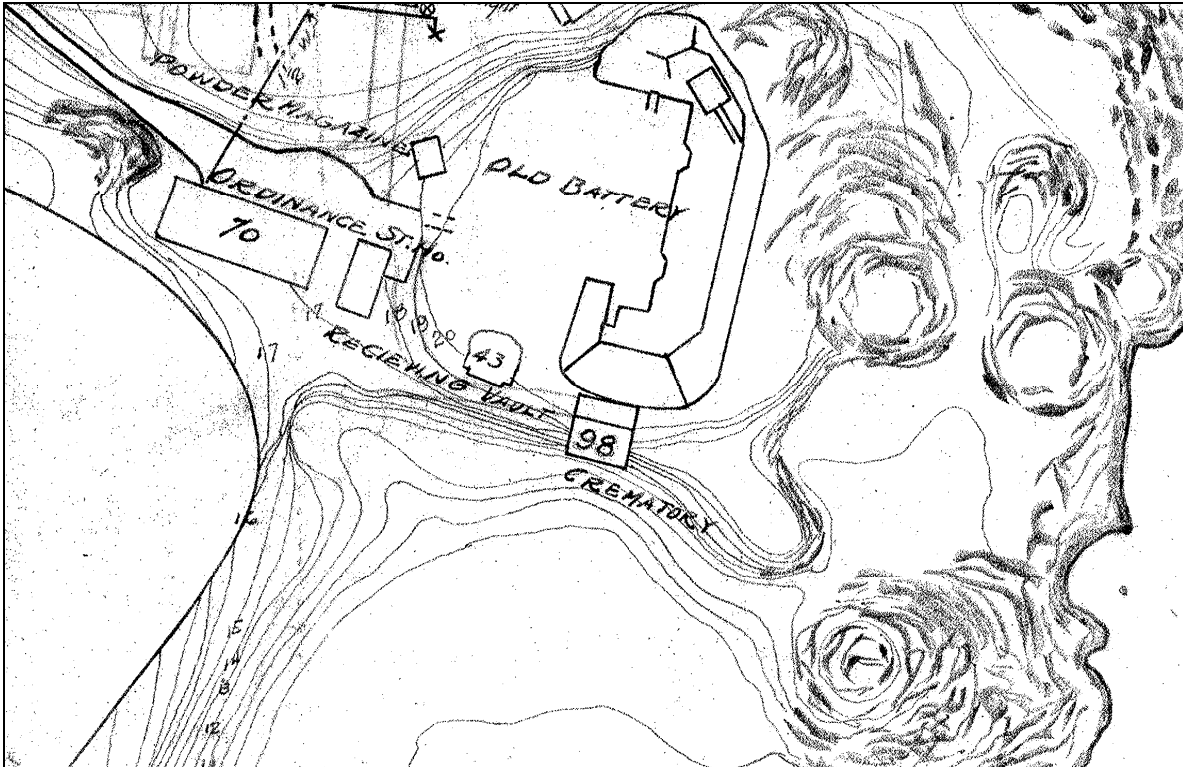
**ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 12)**

SITE MAP



**ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
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Figure 1. "Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, NY," 1909, detail. The original Ordnance Storehouse, later the main section of the north wing of Building 110, is shown at the upper left as Building 70. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 2. Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1932, detail. View north. Building 110 is the L-shaped building in the center of the image. The original section of the Storehouse/Laundry is the portion that extends from left to right of photo, with an uninterrupted roofline. At the lower left is Battery Overton Pit A of the Endicott-era Mortar Battery. The five buildings at the top of the photo are NCO quarters 101 to 105 (right to left). Original in National Archives, College Park, MD; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 3. Inventory photo, probably mid-1930s. This photograph depicts most of the west and north façades of the original ordnance storehouse—i.e., what was later the north wing of Building 110 before the addition of the one-story addition at the west end. View south-southeast. The rise behind the building at the extreme right of photo is the edge of Pit A of Battery Overton. This quadrant of the Mortar Battery was demolished in 1941-1942. The smokestack at left is part of the Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room (Building 114). Record Group 111, National Archives, College Park, MD.



ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
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Figure 4. Inventory photo, ca. 1939. North façade of north wing of Building 110. View to south-southwest. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



**ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 5. Property Record (front), November 1939. Note that the card mistakenly attributes the construction of “both wings”—i.e., the shed addition on the north wing and the main section of the east wing—to 1922. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.

WAR DEPARTMENT
O.M.C. Form No. 117 (Old No. 17A)
Revised Aug. 21, 1934

Post Plan No. Building No. 74-78

O.Q.M.C.: Plan No. Building No. 74-78

Place: **FORT SLOCUM, NEW YORK**

Designation of building: **Laundry**

Total cost, \$15,655.00

Material: Walls: Brick

Roof: Slate

Total floor area above basement, square feet: 6,928

Size: Main building 32' 0" x 115' 4"

a. Pacific-Johnston and Titusville Boilers
(Three inside)

b. Steam (Coal Operated)
(Type of heat)

c. Steam (Name Unknown)
(Type of domestic hot water heater)

Capacity 6,928 Sq. Ft.
Wings 26' x 35' 6" x 24' 6" x 1. Basement... None
Height of first floor above ground level with ground level lighted. Electrically

Water connections Yes
Sewer connections Yes
Gas connections None

METERS INSTALLED

Gas, No. None
Electric, No. Three
Oil, No. None
Steam, No. None
Water, No. None

COOKING RANGES INSTALLED

Coal, No. One
Gas, No. None
Electric, No. None
Oil, No. None
Steam, No. None

ADDITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

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

DATE	DESCRIPTION	COST
6-28-40	Total Cost of Repairs to June 30, 1939	\$31,331.42
	General Repairs	9,645.90
11-20-40	Removed 1 Frame, Hagon	500.00
11-20-40	Removed 5 Frames, Eximent	2,500.00
11-20-40	Removed 1 Tumbler, Dry	2,048.00
11-20-40	Removed 2 Extractors	2,400.00
11-20-40	Removed 1 Facing, neckband	300.00
11-20-40	Removed 2 Motors, electric	10.00
1-5-41	Inst. 5 Presses, 5/8" 10" x 11"	2,255.00
4-20-41	Inst. 1 Generator, 110V., 1000 gal.	700.00

46

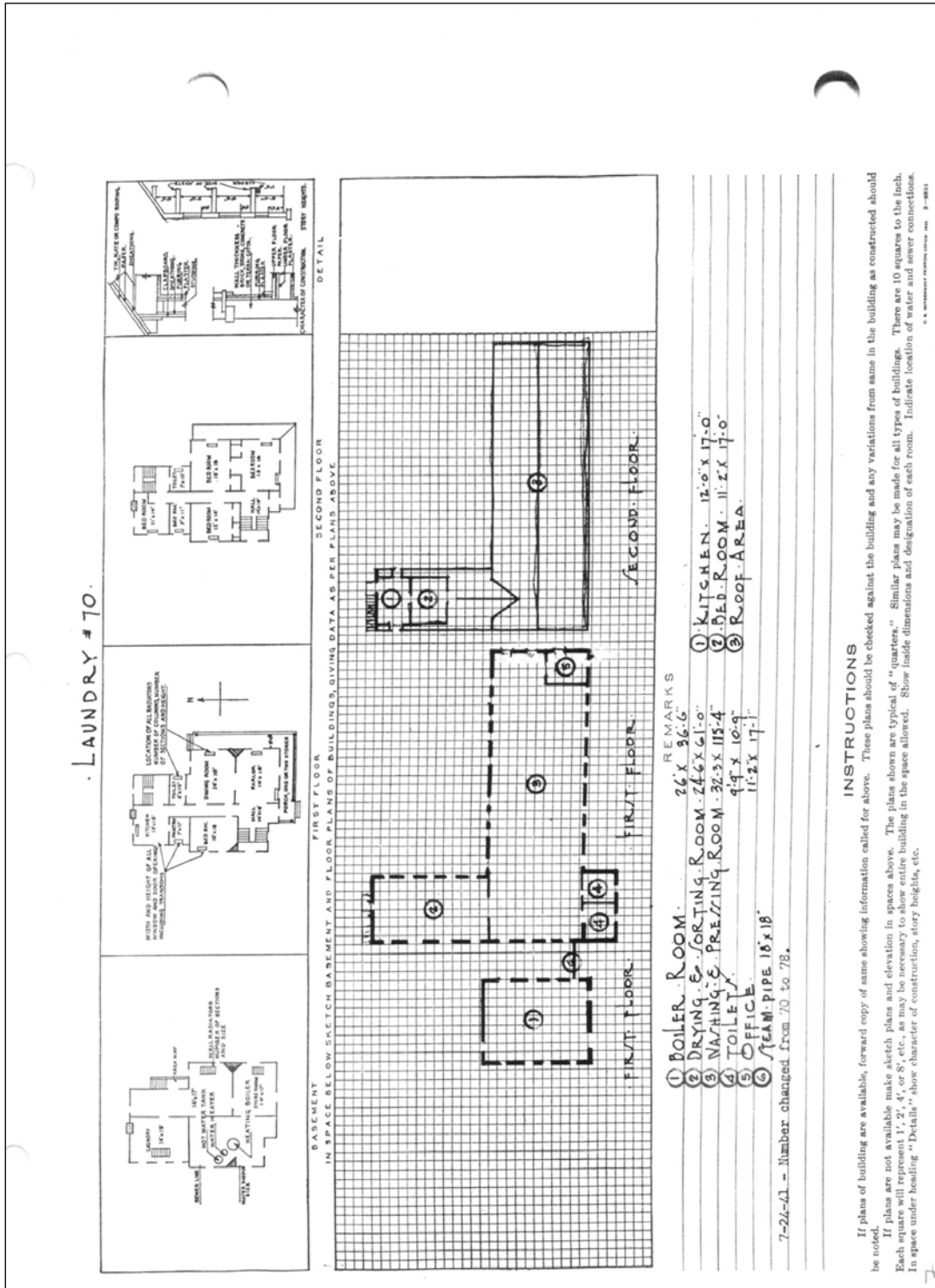
RECEIVED NOV 22 1939

INSTRUCTIONS:—“a” State whether heated from central heating or by individual heating plants, stoves, furnaces, or fireplaces.
“b” State whether steam, vapor, hot water, or hot air.
“c” State whether gas, coal, oil, or central heating plant.

See reverse side of form.

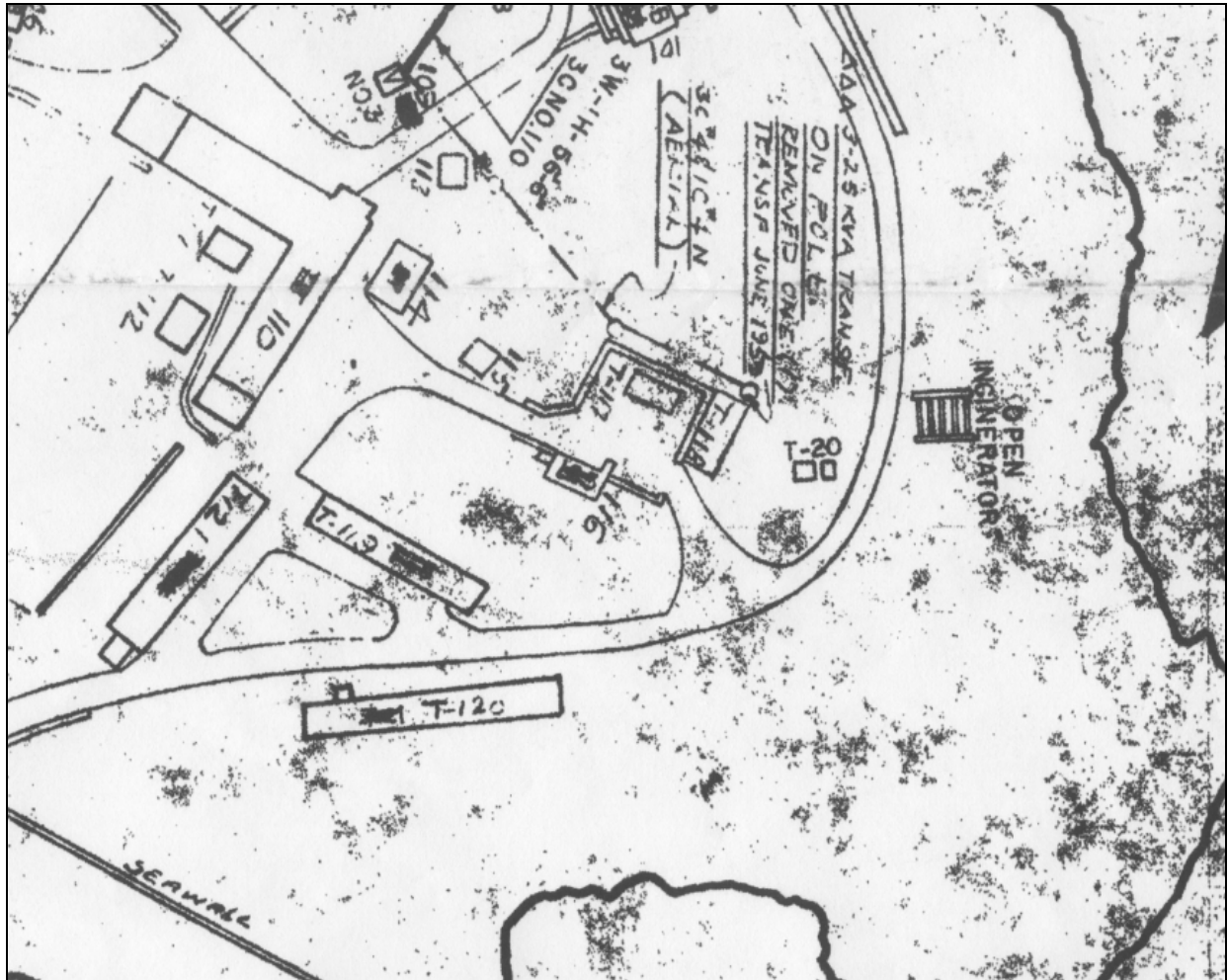
ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
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 (Page 18)

Figure 6. Property Record (back), November 1939. Note that the east wing (which is toward the bottom of the page as reproduced here) does not appear to be depicted to scale. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
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Figure 7. "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines." May 1949, revised through November 1957, detail. Building 110 is delineated as an "L" and labeled Building 110. North is to the top of the page. Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum; copy on file at Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ.



ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)
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Figure 8. High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, ca. 1958, detail. View north. Building 110 is the L-shaped building at center left. Note the complex roofline, which reflects repeated expansion of the building. The associated Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room (Building 114) is the building in the center of picture with the tall cylindrical smokestack. The small arms firing range, formerly Pit A of Battery Overton is to the left and below Building 110. The five buildings at the top of the photo are NCO quarters 101 to 105 (right to left). Original from Record Group 291, National Archives, New York, NY; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE/LAUNDRY (BUILDING 110)

Davids Island—Fort Slocum
 New Rochelle
 Westchester County
 New York

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

Caleb Christopher, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, November 2006 (Photos 3-15).

Kendall Walker, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston, MA, May 2007 (immediately prior to demolition) (Photos 16 and 17).

1. Interior, east end of north wing, facing south into east wing. Gable of two-story addition is visible at top center.
2. North wing, one-story addition at west end, interior with fume hood, facing northwest.
3. North wing, western façade of one-story addition, facing east.
4. North wing, northern façade of one-story addition, facing southeast.
5. North wing, original section of building, northern façade, facing southwest.
6. North wing, northern façade, detail of window opening in original section of building, facing southwest.
7. North wing, interior, facing west toward original gable end, with one-story addition beyond door opening.
8. North wing, interior facing east toward original gable end.
9. North wing, detail of ventilation fan in eastern gable peak. View from interior facing east.
10. North wing, eastern façade, facing southwest.
11. One-and-a-half story main section of east wing, eastern façade, facing southwest.
12. Eastern side of east wing, detail of concrete and steel stairway to second-story apartment, facing southwest.
13. East wing, interior, facing south toward two-story addition.
14. East wing, interior of two-story addition, facing southwest.
15. East wing, western façade, facing south from vicinity of southwestern corner of one-story addition.
16. North wing, northern façade, with original one-and-a-half story section to left and ca. 1951 one-story addition to right, facing southeast.
17. East wing, eastern façade, facing northwest.

Photo 1. Interior, east end of north wing, facing south into east wing. Gable of two-story addition is visible at top center.



Photo 2. North wing, one-story addition at west end, interior with fume hood, facing northwest.



Photo 3. North wing, western façade of one-story addition, facing east.



Photo 4. North wing, northern façade of one-story addition, facing southeast.



Photo 5. North wing, original section of building, northern façade, facing southwest.



Photo 6. North wing, northern façade, detail of window opening in original section of building, facing southwest.



Photo 7. North wing, interior facing west toward original gable end, with one-story addition beyond door opening.



Photo 8. North wing, interior facing east toward original gable end.



Photo 9. North wing, detail of ventilation fan in eastern gable peak. View from interior facing east.



Photo 10. North wing, eastern façade, facing southwest.



Photo 11. One-and-a-half story main section of east wing, eastern façade, facing southwest.



Photo 12. Eastern side of east wing, detail of concrete and steel stairway to second-story apartment, facing southwest.



Photo 13. East wing, interior, facing south toward two-story addition.



Photo 13. East wing, interior of two-story addition, facing southwest.

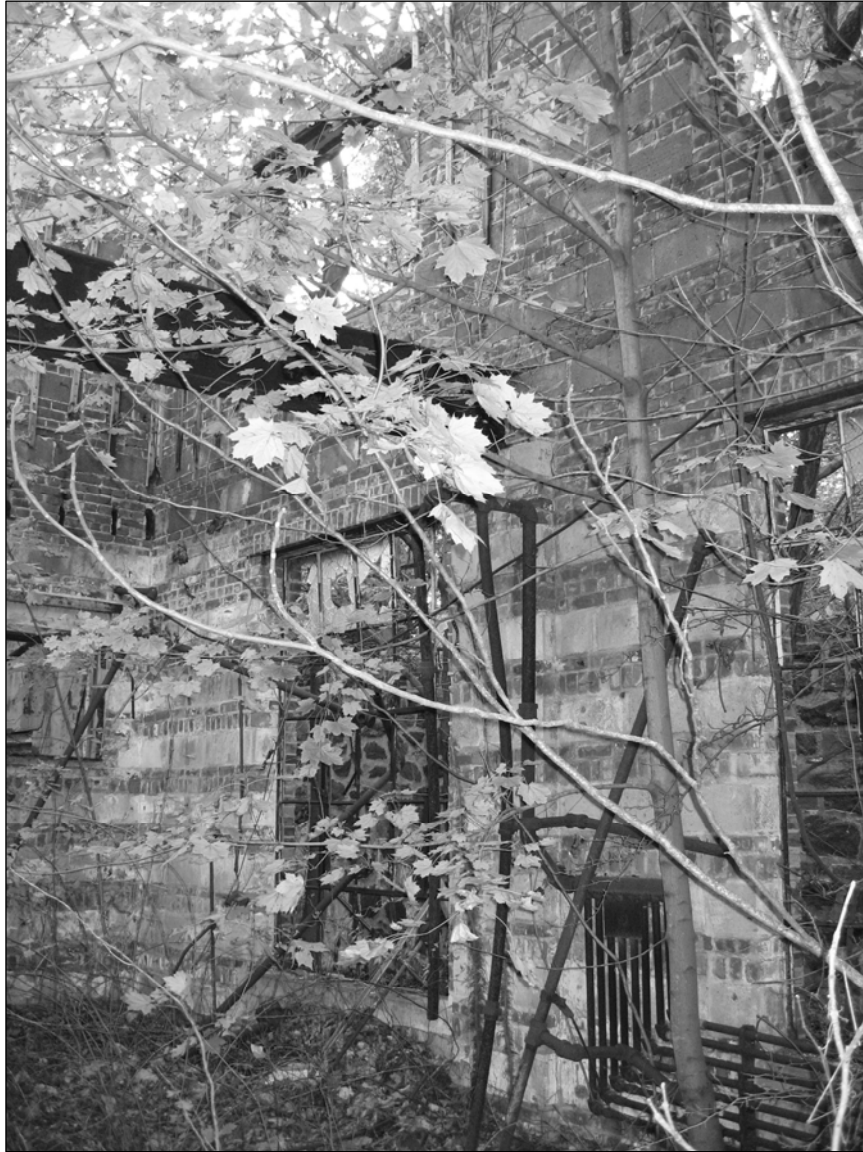


Photo 15. East wing, western façade, facing south from vicinity of southwestern corner of one-story addition.



Photo 16. North wing, northern façade, with original one-and-a-half story section to left and ca. 1951 one-story addition to right, facing southeast.



Photo 17. East wing, eastern façade, facing northwest.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)

<u>Location:</u>	Davids Island–Fort Slocum 0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603727.4526327
<u>Present Owner(s):</u>	City of New Rochelle, NY
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	ca. 1942
<u>Architect/Engineer:</u>	Fort Slocum Engineer Department
<u>Present Use:</u>	Abandoned when documented (2004-2006). Demolished 2007
<u>Significance:</u>	The Firing Range Storehouse (Building T-111)—identified in earlier project documentation as the “Pistol Range Storehouse”—is located in the Defense and Support Area. It was part of a facility intended to develop and maintain a soldierly proficiency with small-caliber weapons. As such, it was associated with one of Fort Slocum’s key functions during the twentieth century, indoctrination and training of new recruits and veteran personnel in all aspects of the military arts. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.
<u>Project Information:</u>	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.
<u>Prepared by:</u>	C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
<u>Title:</u>	Cultural Resources Documentation Team
<u>Affiliation:</u>	Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
<u>Date:</u>	October 2006 (Revision 1, January 2010)

FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 2)

PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Firing Range Storehouse (Building T-111) 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 the 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 T-111 is in the central section of the Defense and Support Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a functionally-mixed area that adjoins and includes the 1891-1897 coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127). Building T-111 stands at the northern end of a small-arms firing range. The range, identified on several maps as the Pistol Range and in written reports as the 1000-Inch Range or the Rifle Range, is situated in the northeastern quadrant of the Mortar Battery, which was originally occupied by Pit A of Battery Overton (demolished 1942—see documentation for the Mortar Battery elsewhere in Volume 5 of *Documentation of Contributing Elements, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, New York*).

Building T-111 is a small, utilitarian one-story concrete block shed with a front gable roof. It measures approximately 12 by 18 feet. Remnants of the building's asphalt shingle roof remain, and the system of wood rafters supporting the roof is extant. The building appears to stand on a slab-on-grade foundation.

The western, or main, façade has a central door opening crowned by a brick flat arch located under a metal ventilation grate near the gable peak. A faded wood sign affixed to the wall to the right of the doorway prohibits smoking within 50 feet of the building. The rear, or eastern, end of the building has a vent near the gable peak matching that of the primary façade. The vent is located above a small horizontal window that has a pair of side-by-side lights and a slightly projecting concrete sill. The window is located in the middle of the wall, about halfway between the ground and the eaves. The northern and southern walls appear identical. Each has a pair of small windows like the one at the building's eastern end. These windows are located at the same height above the ground as the eastern window and are situated toward the façade midlines.

The building's interior is simple. The exterior concrete block walls form the interior walls. Wood shelving is attached to the walls on all sides but the one with the building's door.

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.

FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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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.

Firing Range Storehouse (Building T-111)

Building T-111 is one of ten numbered and inventoried structures and buildings in the central part of Fort Slocum's Defense and Support Area. Historical analysis of the area as a whole indicates that it was a functionally-mixed zone containing weapons-related, light-industrial, and utility-infrastructure activities, as well as other functions that generally needed a degree of isolation from the rest of the post (Tetra Tech 2008). The functional area occupies the southeastern section of Davids Island and is centered on the coastal artillery

FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 4)

Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, also designated as Buildings 125, 126, and 127), which was built between 1891 and 1897 and was operational from 1897 to 1906. While the 2.9-acre earth and monolithic concrete fortification is mostly intact, the northeastern quadrant, which was formerly the location of Pit A of Battery Overton, was demolished in 1942 to construct a small-arms firing range. Building T-111 stands at the northeastern corner of the earth platform occupied by the range.

The Army began to promote the development of small-arms marksmanship among soldiers vigorously in the 1880s (Emerson 2004), and around this time, the first rifle range was established on Davids Island. Depicted on an 1894 map of the post (Summerhayes 1894), this range extended from the area later occupied by the south wing of Building 61 to the base of the knoll occupied by Battery Practice (i.e., immediately east of Building 101). Photographs of soldiers training with the New York State Volunteers from the Spanish-American War show men practicing riflery on this range. The range was probably abandoned with the construction of Buildings 61 and 101 in the first decade of the twentieth century. A postcard from shortly before the First World War shows target practice taking place on the proto-Drill and Athletic Field, with rifles being fired at targets along the shoreline (Cavanaugh 2007:B111-B112).

It is not clear whether small-arms training continued at the post during the First World War, when Fort Slocum was nearly overwhelmed by the burden of processing new recruits and shipping them to training camps. Nor is it known whether small-arms training took place on the post during the 1920s and 1930s, when it functioned as an overseas recruit depot, assembling recruits to Panama and the Pacific, where they would be trained. However, immediately before and during the Second World War, the post provided frequent courses in small-arms training. As early as 1941 “groups of enlisted men of the permanent party were given preparatory marksmanship training in the rifle prior to firing and then were taken to the range at Camp Smith, Peekskill, New York” for live weapons practice. Officers and NCOs likewise received preparatory pistol training, followed by live practice at Camp Smith (Fort Slocum Historical Report 1942:13).

The need for such training continued throughout the war, but at first the lack of a range on the post for live firing was a drawback. This situation changed in 1942, when the post’s commanding officer, Col. Bernard Lentz, ordered the construction of a range in part of the area occupied by the disused Mortar Battery. According to a historical report on activities at Fort Slocum covering the period through September 30, 1942, “Plans have been initiated for the building of a 1000” range so that both the station complement and the casuals may practice firing” (Fort Slocum Historical Report 1942:38). Well prior to the Second World War, the Army had adopted the 1000-inch target range for initial live-fire training on many types of small arms, including pistols, rifles, and machine guns. In these ranges the firing line and targets are 1,000 inches—or 83 feet-4 inches—apart. Trainees fired at scaled-down targets of various sizes, whose proportions represented full-size targets at different distances of up to 1,000 yards. Often soldiers used small caliber guns (such as .22s) and low-charge ammunition. Thousand-inch ranges gave soldiers valuable live-fire target practice, developing marksmanship skills that transferred well to the full-scale world. These scaled-down ranges were invaluable for a post like the Second World War-era Fort Slocum where space was limited (Emerson 2004:61-62; Popular Mechanics Magazine 1941).

Photographic evidence, including an aerial photograph, shows that demolition of the northeastern quadrant of the Mortar Battery was underway in 1942. A map from the following year, 1943, depicts the completed facility, identified as the “Pistol Range,” and it also records the presence of a small building in the northeastern corner of the range area at the end of a retaining and partition wall (designated as Wall W-8 in Tetra Tech [2009]) where Building T-111 now stands (Office of Post Engineer 1949-57; Williams 1943). The evidence from these documentary sources thus indicates that Building T-111 was constructed in 1942 or

FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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1943. The available historical information suggests that the building was designed by the post engineer or his staff. The design does not closely resemble any specific structure type inventoried by Chattey et al. (1997).

Although identified in both the 1986 and 2005 historic architectural inventories of Fort Slocum as a “storehouse” (Berger 1986; Olausen et al. 2005), Building T-111 was perhaps used for a broader set of functions. A report on activities at Fort Slocum during the second quarter of 1944 suggests that during the Second World War, the building served as an office and weapons maintenance shop: “The former combination of office and small arms shop is now used exclusively as a shop, where the inspection and repair of weapons in the hands of task forces are performed. The tools and parts used in their repair are also stored here.” This same report indicates that “reconstruction and revamping of [the] rifle range” had been completed by the Post Engineer Department; it also reports the recent construction what was apparently a second building—identified as a “target house”—at the range (Fort Slocum Historical Report 1944:2-3). A map originally prepared in 1949 and revised through 1957 depicts two buildings at the range, T-111 to the north and the target house, designated as T-112, to the south (Office of Post Engineer 1949-1957). A review of historic aerial photographs and maps shows that Building T-112 was removed sometime between the end of 1961 and 1966.

Earlier project documentation referred to Building T-111 as the “Pistol Range Storehouse.” Additional research has provided better historical information on the range and indicates that the name Firing Range Storehouse is a more useful descriptor. This building was originally designated as Building T-29 in Fort Slocum’s 1941 numbering system. This identifier changed to T-111 in the 1957 system. Its neighbor, the subsequently-demolished structure assumed to be the Target House, was originally designated as T-28, later changed to T-112.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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**FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
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(Inclusive)." Record Group 336. National Archives, New York City Branch.
- 1944 "Historical Record, Second Quarter 1944: Fort Slocum." Record Group 336. National
Archives, New York City Branch.

Fuller, Pete

- 2007 Oral interview with Robert M. Jacoby on September 27 at Perkasio, Pennsylvania. Transcribed
in Appendix I of *Davids Island/Fort Slocum Oral History Project—“And by golly I’m so proud
of being part of this military life:” Conversations with Members of the Fort Slocum
Community*, October 2008 (final, revised report). Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of
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& 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 EC, 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,
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- 2009 *Inventory of Historic Landscape Elements, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District,
Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York.* Prepared for the U.S.
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Maps and Drawings

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.

FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
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(Page 7)

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.

1943 "Map of Fort Slocum Showing Buildings – Roads – Traverses." Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum, drawn by W.A.R. Hawley, June 13. Included as Exhibit D-40 in Fort Slocum Historical Record, ca. 1944, "Historical Record of Fort Slocum, 31 July 1942-31 December 1943." Record Group 336. National Archives, New York City Branch. Digital copy on file in Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

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 Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, from materials supplied by Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.

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.

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.)

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

ca. 1942: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, Columbia Island, and Huckleberry Island. View northeast. Original at U.S. Air Force Historical Research Agency, Maxwell Air Force Base.

1954: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island, New Rochelle, NY. Date and originating agency unknown. Available online in a georeferenced photo mosaic version through HistoricAerials.com at <http://www.historicaerials.com>. Accessed September 25, 2009.

ca. 1958: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. Summer. Included in a 1966 report prepared by Cross & Brown Co., New York, for the Federal Property Resources Service, on file at the New York City branch of the National Archives, Record Group 291.

1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake.

1966: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island, New Rochelle, NY. Date and originating agency unknown. Available online in a georeferenced photo mosaic version through HistoricAerials.com at <http://www.historicaerials.com>. Accessed October 8, 2009.

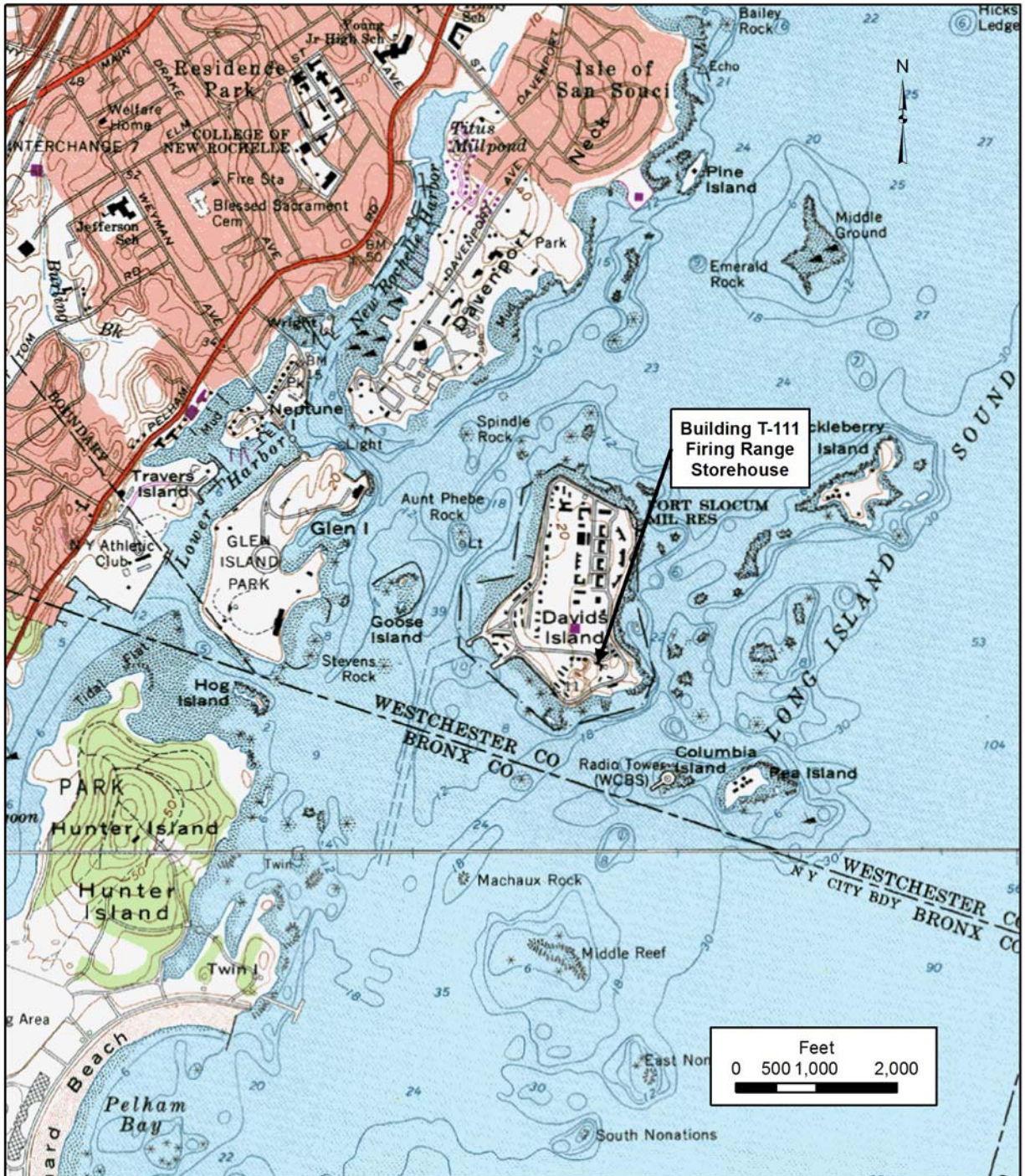
**FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

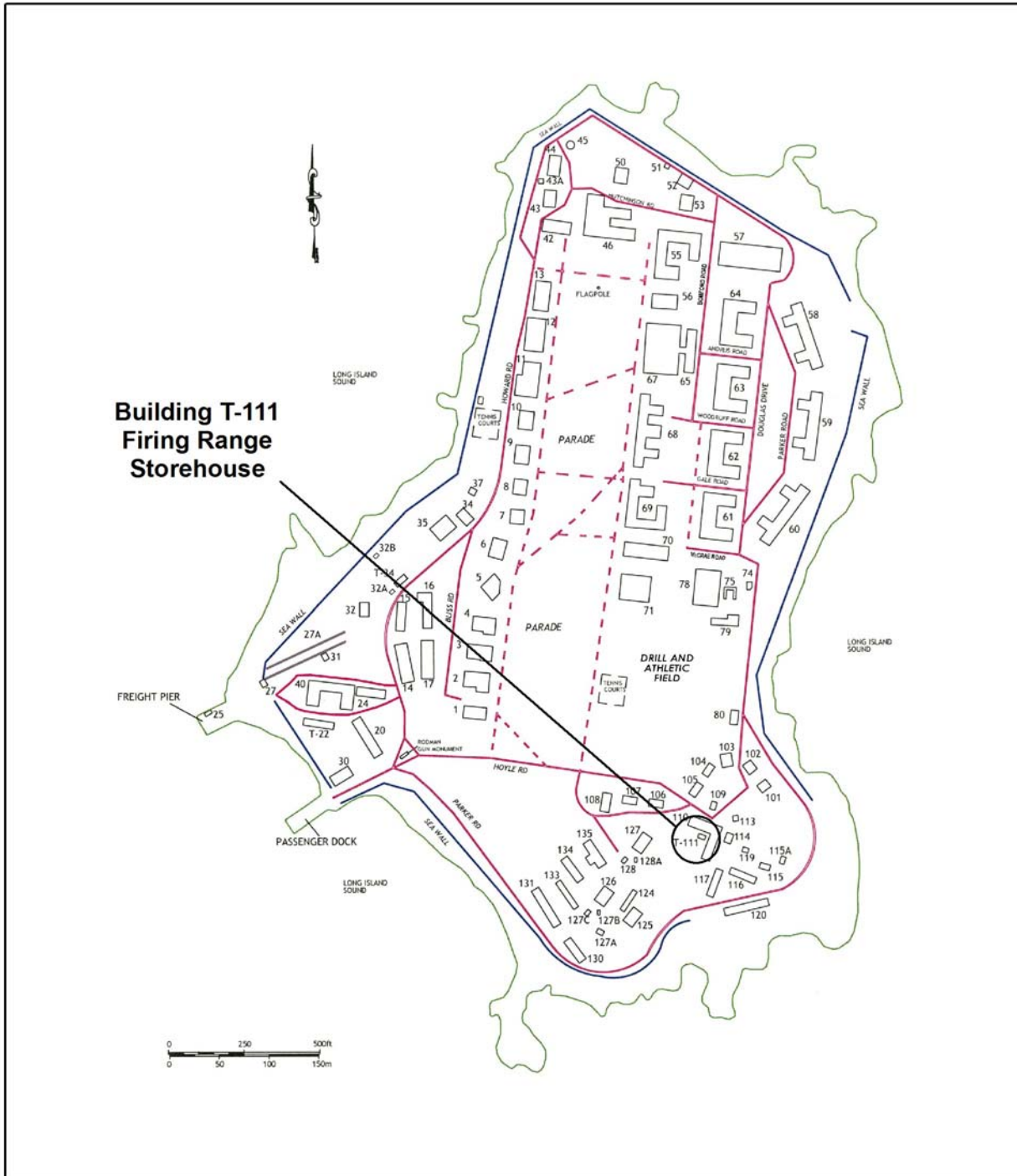
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1966 (Photorevised 1979)



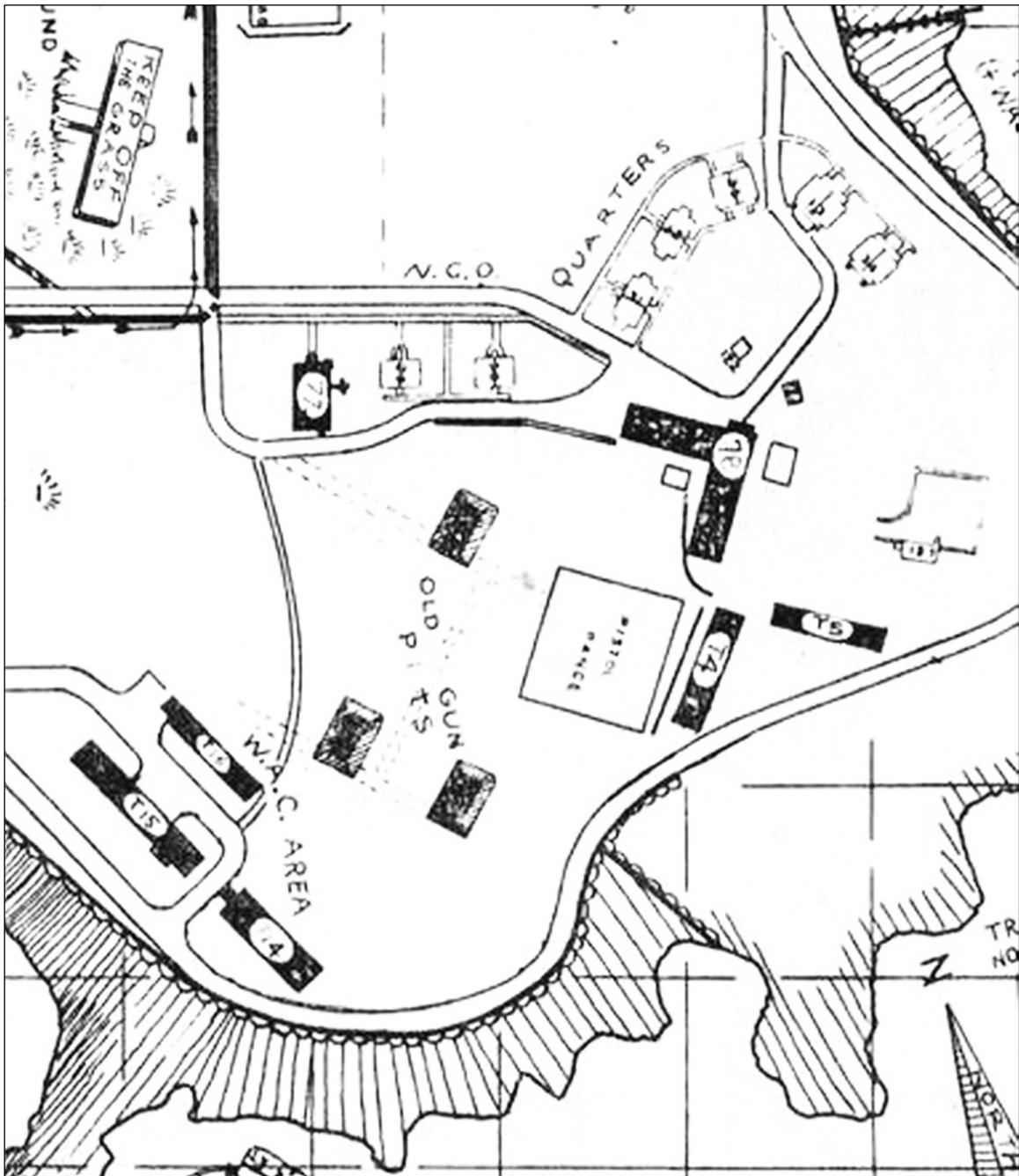
FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 9)

SITE MAP



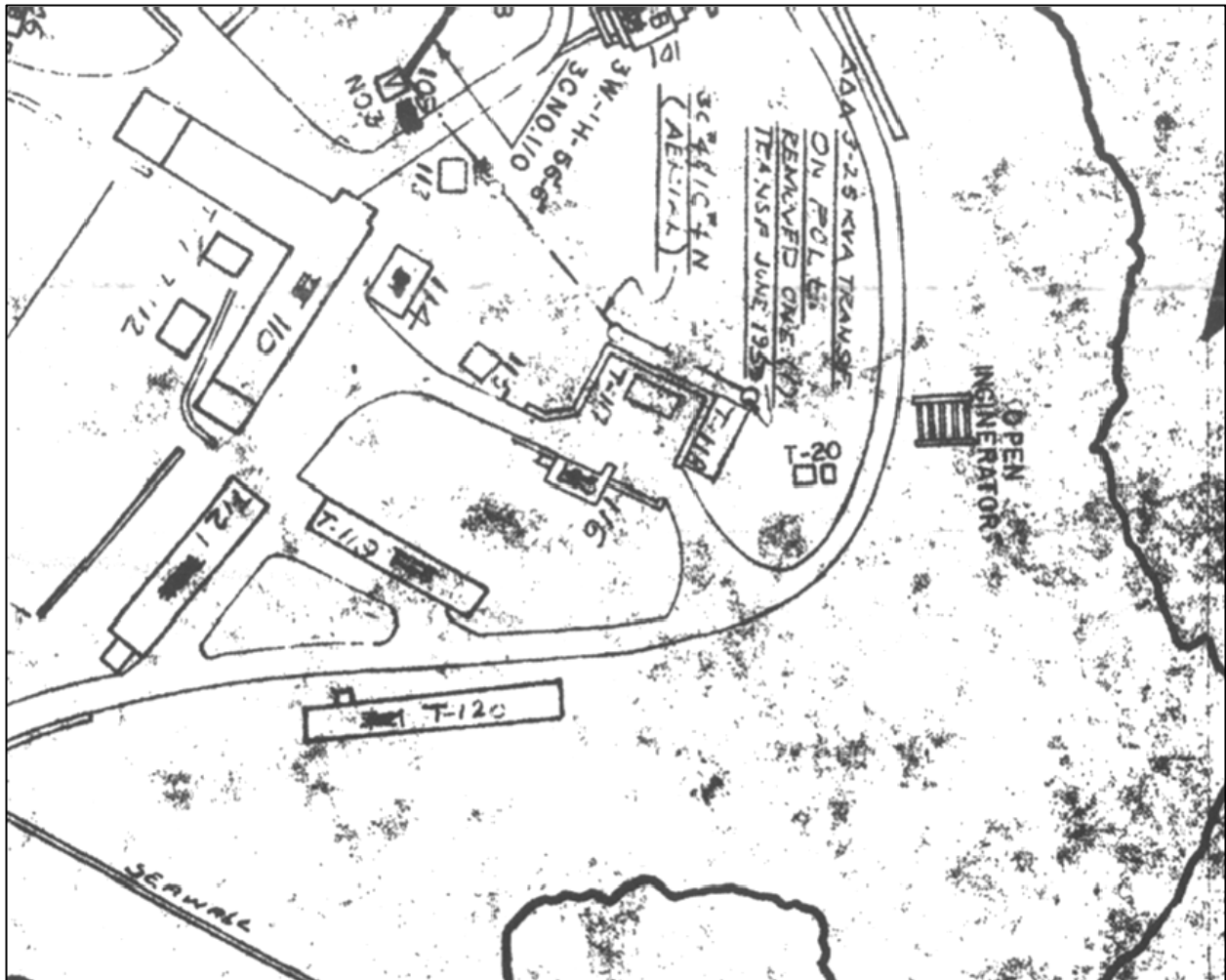
FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
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Figure 1. Informal Guide Map of Fort Slocum (Williams, 1943), detail. The Firing Range Storehouse (later designated as Building T-111) is located near the center of the image beside the inside corner of the L-shaped building (Building 110, then designated as Building 78). The firing range is below and is identified as the "Pistol Range." North is to the top of the page. Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



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Figure 2. "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines." May 1949, revised through November 1957, detail. Building T-111 is shown on this drawing as a small, square building located at the inner corner of the L-shaped Building 110, at left. A second building associated with the firing range, Building T-112 (constructed 1944; demolished 1962-1965) is below it and to the left. North is to the top of the page. Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum; copy on file at Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ.



**FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
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Figure 3. High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, ca. 1958, detail. View north. Building T-111 is the small utility structure standing just to the left of and below the L-shaped Building 110 at center left. Building T-112, a somewhat larger utility building is adjacent to T-111. The small-arms firing range, formerly Pit A of Battery Overton, is below (to the south of) Buildings 110, T-111, and T-112. The condition of the range suggests that it may have been inactive at the time of the photograph. The five buildings at the top of the photo are NCO quarters 101 to 105 (right to left). Original from Record Group 291, National Archives, New York, NY; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

FIRING RANGE STOREHOUSE (BUILDING T-111)

Davids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

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

Caleb Christopher, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, November 2006 (Photos 2, 3, 5, and 6).

1. Western and southern façades, facing northeast.
2. Southern façade, facing north.
3. Eastern façade, facing northwest.
4. Western façade, detail: faded wood sign to right of doorway reading “No Smoking Within 50 Ft [of]Building.”
5. Western façade, detail: stenciled building number to right of doorway.
6. Interior, facing east.

Photo 1. Western and southern façades, facing northeast.



Photo 2. Southern façade, facing north.



Photo 3. Eastern façade, facing northwest.



Photo 4. Western façade, detail: faded wood sign to right of doorway reading “No Smoking Within 50 Ft [of] Building.”



Photo 5. Western façade, detail: stenciled building number to right of doorway.



Photo 6. Interior, facing east.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

MAGAZINE/BLACKSMITH SHOP (BUILDING 113)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603761.4526347

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

Date of Construction: 1885

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

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

Significance: The Magazine/Blacksmith Shop (Building 113) is related to the Defense and Support Area and in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was used to store explosives or ammunition in support of Fort Slocum’s training or defensive functions. Subsequently, it housed a small blacksmith’s forge, where equipment of iron and steel could be repaired or fabricated. 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: April 2007 (Revision 1, January 2010)

MAGAZINE/BLACKSMITH SHOP (BUILDING 113)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Magazine/Blacksmith Shop (Building 113) 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 the 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 113 is in the eastern section of the Defense and Support Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a functionally-mixed area that adjoins and includes the 1891-1897 coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127).

Building 113 is a small, one-story brick building without an identifiable style. It stands slightly upslope and about 15 feet south of Hoyle Road. Its footprint, measuring approximately 14 feet-0 inches by 17 feet-4 inches, is rectangular. The building's long axis is oriented north-northwest.

At the time of fieldwork for the inventory and architectural documentation of Building 113 (2004-2007), it was a roofless shell. The building was destroyed by fire sometime between 1980 and 1986 (Aerial photograph 1980; Berger 1986), leaving masonry and metal components, but only a few charred wood elements such as framing in the building's southern doorway. Before Building 113 burned, it had a front gable roof, which was framed with wood. Historic photographs show that the rafters had decorative, scroll-sawn tails and that there were gutters on each side of the roof. The absence of the roof has made the building open to debris from surrounding trees and to damage by weather. Water has infiltrated the walls and caused deterioration of the top courses of the brickwork.

Building 113 has a brick bearing wall structural system standing atop a brick foundation. The principal decorative elements of the building are inset panels that dominate each exterior wall. The panels are approximately one brick width (wythe) deep. Each panel repeats the geometric figure formed by the façade within which it is set. The side walls have simple rectangular inset panels. The panels in the gable ends angle upward parallel with the sloping eaves; instead of meeting at a point, however, like the eaves, the top edges of the gable panels are truncated by short horizontal elements.

The primary entrance is at the center of the northern façade. A second entrance is situated at the opposite end of the building. The southern entrance was created by a renovation of the building in circa 1940, when the building's function was changed from magazine to blacksmith shop. Both entrance openings are segmental arches. Their doors are not extant and frames are limited to a few charred fragments of wood. The building's sole window opening is centered in the eastern wall. It holds a steel six-light sash with an inward-opening (hopper-type) panel of the upper four lights, which set in a rectangular frame and has a gray sandstone sill. Like the southern entrance, the window is an alteration dating to circa 1940.

Small rectangular openings covered by coarse brass screens are located at the exterior corners of the eastern and western walls. Only some openings retain the screen covers, but mounting holes and other evidence indicate that all openings were originally covered. The openings do not connect to the interior of the building, so they apparently allow air to exchange between the outside and hollow spaces between the exterior and interior walls. Such spaces would have insulated the building, reduced condensation within, and helped to keep powder and other items stored inside dry (Murphey et al. 2000:10-11).

MAGAZINE/BLACKSMITH SHOP (BUILDING 113)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 3)

A blacksmith's forge and chimney occupy the center of the west wall, opposite the building's single window. The forge base measures approximately 24 by 48 inches and is about 28 inches high to the working surface. It is constructed of seven courses of red common brick capped by an eighth course of tan firebrick. A slot in the right (northern) side of the forge base was the location of the bellows or fan. The hearth basin is a shallow iron pan. A sheet metal hood supported by iron bars rising from the floor surmounts the hearth. The hood directed forge smoke into a slit-like opening in the face of the chimney, approximately 60 inches above the working surface of the hearth. The sides of the hood reach down to within 6 inches of the hearth surface, while its front has an arched opening about 36 inches high to permit easy access to the fire. The base of the chimney comprises the back of the hearth and is built against the original exterior wall of Building 113. Up to the former level of the roof, the chimney is 48 inches wide. The chimney laps outwards to rest atop the western wall of the building, creating a rabbet-like joint that helped support it. At the eaves, the chimney rose approximately 9 feet above the height of the roof and was roughly 5 feet higher than the gable ridge.

No traces of interior features related to the original function of the building as a magazine or storage space are evident in the walls. The floor is obscured by a thick layer of leaves and has not been examined.

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

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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.

Magazine/Blacksmith Shop (Building 113)

Building 113 is one of ten numbered and inventoried structures and buildings in the eastern part of Fort Slocum's Defense and Support Area. Historical analysis of the area as a whole indicates that it was a functionally-mixed zone containing weapons-related, light-industrial, and utility-infrastructure activities, as well as other functions that generally needed a degree of isolation from the rest of the post (Tetra Tech 2008). The functional area occupies the southeastern section of Davids Island and is centered on the 2.9-acre coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, also designated as Buildings 125, 126, and 127). The battery was built between 1891 and 1897 and was operational from 1897 to 1906.

The earliest military use of the eastern part of the Defense and Support Area took place during the Civil War, when the quarters for the military band attached to De Camp General Hospital were erected within it. The quarters probably stood in the vicinity of the Fort Slocum's later Buildings 115, 116, and 119. The band quarters were removed after the war, and in the 1880s the Army renewed development of this section of the post. The first structures erected during this new wave of development were Building 113, originally constructed as a magazine of some type, and nearby Building 119, the Receiving Vault. Both were completed in 1885.

Between about 1891 and 1905, the area developed through construction of fortifications and associated support structures, including the Mortar Battery, Battery Practice (built ca. 1893-1898), and related

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buildings. After 1906, when Fort Slocum's Coast Artillery batteries were removed from active service, use of the eastern part of the Defense and Support Area came to be dominated by activities of the post's engineering and quartermaster departments. An incinerator was built in this section in 1909, and two temporary storehouses were built around 1917. Later activities in this section of the post involved conversions, expansions, or replacements of existing structures, mostly for engineering and other support activities.

From the 1880s through 1933, maps of Fort Slocum identify Building 113 as a magazine (e.g., Coast Artillery Corps 1908; Construction Division 1933; Cook 1888; Smith 1915; Summerhayes 1894/95), occasionally using the more specific term "powder magazine" (Hodges 1906; Murray 1909). As originally filled out in 1939, the Quartermaster Corps property card for the building (then designated as Building 44) also uses the term "powder magazine."

Building 113 was the first structure on Davids Island specifically designated and built as a magazine. The later coastal artillery batteries, including Practice, Fraser, Kinney, and the Mortar Battery all had rooms within them designated as magazines (Adams 1898, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1920). The Ordnance Storehouse, Building 110, erected about a decade after Building 113, apparently had a function related to that of the magazines, but it was probably less intended for the handling and storage of explosives than for the storage and maintenance of non-explosive artillery-related equipment and supplies.

The U.S. Army had been constructing magazines on its posts since the eighteenth century. Magazines are specialized storehouses for ammunition and explosives, designed to keep their volatile contents "isolated, dry, ventilated, and secure" (Murphey et al. 2000:1-3). The exact type and purpose of the presumed explosive materials stored in the Building 113 magazine has not been determined. It may have been used to store charges for light artillery pieces used on the post (e.g., ceremonial guns such as the Reveille Gun of the middle decades of the twentieth century), or for the storage of small arms ammunition. In regard to this latter use, a target range was located on the eastern shore of the island in the 1890s and early 1900s. The target area for the range was situated approximately 150 feet east of the magazine, and roads connected the magazine more or less directly to the firing line. This documentary evidence aside, archeological evidence in the form of a very thin scatter of expended cartridges and bullets that occurs across Davids Island suggests that small arms were discharged in many places on the post in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

No information has come to light concerning the design of Building 113. Until the 1920s, the Army did not standardize the storage of ammunition and explosives, and the design of magazines varied from one installation to the next (Murphey et al. 2000:1, 10-11). Available sources of historical information for Fort Slocum do not identify an architect, engineer, or standardized design number for the building. No similar structures are depicted in the inventory of standardized Quartermaster General plans prepared by Chattey et al. (1997).

An annotation to a property record for Building 113 records that its designation "changed from Powder magazine to Blacksmith Shop. See letter Sept. 27, 1940" (Quartermaster Corps 1940). An April 1940 aerial photo of Fort Slocum shows the presence of a chimney, which was a new feature on the building. Other alterations included installation of the blacksmith hearth, and addition of the southern entrance and eastern window. As a blacksmith shop, the building probably supported the repair and maintenance of machinery and equipment for the post. Since the last Army mules were phased out of use at Fort Slocum in the late 1930s, Building 113 could not have served the shoeing needs of these animals.

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Until March 1893, the Magazine/Blacksmith Shop was enumerated as Building 48 among the structures at Fort Slocum. In the subsequent period, 1893-1941, it was designated as Building 44. From 1941 to 1957, it was Building 123. Thereafter, it was called Building 113.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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

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- 1920 "Report of Completed Works—Coast Defenses of Eastern New York, Fort Slocum." April 15, 1920. Original on file at the National Archives, College Park, MD, probably in Record Group 77. Copy provided through the Coast Defense Study Group Document Scanning Project, CDSG ePress, Peoria, IL, Mark Berhow, Manager, and described at <http://www.cdsg.org/cdrom1.htm>.

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

Maps and Drawings

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.

December 1898 "Armament Sketch, Fort Slocum, New York, Drawn Under the Direction of Major H.M. Adams, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.." December 31. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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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.

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: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. August 24.

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

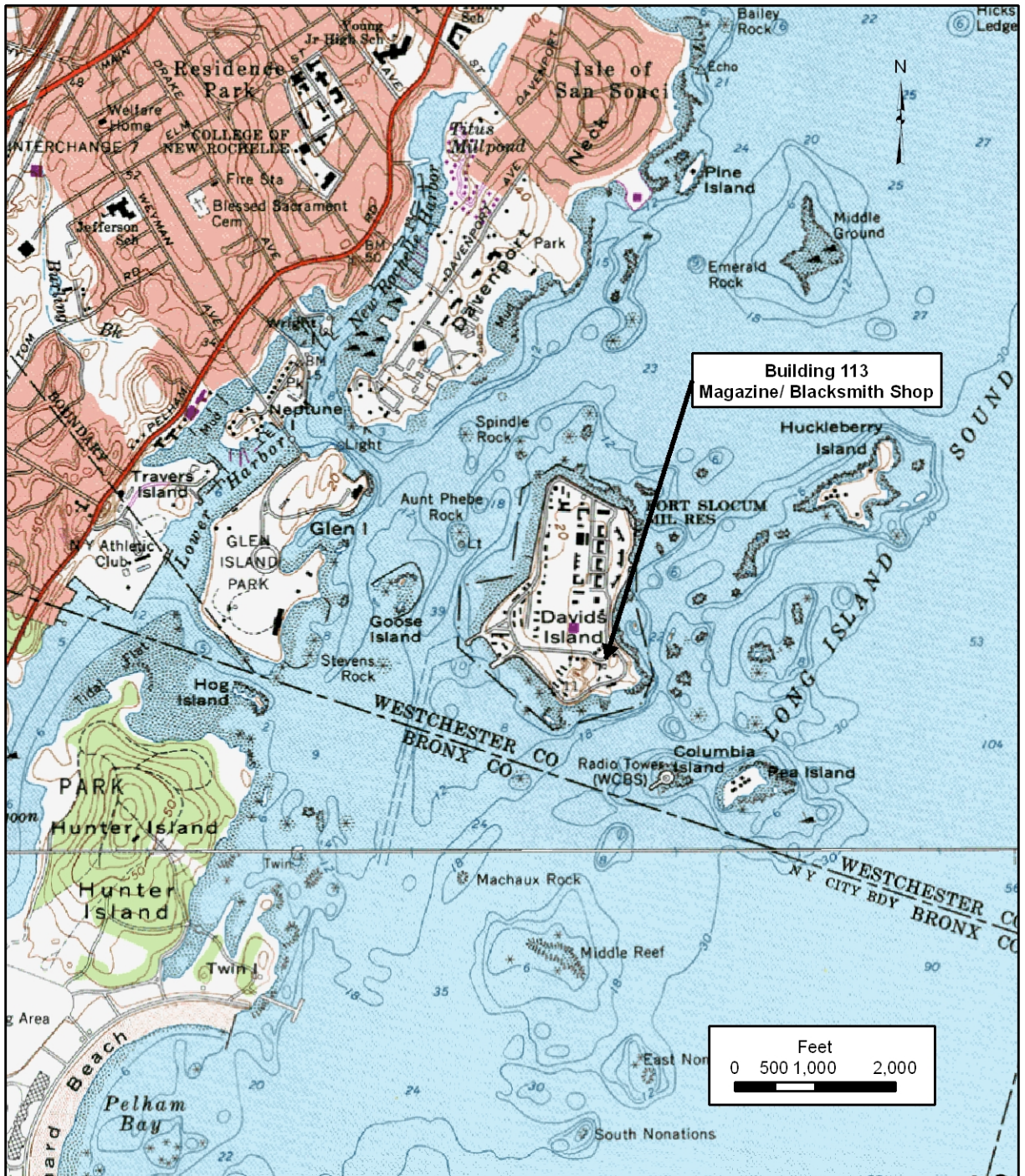
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1961: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. November 15. Attributed to Capt. Donald P. Blake.

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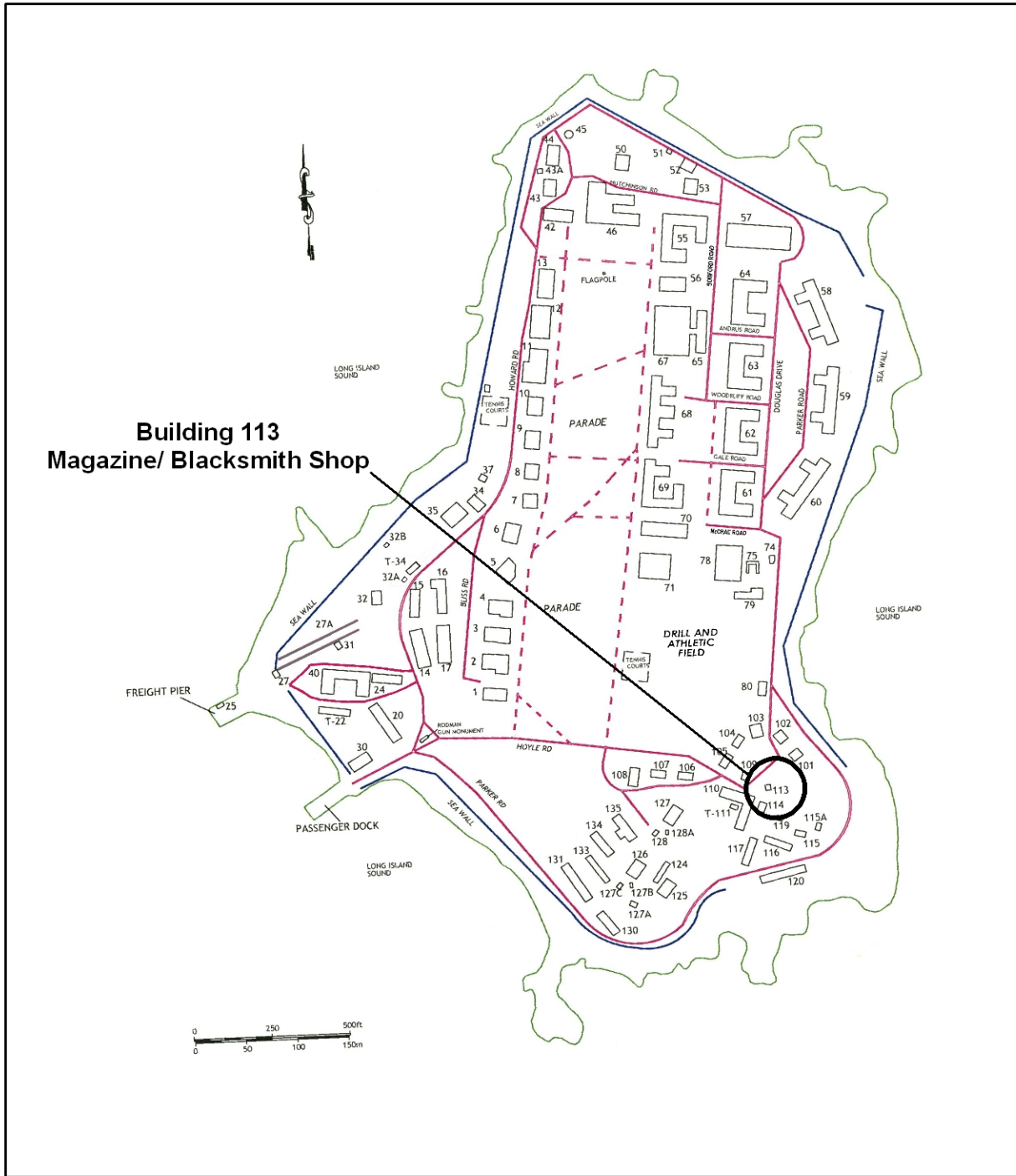
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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)
Scale: 1:24,000
1966 (Photorevised 1979)



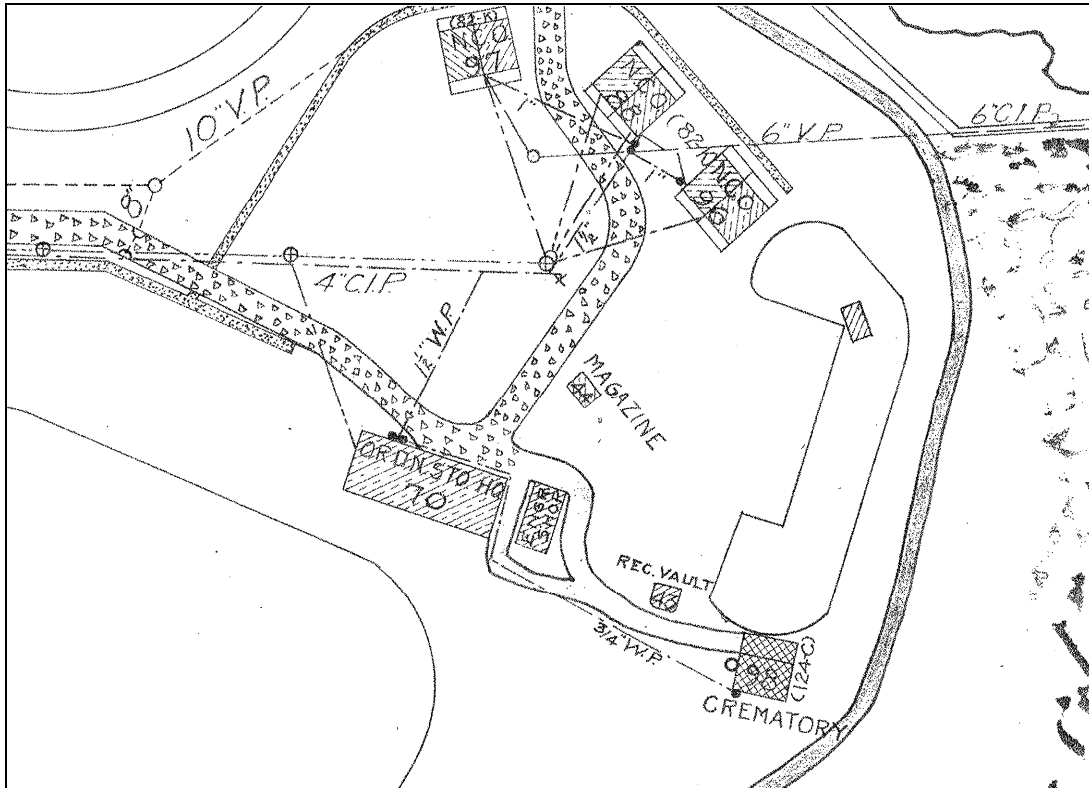
MAGAZINE/BLACKSMITH SHOP (BUILDING 113)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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SITE MAP



**MAGAZINE/BLACKSMITH SHOP (BUILDING 113)
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Figure 1. "Map of Fort Slocum New York," 1915, detail. The Magazine is located at center and labeled as Building 44. North is to the left of the page. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 2. Inventory photo showing northern and western façades, probably mid-1930s. View southeast. At the time this photograph was taken, the building did not yet have a chimney for the blacksmith forge. Portions of Battery Practice are visible behind the building. Record Group 111, National Archives, College Park, MD.



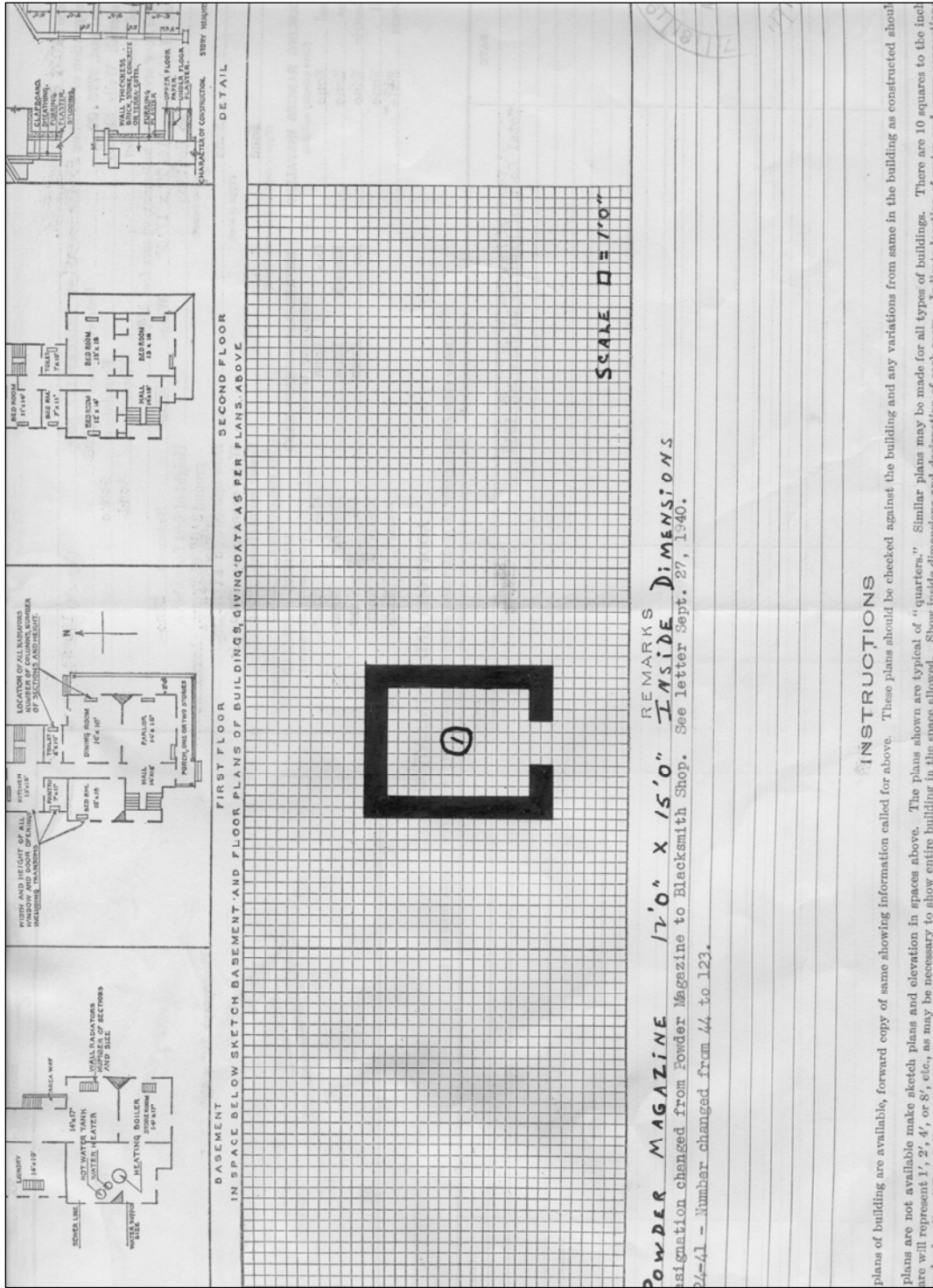
MAGAZINE/BLACKSMITH SHOP (BUILDING 113)
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Figure 3. Inventory photo, ca. 1939. View south showing the northern and eastern façades. Sign to right of door reads: "Ordnance / Magazine / 44." The cylindrical metal chimney that appears to rise from the western roof is actually part of Building 114, which is located directly behind Building 113. The Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110) is visible in the background at far right. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 5. Property Record (back), November 1939. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 6. High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, ca. 1958, detail. View north. Building 113 is the small building directly behind the cylindrical chimney near the image center. The L-shaped building to the left is Building 110. The five buildings at the top of the photo are NCO quarters 101 to 105 (right to left). Original from Record Group 291, National Archives, New York, NY; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

MAGAZINE/BLACKSMITH SHOP (BUILDING 113)

Davids Island—Fort Slocum
 New Rochelle
 Westchester County
 New York

Photographers: Christopher L. Borstel, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, November 2007
 (Photo 1) and April 2006 (Photos 2, 4, and 5).

Caleb Christopher, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, November 2006
 (Photo 3).

Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005 (Photo 6).

1. Southern and western façades, facing north.
2. Northern façade, facing south.
3. Northern façade, details of brickwork and segmental arch door opening, facing southwest.
4. Exterior, northwestern corner, detail including coarse bronze screen covering opening in wall, facing east-southeast.
5. Eastern façade, detail: window opening with steel window frame, facing southwest.
6. Interior, detail: blacksmith hearth with hood and chimney, facing west-northwest.

Photo 1. Southern and western façades, facing north.



Photo 2. Northern façade, facing south.



Photo 3. Northern façade, details of brickwork and segmental arch door opening, facing southwest.



Photo 4. Exterior, northwestern corner, detail including coarse bronze screen covering opening in wall, facing east-southeast.



Photo 5. Eastern façade, detail: window opening with steel window frame, facing southwest.

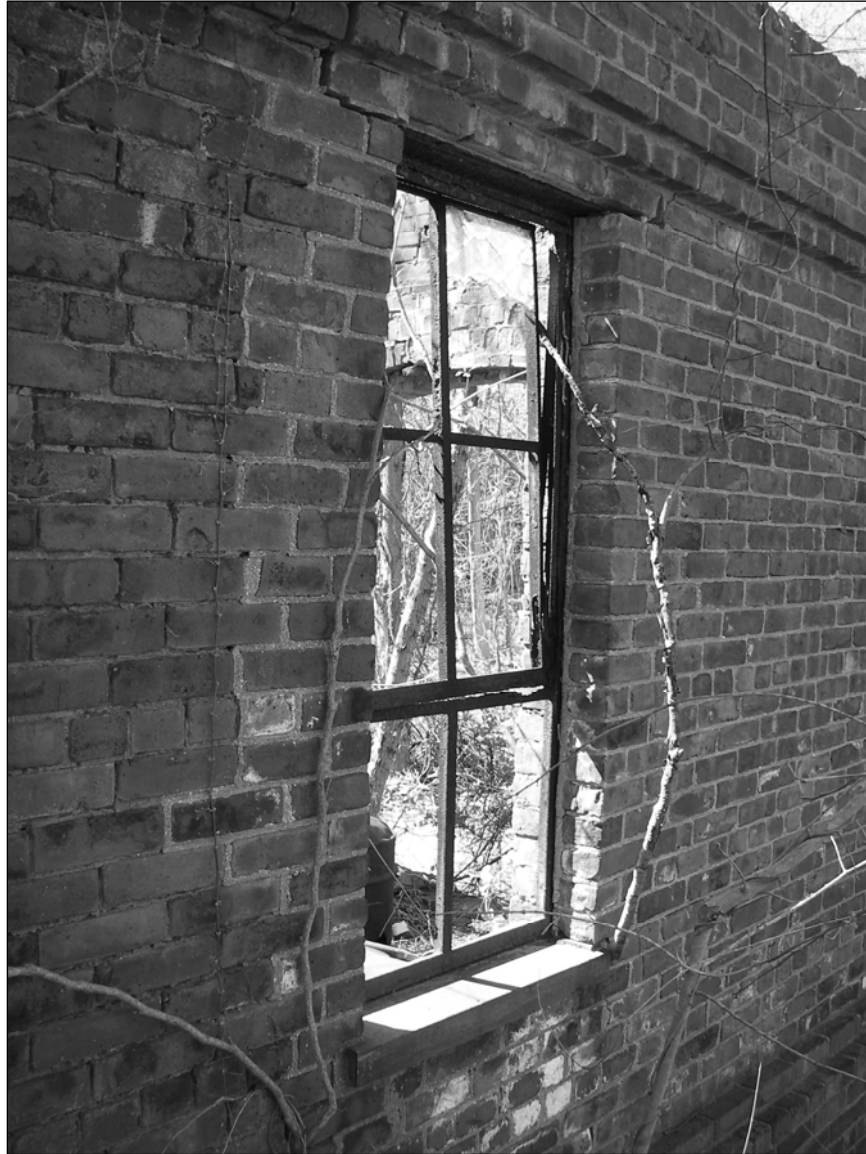


Photo 6. Interior, detail: blacksmith hearth with hood and chimney, facing west-northwest.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)

<u>Location:</u>	Davids Island–Fort Slocum 0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603756.4526329
<u>Present Owner(s):</u>	City of New Rochelle, NY
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	ca. 1905 / ca. 1939 / ca. 1951
<u>Architect/Engineer:</u>	U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps
<u>Present Use:</u>	Abandoned when documented (2004-2007). Demolished 2007
<u>Significance:</u>	The Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room (Building 114) is located in Fort Slocum’s Defense and Support Area. It was originally designed to provide power for a nearby 60-inch electric arc searchlight, which was an element of the post’s coastal artillery complex. In this capacity it supported the defensive function of Fort Slocum. Subsequently, it became an annex to the post laundry after that facility was relocated next door to Building 110. In this latter capacity it supported the post’s varied training missions. The building is a contributing element to the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District.
<u>Project Information:</u>	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.
<u>Prepared by:</u>	C.L. Borstel, J.C. Sexton, R.M. Jacoby, S.B. Marshall, and C.W. Christopher
<u>Title:</u>	Cultural Resources Documentation Team
<u>Affiliation:</u>	Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ
<u>Date:</u>	July 2007 (Revision 1, January 2010)

SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room (Building 114) 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 the 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 114 is situated near the northern edge of the Defense and Support Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a functionally-mixed area that adjoins and includes the 1891-1897 coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127). Building 114 is closely associated with Building 110, originally the Ordnance Storehouse, since the conversion of the latter building to the post's laundry in the early 1920s. Building 110 is documented elsewhere in Volume 5 of *Documentation of Contributing Elements, Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District, Davids Island, City of New Rochelle, New York*.

Building 114 is a utilitarian, one-story structure with an L-shaped plan. The design is plain and conforms to no specific named architectural style. The building adjoins Hoyle Road, located to the north, and neighbors Building 110, situated to the west. Building 114 faces north-northeast. Its main section, on the west, measures about 26 by 48 feet. A small ell covering about 15 by 15 feet is attached to the northeastern corner of the main part of the building. Several rows of concrete piers extend to the east from the end of the ell and cover an area of approximately 15 by 40 feet. On the building's northern side, a tall cylindrical steel smokestack has fallen to the ground. The smokestack extends almost due north across Hoyle Road from near the center of the northern end of the building's main section. Originally about 80 feet high, the smokestack stood just outside the building on an independent concrete foundation pad and was guyed by several steel cables, which are now tangled on the ground (Figures 1-8; Photos 1-10).

The roof of the building is not extant, and Building 114 is an open masonry shell. The building's walls are largely intact, but the peak of the northern gable is partly collapsed and an interior peak, marking the location of a former exterior wall, is missing. Many window and door openings are empty. The building was apparently destroyed by fire sometime in the early 1980s, but the exact date is unknown (see also the documentation for Building 110).

The building's footprint comprises three sections. The original section, built as the searchlight powerhouse, is 26 feet by 36 feet-6 inches. This section of the building is constructed with load-bearing brick walls. Historical aerial photographs and building records indicate that it had a slate-shingle low-pitch gabled roof, now gone. A full-width addition of approximately 11 feet-6 inches extends the original section to the south. This section is constructed of load-bearing, hollow terra cotta blocks clad on the exterior with brick. Historical records show that like the main part of the building, this section also had a gable roof, but while the roof ridge was at the same height as that of the original section, the pitch was slightly steeper. This section of roof was apparently clad in composition shingles. The 15- by 15-foot eastern ell is built of concrete blocks and was originally covered by a low-pitch shed roof, possibly clad in tarpaper or composition shingles. Historic aerial photographs appear to indicate the presence of a roof hatch, probably related to a wood ramp, no longer extant, that was carried by the concrete piers on the eastern side of the ell.

SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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The building stands at grade and lacks a basement. The type of foundation supporting the building has not been identified, but may well be a mix of stone or brick sill walls and a concrete on-grade slab.

The primary entrance to the building is located at its northern end and consists of a wood door with diagonal cross bracing; remnants of sheet metal show that the door was originally clad with this material. This door was flanked to the east by a concrete block wall without openings and to the west by a second rectangular door opening. The western side of the building included three windows to the north of a door near the southern end of the original building and a fourth window in the southern addition. The southern façade of the building held two large openings under flat arches. The eastern side of the building included three windows to the south of the southern wall of the concrete block addition: two in the main block and one in the southern addition. Fenestration of the building consists of double-hung, wood sash windows in the main block and 16-light, steel sash windows with an eight-light, hopper-type tilting center section in the additions. The windows are set in rectangular openings with grey sandstone and concrete lintels, respectively.

The interior contains an assemblage of boilers and pipes. Though the heating system has not been documented in detail, one boiler is embossed "Pacific- Johnson [arch] / 1938 / Ferrysburg, Mich." Several overhead pipes connect Building 114 to Building 110 next door.

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

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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.

Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room (Building 114)

Building 114 is one of ten numbered and inventoried structures and buildings in the eastern part of Fort Slocum's Defense and Support Area. (For a detailed discussion of the development of this area, see the documentation for Building 110 in Volume 5.) Historical analysis of the area as a whole indicates that it was a functionally-mixed zone containing weapons-related, light-industrial, and utility-infrastructure activities, as well as other functions that generally needed a degree of isolation from the rest of the post (Tetra Tech 2008).

The functional area occupies the southeastern section of Davids Island and is centered on the 2.9-acre coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, also designated as Buildings 125, 126, and 127). The battery was built between 1891 and 1897 and was operational until 1906.

This section of Davids Island was first occupied by the quarters for the post's military band during the Civil War, which were abandoned soon after the war's end. Construction of Buildings 113 and 119 (Magazine/Blacksmith Shop and Receiving Vault, respectively) in the mid-1880s marked the start of a new wave of development. Development intensified in the 1890s with the construction of the Mortar Battery to the west. Construction of Battery Practice and the Ordnance Storehouse (Building 110) followed a few years after work on the Mortar Battery began.

The architectural and functional history of Building 114 is known only in broad outline. After the Army finished constructing Fort Slocum's coastal artillery batteries with the completion of Battery Kinney in 1904,¹

¹Battery Kinney was located on the northeastern shoreline of Davids Island adjacent to Battery Fraser. Each

SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
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it made several further improvements to the post's system of fortifications. One of the improvements of circa 1904-1905 was the installation of a 60-inch searchlight at the northern end of the parapet of Battery Practice, about 160 feet northeast of Building 114. Improvements to Fort Slocum's coastal artillery fortifications ceased in 1906, when the Army removed them from active service.

Searchlights were a means of illuminating landscapes and targets during night operations. Their development began around the middle of the nineteenth century in Europe and America, but it took several decades for searchlight technology to mature. By around 1870 engineers had adopted electric arc lamps for these lights, and in the following decade reflector designs were developed that concentrated and vastly magnified searchlight illumination. The most widely used form of arc lamp employed two carbon electrodes in free air. An electrical current flowing across a gap between the two electrodes produced a steady, intense light in a small area, which could then be focused and projected as a comparatively narrow beam by means of a parabolic mirror.

The potential utility of searchlights for coastal artillery defenses led the Endicott Board on Fortifications to recommend in 1886 their adoption for coastal defenses, though the board gave no details about applications. Congress provided little funding for the installation of searchlights until the Spanish-American War (1898), by which time the design, manufacture, and application of searchlight systems—along with many other types of electrical apparatus—had greatly matured. Carbon arc searchlights continued in widespread use for coastal defenses and other military applications through the Second World War, after which the use of searchlights was largely supplanted by radar (Lichtenberg 1920a, 1920b; Magnet Lab 2009; McGovern and Smith 2006:57-58; Powell 1903; Sterling 2007:395-397; Waldron and Hall 1904; Yrelli 1907).

Virtually no specific information on the Fort Slocum searchlight system—including the Searchlight Powerhouse—was obtained during research for this documentation. The first map to depict the searchlight shelter and the powerhouse dates to 1906, around the time when Fort Slocum's coast artillery fortifications had been deactivated (Hodges 1906). This map, however, does not label either structure. A Coast Artillery Corps plan of Fort Slocum prepared in 1908 identifies both elements, documenting the presence of a 60-inch searchlight and the powerhouse. Similar information appears on later editions of this map (Coast Artillery Corps 1908, 1921). Maps of the post from 1915 and 1917 identify the powerhouse as an engineer shop, but provide no label for the searchlight shelter (Renner 1917; Smith 1915). Examination of aerial photographs shows that the searchlight shelter was removed in around 1926. The searchlight was probably removed earlier.

Sixty-inch diameter searchlights, the type installed at Fort Slocum, were one of the principal sizes of lights installed at coastal artillery fortifications. (Thirty-six-inch lights were also used in some situations of restricted coastline.) Military authorities regarded dedicated power supplies as essential for effective and reliable searchlight operation. At the beginning of the twentieth century, the electricity for searchlights at coastal artillery installations was normally provided by a steam-driven dynamo in a small powerhouse not too distant from the searchlight (Waldron and Hall 1904:6-7). This was apparently the arrangement at Fort Slocum, where the powerhouse stood about 160 feet from the searchlight. Curiously, the Searchlight Powerhouse like its neighbor, the Ordnance Storehouse (Building 110), was constructed on the exposed side of the Mortar Battery, rather than to its rear, where it would have been less vulnerable to enemy fire. The reasons for the locations of both buildings are unknown, as less exposed positions would seem to have been

emplacement had a pair of pedestal-mounted medium guns. The batteries were demolished 1929 in preparation for construction of Building 58, a three-story barracks.

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possible in each instance. It is also unknown whether the original design of the Searchlight Powerhouse conformed to a standardized design, though this seems likely.

When in about 1922 the post's laundry was relocated to the former Ordnance Storehouse (Building 110), the boiler or boilers in the neighboring Searchlight Powerhouse were apparently adapted to provide hot water and steam heat for the laundry. Details about this alteration are lacking. The Searchlight Powerhouse became an annex to the laundry, and available maps and records from the 1920s to the 1940s do not differentiate between the main laundry building (Building 110) and the separate boiler room building (Building 114), making it difficult to trace alterations that were specifically made to Building 114.

The late 1930s were a period of extensive renovations to buildings on Davids Island, and several lines of evidence suggest that major renovations took place in Building 114 in 1938 or 1939. This evidence includes:

- Aerial photographs that indicate construction of the southern extension to the building sometime between 1936 and 1940;
- Aerial photographs that indicate relocation of a tall smokestack from the south-central interior of the building to its northern exterior end sometime between 1936 and 1940;
- A 1938 manufacturing date cast into the face of a Pacific-Johnson boiler inside the building; and
- A circa-1939 inventory photograph of the adjacent Building 113, which shows the presence of a temporary boiler outside Building 114.

Analysis of historic aerial photographs also suggests that the 15-foot-square eastern ell was added in the early 1950s. The ell seems to have been a coal bunker with an exterior ramp for hauling coal from a nearby storage pile.

The Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room was only given a separate identification number around 1950, when it designated as Building 127. Prior to this date, it was apparently subsumed as an annex under the neighboring Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110), which was Building 70 in the post's 1893 numbering system and Building 78 in the 1941 system. In the 1957 post-wide renumbering of buildings, the Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room became Building 114.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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United States Army Quartermaster Corps [Quartermaster Corps]

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

Maps and Drawings

October 1902 "Fort Slocum, New York: Plan Showing Location of Batteries and Fire Control Station, Drawn Under the Direction of Major W.L. Marshall, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A." Record Group 77, 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.

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.

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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.)

1920: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. July [no date].

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

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

1924: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. August 24.

1924: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island showing area between the Mortar Battery and the Hospital, with about half the Quartermaster Area shown. View east. August 24.

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

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. 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.

1954: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island, New Rochelle, NY. Date and originating agency unknown. Available online in a georeferenced photo mosaic version through [HistoricAerials.com](http://www.historicaerials.com) at <http://www.historicaerials.com>. Accessed September 25, 2009.

ca. 1958: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. Summer. Included in a 1966 report prepared by Cross & Brown Co., New York, for the Federal Property Resources Service, on file at the New York City branch of the National Archives, Record Group 291.

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.

1980: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island, New Rochelle, NY. Date and originating agency unknown. Available online in a georeferenced photo mosaic version through [HistoricAerials.com](http://www.historicaerials.com) at <http://www.historicaerials.com>. Accessed September 25, 2009.

SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)

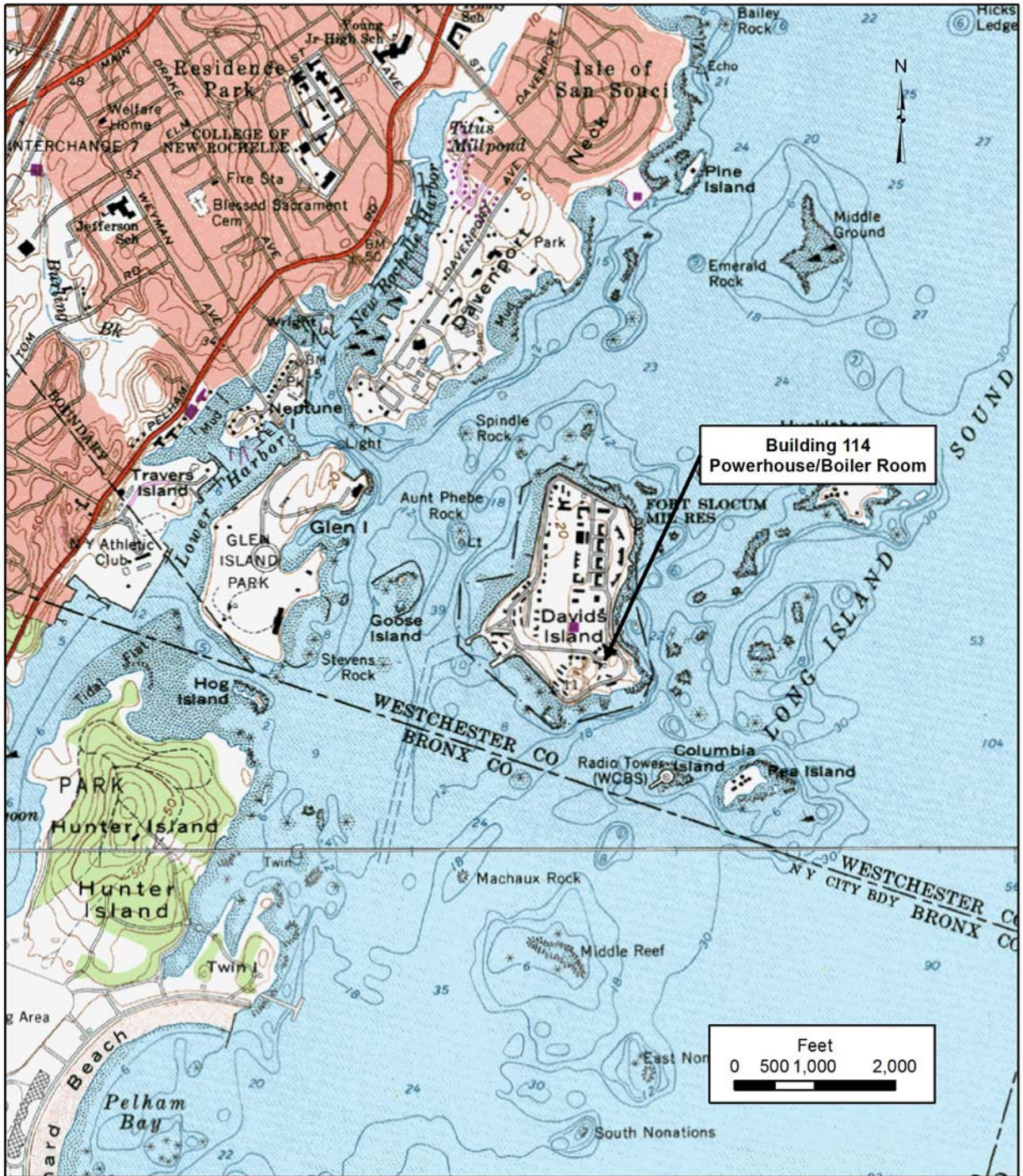
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM

(Page 10)

LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)

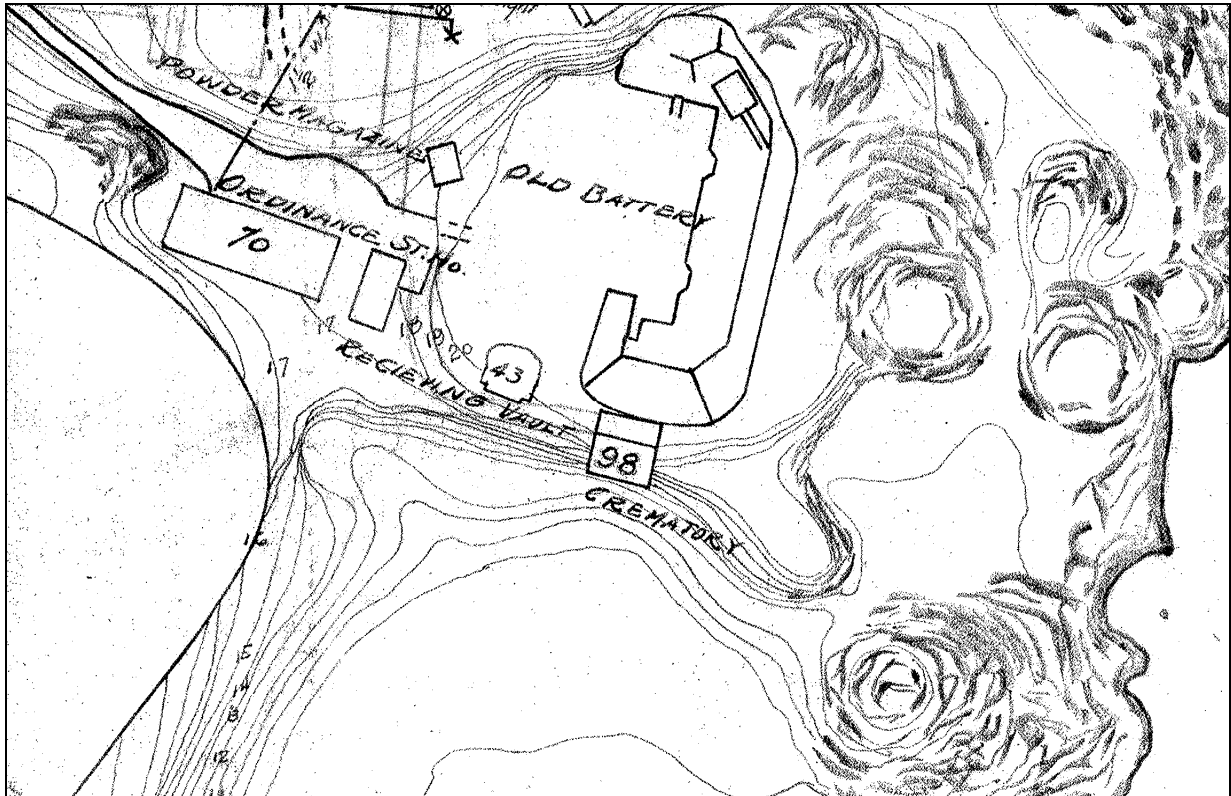
Scale: 1:24,000

1966 (Photorevised 1979)



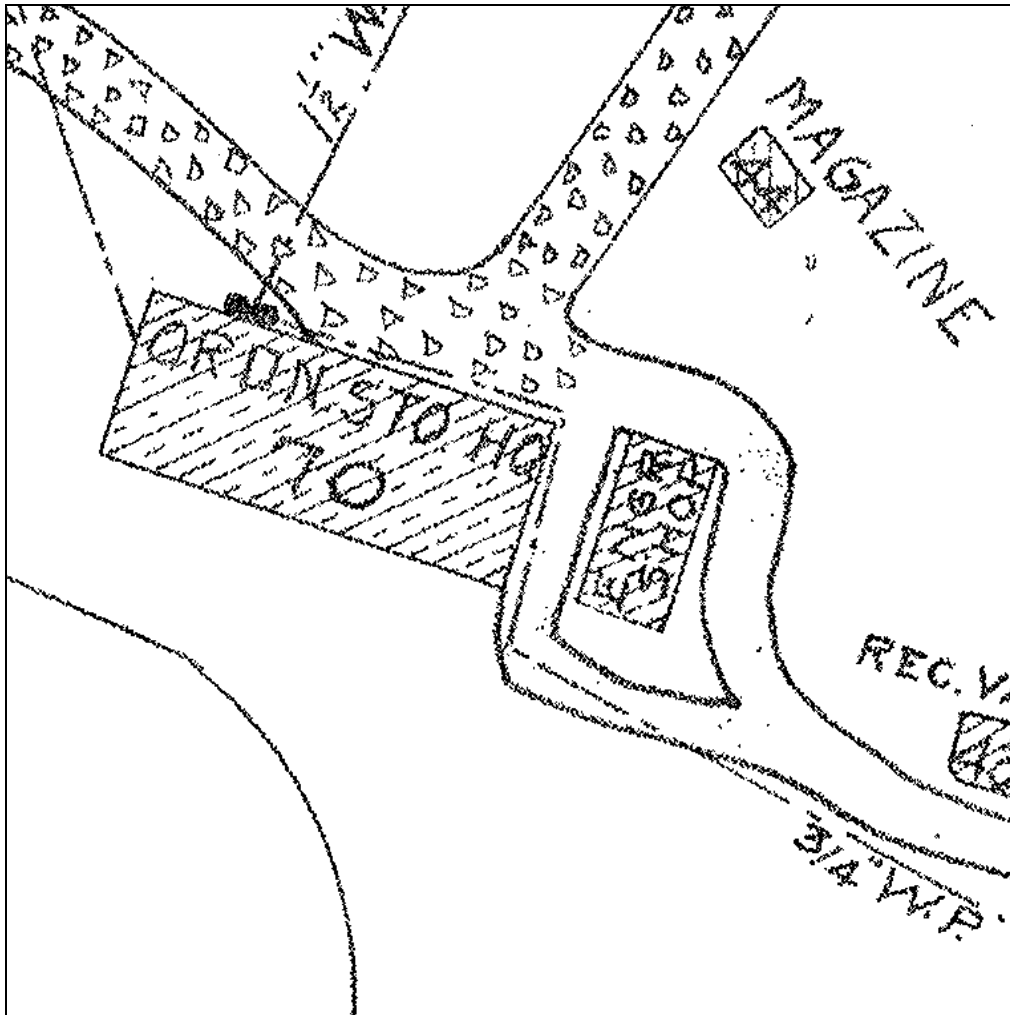
SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 12)

Figure 1. "Map of Fort Slocum, Davids Island, NY," 1909, detail. North is to the top of the page. The Searchlight Powerhouse is shown in this drawing as an unlabeled rectangle immediately east (right) of Building 70 (Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry). The searchlight was housed in a shelter depicted as a rectangle with two lines extending from it on the northern flank of the "Old Battery" (Battery Practice), about 160 feet to the northeast of the Searchlight Powerhouse. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
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Figure 2. "Map of Fort Slocum, New York," 1915, detail. Building 114 is described as "Engr. Shop" in this drawing and is undesignated by number. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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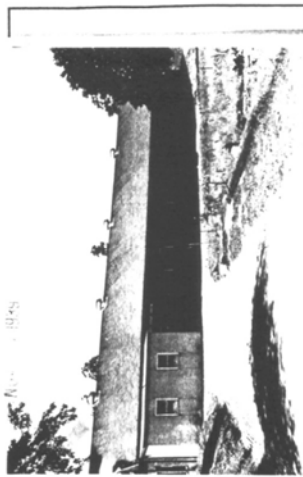
Figure 3. Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, 1932, detail. View north. Building 114 is partly obscured by sun-lit steam at right center of the image. Its smokestack rises from the south-central interior of the building. To the west is the L-shaped Building 110. At the lower left is Battery Overton A of the Endicott-era Mortar Battery. The five buildings at the top of the photo are NCO quarters 101 to 105 (right to left). Original in National Archives, College Park, MD; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



**SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 4. Front of Quartermaster Corps Property Record for the Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110), then designated as Building 70, November 1939. The back of this record clearly shows that the Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room was considered an annex to the main laundry building. This side of the card treats the boiler room as a “wing” of the main building and notes the presence of two boilers at the laundry that were certainly located in the powerhouse/boiler room. The record may not have been updated to reflect the 11 foot-6 inch-southern extension to the powerhouse/boiler room, which was likely constructed in 1938 or 1939 and certainly before September 1940. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.

Post Plan No. _____ Building No. **70-78**
 O.Q.M.G.: Plan No. **114**



PORT SLOCUM, NEW YORK
 Designation of building: Laundry
 Total cost, \$18,665.00
 Material: Walls Brick
 Roof Slate
 Total floor area above basement, square feet 6,928
 Size: Main building 52'0" x 115'4"
 a. Facilitates Johnston and Titusville Boilers
 b. Stems (Coal Operated)
 c. Stems (Name Unknown)

Date completed in 1919, 1899, Wings, 1922.
 Capacity 5,328 Sq. Ft.
 Foundation Stone
 Floors Wood and Concrete
 Wings 26' x 39' 6", 24' 6" x 31' 6"
 Height of first floor above ground level with ground How lighted Electrically
 Water connections Yes
 Sewer connections Yes
 Gas connections Yes
METERS INSTALLED
 Gas, No. _____
 Electric, No. Three
 Oil, No. _____
 Steam, No. _____
 Water, No. _____

COOKING RANGES INSTALLED
 Coal, No. _____
 Gas, No. _____
 Electric No. _____
 Oil, No. _____
 Steam, No. _____

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

DATE	DESCRIPTION	COST
6-26-40	Total Cost of Repairs to June 30, 1939	\$3,331.42
11-20-40	General Repairs	9,643.90
11-20-40	Repaired 5 doors, wood	500.00
11-20-40	Repaired 1 window, 19' x 29' 1/2" E.P.W.	2,500.00
11-20-40	Repaired 2 windows, 6'6" x 6'6"	2,000.00
11-20-40	Repaired 1 facility, backhand	500.00
11-20-40	Repaired 2 doors, electric	500.00
1-6-41	Inst. 5 presses, 5/8" x 10" x 11"	2,255.00
4-20-41	Inst. 1 Converter, 11" x 14" x 1600 gnl.	700.00

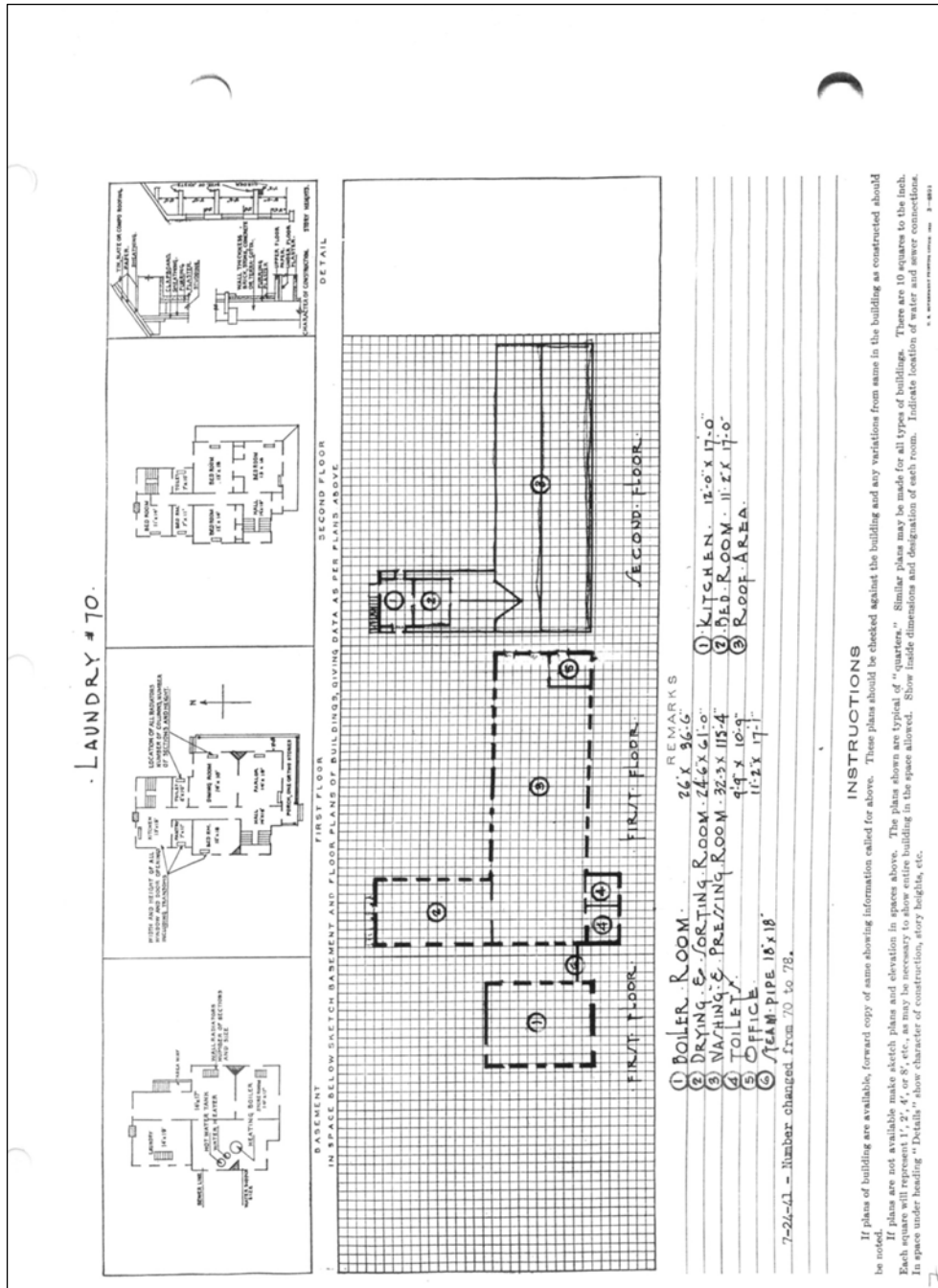
INSTRUCTIONS: "a" - State whether listed from central heating or by individual heating plants, stoves, furnaces, or fireplaces.
 "b" - State whether steam, vapor, hot water, or hot air.
 "c" - State whether gas, coal, oil, or central heating plant.

See reverse side of form.

RECEIVED NOV 22 1939

**SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 16)**

Figure 5. Back of Quartermaster Corps Property Record for the Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110), then designated as Building 70, November 1939. This side of the record shows the Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room as an annex to the main laundry building (Room 1 on the first floor). The record may not have been updated to reflect the 11 foot-6 inch-southern extension to the powerhouse/boiler room, which was likely constructed in 1938 or 1939 and certainly before September 1940. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



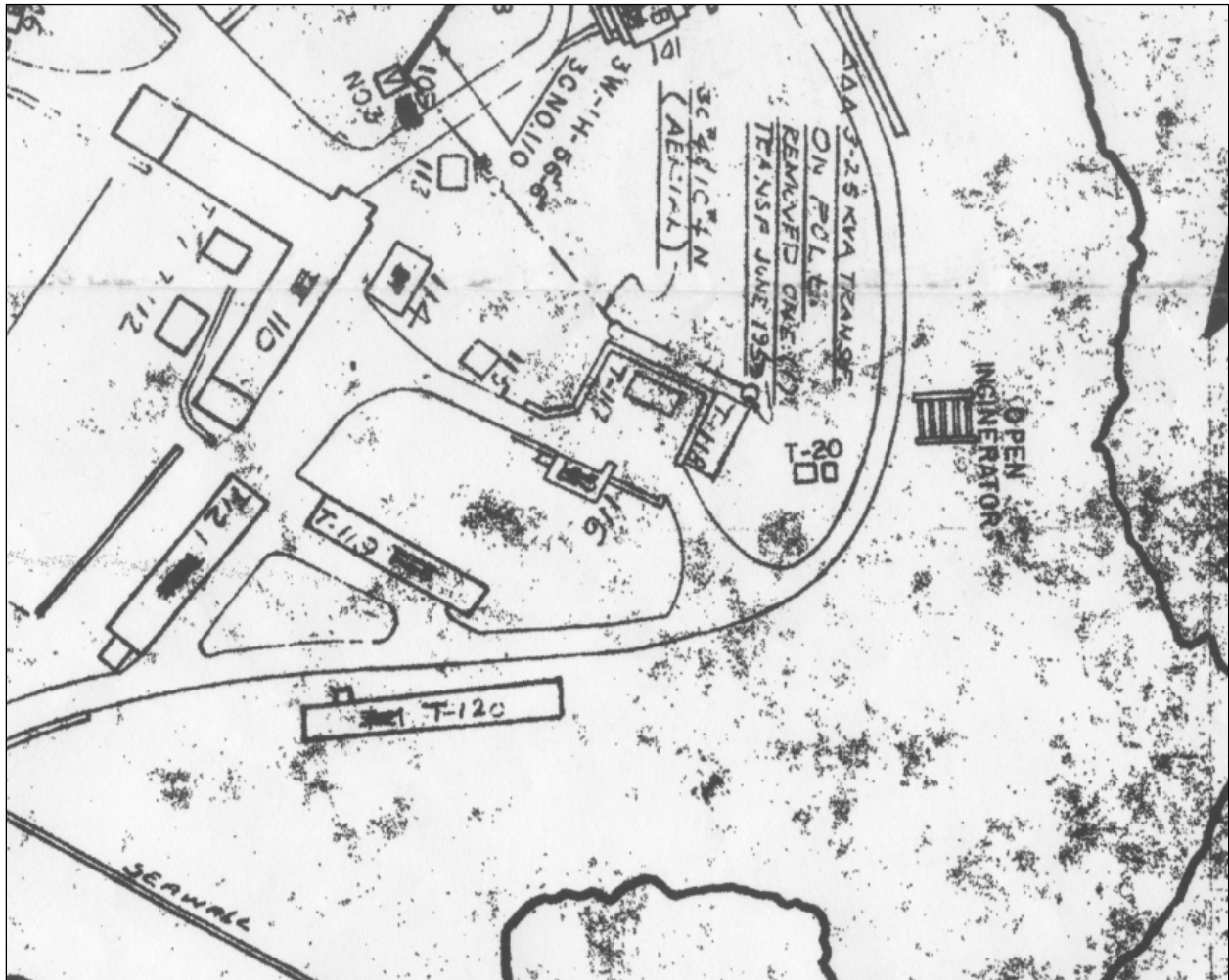
SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 6. Inventory photo from the Quartermaster Corps Property Record for the Magazine/Blacksmith Shop (Building 113) (center foreground), ca. 1939. View south. The Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110) is visible in the background at far right. Portions of the Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room are visible behind the Magazine/Blacksmith Shop near the center of the photograph, including the tall cylindrical metal smokestack, which was then located in the interior of the laundry boiler room building. A portable boiler in the background at left angles toward the laundry boiler room building. It was apparently in use during renovations. Signage painted on the side of the portable boiler reads: "RSP 143 Portable Firebox Boiler 125" W.I. / [M]fd. by the Titusville Iron Works / Co./ Titusville, Pa." [left]; "Job / Laundry | Fort / Sloc[um]" [right]. The date of this photograph is unknown; foliage in the background suggests that it was taken somewhat earlier than the month of November that is stamped on the photograph and refers to the date of the property record form. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 7. "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines." May 1949, revised through November 1957, detail. This map shows hand-written revisions of building numbers, reflecting the 1957 post-wide numbering changes. Here, the Searchlight Powerhouse has acquired its final designation as Building 114. North is to the top of the page. Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum; copy on file at Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ.



SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)
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Figure 8. High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, ca. 1958, detail. View north. Building 114, with its freestanding tall chimney, is at the center of the photograph. The wood ramp leading to the concrete block coal bunker ell extends from the right of the building toward the remnants of Battery Practice, which was used for the storage of coal and ash. The L-shaped building to the left of Building 114 is the Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry (Building 110). The five buildings at the top of the photo are NCO quarters 101 to 105 (right to left). Original from Record Group 291, National Archives, New York, NY; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

SEARCHLIGHT POWERHOUSE/LAUNDRY BOILER ROOM (BUILDING 114)

Davids Island—Fort Slocum
 New Rochelle
 Westchester County
 New York

Photographers: Christopher L. Borstel, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, October 2005 (Photos 1 and 3).

Caleb Christopher, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ, November 2006 (Photos 2 and 7-9).

Kendall Walker, Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Boston, MA, May 2007 (Photos 4 and 6).

Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005 (Photos 5 and 10).

1. Northern façade, facing southeast. Collapsed smokestack at left. The smokestack's T-joint, which projects to the right in the photo, once extended into Building 114.
2. Main section of northern façade, facing south. Collapsed smokestack in foreground.
3. Northern façade, detail: cross-braced door in eastern section of main portion of façade.
4. General view of Building 114 shortly before demolition, showing northern and western façades.
5. Southern façade, looking northwest.
6. Southern and eastern façades, including concrete block coal bunker ell, shortly before demolition, looking west-northwest.
7. Western façade, detail: section of original (ca. 1905) wall, looking northeast.
8. Western façade, detail: southern extension to building, looking southeast.
9. Northern section of building, interior, showing ruins of boiler system
10. Southern section of building, interior, showing ruins of boiler system and other machinery.

Photo 1. Northern façade, facing southeast. Collapsed smokestack at left. The smokestack's T-joint, which projects to the right in the photo, once extended into Building 114.



Photo 2. Main section of northern façade, facing south. Collapsed smokestack in foreground.



Photo 3. Northern façade, detail: cross-braced door in eastern section of main portion of façade.



Photo 4. General view of Building 114 shortly before demolition, showing northern and western façades.



Photo 5. Southern façade, looking northwest.



Photo 6. Southern and eastern façades, including concrete block coal bunker ell, shortly before demolition, looking west-northwest.



Photo 7. Western façade, detail: section of original (ca. 1905) wall, looking northeast.

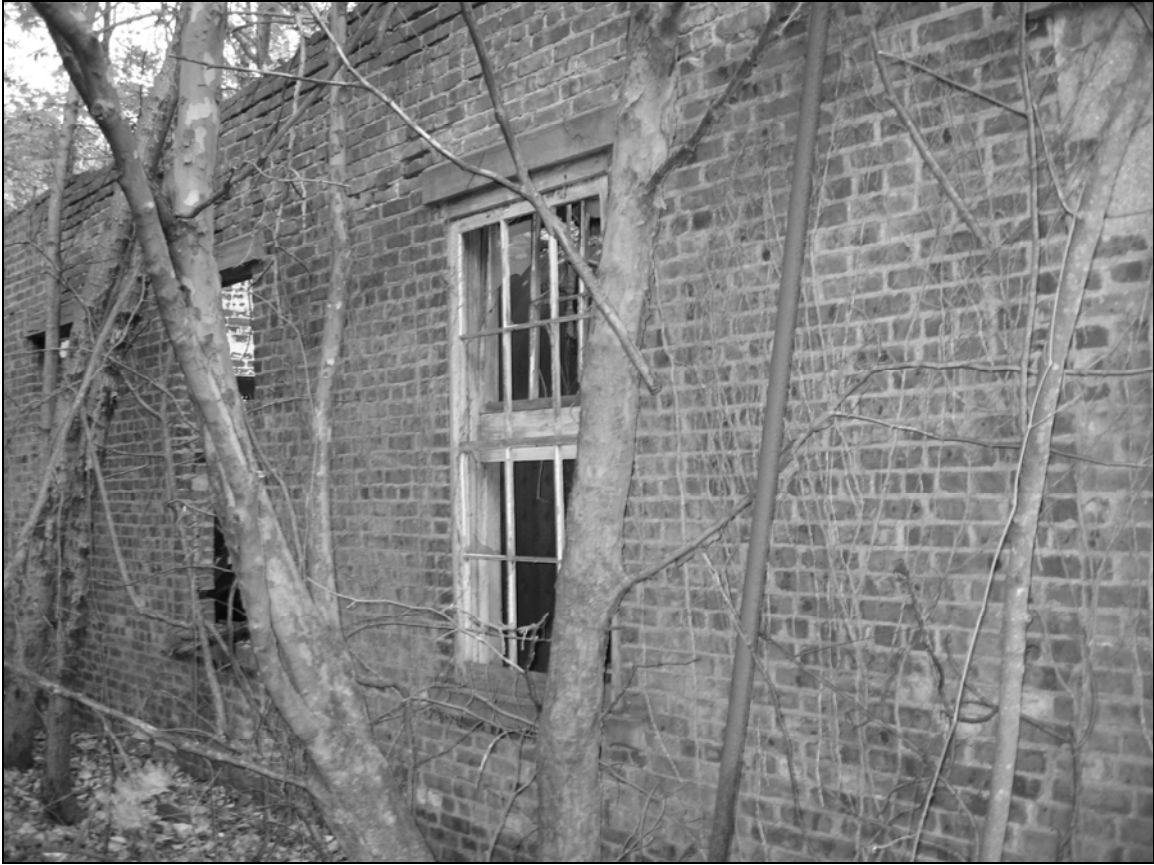


Photo 8. Western façade, detail: southern extension to building, looking southeast.



Photo 9. Northern section of building, interior, showing ruins of boiler system.



Photo 10. Southern section of building, interior, showing ruins of boiler system and other machinery.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603792.4526297

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

Date of Construction: 1909 / mid-1950s

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

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

Significance: The Incinerator (Building 115) is situated in the Defense and Support Area and provided a means for the disposal of trash and garbage at Fort Slocum. Solid waste disposal was one element of the post's utility infrastructure that supported its 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: July 2007 (Revision 1, January 2010)

INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Incinerator (Building 115) 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 the 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 115 is situated near the eastern edge of the Defense and Support Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a functionally-mixed area that adjoins and includes the 1891-1897 coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127).

Fort Slocum's Incinerator may be regarded one part of a small complex of three elements (Figures 1-6). The complex is situated between Hoyle Road, to the west, and Parker Road, to the east. Unpaved drives, now overgrown, formerly connected the complex to both roads. Building 115, the Incinerator, is the principal structure in the complex and is the focus of this documentation. Building 115 is constructed on two levels against the side of a small hillock, which was formerly occupied by Battery Practice. Adjoining Building 115 on the north is a partially paved work yard enclosed by stone walls. There are entrances to the work yard on the west and east. An open vehicle shed (Building 115A) is built against the exterior work yard wall northeast of Building 115. The architectural inventory of the Fort Slocum Historic and Archeological District completed in 2005 did not record or evaluate the work yard, but it determined that the vehicle shed was a non-contributing element to the district (Olausen et al. 2005).

Building 115 is a plain, utilitarian structure whose appearance is dominated by an asymmetrical side gable roof (Figures 2-3; Photos 1-6). The building conforms to no named architectural style. The main portion of the building, covered by the gable roof, is rectangular, but there is also a small dependency with a shed roof that extends off the northeastern corner of the building's main section on the upper, or work yard, level of the building. The main building encloses the incinerator, which is built against the concrete wall between the building's lower and upper levels (Photos 3-5). The two levels consist of an upper charging deck at the top of the incinerator, where garbage was loaded into individual chambers to be burned, and a lower stoking floor, where the combustion of the garbage was managed. The two levels are connected by a steel ladder affixed to the wall connecting the levels. The dependency on the east, which was added in the mid-1950s, was apparently a locker room and/or office. The building's main façade is to the south and is the location of the entrance to the stoking floor. The northern side of the building faces the work yard. The gable ends are at the east and west. A large square brick chimney rises well above the ridge of the roof at the western end of the building (Photo 1).

At the time of documentation in 2004-2007, Building 115 was in poor to fair condition. The gable roof was in poor condition, and the cladding had been stripped off the northern side, leaving the steel roof framing exposed (Photo 2). The building's walls, floors, chimney, doors, and window frames, however, remained largely intact, albeit obscured by dense vegetation. The interior appeared to be in fair condition, with the incinerator furnace seemingly largely intact. An assemblage of galvanized steel trash cans was clustered near the charging deck on the upper level, while several long incinerator rakes and pokers remained hanging from a wood-peg rack in the lower level (Photo 6).

The main section of Building 115 is constructed with a brick bearing wall structural system and stands on a concrete foundation. The gable roof is steel framed and clad with corrugated sheet steel, now heavily

INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 3)

deteriorated. The southern slope of the roof is considerably longer than the northern due to the different heights of the building's two levels. The dependency on the east has mixed stone and concrete block walls covered on the exterior with stucco. Its roof is wood framed and clad with tarpaper.

Fenestration of the building is asymmetrical. On the lower level, the southern, or main, façade has a doorway offset to the west from the centerline, with rectangular windows to either side. A large metal sink supported by concrete blocks is located close to the southwestern corner of the building. There is a doorway on the eastern side of the building at the lower level, while the western side has a window adjacent to the chimney. On the upper level, the northern facade is dominated by a large opening leading from the work yard to the charging deck. So far as can be determined, this opening did not have a door. A doorway is located at the upper level on the western side of the building. The northern side of the dependency has a doorway to the east and a small window to the west. In the main section of the building, window openings contain nine-light, metal frame windows with wire-reinforced panes. The window opening in the dependency contains the remnants of a six-over-six double-hung wood sash window. Some doors are missing from the building; among those that remain the lower eastern door is steel, while that of the dependency is paneled wood. Hatcher and Gerlach (2006:168) include a sketch plan of the building; this plan gives the overall dimensions of the building as approximately 25 by 55 feet.

The incinerator is built into the northwestern corner of the lower level and occupies much of the floor area of this level. The incinerator has a brick housing reinforced with a steel frame. The top is covered by a concrete slab pierced by three cylindrical shafts, or charging holes. The slab somewhat overhangs the front (southern) face of the incinerator, and its outer edges have guard rails of steel pipe overlain by a layer of chain link fence. The charging holes are also enclosed by a pipe railing and each hole has a steel manhole cover as well. The main and eastern faces of the incinerator have a number of steel doors of several sizes for fueling the incinerator fire, manipulating the burning garbage, and removing ash (Photos 3-5). The dependency has circuit breaker boxes affixed to one wall and contains a pair of steel lockers.

In addition to Building 115, the incinerator complex also includes the adjoining work yard and vehicle shed. Both are later additions. The work yard covers an area approximately 66 feet east-west by 64 feet north-south. It is enclosed by a random rubble wall of schist up to 10 feet high. Approximately half the work yard is paved with concrete, and the balance is packed earth covered with gravel. The vehicle shed (Building 115A) is an open wood frame structure built against the eastern exterior work yard wall. This structure has a simple shed roof framed in wood and clad in tarpaper. Corrugated steel siding encloses the northern and southern sides of the shed, as well as the portion on the west above the stone work yard wall. Overall, the shed is about 19 by 30 feet, and there are two bays, each ample enough for a large truck, separated by several support posts.

Building 115A was demolished in December 2005, followed by Building 115 in July 2007. As of late 2009, most of the work yard walls and paving are still extant.

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

INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 4)

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. 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.

INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 5)

Incinerator (Building 115)

Building 115 is one of ten numbered and inventoried structures and buildings in the eastern part of Fort Slocum's Defense and Support Area. Historical analysis of the area as a whole indicates that it was a functionally-mixed zone containing weapons-related, light-industrial, and utility-infrastructure activities, as well as other functions that generally needed a degree of isolation from the rest of the post (Tetra Tech 2008). The functional area occupies the southeastern section of Davids Island and is centered on the 2.9-acre coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, also designated as Buildings 125, 126, and 127). The battery was built between 1891 and 1897 and was operational until 1906.

This section of Davids Island was first occupied by the quarters for the post's military band during the Civil War. The band quarters were abandoned soon after the war's end, and the area lay undeveloped for the next two decades. Construction of Buildings 113 and 119 (Magazine/Blacksmith Shop and Receiving Vault, respectively) in the mid-1880s marked the start of a new wave of development. Development intensified in the 1890s with the construction of the Mortar Battery to the west. Construction of Battery Practice and the Ordnance Storehouse (Building 110) followed a few years after work on the Mortar Battery began. Development related to the post's defensive works continued in the area during the first decade of the twentieth century with the construction of a searchlight and the associated Searchlight Powerhouse (Building 114), but soon after these structures were completed, the Army deactivated the post's batteries. Later development of the area was primarily related to the post's support services. Residential development, however, took place quite close by, primarily in the NCO Family Housing Area. Building 115, the post's third garbage incinerator, was built in 1909.

With as many as several thousand people living and working at Fort Slocum, there was a constant need for an effective system of refuse disposal. The post's location on a small island made this need more acute, for there were few places where waste could be dumped without quickly creating a nuisance. Undoubtedly in the early decades of the Army's occupation of Davids Island, much waste was dumped along the shoreline in the expectation that it would be carried off by the tide. Indeed, perhaps the several dock-like privies, or "sinks," that were built along the shoreline for DeCamp General Hospital around 1862—and evidently continued in use into the 1880s—served not just for the disposal of human excrement but also to get rid of garbage, trash, and other refuse. By the 1880s, however, the use of the rivers and bays surrounding New York as convenient dumping places made these waters increasingly noisome, and public outcry forced significant improvements in the way wastes were handled in the city. The movement to improve sanitation was not limited just to New York, nor even only to cities, but the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth saw widespread improvements in methods of solid waste disposal in America.

One popular means of refuse disposal was incineration. Burning waste in a specially-designed facility fitted with furnaces originated in England in the 1870s. In the following decade, this method of disposal was introduced in the United States, with the first known incinerator (or "cremator" as it was then known) constructed by the Army on Governors Island in New York Harbor in 1885. These early facilities were quickly imitated by many American cities, and the Army was sufficiently satisfied by its experiment at Governors Island that incinerators were installed at many posts across the country over the next decade.

The first incinerator at Fort Slocum (designated as Building 61 in the 1893 numbering system) was built about 1892 on the northeastern shore of Davids Island, approximately 60 feet east of present-day Building 57. Around 1902, this facility was replaced by a second incinerator (Building 76 in the 1893 system),

INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
(Page 6)

which was situated about 250 feet to the northwest, at a location that is now roughly 50 feet north of the northwest corner of today's Building 57. The present post incinerator (or "crematory," as it was first named), present-day Building 115, was erected in 1909 (Figure 1). It was built according to the Quartermaster General standardized plan No. 124C (Smith 1915),¹ a good indication that by the end of the first decade of the twentieth century, the Army's quarter century of experience with incineration had been systematized into standardized trash disposal facilities and practices. The Quartermaster Corps property card completed for this structure in July 1940 identifies the incinerator as designed under plan No. 6363-104; however, given original date of construction and the record of Smith (1915), it is quite likely that the plan number on the property card refers to renovations of the post's incinerator facilities, probably including construction of the work yard on the northern side of the building. Neither the earlier nor the later plan number is among those listed in the partial inventory of Quartermaster Corps standardized plans assembled by Chattey et al. (1997:381-391).

Building 115 was constructed in the southeastern quadrant of the island, on the southern edge of the disused Battery Practice close to the Receiving Vault (Building 119). Relocating the post's incinerator from the Barracks Area may well have been part of an effort to improve the functional organization of the post. Consolidation of certain noxious or hazardous facilities in the southeastern periphery of the post led to the emergence of the Defense and Support Area there.

Building 115 benefited from improvement and beautification program of the late 1930s at Fort Slocum. Originally the building abutted the southern toe of the embankment of Battery Practice and the access road ran directly to the charging deck on the northern side of the building. There was no enclosed work yard north of the building as there is today (Figures 1, 2, 5, and 6). Review of historic aerial photographs indicates that sometime between 1938 and 1940—and certainly before September 4, 1940—the waste handling workspace adjoining Building 115 was changed. The yard to the north of the building was constructed by cutting into the embankment or hill formerly occupied by the earth parapet for Battery Practice, and the stone walls that now surround three sides of the yard were erected (Figures 3 and 4). The access road may also have been shifted slightly to north, so that it no longer ended at the charging floor, but in the yard just to the north. These changes may have partly been associated with a shift from the use of small mule-drawn carts to larger motorized trucks for hauling the post's garbage to the incinerator, as the last working mules were transferred from the post in early 1938. Alterations to the building itself apparently included replacement of wood shutters with steel-frame safety glass windows in the window openings and alterations to doors.

There were also later additions to Building 115 and the incinerator complex. A facility identified as an "open incinerator" was constructed approximately 150 feet east of Building 115 was probably constructed sometime prior to 1949 as attested by Office of Post Engineer (1949-57) and maps from the early 1950s. Maps and aerial photographs indicate that the locker room/office dependency attached to Building 115 and the vehicle shed, Building 115A, were apparently constructed in the mid-1950s, likely after early 1954 and before late 1957.

In addition to the incinerator and its appurtenant structures, the solid waste management system at Fort

¹Berger's (1986) inventory form for Building 115 cites undated plan drawings of a "garbage crematory" (incinerator) prepared by the Municipal Engineering Co., New York City, which are in the National Archives. These drawings, however, differ in many details from Building 115 and were either prepared as a response to a request for proposals or, more likely, are for the second incinerator at the post, built in about 1902.

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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
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Slocum is also expressed in other landscape and architectural elements distributed across Davids Island. To the immediate south and east of the incinerator is what appears to be an extensive cinder dump up to several feet thick, probably composed of heating byproducts from the numerous coal furnaces on the island, possibly as well as residues from the incinerator (Tetra Tech 2009:7-1-7-5). Elsewhere, there are numerous small C-shaped masonry structures that served as trash-can enclosures for quarters buildings.

Building 115 was designated as Building 98 in the post's 1893 numbering system. From 1941 until 1956, it was identified as Building 125. It became Building 116 in the numbering system instituted in 1957. Sometime after Fort Slocum closed, records began to identify the Incinerator as Building 115 and it was so known by the time of the first historic architectural inventory in the mid-1980s (Berger 1986).

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Maps and Drawings

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1952 "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, NY." Prepared by Armed Forces Information School. Collection of Michael Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA.

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: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island. August 24.

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

1932: Low angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. 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.

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1954: Vertical aerial photograph of Davids Island, New Rochelle, NY. Date and originating agency unknown. Available online in a georeferenced photo mosaic version through HistoricAerials.com at <http://www.historicaerials.com>. Accessed November 11, 2009.

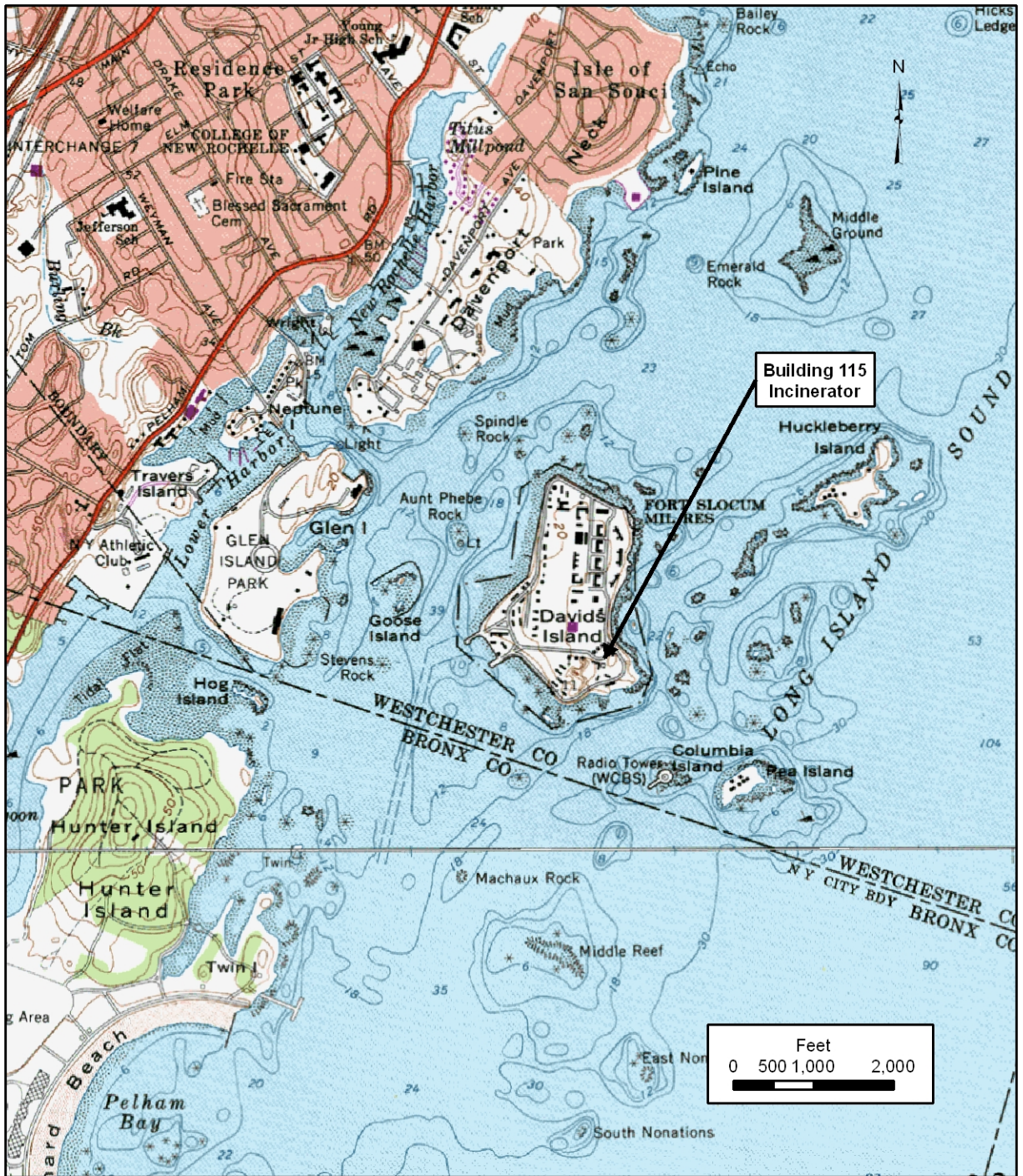
ca. 1958: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. Summer. Included in a 1966 report prepared by Cross & Brown Co., New York, for the Federal Property Resources Service, on file at the New York City branch of the National Archives, Record Group 291.

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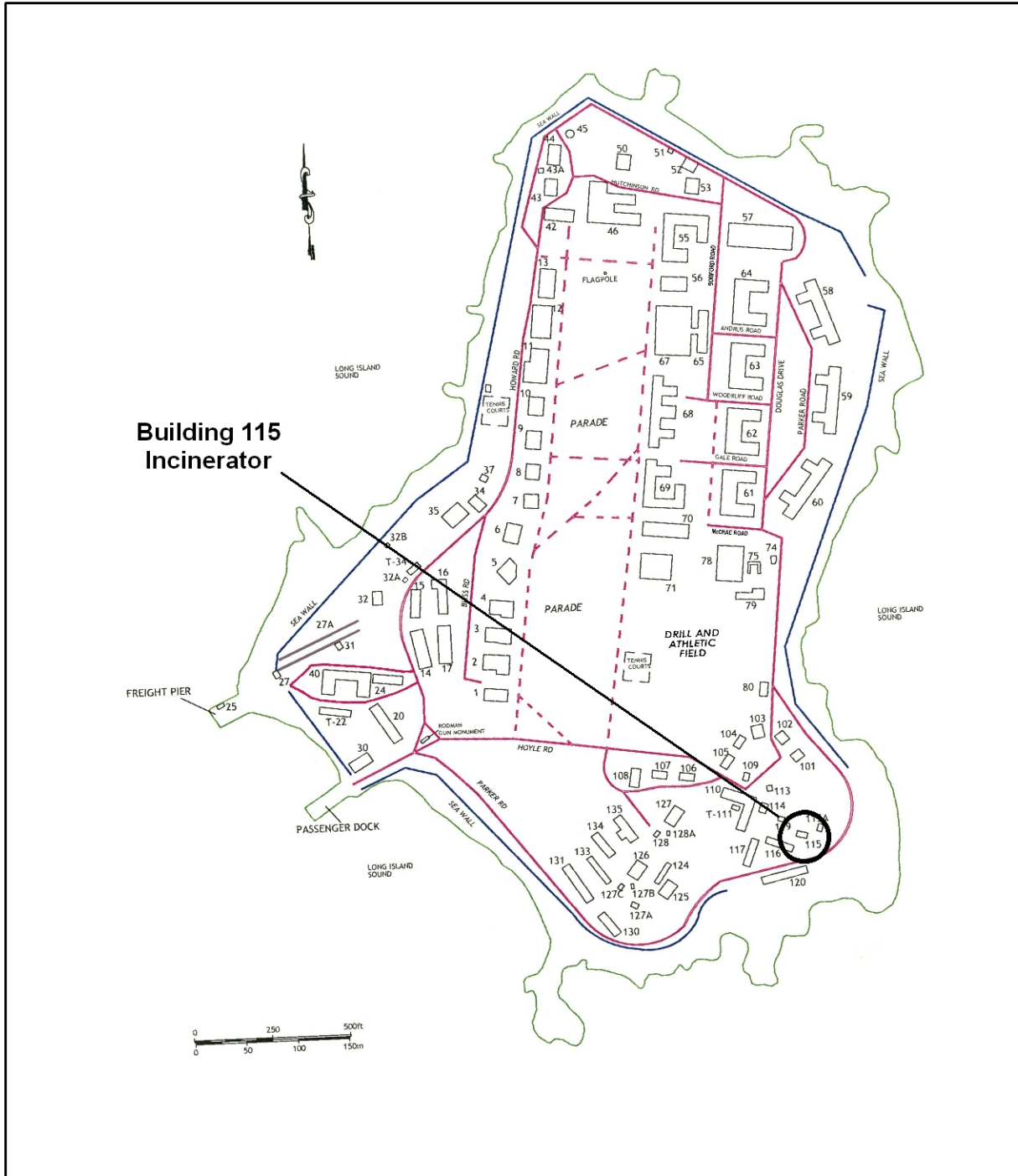
**INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)
DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**
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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)
Scale: 1:24,000
1966 (Photorevised 1979)



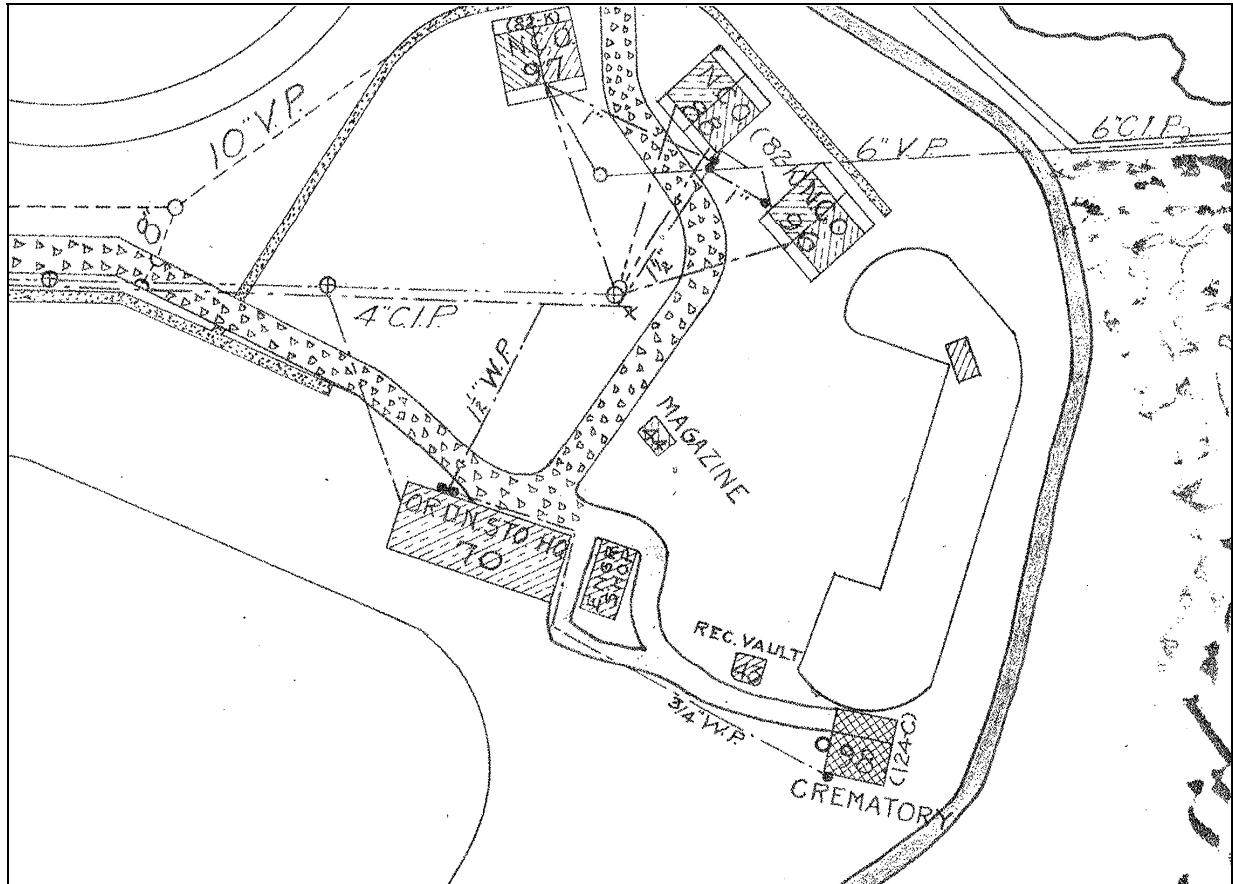
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SITE MAP



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Figure 1. "Map of Fort Slocum New York," 1915, detail. North is to the top of the page. The incinerator is depicted at lower right, labeled as "Crematory" and designated Building 98. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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Figure 2. Inventory photo, probably mid-1930s. View north-northeast. Record Group 111, National Archives, College Park, MD.



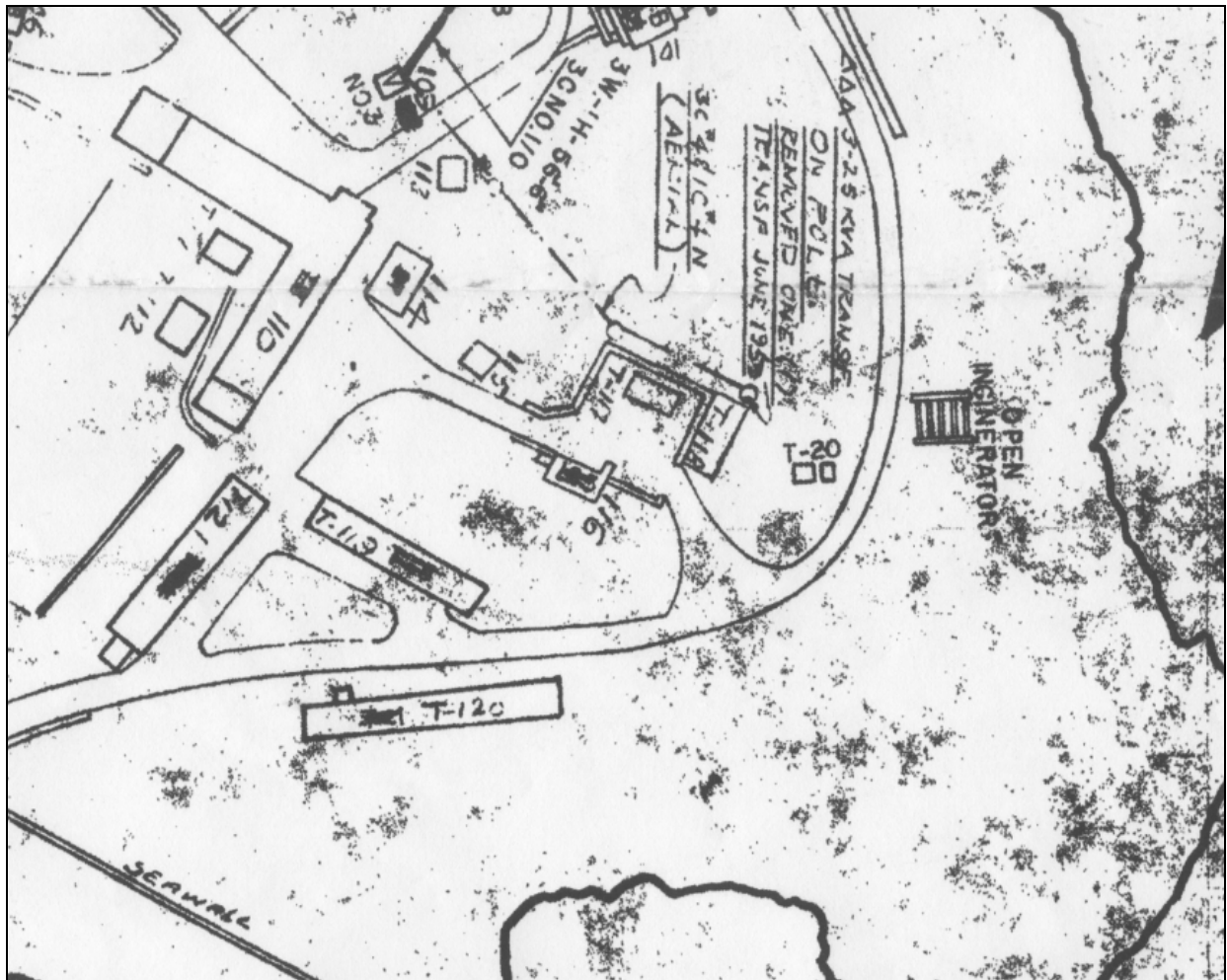
**INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)
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Figure 3. Property Record photo, July 1940. View east. Record Group 77, National Archives, College Park, MD.



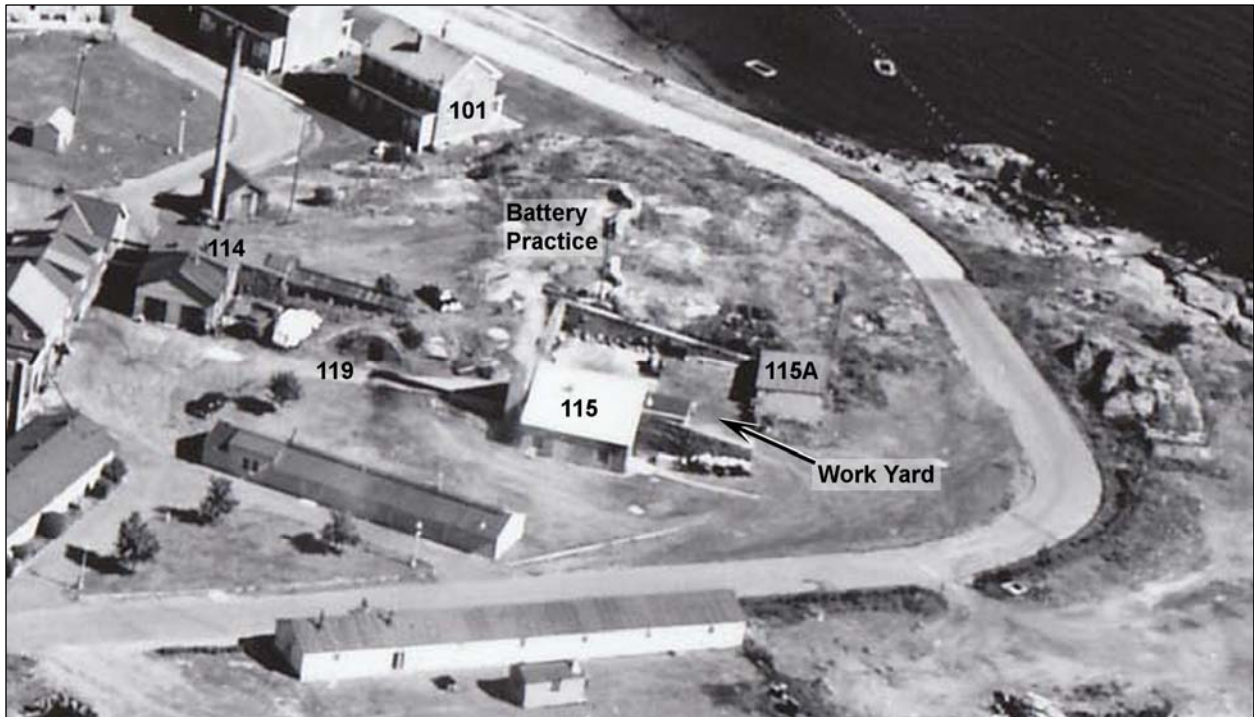
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Figure 5. "Fort Slocum, New Rochelle, N.Y., Electric Distribution System Primary Lines." May 1949, revised through November 1957, detail. Building 115 is labeled as Building 116. Building 115A above and to the right (northeast) of "Building 116" is labeled as Building T-118. No information is available about the structure in the Incinerator work yard labeled T-118, nor is anything known about the structure identified as T-20 to the right (east) of "T-118." The open incinerator is shown on the eastern side of Parker Road. North is to the top of the page. Office of Post Engineer, Fort Slocum; copy on file at Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Morris Plains, NJ.



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Figure 6. High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, ca. 1958, detail. View north. Building 115 is at the center of the image. Labels have been added to this copy of the image to identify selected buildings and structures in the vicinity of the Incinerator (Building 115). Original from Record Group 291, National Archives, New York, NY; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

INCINERATOR (BUILDING 115)

Davids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005.

1. Incinerator chimney, facing east-northeast.
2. Northern façade of building as viewed from work yard, facing south.
3. Charging deck, detail showing two of three charging holes, facing southeast.
4. Building interior, stoking floor, showing incinerator with brick housing reinforced by a steel frame, facing northwest.
5. Building interior, stoking floor, showing stoking and ash doors, facing southeast.
6. Building interior, detail—stoking floor tool rack.

Photo 1. Incinerator chimney, facing east-northeast.



Photo 2. Northern façade of building as viewed from work yard, facing south.



Photo 3. Charging deck, detail showing two of three charging holes, facing southeast.



Photo 4. Building interior, stoking floor, showing incinerator with brick housing reinforced by a steel frame, facing northwest.

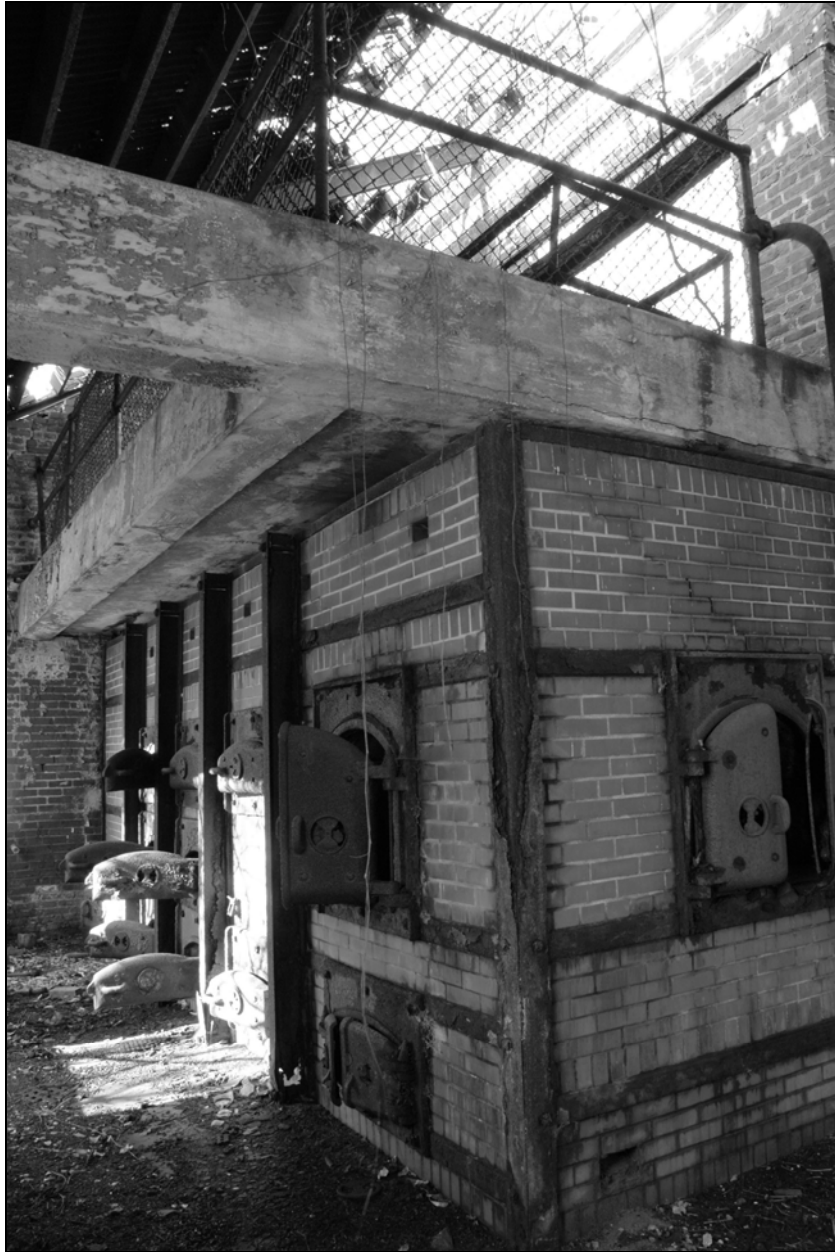


Photo 5. Building interior, stoking floor, showing stoking and ash doors, facing southeast.



Photo 6. Building interior, detail—stoking floor tool rack.



DAVIDS ISLAND – FORT SLOCUM HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

RECEIVING VAULT (BUILDING 119)

Location: Davids Island–Fort Slocum
0.6 mi southeast of New Rochelle, New York mainland
USGS Mount Vernon, NY Quadrangle
UTM Coordinate (NAD 1983): 18.603768.4526317

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

Date of Construction: ca. 1886

Architect/Engineer: U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

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

Significance: The Receiving Vault (Building 119) is situated in Fort Slocum’s Defense and Support Area and is related to the provision of mortuary services in support of Fort Slocum’s nineteenth- and 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: July 2007 (Revision 1, January 2010)

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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM
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PART I. DESCRIPTION

The Receiving Vault (Building 119) 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 the 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 119 is situated in the eastern section of the Defense and Support Area. This section of Fort Slocum is a functionally-mixed area that adjoins and includes the 1891-1897 coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, Buildings 125-127).

Building 119, the Receiving Vault, is situated between the Searchlight Powerhouse/Laundry Boiler Room (Building 114) and the Incinerator (Building 115) southeast of Hoyle Road. An overgrown gravel drive runs immediately in front of the structure. The drive connects Hoyle Road to the west with the Incinerator work yard to the east.

The Receiving Vault is a plain mortuary structure without stylistic embellishments (Figures 1-5; Photos 1-4). It consists of a brick chamber constructed at ground level and embedded in an earth mound. The chamber is square in plan and measures 9 by 9 feet on the interior. Its ceiling, or crown, is a segmental-arch vault that is also constructed of brick. The chamber faces south-southwest. The southern wall, where its entrance is located, is exposed, while its sides, rear, and crown are covered by earth. The earth around the chamber forms a low mound that grades into the ground to the rear. The ground behind the mound slopes down gently from a low hillock to the northeast where Battery Practice once stood. The mound, formerly covered in grass, is now occupied by early successional old-field vegetation. With its blanket of earth and exposed southern façade, the structure has a D-shaped footprint approximately 28 feet wide (east-west) by 18 feet deep (north-south). The crown of the brick chamber is covered by a layer of earth estimated to be 1 to 2 feet thick. The sides and rear of the chamber are enclosed by a layer of earth up to several feet thick. It is in fair condition overall and appears to be structurally sound; however, its door has been pulled from its hinges and shoved out of the way.

The plain brick face of the exposed southern façade reflects the shape of the chamber's crown, stepping up from slate-capped buttresses at the outside corners to a gracefully curving segmental arch at the top. It is unknown whether the buttresses extend along the exterior of the chamber for its full length. The arch is capped by bricks laid in a soldier course topped by a rowlock course. The building's entrance is centered in the southern façade and consists of a large segmental arch opening with a single-leaf, vertical-plank door in a wood surround. Historic photographs show that the door was hung on large strap hinges. The receiving vault does not have windows but two gaps flanking the ends of the door header appear to have been intentionally left to provide ventilation. A pair of S-shaped tie-rod anchors flank the door near the outside edges of the façade.

The interior of the chamber is plain. The floor is concrete, and the walls are brick, which were painted white during some period of the structure's history. The rear wall is laid in stretcher bond, with the bricks of the upper courses trimmed as necessary to accommodate the ceiling vault. The side wall walls rise vertically from the floor to a height of approximately 6 feet, from which springs the segmental arch of the ceiling vault. There are pairs of openings in the side walls at heights of approximately 18 and 45 inches

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above the floor. Boards were probably placed across the width of the chamber between the notches as racks to hold coffins. A large iron pin extends from each upper notch in the eastern wall; such pins, probably supports for the rack boards, are missing from the other sets of notches. According to the Quartermaster Corps property card for this structure, the Receiving Vault had a capacity of "four bodies." Three evenly-spaced, small-diameter iron tie rods span the width of the chamber, originating in the limbs of the arch about 3 inches above the spring line. The tie rods appear to be intended to strengthen the vault by resisting the thrust created by the weight of the arch and overlying earth.

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

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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.

Receiving Vault (Building 119)

Building 119 is one of ten numbered and inventoried structures and buildings in the eastern part of Fort Slocum's Defense and Support Area. Historical analysis of the area as a whole indicates that it was a functionally-mixed zone containing weapons-related, light-industrial, and utility-infrastructure activities, as well as other functions that generally needed a degree of isolation from the rest of the post (Tetra Tech 2008). The functional area occupies the southeastern section of Davids Island and is centered on the 2.9-acre coastal artillery Mortar Battery (Battery Haskin-Overton, also designated as Buildings 125, 126, and 127). The battery was built between 1891 and 1897 and was operational until 1906.

This section of Davids Island was first occupied by the quarters for the post's military band during the Civil War. The band quarters were abandoned soon after the war's end, and the area lay undeveloped for the next two decades. Construction in the mid-1880s of a receiving vault (Building 119) and nearby magazine (later used as a blacksmith shop, Building 113) marked the start of a new wave of development in this section of the post. Development of the area intensified in the 1890s after the Army commenced building the Mortar Battery to the west, which was soon followed by Battery Practice and Building 110 (Ordnance Storehouse/Laundry) in the vicinity of the Receiving Vault. Development continued nearby in the first decade of the twentieth century with the construction of Buildings 114 and 115, followed later in the century by several temporary structures and additions to some of the permanent buildings.

Receiving vaults, also known as receiving tombs and public vaults, were widely constructed in American cemeteries from the early part of the nineteenth century until about the 1940s. Their purpose was to provide a place for the temporary storage of the deceased until a permanent grave could be obtained and opened or until a mausoleum or tomb could be built. Changing mortuary fashions—resulting in the construction of few new family mausoleums—and the introduction of mobile mechanical excavators—allowing the excavation of graves even in frigid weather—led to the decline in the use of receiving vaults after the middle of the twentieth century. Architecturally, receiving vaults ranged from plain structures set in inconspicuous spots within cemeteries to prominently-located, high-style structures, sometimes comprising part of a cemetery chapel (Veit and Nonestied 2008:107-110).

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No historical overview of the development of receiving vaults on U.S. Army posts is available. The partial inventory and historical context study of standardized building plans of the Quartermaster Corps prepared by Chattey et al. (1998) does not discuss this type of structure. Nonetheless, it seems likely that the Army began to install receiving vaults shortly after the Civil War. Several factors encouraged the Army's adoption of these structures. These included developing mortuary fashions of the civilian world, the growth of a network of national military cemeteries supervised by the Army's Quartermaster General, and the use of embalming methods and shipping coffins, which permitted the hygienic shipment of the remains of deceased persons from a place of death to a distant burial ground (Anders 1988).

The existence of a small post cemetery near the northern end of Davids Island is documented by maps dating from the 1870s and early 1880s. The cemetery was probably established during the Civil War when the island was the site of DeCamp General Hospital, but it is not depicted on any map earlier than 1878, where it is identified as the "Old Cem" (Fisk 1878). Records in the National Archives show that the cemetery was closed in January 1887 after the remains of approximately 59 people buried there were disinterred and relocated to Cypress Hills National Cemetery in Brooklyn (Historical Perspectives 1985:38-39). The area formerly occupied by the cemetery was incorporated into the developing Barracks Area in the northeastern quadrant of the island, and in 1889 Building 55 was built immediately northeast of the former cemetery.

Plans to close the island's cemetery evidently led to the construction of the Receiving Vault in 1885 or 1886. The date of construction has not been established with certainty, but it was apparently built around the same time as the nearby Magazine/Blacksmith Shop (Building 113, completed in 1885). While the Quartermaster Corps property card for the Receiving Vault, prepared in ca. 1939, lists 1878 as its date of construction (Figure 3), this information seems to be in error. Neither the Magazine nor the Receiving Vault appears on any map of the post from 1884 or earlier, but both are depicted on maps from 1888 and later. (No pertinent maps of the post are available for the years 1885-1887.) It was around this time that the New York Depot Quartermaster began to advertise for the services of an undertaker to transport "the remains of the soldiers who may die at the Military Post of David's Island" from the East River at Long Island City, where the body would be brought by government boat, to Cypress Hills Cemetery, about 7 miles away (New York Times 1886, 1887a).¹ The earliest known example of a request for bids for these services appeared in May 1886, making it likely that the receiving vault was available for use by around this date. The disinterment of those buried in the Davids Island post cemetery and its closure in January 1887 provides a reliable *terminus ante quem* for the construction of the Receiving Vault.

The architect of the Receiving Vault is unknown. Available historical records do not indicate use of a standardized plan from the Office of the Quartermaster General (e.g., Smith 1915). The structure was erected during the tenure of Capt. George H. Cook as the post's quartermaster. Capt. Cook played a leading role in the design of the first three brick barracks and the Mess Hall at the post (Buildings 55 and 67-69), so he certainly had the skills and interest to have designed this small utilitarian structure.

The Receiving Vault was used for the temporary storage of coffins containing the remains of persons who died at the post until they could be shipped elsewhere for burial. Presumably bodies were first transferred

¹The contract for 1887-1888 was awarded to McAdams & Duane of 213 East Broadway, New York City, who charged \$7 per hearse to carry the remains and \$5 per carriage to transport those who "must necessarily accompany the remains" (New York Times 1887a, 1887b). It is not known who received the contract for 1886-1887.

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DAVIDS ISLAND-FORT SLOCUM**

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to the post's hospital morgue, originally a separate structure known as the "dead house" (demolished in ca. 1898) located behind the main hospital building. An Army surgeon would likely have examined the deceased and perhaps prepared the body for burial. The surgeon would then probably have turned the body over to the post quartermaster, whose responsibilities included mortuary affairs. The body in its coffin would have been moved to the receiving vault pending completion of arrangements for transportation and burial at Cypress Hills or elsewhere.

When newly constructed, the Receiving Vault was probably used once to several times a year. An unsystematic review of newspaper accounts reveals that in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, deaths at the post from mishap or illness were an occasional but not entirely unfamiliar event. Use of the Receiving Vault probably declined in the 1940s with the Army's complete adoption of motor vehicles and the assignment of a ferry capable of transporting cars and trucks to regular service at the post. In any event, the small size, shallow depth, and southerly exposure of the vault suggest that delays in removal of the deceased from the island were normally brief.

Until 1892, the Receiving Vault was designated as Building 49. From 1893 until 1940, it was identified as Building 43. It was again renumbered in 1941, this time as Building 124. In the last years of the post, from 1957 to 1965, it was designated as Building 115. By the time the first historic architectural report of the island was produced in the mid-1980s (Berger 1986), the Receiving Vault had become known as Building 119.

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- 1886 "Proposals" [for the transportation of the remains of soldiers in 1886-1887]. May 31:7.
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- 1897b "City and Suburban News—New York." June 16:3.

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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.

July 1878 "Map of Davids' [sic] Island, N.Y.H., Alias Davenports I. Surveyed and drawn under the direction of Maj. Henry L. Abbot, Corps of Eng'rs." Prepared by Walter L. Fisk, 2nd Lieut. of Engrs. Record Group 77, 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.

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September 1884 "Map Showing Lines of Water Pipes of Proposed Water Works at Davids Island N.Y.H., Sept. 27th, 1884." Inscribed "U.S. Eng'r. Office, New York City, Jan'y. 15th, 1885, to accompany letter of this date." Signed by G.L. Gillespie, Maj. Of Eng'rs. Bvt. Lieut. Col. Record Group 77, 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.

ca. 1889 "Plan of Davids Island, New York." No supervisor or preparer indicated. On file at 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.

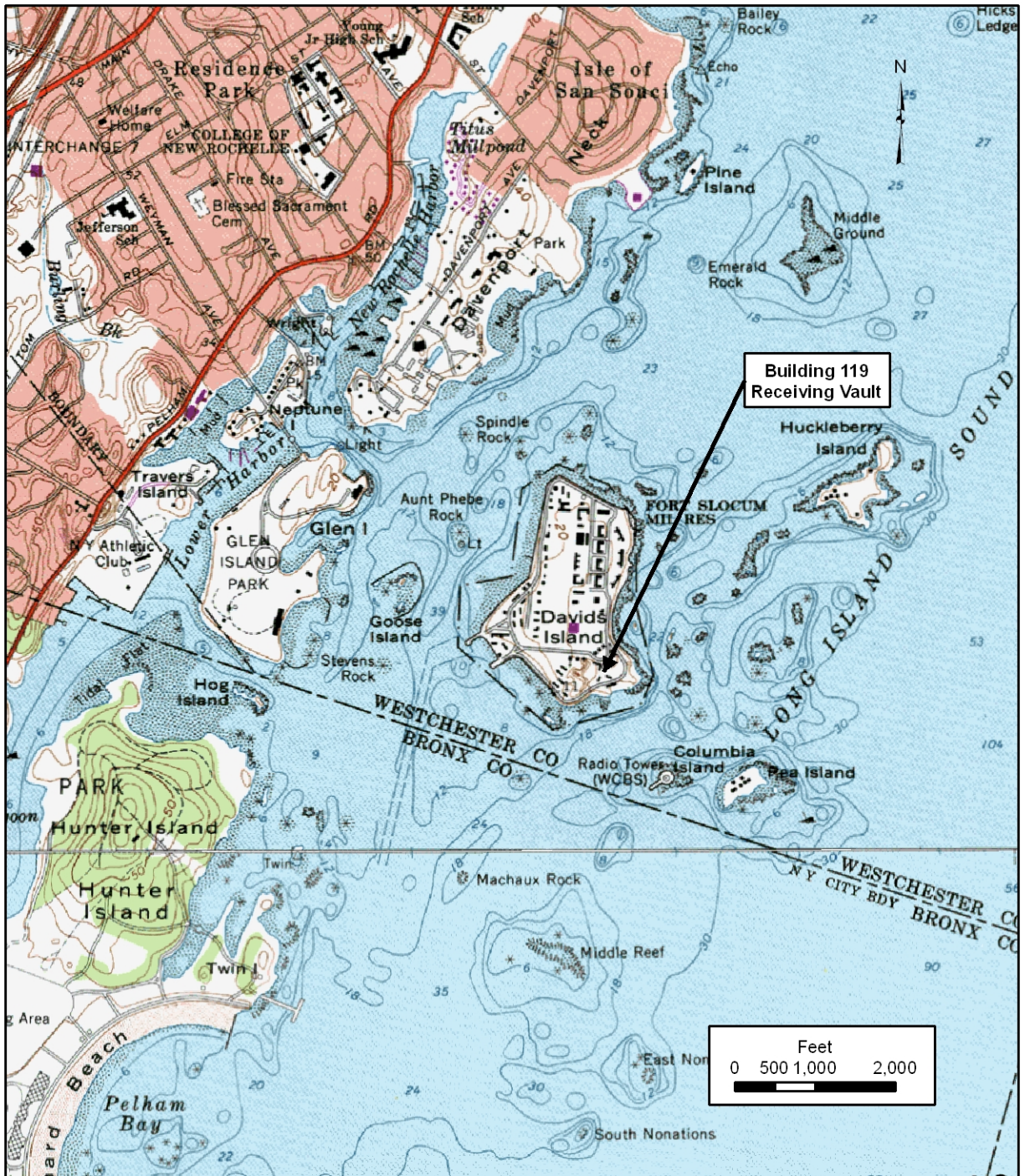
July 1915 "Map of Fort Slocum, New York." Made by Direction of F.E. Smith, Capt. & Quartermaster. Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.

Aerial Photograph

ca. 1958: High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island. View north. Summer. Included in a 1966 report prepared by Cross & Brown Co., New York, for the Federal Property Resources Service, on file at the New York City branch of the National Archives, Record Group 291. Digital copy provided courtesy of the Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

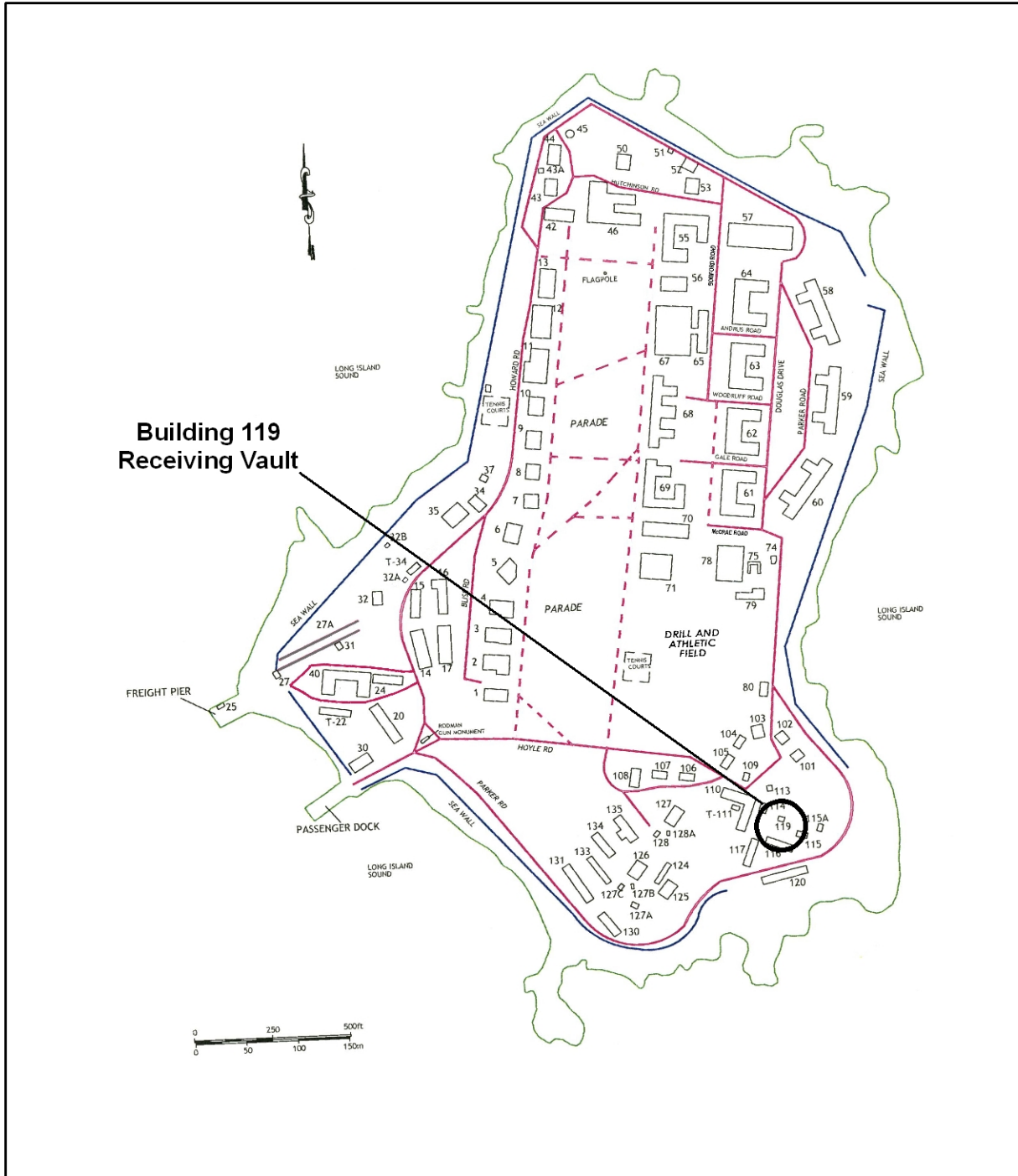
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LOCATION MAP (USGS Mount Vernon, NY)
Scale: 1:24,000
1966 (Photorevised 1979)



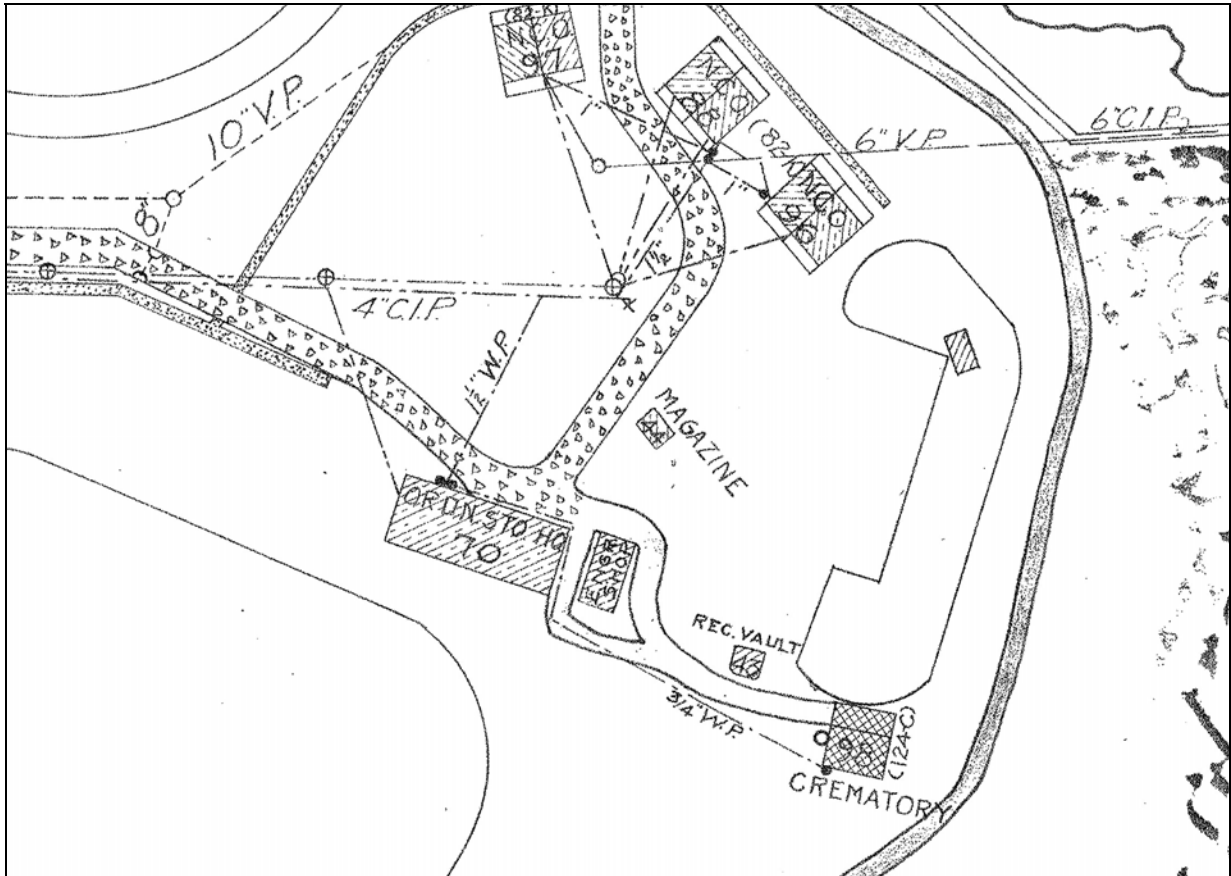
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SITE MAP



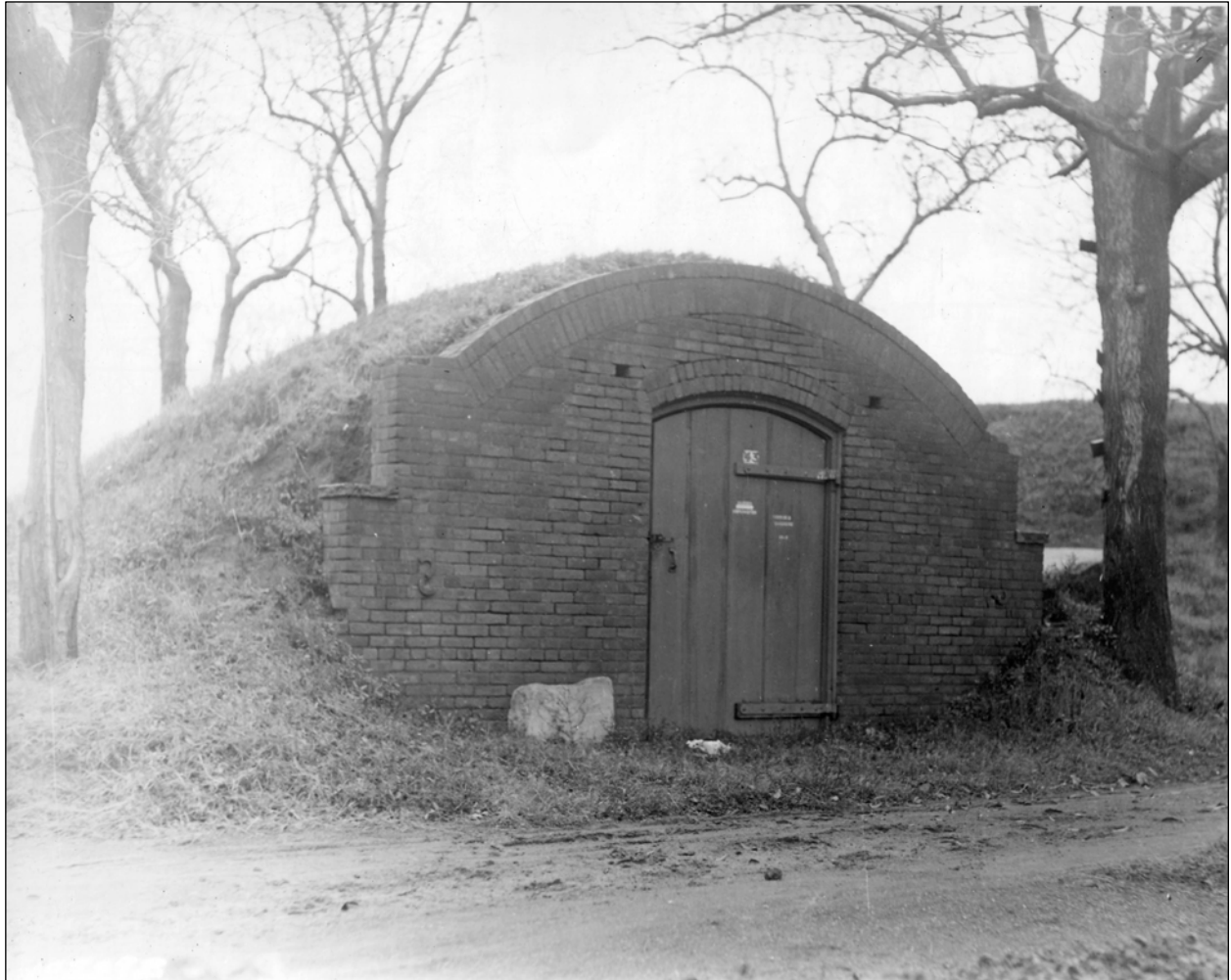
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Figure 1. "Map of Fort Slocum New York," 1915, detail. The Receiving Vault is located at the lower right and is labeled "Rec. Vault, 43." Record Group 92, National Archives, College Park, MD.



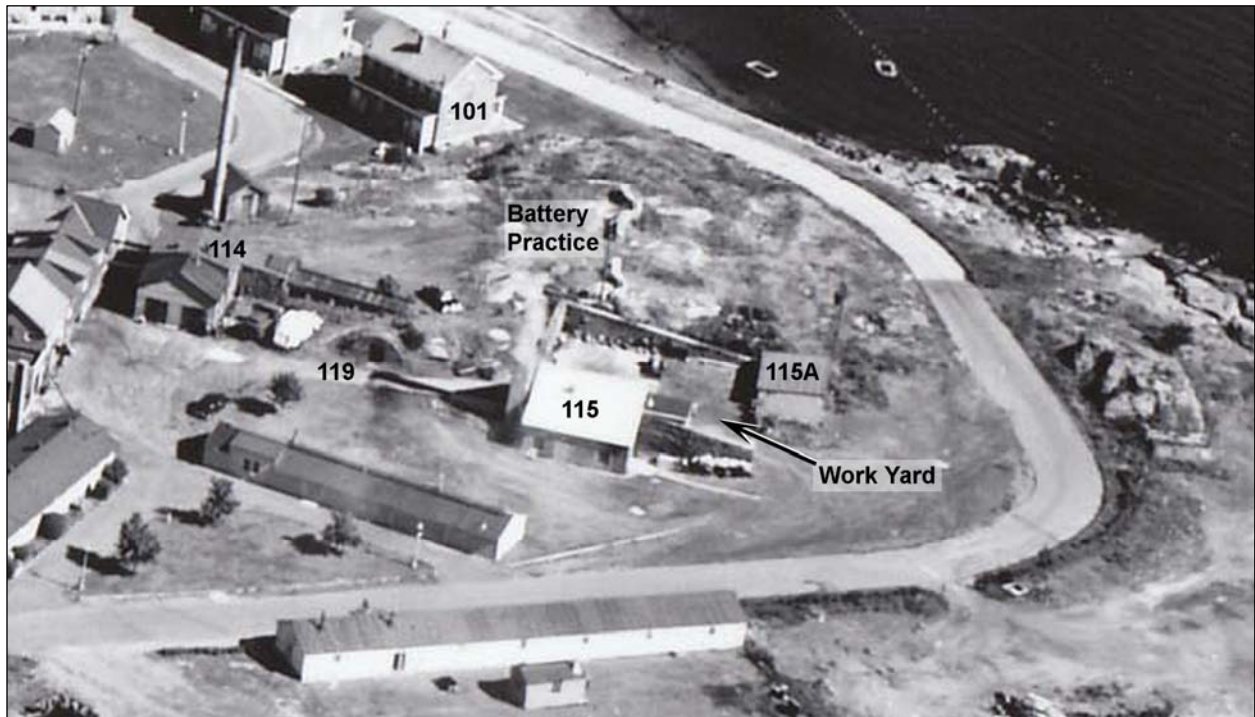
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Figure 2. Inventory photo, probably mid-1930s. View northeast. Record Group 111, National Archives, College Park, MD.



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Figure 5. High angle oblique aerial photograph of Davids Island, ca. 1958, detail. View north. Building 119 is to left of center of the image. Labels have been added to this copy of the image to identify selected buildings and structures in the vicinity. Original from Record Group 291, National Archives, New York, NY; digital copy from Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael A. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.



HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

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Davids Island—Fort Slocum

New Rochelle

Westchester County

New York

Photographer: Matt Kierstead, PAL Inc., Pawtucket, RI, November 2005.

1. Southern façade, facing southeast.
2. Southern façade, detail of S-shaped tie-rod anchor.
3. Southern façade, showing entrance and view into interior, facing southeast.
4. Interior, showing slots in wall for wooden shelves. View to northeast.

Photo 1. Southern façade, facing southeast.



Photo 2. Southern façade, detail of S-shaped tie-rod anchor.



Photo 3. Southern façade, showing entrance and view into interior, facing southeast.



Photo 4. Interior, showing slots in wall for wooden shelves. View to northeast.

