

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

000-5  
VLR 6/19/73  
NRHP 11/28/72  
NHL 11/28/72

The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

Quarters 1, Grant Avenue, Fort Myer Historic District,  
Arlington County, Virginia

From the standpoint of historical significance, the outstanding group of officers' quarters in America is that on Grant Avenue, at the entrance to the original Fort Myer. The group consists of six large residences, with a vista of the Potomac and Washington to the east. Quarters 1 on "Generals' Row," the home of the Army Chief of Staff, is located at the north end of the street.

Quarters 1 was completed in May 1899, and, since 1910, when General Leonard Wood first occupied it, the dwelling has been the home of all the Chiefs of Staff. Its occupants have included Douglas MacArthur, George C. Marshall, Dwight D. Eisenhower and William Westmoreland.

Little changed since its construction, the house is a brick, two-and-one-half storied dwelling. It contains 21 rooms with the interior changes superficial rather than structural. The dwelling is not open to the public.

\* \* \* \* \*

NSHSB: 11/3/72  
R S.G

Quarters 1 Washington Avenue

Fort Myer

1. General Description: Quarters 1 is a three-story, brick structure originally built in 1899. It faces southeast overlooking Washington. The gross floor space amounts to 10,111 square feet. The first floor of approximately 3,245 square feet contains reception hall, living room with fireplace, library with fireplace and 1/2 bath, dining room, one breakfast room adjacent to dining room, powder room, kitchen, pantry, storage room and office. The second floor consisting of approximately 2,855 square feet contains two master bedrooms each with full bath, one small bedroom with full bath, five closets, one sitting room (sunporch) and two studies. The third floor with approximately 2,855 square feet contains three bedrooms, two baths, five closets and two storage rooms. The basement of approximately 1,156 square feet contains one Orderly's dressing room, 1/2 bath with shower, one kitchen, laundry room, two storage rooms and utility room. These quarters also contain an automatic self-service elevator, three car garage, front flagstone patio and rear patio with barbecue pit. Heating is provided by an automatic oil-fired hot water system.

2. Installed property:

a. Air conditioner:

Central None

Room 14

Kitchen 2

Library 1

Living Room 1

Study 1

2nd Floor Sitting room 2

2nd Floor Bedrooms 5

3rd Floor Bedrooms 2

Other: 1 - 5 Ton Unit - Dining Room

*1954-76*  
*2004 23*  
*in 2nd floor*  
*in 3rd floor*  
*in 4th floor*

*1 only*

b. Wall-to-Wall carpeting: (First Floor)

	<u>Condition</u>
Living Room <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Dining Room <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Other: Remainder of Living Area	<u>good</u>

b.(1) Wall-to-Wall carpeting: (Second Floor)

	<u>Condition</u>
Bedrooms <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Studies <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Other: Sitting Room (Sunporch)	<u>good</u>

c. Drapes: (First Floor)

	<u>Condition</u>
Living Room <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Dining Room <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Other: Remainder of Living Area	<u>good</u>

c.(1) Drapes: (Second Floor)

	<u>Condition</u>
Bedroom <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Studies <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Other: Sitting Room (Sunporch)	<u>good</u>

d. Stoves 3

e. Refrigerators 5      3 - 12 cu ft  
   1 - 8 cu ft  
   1 - 20 cu ft

f. Freezers 3              2 - 12 cu ft  
   1 - 14 cu ft

g. Dishwasher 1

h. Other: Garbage Disposal - 1 Eye Level Oven

3. General Condition and Programmed Improvements: These quarters were last completely renovated in 1953. A complete survey of post Quarters is now being made to determine overall improvements required. This study, when completed, will be the basis for submitting a Long Range Family Housing Improvement Program tentatively in FY 70 MCA Program.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

6 SEP 1973

Mr. Ronald H. Walker  
Director  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Walker:

As the owner of Quarters 1, Fort Myer, Virginia, located in Arlington, Virginia, we hereby make formal application for a certificate and a bronze plaque, 17" x 18", designating this historic property a national historic landmark.

Fully conscious of the high responsibility to the Nation that goes with the ownership and care of a property classified as having national significance and worthy of national historic landmark status, we agree to preserve, so far as practicable and to the best of our ability, the historical integrity of this important part of the national cultural heritage.

Toward this end, we agree to continue to use the property only for purposes consistent with its historical character.

We agree to permit an annual visit to the property by a representative of the National Park Service, as a basis for continuing landmark status.

If, for any reason, the three conditions mentioned above cannot continue to be met, it is agreed that the national historic landmark status shall cease and that until such status is restored by the Secretary of the Interior, neither the national historic landmark certificate nor the plaque will be displayed.

Mr. Ronald H. Walker

It would be appreciated if the certificate and plaque were delivered to the Facilities Engineer, Fort Myer, Arlington, Virginia 22211.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. L. T. Koren", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Henry L. T. Koren  
Deputy Under Secretary of the Army

## Mantels from West Pt. in Quarters No. 1, Ft. Myer

These two fireplace mantels were removed from Rooms Nos. 733 and 741 in the 7th Division, in the oldest portion of Central Barracks, built 1845-51. The 7th Division, 8th Division and the 8-1/2 Division of the old barracks were originally designed as officers' quarters. In 1879, the Board of Visitors reported: "Several of the rooms are necessarily assigned to assistant instructors in tactics. Other officers are quartered in the cadet barracks by reason of the insufficiency of quarters for them elsewhere at the post. Such occupancy has been allowed for over thirty years." In 1882, the Board noted: "Of these (cadet rooms) there are twenty-two in use by officers (one married, with servants and children), an objectionable arrangement \* \* \*"

These rooms in the 7th, 8th and 8-1/2 Divisions had marble fireplace mantels and cast iron inserts to accommodate grates, as contrasted with iron fireplace mantels (instead of marble) in the other divisions, occupied by cadets. Some of these will be used to restore typical rooms in the 1st Division, which will be retained. The 1st Division is the historic division containing the rooms occupied by John J. Pershing, Douglas Mac Arthur and other illustrious sons of West Point. With the exception of these rooms in the 1st Division and the five rooms in North Barracks occupied by Cadet Dwight D. Eisenhower during his cadet years, the USMA archives contain no record of room occupancy by distinguished graduates. Therefore, there is no record of the occupancy of Rooms Nos. 733 and 741.

To: Mr. Sheeley

MAR 18 1974

334-NCP(SHEE)

Honorable Henry L. T. Koren  
Deputy Under Secretary of the Army  
Department of the Army  
Washington, D. C. 20310

Dear Mr. Koren:

We are pleased to inform you that the plaques designating Fort Myer Historic District and Quarters 1 as National Historic Landmarks have been received and the certificates have been signed by the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior.

Since our last correspondence with you in September 1973, administration of the landmark program in the Washington metropolitan area has been transferred from our Northeast Regional Office in Philadelphia to this office. We would be happy to work with you in planning dedication ceremonies if you so desire. I would appreciate it if the staff members assigned to develop dedication plans for the Department would contact Mr. Poch Comstock, Chief, Branch of Interpretation, National Capital Parks, to discuss such plans. He is coordinator of the landmark program here and may be reached by calling 426-6957.

We were indeed happy to learn that you have accepted the landmark designation for this building, and look forward to working with you on the dedication of these historic properties of national significance.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Manus J. Fish, Jr.

Director, National Capital Parks

cc:

NCP Surname and NCP File

WJE File

Director, NCP

Mr. Fiskburne, Va. State Historic Preservation Officer

Mr. Sheeley, NCP

Mr. Gamble, WASO  
Superintendent, GEMP

Mr. Lamb, NCP

Mr. Comstock, NCP

RComstock/nerd/3-14-74

HJ Sheely 7/11/73

H3417-PHH

SEP 18 1973

Honorable Henry L. T. Koren  
Deputy Under Secretary of the  
Army  
Department of the Army  
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Mr. Koren:

Thank you for your applications of September 6 requesting the certificates and plaques designating Fort Myer Historic District and Quarters 1 as national historic landmarks. We are proceeding with the preparation of the certificates and plaques.

Our Northeast Regional Office administers the National Historic Landmarks Program in Virginia. The Regional Director of the Region will inform you when the certificates and plaques for Fort Myer Historic District and Quarters 1 have been completed. Should you wish the help of the Service in arranging ceremonies for the presentation, he will be glad to assist you. His name and address is: Mr. Chester L. Brooks, Regional Director, Northeast Regional Office, National Park Service, 143 South Third Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106.

We are pleased to know that you plan to accept designation as national historic landmarks for Fort Myer Historic District and Quarters 1.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Harry W. Pfanz

Harry W. Pfanz  
Acting Chief Historian

Enclosure

PHH:HJ Sheely:kr 9/17/73  
bcc: Regional Director, Northeast Region w/c application form  
LI

1 HP - Virginia - Fort Myer Historic District  
Quarters 1



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

FEB 14 1973

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service

Ronald H. Walker

is pleased to inform you that the historic property described briefly in the enclosure, has been found to possess national significance in commemorating the history of the United States, and is thus eligible for designation as a national historic landmark.

The purpose of landmark designation is to identify and recognize nationally significant sites and to encourage their owners to preserve them. Eligible landmarks are chosen through studies prepared by the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings; evaluated by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments; and approved by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935.

As explained in the enclosed leaflet, recognition and designation of landmark sites are accorded by certificates and bronze plaques, which are provided free of charge to the owners or administrators of these properties upon their application and agreement to adhere to simple preservation practices. If you wish to apply for the certificate and plaque, copies of the application form are enclosed. The form should be completed in triplicate and two copies returned to the National Park Service. You may retain the third copy for your records.

Designation as a national historic landmark automatically places the property on the National Register of Historic Places. Under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, entry on the National Register provides each landmark with safeguards against damage by Federal undertakings and fulfills one qualification for participation in a grant-in-aid program to assist in its preservation. Further information about these provisions of the law is contained in a leaflet describing the National Register that is also enclosed.

We will be pleased to include this property among the sites already recognized as national historic landmarks.

*Green*

Fort Myer Historic District, Va.  
Quarters 1, Va.

Honorable Robert F. Froehle  
Secretary of Army  
Washington, D.C. 20310

bcc: Director, Northeast Region  
PHHS-Mr. Sheely

FNP:HJ Sheely:kr 1/31/73



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JAN 29 1973

## NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

I am pleased to inform you that the historic properties in your State described in the enclosed news release have been found to possess national significance in commemorating the history of the United States. I have, therefore, declared them eligible to be national historic landmarks, following recommendation of such action by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments. I believe this action will be of interest to you and your constituents.

Also enclosed, please find brochures explaining in detail the historic preservation programs of the National Park Service. You will note that recognition as a national historic landmark automatically places a property on the National Register of Historic Places and extends to it the safeguards provided by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Further, the owner of each property is eligible to receive, upon request, a certificate and plaque officially designating it as a national landmark. The Director of the National Park Service shortly will notify the owners of this action and provide them with the appropriate application forms.

The owners of these properties are to be commended for preserving these significant examples of our Nation's cultural heritage for the education and enjoyment of all our citizens.

*Rogers C. B. Morton*

Secretary of the Interior

Enclosures

bcc: Director, Northeast Region  
PHHS-Mr. Sheely

FNP:HJ Sheely:kr 1/22/73

Honorable William L. Scott  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Fort Myer Historic District, Virginia  
Quarters 1, Virginia



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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JAN 29 1973

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*Rogers C. B. Morton*  
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosures

bcc: Director, Northeast Region  
PHHS-Mr. Sheely

FNP:HJ Sheely:kr 1/22/73

Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr.  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Fort Myer Historic District  
Quarters 1



Fort Myer Historic District  
 Arlington, Virginia  
 Washington West, D.C.-Md.-Va. Quad.  
 U.S.G.S. 7.5' Series

	Long.	Lat.	
NE	77° 04' 42"	38° 53' 14"	18-319760-4306120
NW	77° 05' 06"	38° 53' 14"	18-319760-4305146
SE	77° 04' 42"	38° 52' 44"	18-319180-4305170
SW	77° 05' 06"	38° 52' 44"	18-319160-4306075