United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property
   historic name  Quarters 17
   other names/site number Building 17, Lee's Quarters, Tuileries, DHR – DSS File # 114-0002-0005

2. Location
   street & number 41A, 41B, 47A, 47B Bernard Road
   city or town Fort Monroe
   state Virginia  code 51  county Hampton (Ind. City)  code 650  zip code 23651

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

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

   X  state/local

Signature of certifying official  
Title  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official  
Date  
Title  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper  
Date of Action
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

   national _____ statewide ___ local

   Signature of certifying official ____________________________ Date ____________
   Title ____________________________

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

   Signature of commenting official ____________________________ Date ____________
   Title ____________________________

4. National Park Service Certification
   I hereby certify that this property is:

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

   Signature of the Keeper ____________________________ Date of Action ____________

   Signature of the Keeper ____________________________ Date of Action ____________
4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- [ ] entered in the National Register
- [ ] determined not eligible for the National Register
- [ ] other (explain:)

__ Signature of the Keeper __ Date of Action __

3/28/2011

5. Classification

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

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Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

See Continuation Sheets

Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheets
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- [ ] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- [ ] A owed by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance

1823-1907

Significant Dates

1823 (Completion Date)
1907 (Renovation)

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Simon Bernard
Col. (Brevet Brigadier General) Charles Gratiot

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance, 1823-1907, corresponds to the time in which Quarters 17 served as a residence and the period in which it was associated important architectural trends and military history.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A
Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

See Continuation Sheets

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

See Continuation Sheets

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

9. Major Bibliographical References (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

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Name of repository:
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  Less than 1 acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

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

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</table>

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

See attached scaled map

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The current boundaries associated with Quarters 17 enclose all historic resources associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Katherine D. Klepper
Organization  J.M. Waller, Inc.
street & number  318 Cornog Lane, Building 28
city or town  Fort Monroe
e-mail  katherine.klepper@us.army.mil

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
Photographs:
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Property: Quarters 17
City: Fort Monroe, Hampton
State: Virginia

Photographer: Katherine Klepper
Date Photographed: November 2009

Photo 1 of 4: Southeast Oblique
Photo 2 of 4: Main Living Room
Photo 3 of 4: Central Stair
Photo 4 of 4: French Doors to Porch

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

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

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

Constructed in 1823, Quarters 17 was constructed as multiple quarters for junior officers, and is one of two identical four-family brick officer’s quarters known as the Tuileries. Sited facing the casemates in the western wall of the fortification, the building faces southwest on Bernard Road. The earliest drawings, dated in 1824, show this building with a one-story porch above the exposed basement along the first-story front façade that was reached by a curving stairway. In 1907, the building was renovated and the existing two-tiered Tuscan-columned porch was added. During this restoration the main entrances were relocated to the gable ends of the building, and side porches and straight stairways were added.

Narrative Description

The permanent military occupation of Fort Monroe in the early nineteenth-century reflected the changing political climate, as well as advances in architectural and military technology. The stately architecture of Quarters 17 stands within the boundaries of the largest defensive structures in the United States. Designed as the first Third System fort in America, Fort Monroe covers approximately sixty-three acres of ground. The implementation of the Third System fortification represented an important shift in defensive fortification strategy that focused on the construction of massive brick and stone forts built on the entrances to major American harbors between 1816 and 1867. This system of massive brick and stone fortifications evolved from the work of a Board of Engineers for Fortifications appointed by then President James Madison. Under the leadership of fortification expert Simon Bernard, the Third System type of seacoast defense was the most comprehensive, most uniform, and the most advanced the nation had yet to have. These main defensive works were often large structures, based on a combining of the Montalembert concept, with many guns concentrated in tall thick masonry walls, and the Vauban concept, with layers of low, protected masonry walls. Fort Monroe was built as a seven-front, brick and masonry fort with 10-foot thick walls and a wet moat of varying depth. The Fort was garrisoned 25 July 1823 and by 1825 the garrison was the largest in the United States.

Situated two blocks from the west entrance of the moat, Quarters 17 faces southwest and is located 2.8 miles east of downtown Hampton, Virginia in the Tidewater region of Virginia at the confluence of the James River and the Chesapeake Bay. Although land on Army posts is not divided into lots, the yard immediately surrounding the house is regularly shaped, bounded to the southwest by Bernard Road and on the south and west by two officers’, multi-family residences, forming one side of a wide avenue facing the Casemate museum. Mathews Lane runs behind the building on the northeast side of the officer’s quarters. Buildings 16, 17, and 18 are numbered from right to left when facing them and are referred to as the Tuileries, and buildings 17 and 18 appear from the exterior identical. An interesting drawing dated to November 1824 illustrated a proposal to join the Tuileries (Quarters 17 and 18) with a central building, however this design was never realized. Historic maps depict that several outbuildings once existed behind the Tuileries. In 1829, two large outbuildings were located behind 17 and 18 and two additional outbuildings are located at the rear corner of Quarters 17. Records of an 1886 map shows the four large outbuildings and identifies them as “outhouses;” unfortunately this drawing is no longer available in the Fort Monroe Public Works map room. The ca. 1820s outbuildings at the rear corners of Quarters 17 yard are both depicted as 12-foot square. One of these outhouses appears to have been replaced by 1886 and by 1896 the make-up of the rear-yard line appears to have changed with the old outbuildings along the rear-yard line having been replaced by newer buildings. Today all of the outbuildings depicted on the historic maps have been demolished, most likely during the Tuileries remodeling, garage construction and the construction of Mathews Lane.

Exterior

Situated within the western wall of the Fort Monroe moat fortification, Quarters 17 faces southwest on Bernard Road facing the historic casemates. The foundation for the residence was laid in 1823 before the walls of the fort were completed and by 1824 Quarters 17 is shown as a finished structure on the 1824 map. The exterior of Quarters 17 is a
federal style, two-story, six bay front, that is a rectangular block with rear ell, constructed of Flemish bond brick walls, resting upon a full raised brick foundation. As viewed today Quarters 17 is a three-story full façade front porch on both the first and second level. The roof, originally slate, is presently covered with composition shingles. The overall dimensions of the building are 65-feet by 37-feet 9-inches with a rear wing measuring 18-feet by 23-feet. The gables extended above the roof and are corbelled out, inset with stone, to form ornamental quarter-rondels facing the gutters. One large brick central chimney served all the fireplaces in the main structure, two for each residence, eight in total.

The building was designed to house eight bachelor officers and originally had a one-story porch on both southwest and northeast facades with a curved iron staircases that led from the ground floors to the living floors, which were raised one story above ground level. Today the existing front porches are two-storied and extend unbroken across the front of the building. These porches are supported by heavy brick piers rising from the ground to the second floor level, topped with round Tuscan columns exhibiting marked entasis. The third floor level porches were constructed most likely during the 1907 renovation. They are a duplication of the second floor level porch and columns. A 1904 photograph shows chinese chippendale balustrade on the second floor level porch railing, however, once the renovation was completed the balustrade changed to simple post and rail. There is no access to these porches from the exterior of the building and are reached through French doors from the apartment within. Entrances into the four apartments is accessed on the gable ends under side porches through a main door added at the time of the addition. Where the side porches now stand, covered cisterns stored rain water as it ran from the roofs. The two side porches are two-story at each gable end with square tapered chamfered wood posts, post and rail balustrades, straight concrete steps, metal railings.

The original entrance front doors on the first-story southwest façade are twelve-glass-light and paneled wood doors with three-light transoms. Four-over-four-light, double-hung sash windows, are present on the main level with two-over-two-light, double hung sash windows present on the ground level. All windows are fitted with stone slip sills and topped with flat jack arches of brick voussoirs, as are the doors. Original exterior shutters were removed, however historic photographs of the building show louvered blinds on most of the windows. Two “dog-house” dormers are present on the southwest and northeast roofs. Although the spacing of these dormers seems akward at first as they do not comply with the rules of strict symmetry, it may be that this placement interfered with the placement of the partitions around the stairs and the interior rooms. One 1979 report on the building hypothesizes that the “original plans included symmetrical dormers, but during construction it was found necessary to omit the end dormers, with no doubt, crusty carpenters formulating pithy comments about paperwork experts who wanted to anchor things in midair”. 7

Interior
The interior arrangements of these quarters have been realigned often over the years and although interior walls have not been moved, doorways were cut through or closed up with remarkable frequency. The building was divided into four apartments and remodeled extensively to keep with the standards of living and interior of the aparments have lost much of their historic architectural integrity. However, some original details do remain and these remaining elements are significant to the historic character of Quarters 17.

Each apartment enters from a main stair hall area into a main living room area that is located on the gable side of the building, from a central stairwell providing access to the two apartments on either side of the building. In each of the four apartments there is an original fireplace with original mantles and finely cut dentil ornament the architrave of the mantle which is cut into delicate molded edges. There are two identical fireplaces on each main floor above the basement level for each side of the building resulting in a total of eight fireplaces. One fireplace is located in the main living room, while the other is located in a secondary living room. This room has also functioned over the years as a bedroom and/or study. From this room one can gain access to the front porch, through a set of French doors. While many of the interior doors have been removed or replaced, most possessed doorsills made of oak. Many of the doors are wood with six recessed
panels with molded edges. The French doors to the porches retain their original hardware, with little lockboxes and brass latches.

From the original design of housing eight officers, alterations to accommodate four families involved changes to the stairwell accesses. Units 17A and 17B are located on the basement and first floors, respectively. Units 17C and D are located on the second floor and attic level, respectively. Originally these seem to have risen in straight flights from basement to attic. However, at some point, partitions were inserted and doorways were altered to make two non-communicating stairways on each side so as to serve the present arrangement of two apartments per side. This alteration helped define the building as four individual apartments, a change from the original design of a building that would house eight officers. Simple square newels and balusters support an oval mahogany rail defining an open string straight flight of stairs. The ends of each of the steps are ornamented with fine scrollwork reminiscent of the waves and water that are an integral part of Fort Monroe's landscape. From the stair case one would either go up or down to their addition living space depending upon the apartment. In apartments A and B one would go down the stairs and enter the basement level which has three rooms that could be used as bedrooms or storage spaces, a full bathroom, furnace room and a laundry room under the kitchen in the rear ell. In apartments C and D this second level of living would be in the attic space and has two rooms that could be utilized as bedrooms or storage and a full bathroom.
Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

As one of the earliest permanent officers’ quarters constructed at Fort Monroe, Quarters 17 is locally significant under criterion C and derives its significance from its age, its fine architectural character, and its context as it bounds Bernard road opposite of the Casemate Museum. While not the most famous residence associated with lieutenant Robert E. Lee, his presence on Fort Monroe and his residence in Quarters 17 from 1831 to 1834 is a well-documented period in the history of Fort Monroe. Built as one of the first permanent military housing structures on Fort Monroe, Quarters 17 also derives its significance from its importance as a prototype for other buildings constructed at Fort Monroe.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Historical Background

Quarters 17 is representative of one of only a few surviving antebellum buildings to remain at Fort Monroe. Although not constructed until 1823, Quarters 17 appears on the 1819 projected maps of Fort Monroe. Quarters 17 was built as quarters for the Constructing Engineers who began the construction of Fort Monroe. Like Quarters 1, the first permanent structure erected at Fort Monroe in 1819, Quarters 17 was constructed as a two story red brick dwelling. However, unlike Quarters 1, Quarters 17 possessed a full-façade, one-story porch on both the front and rear piano-nobile levels that was accessed by a gracefully curved stairs in its design. The building methods and design used for Quarters 17 became a prototype for the later buildings constructed at Fort Monroe. By 1843, Carroll Hall, a later bachelor officer quarters, demolished in 1900, and the hospital, demolished in 1855 shared many of the same characteristics. Similarities include a of buildings constructed using red brick and slate materials and on a rectangular form with porches running the full length of the façades. According to the 1987 Historic American Building Survey, the only variations involved the use of dormers, or the construction of buildings that were one and not two stories tall on an above ground basement. While these buildings do not survive they represent the beginning of a movement in the Army towards producing a large volume of standardized plans for a variety of facilities, including housing.

Architectural Significance

The Federal Period of development at Fort Monroe saw the creation of the fortification system, the establishment of the Artillery School of Practice and the construction of Quarters 17, a Federal style multi-family residence, characterized by a three story brick residence with strong classical influences. Quarters 17 stands as one of only four early sets of permanent quarters at Fort Monroe and an excellent example of nineteenth century permanent officers’ quarters constructed before the Corps of Engineers developed standardized housing plans. The thick walls, raised living floors, and “dog-house” dormers that adorn Quarters 17 are all a product of Southern architectural tradition. These architectural adaptations represent national ideals and create architectural symbols that affirm the identity, position and values of the United States Army during the nineteenth century.

From early in its history the Army accepted a commitment to provide government-owned housing for most of its officers and soldiers. Military housing was a subject of interest to Americans as early as the Revolution. The memory of the British illegally quartering troops in private homes led the framers of the Constitution to prohibit the practice under the Third Amendment. By implication, then, the government became obligated to provide housing for its soldiers. Unmarried, or at least "unaccompanied," soldiers lived in barracks, and officers in bachelor officers’ quarters. Throughout the nineteenth century congressional appropriations for construction of permanent quarters for officers and barracks for enlisted men were consistently small. Quarters 17, as part of the Tuileries set, was originally designed to serve as quarters for eight bachelor officers. However, its function quickly changed to house four officer families in separate apartment type spaces.
While Quarters 17 influenced the design of future buildings constructed at Fort Monroe, its own architectural influence looks to a French royal residence. Quarters 17 has always been referenced to as part of the Tuileries, after the Tuileries Palace in Paris. According to Weinert, the origin of the name “Tuileries” is unknown. However, the designer of the stone fort, Simon Bernard, and the first resident engineer, Charles Gratiot, were of French origin and French descent respectively, and are thought to have had first-hand knowledge of the Tuileries Palace, which was still standing during their tenures at Fort Monroe. The word Tuileries is French for "tile-works" and was the name of a royal residence used by Louis XVI and later Napoleon. The Tuileries Palace was formed by a range of long, narrow buildings with high roofs that enclosed one major and two minor courtyards. Today, looking at the Tuileries at Fort Monroe, the architectural connection to the Parisian Tuileries is minor, however reports of an 1824 drawing shed some light on the vision that Bernard and Gratiot may have had for Quarters 17 and 18. While this drawing seems to have disappeared, records of the drawing state that it illustrates a proposal to join the Tuileries with a central building. This plan was never realized, but does demonstrate the desire to construct a building that would have more closely resembled the Tuileries Palace in Paris.

The Parisian Tuileries might have influenced the form of Quarters 17 but the Federal style certainly influenced the style. Quarters 1, constructed only a short distance from 17, was also designed in the Federal style. The use of this architectural style speaks volumes of the period in which Fort Monroe was being constructed. Like Quarters 1, the architecture of Quarters 17 stands as a visual representation of the desire of Americans to affirm their independence in all domains, influencing politics, military, economics, and culture alike. And, like the classical buildings of Greece and Rome, the use of bilateral symmetry, balanced proportions, columns, and other classical forms found in Quarters 17, reflected the desire to impose principles of national sovereignty. While the style is normally associated with national institutions it is particularly symbolic on Fort Monroe, as an essential element in the protection of the young nation.

The Army operated under the assumption that officers would have families and provided them with housing assigned by post commanders on the basis of seniority, while the enlisted men were housed in bachelor barracks. Unfortunately, throughout the nineteenth century congressional appropriations for construction of permanent quarters for officers and barracks for enlisted men were consistently small. However, assignment to a permanent quarters did not guarantee good living conditions for officers, soldiers or their families. Many of the soldiers and some of the officers at Fort Monroe lived in the casemates, which were damp, poorly lit and cold. Those officers that were assigned to Quarters 17 were fortunate in their assignment and had relatively small grievances compared to the horrid living conditions many of the soldiers were subject to. In 1875, the Surgeon General’s office published its Circular Number Eight, which included a description of Fort Monroe, “The quarters for officers are, respectively, brick buildings, frame buildings, and casemates. The brick buildings are large, roomy, and well ventilated, though badly arranged for household conveniences.” One of the most documented families to have lived in Quarters 17, the Lee family, experienced their own spatial challenges while residing in Quarters 1.

Robert E. Lee moved to Fort Monroe in 1831 with his young bride into two rooms that formed a wing of the west side of Quarters 17 that was also occupied by Lieutenant Lee’s immediate superior, Captain Andrew Talcott. For the next year Lee and his wife lived communally with the Talcott household. While stationed at Fort Monroe, Lee supervised the final construction of the moat embankments and the beginnings of Fort Wool. During the summer of 1832, the living circumstances changed dramatically at Quarters 17 as the Lee family was expecting their first child. In the summer of 1832, Mary and Robert Lee took over the top floor in the Engineer Corps half of Quarters 17 with the Talcott’s residing in the apartment beneath them. In the fall of 1832, on the sixteenth day September in 1832 Mary Lee gave birth to their first child, a boy, named George Washington Custis Lee. The living situation remained this way until at least July 1834. A Fort Monroe Report of Quarters for July 1834 states, “the west half of this building is in possession of the Engineers Department and occupied by Captain Talcott and 2d Lieut. Robert Lee.” However, in November of this 1834,
Lieutenant Lee’s residence in Quarters 17 at Fort Monroe would come to an end as he was offered a position in Washington as General Gratiot’s assistant and accepted, returning to Northern Virginia.

Throughout the years the function of Quarters 17 has never changed, however the interior layout has been altered many times. Unfortunately, despite these interior changes, Quarters 17 has maintained its reputation as a space difficult for household conveniences. In 1988, the Department of Army, Study/Survey of Historically Significant Army Family Housing Quarters for Fort Monroe determined that the four apartments were substandard as they failed due to the awkwardness of the layout. This designation has not deterred those assigned to live in one of Quarters 17 four apartments, as residents make do with the awkward layout in order to live in one of Fort Monroe’s historically significant buildings. This landmark remains surprisingly unchanged in its 186 years, and while the interior of the residence has changed over the years, the exterior of Quarters 17 survives essentially as designed and is an important element in the history of Army housing.
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<th>Endnotes</th>
<th>Page</th>
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14. Baldwin, A History of Army Housing, 1
16. Phyllis Sprock. "Building 17."
17. Baldwin, A History of Army Housing, 1
18. Baldwin, A History of Army Housing, 2