1. NAME
   COMMON: FORT MONROE
   AND/OR HISTORIC: 

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   Old Point Comfort, at northern terminus of U.S. 258, Hampton

   CITY OR TOWN: Hampton

   STATE: Virginia
   ZIP: 23351
   CODE: 91

3. CLASSIFICATION
   CATEGORY (Check One)
   - District
   - Site
   - Structure
   - Object

   OWNERSHIP
   - Public
   - Private
   - Church
   - Related

   PUBLIC ACQUISITION
   - In Process
   - Being Considered

   STATUS
   - Occupied
   - Unoccupied
   - Preservation work in progress

   ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
   - Yes
     - Restricted
     - Unrestricted

   PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
   - Agricultural
   - Government
   - Park
   - Transportation
   - Comments
   - Commercial
   - Industrial
   - Private Residence
   - Other (Specify)
   - Educational
   - Military
   - Religious
   - Scientific

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
   OWNER'S NAME:
   Department of the Army

   STREET AND NUMBER:

   CITY OR TOWN: Hampton

   STATE: Virginia
   ZIP: 23369
   CODE: 91

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
   COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
   City Hall

   STREET AND NUMBER:

   CITY OR TOWN:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
   TITLE OF SURVEY:
   Robert Arthur, History of Fort Monroe (Fort Monroe, 1930)

   STATE OF SURVEY:
   | Federal | State | County | Local |

   DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

   STREET AND NUMBER:

   CITY OR TOWN:

   STATE: Virginia
   ZIP: 23369
   CODE: 91
a. BACKGROUND INFORMATION: As the nearest continuously held Union stronghold to the Confederate capital, Fort Monroe played an important role in the conduct of the war in the Eastern Theater and along the Atlantic coast. Due to its role as a staging area for Union military and naval expeditions, the fort witnessed the epic fight between the U.S.S. Monitor and the C.S.S. Virginia (Merrimac) on March 9, 1862.

Built between 1819 and 1834, the fort was one of the major United States military posts from the time of its establishment. Robert E. Lee, then a lieutenant, played a prominent part in the final stages of its construction, 1831-34. With the abandonment of the Norfolk Naval Base at the beginning of the war, the Union fleet was based on the northern shore of Hampton Roads. The Confederate ironclad Virginia, steaming out from Norfolk on March 8, 1862, brought havoc to the Union wooden ships, but her drawn battle with the newly arrived Monitor the following day ended the threat. Thousands of spectators stood upon the ramparts of Fort Monroe to watch the momentous battle of the ironclads on March 9. From Old Point Comfort, two months later, Union forces moved to reoccupy Norfolk as the Confederates withdrew. President Lincoln, visiting Fort Monroe, was a spectator at the reoccupation of Norfolk.

During the last year of the war, Fort Monroe was a reception point for exchanged Union prisoners, en route back to their commands from the exchange point at Aiken's Landing, farther up the James River. From May, 1865, to May, 1867, Jefferson Davis was confined in one of the fort casemates until his release on bond.

Status: Fort Monroe, still an active army post, is headquarters of the Continental Army Command. The original brick fort of 40 acres is located in the center of the post, which occupies about 640 acres. The old fort is little changed from its 19th century appearance, most of the subsequent development having taken place on other sections of the post. Three casemates of the old fort have been converted into an excellent museum, which has an annual visitation of about 100,000 persons. The Jefferson Davis Casemate contains the restored cell in which Davis was confined, together with museum exhibits giving the highlights of his career. The Old Fort Monroe Casemate contains exhibits on the history of the fort, covering such varied topics as McClellan's Peninsula Campaign; Old Fort Monroe; Poe as a Soldier; Fort Monroe, 1861-1865; Grant at Fort Monroe; Lee at Fort Monroe; Black Hawk at Fort Monroe; Old Point Comfort; and the Peace Conference of 1865. The Monitor and Merrimac Casemate contains exhibits telling the story of the ironclads and their battle, including 1/4-inch scale models of the vessels complete to the minutest detail. A number of the early buildings have special interest, such as the Centurion Chapel, built in 1858, and Quarters No. 1, built in 1819 and occupied by President Lincoln during his 1862 visit.
7 b. BOUNDARIES: Fort Monroe, Hampton, Virginia, consists of about 640 acres. Within Fort Monroe is a moat which, including the area covered by the moat, surrounds about 63 acres; it is known as Old Point Comfort. The original brick fort at Old Point Comfort consists of about 40 acres.
### A. SIGNIFICANCE

#### PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- ☐ Pre-Columbian
- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 18th Century
- ☑ 19th Century
- ☐ 20th Century

#### SPECIFIC DATES! (If Applicable and Known)

#### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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<th>Prehistoric</th>
<th>Historic</th>
<th>Agriculture</th>
<th>Architecture</th>
<th>Art</th>
<th>Commerce</th>
<th>Communications</th>
<th>Conservation</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Invention</th>
<th>Landscape</th>
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<th>Social/Human-</th>
<th>Theater</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
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#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The nearest continuously held Union stronghold to the Confederate capital. This fort witnessed the historic fight between the USS Monitor and CSS Virginia (Merrimac).

STATE NAME AND TITLE:

Frank S. Melvin
Virginia State Office, National Park Service
Box 10008
Richmond

FORM PREPARED BY

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [X]  State [ ]  Local [ ]

NAME

J. A. FISHBURN, DIRECTOR

TITLE

VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

DATE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME

COMMON: FORT MONROE

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Old Point Comfort, at northern terminus of U.S. 258, Hampton

CITY OR TOWN:
Hampton

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

COUNTY: Hampton (City)

CODE: 650

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: U.S. Geological Survey - Hampton quadrangle

SCALE: 7.5 topographic 1:24,000

DATE: 1955 - photorevised 1970

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE: COUNTY:

CODE:

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT:

DATE OF PHOTO:

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.