

AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Arundel County

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore
(Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's and Prince George's Counties)

Chronological/Development Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930
Modern Period 1930-present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning
Military

Resource Type:
Category: Building(s)

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Domestic/secondary structure/garage

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. AA-8

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Building 6926/Post Sergeant Major's House

2. Location

street & number Kenyon Loop not for publication

city, town Fort Meade vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: stated for demolition

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Department of the Army

street & number U.S. Army Garrison, Fort George G. Meade telephone no.: (410) 677-7617

city, town Fort Meade state and zip code Maryland 20755-5115

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber W.N.W.16

street & number Church Circle folio 191

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-8

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See attached sheet.

See: Phase I Cultural Resource Survey - Fort Meade Golf Course Area, Anne Arundel County, Final Report, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dated December 1991.

8. Significance

Survey No. AA-8

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

See attached sheet.

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Building 6926

Anne Arundel County

7.1 Description

Building 6926 is located on the north side of Kenyon Loop on the Golf Course area of Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. The house sits approximately 75 feet from the edge of the golf course on a slight elevation surrounded by trees. The property includes a cinderblock garage located to the west of the house.

The house was constructed circa 1910 as a residence. Resting on a concrete foundation, the house is 1 & 1/2 stories in height, of frame construction. It is sheathed in german novelty siding that appears to be a later replacement. It consists of a gable roofline running east to west that is intersected by center gables on the north and south elevations. The roofline is covered in composition shingling. The house is characterized by widely pitched gables with unenclosed eave overhangs and exposed rafters. There are two brick chimneys: one exterior end chimney on the north elevation and one interior chimney on the ridgeline of the main gable. A full height, wrap around porch extends partially across the main (south) facade and around the east elevation. Resting on brick piers, the porch is screened-in and has a running balustrade. Window openings have simple, molded frames throughout the building.

The principal facade of the house faces south. It is dominated by a widely pitched, center gable which has an arched louvred vent window. Openings are asymmetrically placed with three 6/6 double hung sash windows, a paired window of 6/6 lights, and a door opening. Three of the bay openings are covered by the screened-in porch.

The east elevation contains a recessed portion of the south facade gable block and the projecting east gable end of the main roofline. The south facade gable section is covered with the wrap-around porch which meets the main section. It has two 6/6 double hung sash windows on either side of the exterior brick chimney. A door opening allows access from the porch into the main section. A paired window is centrally placed on the main section: it consists of two 6 light fixed windows.

The north (rear) elevation has a similar roofline as the front facade with a widely pitched center gable. A square window in the gable has been filled in. An one story, shed-roofed, enclosed porch partially covers the facade. It has asymmetrical openings with a 6/6 light, two 6 light fixed windows and a door opening. On the west wall of the enclosed porch, there is a triple window with 6 light fixed windows. The main block has two 6/6 light windows and a 4/4 light window, asymmetrically placed.

The west gable end is three bays wide. A window in the gable has been filled in. There are two 6/6 light windows on the first level. A window opening in the center bay has been enclosed.

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Building 6926

Anne Arundel County

7.2 Description

The interior consists of six rooms with an additional room created by the enclosed porch area. A hallway separates the bedrooms from the living spaces. A fireplace in the living room appears to be a later addition to the building. The house has hardwood floors and high baseboard molding throughout.

The cinder block garage, located several feet to the west of the house, was built into a hill which serves as the rear (west) wall. It is covered with a shed roof of tarpaper. The upper section of the building is sheathed in german siding.

The building has experienced alterations and changes but has retained the spatial arrangement and design of a vernacular bungalow/cottage. Alterations include the enclosed porch on the north elevation, replacement and filled-in windows, replaced siding and a later chimney and fireplace. The original setting of the building has undergone changes; it has been surrounded by the golf course since the 1950s. The building is scheduled for demolition in 1992.

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Anne Arundel County

8.1 Significance

Building 6926 represents a common form of housing prevalently built throughout the early twentieth century: the bungalow. This housing type had many variants and was largely vernacular in execution. Building 6926 is also significant as the only extant building dating from the pre-Camp Meade era. After Army acquisition of the property, the building became utilized for installation purposes. The building, originally intended as a private residence, became incorporated into the Army installation as living quarters.

Because this housing type was widely constructed during its era of popularity, there are many good representatives of the type in areas of northern Anne Arundel County such as Linthicum Heights, Severn and Odenton. Considered within historic context, other examples in the vicinity have retained higher levels of integrity. Within the more selective context of the only building on the installation that survives the pre-Camp Meade era, its significance is elevated. However, the building has experienced numerous changes to its historic fabric. Also, the setting of the resource has been altered within the span of Army ownership. The location of the building on the golf course has removed it from other historic resources at Fort Meade that may form a potential historic district. Overall, the building exemplifies early twentieth century bungalow housing with minimal integrity that is situated on an army installation.

Archival research provided limited information. Based on late nineteenth century historic maps, the house appears to be located on the former farm of William T. Downs. One of the Downs family cemeteries is located in close proximity to the dwelling. Downs owned a number of parcels in Anne Arundel County in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. By 1902, one of Downs' parcels included a main house, a tenant house, a picker's shanty and other outbuildings (Land Assessment Book, 1896-1905, Fourth Election District, p. 99). This description of Downs' holdings indicates that he was engaged in "truck" farming, or the selling of fruits and vegetables to customers in the region. This style of farming was common in northern Anne Arundel County during this period.

By the early twentieth century, the immediate vicinity of Building 6926 burgeoned with new rural population centers. This growth was largely a result of rail lines that provided connections to the major commercial centers of Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Annapolis. Rail transportation enhanced the agricultural economic base of the area and brought about new commercialism. According to oral history sources at Fort Meade, the building was constructed during this period (circa 1910). This date is substantiated by the physical evidence. The architectural design and detailing of the building clearly date from the early twentieth century. The asymmetrical door and window openings, the paired and triple windows and the overall appearance of the building can all be attributed to this era of housing.

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8.2 Significance

At the beginning of World War I, locations for cantonments were selected by the War Department. The site that became Camp Meade was conveniently situated along the rail line between Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Annapolis. The general contract to construct Camp (later Fort) Meade was initiated in 1917. By 1919, it was decided that Camp Meade would become a permanent installation, and the Army completed negotiations for acquiring over 600 tracts of land. William T. Downs sold three plats adjacent to one another to the Army in 1919 (Land Deed: liber W.N.W. 16, folio 191); however, the Army had taken possession of the property by 1917. The plat on which Building 6926 was situated was the Downs family tract consisting of 117.9 acres (Land Deed: liber G.W. 55, folio 310). During World War I, the Headquarters of the 79th Division was located near Building 6926. It can be assumed that the Army utilized the building for its purposes upon acquisition.

A recent map (1982) refers to Building 6926 as "the oldest existing structure" on Fort Meade and states that it originally was a farmhouse. After 1950, the area around the building was created into a golf course for military personnel recreation. The house was apparently in continuous use as a residence for Fort Meade personnel, including the Post Sergeant Major, until the late 1980s.

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Building 6926
Anne Arundel County
9.1 Bibliography

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of the Fort George G. Meade Museum, October 1982.

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Martenet, Simon. Martenet's Map of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, 1860.

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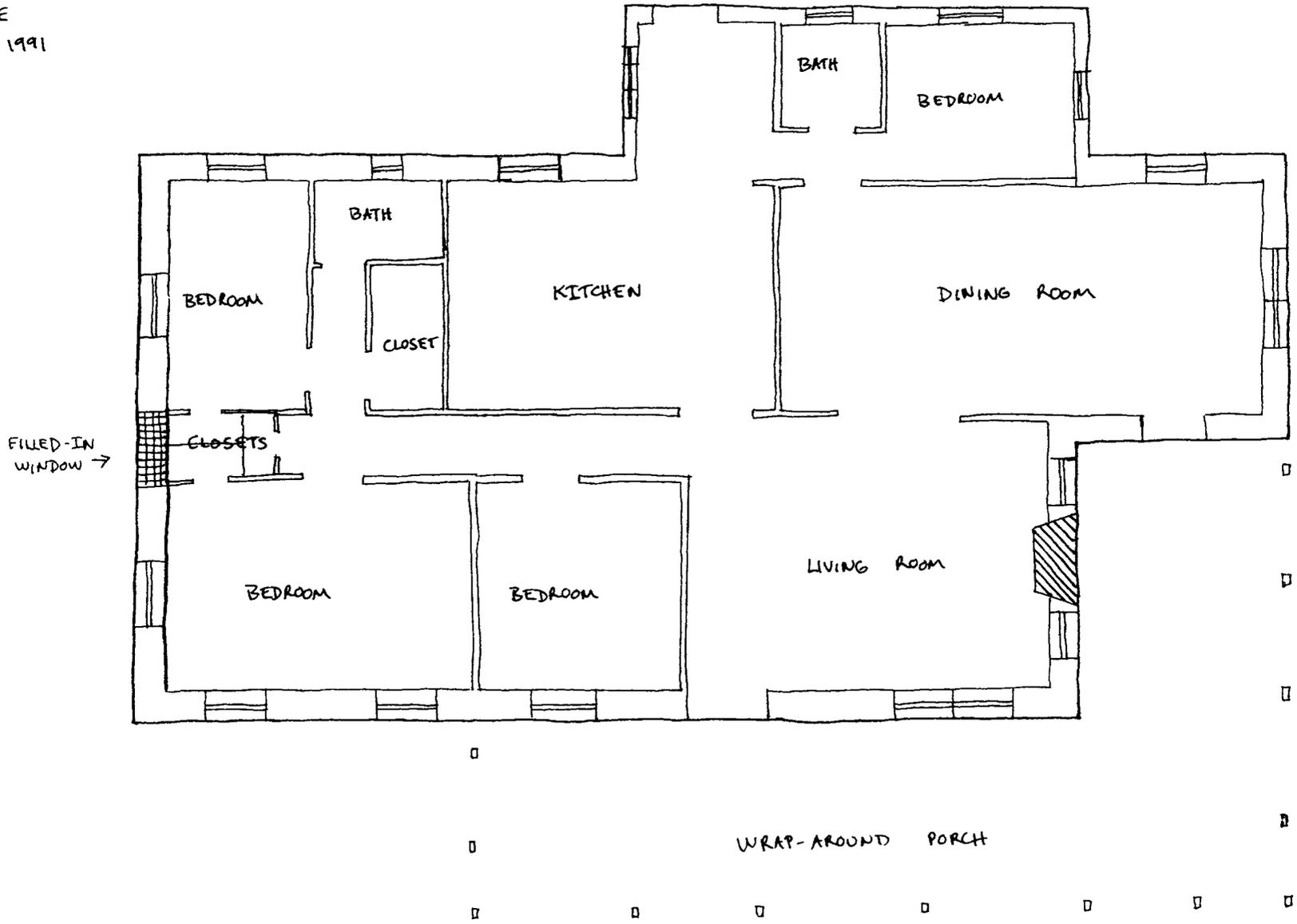
AA-8

BUILDING NO. 6926
FORT MEADE, MARYLAND
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

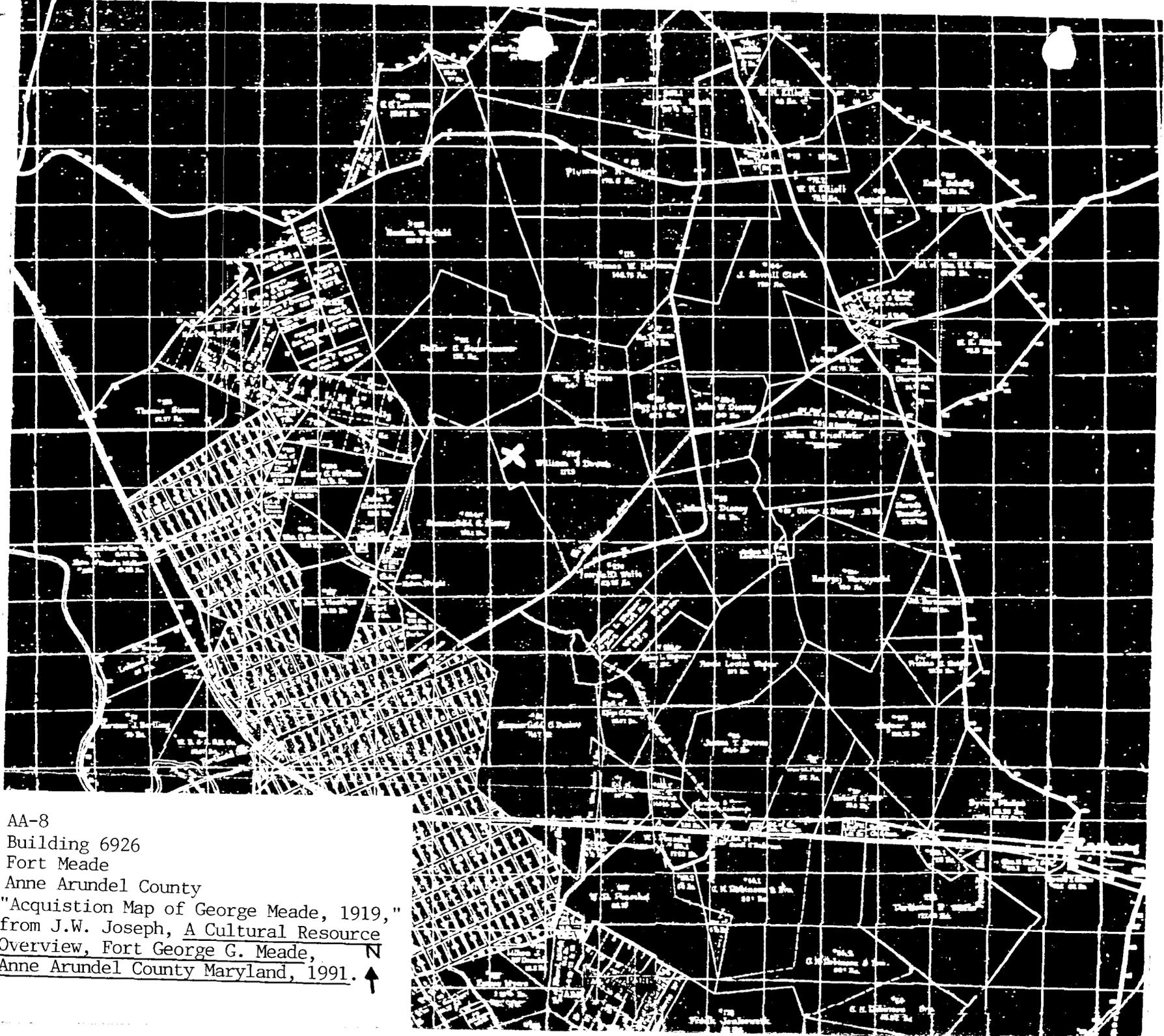
M.K. SHIPE
DECEMBER 1991



NOT TO SCALE



FIRST FLOOR

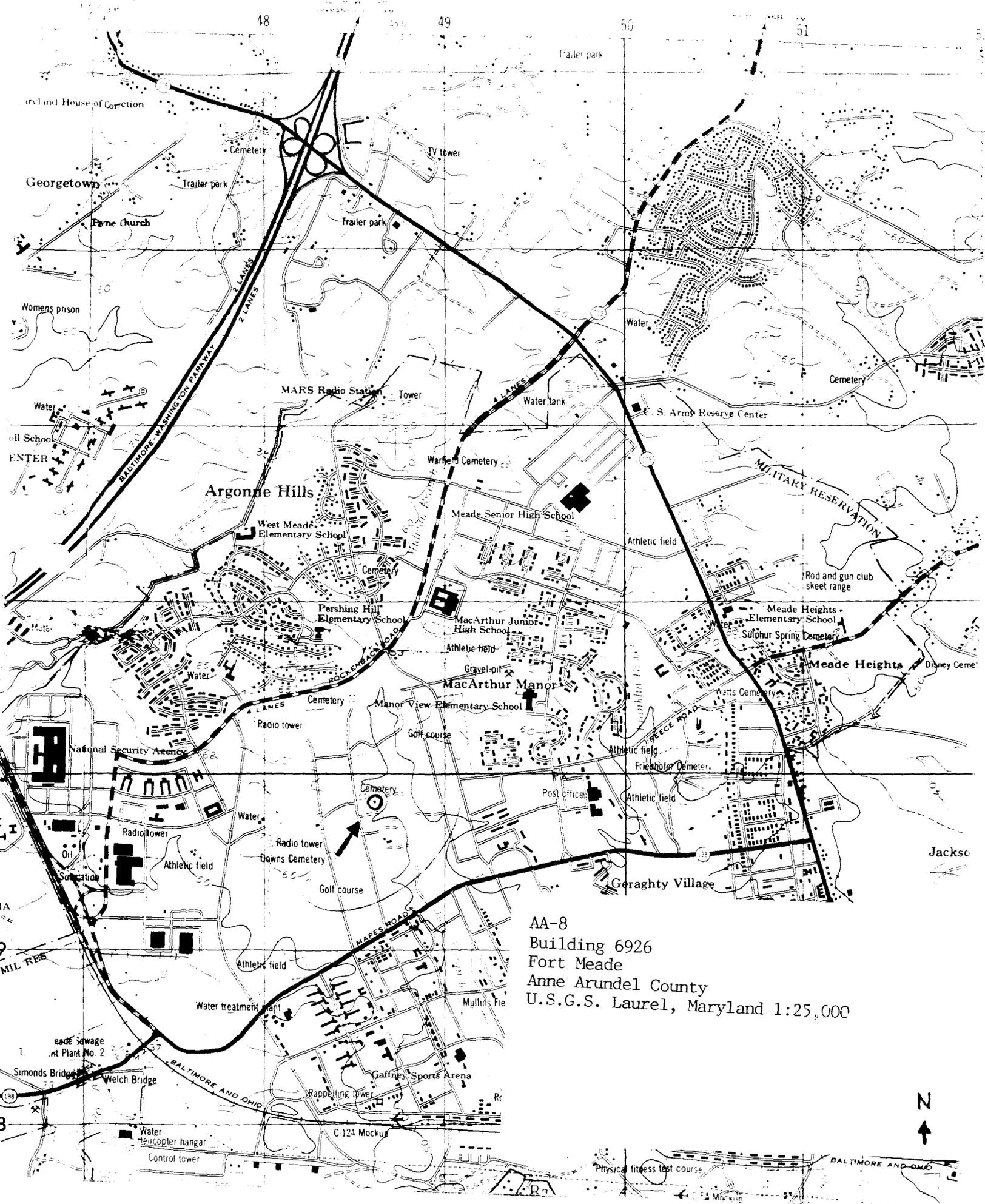


approximate
location
of Building 6926
→

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Building 6926
Fort Meade
Anne Arundel County
"Acquisition Map of George Meade, 1919,"
from J.W. Joseph, A Cultural Resource
Overview, Fort George G. Meade, N
Anne Arundel County Maryland, 1991. ↑

ORGE G. MEADE

1-DMA



AA-8
Building 6926
Fort Meade
Anne Arundel County
U.S.G.S. Laurel, Maryland 1:25,000



PHOTOGRAPHIC LABELING: BUILDING 6926

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Photo #1 (neg. #2)

AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Arundel County, MD
Photographer: Mary Shipe
November 1991
Neg. Loc.: MD SHPO
south elevation
1/5

Photo #2 (neg. #4)

AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Arundel County, MD
Photographer: Mary Shipe
November 1991
Neg. Loc.: MD SHPO
east elevation
2/5

Photo #3 (neg. #6)

AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Arundel County, MD
Photographer: Mary Shipe
November 1991
Neg. Loc.: MD SHPO
north elevation & garage
3/5

Photo #4 (neg. #9)

AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Arundel County, MD
Photographer: Mary Shipe
November 1991
Neg. Loc.: MD SHPO
view looking north; setting
4/5

Photo #5 (neg. #10)

AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Arundel County, MD
Photographer: Mary Shipe
November 1991
Neg. Loc.: MD SHPO
relationship of Building 6926 to golf course
5/5



AA-8
Building 6126
Anne Arundel City
2/5



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Building 6926
Anne Arundel City
2/5



AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Arundel County
3/5



AA-8
Building 6A26
Rome Airdel Cty.
4/5



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Building 6926
Anne Arundel City
6/5