

AA-8

Fort George G. Meade; Post Sergeant Major's House; Building 6926

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 06-11-2004

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☐ not for publication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

☐ district

☒ building(s)

☐ structure

☐ site

☐ object

Ownership

☒ public

☐ private

☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process

☐ being considered

☒ not applicable

Status

☐ occupied

☒ unoccupied

☐ work in progress

Accessible

☐ yes: restricted

☒ yes: unrestricted

☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture

☐ commercial

☐ educational

☐ entertainment

☐ government

☐ industrial

☐ military

☐ museum

☐ park

☒ private residence

☐ religious

☐ scientific

☐ transportation

☒ other: stated for

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners) ^{demolition}

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

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-8

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☒ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input 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.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. AA-8

See attached sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Laurel MD QuadrangleQuadrangle scale 1:25,000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA

Zone	Easting							Northing	

B

Zone	Easting							Northing	

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

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F

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G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary K. Shipe, Architectural Historianorganization U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimoredate December 1991street & number Planning Divisiontelephone (410) 962-0695city or town Baltimorestate Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCE
100 COMMUNITY PLAN
CPO HANOVER 100220

AA-8

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.

AA-8

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.

AA-8

Building 6926

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.

AA-8

Building 6926

Anne Arundel County

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.

AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Arundel County
9.1 Bibliography

Anne Arundel County Land Assessment Records, Maryland State Archives,
Annapolis, Maryland.

An Historical View of Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, prepared by the Staff
of the Fort George G. Meade Museum, October 1982.

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Joseph, J.W. A Cultural Resources Overview, Fort George G. Meade,
Anne Arundel County, Maryland (Draft), New South Associates Technical Report
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Land deeds, Anne Arundel County Courthouse, Annapolis, Maryland.

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

Maryland Geological Survey, Map of Camp Meade, Admiral, Maryland, 1917.

Real Property Records, Directorate of Engineering and Housing, Fort Meade,
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Ware, Donna M. Anne Arundel's Legacy: The Historic Properties of Anne
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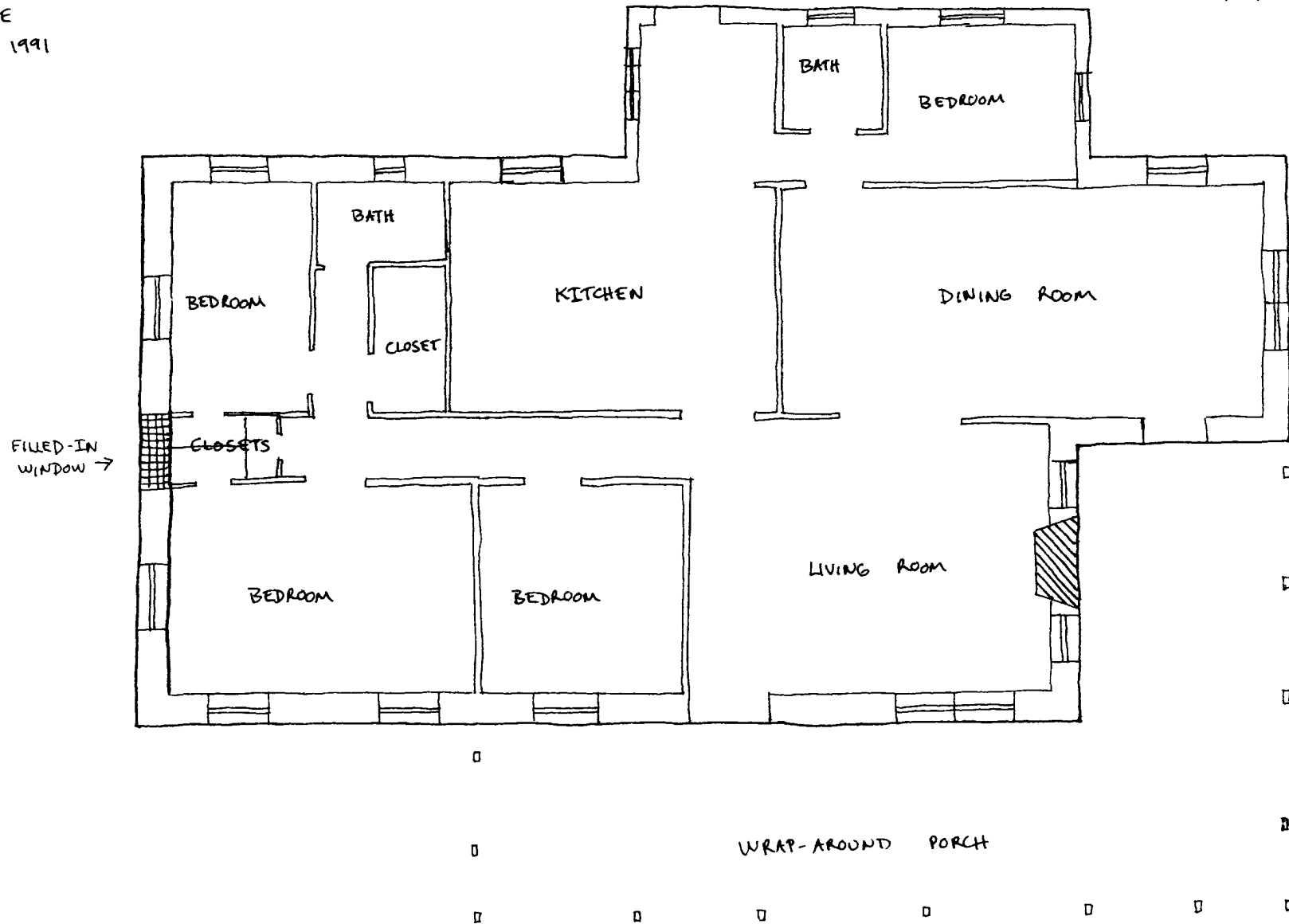
AA-8

BUILDING NO. 6926
FORT MEADE, MARYLAND
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

M.K. SHIPE
DECEMBER 1991



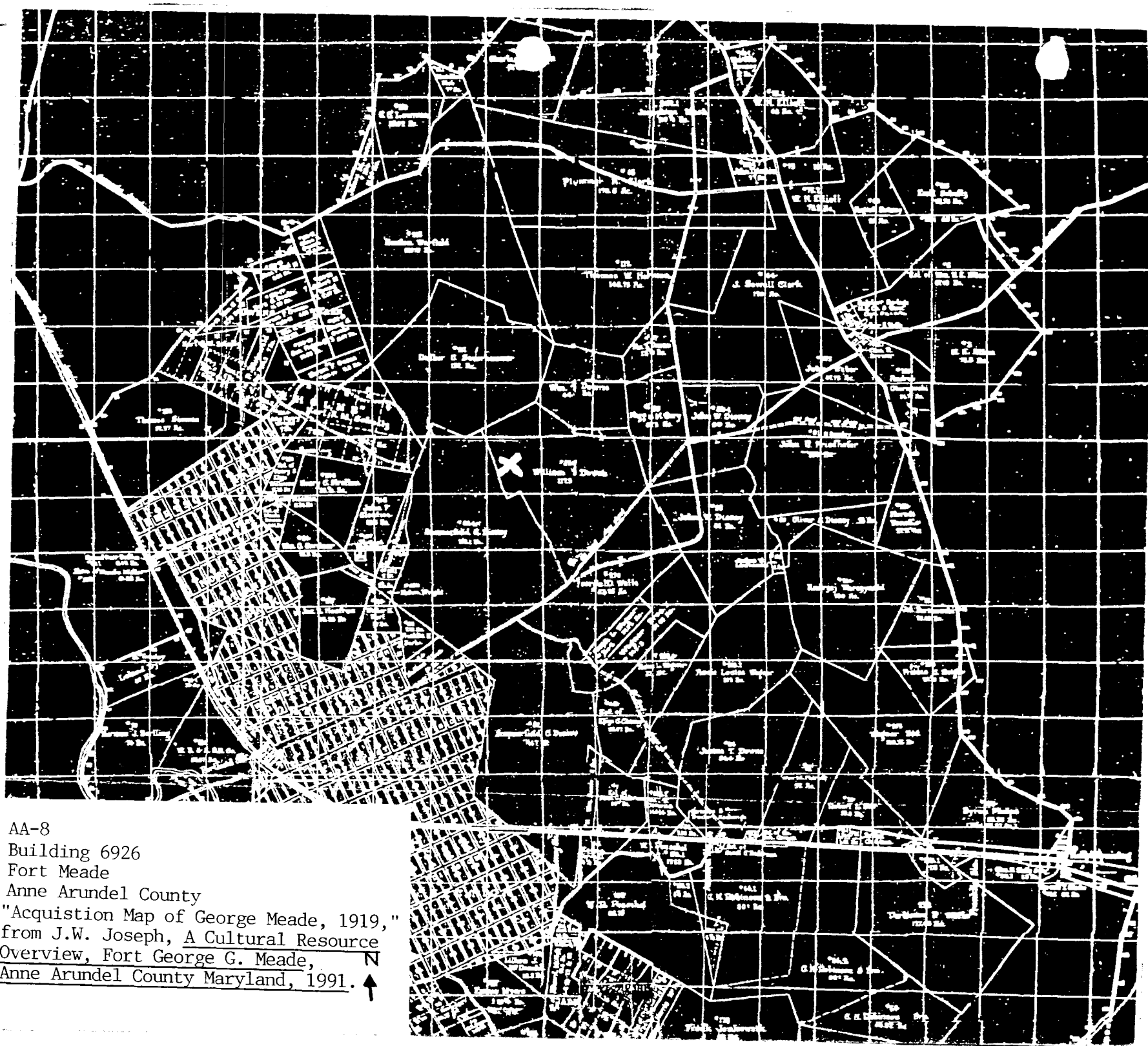
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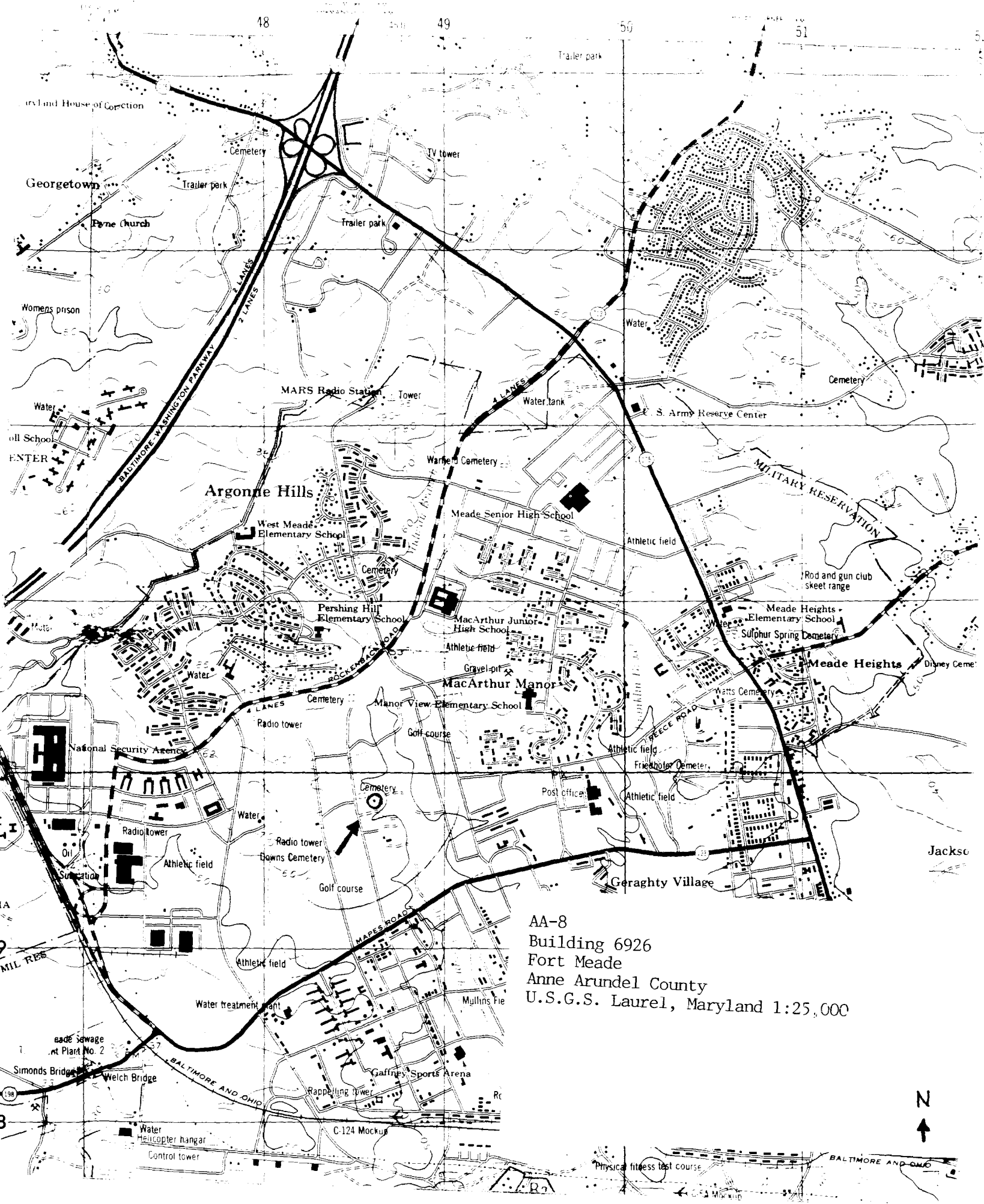
approximate
location
of Building 6926
→

AA-8
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-DNA



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

PHOTOGRAPHIC LABELING: BUILDING 6926

AA - 8

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



AA-8
Building 6926
House Numbered City
2/5



AA-8
Briding 6926
Anne Arundel County
3/5



AA-8
Building 6A26
Rome Amdel City.
4/5



AA-8
Building 6926
Anne Hurdal Oly
5/5