

The following  
National Register of  
Historic Places form  
was prepared for  
inventory  
documentation  
purposes only;  
the property has not  
been nominated to the  
National Register.

NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

=====

1. Name of Property

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historic name: World War I Barracks Historic District,  
Edgewood Arsenal  
other names/site number: Not applicable

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2. Location

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street & number: Austin Road, Edgewood Area,  
Aberdeen Proving Ground not for publication N/A  
city or town: Edgewood vicinity X  
state: Maryland code: MD county: Harford code: 025 zip  
code: 21040

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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nationally \_\_\_ statewide \_\_\_ locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

- \_\_\_ entered in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.
- \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.
- \_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action

=====  
5. Classification  
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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- \_\_\_ private
- \_\_\_ public-local
- \_\_\_ public-State
- X public-Federal

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Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property	
Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>15</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> sites
<u>    </u>	<u>3</u> structures
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> objects
<u>15</u>	<u>5</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)  
Cat: Defense                      Sub: Military facility  
      Domestic                      Institutional housing

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)  
Cat: Defense                      Sub: Military facility

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7. Description  
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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)  
Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation: Concrete  
roof: Asphalt Shingle  
walls: Structural Clay Tile  
other: \_\_\_\_\_  
          \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance  
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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.
- 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.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

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- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)  
Architecture

Period of Significance: 1917 - 1918

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above):  
N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Construction Division, United States War Department

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

- Previous documentation on file (NPS)
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
  - previously listed in the National Register
  - previously determined eligible by the National Register
  - designated a National Historic Landmark
  - recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
  - recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # MD-47

- Primary Location of Additional Data
- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: Library of Congress

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10. Geographical Data  
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Acreage of Property: 18.14 acres  
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	387720	4360420	3	18	388120 4360220
2	18	388080	4360410	4	18	387760 4360160

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

AA-1845

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11. Form Prepared By  
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name/title: Eliza H. Edwards/Architectural Historian  
organization: R. Christopher Goodwin & Assoc., Inc.  
date: Nov. 1993  
street & number: 337 East Third Street  
telephone: (301) 694-0428  
city or town: Frederick state: Maryland  
zip code: 21701

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Additional Documentation  
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner  
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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

zip code \_\_\_\_\_

=====  
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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The World War I Barracks Historic District is located in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), Harford County, Maryland. The district comprises approximately 18 acres and contains 20 buildings and structures. The historic district includes 15 World War I-era buildings: 13 permanent barracks, a bakery, and a heating plant. All 15 buildings are contributing elements within the district. The other five structures contained within the district boundaries were built after World War II and are non-contributing elements to the historic district.

The historic district occupies a site south of the East Branch of Canal Creek in the southern portion of Edgewood Arsenal. The 13 barracks are identical in plan and are arranged in a formal, symmetrical pattern comprised of four rows of four buildings each oriented along perpendicular streets. Major streets outline the edges of the district and bisect the overall rectangular plan. The formality of the building arrangement is further accentuated by the existence of medians in the two major roads that form the central, crossed axis in the middle of the complex. The barracks buildings were arranged so that front facades overlook the major streets and rear elevations are oriented to smaller service roads. In addition, the plans of the buildings are reversed in every other row so that the one-story service wings face each other. Thirteen of the original sixteen barracks buildings survive; three buildings were removed during the 1960s and 1970s. The bakery and heating plant facilities, also part of this complex, were located north of Austin Road.

The barracks complex, originally built in an isolated section of the Edgewood installation, currently is situated amidst a more densely developed area. Officer housing, a chapel, and theater are located to the west; parking lots have been added to the south; and a new complex of barracks was constructed east of the proposed historic district in 1988. The district's northern border remains relatively unchanged, defined by the marshy area of Canal Creek's East Branch and a densely wooded area to the north of the marsh.

**Barracks Buildings**

The World War I barracks (Buildings E4405, E4410, E4415, E4420, E4430, E4435, E4440, E4455, E4460, E4465, E4470, E4475, and E4480) are characterized by their functional and austere design. The buildings, measuring approximately 140 by 44 feet, are composed of a two-story rectangular horizontal main block with one-story service wings that extend from the narrow end. The buildings are constructed of 12-inch and 8-inch structural, hollow clay tile supported by concrete foundations. The buildings have a stuccoed exterior finishes and terminate in hipped roofs with overhanging eaves. Each front facade has a single doorway with a brick quoin surround. The rear elevation has two doorways, which flank a prominent chimney stack. The windows of the main block are a combine single and paired openings. The original windows are

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wood-frame, six-over-six-light, double-hung sash; examples are found in E4405, E4410, E4430, E4435, E4440, and E4470.

Two one-story, hip-roofed service wings wings extend from the end of the main block. The smaller wing was built as a detached lavatory, while the other projecting wing contained the kitchen. Only Buildings E4405 and E4420 lack kitchen wings. In the lavatory wing, six-light hopper windows are aligned in a row under the eaves.

Currently, many of the buildings incorporate small one-story porches, open concrete stoops, or small one-story additions. As originally built, each barracks had an open, shed roof porch that extended around three sides of the main block at the first floor level. The porch was slightly elevated above grade and was accessed by a set of stairs centered on the front and rear sides.

Most of the buildings currently serve administrative or personnel support functions. Most of the interior plans adopt a comprised double loaded corridor plan of central hall flanked by offices separated by partition walls. The original interior plan of each barracks was characterized by open space. Throughout the buildings wooden support posts were spaced at eight-foot intervals. Interior surfaces were plastered. A squad room and mess hall occupied each end of the first floor; a two-story dayroom was centered between these two rooms. The dayroom served as a communal space and contained a fireplace and a stairway to the second floor.

The Edgewood barracks complex retained its original use as tropp housing for approximately 40 years, with only limited modifications to the buildings. One of the first renovation campaigns occurred during the 1920s and 1930s when the area was occupied by the Sixth Field Artillery and became known as Fort Hoyle. Changes to the barracks during that time included the construction of individual kitchen wings to Buildings E4410, E4415, and E4440. Other change included the installation of a second floor over the day room in several of the barracks.

Building E4405 underwent significant alterations during the Fort Hoyle occupancy. This building, located on the northeast corner of the barracks complex, was converted from a barracks, library and post exchange into Fort Hoyle's Post Headquarters. To highlight the building's new role, the one-story, wrap-around porches were removed and a classically embellished entrance was constructed. Four two-story pilasters crowned by a triangular pediment defined the central entrance on the north facade.

The majority of modifications to the buildings occurred between World War II and the present, when the barracks buildings were converted from residential to administrative use. During the 1950s and 1960s, the original open interiors were reconfigured to form a double-loaded

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corridor plan that contained office space and new lavatory facilities. The interior wall partitions incorporated the original wooden support posts. Exterior modifications included the removal of the wrap-around porches that dominated the first floor facades.

A second renovation program occurred during the 1980s and 1990s. During this time, renovations included window and door replacements evidenced in Buildings E4460, E4465, E4470, E4475, and E4480. Other modifications include new additions and the removal of chimney caps. A one-story, flat-roofed addition was added to the rear of Building E4465 and a two-story, flat-roofed addition was added to the rear of Building E4435. The two-story addition extends along the building's south elevation from the lavatory wing to the central chimney of the building. Both additions are confined to secondary, or rear, elevations of the buildings and do not detract from the overall integrity of the historic district.

Other exterior modifications are more modest and include reversible alterations, such as the installation of aluminum awnings above main entrances. Metal fire escapes have been installed along secondary elevations to provide necessary means of egress, as required by code. The complex now houses an U.S. Post Office (Building E4405), the U.S. Army Environmental Center (Building E4460), a military police station (Building E4420), and a variety of general purpose administrative offices.

**Community Support Buildings**

Two community support buildings are situated within the district. These are the bakery (Building E4162) and the heating plant (Building E4160). These structures are physically separated from the barracks by Austin Road. Originally, a laundry facility was situated east of the heating plant, but was demolished. The support buildings were located to take advantage of the standard-gauge railroad spur located directly north of the barracks complex. The bakery and heating plant are similar to the barracks in structural composition and are built of hollow clay tile on concrete foundations. Building E4162, although much smaller than the barracks, integrates many of the same architectural features: the rectangular plan; low-pitched, overhanging hipped roof; and brick chimney. The one-story bakery was designed to contain a shop, store room, office, and a small lavatory. Changes to the exterior of Building E4162 are limited to window replacements. The structure retains its original configuration and massing. The interior of the structure has been altered to accommodate the Army's Community Counseling Center.

The heating plant is more industrial in character than the bakery. The one-story rectangular building is characterized by high walls, flat roof, and large, paired nine-over-nine light windows. The plant functioned originally as a coal-fired plant but was converted subsequently to

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an oil-burning facility. Alterations to the building's exterior have been minimal, and are limited to the installation of a metal, exterior overhead door on the south elevation, and removal of the brick smokestack along the front facade. These changes, however, have not impacted the overall appearance or configuration of this structure.

The barracks and the support structures form a cohesive collection of World War I-era permanent buildings. Although the barracks buildings and associated structures have undergone a number of modifications since their construction, the barracks complex collectively retains its overall plan layout, as well significant character-defining features. The World War I Barracks Historic District forms an identifiable, cohesive entity comprised of functional, two-story, stuccoed buildings organized around a formal plan. The original design and planning of the barracks complex is evident in the linear arrangement of the buildings, perpendicular roadway layout, and spatial relationships of the individual buildings. Later window replacements have retained the original fenestration pattern. The original open porches have been replaced with low, one-story additions on some buildings, thus maintaining the scale and overall massing. This consistency in building modifications sustains the visual rhythm of the district without adversely impacting the district's overall integrity. The individual buildings and the district as a whole retains sufficient integrity to convey the area's significance as a permanent cantonment dating from World War I.

**Non-Contributing Resources**

Five structures within the district boundaries were identified as non-contributing resources, as they were built after World War II and are not associated with the district's period of significance. These structures include the Alcohol and Drug Association (Building E4445), the Most Money machine (Building E4425), a 1963 storehouse (Building E4479), and a corrugated metal, temporary office (Building E4461-IT). An unnumbered modular utility shed located north of Building E4430 also was identified as a non-contributing element within the district boundaries.

The following is a list of resources contained in the Edgewood World War I Barracks Historic District. The list indicates if the resource is a contributing or non-contributing element within the historic district.

Building Number	Resource	Date	Contributing/Non
E4160	Heating Plant	1918	Contributing
E4162	Bakery	1918	Contributing

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E4405	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4410	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4415	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4420	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4425	Most Money Machine	1992	Non-Contributing
E4430	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4435	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4440	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4445	Alcohol Drug Assoc.	1988	Non-Contributing
E4455	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4460	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4461-IT	Office (Modular)	ca. 1980	Non-Contributing
E4465	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4470	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4475	Barracks	1918	Contributing
E4479	Storehouse	1963	Non-Contributing
E4480	Barracks	1918	Contributing
N/A	Utility Shed	1992	Non-Contributing

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The World War I Barracks Historic District possesses the qualities of significance under Criteria A and C for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The barracks area was an integral part of the overall plan of Edgewood Arsenal, which was established in 1917 as the first chemical warfare production facility in the United States (Criterion A). The barracks and associated support buildings served as a principal support area for Edgewood's primary mission, providing necessary housing and services to enlisted personnel employed at the chemical manufacturing plants. The barracks area represents a rare surviving example of a permanent cantonment dating from World War I (Criterion C). The majority of military cantonments constructed during this period utilized temporary construction.

**Evolution of the World War I Barracks at Edgewood Arsenal**

Edgewood Arsenal was the first chemical warfare production facility in the United States. With the appearance on the European battlefields during World War I of toxic gas weapons such as mustard gas, phosgene, and chlorpicrin, the United States immediately sought to develop its own chemical warfare production capabilities. Commercial chemical companies were reluctant to produce chemical agents due to the inherent dangers in the manufacturing process and their fears that production facilities would have no post-war use. The War Department, therefore, directed the construction of its own chemical plants to include manufacturing plants, shell loading operations, storage facilities, barracks area, administration area, and a hospital.

The U.S. Government selected the northern portion of Gunpowder Neck, part of 35,000 acres acquired in 1917 for the establishment of Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), as the site for the new installation. This acreage previously supported agriculture and recreation activities. The site was ideal due to its isolation from major population centers and its proximity to important rail and water transportation routes. The remoteness of the site was essential because of the installation's use of experimental technology and the hazardous nature of chemical warfare production. During World War I, the Army employed its own personnel to staff the chemical plants instead of civilian workers. Therefore, troop housing and support facilities were an essential element of the Army's original plan for Edgewood Arsenal.

By the spring of 1918, the plan of Edgewood Arsenal had taken shape and construction was underway. Despite the unknowns associated with chemical manufacturing, period literature suggests that the U.S. Army strongly believed that chemical warfare was the way of the future. In anticipation of chemical warfare's dominance in future military activity, the Army decided that buildings associated with the new installation, including troop housing, would be of permanent construction.

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The site chosen for the permanent barracks, bakery, and heating plant was strategically located three-quarters of a mile south of the industrial core. A densely wooded area and the East Branch of Canal Creek separated the barracks from the manufacturing plants, creating a natural buffer between the residential and industrial areas of the arsenal. Situated at this distance from the chemical plants, the barracks were presumed to be removed enough from the industrial area to protect inhabitants from the dangers of toxic gas production, but close enough to provide the enlisted men easy access to the manufacturing plants.

Originally conceived as a group of 32 barracks, the number of barracks was reduced to 16 by the time construction was initiated in April 1918. Before construction began, the Army built a railroad spur along the southern edge of Canal Creek's East Branch for the purpose of delivering supplies directly to the site. This allowed construction of the barracks complex to be carried out quickly; a necessity in wartime mobilization. All 16 barracks were completed and occupied by August 1918.

Edgewood Arsenal was highly productive. During 1918, over 6,000 tons of chemicals were produced and over 1.5 million shells and grenades were filled. With the signing of the Armistice on 11 November 1918, the Army resumed a peacetime role. Consequently, production of toxic agents came to a virtual halt, and Edgewood Arsenal's focus shifted from manufacturing to research and development. Due to the decline in activity, the War Department ordered in 1921 that the arsenal be consolidated. At this time, the World War I barracks complex was assigned to the Sixth Field Artillery and became known as Fort Hoyle. During this time, additional personnel support facilities were constructed near the barracks complex. These buildings include a theater and a riding hall.

Fort Hoyle controlled the barracks complex until 1940 when the Army began to mobilize for World War II, and chemical warfare production was reinitiated at Edgewood. The increasing number of ordnance troops at that time required that Fort Hoyle be returned to Edgewood Arsenal. Edgewood Arsenal remained an active chemical production facility through World War II.

Following World War II, the Edgewood facility was renamed the Army Chemical Center. Chemical production ceased and the center's focus shifted to research and development, particularly development of chemical warfare defensive tactics. Since the barracks were no longer essential for troop housing, the barracks began to be converted to administrative during the 1950s.

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**Architecture**

Historically, whenever the United States has become involved in a major military conflict, the Army has mobilized large numbers of American troops. During World War I, the Army needed to train more than two million soldiers as rapidly as possible. The haste with which the Army expanded resulted in a dramatic increase in military construction. The military required new training cantonments and stations, additional industrial buildings to support expanded industrial production, and new types of facilities to accommodate technological advances. To save time and resources, the military relied heavily on temporary construction.

The typical World War I recruit training cantonment comprised barracks, laundries, bakeries, mess halls, hospitals, infirmaries, storehouses, stables, latrines, and administration buildings, all constructed as one-story temporary buildings. These buildings were typically wood-frame, set on wood piers with board-and-batten or horizontal wood siding. Cantonment buildings were arranged in a linear plan, to house troops in organized military units. Buildings related to infrastructure, such as heating plants and electric substations, generally were constructed of more permanent materials such as brick.

Permanent construction for housing enlisted personnel was rare during the World War I period. This period of construction was more commonly known for temporary mobilization barracks, which were simple wooden buildings. After World War I, many of these buildings remained in use. As time progressed these structures began to deteriorate. In 1926, the U.S. Congress enacted Public Law No. 45, designed to address poor living conditions in remaining World War I temporary cantonments. Consequently, it was not until the 1930s that permanent enlisted barracks again became common in the Army.

Due to the predominance of temporary construction during the World War I period, the World War I barracks buildings constructed at Edgewood Arsenal represent a rare example of a permanent residential construction from the World War I period. The Army's decision in 1917 to build permanent rather than temporary housing at the Edgewood Arsenal was an affirmation of the Army's commitment to the chemical warfare production program.

Rejecting the wood-frame construction typical of World War I mobilization construction, the Army built 16 barracks at Edgewood in structural hollow clay tile, a durable masonry material. The buildings were built on concrete foundations that extended approximately three feet below grade. The first-floor walls were constructed of 12-inch hollow tile, while the second-story walls were erected of 8-inch tile. The exterior of the buildings received a stucco finish. The one-story lavatories and kitchens attached to the barracks were of similar construction. Clay tile was also utilized in the construction of the bakery and heating plant. The exigencies of wartime did not

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permit for architectural ornamentation, so that the character of the barracks area was functional and utilitarian.

The use of clay tile in the construction of the barracks complex demonstrates the Army's interest in incorporating the most modern, most economical, and most efficient building material available. During the first two decades of the twentieth century, hollow clay tile became a widely used building material lauded for its strength, light weight, and low cost. Despite the decision to erect the buildings out of masonry materials, construction was carried out quickly. By August 1918, just four months after construction began, all 16 barracks, the bakery, and heating plant were completed and occupied.

The War Department proudly claimed that at the time of construction, Edgewood's permanent barracks featured the most modern mechanical systems. Barracks in the cantonment were heated by a central heating system whereby steam supplied by the cantonment heating plant was distributed underground to the individual buildings through steam mains. The electrical wiring in the cantonment buildings was installed in enameled-iron conduit, considered to be the most fireproof installation available. All plumbing fixtures installed in the buildings within the complex were of equally high standard. The cost of building the 16 barracks totaled \$850,000, an expenditure per building of approximately \$53,000. The bakery was constructed at a cost of \$10,000 and the heating plant for \$45,000.

**Planning**

The overall planning of the World War I Barracks Historic District also is significant. The physical configuration of the barracks complex represents a departure from the Army's usual cantonment planning. Most Army installations were arranged around a central parade ground. Since the Edgewood barracks were built for the specific purpose of housing enlisted personnel employed in the manufacturing plants, the arrangement of the housing did not follow this traditional Army post plan. Instead, the barracks at Edgewood Arsenal were situated in a symmetrical configuration of four rows each containing four buildings. Although linear plans were not unusual in post planning, particular design elements incorporated into the plan of the Edgewood cantonment distinguish it from more typical temporary cantonments. Two principal roadways intersect at the center of the cantonment, dividing the complex of barracks into equal quadrangles. Medians extend the length of these two roads, defining this central crossed axis, and distinguishing it from smaller service roads in the cantonment. The medians also lend a sense of formality to the building arrangement. The barracks themselves are oriented with fronts facing onto main roadways and rear elevations oriented onto narrower service roads.

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The barracks and the support structures form a cohesive collection of World War I-era permanent buildings. Although the barracks buildings and associated structures have undergone a number of modifications since their original construction, the barracks buildings form a cohesive entity comprised of functional, two-story, stuccoed buildings organized around a formal plan. The original design and plan of the barracks complex is evident in the linear arrangement of the buildings, perpendicular roadway layout, and the spatial relationship of the individual buildings. Later window replacements have retained the original fenestration pattern. The original open porches have been replaced with low, one-story additions on some buildings, thus maintaining the scale and overall massing. This consistency in building modifications sustains the visual rhythm of the district without adversely impacting the district's overall integrity. The individual buildings and the district as a whole retains sufficient integrity to convey the area's significance as a permanent cantonment dating from World War I.

**Summary**

The World War I Barracks Historic District district retains the characteristics most important to convey both its historical importance as the primary housing area associated with the establishment of the Edgewood Arsenal (Criterion A). In addition, the complex remains a rare example of a permanent construction cantonment dating from the World War I period (Criterion C).

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**Boundary Description**

World War I Barracks Historic District: Starting with a point on the northeast corner of the junction of Hoadley Road and Beal Road, the district boundary proceeds eastward along Beal Road to the northwest corner of the intersection of Beal Road and Wise Road. The boundary then turns north, and follows the west side of Wise Road north, to the junction with Austin Road. The boundary then proceeds west along the south side of Austin Road until it reaches a point on Austin Road directly north of Building E4445. From this point, the boundary follows a straight line north to the northeast corner of Building E4160. The boundary then turns west, and follows a straight line to Hoadley Road. The boundary then follows along the east side of Hoadley Road until it meets the starting point on the northeast corner of the Hoadley Road and Beal Road intersection.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries of the World War I Barracks Historic District outline the barracks complex as it was planned and constructed in 1918. This area, incorporating the barracks located south of Austin Road as well as the bakery and heating plant to the north of Austin Road, forms a cohesive representative example of Army planning and permanent construction during World War I.



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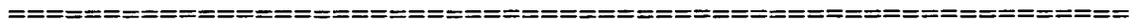
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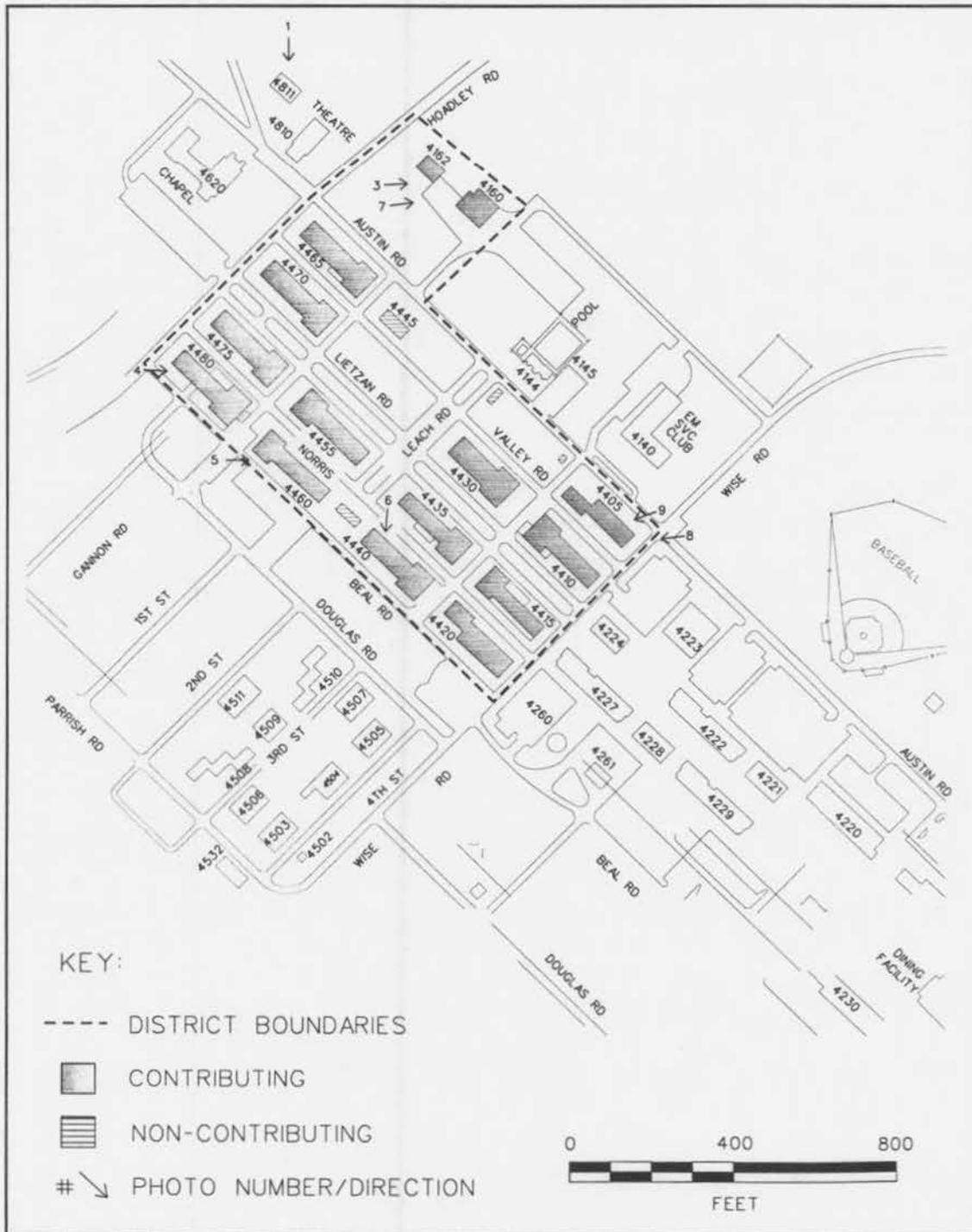
- 6
  - 1. Building E4440
  - 4. 11/1992
  - 6. View facing southeast
  
- 7
  - 1. Buildings E4162 and E4160
  - 4. 10/1993
  - 6. View facing northeast
  
- 8
  - 1. Historic view of Building E4405
  - 4. c.1919
  - 6. View facing southwest
  
- 9
  - 1. Building E4405
  - 4. 10/1993
  - 6. View facing southwest

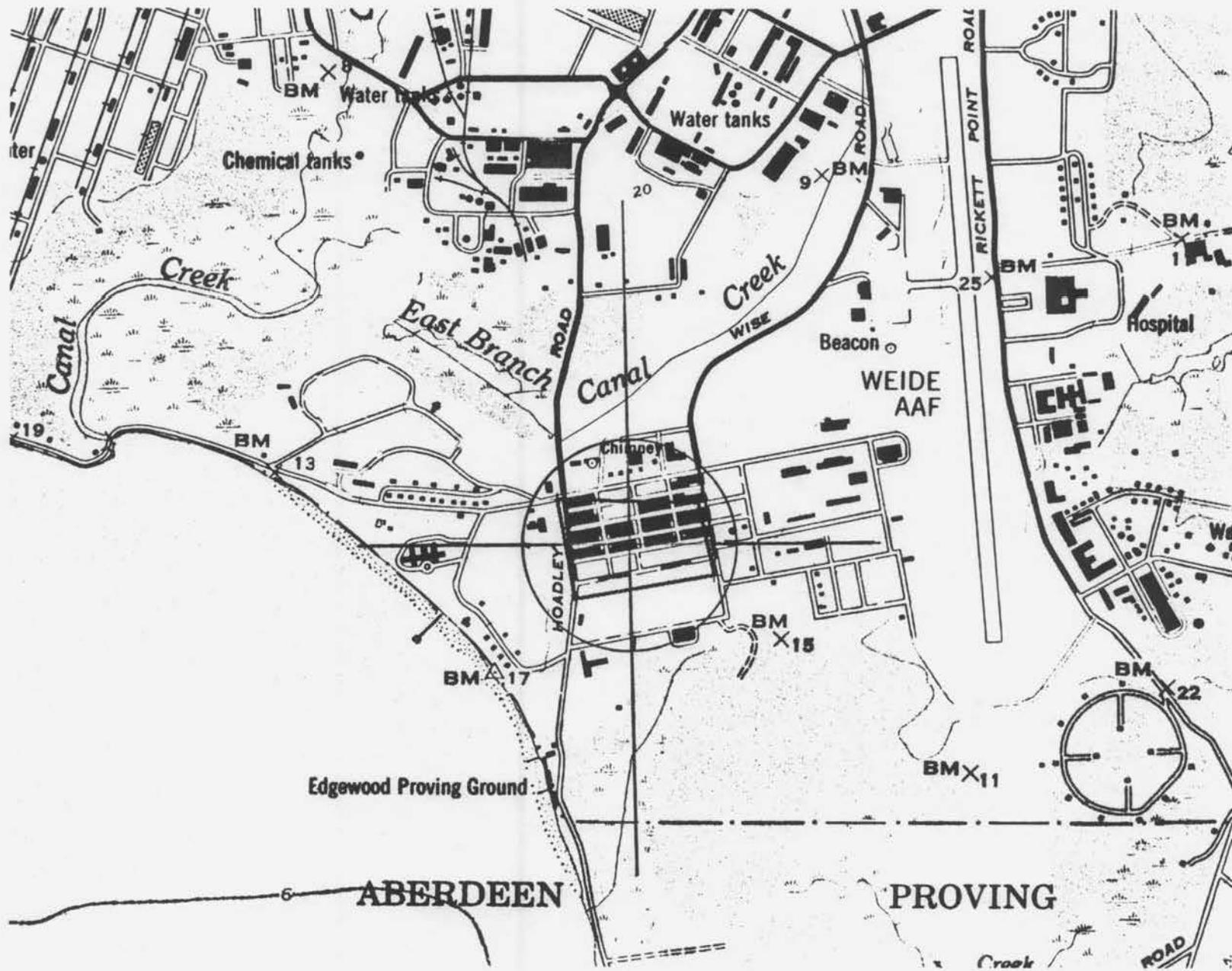
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Map Edgewood Arsenal  
Harford County, Maryland





World War I Barracks Historic District  
 Edgewood Arsenal, Harford County

Edgewood quad

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Rochester, NY



World War I Barracks Historic District,  
Edgewood Arsenal  
Harford County, Maryland  
Photo 1

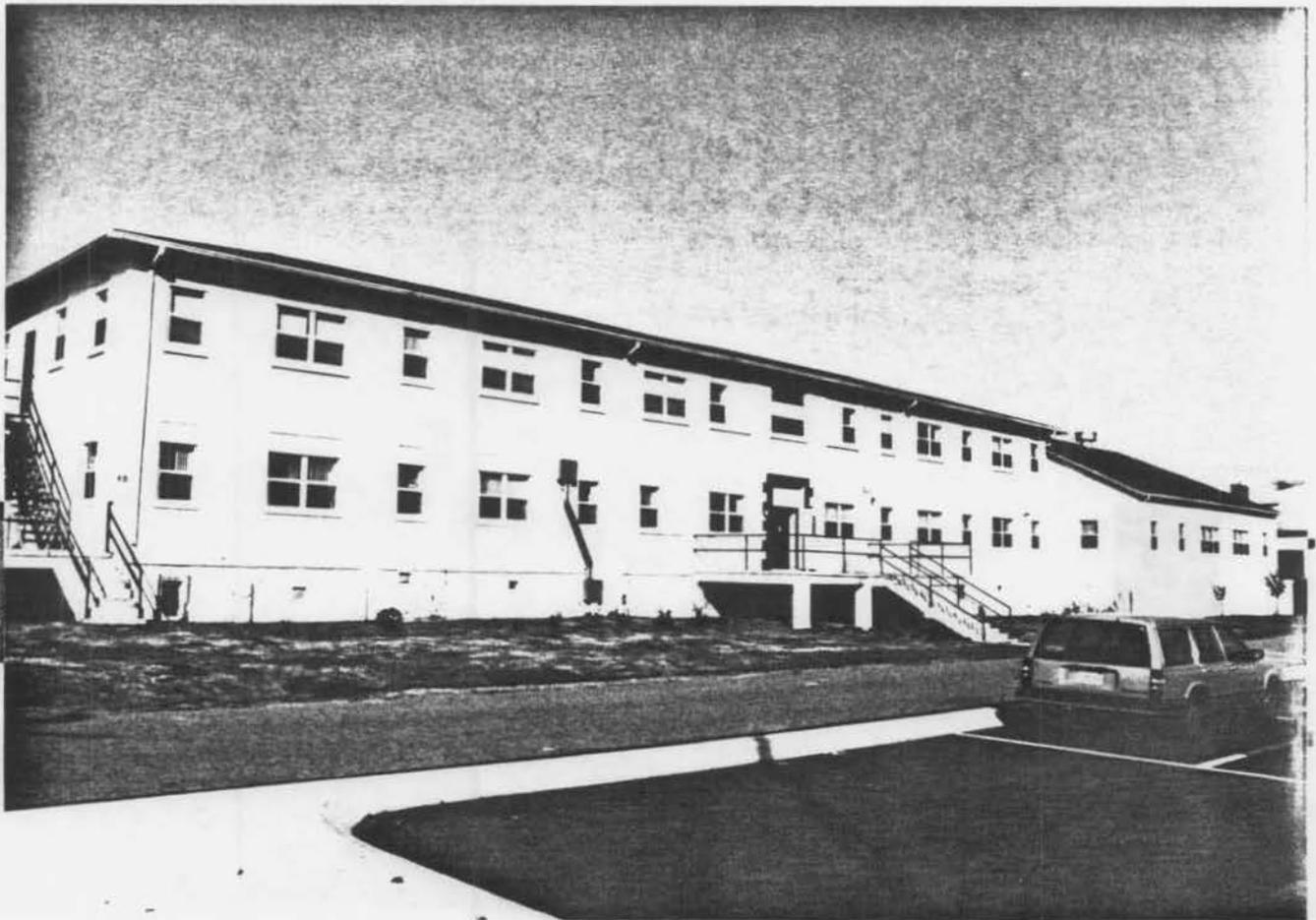
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World War I Barracks Historic District,  
Edgewood Arsenal  
Harford County, MD  
Photo 2

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Bakery, Heating Plant & Laundry (1919)

World War I Barracks Hist. District, Edgewood Arsenal

Aberdeen Proving Ground

Harford County, MD.

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Photo #3

Bakery, Heating Plant & Laundry

World War I Barracks Hist. District, Edgewood Arsenal

Aberdeen Proving Ground

Harford County, MD

Photo #4

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Building E4460  
World War I Barracks Hist. District, Edgewood Arsenal  
Aberdeen Proving Ground  
Harford County, MD. WA-1855  
Photo #5



Building E4440  
World War I Barracks Hist. Dist., Edgewood Arsenal  
Harford County, MD.  
Photo #6

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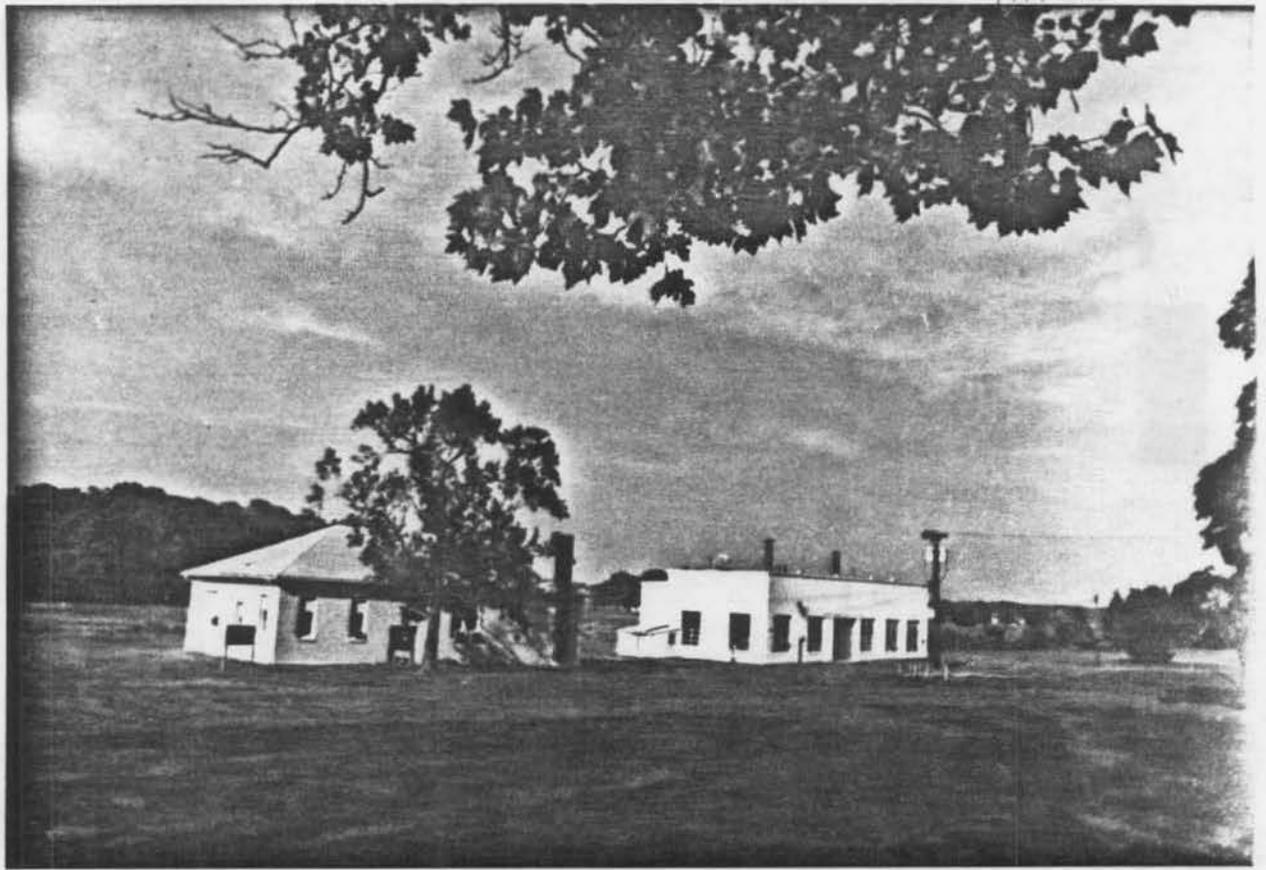


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LIGHT IMPRESSIONS  
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Buildings E4162, E4160  
World War I Barracks Historic District, Edgewood Arsenal  
Aberdeen Proving Ground  
Harford County, MD. MA-1855  
Photo #7



World War I Barracks Historic District,  
Edgewood Arsenal  
Harford County, MD  
Photo 8



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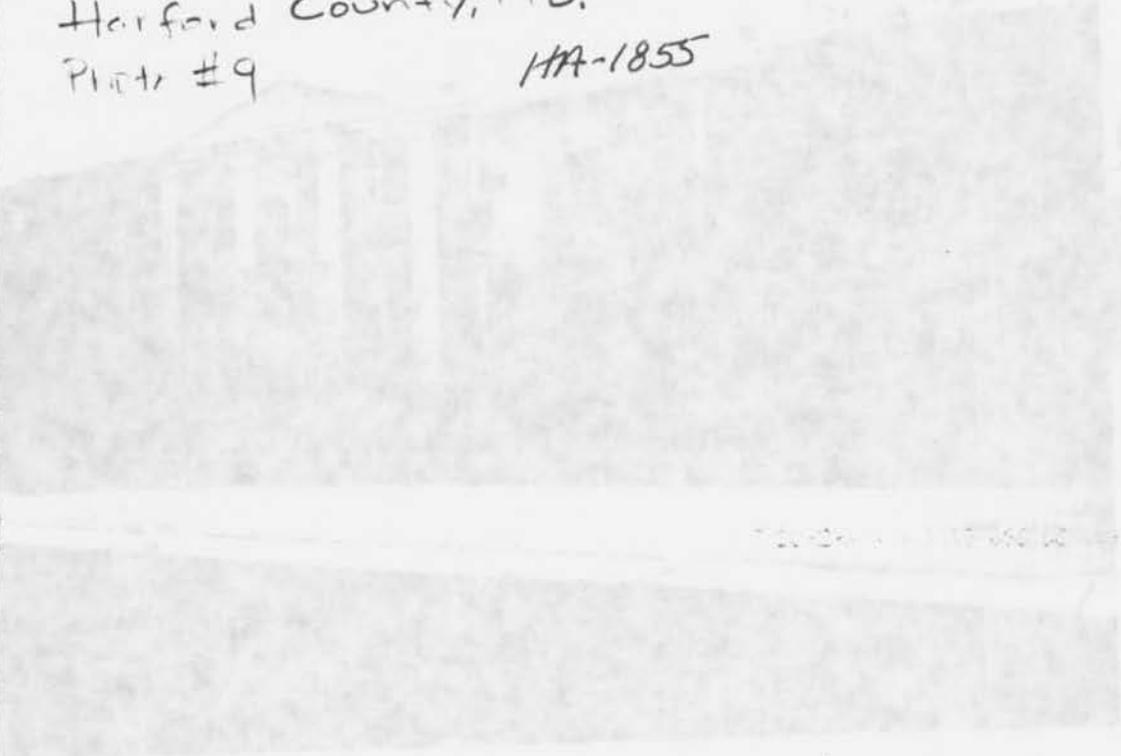


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Building E4405  
World War I Barracks Hist. District, Edgewood Arsenal  
Harford County, MD.  
Photo #9

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