

IV. Cold War Overview and Evaluation

Cold War Era Historic Context

Following World War II Fort McClellan was used as a demobilization center until June 1947 when it was deactivated. The fort remained on inactive status from 1947 to 1950. During that time only a handful of military personnel were assigned to maintain the extensive grounds and numerous buildings which soon became overgrown or fell into disrepair. While increasing tensions with the Soviet Union had created an international situation that would later be known as the Cold War, the drive for economy in defense spending had reduced the Army's strength and materiel readiness by the end of the 1940s (Lavin 1988:20). Fort McClellan was restored to active status under the leadership of Brigadier General Theodore R. Wessels. The idea initially was to use the fort for National Guard training once again, and to that end the 44th Engineer Construction Battalion from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, was ordered to McClellan to begin the preparations.

The facilities were rehabilitated for the 1950 summer encampment of the 31st National Guard Division (the Dixie Division) from Alabama and Mississippi. With the onset of hostilities in Korea, the 44th Battalion was ordered to the Far East Command in August of 1950 before they had completed their mission at Fort McClellan. The job then fell into the hands of the post commander, General Wessels, an expert on landscaping. With 10 million dollars in funding, Wessels tackled the job with enthusiasm, restoring the parade grounds, ranges and lawns, and earning him the sobriquet, "Father of the New Fort McClellan" (Lane 1955:31). Fort McClellan, along with Army installations all over the United States, saw new activity as a result of the conflict in Korea. Training facilities were once again filled with troops preparing for combat assignments.

After 1950 Fort McClellan was used for extensive National Guard training. During the summers of 1951 and 1952, three National Guard Divisions, the 30th (North Carolina-Tennessee), the 48th (Georgia-Florida), and the 51st (Florida-South Carolina), took their annual two-week training at Fort McClellan, as did over 40 Organized

Reserve Corps (ORC) units. Consisting chiefly of small medical, ordnance and transportation companies, these units concentrated their efforts on specialist training and arms qualification. Chemical ROTC units and Women's Army Corps reservists also trained at Fort McClellan during the summers that followed.

Training divisions and smaller special units of the seven southern states within the Third Army area continued to train with the full support of the post complement and facilities. The first week was normally spent in tented encampments on the fort, and the major portion of the second week was spent in the field. The various ranges, including the extensive Pelham Range, afforded training for every type of simulated combat terrain. National Guard and Reserve training remained an important part of Fort McClellan's mission throughout the years of the Cold War.

Brigadier General T. F. Wessels retired from the Army in May 1952 and was succeeded as Post Commander by Brigadier General Harry B. Sherman. In 1951 the Army had chosen Fort McClellan to host the Chemical Corps School, later styled the U.S. Army Chemical Center and School. The school first occupied Building 141 in the post headquarters area. Ten million dollars in funding was appropriated to build new facilities which were completed in 1954. Another newcomer in the 1950s, the Women's Army Corps Center and School was transferred from Fort Lee, Virginia, in 1954. The WAC Center acted as the receiving, processing and training center for all female volunteers to its service. Its new facilities were located near Fort McClellan's north gate. The Chemical School and the WAC Center and their facilities will be discussed in greater detail in following sections of this report.

In 1953 the post had three libraries, four motion picture theaters, an outdoor amphitheater, an outdoor playhouse, three service clubs, four swimming pools, a large sports arena, a gymnasium, a golf course, and numerous facilities for other sports (*The Army Post* 1953:14-15). Special services programs sponsored dances, picnics, and various musical and other entertainment shows. USO groups also sponsored programs on post. Boating and fishing were available at Reilly Lake on the main post and at Sherman Lake in Pelham Range.

New facilities for the Post Engineers (Building 215 and associated structures) were completed in 1955 at a cost of \$240,000. Quintard Terrace Apartments, a Wherry housing project completed at a cost of 1.2 million dollars, opened for residency by post

personnel in February 1955 (Lane 1955:36). This was followed by extensive construction of housing and other facilities in the late 1950s. Between 1955 and 1960, over 200 new units of family housing were constructed on Fort McClellan. The national Wherry Housing program was designed to bring together public and private industry to improve military family housing. It allowed private sponsors to lease property on military reservations for a nominal fee and then construct, operate, and maintain residential developments at reasonable costs. A subsequent housing program named the Capehart program also allowed private sponsors to build military family housing, but they did not operate or maintain it. Both Wherry and Capehart housing areas were constructed at Fort McClellan. By 1965 there were 587 individual housing units administered as public quarters on post.

In 1962 the three-story 61,000-square-foot Noble Army Hospital (Building 292) was added as a permanent medical center. This replaced the wood structures of earlier hospitals, including a specialized facility for treatment of tuberculosis and other chest diseases which had closed in the mid-1950s. The new 100-bed hospital boasted reinforced concrete, frame, and masonry unit walls with red brick facing, central air-conditioning, an emergency room, a modern intercom system, and television sets in all rooms (*The Anniston Star*, May 4, 1962). Medical services included both an Internal Medicine Section and a Pediatric Section with inpatient and outpatient care for military personnel and their dependents. This hospital has expanded and remained in use until the present.

The Officer Evaluation Center was established at Fort McClellan as a Class II activity of the Office of Personnel Operations in 1962. The Army Combat Developments Command Chemical-Biological-Radiological Agency also arrived at Fort McClellan in 1962. Its principal activities were preparing combat development studies, material objectives, material requirements, and operations research studies; planning for, monitoring, and reporting on troop tests and field experiments; participating in war games; and preparing field manuals and tables of organization and equipment for publication by the Army. It occupied all of Building 3191 except part of the first floor, and its Organization and Doctrine Directorate occupied space in the main Chemical School facility (Building 3181).

President Kennedy's commitment to a "flexible response" strategy that emphasized conventional forces provided an increased role for the Army in United

States defense policy. During the Eisenhower years, the Air Force had received the bulk of military appropriations due to the policy of reliance on strategic nuclear weapons. This changed in the 1960s when the United States became increasingly committed to the defense of the South Vietnamese government, including the large-scale deployment of ground combat forces. The philosophy behind the build-up was an effort to contain the spread of global communism (Lavin 1998:23,36). Fort McClellan played a major role in this conflict. As the strength of the Army increased, training programs were expanded in order to provide for the significant mobilization of ground forces in Vietnam.

To meet requirements for the Vietnam War, an Advanced Individual Training (AIT) Infantry Brigade was established at the fort in 1966. Its mission was to qualify soldiers to "perform duties as a light weapons infantryman or indirect fire crewman in a unit engaged in or supporting combat operations" (*Fort McClellan News*, June 13, 1967). Men who had been in the Army for eight or nine weeks were trained in combat infantry skills in the eight-week course. Part of the training included a three-day field exercise at Pelham Range in a mock-up of a Vietnamese village that included realistic settings complete with underground tunnels. There the infantry trainees conducted operations against "VC" aggressors, defended their own base camp, and practiced searching Vietnamese villages and base camps. This mock village is no longer extant. Soldiers left the AIT to attend Officer Candidate School, return to National Guard or Reserve units, or to take their place in regular infantry units. After training more than 30,000 men, the brigade was deactivated in 1970.

The Third Army NCO Academy graduated more than 8,000 students while it operated between 1967 and 1972. It offered six-week basic and senior courses, graduating approximately 85 non-commissioned officers at six week intervals (*Fort McClellan News*, July 18, 1967). Military needs had changed by 1973 with the beginning of the all-volunteer Army and agreements for withdrawal of the remaining U. S. forces in Vietnam.

A significant change in the Army's structure affected Fort McClellan in 1973 when the Army eliminated the Continental Army Command (CONARC) and replaced it with two new commands, Forces Command (FORSCOM) and Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). TRADOC's task of training both individual soldiers and units made it responsible for all of the Army's branch schools. This included the task of

writing doctrine about how Army units should train. New training programs in the late 1970s emphasized specific tasks. The Army also increased its use of technology, both to add realism and minimize costs (Lavin 1998:53). TRADOC installations such as Fort McClellan typically maintained large administrative and classroom buildings supported by smaller instructional and administrative buildings, as well as facilities for field training tailored to the specific branch or activity. These types of properties were all present within the various specialized schools that utilized Fort McClellan during the Cold War.

Both the U.S. Army Chemical Center and School and the WAC Center were closed at Fort McClellan in the 1970s. The Chemical School left in 1973 to be merged with the Ordnance Corps in Aberdeen, Maryland. The WAC Center and School were closed in 1978 due to the integration of women into co-ed training with men. Once again, Alabama politicians began to petition Washington for the fort to remain open and they were once again successful. The Army moved the Military Police School to Fort McClellan from Fort Gordon in 1975, and the U.S. Army Chemical School was re-opened in 1980 to give Fort McClellan a major training mission (Entire 1983:86-88). In 1987 the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF) became operational for training. This unique facility provided an indoor environment for training with live chemical agents. The need for this facility was a direct response to intelligence reports of increased Soviet chemical warfare capabilities.

Throughout its Cold War history, the Army successfully adapted to its changing circumstances. By the end of the 1980s, world political events saw a weakened Soviet Union, a dissolving Warsaw Pact alliance, and finally the collapse of the Soviet block. "Ultimately, the success of the U.S. Army and the other noncommunist military forces can be judged by the fact that the free world prevailed in the Cold War without any overt hostilities with Soviet forces" (Lavin 1998:62). It was in this climate that Congress began considering closing U.S. military installations in the late 1980s. Fort McClellan was placed on Pentagon-recommended closure lists, but survived several rounds of base closure hearings in the early 1990s. Finally in 1995 the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) voted to close Fort McClellan. After a history spanning most of the twentieth century, the "military showplace of the South" was scheduled to close on September 30, 1999.

The following three sections will establish a more detailed historic context for the Women's Army Corps, the Chemical Corps School and the Military Police School at Fort McClellan. The last section will include evaluations of buildings and structures for Cold War significance.

The Women's Army Corps Center and School (1954-1978)

In 1950 the Army initiated action to establish a permanent center for the Women's Army Corps (WAC). During the first years of its existence the WAC had opened five different training centers. WAC enlistees had been training at Fort Lee, Virginia since 1948 when women were first made a part of the regular and reserve elements of the military establishment. Women had previously served in World War II as part of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) and the WAC (after 1943), but their authorized numbers were greatly reduced when the war ended. Following favorable Congressional action, construction began in November 1952 for the permanent WAC Center at Fort McClellan. The contractor was the Bruce Construction Company of Miami, Florida, and initial construction costs totaled 10.5 million dollars (Morden 1990:146). Strikes, bad weather, and shortages of building supplies caused by the Korean War slowed construction.

The first trainees arrived at Fort McClellan on June 25, 1954, and the first 200-woman platoon to receive all its training at the new center was graduated on August 26. The WAC facilities were officially dedicated at ceremonies held on September 27, 1954. A bronze dedication plaque was unveiled on this occasion by Army chief of staff General Matthew B. Ridgway, who had initiated the action to establish a permanent installation for the corps, and Colonel Irene Galloway, director of the Women's Army Corps. The plaque, now set in a pillar of Alabama marble on a fieldstone base, is presently located in the landscaped area known as WAC Memorial Triangle. The city of Anniston welcomed the WAC enlistees with banners and placards, newspaper ads, and special WAC activities.

Army regulations directed the mission of the Women's Army Corps, which was to constitute a peacetime establishment of trained military women who would provide a nucleus for a rapid expansion in the event of a national emergency (U.S. Army Women's Army Corps School and Center 1975:24). The personnel needs of an expanded military force were a direct result of the conflict in Korea and the increasing

tensions of the Cold War. Accepting women as part of a force to stem communist aggression was a radical idea for its time (Lavin 1998:24). The WAC Center was the receiving, processing, and training center for all women who volunteered for the Army. Here the enlistee received eight weeks of basic training in Army doctrine, modified to what was then considered appropriate for women in the service. After basic training the enlisted women were sent to field WAC detachments or to Army schools for further training in specialized fields. The WAC School operated a clerical training division for enlisted women, an officer candidate course, an officers' basic course, and an officers' advanced course.

The WAC facilities consisted of two major sections -- the WAC Center which included the Training Battalion area, and the WAC School which included the Headquarters and Headquarters Company area. Figure 26 illustrates these facilities as they existed in the mid-1950s. Enlistees reported to the Headquarters and Receiving Company (Building 2220) for processing, and then they were assigned to one of four companies in the battalion to begin eight weeks of basic training. In 1954 the battalion area included four training barracks and two mess halls (Buildings 2202 and 2203). Each of the three-story barracks had a capacity of 224 women. Building 2221 housed "A" Company; 2223 housed "B" Company; 2224 housed "C" Company, and 2225 housed "D" Company. Barrack 2227 was reserved for the 14th Army WAC Band, including quarters and rehearsal rooms. A clothing issue warehouse (2299) and a basic battalion school building with 25 classrooms and offices (Building 2281) were the major buildings to complete this training area. A 1965 expansion of Building 2281 (re-named Munson Hall) also included a new gymnasium and the Edith Nourse Rogers Museum, the first official museum of the WAC. A WAC dispensary (Building 2290) was located on Galloway Road. Building 2213, now the post's Child Development Center, was originally a WAC Service Club.

The WAC Center Headquarters was located in Building 1060 on a hill near the North Gate (now Galloway Gate). It held offices for the commander and her immediate staff, a 256-seat auditorium, message center, and printing shop. Headquarters (Building 1020) and Headquarters Company (Building 1021) housed over 200 permanent WAC personnel assigned to jobs throughout the WAC Center and Fort McClellan. This area also included a mess hall (Building 1001) and two other buildings. Building 1022 was a Clerical Training Company, and Building 1023 was the Officers' Training Detachment. The WAC School was in Building 1081 (named Faith Hall in 1963)

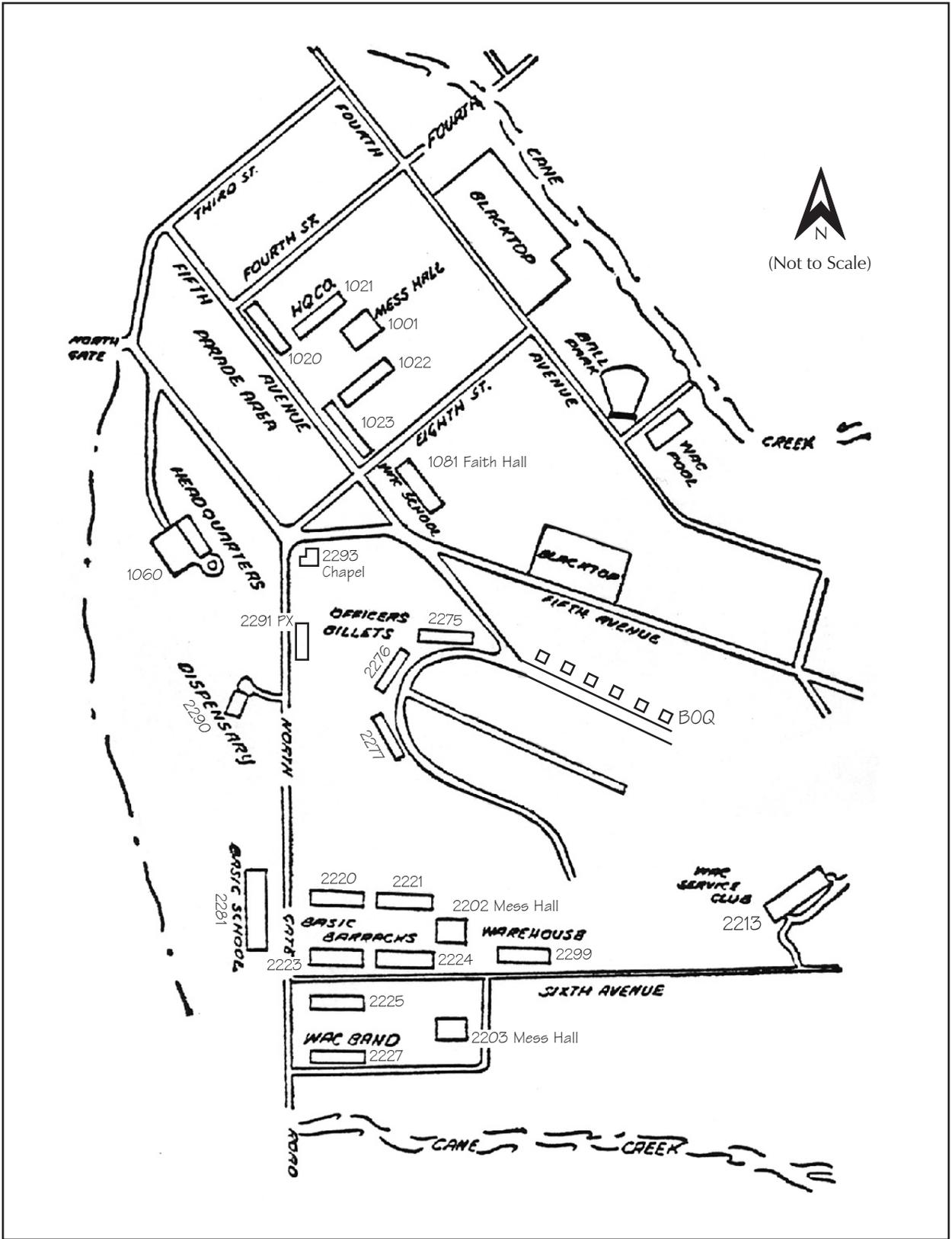


Figure 26
Map of WAC Center and School, c. 1956

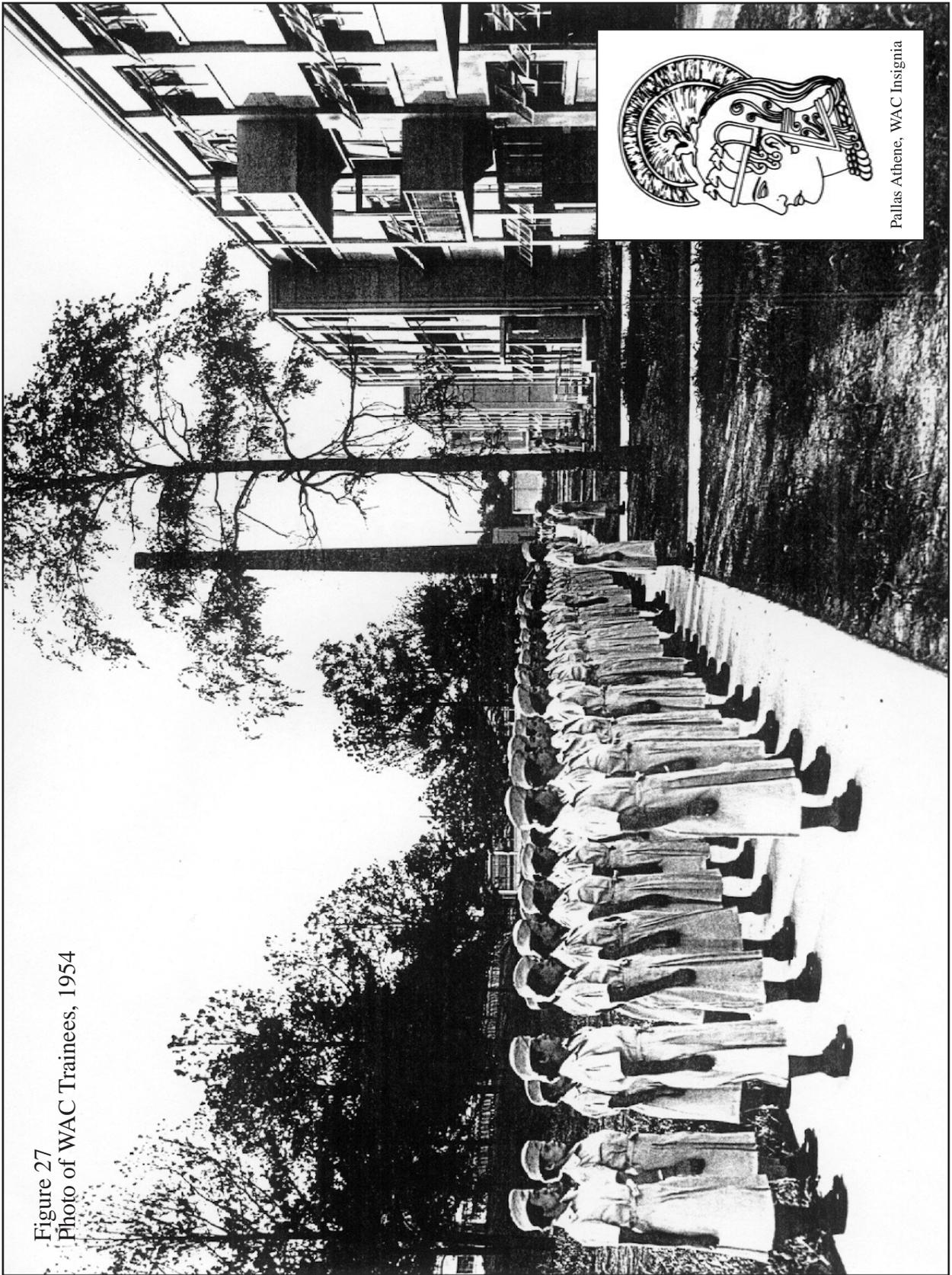


Figure 27
Photo of WAC Trainees, 1954

Pullias Athene, WAC Insignia

Courtesy, Fort McClellan.



Building 1023, Across
Georgia C. Marshall
Parade Ground



Building 1081,
Former Faith Hall
(WAC School)



Building 2227,
Former WAC Band Barracks

Figure 28
Current Photos of Buildings in Former WAC Area



Building 2276,
Former WAC BOQ



Building 2293,
WAC Memorial Chapel

Figure 29
Current Photos of Buildings in Former WAC Area

which included 25 classrooms, a library, and a bookstore. The George C. Marshall parade ground, used by marching troops in their weekly reviews, occupied a large rectangular area in this section. Unaccompanied WAC officers were housed in Bachelor Officers' Quarters (BOQs) numbered 2275, 2276, and 2277 located on an elliptical drive on a nearby hill. These had a capacity of 50 officers each. Senior officers occupied several rock cottages (2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, and 2240) that had been built previously and moved to the WAC area. An athletic field (1370) and swimming pool (1095) for WAC personnel were constructed nearby. The 300-seat WAC Chapel (Building 2293) was dedicated on May 12, 1956 on the 14th anniversary of the corps. A small WAC Post Exchange (Building 2291) was opened in 1959.

The WAC facilities, while perhaps considered austere by today's standards, were touted as modern and even luxurious in the 1950s. Most of the buildings were made of cream-colored steel-reinforced concrete or concrete blocks. A few had yellow/beige brick exteriors. Most were utilitarian in appearance with flat roofs, large louvered windows in steel frames, ventilation fans, asphalt tile flooring, and pastel-painted interiors. Few had air conditioning until later years. (After air conditioning was added, most of the large windows were reduced in size, and almost no original windows remain today.) Living quarters varied according to rank, but most were considered superior to equivalent male quarters. Each barracks had three stories and a basement containing offices, storage, and a mail room. Undated documents supplied by the fort described them as follows:

Each barracks building houses an entire company, including administrative offices. On the first floor there is a reception room where Wacs may receive male guests. A dayroom (the Army living room) is also on the first floor and provides indoor recreational facilities such as TV, card and other tables, writing desks, magazines and newspapers, juke box and hi-fi recordings. A pullman kitchenette is situated on each floor of the barracks. Laundry rooms on each floor are equipped with automatic washers and dryers.

Trainees are housed in open bays accommodating 40 women each. Cadre assigned to companies in the battalion and top three graders in the headquarters company occupy private rooms. Other permanently assigned enlisted women live two to a cubicle and each may decorate her quarters in any appropriate manner desired.

Student officers and officer candidates lived in similar barracks with semi-private rooms. WAC officers in the BOQs had more spacious accommodations. Lieutenants and captains shared a suite, which consisted of two bedrooms separated by a

bathroom. Majors and above had individual suites - living room, bedroom, and bath (Morden 1990:150). Officers in key positions occupied a few small cottages.

According to Morden (1990:151):

Attainment of the branch "home" made a difference in the progress of most WAC programs. It provided visible proof that Congress and the Army appreciated the Women's Army Corps and wanted it to prosper. The new Center and school thus enhance the prestige of the WAC within the Army, improved the morale of the women on duty, and gave WAC recruiters a significant new selling point for obtaining recruits and student officers. During the year that ended 30 June 1954, 2,958 enlisted women entered the corps; in the year that followed, 4,384. And while only 90 women received commissions in FY 1954, and only 53 in FY 1955, 115 were appointed in FY 1956.

The WAC School's motto was "Wisdom, Achievement and Character." After 1956 the school also trained women of the military services of other countries. The College Junior Course was offered beginning in 1957. This four-week course introduced the Army to women who had completed their junior year in college in order to qualify them for commissions in the WAC after college graduation. In addition to basic training for enlisted personnel in the WAC Center, the WAC School offered several different courses through the late 1950s and 1960s. The eight-week Enlisted Clerical Training Course qualified women (and eventually men) who had completed basic training for assignments as clerk-typists or stenographers. These students were quartered in the adjoining Officer Training Detachment and Clerical Training Company. The cadre of these units conducted training in drill, inspections, parades, and ceremonies. The 20-week Officer Career Course trained senior officers in the duties and responsibilities they would assume in staff assignments at Army or higher headquarters. Students in the Officer Basic Course and Officer Candidate Course prepared to assume company grade duties during their 18-week training period.

The WAC Center and School was also the home of the all-female 14th Army Band from 1954 to 1974. This well-respected band achieved national fame through radio, television and personal appearances, including presidential inaugural parades. It traveled extensively in support of recruiting and public relations activities. The band had approximately 50 members in 1965. It participated in fort functions such as marchouts, weekly reviews, graduation ceremonies, orientations, and special events and functions. The band was assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army Training Center, Fort McClellan in 1974, and it was integrated to include men in 1976.

Women in the Army were trained to rigorous standards of military discipline by a highly qualified staff and faculty. Training soon expanded as the Army changed to open more occupational specialties to women. By 1972 Army policy allowed women to serve in more than 400 Military Occupational Specialties (MOS). The only duties closed to women were the combat-related ones and those that were considered too physically demanding for women. Increased eligibility for overseas assignment gave women more opportunity, and, for the first time in 1972, the Secretary of the Army approved a change in regulations whereby women would be permitted to command men. Weapons familiarization was introduced to women's basic training in 1974.

Any policy expanding the Corps affected Fort McClellan. WAC active Army strength was 19,358 enlisted women and 1,172 officers in 1973. The U. S. Army Women's Army Corps Center and School had grown from one basic training battalion with four companies in 1954 to three battalions with 14 companies by 1973. One of the three battalions at Fort McClellan was disestablished in 1974, but a new WAC battalion was activated at Fort Jackson, South Carolina (*Fort McClellan News*, May 13, 1983). Social attitudes about women in the Army had also changed by the 1970s, and this eventually led to major policy changes that fully integrated women into the Army.

Fort McClellan remained the home of the WAC until the corps was disestablished and its flag retired in 1978. The end of the corps signaled the end of "separate but equal" policies regarding women in the Army. Participating in the final ceremony was Maj. Gen. Mary E. Clarke, the last director of the Women's Army Corps and destined to later become the commanding general of Fort McClellan, the first woman ever to command a major Army installation.

U. S. Army Chemical Center and School (1951-1973, 1980-1999)

On January 4, 1951 the Army announced that it had decided to reactivate Fort McClellan on a unlimited basis for operation of the Chemical Corps School and as a replacement center for the Chemical Corps (Lane 1955:32). The selection of Fort McClellan was based in part on its extensive areas for outdoor training and the possibility for expansion. The move from the Army Chemical Center (formerly Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland) took place from May to August in 1951. The new Chemical Training Command at Fort McClellan included the Chemical Replacement Training Center, the 100th Chemical Group, and the Chemical Corps School (Lane

1955:32). Pending construction of new facilities, the school began temporarily operating out of Building 141 on "the Hill" near Post Headquarters.

In September 1951, the school opened with a full schedule, offering numerous courses throughout the year to officers and enlisted men of all branches of the Army. Courses were also available to Navy, Air Force, Marine and Coast Guard personnel, as well as to students of some foreign nations. These courses ranged in length from two to 40 weeks and were designed to offer the best specialized training in all phases of Chemical Corps activity. Basic training was given to recruits at the Chemical Replacement Training Center. It consisted of eight weeks of training in basic Army skills, weapons, tactics, battle indoctrination and similar activities. This was followed by eight weeks of chemical training in the operation of smoke generators, flame-throwers, the principles of decontamination, and protection against chemical warfare. Unit training was carried on by the 100th Chemical Group which taught advanced skills in chemical warfare on a unit level. The Chemical Corps School offered advanced training in all phases of chemical, biological and radiological (CBR) warfare (Lane 1955:33).

A brief history of the Chemical Corps is necessary to provide a context for the discussion of the Chemical School. The corps dates back to World War I when the 30th Engineers Gas and Flame Regiment was organized on August 30, 1917. The Germans had already released deadly chlorine gas in a devastating attack near the Belgian town of Ypres on April 22, 1915 (*Anniston Star*, March 24, 1981). Various allied schools in chemical warfare, called Gas Schools, conducted courses during the war, but no single U. S. agency had complete responsibility for the various activities related to chemical warfare. This changed when the Chemical Warfare Service (CWS) became a permanent branch of the Army in 1920 and the Chemical Warfare School at Lakehurst Proving Ground, New Jersey, was brought under its control. The school was transferred to Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland on September 20, 1920. During World War II, responsibility for research and development in the field of biological operations was also assigned to the CWS. The allies were convinced that their own stockpiles of chemical weapons deterred the Germans from using gas warfare in the Second World War (Lavin 1998:33).

The CWS was redesignated the Chemical Corps in 1946, and with that change the school became the Chemical Corps School. Between the end of the Second World War and the beginning of the Korean conflict, the Chemical Corps, along with the rest

of the Army, was reduced in size. Responsibility for radiological defense was added to the mission of the Corps in the 1950s when nuclear warfare became an increasing threat. At the beginning of the Korean War, the need for better coordination of chemical training, additional units, and expansion of the Chemical Corps School became apparent. The 1951 move to Fort McClellan was designed to provide that area for expansion. According to Lavin (1998:33):

...As the Cold War developed, the United States once again began to develop a retaliatory capability for both chemical and biological weapons, with the justification that only a credible allied capability could prevent the Warsaw Pact from using chemical agents. Nerve agents, which were remarkably swift and lethal, were produced on a large scale, although all other agents were also produced.

Because many Nazi production facilities for nerve agents were in eastern Germany, the Soviet occupation of that region gave the Soviets the technology to make nerve agents. Intelligence estimates of Soviet chemical capabilities convinced Army leaders that the Soviets were prepared to use lethal gases and that the United States must maintain a credible deterrent. Warsaw Pact troops were reported to be conducting extensive training in chemical defense measures, while aerial reconnaissance showed substantial storage facilities for chemical weapons.

The Chemical Corps School at Fort McClellan underwent several name changes and some reorganization through its history -- first in 1957 to the U. S. Army Chemical Corps School, and then in 1963 to the U. S. Army Chemical Center and School. Involvement in the Southeast Asian conflict resulted in the use of riot control agents, defoliants, smoke, and flame by U. S. combat troops. Non-lethal CS munitions (known to some as "tear gas") were used to subdue the enemy in Vietnam in circumstances where it was difficult to distinguish the Viet Cong from the civilian population.

A changing political climate after Vietnam War lead to the recommendation to disestablish the Chemical Corps as a separate branch in 1973. Since an unexplained 1969 accident at the Army's chemical testing facilities at Dugway Proving Ground in Utah, the Army had discontinued development of its retaliatory chemical capabilities and even limited its implementation of defensive measures (Lavin 1998:56). In the 1970s chemical warfare underwent what appeared to be a period of de-emphasis in the United States. The Chemical School was closed and removed from Fort McClellan in 1973. In 1976 the recommendation for disestablishment of the Chemical Corps was withdrawn because of the awareness of a growing nuclear-biological-chemical (NBC) threat from the Soviet Union. The Chemical Corps was retained as a branch, and the school was reactivated at Fort McClellan in 1980. The Army's regimental system

affected the Chemical Corps on June 27, 1986, when the Chemical Corps Regiment was established.

Chemical facilities and training at Fort McClellan changed considerably in the years between 1954 and the end of the Cold War. From 1951 to 1954, the school was housed in converted barracks (Building 141) until the new buildings were opened on October 4, 1954. Most of the 10 million dollar project was erected by the Shelby Construction Company of Norfolk, Virginia. The new facilities included a school building with air-conditioned classrooms (Building 3181); two 500-man barracks (3130 and 3131); one 25-man bachelor officers quarters (3135); laboratories for chemical, biological and radiological instruction (in buildings 3182 and 3181); a 500-seat auditorium (in Building 3181); the Training Command Headquarters (3191); motor pool (3138); flame thrower buildings; personnel decontamination station (3185); a warehouse (3170); and later a hot cell for storage and remote handling of radioactive materials (3192). Building 3192 will be discussed in greater detail in the evaluation section of this chapter. The earliest facilities are illustrated in the map in Figure 30, and later expansion is shown in Figure 31. Figure 32 is an early plan of the main school in Building 3181 (called Sibert Hall between 1965 and 1973).

Regular courses of instruction in 1954 included the Basic Chemical Officer Course, the Associate Chemical Company Officer Course, the Chemical Officer Advanced Course, and refresher courses. By the mid-1960s the list of courses for officers had expanded to include the following: Chemical Officer Basic (9-week), Chemical Officer Career (28-week), CBR Officer (4-week), Radiological Safety (2-week), USARADCOM CBR Officer (3-week), Chemical Officer Refresher (2-week), and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (2-week). Selected enlisted personnel were trained in specialized fields to become decontamination supervisors, chemical equipment repairmen, laboratory technicians, chemical staff specialists, and radiological technicians. Intensive field training for combat situations was an integral portion of the curriculum. Scientific and technological training, as well as familiarization with the use and application of specialized equipment, were important aspects of most courses.

A total of approximately 4,000 students graduated from all programs in 1955. By 1966 approximately 1,400 officers and 4,000 enlisted men graduated from resident programs. Extension programs enrolled another 2,500 students annually (U.S. Army Chemical Center and School 1967). Thirty-six different courses were offered in 1967.

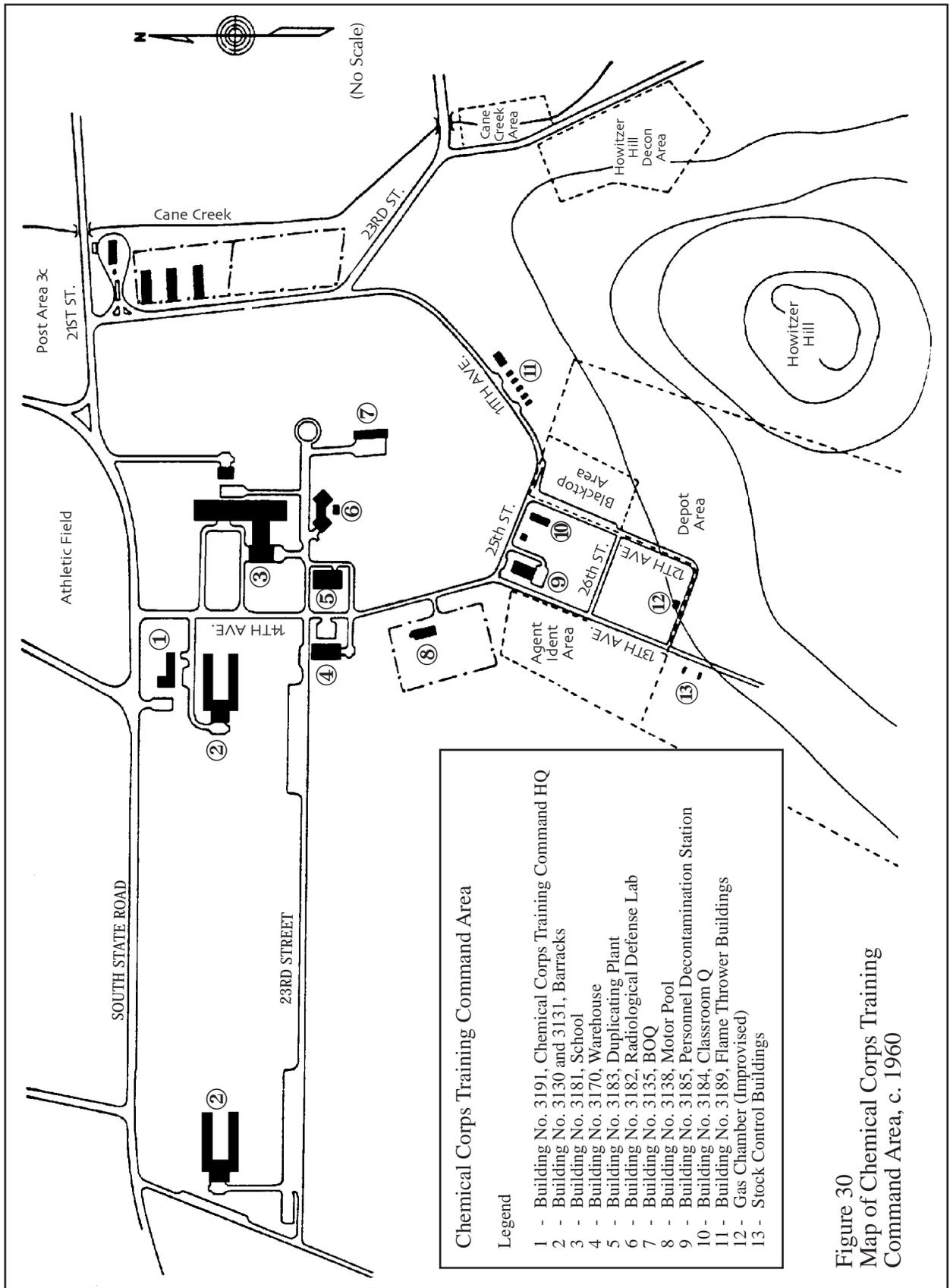


Figure 30
Map of Chemical Corps Training
Command Area, c. 1960

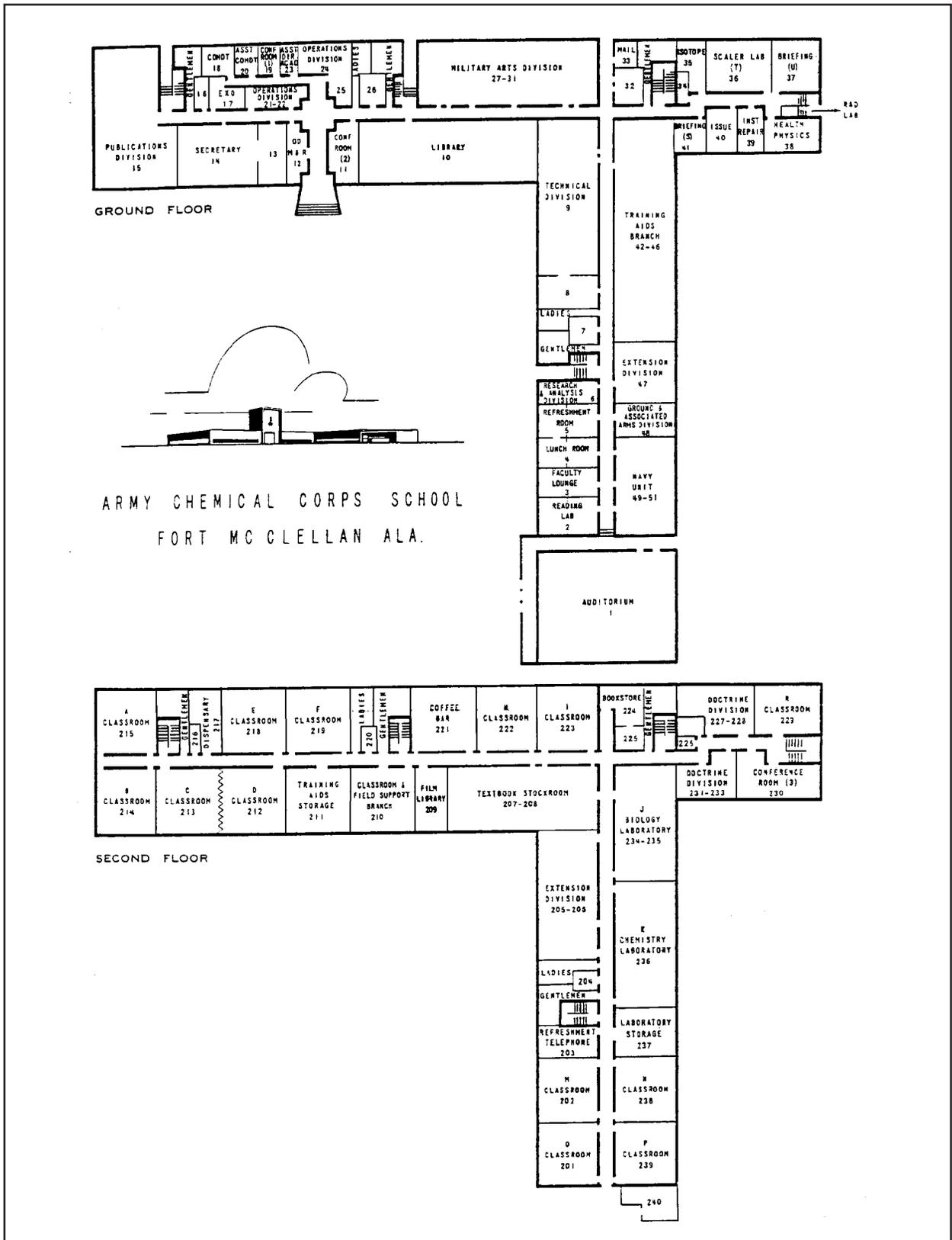


Figure 32
Plan Building 3181, c. 1970



Building 3130 and Former
Chemical School Barracks



Building 3181,
Former Chemical
School Headquarters



Building 3182,
MP Museum, Former
Chemical School
Laboratory Building

Figure 33
Photos of Buildings in Former Chemical School (Now MP Area)

As the school contributed to the Army build-up in Vietnam, the training load increased significantly (*Fort McClellan News*, May 23, 1967). By 1969, 8,000 students were trained annually at what the fort termed "probably the most advanced training institution in the free world in the areas of chemical, biological and radiological study (*Anniston Star*, June 6, 1969). Permanently assigned staff included approximately 800 officers, enlisted personnel and civilians. New chemical laboratory equipment was added, along with new classrooms and training areas. A mock Vietnam village at Pelham Range enhanced practical instruction and allowed students to participate in CBR problems in field exercises.

The closure of the Chemical School in 1973 was not the end of nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) training at Fort McClellan. It was announced in 1979 that the U. S. Army NBC Defense School would move from Aberdeen, Maryland, to renovated facilities at Fort McClellan (*Anniston Star*, April 4, 1979). When the Chemical Corps and Chemical School returned in 1980, they moved into many of the facilities formerly occupied by the then-disestablished Women's Army Corps Center and School, as well as other buildings on the installation. The U.S. Army Chemical Corps Museum was located in Building 2299, a former WAC clothing issue warehouse.

The major objective of the new school was to provide training directed toward detection, identification, and protection against the effects of NBC weapons, and the application of first aid and decontamination measures should personnel and equipment be exposed to such weapons. Over 2,800 resident students graduated in 1982. New facilities for the Corps were added as the school expanded in the mid- to late 1980s. The two most significant of these were the new academic building (the second building on post to be named Sibert Hall) and the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF). These buildings, along with new housing for 1,300 officers and NCOs, nearly doubled the size of the chemical school facilities (*Anniston Star*, August 6, 1985).

The new Sibert Hall was attached to Building 1081, the former Faith Hall of the WAC School which was re-designated as Faith Wing. The 150,886 square-foot building was constructed at a cost of 12 million dollars by "C" Construction of Tyler, Texas (Spector 1988:99). It opened in August 1988 with classrooms, laboratories, the School Headquarters, the Fisher Library, a PX, a bookstore, gift shop, administrative offices, meeting rooms, and all departments concerned with training. This building consolidated many of the activities that had been scattered in several facilities.

The 11 million dollar CDTF was constructed from 1983 through 1986, and it became operational in early 1987. The Army's first facility to train soldiers in a toxic agent environment was also the only known facility of its type in the world. The need for realistic chemical defense training was considered critical in response to threats from formidable Soviet chemical stockpiles. After the Cold War ended, the facility remained operational to protect against other chemical threats. Students are able to train with deadly GB and VX nerve agents in special "hot areas" that have airtight doors, negative air pressure, and sophisticated monitoring and filtration systems (*Fort McClellan News*, February 4, 1987) They are taught to function in awkward and bulky gas masks and protective gear while learning how to identify and detoxify contaminated soldiers and equipment. Students then clean themselves of exposure by passing through a labyrinth of dressing rooms and showers. The main training facility is located in Building 4482, which is supported by an administration building (4481), security office (4480), air filters (4479), incinerator (4483) and waste treatment (4484). The entire area is surrounded by a security fence. The CDTF will be discussed more extensively in the evaluation section at the end of this chapter.

With the closure of Fort McClellan in late 1999, the U. S. Army Chemical Corps and the Chemical School is relocating to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. A new CDTF and other facilities are under construction there.

U. S. Army Military Police School (1975-1999)

The Army's Military Police Corps has relocated seven times since 1941. It was announced in 1973 that the U. S. Army Military Police School (USAMPS) would move from Fort Gordon, Georgia, to Fort McClellan, Alabama. Renovation began on many of the existing facilities at Fort McClellan, primarily in the area abandoned by the Chemical School when it left in 1973. The MP School officially arrived in July 1975. The main building of the MP School moved into a renovated Building 3181, re-named Bandholtz Hall. (This was known as the Chemical School's Sibert Hall prior to 1973.) According to materials prepared for the Commanding General's Yearbook by the MP historian's office (no author given):

The two-story L-shaped building has approximately 136,000 square feet with 34 classrooms with Educational Television (ETV) and rearview projection stages in each. Located within building 3181 are the offices of the Commandant, Assistant Commandant, School Secretary, Deputy Commandant for Education and Training, and the Department of Basic and Advanced Law Enforcement Training. The facility houses

a small cafeteria, PX, library, and a 500-seat auditorium. The office of the Deputy Commandant for Combat Training and Development is located in building 3191, a two-story building across the street from the schoolhouse. The eleven-building complex that comprised the Applied Instruction Facility was the first remodeling project to be completed, and the ceremony marking the occasion was held in April 1975. Training of Military Police men and women was expected to increase. Courses at the Military Police School ranged from officer and noncommissioned officer basic and advanced courses to junior enlisted basic military police, criminal investigation, and various other specialties including polygraph, sentry dog handler's orientation, defensive driving, and security management.

Non-resident instruction and correspondence courses were also available. Full accreditation through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools became effective in 1976. That same year the school reorganized to conform to the new TRADOC services school structure. The school was organized by directorates, each with a functional responsibility. Increasing demands for trained and qualified MP officers and enlisted personnel led to further expansion of the school. The goal was to have the finest academic facilities, most sophisticated training devices, and most up-to-date teaching techniques of any Army school. The Military Police Corps Museum had also moved with the MP School in 1975 to Building 3182. Once again, according to materials prepared for the Commanding General's Yearbook by the MP historian's office (no author given):

Maglin Hall . . . was dedicated in October 1978. It housed the Department of Basic Law Enforcement Training and was the only building of its kind in the Department of Defense inventory especially designed and built as a law enforcement complex. The building covered over 85,164 feet and cost \$4,322,000. Maglin Hall has over 22 multi-purpose classrooms, 14 interview rooms, 5 study rooms that have individual audio-visual training aids, a completely equipped MP station, courtroom, communications lab, and individual crime-scene rooms. Maglin Hall was built to accommodate up to 2,521 students at one time. The MP School trained approximately 11,500 students each year. The construction boom for the MP School continued. Four battalion-size, ultra-modern barracks were built near Maglin Hall for the anticipated One Station Unit Training (OSUT) of Military Police trainees. Two of these barracks were completed in 1977 and the remaining two were completed in 1978. New firing ranges for basic rifle marksmanship and pistol training were completed in April 1977. These new ranges more than doubled the school's marksmanship training capability.

The 1977 USAMPS Rear Area Combat Operations study recommended that MP units' firepower, mobility, and communications be increased dramatically. Combat readiness training began to include MP operations in new areas and activities. Implementation of OSUT reduced the cost of relocating soldiers from one post to another and improved the trainees' morale by combining Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training into one course. In 1980 the MP School began conducting

a counter-terrorism course, and by 1982 all officer advanced course students were receiving a complete course. The 1980s ushered in a new era of changing doctrines and strategies, as well as advanced weapons and communication technology. The image of the MP returned to one of being a protector and assistant to fellow soldiers and the community.

The USAMPS trained some 10,000 initial entry Army police soldiers in 1983. The multi-service facility also provided instruction to Air Force, Marine, Navy, Army reserve, National Guard, allied students and civilians, including initial entry and professional development courses. The Military Police School Battalion provided command and administrative support to the staff, faculty and students.

Through the 1980s the Military Police participated in a number of domestic and worldwide contingency operations. Civil disturbance training was crucial for such activities as controlling riots in some of the camps holding Cuban and Haitian "boat people" who had tried to enter the United States. The MP Corps also became a principal player on the Airland Battlefield doctrine with a wide range of missions, including combat operations and support. MP units were called in on "Operation Urgent Fury" in Grenada in October 1983. Military police were trained to conduct tactical operations, to coordinate combat and combat support operations, and to fight with the newest equipment. Special Reaction Team (SRT) training prepared Military Police to respond to critical criminal incidents or high-risk situations on military installations. In 1986 the MP Corps was formalized as a regiment of affiliation for Military Police soldiers.

The Polygraph School was transferred to Fort McClellan with the MP School in 1975. It had been established at Fort Gordon in 1951 as part of the Provost Marshall General's School. The Secretary of the Army was designated as the executive agent for polygraph training within the Department of Defense in 1985. The Army Polygraph School became the DoD Polygraph Institute at Fort McClellan in 1986.

As the Cold War came to a close at the end of the 1980s, the U.S. Armed Forces were increasingly involved in Low-Intensity Conflicts (LIC). The Military Police were an integral part of LIC missions that included peacekeeping, anti-terrorism and hostage situations, insurgency/counterinsurgency and negotiations. As the threats facing the United States were reassessed, changes in training were developed that enabled MP units to make a quick transition from war fighting to Operations Other Than War

(OOTW). Military police from Fort McClellan were deployed in 1995 to "Operation Joint Endeavor" as part of a peace keeping mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In 1995 Congress's BRAC committee recommended that Fort McClellan be closed and the MP School be moved to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Transfer of all MP School activities were scheduled for late 1999.

Evaluation of Cold War Era Buildings and Structures

There are a large number of properties that constitute the physical legacy of the Army during the Cold War (1946-1989). The great majority are related to troop and employee support (base operations or BASEOPS). Because these resources would have been built (although perhaps not in the same quantity) as part of the normal evolution of the Army, they should not be considered eligible for the National Register under the context of the Cold War military-industrial theme. Eligible Cold War resources are those that relate directly to the Cold War itself, not just to the Cold War period. Resources that are less than 50 years of age, as are most Cold War properties, must be evaluated for the National Register under the criteria of "exceptional importance" (Criteria Consideration G). For U. S. Army properties, these evaluations can be made by reference to "Department of the Army Interim Policy for Cold War Era Historic Properties" (Department of the Army 1995) and *Thematic Study and Guidelines: Identification and Evaluation of U. S. Army Cold War Era Military-Industrial Historic Properties* prepared for the U. S. Army Environmental Center (Lavin 1998).

The U.S. Army Environmental Center (Lavin 1998) has developed its own checklist to assist in assessing whether a property is exceptionally significant under the Cold War military-industrial context. The Scope of Work for this project requires the use of this document in evaluating significance. If the answer to *all* of the following questions is "yes," then the property may qualify for National Register listing under the exceptional importance criteria. If the answer to *any* of the questions is "no," then the resource does not qualify under this consideration. The following questions will be applied to the subject properties:

- Is the resource less than 50 years old, or, if it is more than 50 years old, is its only period of significance less than 50 years old?

- Does the resource directly relate to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War?
- Does the resource have national significance?
- Does the resource meet National Register Criterion A, B, C, or D?
- Does the resource retain integrity?
- Does the property display, through physical design or association, any of the themes described in this document and does it do so in an extraordinary way?

Cold War property types at Fort McClellan generally fall under the category themes of the Army school system and TRADOC. Training personnel became a principal means of ensuring a qualitative advantage over the Soviet Union. TRADOC is responsible for the Army's schooling system, ranging from basic training for new recruits to advanced schooling for senior officers. Since 1951 Fort McClellan has consisted of several branch schools where soldiers receive training in their military specialty. Property types within this category range from BASEOPS, which are excluded from National Register eligibility, to specific structures designed to train soldiers in specific skills. These include mock-up facilities that simulate distinctive environments. Other examples of property types are parade grounds, ranges, school halls, computer simulation centers, basic training reception centers, and miscellaneous training facilities (Lavin 1998:105).

U. S. Army property types evolved with the changing mission of the installations and their tenant activities. The most meaningful examination of the properties at Fort McClellan is to categorize them by their school. This means that some buildings may be considered more than once, due to re-use of facilities by different tenants of Fort McClellan. Of the approximately 870 Cold War era buildings or structures at Fort McClellan, most will not be individually evaluated for this study. As discussed in the Methods section of Chapter II, it was not possible within the Scope of this project to conduct such an inventory of each building and structure. Instead, the properties will be evaluated in groups as related to either the WAC Center and School, the U. S. Army Chemical Center and School, and the Military Police School. Facilities not related to these schools have been excluded because a general review of real property records revealed that most are associated with BASEOPS and/or that they do not appear to meet the requirement for a direct Cold War association.

The Women's Army Corps Center and School (1954-1978)

The following lists the major buildings, dates of construction, and original uses of the facilities in the WAC Center and School:

Table 1 - Major Properties Associated with the WAC Center and School:

<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>Original Use:</u>
1001	1954	Mess Hall
1020	1954	Headquarters
1021	1954	Headquarters Company
1022	1954	Clerical Training Company
1023	1954	Officers' Training Detachment
1060	1954	Headquarters
1081	1954	WAC School (Faith Hall)
2202	1954	Mess Hall
2203	1954	Mess Hall
2213	1954	WAC Service Club
2220	1954	Headquarters and Receiving Company
2221	1954	"A" Company Barracks
2223	1954	"B" Company Barracks
2224	1954	"C" Company Barracks
2225	1954	"D" Company Barracks
2227	1954	14th Army WAC Band Barracks
2275	1954	BOQ
2276	1954	BOQ
2277	1954	BOQ
2281	1954	Basic School (Munson Hall)
2290	1954	Dispensary
2291	1959	WAC Post Exchange
2293	1956	WAC Chapel
2299	1954	Clothing Warehouse

The above facilities fail to meet the criteria for exceptional importance, because the answer to several of the questions on the previously-discussed checklist is "no". The facilities do not directly relate to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War.

Most of the resources also do not retain integrity due to extensive changes. The properties also do not display, through physical design or association, any of the significant Cold War themes. These were routine buildings without any special or unique characteristics that would qualify them for exceptional significance.

The Alabama Historical Commission, through a letter dated December 22, 1999, has raised the question of whether the WAC Center and School might be exceptionally significant for women's history and for women's involvement in the Army under National Register Criterion A and Criterion Consideration G (see letter in Appendix D). The WAC buildings were similar to many other military buildings from the 1950s era that were used for similar functions. Fort McClellan used plans and layouts that were extremely common on any military facility of the time. A few modifications for use by women occurred primarily in the living quarters. These were mostly superficial changes to barracks such as paint colors, curtains, room dividers, furniture, and appliances in kitchenettes and laundry rooms. All evidence of these early characteristics has disappeared over the years as the buildings have been continuously updated and modernized on both the interior and exterior.

Perhaps the most visually significant change to buildings in the former WAC area was the addition of air conditioning to all buildings and the resulting reduction in window size. In order to maintain energy efficiency, large windows were usually filled in with concrete block and smaller windows. This occurred in large buildings throughout the WAC area. Several of the buildings, such as Building 1081, also had major additions that were so large that they eclipsed the original structure. The WAC area does not retain historical integrity due to extensive interior and exterior changes to almost all the buildings. While the story of the Women's Army Corps may be an important part of women's history, that history is not embodied in the physical design of this particular group of buildings. For that reason, they are not recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

U. S. Army Chemical Center and School

The following properties relate to the first Chemical School which was at Fort McClellan from 1951 to 1973:

Table 2 - Major Properties Associated with the Chemical School from 1954 to 1973:

<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>Original Use:</u>
3130	1954	Barracks
3131	1954	Barracks
3138	1954	Motor Pool
3170	1954	Warehouse
3181	1954	School
3182	1954	Radiological Defense Lab
3183	1954	Duplicating Plant
3184	1954	Classroom Q
3185	1954	Personnel Decontamination Station
3191	1954	Chemical Corps Training Command HQ
3192	1959-60	Classroom and Hot Cell Building

The above facilities were vacated by the Chemical School when it left Fort McClellan in 1973. Most were converted for use by the MP School in 1975. All specialized laboratory equipment and similar items were removed and the buildings were renovated for new uses. For this reason, most do not retain the requisite historical integrity to be considered as representative of Chemical School activities. They do not display the physical design and association to convey their original uses. Most also do not directly relate to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War. One possible exception is Building 3192, which contained a special radiological "hot cell" and classroom. The building was abandoned, and much of the equipment was removed when the facility was decontaminated in the 1980s and 1990s. However, it is considered important enough to be evaluated for individual eligibility for the National Register and will be discussed in detail in a separate paragraph at the end of this section.

The current Chemical School occupies several buildings vacated by the Women's Army Corps in 1978. Most of these are administrative buildings, barracks, mess halls, and other support facilities. None possess any characteristics that may make them likely candidates for exceptional significance. The two major new facilities constructed

specifically for the Chemical School are the addition to Building 1081 (the second building named Sibert Hall) and the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF) which includes buildings 4479, 4480, 4481, 4482, 4483, and 4484.

The 150,886 square-foot Sibert Hall was completed in 1988 at a cost of 12 million dollars. It houses classrooms, laboratories, the School Headquarters, the Fisher Library, a PX, a bookstore, gift shop, administrative offices, meeting rooms, and all departments concerned with training. This massive building consolidated many of the Chemical School activities. Building 1081 does not meet the criteria for exceptional significance because it does not relate directly to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War, nor does it have national significance or display through its physical design any of the Cold War themes. While it does have some laboratories and special facilities, it is primarily an administration and classroom building.

The following paragraphs will discuss the CDTF and Building 3192 which were examined and evaluated in greater detail. These were the only two Cold War era facilities associated with the present and former Chemical Schools at Fort McClellan which were thought to have potential eligibility under National Register Criterion Consideration G.

The Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF)

The specially-constructed Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF), consisting of buildings 4479 through 4484, is the first and only known facility of its kind in the world. It was built in 1983-86 as a direct response to increased threats from Soviet chemical munitions. It was reported at the time that the Soviets had a 1,000-to-one advantage in modern deliverable chemical weapons (*Fort McClellan News*, February 4, 1987). The CDTF's purpose was to safely train service members to operate in a toxic agent environment using standard protective gear. Strengthening soldiers' confidence in their equipment was a major objective. As the Cold War progressed, specialized realistic training, such as that provided by the CDTF, became increasingly important because weapons and equipment were becoming technologically sophisticated.

The facility was built at an approximate cost of 11 million dollars. The primary contractor was Batteast Construction Company of South Bend, Indiana. The subcontractor for the incinerator was Midland Ross of Toledo, Ohio. The work was supervised by Mobile District of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (*Fort McClellan*

News, February 4, 1987). Figures 34 and 35 show the facility plan and floor plan of the main training building when it became operational in 1987. Figures 36 and 37 are current photographs of parts of the facility. The area is enclosed by a fence and accessed by a security office at the gate. The administration building (4481) is brick with a blue metal roof. It contains offices and two 50-person classrooms. The main training building (4482) is concrete with a red metal roof. Roof colors are symbolic of "hot" and "cold" areas of the complex. The other major structures are air filters (4479), an incinerator facility (4483), and a waste treatment building (4484).

The main training building is a technologically sophisticated system of sealed areas created with safety and environmental protection as major concerns. Entry is through electronically locked doors adjacent to a control room/safety office which contains monitoring equipment and closed-circuit television screens. A lobby and assembly area is adjacent to a special room where trainees check the safety of their masks prior to training. An on-site laboratory manufactures small amounts of GB and VX nerve agents that are used in training. Students go through training in seven individual bays that are maintained under negative air pressure. An inward airflow creates a vacuum-like suction inside these rooms. Air from inside the chambers is drawn out through a series of agent filters before being released into the atmosphere. All liquid and solid wastes are also processed and monitored for contamination. They are disposed of in a two-stage incinerator.

When the facility first opened for operation in early 1987, an article in the *Fort McClellan News* (February 4, 1987) described the three-day training sessions as follows:

The first consists of a mock contamination exercise using simulants on the facility's outdoor training pads. The second exercise, in a training bay, allows students to detect, identify, and decontaminate actual chemical agents. On the final day, each student must go through a more thorough exercise which requires detecting, identifying, and decontaminating an Army armored reconnaissance vehicle.

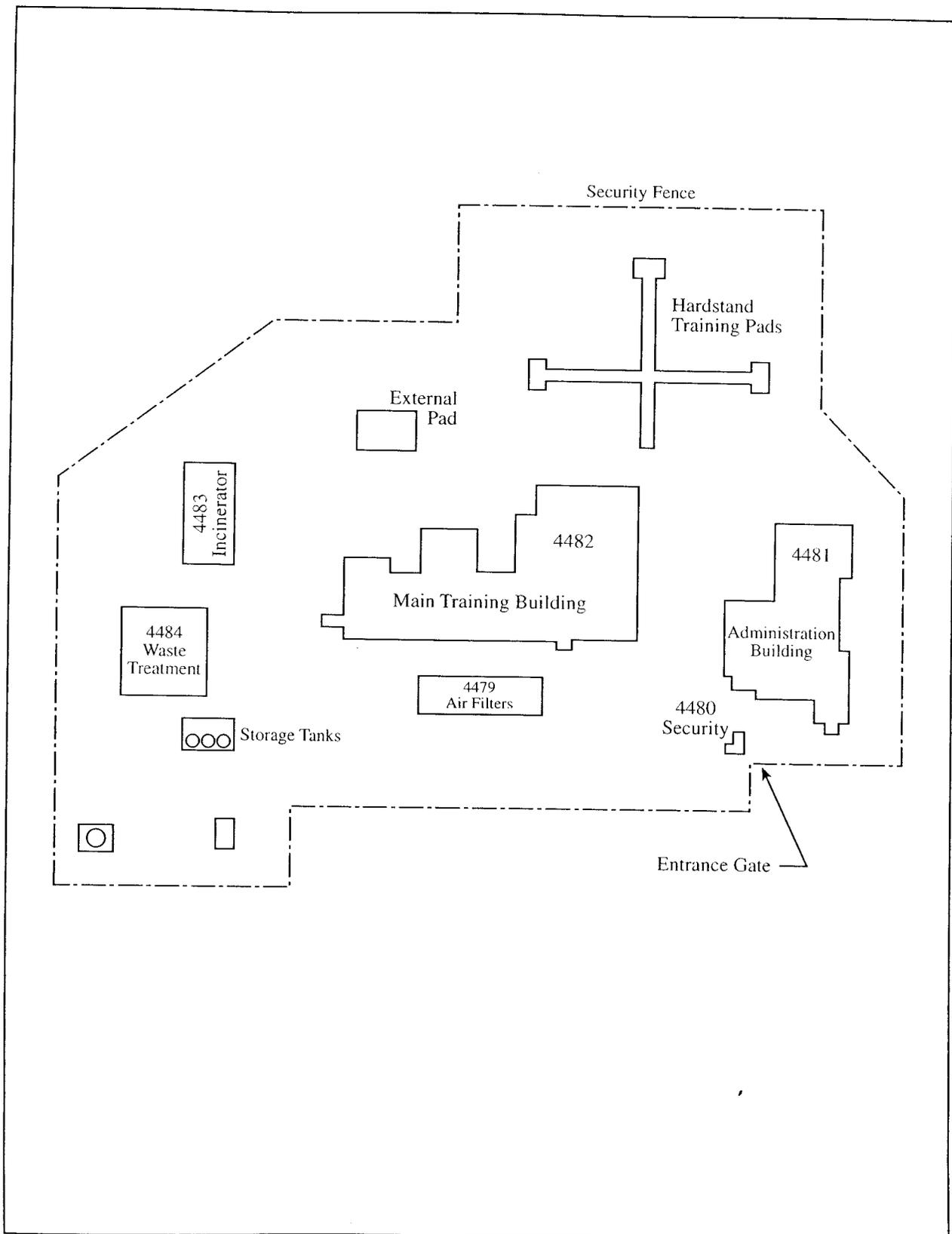
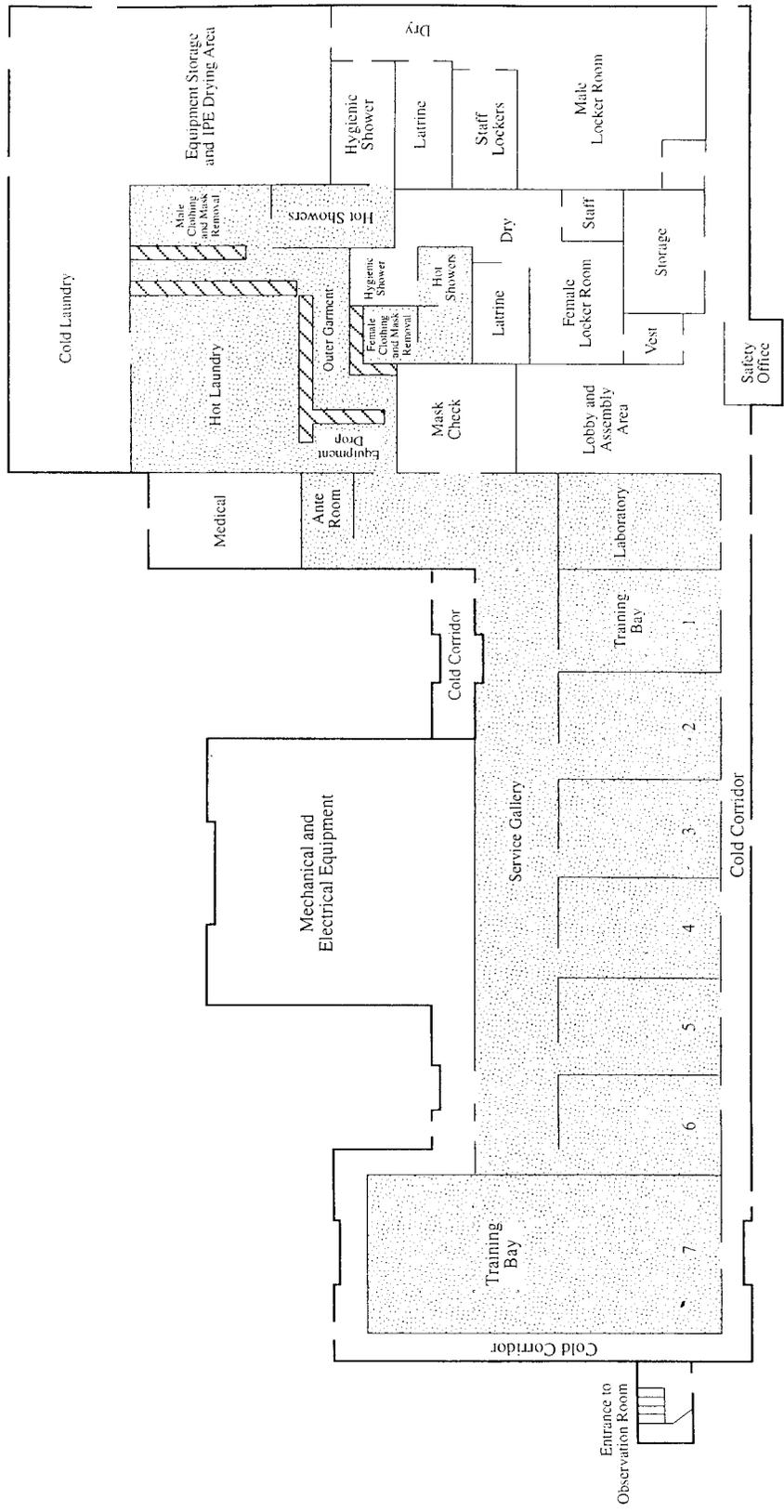


Figure 34
Diagram of CDTF Complex, c. 1987

Figure 35
Plan of Main Training Building, CDTF, c.1987

Hot Area





Exterior Views of CDTF
Main Training Building
No. 4482

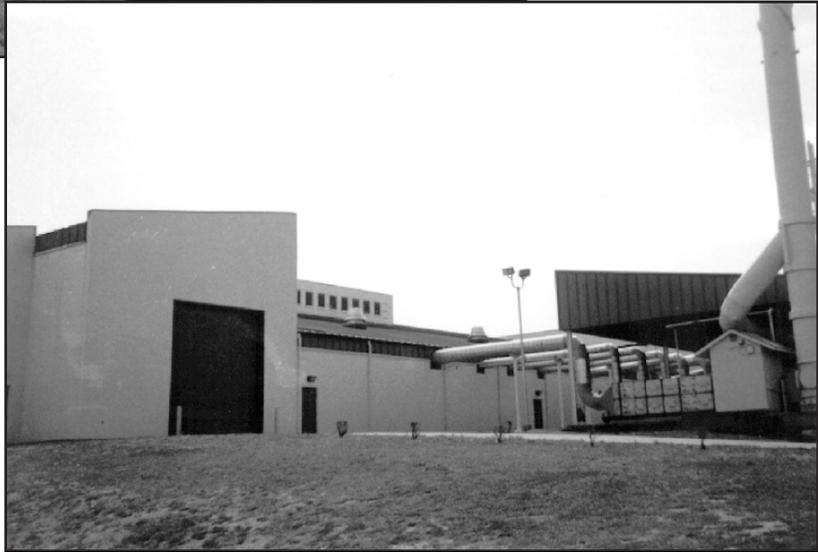
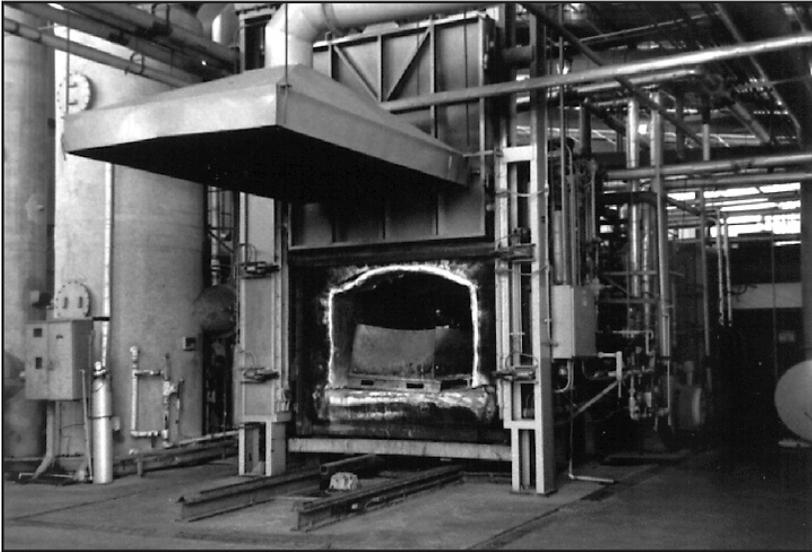


Figure 36
Photographs of CDTF



CDTF, Incinerator Area



CDTF, Equipment
Storage Area

Figure 37
Photographs of CDTF

Some of the training has been modified only slightly since the facility opened. Students wear heavy overgarments, masks, gloves, and overboots. After training they must purge themselves of exposure by passing through a series of rooms for clothing removal and showers. Garments and gear are processed through a hot laundry and cold laundry. In the hot laundry, items are tested for exposure and either decontaminated or bagged for disposal in the incinerator. An on-site medical facility has specially trained staff to provide first aid in case of accidental exposure. Emergency power generators are available to keep all systems operating in case of an electrical outage.

The CDTF is recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a district under the context of the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War. It has national significance, and it meets National Register criteria A and C for its historical associations and its unique technology and design. It also retains integrity, and it displays, through physical design and association, the Cold War themes related to the Army's training and school system. Even though it was built in the relatively recent past, it does meet the criteria for exceptional importance. Within the boundaries of the present security fence, only those buildings associated with the technological aspects of this district should be considered contributing elements. These include buildings 4479, 4482, 4483 and 4484. The security guard house and administration building (4480 and 4481), as well as any other non-technological structures, are recommended as non-contributing to the district.

Building 3192

Building 3192 is a vacant building associated with the former Chemical School as it existed from 1954 to 1973. It is now located in the Military Police School area directly behind Building 3182 which houses the MP Museum. Constructed in the late 1950s, Building 3192 consisted of a large multi-level classroom, an office, a mechanical equipment room, a shower, and a radiological hot cell. The hot cell was used to train soldiers in the remote handling of high-level radioactive materials, as well as to prepare, maintain and transfer multicurie C-60 for training exercises at Pelham Range. The hot cell was adjacent to the classroom so students could use testing equipment to detect background radiation levels within the hot cell. The building was closed in 1972, and remediation of radioactive materials was completed in the 1980s and 1990s. Most of the

interior component parts of the building have been removed, and few aspects of its former operation are still visible.

The rectangular concrete-block building measures approximately 28 by 75 feet, covered with a gable roof. Exterior doors are located on the two shorter walls. The classroom area is illuminated by a series of high ribbon windows. The concrete walls of the interior "hot cell" are three feet thick. High-level radioactive materials could be manipulated within the encapsulated area of the hot cell through remote handling devices that entered through two access ports above a viewing window. The window had three layers of thick leaded glass with mineral oil between the layers for optical clarity. The bi-parting door to the hot cell had a steel exterior filled with three-foot-thick concrete. The windows and doors to the former hot cell have been removed, but remain on the premises. The manipulators are no longer in the building. Only a few of the mechanical boxes and switches remain.

Figure 38 shows the relationship of the hot cell building to other chemical school facilities in the 1960s. Building 3180, a 12-by-12 foot radioactive storage vault, has been completely removed. Radiation Lab "W" in Building 3182 handled lower-level radioactive materials. It is now an exhibit room in the MP Museum, and it has no remaining components related to its former laboratory use. The same is true of former laboratories in Building 3181. Figure 39 is a 1959 floor plan of Building 3192, and Figure 40 has current photographs.

Based on available information, this building is recommended as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under the context of the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War. While it appears to meet National Register criteria A and C for its historical associations and its specialized technology and design, it has lost its integrity through the removal of essential elements. Because so many components of the building are no longer extant, it does not retain sufficient integrity to represent the processes that occurred inside. It does not display, through physical design and association, the Cold War themes related to the Army's training and school system. It also does not appear to meet the criteria for exceptional importance, because it cannot convey the technological aspects of its mission.

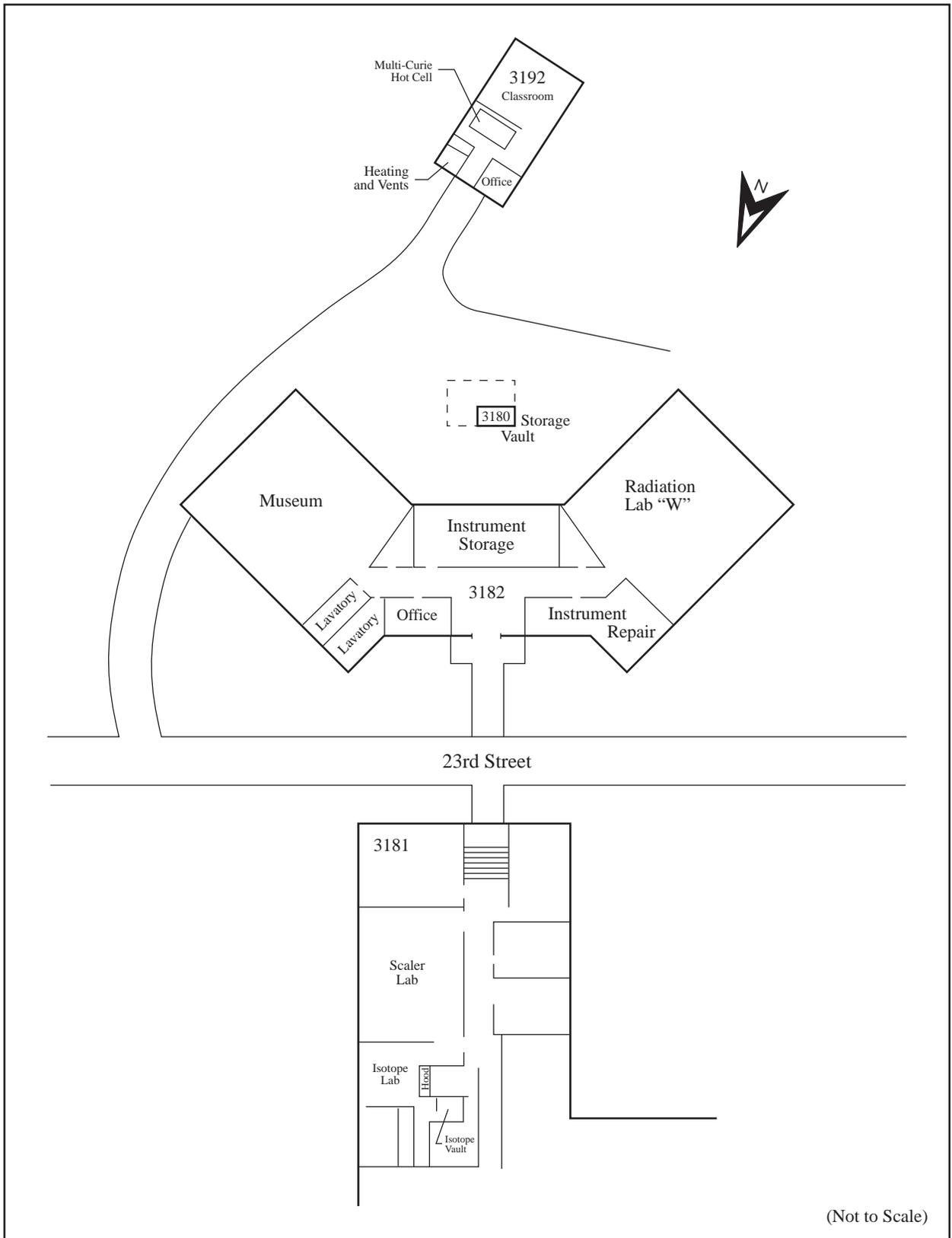
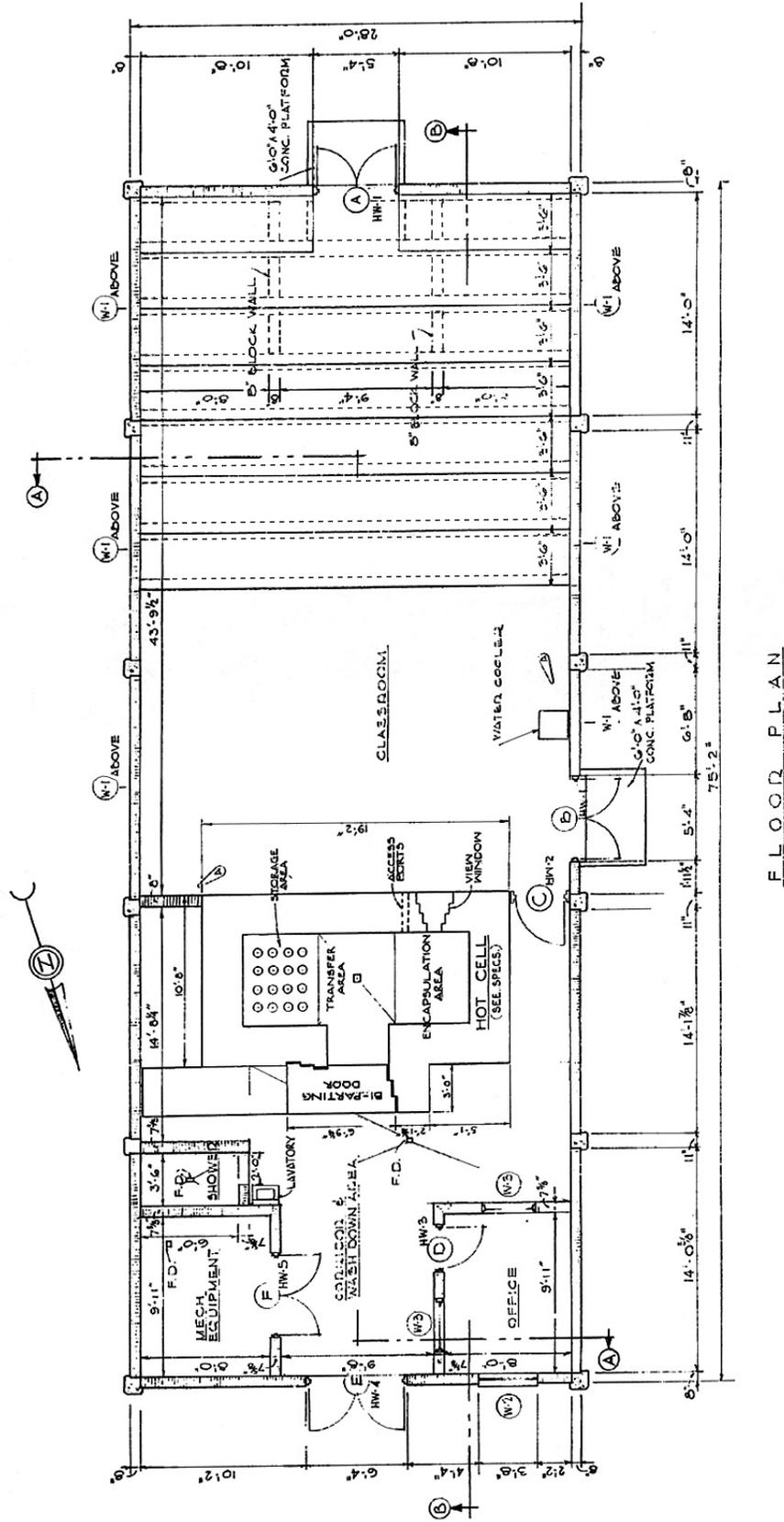


Figure 38
Schematic of Radiological Facilities, c. 1960s

Figure 39
 1959 Floor Plan of Building 3192 (Former Hot Cell Building)



FLOOR PLAN



Building Exterior



Classroom



Doorway into Hot Cell



Control Panel and Window Outside Hot Cell

Figure 40
Photographs of Building 3192

U. S. Army Military Police School

The Military Police School has a relatively short history at Fort McClellan. In 1975 it moved into a number of buildings that had been recently vacated by the Chemical School. Several new facilities were constructed in 1977 and 1978. The following is a list of major buildings.

Table 3 - Major Properties Associated with the MP School:

<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>Military Police Use:</u>
1601	1977-78	Barracks
1602	1977-78	Barracks
1801	1977-78	Barracks
1802	1977-78	Barracks
1881	1978	Multi-purpose Law Enforcement Complex
3130	1954	Barracks
3131	1954	Barracks
3138	1954	Motor Pool
3169	1954	Crime Scenes
3181	1954	Classrooms, Main Offices
3182	1954	MP Museum
3183	1954	BOQ
3184	1954	Physical Security Lab
3185	1954	Photo Lab
3191	1954	Combat Training Development
3195	1954	Polygraph Lab

The above facilities fail to meet the criteria for exceptional importance, because the answer to several of the questions on the previously-discussed checklist is "no". The facilities do not directly relate to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War. They also do not appear to meet any of the National Register criteria, and they are not nationally significant. Most of the properties also do not display, through physical design or association, any of the significant Cold War themes. Many are routine buildings without any special or unique characteristics that would qualify them for exceptional significance.

V. Conclusions

Properties associated with World War II and Cold War contexts at Fort McClellan have been treated as two distinct categories. As discussed in Chapter II, National Register evaluation criteria are applied differently to these properties depending on whether or not their major significance arises from events occurring in the last 50 years. Hundreds of buildings and structures were constructed at Fort McClellan during the Cold War era. However there appeared to be only two that had the potential to meet the more stringent criteria for "exceptional significance," as defined by the National Register and U. S. Army guidelines. These were associated with the U.S. Army Chemical School.

The Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF) meets the criteria of exceptional significance because this specially-constructed facility is the first and only known structure of its kind in the world and it was built in 1983-86 as a direct response to increased threats from Soviet chemical munitions. It was designed to safely train service members to operate in a toxic agent environment. As the Cold War progressed, specialized realistic training, such as that provided by the CDTF, became increasingly important because weapons and equipment were becoming technologically sophisticated. Only the buildings associated with the technological aspects of this district should be considered contributing elements. These include buildings 4479, 4482, 4483 and 4484. Buildings 4480 and 4481, as well as any other non-technological structures, are recommended as non-contributing to the district.

Another building which was evaluated related to the earlier 1960s-era Chemical School. Building 3192 (the former "hot cell" building) once contained a facility for remote handling of high-level radioactive materials. It is located behind Building 3182, now the MP Museum. Building 3192 housed a classroom and a radiological hot cell. The hot cell was used primarily to prepare, maintain and transfer, multicurie C-60 for training exercises at Pelham Range. It was closed in 1972 and remediation of radioactive materials was completed in the 1980s and 1990s. Most of the components of the building have been removed, and few aspects of its operation are still visible. Due

to a loss of historical integrity, this building is recommended as not eligible for the National Register.

There are also a number of older (over 50 years of age) resources that were previously determined eligible as part of three National Register eligible districts. These are the Post Headquarters District, the Industrial District, and the Ammunition Storage District. The period of significance for those districts extends through World War II and each includes one or more contributing elements that were constructed in the 1941-1945 time period. The proposed Industrial District includes only two buildings constructed during World War II, plus numerous older buildings. Those constructed during the war are Building 246 (c. 1941) which is contributing and Building T-245 (c. 1941) which is non-contributing. The proposed Ammunition Storage District originally listed 15 ammunition storage buildings as contributing elements. Those constructed during World War II were igloos numbered 4408, 4409, 4410, 4411, 4412, 4413, 4414, 4415 and 4416. Five buildings in this district (4403, 4404, 4408, 4409 and 4414) were subsequently documented to HABS/HAER standards in anticipation of their scheduled demolition. The proposed Post Headquarters District mostly pre-dates World War II, but it includes a contributing 1941 addition to Building 51, the former Officers' Club. This building also contains significant World War II POW murals on the interior walls, which should be considered a significant element of Building 51. Building 66, constructed in 1941, is also within the Post Headquarters District, but it is listed as non-contributing due to extensive alterations.

Fort McClellan also has eight World War II era permanent buildings, plus 15 bridges and a German-Italian POW cemetery, that are located outside the previously defined historic districts. These were evaluated for individual eligibility. The eight World War II permanent buildings have had extensive changes and are not recommended as eligible, either because they lack the required historical integrity or because they have no particular significance in the context of World War II at Fort McClellan. The eight permanent buildings that are considered not eligible are as follows: 270, 1031, 1122, 1919, 1920, 2020, 2090, 2091. These were also previously considered not eligible in a 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b), and New South found no reason to change those recommendations. In addition, five buildings (130, 335, 336, 337 and 339) that are now listed as permanent on real property records were originally considered "temporary," and are therefore not subject to this study. The only World

War II permanent buildings recommended as eligible are already within the previously-defined National Register districts.

In addition to the buildings, there are 15 bridges that were initially constructed during World War II. Eleven vehicle and foot bridges are numbered 4302, 4303, 4305, 4306, 4314, 4318, 4319, 4331, 4342, 4352 and 4363. Four railroad bridges are numbered 4702, 4703, 4705, and 4706. Historical data on these bridges is limited. They all cross Cane Creek or its tributaries, and most are small single- or double-chamber bridges with concrete guard rails. Most appear to use standardized construction. Three of the bridges, all constructed in 1941, make use of hand-crafted stone masonry on some part of the bridge. These include vehicle bridge 4342, which should be considered a contributing element in the Industrial District. Bridges 4318 and 4319 show less refined masonry work, and do not lie within the boundaries of any eligible district. These two, as well as the remainder of the bridges, are recommended as not eligible for the National Register due to a lack of significance.

Another resource is the small World War II German-Italian POW cemetery (real property # 3430). Normally a cemetery is not eligible for the National Register, except under special circumstances. One way it may be considered is if it derives its significance from "association with historic events." A POW cemetery is a very unusual historic resource in Alabama, especially since there are virtually no other visible remains of the large POW camp at Fort McClellan. This was an important part of McClellan's World War II history, and the cemetery is recommended as eligible for the National Register.

Fort McClellan also contains a large number of World War II temporary structures, primarily barracks, warehouses and related buildings. As noted earlier these are not included in this study since mitigation measures for these buildings have already been completed on a nationwide basis in compliance with a 1986 Programmatic Agreement between the Department of Defense, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

The following three tables summarize the above conclusions:

Table 4 - Permanent World War II era properties outside eligible districts:

<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>NRHP Eligibility Recommendations:</u>
270	1942	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
1031	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
1122	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
1919	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
1920	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
2020	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
2090	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
2091	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
3430 (cemetery)	1943-45	eligible (per 1999 study)
4302	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4303	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4305	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4306	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4314	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4318	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4319	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4331	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4352	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4363	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4702	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4703	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4705	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4706	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)

Table 5 - World War II era properties inside eligible districts:

<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>NRHP Eligibility Recommendations:</u>
51	1941 addition	contributing to Post Hdq. Dist. (per 1993 study)
51	1943-44 POW murals	contributing to Post Hdq. Dist.
66	1941	non-contributing to Post Hdq. Dist. (per 1993)
246	1941	contributing to Industrial Dist. (per 1993 study)
T-245	1941	non-contributing to Ind. Dist. (per 1993 study)
4342	1941	contributing to Industrial Dist. (per 1999 study)
4408*	1941	Ammunition Dist., recently demolished
4409*	1941	Ammunition Dist., recently demolished
4410	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994)
4411	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994)
4412	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994)
4413	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994)
4414*	1941	Ammunition Dist., recently demolished
4415	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994)
4416	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994)

(* documented through HABS/HAER and cleared for demolition)

Note: All three eligible districts also have pre-World War II properties whose period of significance extends through World War II due to historical association and use.

Table 6 - Cold War era properties evaluated for exceptional significance:

<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>NRHP Eligibility Recommendations:</u>
CDTF (# 4479, 4482, 4483, 4484 only)	1983-86	eligible district
3192	1959-60	not eligible

VI. References Cited

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

- 1991 *Balancing Historic Preservation Needs with the Operation of Highly Technical or Scientific Facilities*. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Washington DC.

Army Post, The

- 1953 *The Army Post*. February 1953 edition featuring Fort McClellan.

Center for Air Force History

- 1994 *Coming in from the Cold: Military Heritage in the Cold War*. Report on the Department of Defense Legacy Cold War Project, Washington DC.

Claterbos, John V.

- 1987 *U. S. Army Chemical School Annual Historical Review*. On file at Chemical School Library, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Department of the Army

- 1995 *Interim Policy for Cold War Era Historic Properties*. SFIM-AEC-ECN.
Cultural Resources Management. Army Pamphlet 200-4.

Die Oase (or "P.O.W. Oase")

- 1944 *Lagerszeitung des Kriegsgefangenenlagers, Fort McClellan, Alabama* (Camp newspaper of the Prisoner-of-War Camp, Fort McClellan, Alabama). Various issues on file in the Fort McClellan box, Alabama Room, Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library, Anniston, Alabama.

Directorate of Engineering and Housing (DEH)

- n.d. Real property cards, plans, and records. On file at DEH, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Dulin, Colonel Charles L.

- 1917 *Completion Report of Camp McClellan, Anniston, Alabama*. Issued December 10, 1917. On deposit at the National Archives, Military Branch, Suitland, Maryland.

Entire, Robert, editor

- 1983 "Fort McClellan" in the *Anniston, Alabama Centennial 1883-1983 Commemorative Book and Centennial Program*. Higginbotham, Inc., Anniston, Alabama.

Fine, Lenore, and Jesse A. Remington

- 1989 *The Corps of Engineers: Construction in the United States*. In *The United States in World War II: The Technical Services*. Center for Military History, United States Army, Washington DC.

Ford, George B.

- 1929 "New Army Posts for Old" in *The Quartermaster Review*, November-December.

Fort McClellan

- n.d. File of miscellaneous Fort McClellan newspaper clippings, photographs, and scrapbooks on file at the Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library, Anniston, Alabama.

- Garner, John S.
 1993 *World War II Temporary Buildings: A Brief History of the Architecture and Planning of Cantonments in the United States.* USACERL Technical Report CRC-93/01, Champaign, Illinois.
- Gates, Grace Hooten
 1978 *The Model City of the New South: Anniston, Alabama.* The Strode Publishers, Inc., Huntsville, Alabama.
- Krammer, Arnold
 1979 *Nazi Prisoners of War in America.* Stein and Day Publishers, New York.
- Lane, Major Mary C., WAC
 1955 *The History of Fort McClellan.* Unofficial and unpublished historical overview compiled and authored by Mary C. Lane, July 14, 1955. Copy on file at Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library, Anniston, Alabama.
- Lavin, Mary K.
 1998 *Thematic Study and Guidelines: Identification and Evaluation of U. S. Army Cold War Era Military-Industrial Historic Properties.* Report prepared by Horne Engineering & Associates for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.
- MacGregor, Morris J., Jr.
 1981 *Integration of the Armed Forces 1940-1965.* Defense Study Series, Center for Military History, United States Army, Washington DC.
- Messick, Denise P.
 1994a Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District. Draft nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Prepared for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia.
 1994b Fort McClellan Industrial District. Draft nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Prepared for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia.
- Morden, Bettie J.
 1990 *The Women's Army Corps, 1945-1978.* Army Historical Series, Center for Military History, United States Army, Washington DC.
- Morgan, Tee
 1990 *Annie's Town. A Picture History of Anniston, Alabama, 1880-1940.* Higginbotham, Inc., Anniston, Alabama.
- Nurse, Lt. H. B., Q.M.C.
 1928 "The Planning of Army Posts" in *The Quartermaster Review*, September-October.
- Office of the Post Engineer
 1946 Master Plan, Fort McClellan. Map on file at DEH, Fort McClellan, Alabama.
- Patte, Edouard
 1944 Enemy POW Information Bureau Inspection and Field Reports. National Archives, Record Group 309, Suitland, Maryland.

- Records of the Provost Marshall General's Office (P.M.G.)
1941-44 Record Group 309, Provost Marshall General, Enemy POW Information Bureau Reporting Branch, Inspection and Field Reports, Box #2666. On deposit, National Archives, Suitland, Maryland.
- Reed, Mary Beth, Charles E. Cantley, G. Ishmael Williams, and J. W. Joseph.
1993a *Fort McClellan: A Cultural Resources Overview*. Report prepared for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia.
- Reed, Mary Beth, William R. Henry, and J. W. Joseph
1993b *"The Military Showplace of the South," Fort McClellan, Alabama, A Historic Building Inventory*. Report prepared for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia.
- Reed, Mary Beth
1994 *Inventory and Evaluation of Seventeen Buildings, Fort McClellan, Alabama*. Report prepared for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia.
- Reed, Mary Beth
1995 *Ammunition Storage: Early Twentieth-Century Design and Context, Fort McClellan, Alabama*. Report prepared for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia.
- Reed, Mary Beth, and Denise P. Messick
1995 Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District. Draft nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Prepared for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia.
- Reed, Mary Beth, Charles E. Cantley, and J. W. Joseph
1996 *Fort McClellan: A Popular History*. Report prepared for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia.
- Sherfy, Marcella, and W. Ray Luce
1996 *Guideline for Evaluating and Nominating Properties that Have Achieved Significance Within the Past 50 Years*. National Register Bulletin 22. U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Washington DC.
- Spector, Daniel E.
1988 *U. S. Army Chemical School Annual Historical Review*. On file at Chemical School Library, Fort McClellan, Alabama.
- U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service
1985 *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning*. National Register Bulletin 24. U. S. Department of Interior, Washington DC.
- n.d. *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. National Register Bulletin 15. U. S. Department of Interior, Washington DC.
- U.S. Army Chemical Center and School
1967 Pamphlet 5. "This is the U.S. Army Chemical Center and School." On file at the Chemical Corps Museum, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

U.S. Women's Army Corps School and Center

1975 "Role of the Women's Army Corps." U.S. Army Special Text 35-150. On file at the WAC Museum, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Walker, E. B.

1988 "German P.O.W.'s" In *Alabama Heritage*, No.7, Winter.

Wasch, Diane Shaw, Perry Bush, Keith Landreth, and James Glass

1993 *World War II and the U. S. Army Mobilization Program: A History of 700 and 800 Series Cantonment Construction*. Legacy Resources Management Program, United States Department of Defense. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources, HABS/HAER, Washington, DC.

Wheaton, Lt. Col. Francis B., Q.M.C.

1928 "The Architecture of the Army Post" in the *Quartermaster Review*, September-October.

Whelan, Deborah C., Leo Hirrel, William T. Dod, J. Hampton Tucker, and Katherine Grandine

1997 *Historic Context for Department of Defense World War II Permanent Construction*. Report for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Frederick, Maryland.