

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

Quarters 1, Grant Avenue, Fort Myer Historic District,
Arlington County, Virginia

From the standpoint of historical significance, the outstanding group of officers' quarters in America is that on Grant Avenue, at the entrance to the original Fort Myer. The group consists of six large residences, with a vista of the Potomac and Washington to the east. Quarters 1 on "Generals' Row," the home of the Army Chief of Staff, is located at the north end of the street.

Quarters 1 was completed in May 1899, and, since 1910, when General Leonard Wood first occupied it, the dwelling has been the home of all the Chiefs of Staff. Its occupants have included Douglas MacArthur, George C. Marshall, Dwight D. Eisenhower and William Westmoreland.

Little changed since its construction, the house is a brick, two-and-one-half storied dwelling. It contains 21 rooms with the interior changes superficial rather than structural. The dwelling is not open to the public.

* * * * *

NSHSB: 11/3/72
R S G



Fort Myer, Virginia--Quarters 1 ("General's Row")

U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo 1972

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REGISTERED NATIONAL
HISTORIC LANDMARKS



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Fort Myer, Virginia--Quarters 1 ("Generals' Row")

U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo 1972

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REGISTERED NATIONAL
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Fort Myer, Virginia--Quarters 1 ("Generals' Row")

U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo 1972

AIR FORCE QTR 7 (GENERALS ROW) - FT. MYER

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DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

For Release February 14, 1973

Sheely (202) 386-4478

Morrow (202) 343-7394

ELEVEN NEW NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS
NAMED BY INTERIOR SECRETARY MORTON

The Volta Bureau, founded in 1887 by Alexander Graham Bell "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge relating to the deaf," is one of four Washington, D.C., sites among 11 historic properties which Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton today declared eligible for national historic landmark recognition.

The 11 new landmarks include the homes of three former Supreme Court Justices -- Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes' home in Washington, and the Massachusetts residences of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., and Louis D. Brandeis.

Other national capital sites include Quarters 1 in Fort Myer, Virginia, since 1910 the official residence of every Army Chief of Staff, such as Generals Leonard Wood, Dwight D. Eisenhower, George C. Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, and the current resident, General Creighton Abrams; and the Fort Myer Historic District. The Fort Myer District preserves the older portions of the post built on the grounds of Robert E. Lee's Arlington House estate overlooking Washington from the Virginia shore of the Potomac. Across the Potomac River are the National War College at Washington's Fort Leslie J. McNair, and the Memorial Continental Hall, site of the Washington Conference of 1921-22 which marked the first time in history that major world powers agreed to disarm.

The hall is part of the Daughters of the American Revolution property.

(over)

EDITORS ADVISORY: As many of these national historic landmarks have particular local importance which you may wish to feature, more detailed information on individual new landmarks may be obtained on written request to Office of Information, National Park Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.

In addition, the Norfolk County, Mass., Courthouse, scene of the famous Sacco and Vanzetti trial of 1920; the New York City home of Alfred E. Smith, the first major-party Presidential candidate representing urban America; and the Clinton, N. Y., home of conservative statesman Elihu Root, often called the "father of the modern American army," become eligible for National Historic Landmark status.

The 11 newly-eligible sites are automatically placed on the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

Each landmark was recommended by the Secretary's Advisory Board for National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments for his approval.

While not owned or managed by the National Park Service, the landmarks will be formally designated at the owners' request when assurance is given that the historic values of the sites will be protected as fully as possible.

Owners of individual landmark sites will be notified by the Director of the National Park Service and asked to apply for a bronze-plaque and certificate attesting to the property's significance in American history. The National Park Service, an agency of the Department of the Interior, will give the owners advice and assistance in the preservation of these properties upon request.

Descriptions of the 11 national historic landmarks announced today by Secretary Morton follow:

1. Louis D. Brandeis House, Chatham, Massachusetts. The great jurist, Louis D. Brandeis stands as one of modern America's greatest defenders of the value of the single human individual and the validity of freedom of choice. His famous dissents as a Supreme Court Justice later became the law of the land, vindicating his profound concern for the sympathetic application of human laws to human problems. He and his wife returned annually to Chatham where he worked unremittingly on law cases through the summers. The house and its setting remain little-changed today. It is private and not open to the public.

2. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. House, 868 Hale Street, Beverly, Massachusetts. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. is acknowledged to be one of the finest legal minds this country has produced. He introduced a broadly humanitarian and experiential concept into the nature and usage of law. His biographers contend that his grandeur in American life and law was but a reflection of his stature as a human being and his genius for living. For almost 35 years after he became a Justice of the Supreme Court he divided his life between Washington and Beverly Farms. ~~The exterior of the house and its setting remain~~ largely unchanged. The house is privately owned and is not open to the public.

3. Norfolk County Courthouse, 650 High Street, Dedham, Massachusetts. The famous Sacco-Vanzetti case in 1920 crystalized the social and political tensions of the period and focused world attention on the Norfolk County Courthouse and the small New England town of Dedham. In the half century since, the Courthouse has remained largely unchanged. Owned by the County of Norfolk, Massachusetts, access to the building is restricted.

4. Elihu Root House, 101 College Hill Road, Clinton, New York. Elihu Root has been called "the father of the modern American army" and was among the first American statesmen to comprehend the implications of the fact that the United States had become a world power. He not only stood in the mainstream of American conservative tradition, but in many ways represented the best of that tradition. He was a formidable and articulate spokesman for the conservative viewpoint. Root purchased the Federal-style house in 1893 and kept it as his family home throughout his career and retirement. The house is in excellent condition and is still owned by the Root family. It is not open to the public.

5. Alfred E. Smith House, 25 Oliver Street, New York, New York. The life and career of Alfred E. Smith represents a critical juncture in the evolution of American politics: the first urban challenge to the traditional domination by rural America and its values of the national political life. An outstanding progressive Governor of New York, Smith foreshadowed an irresistible change. The unaffected brick house, where he lived from 1907 to 1923, is used as a private residence and is not open to the public.

6. Fort Myer Historic District, Arlington, Virginia. Fort Myer, Virginia, during the years between 1861 and World War I, became intimately associated with some of the main currents of American military history. Here the earliest experiments in American military aviation took place, the Signal School of Instruction for Army and Navy Officers was established, and General John J. Pershing was decorated in 1920 by the French Government. Fort Myer also was used as a cavalry post under Generals George S. Patton and Jonathan M. Wainwright. The post, much expanded but with its historic heart largely intact, is the property of the U. S. Department of the Army with restricted access to the public.

7. Quarters 1, Fort Myer, Arlington, Virginia. Quarters 1 on "Generals' Row," Fort Myer, Virginia, was completed in May 1899. Since 1910, it has been the dwelling of all the Army Chiefs of Staff including Generals Leonard Wood, Douglas MacArthur, George C. Marshall, Dwight D. Eisenhower and William Westmoreland. Little changed it is a brick dwelling, two-and-one-half stories high. The dwelling is not open to the public.

8. Charles Evans Hughes House, 2223 R Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Charles Evans Hughes was for forty years a dynamic force and dominant figure in American politics. He was a statesman and jurist of the highest order, a leader in the Progressive movement, an early champion of civil rights and racial equality, and the holder of a succession of important offices from the administration of William Howard Taft to the New Deal. When he returned to Washington as Chief Justice in 1930, he and Mrs. Hughes purchased the R Street residence from which his biographer states "the Supreme Court was to be directed for eleven years." The dwelling is outwardly unchanged. As an official embassy residence, it is not open to the public.

9. Memorial Continental Hall, 17th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. In an era of narrow nationalism and limited vision, the Washington Conference (1921-1922), was a remarkable and significant attempt to assure international peace through naval disarmament and mutual pledges of arbitration. For a decade it did stabilize the armaments race and establish an embryonic security system in the Pacific. It was the first time in history that major powers had consented to disarm. Conversion to a library has modified, but not destroyed the character of the Conference auditorium. Memorial Continental Hall itself is essentially unchanged. The building is open to the public.

10. National War College, Fort Leslie J. McNair, Washington, D. C. As a primary focus for military coordination, planning, and educational efforts, the Army War College and its successor, the interservice

National War College, are of the utmost importance in the development of the armed forces in the United States. Since 1907 both colleges have been housed in the impressive edifice on the Potomac. Both the structure and its setting still largely possess their historic character. Access to the public is restricted.

11. Volta Bureau, 1537 35th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Alexander Graham Bell founded the Volta Bureau when the Volta Associates sold their record patents in 1887. Bell took his share of the profits to found the Bureau as an instrument "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge relating to the Deaf." The Bureau merged with the American Association for the Promotion of the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf in 1908. The Volta Bureau continues to work in this field. The structure that was built in 1893 to give it a permanent home possesses good historical integrity. It is not open to the public.



Green
United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FEB 14 1973

The Director of the National Park Service

Ronald H. Walker

is pleased to inform you that the historic property described briefly in the enclosure, has been found to possess national significance in commemorating the history of the United States, and is thus eligible for designation as a national historic landmark.

The purpose of landmark designation is to identify and recognize nationally significant sites and to encourage their owners to preserve them. Eligible landmarks are chosen through studies prepared by the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings; evaluated by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments; and approved by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935.

As explained in the enclosed leaflet, recognition and designation of landmark sites are accorded by certificates and bronze plaques, which are provided free of charge to the owners or administrators of these properties upon their application and agreement to adhere to simple preservation practices. If you wish to apply for the certificate and plaque, copies of the application form are enclosed. The form should be completed in triplicate and two copies returned to the National Park Service. You may retain the third copy for your records.

Designation as a national historic landmark automatically places the property on the National Register of Historic Places. Under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, entry on the National Register provides each landmark with safeguards against damage by Federal undertakings and fulfills one qualification for participation in a grant-in-aid program to assist in its preservation. Further information about these provisions of the law is contained in a leaflet describing the National Register that is also enclosed.

We will be pleased to include this property among the sites already recognized as national historic landmarks.

Green

Fort Myer Historic District, Va.
Quarters 1, Va.

Honorable Robert F. Froehle
Secretary of Army
Washington, D.C. 20310

bcc: Director, Northeast Region
PHHS-Mr. Sheely

FNP:HJ Sheely:kr 1/31/73



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

6 SEP 1973

Mr. Ronald H. Walker
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Walker:

As the owner of Quarters 1, Fort Myer, Virginia, located in Arlington, Virginia, we hereby make formal application for a certificate and a bronze plaque, 17" x 18", designating this historic property a national historic landmark.

Fully conscious of the high responsibility to the Nation that goes with the ownership and care of a property classified as having national significance and worthy of national historic landmark status, we agree to preserve, so far as practicable and to the best of our ability, the historical integrity of this important part of the national cultural heritage.

Toward this end, we agree to continue to use the property only for purposes consistent with its historical character.

We agree to permit an annual visit to the property by a representative of the National Park Service, as a basis for continuing landmark status.

If, for any reason, the three conditions mentioned above cannot continue to be met, it is agreed that the national historic landmark status shall cease and that until such status is restored by the Secretary of the Interior, neither the national historic landmark certificate nor the plaque will be displayed.

Mr. Ronald H. Walker

It would be appreciated if the certificate and plaque were delivered to the Facilities Engineer, Fort Myer, Arlington, Virginia 22211.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. L. T. Koren", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Henry L. T. Koren
Deputy Under Secretary of the Army

HJ Sheely 9/17/73

H3417-PHH

SEP 18 1973

Honorable Henry L. T. Koren
Deputy Under Secretary of the
Army
Department of the Army
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Mr. Koren:

Thank you for your applications of September 6 requesting the certificates and plaques designating Fort Myer Historic District and Quarters 1 as national historic landmarks. We are proceeding with the preparation of the certificates and plaques.

Our Northeast Regional Office administers the National Historic Landmarks Program in Virginia. The Regional Director of the Region will inform you when the certificates and plaques for Fort Myer Historic District and Quarters 1 have been completed. Should you wish the help of the Service in arranging ceremonies for the presentation, he will be glad to assist you. His name and address is: Mr. Chester L. Brooks, Regional Director, Northeast Regional Office, National Park Service, 143 South Third Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106.

We are pleased to know that you plan to accept designation as national historic landmarks for Fort Myer Historic District and Quarters 1.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Harry W. Pfanz

Harry W. Pfanz
Acting Chief Historian

Enclosure

PHH:HJ Sheely:kr 9/17/73

bcc: Regional Director, Northeast Region w/c application form
LI

HP - Virginia - Fort Myer Historic District
Quarters 1

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PHHS

To: Mr. Sheeley

MAR 18 1974

134-NCP(1000)

Honorable Henry L. T. Koren
Deputy Under Secretary of the Army
Department of the Army
Washington, D. C. 20310

Dear Mr. Koren:

We are pleased to inform you that the plaques designating Fort Myer Historic District and Quarters 1 as National Historic Landmarks have been received and the certificates have been signed by the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior.

Since our last correspondence with you in September 1973, administration of the landmark program in the Washington metropolitan area has been transferred from our Northeast Regional Office in Philadelphia to this office. We would be happy to work with you in planning dedication ceremonies if you so desire. I would appreciate it if the staff members assigned to develop dedication plans for the Department would contact Mr. Rock Comstock, Chief, Branch of Interpretation, National Capital Parks, to discuss such plans. He is coordinator of the landmarks program here and may be reached by calling 426-6957.

We were indeed happy to learn that you have accepted the landmark designation for this building, and look forward to working with you on the dedication of these historic properties of national significance.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Manus J. Fish, Jr.

Director, National Capital Parks

cc:
NCP Surname and NCP File
NCP File
Director, NCP
Mr. Fiskburne, Va. State Historic
Preservation Officer
Mr. Sheeley, NCP
Mr. Gamble, WAGO
Superintendent, GERP
Mr. Lamb, NCP
Mr. Bradley, NCP

Mr. Comstock, NCP
RComstock/perd/3-14-74

Quarters 1 Washington Avenue

Fort Myer

1. General Description: Quarters 1 is a three-story, brick structure originally built in 1899. It faces southeast overlooking Washington. The gross floor space amounts to 10,111 square feet. The first floor of approximately 3,245 square feet contains reception hall, living room with fireplace, library with fireplace and 1/2 bath, dining room, one breakfast room adjacent to dining room, powder room, kitchen, pantry, storage room and office. The second floor consisting of approximately 2,855 square feet contains two master bedrooms each with full bath, one small bedroom with full bath, five closets, one sitting room (sunporch) and two studies. The third floor with approximately 2,855 square feet contains three bedrooms, two baths, five closets and two storage rooms. The basement of approximately 1,156 square feet contains one orderly's dressing room, 1/2 bath with shower, one kitchen, laundry room, two storage rooms and utility room. These quarters also contain an automatic self-service elevator, three car garage, front flagstone patio and rear patio with barbecue pit. Heating is provided by an automatic oil-fired hot water system.

2. Installed property:

a. Air conditioner:

Central None

Room 14

Kitchen 2

Library 1

Living Room 1

Study 1

2nd Floor Sitting room 2

2nd Floor Bedrooms 5

3rd Floor Bedrooms 2

Other: 1 - 5 Ton Unit - Dining Room

1959 - after
6A & 6B became 2 hrs. 6

Mrs. Johnson - Facilities Engineers
ju-1946

orig. plan for qtrs. 1, 2, 3, 4

Family Housing Record Copy 1503-40

File 1

b. Wall-to-Wall carpeting: (First Floor)

	<u>Condition</u>
Living Room <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Dining Room <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Other: Remainder of Living Area	<u>good</u>

b.(1) Wall-to-Wall carpeting: (Second Floor)

	<u>Condition</u>
Bedrooms <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Studies <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Other: Sitting Room (Sunporch)	<u>good</u>

c. Drapes: (First Floor)

	<u>Condition</u>
Living Room <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Dining Room <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Other: Remainder of Living Area	<u>good</u>

c.(1) Drapes: (Second Floor)

	<u>Condition</u>
Bedroom <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Studies <u>X</u>	<u>good</u>
Other: Sitting Room (Sunporch)	<u>good</u>

d. Stoves 3

e. Refrigerators 5 3 - 12 cu ft
 1 - 8 cu ft
 1 - 20 cu ft

f. Freezers 3 2 - 12 cu ft
 1 - 14 cu ft

g. Dishwasher 1

h. Other: Garbage Disposal - 1 Eye Level Oven

3. General Condition and Programmed Improvements: These quarters were last completely renovated in 1953. A complete survey of post Quarters is now being made to determine overall improvements required. This study, when completed, will be the basis for submitting a Long Range Family Housing Improvement Program tentatively in FY 70 MCA Program.

Mantels from West Pt. in Quarters No. 1, Ft. Myer

These two fireplace mantels were removed from Rooms Nos. 733 and 741 in the 7th Division, in the oldest portion of Central Barracks, built 1845-51. The 7th Division, 8th Division and the 8-1/2 Division of the old barracks were originally designed as officers' quarters. In 1879, the Board of Visitors reported: "Several of the rooms are necessarily assigned to assistant instructors in tactics. Other officers are quartered in the cadet barracks by reason of the insufficiency of quarters for them elsewhere at the post. Such occupancy has been allowed for over thirty years." In 1882, the Board noted: "Of these (cadet rooms) there are twenty-two in use by officers (one married, with servants and children), an objectionable arrangement * * * "

These rooms in the 7th, 8th and 8-1/2 Divisions had marble fireplace mantels and cast iron inserts to accommodate grates, as contrasted with iron fireplace mantels (instead of marble) in the other divisions, occupied by cadets. Some of these will be used to restore typical rooms in the 1st Division, which will be retained. The 1st Division is the historic division containing the rooms occupied by John J. Pershing, Douglas Mac Arthur and other illustrious sons of West Point. With the exception of these rooms in the 1st Division and the five rooms in North Barracks occupied by Cadet Dwight D. Eisenhower during his cadet years, the USMA archives contain no record of room occupancy by distinguished graduates. Therefore, there is no record of the occupancy of Rooms Nos. 733 and 741.

Family History Room
1/11/1971