

NR 6/12/14
NHR 9/26/15

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT

Other names/site number: STATE RIFLE RANGE/VDHR File Number 134-0413

2. Location

Street & Number: Roughly bounded by General Booth Boulevard, South Birdneck Road, and the Atlantic Ocean within the boundaries of the State Military Reservation property Not for Publication

City or town: Virginia Beach Vicinity

State: Virginia Code: VA County: Virginia Beach (Independent City) Code: 810 Zip Code: 23456

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. () See continuation sheet for additional comments.

M. Catherine Spence

Signature of certifying official/Title

August 17, 2005

Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.

() see continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register

() see continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing (includes buildings being demolished)
<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<u>105</u>	<u>37</u> Buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u> Sites
	<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u> Structure
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> Objects
		<u>114</u>	<u>45</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing
N/A

Number of contributing Resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DEFENSE/Military Facility
TRANSPORTATION/Air-Related

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DEFENSE/Military Facility

See continuation sheet

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/World War II Temporary Buildings
OTHER/World War I Buildings
EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Bungalow

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Foundation: CONCRETE
Walls: WOOD, SYNTHETICS
Roof: ASPHALT, METAL

Narrative Description

Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets

See continuation sheet

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark x in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark x in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

See continuation sheet

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
MILITARY
TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance

1911-1950

Significant Dates

1911
1919
1940

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

W.W. LaPrade
Colonel Charles D. Hartman

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
- previously listed in the NR
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

- Primary location of additional data:
- State SHPO office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Specify repository:
SMR Facility Files at Ft. Pickett,
Blackstone, VA _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 328 acres

UTM References Virginia Beach USGS Map

- | | |
|---|---|
| A) <u>1/8/ 4/1/2/6/6/2/ 4/0/7/5/4/3/0/</u>
Zone Easting Northing | B) <u>1/8/ 4/1/1/7/1/1/ 4/0/7/4/2/0/2/</u>
Zone Easting Northing |
| C) <u>1/8/ 4/1/2/7/0/2/ 4/0/7/4/2/0/2/</u>
Zone Easting Northing | D) <u>1/8/ 4/1/2/9/4/9/ 4/0/7/4/4/5/2/</u>
Zone Easting Northing |
| E) <u>1/8/ 4/1/3/8/1/4/ 4/0/7/4/6/0/3/</u>
Zone Easting Northing | F) <u>1/8/ 4/1/3/4/1/2/ 4/0/7/4/9/6/6/</u>
Zone Easting Northing |
| G) <u>1/8/ 4/1/3/4/1/2/ 4/0/7/4/9/0/4/</u>
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| I) <u>1/8/ 4/1/2/7/8/2/ 4/0/7/5/1/9/7/</u>
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| K) <u>1/8/ 4/1/2/9/0/5/ 4/0/7/5/3/5/7/</u>
Zone Easting Northing | L) <u>1/8/ 4/1/3/4/1/2/ 4/0/7/5/3/0/0/</u>
Zone Easting Northing |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Simone Monteleone Moffett, Sr. Architectural Historian
 Organization Parsons Date November 2003
 Street & Number 10521 Rosehaven Street Telephone (703) 591-7575
 City or Town Fairfax State VA Zip code 22030

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name Commonwealth of Virginia-Department of Military Affairs; Point Of Contact-Captain
Laura Caballero, Environmental Program Specialist
street & number Building 316, Fort Pickett PRN160 telephone 434-298-6445
city or town Blackstone state VA zip code 23824-6316

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of the Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation (SMR) is a Virginia Army National Guard facility located just south of the main resort area of Virginia Beach, Virginia. Originally established in Princess Anne County in the midst of the sleepy summer resort of Virginia Beach to the north and farmland to the south, SMR is now bounded by General Booth Boulevard to the west, Birdneck Avenue to the south, the Croatan residential neighborhood to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the east. The facility was originally laid out on approximately four hundred acres in 1911 with construction beginning in 1912. Currently, SMR occupies approximately three hundred acres with an additional twenty-seven acres leased from the federal government.

The facility was constructed during three distinct building campaigns with interspersed construction on a smaller scale since its establishment as the State Rifle Range in 1912. The first campaign in 1912 laid out the original core of the rifle range, and, though most of the buildings were demolished by World War II, the layout remains extant. The second campaign of major construction performed by the U.S. Navy in 1919, brought further development of the rifle ranges, and again though the buildings no longer exist the layout has been retained. The final major construction campaign completed by the U.S. Army during World War II provides the majority of extant buildings on the property. This is also when the facility was dedicated as Camp Pendleton.

Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation is defined by the intact landscape created by the dominant building type, World War II-era temporary buildings, and the examples of earlier 20th century military and residential building types. Building forms and styles extend from the small bungalows of the officers' housing to the standard World War II temporary barracks. The lack of examples of varying types of architectural styles is emphasized by the utilitarian designs of the majority of the buildings on post. The post is buffered from the public streets by extensive trees and landscaping, in addition to the required security fencing along the perimeter.

There are one hundred and eight (108) contributing buildings or structures and an additional six (6) sites contributing to the Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation Historic District. Of the contributing

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 2

buildings and structures, twenty-eight (28) resources were constructed prior to 1939 and eighty (80) date from 1940-1945. The sites include the current and original rifle ranges, the parade (Regimental Camp Area #1) field, the drill field/air field, the cantonment roads, and Regimental Camp Area #2. There are forty-one (41) non-contributing buildings and structures within the boundaries of the historic district. Four (4) buildings are scheduled to be demolished.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The Establishment of the State Rifle Range (1912-1917)

The initiative to establish a state rifle range was begun in 1908 by the General Assembly for the purchase of a permanent range and camp site for the Virginia National Guard. Chosen among various sites under consideration, the location in Princess Anne County (now the City of Virginia Beach) was an undeveloped parcel of land with access to a fresh water lake, Lake Christine, and the Atlantic Ocean. The area south of Rudee Inlet was agricultural in use and sparsely populated. Prior to construction commencing in 1912, extensive plowing and leveling, the cutting of trees and stump removal, and the laying of grass seed was required to prepare the site for actual construction of the rifle range. In addition to this preparation, requirements for the rifle range necessitated receiving permission from adjoining owners to fire over their property during target practice.

The majority of the buildings constructed during this building campaign were demolished by the time of World War II. The original core of the rifle range, located between present-day Jefferson Avenue and Lake Road, is extant although the original targets and butts have been removed. In addition to the rifle range and the central layout of SMR, the extant buildings dating from this building campaign include Building #85 (Residential Quarters/Administration Building), Building #88 (Officers' Quarters), Building #89 (Residence/Sick Bay and Hospital), Building #90 (Governor's Cottage/C.O. Quarters), and Building #94 (Post Superintendent's/Caretaker's House).

Identified on the 1913 (revised 1921) and 1919 maps of the State Rifle Range and visible in a 1922 photograph of present day Jefferson Road are Buildings #85, #88 and #89. Originally one-story, frame

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 3

constructions upon low piers with vertical wood siding, the vernacular buildings were clad with vinyl siding during the 1990s. The three buildings have side-gable roofs with shed extensions at the front porch and have each undergone minor alterations. Building #85, originally the administration building, has been altered with the enclosing of half of the porch to provide additional interior space. Each of the buildings has a screened porch at the main elevation and all are currently occupied as residential buildings.

Buildings #90 and #94 are one-and-a-half story frame bungalows constructed upon low piers. Building #90, currently known as the Governor's Cottage, is seven-bays wide with a clipped gable roof and a single dormer at the main elevation. The front porch has been screened in. Since its construction, multiple one-story additions have been constructed at the rear to provide additional living space and the building has been clad in vinyl siding. Originally identified as the C.O.'s quarters on the 1913 (revised 1921) and 1919 maps of the facility, Building #90's current name reflects its occupation by various governor's during their vacations after World War II. Building #94 currently occupied by the Post Superintendent, has a hipped roof with shed roof dormers at the main and side elevations. The front porch has been screened in and a non-original wood deck has been constructed at the north elevation. Building #94 has four outbuildings located northeast of the main building dating from the mid to late 20th century.

Construction Campaign by the U.S. Navy (1917-1919)

During World War I, Virginia leased the State Rifle Range to the U.S. Navy for training and housing. The U.S. Navy acquired a post with no barracks and a handful of administration and support buildings for the range. As a result, the U.S. Navy was responsible for the construction of twenty-one new buildings at the Rifle Range. This building campaign included the construction of four armories, eleven barracks, two toilet and wash houses, one wash house, a gallery and mess hall, a latrine, and a shed. In a joint venture with the YMCA, a two-story recreational building was constructed at the northwest corner near present day Headquarters Road and Jefferson Avenue.

Seventeen buildings were dismantled upon the Rifle Range's return to Virginia for distribution to other state institutions. None of the remaining buildings dating from this building campaign are extant. The original layout of the rifle ranges has been retained (Jefferson Avenue and Lake Road), but evidence of the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 4

targets and butts has been removed. The main alignment of present-day Headquarters Road, which was constructed during the U.S. Navy's occupation, has been retained with a minor reconfiguration at the juncture with Jefferson Avenue.

Expansion of the State Rifle Range/State Military Reservation Between 1920 and 1939

The return of the State Rifle Range to Virginia in 1920 led to an extensive inspection of the training facility and the remaining buildings on post. After the demolition or removal of a majority of the resources at the rifle range, the prospect of resuming summer encampments was unclear. Within two years, the decision to hold summer encampments at the State Rifle Range was authorized allowing the first units to return in August 1922. Prior to the arrival of the troops, new buildings were under construction to support the men training on post. Twenty (20) one-story frame kitchen and mess buildings were constructed along present day D Street. The regimental camp area, a large open field west of these buildings, is located between present day Headquarters Road and D Street. In addition to the kitchen and mess buildings, two latrines were constructed as well as an officers' mess hall and a washhouse. The washhouses were typically 14' x 44' with concrete walls and floors. The latrines were of frame construction and partly screened with copper wire. The buildings were covered with composition roofing. The kitchen and mess buildings were 14' x 60' with concrete foundations, floors of sand and clay, and wood siding. A brick storage building (32' x 16') with sliding galvanized iron doors and a galvanized roof was constructed beside the railroad spur.¹ Of these resources, only the washhouse (Building #8) is extant. Building #8, located off of Headquarters Road, is a one-story, seven-bays-wide, concrete block building with a side gable roof and exposed rafters.

By 1925, the State Rifle Range (known as Camp Trinkle) included an additional regimental camp area south of present-day Jefferson Avenue and Headquarters Road. Upon this additional acreage, twenty kitchen and mess buildings, latrines, and bathhouses were constructed to support additional troops during summer encampment. The layout of Regimental Camp #2 mimicked the original regimental camp to the north. A brick storage building was constructed along the railroad spur at the southeast corner of post. Additional infrastructure upgrades included the construction of a surface drainage system, water mains, installation of power lines and a telephone system, construction of additional roadways on post, as well as

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 5

the construction of a sanitary garbage disposal plant and pumping system.

An important feature established during this building campaign was the development of an airfield/drill field east of the kitchen and mess buildings for Regimental Camp #2 and south of the C.O.'s Quarters. This was the first state-owned airfield in Virginia and provided aviation services to both civilian and military aircraft. Of these resources, the drill field and the road upgrades are extant.

In 1927-1928, the original ranges (orientated north-south) between Lake Christine and Regimental Camp #1 were removed after the Guard acquired land east of Lake Christine. Additional training areas were now available with the removal of the original ranges and the acquisition/lease of more acreage. In order to represent the multiple activities available at the rifle range, the post was re-dedicated as the State Military Reservation (SMR). A new rifle range, pistol range, antiaircraft range, and machine gun range were constructed with the firing points orientated east toward the Atlantic Ocean. An ammunition building (Building #113) and a latrine were constructed in support of the new ranges. Jefferson Avenue (present day Rifle Range Road) was extended east from Lake Christine to the beachfront to provide access to the ranges. At this time, the original railroad spur was re-aligned from the southeast side of the SMR to the northwest side. Two new warehouses (Buildings #2 and 3) were constructed along the new spur. All of these resources, with the exception of the railroad spur, are extant. The one-story, one-bay-wide ammunition building (Building #113) is a brick structure laid in seven-course American bond. The side gable roof has exposed wood rafters and is clad in corrugated metal sheets. Buildings #2 and 3 are one-story frame buildings clad in corrugated metal siding with side gable, standing seam metal roofs. A raised platform provides access to the pedestrian entrances and loading dock doors. The rifle ranges and late 20th century buildings which support the range activities have been retained, including the range office (Building #116), storage buildings (Buildings #114, 115, 117), and a range tower (Structure #124), support the range activities. The partial framing of the pistol range canopy is extant.

Subsequent buildings constructed between 1922 and 1931 include an ammunition storage building (Building #92) and the stables (Building #93). These buildings were constructed at the juncture of the present-day Jefferson Avenue and the road leading to Gate 4. The ammunition storage building is a one-story, two-bays-wide brick structure laid in eight-course American bond. Constructed upon low piers, the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 6

main elevation is pierced by two single entrances. The side gable roof is covered in corrugated metal sheets. The stables, a one-story frame building is scheduled to be demolished.² Two additional buildings, #99 and #110, were constructed during this period along the east side of present day Lake Road. Building #99, is a one-story frame building with a side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. Originally used as a club and a staff officers' mess hall, the building has been converted for residential use. Building #110 is a one-story frame building with a cross-gable roof, a front entrance porch, and a screened rear porch.

In response to funding available through the relief programs associated with the Great Depression and destruction caused by the Hurricane of 1933, a number of new buildings were constructed on post during the first half of the 1930s. The Civil Works Administration (CWA) constructed the new kitchen and mess buildings (Buildings #59-67) along the present day D Street to replace the mess halls from the 1920s. These are one-story frame buildings with side gable roofs, constructed upon low piers, and clad in vinyl siding. Buildings #59-64 are substantially wider than Buildings #65-67 to accommodate a larger number of men as well as provide additional storage space. On the exterior of the window openings of Buildings #59-62 and #64 were awnings that could be anchored in an open position to allow for additional ventilation and shade during mealtime. These awnings were originally constructed of paneled wood sections, but have since been clad in vinyl. Buildings #65-67 were smaller in square footage with double doors along the east elevation. The main pedestrian entrance is located in the first bay of the main elevation. These buildings have been adapted for use as a paint shop, storage, and the AC and Electrical shop. Latrines (Building #82), two regimental headquarters, and an infirmary were also constructed during this period. The remaining latrine is a one-story, four-bay-wide concrete block building located just east of the kitchen and mess buildings (Buildings #59-67).

Building #4, the ammunition and supply building, was constructed from 1931-1940. Similar in design to Building #8, the one-story, seven-bay-wide building is constructed of concrete block. The side gable roof with exposed rafters is clad in asphalt shingles.

Construction at Camp Pendleton During World War II

The transfer of SMR to the U.S. Army in 1940 initiated the largest building campaign to date on post.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 7

Dedicated as Camp Pendleton, housing and other support facilities would be required to accommodate the thousands of soldiers that would be temporarily stationed there. Between 1940 and 1943, over one hundred (100) temporary buildings were constructed at Camp Pendleton. Based on the 700 Series drawings developed by the Quartermaster Corps, the temporary buildings were constructed with the expectation of remaining extant from five to twenty years.³ Despite the temporary label, sixty-nine (69) World War II buildings, primarily barracks and mess halls, remain at SMR. Other support buildings retained include the company storeroom and recreation buildings, the firehouse, and the chapel. Tents, later replaced with hutments, were originally located at Regimental Camp Area #1 to supplement the housing provided by the barracks. Virginia Beach's location in a temperate climate facilitated the combination of tent/hutments with barracks for housing the troops.⁴

Barracks

The 63-men barracks from the 700 Series, based on drawings developed under the direction of Colonel Charles D. Hartman of the Quartermaster Corps, were erected south of Jefferson Avenue in the Regimental Camp Area #2. Of the sixty-six (66) built between 1940 and 1941, thirty-two (32) are still extant between B and C Streets. They are Buildings #231-233, #236-238, #241-243, #246-248, #251-253, #326-328, #331-333, #336-338, #341-343, #346-348, and #352-353.

As originally designed, the two-story, three-bay-wide, frame buildings are approximately 29' 6" x 80' and constructed upon wooden piers. The framing for the barracks consisted of wood platform construction with diagonally laid wood sheathing or panels of gypsum board.⁵ The buildings were originally clad in wood siding, but were covered in vinyl siding in the 1990s. Aqua medias (continuous eaves) cap all windows on the first and second stories. The front gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The chimney for each barrack is located approximately four feet from the exterior wall. The main entrance is situated in the central bay of the main elevation with a wood fire escape and platform located along the second story.

The original design of the interiors was unfinished with the first floor having two small rooms for the non-commissioned officers, an open area for the enlisted men, and the toilet, shower, and heater rooms at the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 8

rear. A stair leading to the second floor was located next to the toilet room and the secondary exit. The second floor had two rooms for the non-commissioned officers and a large open space for the enlisted men. As part of the Virginia Army National Guard's renovation campaign, the interior of the barracks has been altered with the exception of Building #347. This building has been preserved as a representative example of the original interior design.

Mess Halls

Twenty-two (22) 118-men mess halls were originally constructed to serve the enlisted men occupying the barracks along B Street. Of these, seven mess halls (Buildings #329, 335, 339, 345, 349, and 355) are extant along C Street between Fourth Street and Jefferson Avenue. The mess halls are one-story, three-bay-wide frame buildings measuring approximately 25' 9" x 93' 6". The buildings are constructed upon low piers and the original wood siding has been concealed beneath vinyl siding. The aqua medias executed on the barracks design is repeated on the mess halls. The front gable roofs are covered in asphalt shingles.

Company Store Room and Recreation Buildings

Twenty-two (22) company storeroom and recreation buildings (Buildings #330, 334, 340, 344, 350, and 354) were constructed along A and C Streets to serve the men occupying the barracks along B Street. Of these, seven (7) company storeroom and recreation buildings are extant. The one-story frame buildings are rectangular in shape and average approximately 2,180 square feet in usable space. The design of each building incorporates the two functions, the one-story storeroom constructed upon low piers and the recreation section rising slightly higher. The arrangement of the bays at the rear and secondary elevations are asymmetrical due to the interior requirements of the buildings. The original wood siding has been covered with vinyl siding. The front gable roof of the buildings are covered in asphalt shingles and jag towards the center of the building due to the height difference of the two sections.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 9

Chapel

The chapel (Building # 426) at Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation is located at Jefferson Avenue and was the only chapel on post during World War II. The one-and-a-half story, frame chapel is three bays wide. The vestibule, centered longitudinally, projects slightly from the center bay along the first story. The steeple is centered at the roof ridge, rising above the center bay of the main elevation. The front gable roof is covered in asphalt shingles and the original wood siding has been clad in vinyl siding.

The interior was been preserved with the original light fixtures, wood paneling, flooring, pews, and altar still extant. The interior floor plan consists of a cloakroom and small office off the vestibule, and the main sanctuary and altar, with two small vestry rooms connected by a narrow passage behind the altar. A staircase at the cloakroom leads to the balcony.

Firehouse

The firehouse (Building #410) is a one-story, four-bay-wide, frame building constructed on a concrete slab foundation at the motor equipment bays and upon piers at the personnel quarters and office area. Located off of Headquarters Road, the firehouse had formally served as the main headquarters for fire protection on post. The main elevation is pierced by three garage doors and a single pedestrian entrance. The T-plan of the building is orientated toward the main road with the shaft of the building extending at the rear. The main service bay of the firehouse extends the width of the main block of the T to accommodate numerous vehicles and fire equipment. A central hallway provides access to the shaft of the T-plan, which is occupied by storage areas and offices. The original wood siding has been covered with vinyl siding and the cross gable roof is covered in asphalt shingles.

Additional World War II Temporary Buildings

Other temporary buildings dating from World War II include the Officers' Club and PX (Building #427), Bachelor Officers' Quarters (Buildings #412, 414, and 416), Maintenance Shop and Garages (Buildings #262-263, #360, 362, and 424), and warehouses (Buildings #421 and 441). These buildings were

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 10

constructed based on the 700 Series drawings from the Quartermaster Corps and exhibit the same construction qualities, including wood frame construction upon low piers with gable roofs.

Six buildings, Buildings #403-405 and #407-409, were originally constructed at the north end of Headquarters Road and serviced Post Headquarters during World War II. In order to prevent their demolition from a proposed project in this vicinity, these buildings have been moved to the corner of B and 7th Streets in the old Regimental Camp #2 area. These buildings originally served as the Dispensary (#403), barracks (#404-405), a mess hall (#408), and offices (#407, 409).

Development After 1950

Construction activity after World War II was limited to the removal of buildings deemed expendable by the Virginia Department of Military Affairs, including the theater, amphitheater, the hutments, the YMCA Building, various barracks, mess halls, company store rooms and recreation buildings, and the main PX. The Guard primarily focused on repairing the remaining buildings on post for use during summer encampments and training sessions. The Guard currently leases a number of the buildings, particularly the World War II barracks, to various military and civilian agencies.

The first major building campaign after World War II was the construction of the REDHORSE facilities (1990s) at the north end of Regimental Camp #1 and south of Warehouse Road. The 203rd REDHORE Flight unit is a construction and repair unit for the Virginia Air National Guard and their headquarters is located at SMR. A memorial is located in this area to honor the airmen from REDHORSE whom were killed in an airplane accident returning from training in March 2001. Additional construction projects executed during the late 20th century include an armory at the corner of General Booth Boulevard and Birdneck Road.

Development pressure from the City of Virginia Beach led to the transfer of SMR parcels of land from the Guard to the city during the 1990s. These parcels included acreage beyond the original cantonment area of SMR. As a result, the boundaries of SMR incorporate all the land (with the exception of a small tract south of Lake Christine leased from the federal government) between General Booth Boulevard, Birdneck

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7 Page 11

Road, Rifle Range Road, the Atlantic Ocean and the Croatan neighborhood. A 14.94 acre plot of land just west of Headquarters Loop along the property boundary at General Booth Boulevard has been leased to the City of Virginia Beach for use as a parking lot by the Virginia Marine Science Museum.

Despite the few intrusions to the original plan and subsequent configuration of Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation, the integrity of both the architectural resources and cantonment features dating from 1912-1945 have remained intact and well preserved.

END NOTES

¹ W.W. LaPrade to the Adjutant General of Virginia, memorandum, 19 December 1924, *State Military Reservation Records*, RG 46, Box 7, File 566, Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

² Demolition of this building has already been approved by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (SHPO).

³ Diane Shaw Wasch, et al, *World War II and the U.S. Army Mobilization Program: A History of the 700 and 800 Series Cantonment Construction* (Washington, D.C.: United States Department of the Interior, 1988), 3.

⁴ Wasch, et al., *World War II and the U.S. Army Mobilization Program: A History of the 700 and 800 Series Cantonment Construction*, 27.

⁵ Wasch, et al., *World War II and the U.S. Army Mobilization Program: A History of the 700 and 800 Series Cantonment Construction*, 26.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7, Inventory Page 12

INVENTORY OF CONTRIBUTING AND NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Building #/ Original #	Construction Date	Building Type or Name (Current /Original)	Status
1	1988	Warehouse	Non-Contributing
2	1927-1928	Warehouse	Contributing
3	1927-1928	Warehouse	Contributing
4	1931-1940	Administration/Ammunition & Supply	Contributing
8	1924	Mess Hall/Wash House	Contributing
13/T-13	1940-1942	Billeting Office/Dental Office	Contributing
18/T-18	1940-1942	Classroom/Welding & Storage	Contributing
34	1934	Post Exchange/Mess Hall & Storage	Contributing
35	1934	Administration/Mess Hall & Storage	Contributing
51	1934	Mess Hall	Contributing
57/T-57	ca. 1931	Dispensary/Radio House	Contributing
59/T-59	1934	Mess Hall/Mess Hall & Storage	Contributing
60/T-60	1934	Mess Hall/Mess Hall & Storage	Contributing
61/T-61	1934	Mess Hall	Contributing
62/T-62	1934	Mess Hall	Contributing
63/T-63	1934	Mess Hall	Contributing
64/T-64	1934	Storage/Mess Hall	Contributing
65/T-65	1934	Paint Shop/Mess Hall	Contributing
66/T-66	1934	Shop & Storage/Mess Hall	Contributing
67/T-67	1934	AC & Electrical/Mess Hall	Contributing
80/T-80	ca. 1944	Review Stand	Contributing
82//T-82	1934	Latrines	Contributing
83	ca. 1912-1915	Paint Storage/Engine Room	Contributing
84/T-84	ca. 1940	Residence (Vernacular)	Contributing
85/T-85	ca. 1915	Residence (Vernacular)/Administration Office	Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7, Inventory Page 13

Building #/ Original #	Construction Date	Building Type or Name (Current/Original)	Status
86	Late 20 th century	Mobile Home (Trailer)	Non- Contributing
87	Late 20 th century	Mobile Home (Trailer)	Non- Contributing
88/T-88 & 5	ca. 1915	Residence (Vernacular)/Officers' Quarters Cottage	Contributing
89/T-89 & 4	ca. 1915	Residence (Vernacular)/Sick Bay & Hospital	Contributing
90	ca. 1915	Governor's Cottage/Commandant's House	Contributing
91	ca. 1944	Storage/Boat House and Pump House	Contributing
91a	Late 20 th century	Dock	Non-contributing
92/93 & 33	1922-1931	Target Storage/Ammunition Storage	Contributing
93/92 & 32	1922-1931	Storage/Stables	To be Demolished
94	ca. 1912	Post Superintendent's House/Caretaker's House	Contributing
94a/b/c	ca. 1942	Outbuildings for Post Superintendent's House	Non- Contributing
94 d	Late 20 th century	Dock	Non- Contributing
95	Late 20 th century	Mobile Home (Trailer)	Non- Contributing
96	Late 20 th century	Mobile Home (Trailer)	Non- Contributing
97	Late 20 th century	Mobile Home (Trailer)	Non- Contributing
99/T-95	1922-1931	Residence (Vernacular)/Club	Contributing
110/T-110	1922-1931	Residence for Adjutant General (Vernacular)/ Officer's Quarters	Contributing
110a	ca. 1943	Residence/Bunkhouse	Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Section number 7, Inventory Page 14

Building #/ Original #	Construction Date	Building Type or Name (Current/Original)	Status
110b	Late 20 th century	Mobile Home (Trailer)	Non- Contributing
110c	Late 20 th century	Gazebo and Brick Barbecue	Non- Contributing
110d	Late 20 th century	Dock	Non- Contributing
113/99	1927-1928	Target storage/Ammunition Storage	Contributing
114	Late 20 th century	Target Storage/Storage	Non- Contributing
115	Late 20 th century	Storage	Non- Contributing
116	Late 20 th century	Range Office/Training Building	Non- Contributing
117	Late 20 th century	Administration Building/Storage	Non- Contributing
118/T-100	ca. 1941	Small Arms Range (canopy)	Non- Contributing
119	1962	Picnic and Grill Area/Viewing Platform	Non- Contributing
120	1962	Picnic and Grill Area/Viewing Platform	Non- Contributing
127	1987	Range Tower	Non- Contributing
203-207, 209, 210, & 211	1990s	Support Buildings for REDHORSE (includes maintenance shops, headquarters building, storage facilities, motor pool and memorial)	Non- Contributing
229/442	Post 1955	Warehouse/storage	Non-contributing
230	1980	Guard House at Main Gate	Non- Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Section number 7, Inventory Page 15

Building #/ Original #	Construction Date	Building Type or Name (Current/Original)	Status
231/T-231	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
231A	2000	Administration and Storage	Non-Contributing
232/T-232	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
233/T-233	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
236/T-236	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
237/T-237	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
238/T-238	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
241/T-241	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
242/T-242	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
243/T-243	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
246/T-246	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
247/T-247	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
248/T-248	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
251/T-251	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
252/T-252	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
253/T-253	1940-1942	Offices/Barracks	Contributing
260	1980s	Offices (moved here from off-site)	Non-Contributing
261	1985	Maintenance Shop (Replaced original T-261)	Non-Contributing
262/T-262	1940-1942	Maintenance Shop and Garage/Garage	Contributing
263/T-263	1940-1942	Maintenance Shop and Garage/Garage	Contributing
264 and 265	1912-1943	Cantonment Roads	Contributing
326/T-326	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
327/T-327	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
328/T-328	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
329/T-329	1940-1942	Classroom/Mess Hall	Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Section number 7, Inventory Page 16

Building #/ Original #	Construction Date	Building Type or Name (Current/Original)	Status
330/T-330	1940-1942	Company Headquarters Building/Store room & Recreation	Contributing
331/T-331	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
332/T-332	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
333/T-333	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
334/T-334	1940-1942	Company Headquarters Building/Store room & Recreation	Contributing
335/T-335	1940-1942	Classroom/Mess Hall	Contributing
336/T-336	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
337/T-337	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
338/T-338	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
339/T-339	1940-1942	Classroom/Mess Hall	Contributing
340/T-340	1940-1942	Administration/ Store room & Recreation	Contributing
341/T-341	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
342/T-342	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
343/T-343	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
344/T-344	1940-1942	Company Headquarters Building/ Store room & Recreation	Contributing
345/T-345	1940-1942	General Purpose Administration/Mess Hall	Contributing
346/T-346	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
347/T-347	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
348/T-348	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
349/T-349	1940-1942	Headquarters Building/Mess Hall	Contributing
350/T-350	1940-1942	Company Headquarters Building/ Store room & Recreation	Contributing
352/T-352	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
353/T-353	1940-1942	Barracks	Contributing
354/T-354	1940-1942	General Purpose Building/ Store room & Recreation	Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Section number 7, Inventory Page 17

Building #/ Original #	Construction Date	Building Type or Name (Current/Original)	Status
355/T-355	1940-1942	Barracks/Mess Hall	Contributing
358/T-358	1940-1942	Classroom/Battalion Staff Command Building	Contributing
359/T-359	1940-1942	Storage/Shop Building	Contributing
360/T-360	1940-1942	Maintenance Shop	Contributing
361/Portion of T-356	1940-1942	Shed/Former pump room of T-356 (Demolished)	Non- Contributing
362/T-362	1940-1942	Maintenance Shop	Contributing
403/T-403	1940-1942	Vacant/Dispensary	Contributing*
404/T-404	1940-1942	Vacant/Barracks	Contributing*
405/T-405	1940-1942	Vacant/Barracks	Contributing*
407/T-407	1940-1942	Vacant/Office	Contributing*
408/T-408	1940-1942	Vacant/Mess Hall	Contributing*
409/T-409	1940-1942	Vacant/Office and Administration	Contributing*
410/T-410	1940-1942	Classroom/Fire Station	Contributing
410a	Late 20 th century	Shelter and Map Kiosk	Non- Contributing
411/T-411	ca. 1940	Pump House	Contributing
412/T-412	1940-1942	Barracks/Bachelor Officers' Quarters	Contributing
413/T-413	1940-1942	Mess Hall	Contributing
414/T-414	1940-1942	Barracks/ Bachelor Officers' Quarters	Contributing
416/T-416	1940-1942	Barracks/ Bachelor Officers' Quarters	Contributing
417a	ca. 1942	Residential Cottage	Contributing
421/T-421	1940-1942	Warehouse	Contributing
422/T-422	1940-1942	Fuel Point	Contributing
424/T-424	1940-1942	Maintenance Shop & Shed	Contributing
426/T-426	1940-1942	Chapel	Contributing
427/T-427	1940-1942	Conference Center/Officers' Club & PX	Contributing
428/T-428	1940-1942	Organizational Maintenance Shop/Warehouse	Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 7, Inventory Page 18

Building #/ Original #	Construction Date	Building Type or Name (Current/Original)	Status
T-430	1940-1942	Shed/Pump House	Non-Contributing
430c	1940-1942	Elevated Water Tank	Contributing
432/T-432	1940-1942	Maintenance Shop	Contributing
434/T-434	1940-1942	Mess Hall	Contributing
441/T-441	1941-1943	Warehouse	Contributing
448/T-448	1941-1943	Post Headquarters/Administration	Contributing
451/T-451	1941-1943	Vacant/Barracks	To Be Demolished
452/T-452	1941-1943	Vacant/Barracks	To Be Demolished
453/T-453	1941-1943	Vacant/Barracks	To Be Demolished
Corner of 4 th and B Streets	Late 20 th Century	Laundry Facility	Non-Contributing
Corner of 4 th and C Streets	Late 20 th Century	Dining Facility	Non-Contributing
Corner of S. Birdneck Rd. & G. Booth Blvd.	Late 20 th Century	Armory	Non-Contributing
Beachfront Range	1927-1928	Rifle Range	Contributing
Jefferson Ave. & Lake Road	1912	Training Field A/Original Rifle Range	Contributing
Field b/w Hdqs Road and D Street	1912	Parade Field/Tent Area & Regimental Camp Area #1	Contributing

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 20

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation (SMR) is a Virginia National Guard facility that has served the Commonwealth, as well as the United States military, since its establishment in 1912. Originally known as the State Rifle Range, Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation had grown from being the main range facility for Virginia Guardsmen and visiting military personnel during summer camps to a World War II post with an estimated thirty thousand (30,000) soldiers moving through its facilities during the war. Prior to the construction of Camp (Fort) Pickett in Blackstone, Virginia during World War II, SMR was the primary range for the Virginia National Guard and was the site of numerous drill camps for both the Virginia Guardsmen, as well as Guardsmen from surrounding states. Initially designed under the supervision of W.W. LaPrade, the original core of the facility has been retained despite expansions under the guidance of the U.S. Navy in 1919, the Virginia Department of Military Affairs in the 1930s, and the U.S. Army during World War II. The post incorporates a series of open fields, rifle ranges, wooded areas, and access to the Atlantic Ocean to maximize available training capabilities to personnel. The sections of the main cantonment area intentionally separated the functions required of military life into specific areas on the facility. From the barracks and mess hall areas, to family quarters for officers, to Headquarters row, training areas and soldier support areas, the design and layout of the post is specifically designed to accommodate and maximize the facility for use by the military. At its peak, the facility was bigger than the present post due to late 20th century encroachment by the City of Virginia Beach and land swappings by the Guard, but the core of the original cantonment area and the beachfront area of the facility are intact. The chronological development of Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation is documented by its architecture, which includes a range of construction dating from the 1910s to as recently as the REDHORSE facilities constructed in the late 1990s. Varying from large two-story frame barracks to smaller bungalow residences, the facility is generally defined by support buildings dating from the 1910s-1930s and the World War II temporary buildings.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 21

As a whole, the Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation has achieved significance as the product of the National Guard's evolution in Virginia during the first half of the 20th century. The SMR was the location of the first state-owned airfield in Virginia and had served both civilian and military aviators during the 1920s. Although the facility is no longer used as an airport, the original airfield/drill field is intact. Further, it is one of two facilities in Virginia that has retained its inner cantonment area dating from World War II and provides an intact landscape of this type of planned military development in response to needs of the armed forces during the initial build-up for World War II. The district meets National Register criteria A and C, and is significant under the themes of architecture and military/defense with the period of significance extending from 1911 to 1950. There are one hundred and fourteen (114) contributing resources within the Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation Historic District. Of the contributing buildings and structures, twenty-eight (28) resources were constructed prior to 1939 and eighty (80) date from 1940-1945. The sites include the current and original rifle ranges, the parade (Regimental Camp Area #1) field, the drill field/air field, the cantonment roads, and Regimental Camp Area #2. There are forty-five (45) buildings and structures which are either non-contributing or scheduled to be demolished within the boundaries.

Criterion A: That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation meets Criterion A of the National Register of Historic Places as a military facility that was developed in response to the pressing need for a dedicated range and training facility available to all National Guard units in Virginia. Prior to the establishment of the State Rifle Range, summer camps and drills were held in various locations throughout Virginia, as well as in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and North Carolina.¹ Repeated attempts by the Adjutant General's office to convince the General Assembly to fund the purchase of a dedicated site for the Guard's training was disregarded until 1908. Construction began on the State Rifle Range in 1912 with the first group of troops arriving for training in the summer of 1913. The arrival of these men marked the dedication of the first

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 22

permanent training facility specifically established for use as a firing range and summer camp for Guardsmen in Virginia.

Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation is also significant under Criterion A for serving as the first state-owned airfield for both commercial and military aviators in Virginia during the 1920s. It is also significant under Criterion A as a representative of an intact World War II training facility developed prior to the United States' entry into World War II for use by Virginia National Guard units. In anticipation of the possibility of U.S. involvement in World War II, all units of the Virginia National Guard were passed into Federal service between September 1940 and February 1941 for a one-year training period.² The State Military Reservation was leased to the U.S. Army in 1940 and was re-named Camp Pendleton for the duration of the Army's occupation. Under the guidance of the Corps of Engineers Construction Division, the U.S. Army initiated an aggressive building campaign to supplement the various buildings that had been already extant on the facility. Camp Pendleton served initially in conjunction with Fort Story, Fort Monroe, and Fort Wool (Chesapeake Harbor Defense Command), to house troops assigned to the forts for duty. During World War II, Camp Pendleton was used to train and billet various organizations before being utilized as a preliminary boot camp prior to shipping out to an advanced training center.³

Criterion C: That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation meets Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places for its substantial and intact concentration of World War II temporary buildings and for its examples of early 20th century residential and military buildings dating from the 1910s-1930s. The overall facility is representative of the evolution of a military post serving both the state and the federal needs during both peacetime and war. Designed and constructed under the supervision of W.Z. Johnston and Captain W.W. LaPrade, the initial building campaign in the early 1910s included retaining walls and butts for the range and a handful of

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 23

small support buildings for personnel and range activities.⁴ The early support buildings include the caretaker's house (Building #94) and the ammunition storage building (Building #92). A second building campaign, under the guidance of the U.S. Navy, who leased the facility during World War I, included construction of over thirty new buildings and an expansion of the original range. After the facility was returned back into state control in 1920, seventeen (17) of the buildings constructed by the U.S. Navy were disassembled and transferred to various non-military facilities across Virginia.⁵ Remnants of the original range configuration and the initial layout of the cantonment area are still extant. In addition, the expanse of land cleared by the U.S. Navy for a level parade ground and the wooded area for training has been retained.

Construction projects were executed during the 1920s including the construction of mess and kitchen halls, latrines, and upgraded sewer systems. Subsequent ranges were constructed in the early 1920s with a new ammunition house constructed in July 1923.⁶ It was also during this time that an airfield was constructed (present-day parade ground) for use by the Guard and other military units. A short-lived practice of leasing the airfield out to private pilots was established in the early 1930s, but was terminated soon after a reckless maneuver by civilian J.I. Alexander.⁷ The third major building campaign was initiated during the 1930s and included the construction of additional mess halls (Buildings #34-35, #51, and #57-67) and other support buildings.

The final major building campaign initiated at Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation was executed under the direction of the U.S. Army between 1940-1942. Over fifty (50) World War II temporary buildings were constructed within the cantonment area of Camp Pendleton. The buildings included barracks, administration buildings, a firehouse, a chapel, a clubhouse, maintenance shops, storage facilities, mess halls, a dispensary, and warehouses. The water system was expanded, new water storage tanks installed, and the present road system on post was constructed and expanded.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 24

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Brief History of Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach

English colonization of Tidewater Virginia began in 1607 with the arrival of settlers associated with the Virginia Company of London in present day Cape Henry. Cape Henry, located north of modern-day Virginia Beach, was inhabited by the Chesapeake tribe of the Algonquian linguistic group under the direction of Chief Powhatan.⁸ The settlers moved from Cape Henry to a more defensible position at Jamestown later that year.

Prior to 1616, colonists who arrived in Virginia were given land grants of one hundred acres which initially encouraged development of self-sufficient plantations instead of centrally located towns.⁹ The community of Lynnhaven, established at the mouth of the former Chesopian River (later renamed the Lynnhaven River) in the 1620s, was one of the first settlements within the boundaries of present day Virginia Beach. By 1634, the first counties were created in Virginia and Elizabeth City County encompassed both sides of Hampton Roads.¹⁰ In 1637, the area south of Hampton Roads was created into New Norfolk County; it was subsequently split into Upper and Lower Norfolk counties in 1638. Princess Anne County was created in 1691 from the eastern section of Lower Norfolk County and its boundaries matched the 1639 boundaries of Lynnhaven Parish.¹¹

The first half of the 18th century in Princess Anne County witnessed the establishment of large plantations based upon slave labor throughout the county. Agricultural endeavors included the raising of tobacco, corn, and wheat. In addition to agriculture, commercial fishing and oyster harvesting, timber harvesting and shipbuilding also supported the economy. Despite the increase of large plantations during the eighteenth century, the majority of farmers within the county continued to practice subsistence agriculture.¹²

The Princess Anne County courthouse was moved to New Town in 1751 along the eastern branch of the Elizabeth River. However, by the 1770s the port town had substantially declined which led to the county seat moving inland to Kempsville (formerly Kemps Landing) in 1783.¹³

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 25

Following the Revolutionary War, the United States resumed trading with Great Britain before relations deteriorated once again at the turn of the 19th century. The firing upon the *U.S.S. Chesapeake* by the *H.B.M.S. Leopard* off Cape Henry in 1807 and the War of 1812 brought the British back along the coastline of Virginia.¹⁴

The county seat moved for the final time from Kempsville to a more central location within the county, the village of Princess Anne Courthouse in 1820. The establishment of the village, located south of present day Virginia Beach, spurred the construction of a new courthouse, clerk's office, jail, and other commercial buildings.¹⁵ Agriculture remained the basis of the economy in Princess Anne County and the agricultural depression during the 1830s and 1840s were particularly damaging to local residents. In addition to the depression, the Civil War brought additional problems to the county. Union forces seized control of Norfolk and the surrounding areas, including Princess Anne County, in May 1862. Residents loyal to the Confederacy used guerilla tactics to rebel against the imposed military rule and harass the occupying forces. Military rule severely restricted the lives of local citizens, including the requirement to travel throughout the area with passes and swear allegiance to the Union in order to engage in business, the disruption to civil government, and the release or escape of the slave labor. As a result of the depression during the first half of the 19th century and the subsequent damage caused by the occupation, the overall population and agricultural economy in Princess Anne County did not fully recover until after the Civil War.

Reconstruction after the Civil War was slow as a result of a lack of funding and the absence of local government. By the 1880s, the economy had stabilized and the infrastructure that had been destroyed or badly damaged during the Civil War was re-established. Truck farming, a process that allowed farmers to move goods along local railroads and turnpikes, assisted in the expansion of the economy. The early harvesting season in the Tidewater region, led to the area being able to provide the East Coast with over half of all the green vegetables and potatoes consumed.¹⁶

The resort town of Virginia Beach began its development after the establishment of the United States Lifesaving Service along the beaches between Cape Henry and Cape Hatteras during the 1870s. Four lifesaving stations were erected along the shores of Virginia Beach by the early

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 26

1880s; the first seaside hotel was constructed in 1883 soon after the establishment of a hunting and fishing clubhouse in the vicinity by Norfolk sportsmen. The close of the 19th century witnessed the initial emergence of Virginia Beach as a resort community with developers purchasing oceanfront land south of Cape Henry towards Rudee Inlet and the construction of a railroad to facilitate travel to the beach from Norfolk.¹⁷

The area south of Rudee Inlet remained agricultural in use through the early years of the 20th century. The construction of the State Military Reservation in 1912 amidst the rural landscape south of Rudee Inlet would lead to a permanent military presence in this area of Virginia Beach to the present day.

Despite the growth of the Virginia Beach area during the first quarter of the 20th century and the lobbying of local residents to have the county seat moved to this area of Princess Anne County, Princess Anne Courthouse remained as the seat of the county government. In an attempt to alleviate the concerns of Princess Anne Courthouse being difficult to reach due to its isolated location, a new, hard surfaced road (State Route 165/Princess Anne Road) was constructed in 1926. State Route 165/Princess Anne Road linked Virginia Beach Boulevard and the burgeoning resort town of Virginia Beach to Princess Anne Courthouse.

The explosive growth of Virginia Beach as a result of extensive military construction, tourism-based and residential development, and the commercial entities to support these occupants accelerated during the mid- to late 20th century. In 1962, a referendum was approved by voters to merge Virginia Beach and Princess Anne County into one entity, Virginia Beach.¹⁸

The Virginia Army National Guard after the Civil War through World War II

The collapse of the Virginia militia force under the strain of the Confederacy demands for soldiers led to the disbanding of the militia structure by the winter of 1864. It would not be until March 1871 that the Virginia Militia would be re-established. The two-tier system consisted of white and black companies of uniformed volunteers and the common militia. In 1872, the volunteers consisted of fourteen white and one black infantry companies with two artillery

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 27

batteries.¹⁹ By 1876, the number of black and white companies increased to a total of twenty-nine companies, including artillery and cavalry units.

The conclusion of the Spanish-American War in 1898 and the United States' propulsion onto the international stage as a world power led to a series of hearings by Congress studying the victories and failures of the military. Elihu Root, a corporate lawyer with no military experience, was appointed by President McKinley to serve as the Secretary of War in 1899. Root's influence, including the establishment of the Army War College, extended to redefining the mission of the National Guard. Congressman Charles Dick, president of the National Guard Association, and Colonel William Sanger worked with Root to determine ways of improving the "citizen reserve" system. The Dick Act of 1903 transformed the militia system in the United States and reshaped the National Guard whose mission would include "the peacetime training of men who in wartime would become volunteers."²⁰ The Dick Act established a more federalized system for the Guard and once governors accepted federal aid the state would be required to have the militia available for an annual inspection by federal officers, drill twenty-four times a year and turn out each summer for five days of encampment.²¹ In exchange for the increased training requirements, the federal government agreed to substantially increase funding to provide weapons, equipment, uniforms and compensation for the soldiers.

In response to the new opportunities presented by the Dick Act, Virginia accepted federal aid and produced a master plan that sought to "preserve quality" of the state militia by creating a force that would be supported primarily with federal funds. The plan was to limit the necessary amount of state appropriations needed to fund the guardsmen. The Dick Act coincided with Virginia's reorganization efforts and the Commonwealth aggressively adopted the new federal requirements. Virginia's acceptance of new federal standards led to the establishment of a separate medical corps, field hospital company and a signal company. The Adjutant General disbanded a majority of the existing militia groups in April 1899 to set about rebuilding the organization. The following year, the Adjutant General's plan was to create two infantry regiments (each with twelve companies), an artillery battalion and cavalry troop. The infantry regiments were expanded to include an additional regiment and a four-company battalion.²²

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 28

By agreeing to accept additional “federalization” of the National Guard/militia system, the states agreed to relinquish a portion of its control of the guardsmen. The Militia Act of 1908 built upon the foundation of the Dick Act, reiterated the importance of the National Guard to the overall defense of the nation. One of the provisions initiated within the 1908 act was that if the use of military forces were required to defend against an invasion, enforce the laws of the United States, or subdue insurrections, the President would be required to call up the National Guard prior to volunteers to supplement the regular army.²³ Although this provision would be challenged in the early 1910s about its constitutionality and led to Congress passing the National Defense Act of 1916, the concept of the state forces being folded into the Federal army was a permanent possibility.²⁴

The National Defense Act of 1916 brought about further changes to the National Guard/militia system in Virginia and the nation. The Reserves system and the Reserve Officer’s Training Corp (ROTC) were established and the federal government’s power over the National Guard increased dramatically. The relinquishment of state control over the Guard that had begun under the Dick and Militia Acts accelerated with the acceptance of federal funding under the National Defense Act. If states were not complying with federal regulations, the Secretary of War now had the authority to withdraw funding from the states. The president was empowered by Congress to draft, without the consent of the state governors, individual Guardsmen in the event of an emergency. This would cease the Guardsmen’s membership in the Guard for the duration of the emergency, thus avoiding the constitutional issues raised by the Dick and Militia Acts by transferring Guardsmen to the Regular Army, and it would be the states’ responsibility to replace the Guard units that were taken. The training requirements were lengthened, but federal compensation for the Guardsmen was authorized for drill and camp. The Division of Militia Affairs was re-designated the Militia Bureau and was under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of War.²⁵ As a result of the new act, the Virginia Volunteers was officially renamed the Virginia National Guard and additional companies were created to “tailor the Commonwealth’s force to [meet] national needs”. The new units included the Coast Artillery Corps, located in Lynchburg and Roanoke, a fourth artillery battery, and an engineer company. A headquarters, supply, machine gun, and ambulance company was created for each infantry regiment.²⁶

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 29

Although the Virginia National Guard's focus at this time of reorganization was the strengthening of its ability to perform military duties on a state and national level, they were required to provide assistance on civilian matters. Their missions included crowd control during labor strikes, protection against looters and prevention of lynchings, which had persisted through the first two decades of the 20th century.²⁷ The Guardsmen focus on civilian police matters were temporarily sidetracked by deteriorating relations in Europe. These events would sweep the United States through two World Wars and transform the way the Guardsmen were used militarily.

The United States entry into World War I spurred President Wilson to exercise the authority given to him by the National Defense Act of 1916 and call up the entire National Guard in August 1917. The bulk of the Guardsmen from Virginia joined fellow Guardsmen from Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, and Washington D.C. as the 29th Division of the United States Army. "The Blue and Gray" was activated in late August and sent to Camp McClellan in Alabama under the command of Major General Charles Morton.²⁸ The Division was dispatched to Europe between May and July 1918 and trained in France before being ordered to join the First Army's Meuse-Argonne offensive. The Meuse-Argonne offensive was the final battle of WWI and the Germans surrendered on November 11, 1918. The troops were ordered home in the spring of 1919 and demobilized stateside at Camp Lee, Virginia.²⁹

The excellent performance of the 29th Division in Europe and the unification of Guardsmen from Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. within the "Blue and Gray" set the precedent for federal and wartime needs taking priority over the state's needs. However, once released from federal duty, reorganization at the state level of the pre-existing Guard units was slow as a result of political unrest regarding the armed forces at both the federal and state levels. The National Defense Act of 1920 led to the creation of the army of the United States, which comprised the Regular Army, the National Guard and the Organized Reserves.³⁰ Virginia was directed by the Militia Bureau in 1922 to share the responsibility of the 29th Division with Maryland and Washington, D.C. This responsibility included fielding and equipping the 91st (later the 88th)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 30

Infantry Brigade, the 29th Tank Company, 29th Signal Company, sections of the 104th Medical Regiment, and the 54th Field Artillery Brigade.³¹

The Guard's responsibilities returned to state issues in response to the governor's continuing calls upon them to handle a range of crises including fighting forest fires, preventing violence during industrial strikes, riot control and presenting a "voice" of reason during racial strife or other unrest.³² The Great Depression expanded the National Guard's mission in Virginia to include providing assistance for the homeless and aid to areas devastated by hurricanes. The economic devastation that affected Virginians and the nation had a similar effect on the National Guard in terms of funding. The \$75.00 pay provided to Guardsmen attending armory drills and summer camp spurred a surge in volunteerism. Initially, as the need for cost-saving measures became apparent, an overall decrease in federal and state funding for Virginia's National Guard was initiated.

The rise of Germany's war machine in Europe in the 1930s led to a strong response by the United States military with a dramatic increase in drills and training for the National Guard. In Virginia, the Guardsmen took part in the First Army Maneuvers at Manassas in August 1939. This exercise was the first large scale training undertaken by the Guardsmen since the end of World War I and by the following year, President Roosevelt was authorized by Congress to federalize the National Guard.³³

The State Military Reservation was taken over by the federal government for the second time in its history. The bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 ushered the United States into World War II and Virginia's Guardsmen began advanced preparation for their entry into the fighting. The 29th Division (Virginia, Maryland, DC) was the only Guard Division to have landed ashore on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Over the course of the war, the 29th Division lost 4,515 men with an additional 16,105 wounded.³⁴ The National Guard's principal contribution to World War II was that the Guard, with the Marines, "made up the bulk of the American fighting force."³⁵

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 31

The Establishment of the State Rifle Range

The need for a permanent training site for summer camps and rifle training had been identified by the Adjutant General of Virginia as early as 1887. Despite the repeated attempts by the Adjutant General to secure funds from the General Assembly, by 1894 the money still had not been appropriated for the selection or purchase of a site.³⁶ The Spanish-American War in 1898 placed national military concerns in the forefront in terms of funding and training for military personnel. The pursuing of a permanent summer camp and rifle range facility would be put off by the Adjutant General as more pressing issues came to light. The lack of facilities hampered the preparation of the regiments who were volunteering for active duty. With no permanent facility available to train, the volunteers were required to use the State Fair Grounds in Richmond as a temporary assembly area.³⁷

The conclusion of the Spanish-American War in 1898 and the United States' propulsion onto the international stage as a world power led to a series of hearings by Congress studying the victories and failures of the military. The passing of the Dick Act of 1903 and the establishment of a more federalized system for the Guard led to changes in Virginia's level of participation in drills and summer camps. The acceptance of federal aid required that states have the militia available for an annual inspection by federal officers, drill twenty-four times a year and turn out each summer for five days of encampment.³⁸ Prior to the Dick Act, summer camps were paid for by the individual participants. With this new source of funding, the first paid summer camp for Virginia militiamen was held at Ocean View, near the Virginia-North Carolina border, in 1904.

In order to provide the Virginia Guardsmen with a permanent training facility, the General Assembly finally appropriated \$15,000 in the 1908 session for the purchase of a site. Numerous sites were studied, including potential locations at Carysbrook in Fluvanna County, Goshen and Hanover Court House.³⁹ In June 1908, an additional site was presented by James S. Groves of Virginia Beach. The three-hundred and fifty (350) acre parcel, located just south of the resort town of Virginia Beach, was offered to the Commonwealth. The site was inspected by Captain K.K.V. Casey, Captain W.C. Harllee, Major R.K. Evans, as well as other personnel from the War Department and Marine Corps, to determine if the site was appropriate and would provide the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 32

space requirements to establish the rifle range. The site was recommended to the committee and the direction of the line of fire (towards the north) and proposed location of the target butts were included in the recommendation.⁴⁰ Prior to acceptance of the property in Virginia Beach, the Military Board required written consent for its firing contracts from James S. Groves and the owners of adjoining building lots to fire over their property. The necessary consent was obtained and recorded; however, the Guard and the Commonwealth would soon be caught in a constant legal struggle between the subsequent owners of these properties and were taken to court to attempt to stop the firing on the ranges.⁴¹ These measures were unsuccessful since the Military Board had legally obtained their firing rights.

The first parcel transfer of land to the Commonwealth started in 1911 with additional funds to proceed with construction of the facility appropriated by the General Assembly the following year. The site was given final approval for development by Captain J.B. Allison in July 1912 and was found to be a level and well drained site with fresh water available from two wells and Lake Christine. The north and west boundaries of the site were heavily screened from surrounding neighbors by extensive woods and access to the beachfront was available.⁴²

W. Z. Johnston was named as site superintendent in April 1912 and the initial work order was awarded to John Monk of Norfolk. The complexity of the project led to the replacement of Johnston with Captain W.W. LaPrade, a civil engineer with the Quartermaster Corps and the founder of the firm of W.W. LaPrade & Brothers out of Richmond. The State Rifle Range consisted of five (5) ranges measuring 200 yards with 8 targets, 300 yards with 4 targets, 500 yards with 4 targets, 600 yards with 16 targets, and 1,000 yards with 4 targets. The ranges included five butts and a concrete retaining wall. In addition to the ranges, Monk was responsible for the construction of a dirt road from the county road located at the south side of the property, installation of telephone lines, construction of a camp site, drill ground and a water tank. A small administration building and storehouses were constructed. A contract was also executed with the Norfolk and Southern Railway to run a rail spur to the facility to allow for easy transportation of troops to the State Rifle Range. The spur ran adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean and entered post along the southeast section of the property.⁴³

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 33

Construction was completed in November 1912 with the first troops arriving the following summer. A large contingency from the 1st Brigade arrived via train to the State Rifle Range in July 1913 to engage in their summer camp and training. The success of this first camp proved how valuable the State Rifle Range was and numerous units from both Virginia and the surrounding states would inhabit the facility during the summer months over the next few years. As a result of the frequent use of the rifle range, additional facilities were constructed between 1913 and 1919. The original administration building was rebuilt after its loss in a fire.⁴⁴ A pump house and water tank were constructed north of the 1000 yard range. Two one-and-a-half story frame bungalows were constructed to house the full-time caretaker (Building #94) and the C.O. (Building #90). An unloading platform and passenger shed were constructed at the railroad spur. Additional facilities included a two-story frame storehouse, an one-story frame storage & bathhouse, a one-story frame officers' quarters (Building #88) and a 12-bed hospital (Building #89).⁴⁵ The dimensions of both the officers' quarters and the hospital were 50 x 20ft.⁴⁶ Only the two bungalows, the pump house, the officers' quarters and the hospital (currently residential quarters) are extant.

The use of the State Rifle Range for the Guard's training regiment would temporarily be halted due to World War I. The immediate needs for a facility to train warship crews in nearby Norfolk led to the Commonwealth leasing the State Rifle Range to the U.S. Navy for the duration of the war. In August 1917, the U.S. Navy took over the facility temporarily renaming it the United States Navy Rifle Range, Virginia Beach.⁴⁷

Federal Government Intervention During World War I and the return of the Rifle Range

The U.S. Navy occupation of the Rifle Range from 1917 to 1920 resulted in an aggressive building campaign on post to provide housing and additional facilities for the number of sailors that would be required to undergo training. The federal government was responsible for the addition of four armories, eleven barracks, two toilet & wash houses, a latrine, a storehouse, and a recreational building that was funded by both the U.S. Navy and the YMCA.⁴⁸ The YMCA building was a two-story frame building that served as the center of social activities on post. It was located at the west end of post and also served as the post PX. The U.S. Navy cleared

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 34

additional acreage with a drill ground established between the railroad spur (south) and the C.O.'s quarters (north). A new firing range was constructed in the location of the camp site at the west side of the post.

By the summer of 1920, the Rifle Range was returned to the Commonwealth of Virginia and was deemed to have been left in even better condition than it was at the start of the lease. The number of buildings on post would be far more than was required by the Guard so a study was initiated into the possibility of removing the excess buildings for use elsewhere in Virginia. At this time, it was felt that field training for the National Guard should be held under conditions that simulated as nearly as possible the conditions one would experience during a war or emergency, which in this case would mean housing in tents.⁴⁹ It was felt that to properly repair the excess buildings and maintain them could not be justified and the buildings could be better served in providing them to other state institutions. Professor J.S.A. Johnson, head of the Department of Applied Mechanics and Experimental Engineering at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech), prepared a report for the Governor in August 1920 describing the existing buildings on post. "The buildings are well built for their type [one-story barrack buildings] and are in good condition. The spacing of the studding, joists and rafters is from 18 inches to 2 feet, with weatherboarding and sheathing presenting a plane surface on the inside, all exposed surfaces, including the framing, being dressed...The buildings are not ceiled, the weatherboarding and sheathing forming the inner surfaces."⁵⁰ Johnson detailed how the buildings should be dismantled and properly secured on a flat railroad car for re-erection elsewhere. Based on the positive report by Johnson, a representative of the State Convict Road Force was sent to investigate the feasibility of allowing convict labor to undertake the proposed buildings' dismantling. It was determined that this could be done at a minimal cost and led to the approval by the Governor and the Adjutant General to remove the excess buildings from the State Rifle Range.⁵¹

Convicts from the State Penitentiary in Richmond arrived at the State Rifle Range in late September to repair the buildings that would remain as well as dismantle the surplus buildings. Seventeen (17) buildings were chosen to be dismantled and one, the mess hall & kitchen, was demolished due to its poor condition. Eleven barracks, four armories, and two toilet & wash

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 **Page** 35

houses were distributed among seven different institutions in Virginia. A barrack, two armories, and a toilet & wash house were sent to the Lime Grinding Plant in Staunton and a barracks and two armories were sent to the Lime Grinding Plant in Irvington. The Catawba Sanatorium in Catawba, the Piedmont Sanatorium in Burkville, the Blue Ridge Sanatorium in Charlottesville, and the State Farm in Lassiter each received a barracks. The Industrial School for Boys in Maidens received the most buildings, five barracks and a toilet & wash house.⁵²

By mid-October, Major LeRoy Hodges was sent to the State Rifle Range to report on the progress of the undertaking. The dismantling of the surplus buildings was on-going and Hodges made certain recommendations for upgrades to the remaining facilities. The convict force was directed to paint and repair the remaining buildings in addition to clearing weeds and brush. The shooting parapets, earthwork on the butts, and the dirt roads were recommended to be rebuilt where they had washed away. One particular issue brought forth by Hodges was the extremely poor condition of the main road leading from the Rifle Range to the "new concrete highway running between Virginia Beach and Norfolk."⁵³ Due to the road, Hodges' felt that the effectiveness and value of the Rifle Range as a Guard encampment was seriously hindered. "The road, which is about two and a half miles, is impassable in the winter and practically so even in the best months of the summer if there is any unusual amount of rain."⁵⁴ Most of Hodges' recommendations were considered and the work was completed by the convict force by the end of 1920.

It was felt by Hodges' and the Adjutant General's office that the remaining buildings would provide all the required storage, administrative, recreational, and operational facilities needed for the Rifle Range to fully accommodate the summer encampment and training of the Guard in the future.

The State Rifle Range Construction: 1922-1939

In anticipation of the first summer encampment to be held at the State Rifle Range since before World War I, inspection of the post was undertaken on August 4, 1922. The camp was determined to be in good condition, but various things needed to be accomplished before the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 36

troops from the 91st Infantry Brigade arrived in Virginia Beach on August 10th. Most of the repairs were focused on the roadways and trails on post, but some improvements were required for the buildings. Mess buildings were constructed between the removal of the U.S. Navy buildings in 1920 and 1922. A 1913 map revised in 1921 documents the faint outlines of twenty kitchen and mess buildings located east of the main camp site. The 1922 inspection report notes that the “roff [roof] on one (1) mess building and the tables in five (5) mess buildings should be completed.” The one-story frame kitchen & mess buildings serviced the men who were occupying the regimental tents that lined the main camp area at the west end of post. The rifle ranges allowed for extensive training in marksmanship with the drill field and wooded areas providing the troops with sufficient training as whole units. Camps averaged between ten and fifteen days in length once a year, typically during the months of July and August. The camps were considered to be imperative in the training of Guard units to supplement the local drills and target training conducted at their respective home facilities throughout the year.

The success of the summer encampment in 1922 led to an increase in the number of units who utilized the State Rifle Range throughout the remaining decade. This also led to recommendations for an expansion of the post. The need for additional targets, a combat range and a landing field for airplanes was documented in 1924 by W.W. LaPrade. In response to these needs and the continuing complaints by the facility’s neighbors of the current firing area, the feasibility of purchasing or leasing adjacent farmsteads for the State Rifle Range were extensively studied. In November 1924, LaPrade recommended to the Adjutant General that the Guard should consider one such tract, the Nusbaum Farm. The 110-acre tract was available for leasing at a cost of \$1,200 for the first year and was highly desired due to the fact that the property “extends to the Ocean and has a frontage thereon of approximately four hundred (400) yards, which makes it valuable...as a place for target practice, as the direction of the fire could be towards the sea...”⁵⁵ It was noted by LaPrade that the current rifle range was congested due to the limited area during brigade encampments and it lacked a range for Machine Gun and Howitzer firing. Discussion regarding the Nusbaum Farm would continue years later with the Nusbaum tract not being obtained until the 1930s, but new developments led to an additional reconfiguration of the State Rifle Range.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 37

By 1925, the State Rifle Range (known as Camp Trinkle) increased in size with a substantial parcel of land directly south of the original cantonment area incorporated into the facility. An additional regimental camp area was constructed with twenty (20) kitchen and mess buildings, latrines and bath houses. The bath houses were 14'x44' with concrete walls and floors. The latrines were of wood construction and partly screened with copper wire on the side and composition roofing. The kitchen and mess buildings were 14'x60' with concrete foundations, floors of sand and clay, and wood siding. A brick storage building (32'x16') with sliding galvanized iron doors and galvanized roof was constructed beside the railroad spur.⁵⁶ A landing field was developed on post for use by both military and commercial aviators. The airport was the first state-owned facility constructed in Virginia. It was found to have added "greatly to the accessibility of Virginia Beach by air, and is keenly appreciated by the citizens of this town." Other improvements included the construction of a surface drainage system, water mains, installation of power lines and telephone system, upgrades to the roadways, as well as the leveling of the drill ground south of the C.O. quarters and the completion of concrete walks. A sanitary garbage disposal plant and pumping system was also constructed as part of the improvement campaign.⁵⁷ The existing two-story farmhouse that was associated with the newly occupied parcel was retained.

In 1927-1928, Virginia exchanged an inland parcel of the facility with private owners to obtain the portion of land that separated the main cantonment area west of Lake Christine from the Atlantic Ocean. The continuing complaints by Virginia Beach residents of the danger from the firing practices and the fact that nearly a mile of ocean frontage north from the facility fell within the danger zone led to the consideration of completing a land swap. Although the military felt that the present north-south position of the rifle range was superior, the Military Board decided the transfer of the inland parcels for the oceanfront property would be for the "the best interest of all concerned."⁵⁸ A new range, target butts, and an ammunition storage building (Building #113) were constructed between the Atlantic Ocean and Lake Christine. The new range allowed for 36 rifle targets, multiple machine gun ranges, a 4-target Course A Machine Gun Range, a 24-target machine gun range, as well as a 25-target pistol range.⁵⁹ The original ranges within the inner cantonment area were dismantled and the railroad spur was re-aligned away from the oceanfront to enter the facility along the northern boundary. Two warehouses (Buildings #3 & 4) were

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 38

constructed along the spur at this time.⁶⁰ Improvements to the airfield were made at this time, but it was estimated that a minimum of \$3,000 of additional upgrades and the construction of hangars and fueling facilities, would need to be provided eventually to make Virginia Beach a midway station between the North and South.⁶¹

By the close of the 1920s, Camp Trinkle had been officially renamed the State Military Reservation (SMR). Its continuing popularity due to the quality of the facilities on post resulted in its utilization by not only the Virginia National Guard, but units from the D.C. National Guard, the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S Marines and the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Great Depression did not immediately affect the training operations at SMR with the facility continuing to be utilized by numerous units from the Virginia National Guard, as well as all branches of the military, during the summer months. In 1931, requests for additional funding to make improvements to SMR was initiated by Major General William G. Everson, chief of the militia bureau of the War Department. The funding would provide for new bathhouses and latrines, an upgrade in the sewer and water systems, construction of a new water tank and the replacement of the wood kitchen & mess hall buildings with concrete buildings.⁶² Funding was provided for all the requested improvements with the exception of the new kitchen and mess halls. The construction for the improvements was also intended to provide unemployment relief.⁶³ A 1931 map by LaPrade identifies the original regimental camp area with its row of mess buildings and latrine and bathhouses between present-day Headquarters Road and E Street. The second regimental camp area with its associated mess buildings and latrine and bathhouses was located between present-day A and C Streets. East of present-day C Street was the drill ground and flying field. An important development at this time was the improvement to the roads within SMR. The main entrance road and the roads along the regimental camp areas were "hard surfaced with bituminous surface treatment." Additional repairs were made to the roads along the railroad spur and the warehouses to facilitate the unloading process at this location. Renewed efforts, in conjunction with the United States Public Health Service of Norfolk and Princess Anne Counties, were initiated to eradicate the mosquito population at SMR and Virginia Beach. The mosquito issue at SMR existed since its establishment in 1912 and was the source of a continuing effort by the Adjutant General to get the problem under control. Despite this

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 39

nuisance, General Waller focused on expanding the activities and the facility at SMR with the hopes of its use as a training center extending beyond just the summer months.⁶⁴

At this time, SMR took the unprecedented step of leasing out the airport to Mrs. Alexander of Lynchburg, Virginia. Although the facility would be available at all times for use by the military, the lease allowed Mrs. Alexander to use the field if no conflict existed. The leasing venture was successful for a number of years until the reckless flying of J.I. Alexander. In August 1933, despite the flying of a red flag to notify commercial aviators that the field was occupied by troops, Mr. Alexander disregarded the warning and proceeded to land and take off during a mounted review with approximately two hundred horses and three hundred men in formation. According to Mr. Alexander, "he knew the red flag was flying when he landed and also knew that it was flying when he took off...he merely took off because he wanted to."⁶⁵ Obviously, the stunt was not appreciated by the 111th Field Artillery and a complaint was issued to the Adjutant General's office.

The Hurricane of 1933 caused considerable damage to SMR and washed out two of the roads that provided access to post from Virginia Beach. In response, funds were appropriated for the construction of new kitchens & mess halls (Buildings #59-64), latrines (Building #82), two regimental headquarters, an infirmary, and the burying of telephone and power lines. The Civil Works Administration (CWA) was responsible for the repair of the roads on post as well as repairs to the rifle range. Approximately eighty men with the CWA were assigned for the job at SMR. Extensive grading of the road leading to the warehouse and pump house was undertaken and concrete curbs and gutters were installed. Additional work included repairs to the caretaker's house and other facilities on post. Additions to the C.O. quarters were also completed by the CWA.⁶⁶

The CWA was established on November 9, 1933 as part of the National Industrial Recovery Act. The CWA was one of numerous employment relief agencies established by President Roosevelt as part of his New Deal initiatives. The CWA was established to provide regular jobs on public works for the nearly four million unemployed men and women through the 1933-34 winter

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 40

season and was open to unemployed people of any race. In the spring of 1934, CWA was allowed to expire and it officially terminated on May 1, 1934.⁶⁷

In addition to work completed by the CWA at SMR, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and workers under the Federal Emergency Relief Administration work program (FERA) provided manual labor for improvement projects on post. The FERA crews, a transient camp of African-American workers, were in charge of mosquito eradication within SMR and the immediate localities. The continuing problem with mosquitoes in the Virginia Beach area provided an extensive amount of work for the crews. The CCC camp, housed at neighboring Fort Story, provided African-American workers for repair jobs at SMR including realignment and construction of roads, clearing of wooded areas in the rear of the Regimental Camps, and filling in the marshy arm of Lake Christine.⁶⁸

FERA was established in 1933 as one of the earliest programs developed as part of Roosevelt's New Deal initiative. FERA made available federal grants to state and local governments and was utilized through various programs. CCC was established in March of 1933 by Roosevelt for the purpose of performing emergency conservation work, and helping to preserve the nation's heritage. The majority of work conducted by the CCC included the reforestation of thousands of acres of land, construction of park roads, dams and bridges, restoring historic sites, and fighting forest fires nationwide.⁶⁹

By 1935, renewed complaints regarding the lack of space at SMR were identified by the Adjutant General. "It is entirely too small to provide adequate terrain for the training of Infantry Brigade...the present State Military Reservation consists of only 360 acres [and]...does not afford sufficient ground for combat tactical exercise of a single Infantry Battalion, to say nothing of Infantry Regiments or the Brigade as a whole."⁷⁰ The Adjutant General requested appropriations to purchase approximately one thousand additional acres. Funding for an additional five hundred and eighty-six acres was eventually appropriated and provided enough acreage to allow the two regiments of the 91st Infantry Brigade equal access to the facility at the same time.⁷¹

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 41

The expansion of SMR allowed for continuing use of its facilities throughout the latter half of the 1930s. The airfield continued to be invaluable to the military at this time. At the request of the Secretary of the Navy, the airfield was utilized during the summer of 1937 in conjunction with the commission of the aircraft carriers U.S.S. Yorktown and U.S.S. Enterprise. It was felt that the airfield was of strategic importance for providing one of two combat airfields along the Chesapeake Bay and it would serve in the air defense of the entrance to the bay as well as Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News, and Hampton.⁷²

The State Military Reservation's utilization would change during the fall of 1939. The deteriorating developments in Europe as a result of Hitler's ambitious invasion of Poland led to the General Waller mobilizing the entire Virginia National Guard for a week of additional training starting in November. A majority of the units completed their seven days of training at SMR. Traditionally, training camps at SMR were held during the summer months and did not require barracks for visiting soldiers. Tents at the two regimental camp areas on post provided housing for the soldiers. The lack of barracks during the late fall and winter training being held at this time was troublesome, but unavoidable. This additional training foreshadowed the required commitments of the Virginia National Guard for fighting World War II. On August 15, 1940, the U.S. Army leased the State Military Reservation from Virginia.⁷³

Establishment of Camp Pendleton (State Military Reservation)

The leasing agreement between Virginia and the U.S. Army provided the Army the option of building any new facilities or infrastructure it deemed necessary, but required that no pre-existing resources could be removed without permission. Any upgrades and new buildings would transfer back to Virginia at the expiration of the lease.⁷⁴ Upon the Army's occupation, SMR had two regimental camp areas with mess buildings, latrines, and bathhouses, two warehouses, the YMCA building, a drill ground and airfield, ranges, a barn, storage buildings, and residential buildings for the caretaker, C.O. and officers. The Army determined that these facilities would not be sufficient to support the military mission at SMR.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 42

The Office of Constructing Quartermaster out of Fort Monroe, Virginia, proposed a layout of temporary buildings at SMR to accommodate the training needs of the U.S. Army.⁷⁵ The lack of housing for soldiers, while not necessary in previous years, presented a pressing need in order to fully utilize SMR as a training facility. The temporary buildings, including barracks, mess halls, PX, and other support buildings, were constructed based on the 700 Series drawings developed by the Quartermaster Corps.

The basis of the 700 Series dates from 1928 as a result of permission granted to the Quartermaster Corps to update the World War I cantonment drawings. The initial revisions amounted to no more than a few tracings for barracks, mess halls and storehouses. Colonel Charles D. Hartman, who was placed in charge of the Construction Division in 1934, initiated a complete revision of the drawings to replace sub-standard plans. As a result, in 1937, a new set of drawings for the 700 Series were submitted to the General Staff of the Quartermaster Corps. By the following year, drawings of the 700 Series as part of the Protective Mobilization Plan of 1938 would be approved, but not fully implemented until Roosevelt's proclamation of a limited national emergency in 1939. Initial plans for mobilization dictated that housing for troops would be on a relatively small scale with the accepted theory being that troops would be housed in existing facilities and tents during the initial mobilization before being sent abroad to complete their training. This plan would soon be dismissed as a result of Germany's swift occupation of most of Europe and the realization that U.S. troops would need to be fully trained in the United States before being deployed. As a result, drawings for barracks as well as over 300 assorted buildings were revised and produced as part of the 700 Series. These plans were to be executed throughout the mobilization program in 1940 and were the standard for army construction.⁷⁶

The first troops to arrive at SMR in September 1940, a detachment from Fort Monroe, a Coastal Artillery Regiment from New York, and an Antiaircraft Artillery Regiment from Pennsylvania, were required to utilize tents in the pre-existing regimental camps. By April 1941, the south Regimental Camp area had been transformed with the construction of 700 Series, 63-men frame barracks, 170-men mess halls (the original mess halls were demolished), company storerooms, company recreation buildings, a PX, 250-men recreation buildings, and other support buildings. New road alignments in this area allowed for thirteen blocks of new construction with the west

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 43

end of this area occupied by warehouse, Motor Maintenance buildings and a new elevated steel water tank. The north end of the post along present day Jefferson Avenue would house a chapel, theatre, officers' quarters and mess building, in addition to the YMCA, the C.O. quarters and the caretakers' house that had pre-existed in this area. A new outdoor theatre was constructed in the woods behind Headquarters Road. The stage of the theatre was 30'x15' with areas for benches to be set up during performances. The theatre was equipped with a public address system and electric lights.⁷⁷ The amphitheater, along with the main theatre, was dismantled after World War II. A new fire station was constructed along present day Headquarters Road, in addition to headquarter buildings located at the north end of the road near the former main entrance. New warehouse buildings were constructed at the railroad spur and a gas pump was installed just north of the spur.⁷⁸

In May 1941, SMR was placed under the control of the Commanding General of the Harbor Defenses for the Chesapeake Bay. As a result, all administrative and supply support would be executed through this command. But in order to avoid unnecessary delays in supplies being forwarded to SMR for construction, the post established its own property accounts to gain access to critical building materials and other supplies.⁷⁹ This assisted in keeping up with the aggressive schedule for the building campaign on post. SMR was officially designated as Camp Pendleton on November 2, 1941 in honor of Civil War General William Nelson Pendleton (1809-1883), chief of artillery for the Army of North Virginia. In support of the military mission during World War II, Camp Pendleton was utilized to train and billet various units during World War II.

Between 1940 and 1942, the U.S. Army transformed the post from a summer encampment training facility to a bustling, year-round Army post. Additional housing was required for the troops and temporary hutments were constructed in the north regimental camp area along present day Headquarters Road. The 16ft² wood buildings had concrete stove bases for use in winter and "ample ventilation is afforded in summer by five large well screened 'hinged sash' windows...which can be raised or lowered without difficulty."⁸⁰ The front gable roof of the hutments was clad with rolls of asphalt and the exterior was constructed of pine and cypress vertical strips. The buildings were set upon piers approximately eight inches above the ground to eliminate water damage or termite infestation. The pre-existing mess and kitchen buildings

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 44

along present day D Street were retained. At this time, Camp Pendleton served as a preliminary training facility prior to units being transferred to an advanced training center.⁸¹

Camp Pendleton would continue to provide training facilities for troops through the conclusion of World War II. The post, along with an extensive number of new buildings and upgrades, would not be returned to Virginia until 1946.

Re-Emergence of the State Military Reservation: 1946-2002

The return of Camp Pendleton to Virginia and its reversion to the State Military Reservation would soon mark the beginning of its decline as one of the top training facilities for Virginia National Guard units. Initially, the re-organized Guard units as well as the U.S. Navy used training facilities at SMR during the summer months through the late 1940s. The end of World War II and the advent of the Cold War led to the retention of most of the National Guard units that had returned triumphantly from Europe. Virginia had retained command of their sections of the 29th Division including headquarters, the 29th Signal Company, 116th Infantry, 111th and 227th Field Artillery Battalions as well as the 29th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, Mechanized. The Guard grew substantially in Virginia to include the 107th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade and 224th Antiaircraft Artillery Group, the 176th Infantry with the 189th Engineer Combat Company, the 442nd Field Artillery Battalion and the 221st Army Band.⁸² Eventually, A shift in training requirements and the availability of larger maneuver areas would lead these units to train elsewhere in Virginia.

After Virginia regained control of SMR, it was determined that the extensive number of buildings on post were more than was required by the Guard. In response, a number of the architectural resources, including the amphitheater, the hutments, the theater, and the YMCA building were demolished. The benefits of the oceanfront property were still held in high regard though by the U.S. Navy which initiated amphibious training exercises in 1947. These training exercises would be held each year until 1969.⁸³ Viewing platforms (Resource #119-120) on the beach were constructed by the U.S. Navy in the early 1960s to provide an area for officers and visitors to monitor the exercises. The following summer, the first Virginia National Guard units

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 45

returned to SMR for their summer encampment. Additional units from the Ohio, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia and North Carolina National Guards also utilized the facilities at SMR. It was soon evident though that the size of SMR hindered the training of a full regiment or of multiple units concurrently. By 1951, SMR had lost its approval by the Army as a field training site but this loss of the infantry commands training during summer encampment was partially filled by civilian groups (i.e. police forces, FBI, Boy Scouts) and smaller military units.⁸⁴

Although the buildings constructed during World War II were classified as “temporary” buildings and were designed to last between five and ten years, the Guard initiated a repair and renovation program for these buildings during the late 1950s. Summer encampments by smaller units were re-initiated towards the end of the decade after a few years of SMR being idle. The utilization of SMR would fluctuate throughout the remainder of the 20th century as a result of changing needs in training tactics for the larger units and the availability of larger facilities at Fort Pickett in Blackstone and Fort A.P. Hill in Bowling Green, Caroline County. Despite this, SMR provided some unique training opportunities because of its proximity to the Atlantic Ocean as well as sufficient classroom space for Officer Candidate School (OCS) classes and the Noncommissioned Officer’s (NCO) Academy. The encroachment of Virginia Beach around Camp Pendleton and the explosion of the city’s population after World War II would lead to extensive pressure on the facility throughout the 20th and into the 21st centuries. Camp Pendleton occupied approximately eight hundred and seventy six (876) acres on five major tracts during the second half of the 20th century, but by the late 1990s, all but the main tract would be conveyed to the city. The remaining three hundred and thirty (330) acres included the two regimental camp areas, the drill field, Lake Christine, and the rifle range along the Atlantic Ocean. A fifteen (15) acre plot of land along Headquarters Road just south of the former main entrance has been leased to the City Of Virginia Beach for use as a parking lot for the Virginia Marine Science Museum. As a result, Buildings #403, 404, 405, 407, 408, and 409 have been moved to the former regimental camp area at 7th and B Streets. Buildings #451, 452, and 453 are going to be demolished as part of this project. This is the most recent case of encroachment upon the original cantonment area of SMR.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 46

The boundaries of the post, as they stand today, include the Atlantic Ocean to the east, Birdneck Road to the south, General Booth Boulevard to the west, and the Croatan neighborhood to the north. With the exception of a handful of new construction on post, specifically the new facilities for the REDHORSE unit and an armory at the corner of Birdneck Road and General Booth Boulevard, the State Military Reservation has retained the core of its World War II temporary buildings and buildings from the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s. The State Military Reservation constitutes one of the most complete assemblages of World War II temporary buildings on the East Coast. The facility has retained buildings which date from each period of its growth and the core of SMR has remained relatively unchanged since the 1940s.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 47

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 48

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 49

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 50

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- ⁷¹ 116th Military History Attachment, *Virginia Guardpost, Special Issue: The Virginia State Military Reservation*, 10.
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- ⁷⁵ Office of Constructing Quartermaster, Fort Monroe, Virginia, *Layout of Temporary Buildings, State Rifle Range and Camp Site*, 26 November 1940. SMR Files, Fort Pickett Archives, Blackstone, VA.
- ⁷⁶ Diane Shaw Wasch, et al. *World War II and the U.S. Army Mobilization Program: A History of 700 and 800 Series Cantonment Construction*, (Washington, D.C.: United States Department of Interior, 1988), 7-9.
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National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 8 Page 51

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⁸² Listman Jr. et al., *The Tradition Continues: A History of the Virginia National Guard, 1607-1985*, 52.

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National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

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VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 9 Page 52

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

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VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 9 Page 53

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
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Continuation Sheet**

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VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

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VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 9 Page 56

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

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Section number 9 Page 59

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
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Section number 9 Page 60

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number 10 Page 61

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

See the USGS map and Map Figure 1 for a precise and accurate boundary description.

Boundary Justification

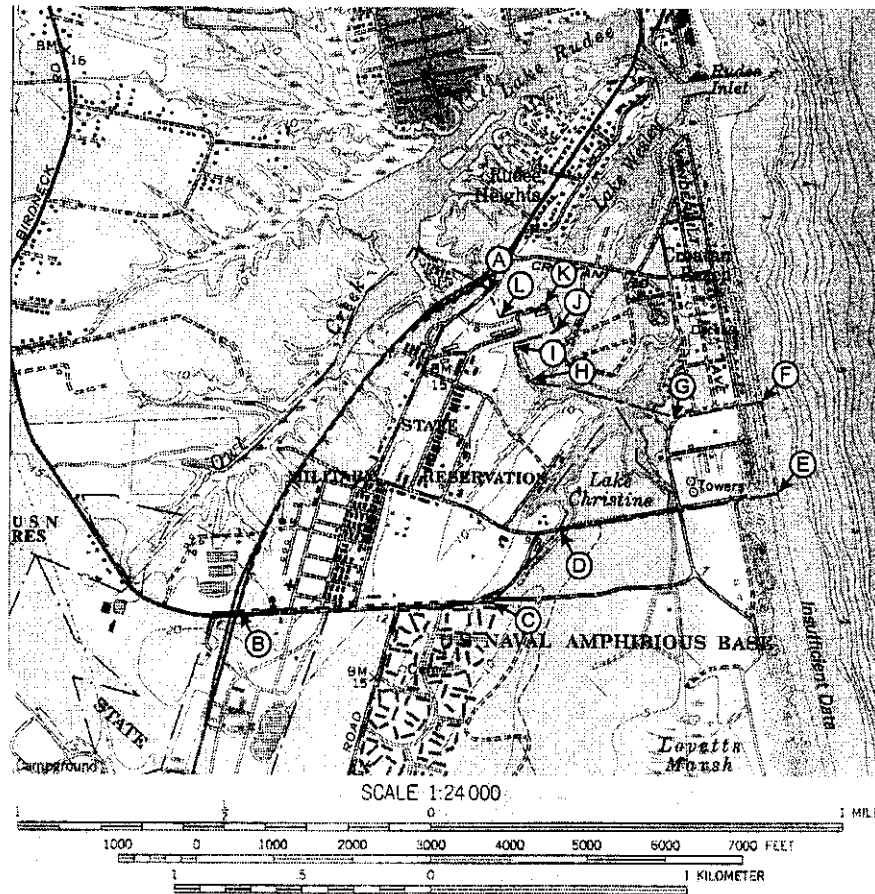
The boundary of the Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation Historic District incorporates the current property boundaries of the State Military Reservation. The property includes the land owned by Virginia as well as the twenty-seven acres leased from the federal government by the Virginia National Guard.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Section number Map Page 64



USGS Map-Virginia Beach Quad (7.5 Minute Series, 1989)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

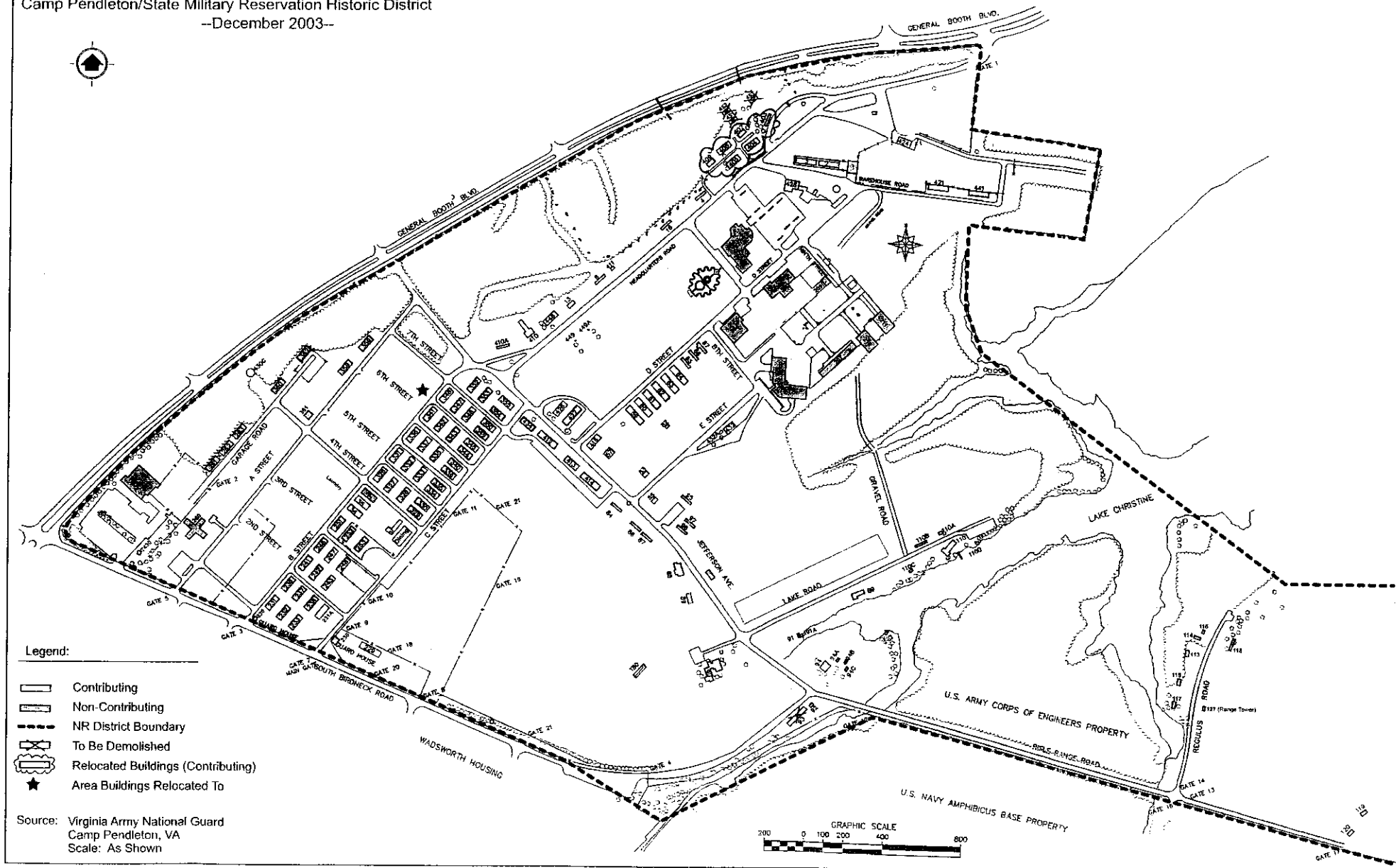
**CAMP PENDLETON/STATE MILITARY RESERVATION HISTORIC DISTRICT,
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

Section number Map Page 65

FIGURE LIST

1. Proposed Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation Historic District Site Plan
2. W.W. LaPrade, *Map of VA. State Rifle Range and Camp Site at Virginia Beach, Princess Anne County, VA.* April 1913, Revised November 1921.
3. *U.S. Navy Rifle Range, Virginia Beach, VA-Layout of Buildings and Ranges, 1919.*
4. W.W. LaPrade, *Map of State Military Reservation, Virginia.* August 25, 1931.
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8. Office of the Post Engineer, *Camp Site Omitting Wooded and Swamp Areas, 1943.*
9. Office of the Post Engineer, *Map of Camp Site Showing Location and Designation of Buildings, Roads, Fences, Etc. ca. 1943.*

Figure 1
 Camp Pendleton/State Military Reservation Historic District
 --December 2003--



- Legend:
- Contributing
 - Non-Contributing
 - NR District Boundary
 - To Be Demolished
 - Relocated Buildings (Contributing)
 - Area Buildings Relocated To

Source: Virginia Army National Guard
 Camp Pendleton, VA
 Scale: As Shown

