



FORT HANCOCK GATEHOUSE

Sandy Hook Unit, Sandy Hook, New Jersey
Gateway National Recreation Area



Historic Structure Report

FORT HANCOCK GATEHOUSE

**GATEWAY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
SANDY HOOK, NEW JERSEY**

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

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PREFACE

This report was prepared by the Historic Architecture Program for the Sandy Hook Unit of the Gateway National Recreation Area, located at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, per that certain Project Agreement dated June 2, 2003. The Historic Architecture Program located in Lowell, MA, is staffed by historic architects, architectural conservators, and historians who provide technical support regarding the preservation and treatment of historic structures to parks and affiliated National Park Service sites, primarily within the Northeast Region.

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Production of this report would not have been possible without the assistance of a number of individuals. Foremost among these were Richard Wells, Deputy Superintendent, Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway National Recreation Area. Special thanks must also go to Chief of Interpretation and Cultural Resources, Lou Venuto; Historian Thomas Hoffman; and Unit Curator Mary Rasa, all of whom gave freely of their time and knowledge in the production of this report, and provided invaluable insights into the history of Fort Hancock and the Gatehouse at Sandy Hook.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report was produced by the Historic Architecture Program (HAP) of the National Park Service's Northeast Region. The purpose of this report is to document the construction history of the Gatehouse at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, a part of Gateway National Recreation Area, which the park has contemplated enlarging in order to house both the site's fee collection and the visitor protection offices. This report, which was funded through the NPS Fee Demonstration Program, fulfills the *DO- 28* (formerly *NPS- 28*) *Cultural Resource Management Guideline* requirements for the documentation of historic structures prior to treatment of such structures.

This report documents the evolution of the Gatehouse using both primary and secondary sources, including public and private records and collections, historic photographs, historic maps, personal interviews, and an investigation of the building's existing architectural fabric. Repositories utilized or checked for materials pertaining to this investigation included the following institutions:

Library of Congress (Manuscripts, Prints and Photographs, and Geography and Map Divisions), Washington, D.C.; National Archives II (Still Pictures Research Room; Motion Picture, Sound & Video Research Room; Cartographic & Architectural Research Room; Textual Research Room, Record Group 77), College Park, MD; National Archives, New York, NY; U.S. Army, Corp of Engineers, Office of History, Alexandria, VA; U.S. Army Center of Military History, Washington, D.C.; U.S. Army records at Fort Hamilton (Post Engineers Office/Curator), New York, NY; New Jersey State Archives, Trenton, NJ; New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry archives, Trenton, NJ; New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office files, Trenton, NJ; Newark Public Library, Newark NJ; Columbia University, Avery Library, New York, NY; NPS Museum Services Library, Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, MA; NPS Historic Architecture Program Library (formerly a part of the Northeast Cultural Resources Center), Lowell, MA; and Gateway National Recreation Area Museum Collection and Sandy Hook Unit maintenance records, Sandy Hook, NJ.

Research Findings

Unfortunately, while an exhaustive search of the repositories listed above was undertaken, very little written or photographic documentation relating to the Gatehouse was found. Thus, the investigation into the architectural development of the Gatehouse relied heavily upon a very limited number of historic exterior photographs of the building found in park archives and at the New Jersey State Archives; the Fort Hancock Historic Record Book and Real Property Record Cards, maintained in the park's museum collection; park maintenance records; Volume III of a 1988 historic structure report pertaining to Fort Hancock structures constructed between 1918 and 1978; oral history provided by Park Historian Tom Hoffman; and a two- day architectural investigation of the building by the author.

The Gatehouse is located at the historic south entrance to Fort Hancock. It was constructed in 1942 by the Works Project Administration (WPA), and was utilized by the Army until 1962. The masonry structure as originally constructed consisted of a single-story main building measuring 24 by 52 feet, a single-story annex and a two-story watchtower measuring 12 by 17 feet (which had two separate exterior entrances from the main building of the Gatehouse), and a now-removed small wing-wall, which was located at the southeast corner of the structure. The main building of the Gatehouse appears to have been originally equipped with a kitchen, a bathroom with shower, a large open office area, and a single smaller room, which likely functioned as a break room for personnel assigned to the gate. The annex and watchtower portion of the Gatehouse appear to have been constructed with a separate toilet facility in the first story of the building, probably only utilized by the sentry on duty at the time. Exterior changes to the building during this time period were likely limited to the addition of a small wood-framed vestibule at the east entrance of the building, which has since been removed.

Between 1962 and 1973 the Gatehouse became the Headquarters Office for the newly created Sandy Hook State Park, located at what had been the southernmost portion of Fort Hancock. It is during this time period while used as administrative offices that the first significant changes to the interior of the structure are believed to have been made, including the insertion of an interior doorway between the main building and the annex/watchtower portions of the Gatehouse. At the same time, it is possible that the office located in the southwest corner of the Gatehouse's main building was created by partitioning off a portion of the building's original large open office space. Other changes made to the building during this time period are not easily discernable, but likely include replacement of the building's original furnace with the existing Weil-McLain unit manufactured between 1956 and 1962, and possibly the removal of the wing-wall at the southeast corner of the building, which was gone by the time a ca.-1974-75 photograph of the building was taken.

Since December 1973, when the state park and Fort Hancock became part of the newly created Gateway National Recreation Area, the Gatehouse has been utilized as the Sandy Hook Unit's Park Headquarters Office (December 1973- spring 1975), and the park's summer beach-fee collection office (1983-present). Changes believed to have been made to the building during this time period include the creation of a second office in the south end of the main building (again partitioned off from the original large open office space dating to the building's Army era); the remodeling of the main building's bathroom; the removal of the toilet in the first story of the annex/watchtower; upgrading of the building's heating system; the addition of steel exterior doorway frames and doors, and the addition of security bars on the first-story windows of the structure; the removal of the non-original wooden portico; replacement of a number of the building's original windows following a winter storm in 1993; repairs to the exterior stucco surfaces of the watchtower; and replacement of the original slate roof with asphalt shingles in 2000.

Surprisingly, with all of these changes over the years, the Gatehouse has managed to retain much of its original architectural integrity and historic character, thanks in large part to the preservation ethic imposed upon those historically charged with the building's care. However, the park's contemplated expansion of the existing structure will no doubt alter the character and appearance of this structure more so than any alteration or treatment heretofore undertaken in the building's 60-plus year history. For this reason, the following treatment recommendations are included as a part of this report, which will hopefully minimize both the visual and the historic impact that an addition would have upon the character of this small structure.

Recommendations for Treatment

The following five treatment recommendations regarding the Fort Hancock Gatehouse at Sandy Hook are based on the park's desire to renovate and enlarge the existing building, which is both historical and a visually contributing structure to the Fort Hancock National Historic District.

1. Given the historical visual significance of the building's east and south elevations, any contemplated addition to the existing structure should only be placed along the north or west elevations of the building.
2. In order to limit the visual impact an addition would have to the original Gatehouse structure, an addition to the structure should be limited to one story in height; should be set back no less than 8 feet from the Gatehouse's south elevation; and should be set back no less than 12- feet from the building's east elevation (see **Appendix B**).
3. Following the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*, the design of any addition to the Gatehouse should be in keeping with the architectural integrity of the existing structure. Further, the new work shall be differentiated from the old, and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing, to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
4. Preservation of the Gatehouse's character- defining features listed in this report should take precedence over the design of any addition to the building, or any treatment strategy.
5. The security bars added to the windows of the structure ca. 1983 can be removed if desired.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The Fort Hancock Gatehouse, located just north of the Highlands bridge on the west side of Hartshorne Drive, is listed as Park Structure SH- 438 (LCS ID: 008626). The Gatehouse, constructed in 1942 by the WPA, is an integral part of the Fort Hancock National Historic Landmark District and the Sandy Hook Unit of the Gateway National Recreation Area.

This report has been prepared in accordance with *DO- 28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline* in anticipation of the park's desire to enlarge and rehabilitate the Gatehouse. In this vein, the treatment recommendations for this structure, which according to the LCS "should be preserved and maintained," are that an appropriately designed addition no more than one story in height may be added to the north or west elevations of the main building of the Gatehouse following prescribed minimum setbacks described in the "Treatment and Use" section of this report. Also, following the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*, the architectural integrity of the original structure should be preserved, and the preservation of those character- defining features listed in this report should take precedence over the design of any addition to the building, or any renovation strategy.

No previous study has been carried out thoroughly documenting the history of this structure. Related studies do, however, include a historic structure report for Fort Hancock buildings constructed between 1918 and 1978 (Volume III) prepared by Susan Simpson and others (1988), and the National Register nomination form prepared for Fort Hancock and the Sandy Hook Proving Ground Historic District (reference number 80002505).

Materials generated in the production of this historic structure report will be stored and maintained at the Historic Architecture Program, Northeast Region, located in Lowell, MA.

Part I.

DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

Historical Background & Context

Fort Hancock is located on Sandy Hook, a narrow barrier peninsula that extends about six and a half miles northward from the New Jersey coast into the outer harbor of New York City. The fort, constructed to guard the only natural deepwater channel into the harbor was named after Major General Winfield Scott Hancock (1824- 86) in 1895, and first garrisoned in 1898, just weeks before the beginning of the Spanish- American War.

However, even before Fort Hancock was developed, the site at Sandy Hook had already been put to use for military purposes. British Loyalists are said to have built the first fortifications on Sandy Hook during the Revolutionary War. Later, during the War of 1812, the New Jersey militia constructed a wooden fortification on “the Hook” known as Fort Gates. In 1859 construction of an enclosed granite fort was begun north of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse, which itself was constructed in 1764. The introduction of rifled artillery during the Civil War made the fort obsolete before the structure was completed, however, and work on it stopped in 1868. In 1874, the Army’s first official proving ground for weapons was established at Sandy Hook.

Fort Hancock began with a core of 34 permanent buildings constructed between 1898 and 1899.¹ During the fort’s early years, its main function was that of coastal artillery defense and the training of personnel assigned to such units. Later during World War I, the fort played a significant role in the training of troops assigned to artillery and trench mortar units bound for Europe. Following the war, the Sandy Hook Proving Ground moved to Aberdeen, MD, and the mortar battery was dismantled and replaced with anti- aircraft guns to meet the new potential threat of aerial attacks. In 1937 the fort became the site of radar equipment testing by the Army’s Signal Corps, which spearheaded the development and deployment of the first radar systems.²

¹ Lisanne Lee Renner, “Taps or Reveille for Fort Hancock?: A Preservation Case Study at Fort Hancock, N.J.,” Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Thesis for Master of Science degree in Historic Preservation, May 1997, p. 7.

² Renner, p. 8.

With the onset of World War II, the fort took on the role of New York Harbor Defense Command headquarters. Coastal artillery and anti-aircraft units, as well as a mobile defense force assigned to protect Long Island and the New Jersey coasts, were stationed at the fort. As a result, the post, which usually garrisoned between 400 and 800 personnel, swelled to more than 12,000.³ By the end of the war hundreds of “temporary” structures were constructed on the Hook to support the additional personnel assigned to Fort Hancock.

Following the end of World War II, personnel and military functions were gradually reduced at the fort until it was finally deactivated in June 1950. However, with the advent of the Korean War, the fort was reactivated in April 1951 to provide defense for the New York City area and to serve as a training center for anti-aircraft units.⁴ In 1953, following the end of the war, the fort was once again deactivated; however, the site continued to be occupied by the 1225th Army Service Unit, which provided logistical and administrative support to the radar and anti-aircraft installations remaining on the Hook.⁵ Also in 1953, the replacement of anti-aircraft guns with NIKE-AJAX surface-to-air missiles began (nuclear-armed NIKE-HERCULES missile system replaced the AJAX system in 1958). These new systems, which the Defense Department relied heavily upon as a means of protecting metropolitan centers such as New York, precipitated the reactivation of Fort Hancock in July 1956.⁶

During the 1960s less than 500 army personnel were stationed at Fort Hancock, mostly comprised of Battery C of the 4th missile battalion “NIKE-HERCULES” 71st artillery, military police, and support personnel.⁷ Most of these personnel were located at the northern end of the Hook, which had traditionally been the center of operations at Fort Hancock. However, at the southern end of the fort, plans had been in the works since the late 1940s for the establishment of a state-run park centered on the natural resources of the Hook.⁸ A study prepared in the early 1950s suggested that such a recreational park could be fiscally self-sustaining, with a daily visitor capacity of more than 150,000 people.⁹

In 1962, Sandy Hook State Park was established at the southernmost end of the Hook, encompassing approximately one-quarter of the fort’s 1,665-acre site.¹⁰ The fort’s existing gatehouse, constructed in 1942 and the focus of this historic structure report, became the state park’s

³ Interview with Park Historian Thomas Hoffman, April 12, 2004.

⁴ Naomi Kroll and Sharon Ofenstein, *Building 25, Enlisted Men’s Barracks Fort Hancock, Historic Structure Report* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2002), p. 34.

⁵ Kroll and Ofenstein., p. 34.

⁶ Kroll and Ofenstein, pp. 34- 35.

⁷ Hoffman, April 12, 2004.

⁸ *Sandy Hook State Park, A plan for the Organization, Development and Operation Under the Sandy Hook Reservation Authority Act of 1950*. Undated report, prepared for the Governor’s committee to study the proposal for a recreational park on the Sandy Hook Reservation.

⁹ *Sandy Hook State Park*, pp. 13- 16.

¹⁰ According to Historian Hoffman, this portion of the fort was deemed in excess of Army needs, and was leased to the State of New Jersey for use as a state park for one dollar a year.

administrative building. This cooperative relationship with the U.S. government and the Army continued until 1972, when then- President Nixon signed into law the establishment of Gateway National Recreation Area. In December 1973, the National Park Service took over the responsibilities for park operations, initially continuing to utilize the old Army Gatehouse in the same manner as its predecessor. Finally, in December 1974, historic Fort Hancock was closed for the final time, with all of the property associated with the fort transferred to the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior."¹¹

Today the historic Gatehouse continues to serve as the National Park Service's fee-collection building for the Gateway National Recreation Area's Sandy Hook unit. The State of New Jersey will soon undertake replacement of the Highlands bridge, located just south of the Gatehouse, and reconfiguration of the road leading to and around the Park Service's Gatehouse and toll booths. Additionally, the Park Service is currently contemplating the possible enlargement of the Gatehouse building itself in order to combine the site's fee collection and visitor protection offices within the same structure. It is this contemplated treatment of the Gatehouse that has prompted the production of this HSR, fulfilling the documentation requirements listed under *DO- 28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline* for historic structures.



Figure 1. Sandy Hook State Park, Gatehouse and the Highlands bridge, taken September 17, 1965.

¹¹ Kroll and Ofenstein, p. 35.

Chronology of Development & Use



Figure 2. The Gatehouse and Guardhouse located at the south entrance to Fort Hancock, ca. 1942.

Construction of the Gatehouse

The Gatehouse located at the south entrance to the Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area was constructed for the Army in 1942 by the Works Project Administration (WPA).³⁴ This L-shaped structure, consisting of a main one-story building attached by a one-story annex to a two-story watchtower, was originally built for \$3,472.³⁵ According to the building's "real property record card" found in park archives, the building measures 24 by 52 feet, with the annex and tower measuring a combined 12 by 17 feet. Interestingly, the card indicates that the structure was designated as the "PM ADM BLDG," suggesting that the structure originally served as a sentry watchtower and an administration building for the fort's Military Police unit.

³⁴ Fort Hancock Historic Record Book, p. 369, Sandy Hook Museum Collection.

³⁵ Susan Simpson et al., *Historic Structure Report: Architectural Data Section (Volume III), Fort Hancock Structures, 1918- 1978, Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway National Recreation Area, New Jersey* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, date-stamped Aug. 25, 1988), p. 284.

Unfortunately, no documentation of the structure's original construction could be found in any archive, including the National Archives in Washington and New York, U.S. Army archives, New Jersey State Archives, New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office archives, New Jersey Office of Parks and Recreation archives, or National Park Service archives. Because of this, only early historic photographs of the structure and a detailed physical investigation of the building could be relied upon in determining the building's original architectural configuration and appearance.

According to the U.S. Army real property card, the building was completed in May 1942, suggesting that the structure may have been constructed as part of the national defense effort brought on by the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941. The construction of the Gatehouse during the United States' World War II armament period may explain some of the unusual architectural features found associated with the building today. During the physical investigation of the structure, it was noticed that at least two different types of bricks were used in the construction of the building. The use of two differing brick types, which is especially noticeable at the building's south elevation, might suggest that the building was constructed in two phases, or that a portion of the structure was re-bricked at a later date. However, close examination of the building's earliest known photographs (taken in 1943) reveals that the bricks comprising the building today are the same bricks used to construct the building in 1942. Further, the brick joints between the main building of the Gatehouse and the watchtower annex are interlocked together and not butted, indicating that the entire structure was constructed in one phase.

So, why then are two different brick types found on the exterior walls of the building? The likely answer to this question is that during this period materials for military purposes were being obtained and used as they became available, including surplus material not necessarily used in their intended manner. In other words, materials not normally used together, or for a particular function, were nevertheless used simply because they were available. In the case of the construction of the Gatehouse, two different brick types (one or both types possibly left over from previous projects) were utilized together in the construction of the building simply because together they made up enough material to construct the building. A supporting example of this manner of construction is found in the attic of the Gatehouse's main building, where beaded-board materials normally reserved for finished spaces were used as sheathing boards for the building's original slate roof. Clearly, during times of war, the saying "form follows function" can be expanded to "form follows function, follows available materials."

Interestingly, however, the form of the building was not originally dictated simply by its function and the available materials. The architectural appearance of the building was also important enough to the builders that a wing wall was constructed at the southeast corner of the watchtower simply to help visually tie the Gatehouse structure to the sentry Guardhouse originally located on a small island in the middle of Hartshorne Drive (Fig. 3).



Figure 3. Original wing- wall attached to southeast corner of Gatehouse watchtower, October 11, 1943.

Additionally, a second freestanding masonry structure was constructed on the east side of Hartshorne Drive to balance and unify the appearance of the gate and the wing- wall attached to the watchtower (see Fig. 2). The Guardhouse located in the middle of Hartshorne drive in the above-referenced photograph was completed in February 1942, replacing an earlier guardhouse constructed in 1934 by the Civil Works Authority (CWA).³⁶ This Guardhouse was demolished in the early 1980s after being struck by a car.³⁷

A second note of interest regarding the architectural form of the Gatehouse relates to the two- story watchtower, a fairly unusual feature for such a structure. From this location a sentry on duty could watch both the military trains and all vehicular traffic entering and exiting the fort at this point. Additionally, from this raised vantage point, the sentry would also have the ability to watch for pedestrians trying to gain access to the fort along the beaches, and could survey the ocean for enemy forces that might try to land in the area. While this may sound strange to us today, during the World War II era, this was in fact a major concern to seaboard communities throughout the United States. Clearly, the Gatehouse's location at the southernmost point of Fort Hancock, combined with expansive unobstructed views from the raised watchtower, made the construction of the structure a necessity for coastal defense purposes.

Original Architectural Configuration

As constructed, it appears that the main building of the Gatehouse was composed of two smaller rooms located at the north end of the structure, a bathroom, and a single large open room occupying the southern 2/3rds of the building (Fig. 4). Based on the remaining cabinetry located along the east wall of the northeast room, it appears that this space was originally constructed as a kitchenette and also housed the original furnace for the building's hot- water heating system. The room in the northwest corner of the main building likely served a utilitarian function such as a storage space, or a break room.³⁸ It is uncertain when the attic access hatch and stairway located in the northwest room were installed, but they may in fact date to the construction of the building.

The bathroom as constructed appears to have been fitted with a shower stall, which in recent years has been converted into storage space. Unfortunately, due to the lack of existing documentation and the remodeling of the room, it is unknown what types or numbers of bathroom fixtures were originally installed in the room.

³⁶ National Archives II, College Park, Maryland, Record Group 77, Fort Hancock building's records, Q.M.C. Form No. 117, Building No. 86.

³⁷ Simpson et al., p. 288.

³⁸ It is unlikely that the northwest room was an office as personnel would have had to pass through the room to get to the kitchenette.

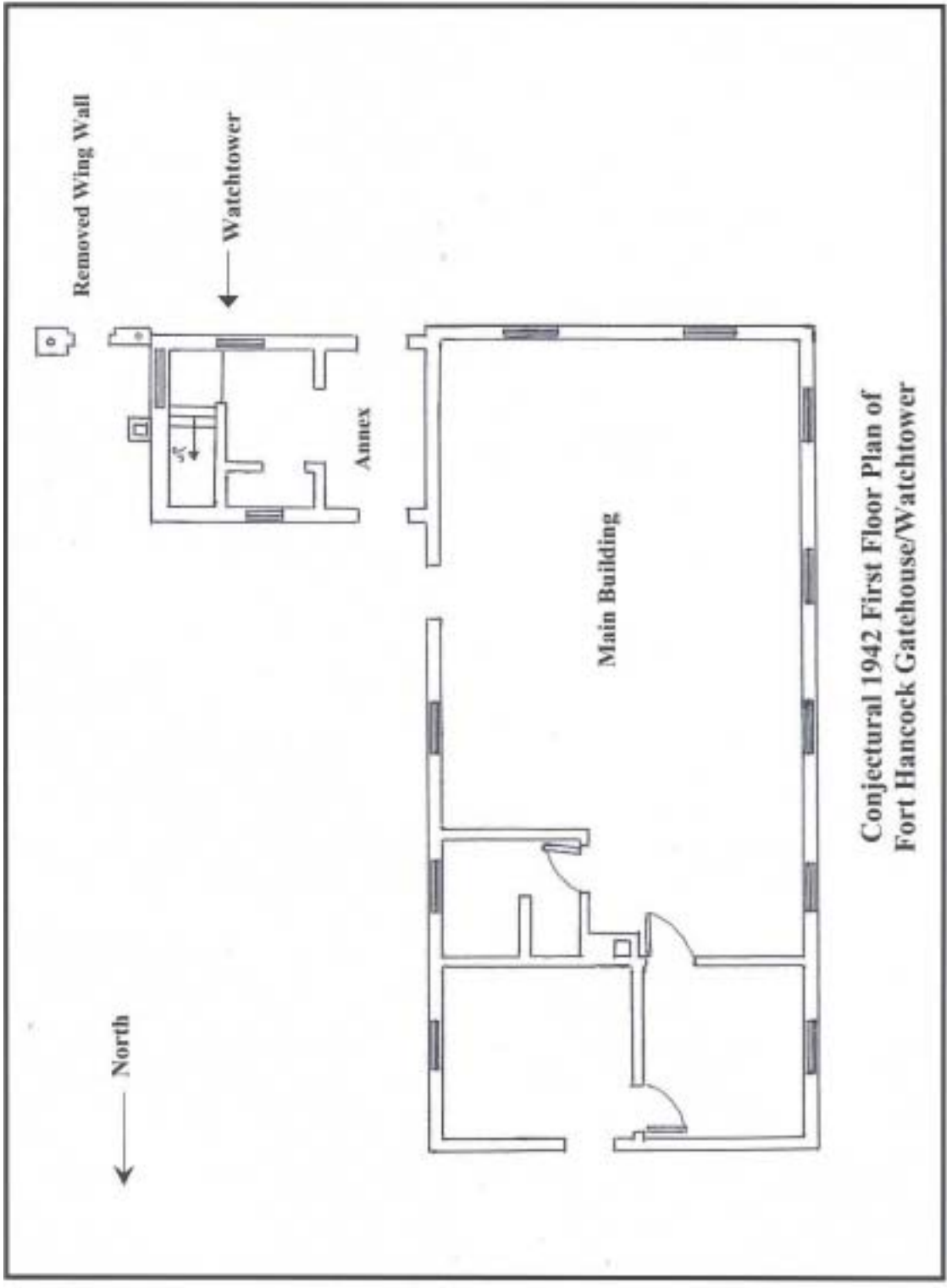


Figure 4. Conjectural drawing of original first-floor plan of Gatehouse/Watchtower based on a physical investigation of the building's existing architectural fabric.

Likewise, little physical evidence of the appearance of the main building's original large room remains today. In fact, one of the only ways one can tell that the two smaller rooms located at the southern portion of the structure today were created from the original single large room is due to the fact that the trim elements' molding profiles in these three rooms today do not match one another. Verification of the original large room's configuration can be seen in the attic of the structure, where original (though somewhat substandard) trusses span the entire width of the building over the original large space.

The flooring in the three rooms at the southern end of the main building and in the northwest room of the structure is composed of light-colored 9-inch vinyl tiles, with a black border at the walls. It is uncertain whether or not these tiles are original to the construction of the building; however, based on the border tiles in the three southern rooms of the structure, it appears that they were installed prior to the installation of the later partition walls, which created the two newer office spaces in the southern end of the main building.

The annex portion of the Gatehouse, which measures approximately 5 by 12 feet in area and is located between the main building and the watchtower, appears to have originally had doorways at both its north and south exterior walls. The east wall of the annex opened into the first story of the watchtower, where a toilet was originally located along the north wall of the 12 by 12-foot space. In the southeast corner of the room is the original stairway that leads up to the second story of the watchtower. From here unobstructed views of the surrounding land and waters made this structure invaluable to the Army.

Changes made to the Gatehouse by the State of New Jersey (1962- 73)

In 1962 the Gatehouse became the Administration Building for the newly created Sandy Hook State Park, which existed until December 1973. It was during this time period that the first significant interior changes to the Gatehouse are believed to have been carried out. The differing floor tiles in the southeast corner of the main building's southeast room evidences the addition of the doorway between this room and the once separate annex of the watchtower. Changes in the trim of the doorways associated with the southeast room also help us to establish the architectural development of this space. Original 5- inch- wide casings with rounded corners (matching other original casings in the north portion of the building) are found at the exterior doorway in the northeast corner of the room. What are believed to be second- generation doorway casings are found at the southeast door to the room, which leads to the watchtower annex, and at the doorway in the west wall of the room, which leads into the southwest office space of the main building (room 102). These casings also have rounded corners in an attempt to match the original casings, but they are only 3 ½ inches wide as compared to the original 5- inch- wide casings. This strongly suggests that the office located in the southwest corner of the Gatehouse's main building was created at the same time that the interior doorway from the main building to the annex was installed. While confirmation of the date of these changes could not be obtained, it is possible that the change in function from a military building to state- park use triggered the interior alterations to the building at this time. Historic photographs of the Gatehouse from the state- park era suggest that no changes were made to the exterior portions of the building during this period (Figs. 5- 8).



Figure 5. Gatehouse and guard shack during the state- park era (1962- 73).



Figure 6. Southwest view of Gatehouse during state- park era.



Figure 7. Aerial detail photograph of Gatehouse taken during state- park era.

Figure 8. Aerial detail photograph of Gatehouse taken during state- park era.



National Park Service- Era Changes Made to Gatehouse (December 1973- Present)

Unfortunately, documentation regarding changes made to the Gatehouse up until 1993 is very limited. However, one of the earliest changes known to have been made to the structure during the National Park Service era was the addition of a small wood- framed entrance vestibule at the juncture of the Gatehouse's main building and the annex (Fig. 9).³⁹ Construction of the vestibule, which occurred when the building was used as park headquarters (December 1973- spring 1975), subsequently required closing in the original north doorway to the annex, which was simply bricked up. From historic photographs of the structure, we also know that the original south doorway to the annex was converted into the existing window either late in the state- park era or during the early years of NPS occupancy of the building. Figure 9 also shows that by 1975 the original wing- wall connected to the southeast corner of the watchtower had been removed.⁴⁰ The existing security bars on the first- story windows of the structure were installed ca. 1983 (probably in combination with the existing steel doors at the north and east entrances to the building), when the building became the park's summer beach- fee collection office.⁴¹

On the interior of the building, the southeast office of the main building (room 101) was created with the construction of the partition wall located just to the north of the east entrance to the building. The trim at the doorway from the newly created room 101 into what remained of the original large room of the Gatehouse (room 103) is, like the second- generation doorway casings of the building, 3 ½ inches wide. However, unlike the first- and second- generation casings, which have rounded corners, the edges of the casings associated with this doorway (as well as the window casings installed where the original south doorway to the annex once existed), are square- edged, with no attempt having been made to match the earlier trim elements. This indicates a third generation of alterations.

The ceiling molding associated with room 101 is also made of very simple square- edged trim boards measuring three- quarters of an inch by 2 inches, which match the ceiling moldings found in the first story of the annex (room 107). This suggests that in addition to converting the original south annex doorway into a window, it is likely that other architectural changes were made to this space during the Park Service years. In fact, probably two different sets of changes were made to this space since 1974, as the baseboards found here are 3 ½- inch- wide, square- edged boards not matching baseboards anywhere else in the building. These baseboards were likely installed as part of the work carried out in 1993 when the toilet, once located in the northeast corner of the first story of the watchtower, was removed.⁴² Other work done at this time included the removal of the wood- framed vestibule at the building's east entrance, replacement of a number of windows associated with the watchtower after a storm apparently blew both the sashes and their frames out, and repairs to the exterior stucco surfaces of the second story of the watchtower.

³⁹ Lou Hansen, Chief of Maintenance, and Thomas Hoffman, Historian, 2004.

⁴⁰ The matching wing- wall east of the guard shack located in the middle of Hartshorne Drive was removed sometime between 1951 and the mid- 1960s, based on historic photographs.

⁴¹ Based on historic photographs.

⁴² Memorandum found in park maintenance files dated 3- 23- 93.

Other changes that have occurred to the Gatehouse since the NPS acquired the building, but which are not documented, include: upgrading of the original steam heating system with the existing hot- water system (including the installation of the newer oil tank located at the northwest corner of the building);⁴³ remodeling of the bathroom in the main building of the Gatehouse;⁴⁴ and replacement of the original slate roof with the existing asphalt tile roof in 2000.



Figure 9. Fort Hancock Gatehouse ca. 1974- 75, showing wood- framed entrance vestibule added to the building about this time.

⁴³ The Weil- McLain #57 furnace was produced by the company between the years 1956 and 1962, suggesting that the original furnace originally associated with the building was replace when the State of New Jersey took over the building in 1962 or shortly thereafter.

⁴⁴ Sink date stamped 6/22/78 by manufacturer.

Architectural Description

Exterior Elements

South Elevation

Foundation: Poured concrete slab.

Walls: The south exterior walls of the gatehouse consist of a brick, one- story, gable- end wall of the main building, and an attached brick, one- story annex and brick and stucco two- story watch tower (Figs. 10- 11). The south wall of the annex and watchtower, which are attached to the east side of the main building, are set back one brick course from south elevation of main building (Fig. 12). While brick of annex and watchtower do not match those found on main building, keying of brick courses at intervals between annex and main building suggests structures were constructed contemporaneously with one another. Original wing- wall attached to southeast corner of watchtower has been removed.

Roof: Asphalt shingle (replacement).

Windows: The south elevation of the main building retains the two windows with original 6/6 double- hung sashes at the first story, and a centered louvered vent opening at the attic level. All lintels and sills are painted, but appear to be cast stone. Security bars are not original.

A single window with 1/1 double- hung sashes is centered in the south annex wall. Originally this opening was a doorway to the annex/watchtower. In the watchtower, windows with 1/1 double- hung sashes are found at the first and second stories. Lintels and sills appear to be cast stone; non- original security bars are found at first- story windows.

Doorways: No doorways are currently associated with building's south elevation. As described above, window opening in south wall of annex was originally a doorway.

Other: Covered concrete access- well for plumbing, likely originally associated with fixtures in annex/watchtower, located on ground west of window opening associated with south wall of annex (Fig. 13).

Electrical feed and meter for building mounted down the center of the main building's south gable- end wall.



Figure 10. East side of south elevation of Gatehouse.

Figure 11. South and east elevations of watchtower.





Figure 12. South elevation of annex between Gatehouse's main building at left and watchtower at right.

Note difference in brick types and set back between annex and main building.

Figure 13. Plumbing access well located at south side of building.



East Elevation

- Foundation:** Poured concrete slab. Two small openings of unknown function at ground level of building, now partially in-filled (Figs. 14- 15).
- Walls:** At the south end of the building's east elevation is the two- story watchtower. The watchtower is brick at the first- story level and stucco at the second- tory level. A narrow brick chimney with protruding clay liner attached to the center of the watchtower's east wall extends from the ground to above the structure's roofline. The wall of the center and north portions of the gatehouse's east elevation consist of the brick, one- story main building (Fig. 16). The annex, located between the watchtower and the main building of the gatehouse, is not a visible part of the gatehouse's east elevation.
- Roof:** Asphalt shingle (replacement). In addition to the tall narrow chimney associated with the watchtower and described above, a second brick chimney with protruding liner is found along the ridge of the main building's gable roof, towards the west end of the structure.
- Windows:** A single window with 1/1 double- hung sashes is located at the south end of the watchtower's east elevation. At the tower's second story level two 1/1 double- hung sash windows are found, one on each side of the tower's centered chimney.
- Three additional windows are associated with the east elevation of the gatehouse's main building. The two southernmost windows in the main building's east elevation have 6/6 double- hung sashes. The west window of the building's east elevation has 3/6 double- hung sashes. As on the south side of the building, the lintels and sills are painted, but appear to be made out of cast stone. Security bars, added at a later date are found at all first floor windows.
- Doorways:** A steel entry door and frame are located at the south end of the main building's east elevation (Fig. 17). These appear to be replacement elements likely installed in the 1970s or 1980s.
- Other:** The remains of a vent pipe once associated with the main building's bathroom (room 106) is found at ground level just to the south of the main building's center window on the gatehouse's east elevation. A corresponding hole where the pipe extended up above the roofline is found in the building's soffit directly above the truncated pipe.
- Evidence of an earlier enclosed wood- framed porch can still be found at the juncture of the gatehouse's annex and the east side of the main building. This porch, which was removed circa 1993, does not appear to have been an original feature of the building.
- A hose bib is located at the north end of the main building's east elevation.



Figures 14 & 15. Detail of opening found in foundation at north end of Gatehouse's east elevation. A second filled in opening is located south of window W- 113 seen at the left side of the picture.





Figure 16. East elevation of Gatehouse.



Figure 17. Detail of east entry into Gatehouse. Note original infilled door location at north wall of attached annex.

North Elevation

- Foundation: Poured concrete slab.
- Walls: At the east end of the gatehouse's north elevation is found the two- story watchtower and the one- story annex (Fig. 18). The watchtower is brick at the first- story level and stucco at the second- story level; the annex wall is brick and shows evidence of an earlier door, which has now been in- filled. The brick gable- end wall of the gatehouse's main one- story building, along with an attached stockade- fence (used to enclose the building's oil tank), makes up the west end of the gatehouse's north elevation (Fig. 19).
- Roof: Asphalt shingle (replacement).
- Windows: Openings with 1/1 double- hung sashes are located in the first and second stories of the gatehouse's watchtower. The window in the second story of the watchtower measures approximately 49 by 50 inches, while the window in the first story level is a small (22 by 34 inches) unit originally associated with the watchtower bathroom. Security bars, added at a later date are found at the first- story window. Sills and lintels associated with the building openings appear to be of cast stone.
- Doorways: A steel entry door and frame are located just east of the center of the main building's gable- end north elevation. These appear to be replacement elements likely installed in the 1970s or 1980s. What appears to have been an original doorway into the annex has been filled in with brick.
- Other: A louvered vent opening is situated in the main building's gable end wall at the attic level.
- Electrical conduits attached to gable- end wall of main building.
- Ground- level access- well similar to access- well on south side of annex, located at east corner of watchtower's north elevation (currently inaccessible, probably originally associated with removed plumbing fixtures of watchtower).
- Evidence of an earlier enclosed wood- framed porch can still be found at the juncture of the gatehouse's annex and the east side of the main building. This porch, which was removed circa 1993, does not appear to have been an original feature of the building.



Figure 18 Watchtower and annex at east end of Gatehouse's north elevation. Note original door location at annex wall now in-filled.

Figure 19 (below).
North gable-end wall of main building of Gatehouse.



West Elevation

- Foundation:** Poured concrete slab. Small openings at ground level of building, like those described on building's east elevation, now partially in-filled (function unknown).
- Walls:** The walls of the main building's west elevation are constructed of brick (Fig. 20). At the south end of the elevation, the wall of the second story level of the watchtower, which is a part of the gatehouse's overall west elevation, is stucco. An attached stockade-fence enclosure used to house the building's oil tank is found at the north end of the gatehouse's west elevation (Fig. 21).
- Roof:** Asphalt shingle (replacement). At the north end of the gatehouse's west elevation is found a chimney located along the ridge of the one-story main building.
- Windows:** Five evenly spaced windows with 6/6 double-hung sashes are located along the main building's west elevation. Additionally, two windows with 1/1 double-hung sashes are found in the second story of the watchtower. Security bars are found at the five first-story window. Sills and lintels associated with the building openings appear to be of cast stone.
- Doorways:** No doorways are associated with the gatehouse's west elevation.
- Other:** Brick at south west corner of building and along south gable-end wall of gatehouse's main building is extremely weathered, likely due to the building's proximity to the ocean, and the apparently weaker salmon colored brick that was used on this portion of the building (Fig. 22).



Figure 20. Southeast corner of Gatehouse, showing south section of main building's west elevation.



Figure 21. Northwest corner of Gatehouse.



Figure 22. Detail of wall at Gatehouse's south elevation, showing severely eroded brick surfaces.

Interior Elements

Room 101 (Southeast Office)

As originally constructed, room 101 appears to have been a portion of a single large room made up of rooms 101, 102 and 103. Evidence of this large space, which comprised more than two-thirds of the gatehouse's main building, is based on the truss-framing technique utilized in the attic of the building over these spaces and the non-original wall, doorway, and trim elements associated with the interior partition walls that divide the space today (see "Developmental History" for further details).

Floors: 9-inch off-white vinyl tile with black border tiles along room's original walls. Existing tiles likely date to the 1960s, but may be original to the building's construction. Brown tiles at doorway 104, added at a later date (Fig. 23).

Baseboards: 3 ¾-inch rough pine.

Walls: Paneled wainscot with chair-rail molding at lower portions of wall; plasterboard on north and west upper walls; plaster at east and south upper walls (Fig. 24).

Moldings: Ceiling molding three-quarters of an inch by 2 inches

Ceiling: Plasterboard.

Doorways: The door in doorway 101 is an exterior steel door (replacement) hung on a metal frame. According to the historic structure report on the Fort Hancock structures 1918-1978, an earlier door (possibly the original east entry door), was "wood paneled with glass."⁴⁵ Doorways 102 and 103 in the north and west walls of the room, respectively, and doorway 104 in the southeast corner of the room, all have modern, hollow-core doors.

The chronological order of the building's walls and doorways can most easily be seen in a study of the doorway trim elements associated with this room. Doorway 101 retains the original 5-inch casings with rounded interior edges. The trim at doorway 102 is the most modern found in the building, being simple square-edged casings 3 ½ inches wide. Doorways 103 and 104 retain second-generation doorway casings, which have interior rounded edges to match the original casings found at doorway 101, but which are only 3 ½ inches wide.

Windows: Only window W-105 is associated with room 101. This window, centered in the south wall of the room, measures 35 by 52 inches. It has original 5-inch, rounded-corner casings and 6/6 double-hung sashes.

Other: Two 48-inch fluorescent light fixtures and one ceiling-mounted smoke detector.

⁴⁵ Simpson et al., p. 284.



Figure 23. East wall of room 101, showing original east exterior doorway, D-101 (left), and added doorway to annex/watchtower, D-104 (right).



Figure 24. View of west side of room 101, as viewed from annex through doorway D-104.

Room 102 (Southwest Office)

Like room 101, room 102 appears to have originally been a portion of a single large room made up of rooms 101, 102 and 103. Evidence of this large space, which comprised more than two-thirds of the gatehouse's main building, is based on the truss- framing technique utilized in the attic of the building over these spaces and the non- original wall, doorway, and trim elements associated with the interior partition walls that divide the space today (see "Developmental History" for further details).

Floors: 9- inch off- white vinyl tile with black border tiles along room's original walls. Existing tiles likely date to the 1960s, but may in fact be original to the building's construction (Figs. 25- 26).

Baseboards: 3 ³/₄ - inch rough pine.

Walls: Paneled wainscot with chair- rail molding at lower portions of wall; dry wall on east and north upper walls; plaster at west and south upper walls.

Moldings: Quarter- round concave ceiling molding.

Ceiling: Plasterboard.

Doorways: Doorway 103, in the east wall of the room, has a modern, hollow- core door. The doorway casings are constructed of 3 ¹/₂ - inch stock with interior rounded edges, designed to emulate the building's original 5- inch casings.

Windows: Windows W- 106, W- 107, and W- 108 are associated with room 102. Window W- 106 is centered in the south wall of the room, while windows W- 107 and W- 108 are in the west wall of the room. All three windows measure 35 by 52 inches and have original, 5- inch casings with interior rounded edges; all three contain 6/6 double- hung sashes.

Other: Two 48- inch fluorescent light fixtures and one ceiling- mounted smoke detector.



Figure 25. View of south portion of room 102.



Figure 26. View of northwest corner of room 102.

Room 103 (Break Room)

As originally constructed, room 103 appears to have been a portion of a single large room made up of rooms 101, 102, and 103. Evidence of this large space, which comprised more than two-thirds of the gatehouse's main building, is based on the truss-framing technique utilized in the attic of the building over these spaces, and on the non-original wall, doorway, and trim elements associated with the interior partition walls that divide the space today (see "Developmental History" for further details).

- Floors: 9-inch off-white vinyl tile with black border tiles along room's original walls. Existing tiles likely date to the 1960s, but may in fact be original to the building's construction.
- Baseboards: 3 ¾-inch rough pine.
- Walls: Paneled wainscot with chair-rail molding at lower portions of wall; plasterboard on south upper walls; plaster at east, west, and north upper walls (Figs. 27 & 28).
- Moldings: Quarter-round concave ceiling molding.
- Ceiling: Plasterboard.
- Doorways: Doorway 102, located in the south wall of the room, has a modern, hollow-core door. The doorway's casings are constructed of simple, 3 ½-inch square-edged boards. Doorways 106 and 109, which lead to rooms 104 and 106, respectively, have original, 5-inch casings with interior rounded edges. Their five-panel doors are apparently original, as well.
- Windows: Window W-109 and W-110, located in the west wall of the room, measure 35 by 52 inches. They have original 5-inch casings with interior rounded edges and 6/6 double-hung sashes. Window W-114 and its casings, located in the east wall of the room, match the windows and casings found in the west wall of the room. However, the south end of window W-114's stool, which is located approximately 36 inches above the floor, has been partially notched out. This notching suggests that a counter or work station may have been butted into the east wall of the room at this location at some earlier date (Fig. 29).
- Other: Three 48-inch fluorescent light fixtures. Along north wall of room, east of enclosed chimney, is a small storage space; based upon its trim, it appears to be original to the construction of the building (Fig. 30).



Figure 27. View of east portion of room 103.



Figure 28. View of west portion of room 103.



Figure 29. Detail of notch in stool of window W- 114 where original counter or desk may have butted into the east wall of room 103.

Figure 30. North wall of room 103, showing original storage space located next to enclosed chimney.



Room 104 (Northwest Storage Room)

Room 104 appears to retain its original configuration and much of its architectural integrity.

Floors: 9- inch off- white vinyl tile with black border tiles. Existing tiles likely date to the 1960s, but may in fact be original to the building's construction.

Baseboards: The baseboards at the north, northeast corner, and southwest walls of the room are original, consisting of boards 5 ½ inches wide with rounded upper edges and quarter- round toe moldings (Fig. 31).⁴⁶ Surprisingly, the baseboard in the southeast corner of the room is 7 inches tall with a quarter- round toe molding. This type of baseboard is not found anywhere else in the building, and no explanation for its use in this location is known. As with other materials used in the construction of this building, this particular element may be original to the construction of the building, and was simply utilized because it was available at the time.

Walls: Plaster.

Moldings: Quarter- round concave ceiling moldings.

Ceiling: 12- inch acoustical tile.

Doorways: Doorways 106 and 107, located in the south and east walls of the room, respectively, have 5- inch casings with interior rounded edges matching the original doorway casings found throughout the building. Both doorways have five- panel doors also apparently original to the construction of the building.

Windows: Only window W- 111 is associated with room 104. This window, centered in the west wall of the room, measures 35 by 52 inches. It has original 5- inch casings with interior rounded edges and 6/6 double- hung sashes.

Other: One 48- inch fluorescent light fixtures lights the room. Also, a drop- down attic stairway of unknown date is located in the northeast corner of the room (Fig. 32).

⁴⁶ Since the quarter- round toe moldings are absent from the original baseboards in the kitchen, these moldings may have been added to the baseboards after the floors were tiled, presumably in the 1960s.



Figure 31. Original baseboard found on north wall of room 104.



Figure 32. Attic stairway located in northwest corner of room 104.

Room 105 (Kitchen)

Room 105 appears to retain its original architectural configuration. However, due to the lack of existing documentation, little is known regarding changes to the room's appearance over the years.

Floors: Painted concrete.

Baseboards: Original 5 ½ - inch boards with rounded top edges.

Walls: Plaster.

Moldings: None.

Ceiling: Plaster.

Doorways: Doorway 107, located in the west wall of the room, has 5- inch casings with interior rounded edges matching the original doorway casings found throughout the building. Its five- panel door is apparently also original to the construction of the building (Fig. 33). Doorway 108, in the north wall of the room, has no trim elements. It contains an exterior steel replacement door hung in a metal frame. The original door in this location likely matched the building's original east entry door, though little is known about its earliest appearance (see "Room 101- Architectural Description- Doors," for more information).

Windows: Only window W- 112 is associated with room 105. This window, centered in the east wall of the room, measures 35 by 40 inches. It has original 5- inch casings with interior rounded edges and 3/6 double- hung sashes.

Other: A single incandescent light- bulb fixture and a heat detector are mounted on the ceiling. Wall- mounted cabinets on either side of the sink along the room's east wall appear to be original to the construction of the building. However, the lower cabinet, countertop, and 22- by 25- inch stainless- steel sink appear to be replacement elements (Fig. 34). An oil- fired "Weil- McLain # 57" furnace of unknown date is located in the southwest corner of the room, along with a hot- water heater and a ceiling- mounted expansion tank associated with the building's forced hot- water heating system (Fig. 35).



Figure 33. Original five- panel door located in northwest corner of kitchen.



Figure 34. View of east wall of kitchen.

Figure 35. Weil- McLain #57 furnace, expansion tank, and hot- water heater located in southwest corner of kitchen.



Room 106 (Bathroom)

Like room 105 (the kitchen), room 106 appears to retain its original architectural configuration. However, due to the lack of existing documentation, little is known regarding changes to the room's appearance over the years.

- Floors: 12- inch beige- colored tiles (two differing types used). The lighter beige tiles, found mostly along south wall of room, may be original to construction of building (Fig. 36). The darker beige units were likely installed when the bathroom fixtures in the room were rearranged. Evidence of the room's original configuration is hidden by the newer wall tiles that have been installed and the darker- colored floor tiles found in the northern part of the room. Evidence of the sink being relocated to the north wall of the room remains in the southeast corner of the room, where the drain for the fixture was removed and the floor was never repaired (Fig. 37).⁴⁷
- Baseboards: Painted concrete 6 ¼ inches high; concrete threshold for shower stall; original wood threshold at doorway D- 109.
- Walls: White ceramic tile with black corner tiles at outside corner of shower stall. Wall tile does not appear to be original to construction of building, but was likely installed when the room was last remodeled (possibly in the late 1970s, based on the manufacture date found on the sink (6/22/78)).
- Moldings: 4- inch crown molding, not believed to be original to the building.
- Ceiling: Plaster.
- Doorways: Doorway 109, located in the west wall of the room, has 5- inch casings with interior rounded edges matching the original doorway casings found throughout the building. The five- panel door here is also original to the construction of the building
- Windows: Only window W- 113 is associated with room 106. This window, at the south end of the room's east wall, measures 35 by 52 inches. It has original 5- inch casings with interior rounded edges and 6/6 double- hung sashes. The lights of the windows have been painted for privacy.
- Other: One incandescent- light/vent fixture is found in the room. The shower stall has had shelving installed and is now used for storage (Fig. 38). The toilet and sink are modern fixtures (Fig. 39). What are believed to be original heating pipes for the building, which have been disconnected but left in place, are still found along the east wall of the room near the ceiling.

⁴⁷ The drain at the southeast corner of the room may also have been associated with a urinal. However, the chances are much greater that a sink was originally located in this position. Partitions and a second toilet may have originally been located along the north wall of the room, or a urinal now removed, may have been located where the sink now exists.



Figure 36. View of southeast corner of bathroom. Note early heating pipes near ceiling of room and differing floor tiles.



Figure 37. Detail of disconnected drain pipe found in southeast corner of bathroom.

Figure 38. View of converted shower in room 106.



Figure 39. View of north wall of bathroom and modern fixtures.

Room 107 (First Story of Watchtower and Annex)

As originally constructed, the watchtower and annex do not appear to have been connected to the main building of the gatehouse, which measures 24 by 52 feet by one story high (Fig. 40). Instead, it appears that the watchtower annex, which makes up the western part of room 107, had exterior doorways in the north and south walls of the structure. A bathroom for the sentry was also once located along the north wall of the room in the tower section of the room (Fig. 41), which is divided from the annex portion of the room by an interior partition wall between the two spaces. This partition wall likely contains a steel beam above the opening between the two spaces, which carries the weight of the west wall of the tower down to the side walls of the partition, where it is in turn transferred to the building's foundation.

Floors: 9- inch brown tiles. Existing tiles likely date to time when the doorway in the west wall of the room was created (ca. 1960s), which likely precipitated the removal of the doorway from the north wall of the annex (see “Developmental History” of building for further details).

Baseboards: 3 ½ - inch painted boards.

Walls: Plasterboard and plaster.

Moldings: A quarter- inch by 2- inch ceiling molding.

Ceiling: Plasterboard.

Doorways: Doorway D- 104, in the west wall of the room, does not appear to be original. This is based on its casings, which have interior rounded edges like the original casings, but which are only 3 ½ inches wide, instead of 5 inches wide. The opening contains a modern, hollow- core door. A second doorway associated with this space is doorway D- 105, located at the foot of the stairway to the watchtower. It is not thought to be original to the structure: it has simple trim boards 1 ½ inches wide and a door made of half- inch plywood.

As a side note, original doorways to the annex portion of the room appear to have been located in the north and south walls of the room. The north doorway was likely removed when the doorway in the west wall of the room was created (ca. 1960s); the south doorway was likely converted into the existing window in the 1970s.

Windows: Window W- 104 is found in the south wall of the gatehouse annex. It measures 31 by 52 inches, has casings 5 ¾ inches wide, and contains 1/1 double- hung sashes. This window is not original to the construction of the building, and in fact is located where an original exterior doorway for the annex was once located. Window W- 103, located in the south wall of the tower portion of the room, also measures 35 by 52 inches; it has 6- inch casings and replacement trim, and contains 1/1 double- hung sashes. In all likelihood, the sashes associated with this window are also replacement units installed in 1993 after a winter storm blew out six of the building's windows. Window W- 102, located in the east wall of room 107, also measures 35 by 52

inches; its 1/1 double- hung sashes were apparently also replaced in 1993. Window W- 101, located in the north wall of the room, measures 22 by 34 inches and has 1/1 double- hung sashes. It appears to be an original window that once illuminated the now- missing watchtower bathroom.

Other: One incandescent light fixture and one ceiling- mounted smoke detector exist in the room. A newer 200- amp circuit breaker box is located in southwest corner (Fig. 42). A large safe, likely dating to the days when the New Jersey Parks Department occupied the building (1962- 1972), sits along the north wall of the annex portion of the room (Fig. 43). An enclosed stairway to the second story of the watchtower is located in northeast corner of the room (Fig. 44).

Figure 40. View of room 107, looking east.



Evidence of original water- closet located in northwest corner of watchtower.

Figure 41. Detail of location of early toilet stall in room 107.



Figure 42. Southwest corner of room 107.



Figure 43. Safe in northeast corner of annex.

Figure 44. Enclosed stairway leading to second story of watchtower, located in northeast corner of room 107.



Room 201 (Watchtower)

Room 201 consists of the second- story room in the gatehouse's watchtower. With large windows containing 1/1 double- hung sashes in each wall of the room, the room would offer a sentry assigned to the post an unobscured 360- degree view of the surrounding ocean and land (Fig. 45).

Floors: Plywood. Evidence of 12- inch tiles, possibly original to the structure, can still be seen on the plywood substrate.

Baseboards: None.

Walls: Plaster.

Moldings: None.

Ceiling: Plywood.

Doorways: None.

Windows: Room 201 contains six windows, all containing 1/1 double- hung sashes. Five of the windows measure 38 by 51 inches. These are: window W- 201, centered in the south wall of the room; windows W- 202 and W- 203, in the west wall of the room; and windows W- 204 and W- 205, in the east wall of the room. Window W- 206, which is centered in the north wall of the watchtower, measures 49 by 50 inches and is a replacement unit. All window casings in this room are also replacement elements.

Other: One- incandescent light fixture. Wooden benches found along west and south walls of room and on south portion of east wall. Cast- iron vent pipe 4 inches in diameter originally associated with bathroom in room 107 located in northwest corner of room (Fig. 46). Parged- over flue opening between two east windows suggests room was originally heated by a small stove. Stairway descending to room 107 located in northeast corner of room (Fig. 47).



Figure 45. View of Sandy Hook peninsula and the Atlantic Ocean, looking north from watchtower.



Figure 46. View of northeast corner of room 201, showing cast- iron vent pipe, sentry bench, and replacement windows and trim.



Figure 47. View of stairway in northeast corner of watchtower descending to room 107.

Part II.

TREATMENT AND USE

Character- Defining Features

The following elements of the Fort Hancock Gatehouse at Sandy Hook are considered the building's character- defining features (CDFs), and should be retained to preserve the architectural integrity of the structure.

Exterior CDFs

- ∄ Existing red- brick wall surfaces of the main building of the Gatehouse, the annex and the first- story level of the watchtower; also the stuccoed wall surface on the second story of the watchtower.
- ∄ Existing exterior window trim and double- hung sashes of the Gatehouse.
- ∄ Existing cast- stone lintels and sills of the Gatehouse.
- ∄ Existing roof and eave configurations of the Gatehouse.
- ∄ Existing louvered vents at gable ends of the main building of the Gatehouse.
- ∄ Existing chimneys associated with the Gatehouse.
- ∄ Existing sidewalks leading to the Gatehouse.

Interior CDFs

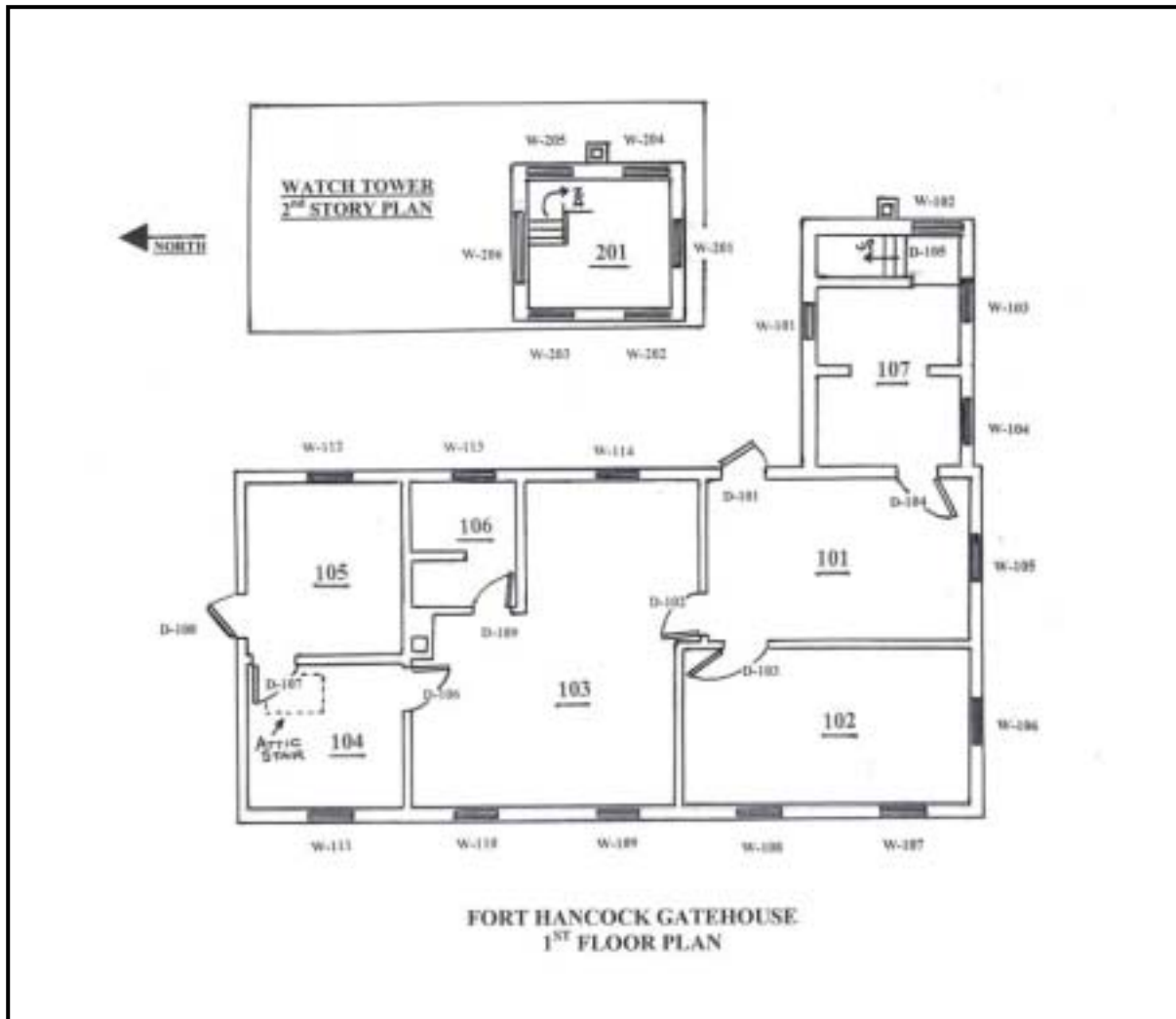
- € Original plaster wall and ceiling surfaces of Gatehouse.
- € Original 5- inch- wide doorway and window casings with rounded interior edges, and original 5 ½ - inch baseboards with rounded top edges.
- € Original five- panel interior doors.
- € Existing stairway to the second story of watchtower.
- € Existing benches in the second story of watchtower.
- € Existing floors found throughout the Gatehouse.
- € Original room configurations of the Gatehouse that remain in place today.

Treatment Recommendations

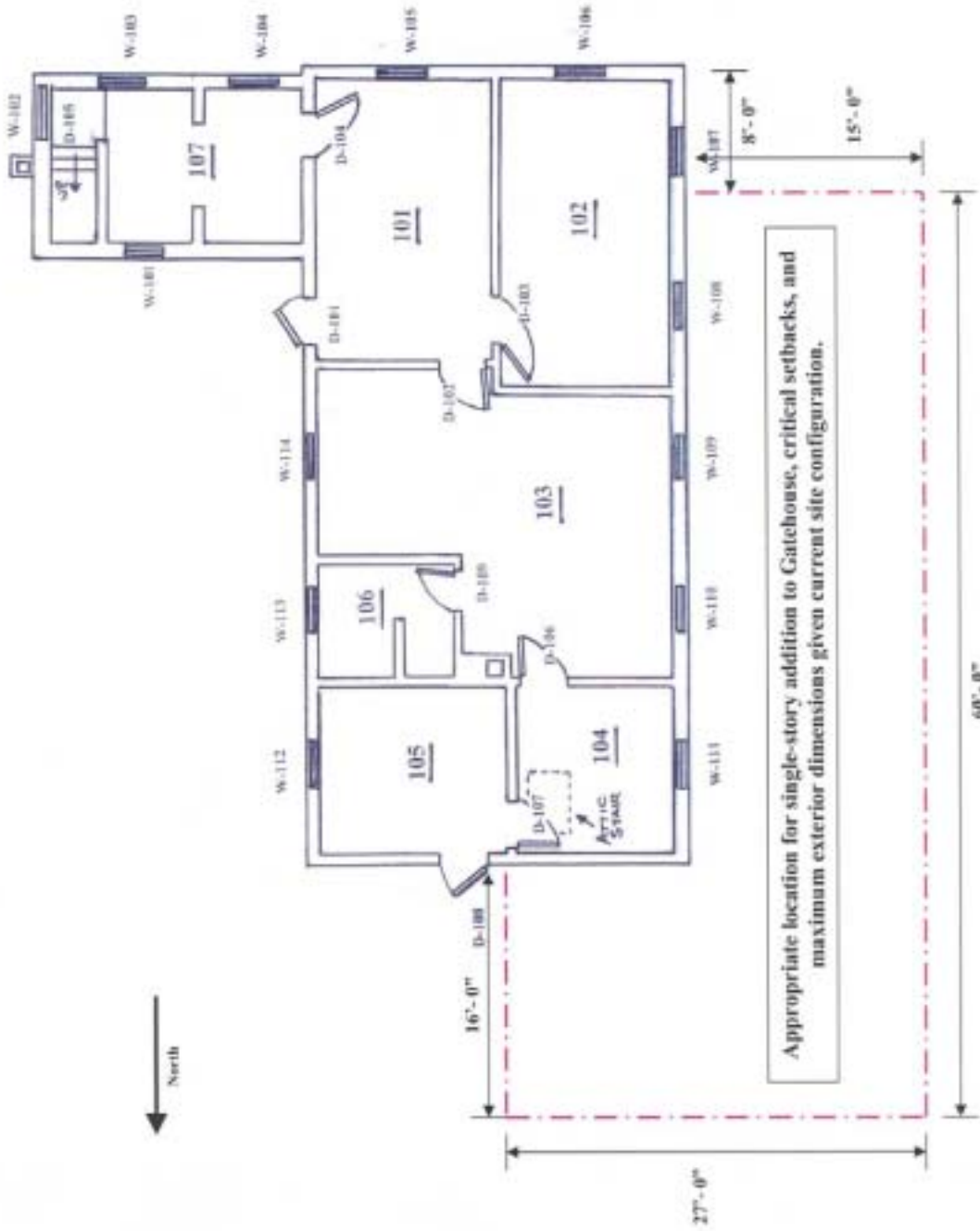
The following treatment recommendations regarding the Fort Hancock Gatehouse at Sandy Hook are based on the park's desire to renovate and enlarge the existing building, which is considered a contributing structure to the Fort Hancock National Historic District.

- € Given the historical visual significance of the building's east and south elevations, any contemplated addition to the existing structure should only be placed along the north or west elevations of the building.
- € In order to limit the visual impact an addition would have to the original Gatehouse structure, an addition to the structure should be limited to one-story in height and should be set back no less than 8 feet from the Gatehouse's south elevation, and no less than 12 feet from the building's east elevation (see **Appendix B**).
- € Following the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*, the design of any addition to the Gatehouse should be in keeping with the architectural integrity of the existing structure. Further, the new work shall be differentiated from the old, and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing, to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
- € Preservation of the Gatehouse's character-defining features listed in this report should take precedence over the design of any addition to the building, or any treatment strategy.
- € Lastly, if desired, removal of the security bars from the windows of the structure (installed ca.1983) is permissible.

APPENDIX A: Existing Room Configuration



**APPENDIX B:
Acceptable Location for One-Story Addition to Gatehouse**



Bibliography

- Kroll, Naomi, and Sharon Ofenstein. *Building 25 Enlisted Men's Barracks, Fort Hancock, Historic Structure Report*. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2002.
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- Simpson, Susan et al. *Historic Structure Report: Architectural Data Section (Volume III), Fort Hancock Structures, 1918-1978, Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway National Recreation Area, New Jersey*. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1988.

Repositories and Archives Consulted

- Library of Congress (Manuscripts; Prints and Photographs; and Geography and Map Divisions)
Washington, D.C.
- National Archives II (Still Pictures Research Room; Motion Picture, Sound & Video Research Room;
Cartographic & Architectural Research Room; Textual Research Room, Record Group 77),
College Park, MD
- National Archives, New York, NY
- United States Army, Corp of Engineers, Office of History, Alexandria, VA
- U.S. Army Center of Military History, Washington, D.C.
- United States Army records at Fort Hamilton (Post Engineers Office/Curator), New York, NY
- New Jersey State Archives, Trenton NJ
- New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry archives, Trenton, NJ
- New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office files, Trenton, NJ
- Newark Public Library, Newark, NJ
- Columbia University, Avery Library, New York, NY
- NPS Museum Services Library, Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, MA
- NPS Historic Architecture Program Library (formerly a part of the Northeast Cultural Resources
Center), Lowell, MA

Gateway National Recreation Area Museum Collection and Sandy Hook Unit maintenance records,
Sandy Hook, NJ