National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2020



Fort Area

Fort Monroe National Monument

Table of Contents

Introduction

General Information

Concurrence Information

Geographic Information and Location Map

Management Information

National Register Information

Chronology & Physical History

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Uses

Condition

Treatment

Bibliography & Supplemental Information

Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Fort Area
Resource Classification:	Cultural Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	976164
Parent Landscape:	976164
Inventory Status:	Complete

Park Information

Park Name:	Fort Monroe National Monument
Alpha Code:	FOMR
Park Organization Code:	4541
Park District:	FOMR
Region:	Northeast
Restricted:	No

Landscape Description:

The Fort Area of Fort Monroe National Monument is located on the 2.6-mile long Old Point Comfort peninsula in Hampton, Virginia. The peninsula comprises the southeastern tip of the larger Virginia Peninsula, and is bordered by Mill Creek to the west and the confluence of the Hampton Roads harbor and lower Chesapeake Bay to the south and east. The 325-acre park is comprised of two non-contiguous units, the 93-acre Fort Area and the 232-acre North Beach Area, both of which lie within the larger 565-acre Fort Monroe Historic District that covers the entire peninsula. When Fort Monroe closed as an active US Army post in 2011, the park was established by Presidential Proclamation. The purpose of the park is to “preserve, protect, and provide for the appropriate public use of the historical, natural and recreational resources of Old Point Comfort, strategically located at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, and to interpret its storied history in the European colonization of our nation, exploration of the bay, slavery in America and the struggle for freedom, and the defense of our nation.” (FD 2015: 14)

The Fort Area is located at the southern tip of Old Point Comfort and includes Fort Monroe and portions of former military facilities that surround it. The fourth fortification built at the tip of the peninsula, Fort Monroe was built between 1819 and 1834 to defend the strategic point where the James and York rivers meet the Chesapeake Bay. The fort itself is one of the best preserved examples of the nation’s Third System of Coastal Defenses, its stone bastions and casemates, earthen ramparts and terrepleins, and a tidal moat fed by Mill Creek covers around 63 acres. Within the fort is grass-covered Parade Ground surrounded by buildings, parking areas, and paved roads. The landscape of the Fort Area is characterized by grass lawns dotted with scattered trees and shrubs, including remarkable specimens of native southern live oaks surrounding the Parade Ground, one of which is over 450 years old. Other features include the Lincoln Gun, a 15-inch weapon dating to the American Civil War, displays of cannon and cannon balls, and an old brick cistern. Outside of the fort, former brick and wood military quarters and administration buildings, primarily from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, line Ingalls Road and Fenwick Roads. These roads converge on The Chamberlin, a former hotel dating to the late 1920s. Standing amongst the stately officers’ residences is the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse, the park’s oldest structure dating to 1802 that still serves as an active navigational landmark.

Fort Monroe was also outfitted with Endicott gun batteries at the turn of the twentieth century, and three emplacements remain on the fort’s terreplein. However, the larger concrete batteries from this period lie directly along the bay side

shoreline, some of which are within the park's North Beach Area, which encompasses peninsula lands from Battery DeRussy northward. The landscape of this area is characterized by a mix of maintained and naturalized areas derived from over a century of military use and development. In addition to the remnant batteries, it includes a highly productive 53-acre salt marsh along the shoreline of Mill Creek and two beaches, North Beach and Dog Beach. The salt marsh is considered an "indigenous cultural landscape," or a landscape with natural and cultural features that together could have supported an indigenous community. To the south and east of the salt marsh are remnants of World War II and Cold War-era military development, including an abandoned airstrip named Walker Airfield, as well as more recent recreational facilities. The Fort Area and North Beach Area of Fort Monroe National Monument are divided from one another by a parcel of property owned and managed by the Commonwealth of Virginia through the Fort Monroe Authority. This parcel contains the former location of the Wherry Tract, a Cold War-era housing development, among other more recent structures. The state has passed a resolution to transfer lands to the federal government, but the Wherry Quarter has not been accepted by the National Park Service to date.

The Old Point Comfort peninsula is managed cooperatively by the National Park Service, the Commonwealth of Virginia through the Fort Monroe Authority, and the City of Hampton. The National Park Service owns in fee simple 8.63 acres of land that includes the Parade Ground, Quarters No.1-Building #1, Building #50, and Building #17, as well the land in the North Beach Area. The National Park Service holds a preservation easement on the property owned by others within the boundaries of Fort Monroe National Monument. Public interest in the site is addressed through interpretative waysides, the Casemate Museum (owned and managed by others), walking tours, and interpretative programs.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The 93-acre Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is within a 400-acre National Historic Landmark District that was established on December 19, 1960. It is also within a larger National Register Historic District that was established on December 6, 1976 and expanded to 565 acres on March 9, 2015. The Fort Area is significant under all four National Register of Historic Places criteria. Under Criterion A, the Fort Area possesses significance in the areas of Military, Ethic History, Transportation, and Social History. It is nationally significant for its military service from 1819 through 1960, namely for the military engagements that occurred during the Civil War, establishment in 1824 and subsequent iterations of the Coast Artillery School of Practice, and the installation of Endicott era batteries at the turn of the twentieth century. It is nationally significant for its contribution to African American ethnic heritage, specifically US Major General Benjamin Butler's "Contraband Decision" in 1861 that became part of the national policy regarding the treatment of former slaves prior to the Emancipation Proclamation. It is also nationally significant for the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse, erected in 1802 as an active aid to navigation for ships passing through Hampton Roads. It is locally significant for Old Point Comfort's development as a resort destination, for both civilians and military personnel. Under Criterion B, the Fort Area possesses national significance for its association with the lives of Major General Benjamin Butler; US 2nd Lieutenant Robert E. Lee, who oversaw some of the final constructions of Fort Monroe between 1831 and 1834; and Confederate President Jefferson Davis, who was held in Casemate 20 and Carroll Hall (now the site of Building #9) from 1865 through 1868. Under Criterion C, the Fort Area possesses significance in the areas of areas of Engineering and Architecture. It is nationally significant as the first and largest fortification constructed during the Third System of Coastal Defenses and largest masonry fortification ever constructed in the United States. It is nationally significant for having an impressive collection of intact, architecturally varied US Army buildings dating from 1819 through the 1940s. It is also nationally significant for the octagonal ashlar stone construction of the Old Point Comfort lighthouse. Lastly, under Criterion D, Fort Monroe National Monument possesses significance for its extant historic period archeological strata. Further archeological investigations have the potential to yield additional information regarding Third System or earlier fortifications, as well as the prehistoric activities of the region. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 88)

There are two significant dates, or periods, associated with the Fort Area: 1802 and 1819-1960. The year 1802 is the construction date for the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse. The period 1819-1960 begins with the building of the stone fort; includes the years when the fort defended Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads and the subsequent development and use of the areas within and immediately outside of the fort, and ends with the final period of construction and the designation as a National Historic Landmark. Infill development after the period of significance lacks significant architectural style and has limited historic relevance. There is some archeological evidence which predates the period of significance; however, it is inconclusive and requires further study to determine the level of contribution to Fort Monroe.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its historical significance. The historic integrity of the Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is evaluated by comparing the landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1819-1960) with those of the existing landscape. Many of the Fort Area's historic resources are extant and help preserve the historic military character. The position of Fort Monroe and the Old Comfort Point Lighthouse, and the views of the lower Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads harbor, reinforce the early nineteenth-century decisions to build defensive and navigational facilities at this location. The fort itself still stands, its thick stone walls and casemates, earthen ramparts and terrepleins, and narrow bridges spanning the watered moat, collectively represent the intent of the nation's Third System of Coastal Defenses. Remnants of the Endicott era batteries also remain atop the fort. Within the middle of the fort is the open Parade Ground, still surrounded by two-and three-story brick and wood frame buildings that housed officers' quarters, barracks, administration, and a church. Ancient southern live oaks still ring the Parade Ground and dot the lawns between the buildings. Bernard and Ruckman Roads and some of the sidewalks also remain in their original alignments, as do Ingalls and Fenwick Roads outside of the fort, along which the military housing and education facilities still stand. Lastly, the massive Lincoln Gun displayed on the Parade Ground serves as a prominent remnant of the Civil War.

Since 1960, the most significant changes within the fort have been to circulation features. Mathews Lane was built at the southwest portion of the fort and paved parking areas have been added alongside portions of Bernard Road, especially in the northern part of the fort where pavement extends to the building facades. The most visible paved area is a large parking lot on the south side of Building #5, which encroaches into the Parade Ground and has created gaps in the ring of trees around the Parade Ground. Similarly, the loss of several officers' quarters on Ingalls Road has left conspicuous breaks in the line of buildings. Despite these changes, the Fort Area retains sufficient historic resources to possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association as outlined in the National Register.

Based on an analysis of the park's FMSS data and field investigations, the condition of the Fort Area is evaluated as "fair." Some of the southern live oaks, which are character-defining features, are in declining condition because of deferred maintenance, while several areas of turf need rehabilitation. Numerous buildings are also in need of repair, and their deteriorated appearance may impact the property's historic character. Other landscape features such as walkways and roads are in good condition.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

The 93-acre Fort Area represents one of two landscapes at Fort Monroe National Monument. The other is the 232-acre North Beach Area.

Landscape Type:

Historic Designed Landscape

Other Names:

Other Name:	Point Comfort	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Fortress Monroe	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Fort Monroe	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Old Point Comfort	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Fort Algernourne	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	“Freedom’s Fortress”	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	“Gibraltar of the Chesapeake”	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	The Fort at Old Point Comfort	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Fort George	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Fort Monroe National Monument	**Other Name Type:**	Current
Other Name:	Fort Monroe National Register District	**Other Name Type:**	Current
Other Name:	Fort Monroe National Historic Landmark District	**Other Name Type:**	Current

Site Plan



Site wide map for the Fort Monroe National Monument, 2020.



Map of the Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument, 2020.

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 09/29/2020

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Field work for this CLI was completed in February 2017 by Jennifer Hanna, Tim Layton, and Dinah Gewalt of the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. Documentation of field work was confirmed in 2020. Jennifer Hanna prepared the report, and Jeff Killion, of the Olmsted Center, edited the report.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Fort Area
Fort Monroe National Monument

Fort Monroe National Monument concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the Fort Area, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Fort Area is hereby approved and accepted.

EOLA DANCE Digitally signed by EOLA DANCE Date: 2020.09.29 11:19:31 -04'00'

Superintendent, Fort Monroe National Monument Date

Park Concurrence Form, 2020.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Virginia	Hampton

Size (Acres): 93

Land Tract Number(s)

101-101 (8.68 acres–Parade Ground, Building #50, Quarters No.1-Building #1)
101-102 (0.40 acres–Building #17)
101-103 (64.54 acres–inner fort and outer fort, minus land identified above)
101-104 (19.12 acres–moat)
101-105 (0.06 acres–lighthouse)
101-106 (0.11 acres–easement)
101-107 (0.41 acres–bridges)

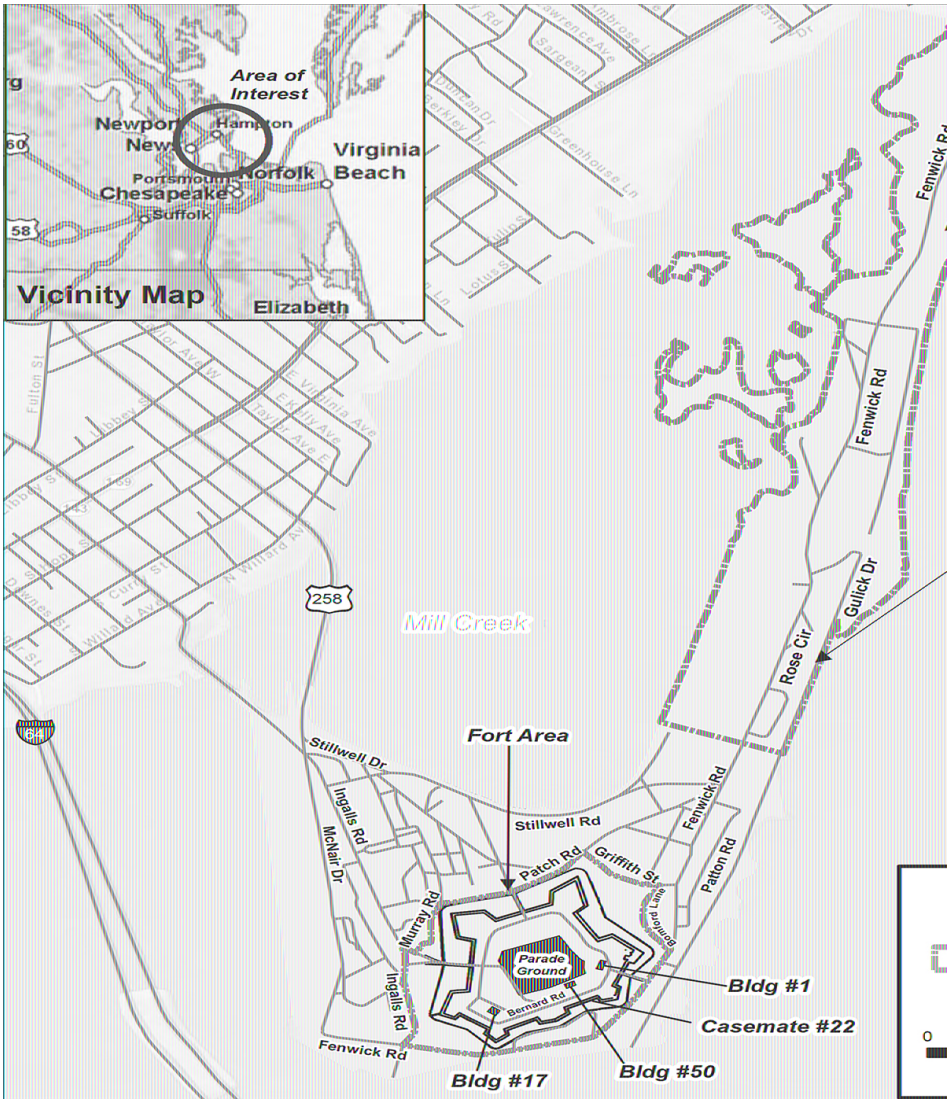
Boundary Description:

The boundaries of this CLI correspond to the boundaries of the 93-acre Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument. The Fort Area is defined by Patch Road and Griffith Road on the north, Bomford Lane and Fenwick Road on the east, Fenwick Road on the south, and Murray Road and Ingalls Road on the west. Within this area are the nineteenth-century fort and stone fortifications, the moat, and numerous buildings and open spaces. The Fort Area is one of two non-contiguous park units that comprise the 325-acre Fort Monroe National Monument; the other unit is the 232-acre North Beach Area. The Fort Area is also within the 565-acre Fort Monroe Historic District, which encompasses most of the land mass that comprises the peninsula.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.00773	-76.306101	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.007023	-76.305235	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.006699	-76.30418	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.006066	-76.303718	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.005517	-76.304332	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.004583	-76.303367	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.002647	-76.304718	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.001631	-76.305772	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.001103	-76.309228	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.001297	-76.31152	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.001839	-76.31113	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.00344	-76.311544	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.004592	-76.311641	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.004413	-76.311098	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.00465	-76.310968	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.004674	-76.31073	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.005481	-76.310736	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.00606	-76.310405	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.006409	-76.30825	
Aerial Photograph	Area	37.007007	-76.306902	

Location Map:



Fort Monroe is located in Hampton Roads, Virginia. The boundaries of the national monument encompass the Fort Area the North Beach Area. ("Fort Monroe National Monument," https://www.nps.gov/fomr)

and

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Old Point Comfort is a long sandy peninsula, or spit, at the southern limit of the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay (see Regional Landscape Context graphic). The park is situated within both the Hampton Roads and Lynnhaven-Poquoson watersheds, at the head of Hampton Roads connecting to the Chesapeake Bay near the mouth of the James River. The main portion of the Old Point Comfort peninsula is separated from the mainland to the west by Mill Creek and a 53-acre saltmarsh cordgrass community. To the east of the peninsula is the wide expanse of the lower Chesapeake Bay. In the early twentieth century, dredged fill was deposited along the shoreline of Mill Creek to increase the width of the peninsula to allow for military development. (FD 2015: 3)

The soils of Tidewater Virginia are alluvial deposits, sands, and thin, and light clays. Clusters of southern live oaks (Quercus virginiana) that grow on the Parade Ground are the most significant vegetation within the historic monument. The largest southern live oak in the park, the Algernourne Oak, is nearly five hundred years old. (FD 2015: 3; Review comments, Firth, 28 September 2020)

Type of Context: Political

Description:

The Old Point Comfort peninsula, or spit, is located in southeastern Virginia, approximately 2.8 miles east of the downtown area of the City of Hampton within the Hampton Roads metropolitan region. Hampton Roads also includes the major cities of Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Newport News, and Williamsburg. In addition to Fort Monroe, the three other important historic sites include Jamestown and Yorktown in Colonial National Historical Park, and Colonial Williamsburg. Old Point Comfort also serves as an anchor point in the lower Chesapeake Bay for the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, the nation's first national water trail. Resources on the Old Point Comfort peninsula are managed cooperatively by the National Park Service, the Commonwealth of Virginia through the Fort Monroe Authority, and the City of Hampton. (FD 2015: 3)

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Fort Monroe was built near the strategic point where the James and York rivers meet the Chesapeake Bay. At the heart of the park is the 63-acre moated masonry and earthen fortress, completed by the US Army in the 1830s on the site of a succession of fortifications dating back to 1607 when colonists built defensive works on the peninsula. Over time the army expanded and improved the military campus to include areas inside and outside of the moated fort. Dredged fill was deposited along the shoreline to increase the size of the peninsula for military uses. The shoreline also attracted tourists since the nineteenth century, when numerous hotels and parks were built alongside the water's edge. Today a seawall provides a place where the public can walk, jog, bike, or sit and enjoy the maritime views and sounds, while the North Beach Area allows visitors to experience a less developed coastal landscape. There are also opportunities for swimming, motor and non-motorized boating, and fishing from piers. On land, the park offers recreational vehicle (RV) camping, recreational playing fields, walking trails, and birding opportunities. (FD: 2015: 3-4)

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/29/2020

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument meets the management category “Must Be Preserved and Maintained” because the preservation of the unit is specifically legislated. Fort Monroe National Monument was created by Presidential Proclamation on November 1, 2011 by President Barack Obama. As stated in Proclamation 8750, Establishment of the Fort Monroe National Monument, “it is in the public interest to preserve Fort Monroe, portions of Old Point Comfort, and certain lands and buildings necessary for the care and management of the Fort and Point as the Fort Monroe National Monument.” Additionally, Fort Monroe was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) on December 19, 1960, which included the Fort Area.

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Memorandum of Agreement

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Memorandum of Agreement between the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior. The 2011 Presidential Proclamation that established Fort Monroe
National Monument mandates that this memorandum of agreement identify and assign the responsibilities of land management for each agency related to the processes for transferring administrative jurisdictions as well as the processes for resolving interagency disputes between the US Army and the National Park Service. The proclamation stipulates that the army continue to manage the lands and interests in the lands within the park boundaries until the transfer of lands to the Secretary of the Interior occurs. (FD 2015: 24)

Type of Agreement: Memorandum of Agreement

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Between the Commonwealth of Virginia, Fort Monroe Authority, and the NPS. The 2011 Presidential Proclamation states that the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Fort Monroe Authority will, through donation, relinquish control and interests in lands held by the Commonwealth of Virginia within the park boundary to be managed by the NPS. (FD 2015: 24)

Type of Agreement: Interagency Agreement

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Between the Department of Homeland Security and the NPS. The 2011 Presidential Proclamation stipulates that the Secretary of the Interior, through the NPS, and the Secretary of Homeland Security enter into an interagency agreement to allow for NPS interpretation of the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse, and for the NPS to provide technical or financial assistance in the treatment or other preservation activities of the lighthouse to the extent requested by the US Coast Guard. The lighthouse will continue to operate for navigational or national security purposes. (FD 2015: 24)

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Between the US Army, Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Commonwealth of Virginia, the Fort Monroe Authority (FMA) and the NPS identifies actions that will be taken by concurring parties to guide the future use and management of Fort Monroe.

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative: NPS: Parade Ground, Quarters No.1-Building #1, Building #50, Building #17

Type of Interest: None - Other Federal Agency Owned

Narrative: Old Point Comfort Lighthouse (Department of Homeland Security)

Type of Interest: None - Other Federal Agency Owned

Narrative: Moat (Department of the Army)

Type of Interest: None □ State Government Owned

Narrative: The NPS holds a preservation easement on the Fort Area of Fort Monroe National Monument (Commonwealth of Virginia)

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands are lands outside the cultural landscape boundary, including lands inside or outside the park that contribute to its significance and retain integrity. For the purposes of this CLI, lands outside of the Fort Area includes the remainder of Old Point Comfort, which are within the boundaries of the 565-acre Fort Monroe National Register District. Immediately surrounding the Fort Area are former military residential and administrative areas, many of which are evaluated as contributing resources in the historic district. For instance, the Coastal Artillery School, which was established in 1824 at Fort Monroe and played a major role in the fort's expansion, is located just west of the Fort Area. Continental Park, an open triangular green space bounded by Ingalls Road, Fenwick Road and the Chesapeake Bay, was constructed in the early twentieth century, just southwest of the Fort Area. Remnants of Batteries Parrott and Irwin, two of the fifteen Endicott era emplacements built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, are located just to the southwest of the Fort Area. Farther north are additional military facilities, some of which are included in the park's North Beach Area.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Entered Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

The Fort Area is part of Fort Monroe National Monument, established November 1, 2011. Prior to that time portions of the Old Point Comfort peninsula were designated a National Historic Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. On December 19, 1960, Fort Monroe was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL). The NHL district encompassed 400 acres, covering the southern two-thirds of the peninsula. With passage of the National Historic Preservation Act on October 15, 1966, Fort Monroe was automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Neither the 1960 designation or 1966 listing included supporting documentation.

In March 1, 1973, the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse was individually listed on the National Register. Significance was identified under Criteria A and C in the areas of Transportation and Architecture. The statement of significance described its role in guiding ships entering Hampton Roads seventeen years before the Government began construction of Fort Monroe, and its tapered octagonal design and ashlar sandstone construction. The period of significance was identified as the nineteenth century, with a specific date of 1802, the year of construction. The lighthouse is located within the Fort Area.

On December 6, 1976, a National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form for “Fort Monroe” was accepted by the Keeper of the National Register, which served as documentation for the previous National Historic Landmark and National Register listings. The documentation described the property as a 400-acre district encompassing “all the land on Point Comfort enclosed by its sea wall,” which corresponds to the southern two-thirds of Old Point Comfort peninsula, with the fort itself covering 63 acres. Significance was identified under Criterion A in the areas of Military and Politics/Government. The statement of significance described the property as the largest fortress ever built in America, and discussed the fort’s purpose as designed by Brigadier General Simon Barnard, its use as the army’s first service school for instruction in artillery, its role in the Civil War, and its later construction of Endicott era batteries. It also noted the fort’s association with Edgar Allen Poe, Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis, and Chief Black Hawk. The period of significance was identified as the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with specific dates of 1819-1946, the years when construction of the fort began and when the development of artillery at the fort ended. The documentation described several, but not all, features in the Fort Area: Building #1-Quarters 1, Building #50, Building #17, and the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse.

In subsequent years, several buildings within the district were individually listed on the National Register, including three buildings within the Fort Area on March 28, 2011 – Chapel of the Centurion (Building #166), Quarters No.17-Building #17, and Quarters No.1-Building #1. For the “Chapel of the Centurion” (Building #166), significance was identified under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for its role as army’s oldest wooden structure in continuous use for religious services and for its architectural design and character, with Criteria Consideration A for being a religious property. The period of significance was identified as 1857-1960, beginning with the date of construction and ending when major alterations and additions were completed. For Quarters No.17-Building #17, significance was identified under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as one of the earliest permanent officers’ quarters constructed at Fort Monroe and its architectural character that served as a prototype for other buildings at the fort. The period of significance was identified as 1823-1907, beginning with the date of construction and ending when renovations were completed. For “Quarters No.1-Building #1,” significance was identified under Criteria A, B, and C in the areas of Military, Social History, and Architecture as the first permanent structure erected by the army at Fort Monroe, its association with war time decisions made by Major General Benjamin F. Butler and Major General John Wool who lived there, and for its Federal style architecture, the only example of this style at the fort. The period of significance was identified as 1819-1909, beginning with the date of construction and ending when renovations were completed.

On September 15, 2011, Fort Monroe closed as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission decision. To facilitate the closure and disposal of Fort Monroe, the Fort Monroe Programmatic Agreement (PA) was finalized between the US Army, Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Commonwealth of Virginia, Fort Monroe Federal Area Development Authority, and the National Park Service. The Programmatic Agreement specified contributing and non-contributing buildings, structures, sites and objects at Fort Monroe. The agreement also required the inclusion of contributing archeological discoveries and specified that the boundary of the Fort Monroe Historic District would be extended to include the northern area of the peninsula.

On March 9, 2015, the Keeper accepted National Register documentation for “Fort Monroe (2013 Update and Boundary Increase).” The documentation described the property as a 565-acre district, adding the northern one-third of the Old Point Comfort peninsula. Significance was identified under criteria A, B, C, and D in the areas of Military, Engineering, Ethnic Heritage: Black Social History, Architecture, Social History, and Archeology: Historic. The statement of significance described the property as one of the oldest military posts under continuous use by the US Army, and discussed its military roles from 1819 through 1960, its contribution to African American ethnic heritage, its significance related to Old Point Comfort as a resort destination, its associations with Benjamin F. Butler, Robert E. Lee, and Jefferson Davis, its significance as the first and largest fortification constructed during the Third System of Coastal Defenses, its collection of intact and architecturally varied army construction dating from 1819 through 1960, and its intact historic period archeological data and for the potential for further archeological investigations to yield additional information regarding Third System or earlier fortifications, as well as the prehistoric activities of the region. The period of significance was revised to 1819-1960, beginning with construction of the fort and ending with the final period of construction at the fort when it played a significant defensive purpose in Hampton Roads. The documentation identified 285 resources within the boundaries of the historic district, and evaluated 195 of them as contributing resources. More than one hundred contributing features fall within the boundaries of the Fort Area, five of which are described as “park-like contributing landscapes”: Pet Cemetery, Jefferson Davis Memorial Park, Fort Monroe live oaks, Parade Ground, and Cannon Park. The 2015 boundary increase applied only to the National Register district, leaving the National Historic Landmark district at 400 acres encompassing the southern two-thirds of the peninsula.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the “CLI Professional Procedures Guide,” resources that contribute to the significance of the Fort Monroe landscape have been described in the 2015 National Register updated documentation. The site’s areas and periods of significance are also adequately documented. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, Fort Monroe is considered “Entered-Documented.”

Eligibility: Eligible -- Keeper

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 03/09/2015

Concurrence Narrative:

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Contributing

Classification: District

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is significant under National Register Criteria A, B, C, and D. The Fort Area is nationally and locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Military, Ethnic Heritage, Transportation, and Social History for its development and use as a military post and training center, for the "Contraband Decision" that influenced the treatment of formerly enslaved people, for the construction of the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse as a navigational aid, and the development of the peninsula as a tourist destination. The Fort Area is nationally significant under Criterion B for its association with General Benjamin Butler, Robert E. Lee, and Confederate President Jefferson Davis. The Fort Area is nationally significant under Criterion C in the areas of Engineering and Architecture as the first and largest fortification constructed during the Third System of Coastal Defenses in the United States, and for its diverse collection of architectural styles. Fort Monroe National Monument is also significant under Criterion D, as archeological investigation has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history.

There are two periods of significance for the Fort Area. The first is 1802, which is the year the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse was constructed. The second is 1819-1960, which begins with construction of the fort; includes developments and uses related to military history, ethnic heritage, social history, engineering, and architecture; and ends in 1960 with the completion of construction associated with fort's defensive role in the protection of Hampton Roads and the lower Chesapeake Bay.

CRITERION A

Military:
The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is nationally significant under Criteria A for its extensive military history. After the War of 1812, the United States established a planned defense system, known as the Third System of Coastal Defenses that erected permanent forts at the entrances of major American harbors between. Old Point Comfort was designated as a critical location for defenses, resulting in the construction of Fort Monroe in 1819. Designed by French engineer Brigadier General Simon Bernard, the fort was completed in the 1830s. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 89-90)

Fort Monroe's layout and use reflected a familiar military hierarchy. Within its fortified walls, drills and ceremonies took place in the central open space called the Parade Ground, which evolved into a pentagon shape defined by officers' quarters, barracks, and support buildings that were built along its edges. These buildings were typically arranged in groups and rows that paralleled the different edges of the Parade Ground. The Parade Ground was also bordered by trees, including southern live oaks that the army retained during construction. Some of the live oaks are now between 200-300 years old, and one specimen, the Algernourne Oak near Quarters No.1-Building #1, is approximately five hundred years old. Smaller open spaces were formed inside and just outside of the fort as new buildings and roads were constructed, including the triangular-shaped park opposite the Main Gate in the 1860s, which is extant today and called Cannon Park. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 3,29,62,68; HLI 2010: 51,105,115,162; Review comments, Firth, 28 September 2020)

In addition to its strategic location, Fort Monroe's development was also due in large part to its numerous training facilities. The Artillery School of Practice, established in 1824, was the first service school in the US Army. The school has evolved since then but is still in existence, and was the predecessor to combat training schools operating today. That same year, the first of eleven artillery companies arrived and in time led to the formation of two separate and distinct commands. The engineer department completed the construction of the fort, while the artillery branch operated the Artillery School. The school was closed during the American Civil War but reopened soon after. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 89-92)

During the American Civil War, the Fort Monroe saw most of its military action as well as a major influx of personnel and activities. The fort was one of four forts located within the seceding southern states held by the Union when the war began, and it remained in Union control throughout the duration of the conflict. The fort was a critical outpost for the Union Army due to its geographical proximity to the shipyards and ports in Norfolk as well as its ability to block both Hampton Roads and the James River to Confederate shipping and communication with Richmond. The fort operated as a staging area and base of operations for numerous amphibious assaults on Confederate-held coastal strong points. In 1862, Fort Monroe served as the base of operations for Major General George B. McClellan's Peninsula Campaign against the Confederate capital of Richmond. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 90-91)

The Civil War demonstrated weaknesses in the nation's Third System fortifications, prompting President Grover Cleveland in 1885 to convene a special board to modernize coastal defenses. Headed by Secretary of War William Endicott, the Board of Fortifications recommended construction of detached concrete emplacements protected with earthen parapets. Between 1897 and 1906, fifteen such batteries were completed along the eastern shoreline of Old Point Comfort, a testament of Fort Monroe's strategic importance in defense of the Chesapeake Bay. Although this weaponry became obsolete by World War I, some of the emplacements were refitted in World War II with antiaircraft guns. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 91-92)

In 1900 Fort Monroe established an Artillery Board, and in 1901 the artillery corps was for the first time separated into field and coastal units. In 1907, the Artillery Board became the Coast Artillery Board and the Artillery School became the Coastal Artillery School. The increased need for housing units and classroom space led to a major period of construction at Fort Monroe between 1906 and 1912. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 92)

During World War I, companies from Fort Monroe garrisoned Cape Henry, Fisherman's Island, and Fort Wool, while other companies reported to Washington D.C. to act as service guards for the capital. However, the Coastal Artillery School remained operational and evolved into the Coast Artillery Corps and served as its primary training center. On July 30, 1918, Fort Monroe established the Coastal Artillery School Training Center, which coordinated the Coastal Artillery School training as well as the training of enlisted men at Fort Monroe and Camp Eustis. Additionally, the first Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) camp at Fort Monroe began in 1919, which continued until 1941. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 92)

During the Great Depression in the 1930s, the army infilled the Mill Creek shoreline for additional facilities north of the fort. Training at the Coastal Artillery School shifted focus to anti-aircraft weapons, but in 1933 around sixty percent of the staff of the Coast Artillery School was assigned to the Civil Conservation Corps (CCC). Fort Monroe would process approximately 5,000 CCC enrollees in 1933 and 6,300 enrollees in 1934. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 92-93)

In World War II, Fort Monroe oversaw Hampton Roads, a minefield, and an anti-submarine net and gate. It also housed several support commands and programs, and established an Officer Candidate School in 1941. Although the Coastal Artillery School continued training throughout the war, in 1942 the Replacements and School Command absorbed the school and the Army Ground Forces incorporated the Coast Artillery Corps. In 1943 construction started on the Military Affiliated Radio Station (MARS) on top of southeast bastion, and a light tank unit and members of the Women's Army Corps join the garrison. In 1945 Fort Monroe served as the processing center for reassignment of coast artillery and antiaircraft personnel returning from overseas into harbor defenses. Development in the fill area to the north of the fort occurred during this period, which included temporary wooden barracks, mess halls, classrooms, and supply buildings. Mercury Boulevard was also constructed as a military highway between Fort Eustis in Newport News and Fort Monroe. Between 1941 and 1943, additional areas of the Mill Creek shoreline were dredged and filled to create space for an airfield. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 93)

During the Cold War, army activity at Fort Monroe transitioned to an administrative role. Construction of housing, intended to alleviate the housing shortage following World War II, started in 1953. The housing program was the first major privatized effort to provide housing needs for service men and women on US military bases. In 1955 Fort Monroe became the headquarters for the Continental Army Command (CONARC) until its dissolution in 1973. In the army reorganization of 1973, Fort Monroe was designated the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). The Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommended the closure and decommissioning of Fort Monroe in 2005, which officially occurred in September 2011. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 93)

Ethnic Heritage:
The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is nationally significant under Criterion A for the contraband decision made by General Benjamin Butler in the spring of 1861 and its subsequent impact on African American ethnic heritage. General Butler's actions and legal arguments concerning the classification of escaped slaves as contraband and their treatment set a precedent for federal policy prior to the Emancipation Proclamation. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 95)

Prior to the outbreak of the Civil War, enslaved people who attempted to escape and seek protection with the Union army were returned to bondage. In the spring of 1861 three enslaved men working on Confederate defenses escaped to Fort Monroe. Although Confederate officials demanded their return, General Benjamin F. Butler refused to do so, arguing that the enslaved men were considered property under law and thus could be confiscated by the Union Army. Word of possible refuge at Fort Monroe spread quickly through enslaved communities, and by July more than nine hundred people had sought safety from slavery within the boundaries of the fort. The men, women, and children who took shelter began to form a community that later became one of the first Freedman's Villages in the country. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 95)

President Lincoln accepted Butler's rationale and ordered Union military commanders to enforce the contraband policy where Confederate operations against the United States employed the enslaved. Congress quickly passed the first Confiscation Act, which allowed for the seizure of all property used in the support of Confederate forces. While neither Butler's policy, nor the Confiscation Act, declared the enslaved free, they laid the foundation for the Emancipation Proclamation. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 96)

Transportation:
The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is nationally significant under Criterion A for the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse and its role as a navigational aid. This neck of land, originally labeled "Cape Comfort" by Christopher Newport's explorers in 1607, provided a protective barrier for the old port of Hampton. In 1749 a hurricane destroyed Fort George, the Virginia colony's coastal fortification on Old Point Comfort. The fort was not rebuilt, but in 1774 John Dames was employed as caretaker of its ruins and began operating a light to guide ships entering Hampton Roads. The Virginia Assembly recognized the importance of Dames' work, and in 1775 provided him a yearly salary to continue maintaining the light until a permanent structure could be built. Whether Dames' temporary operation was continued during the Revolution is not known, but in 1798 the Virginia Legislature authorized a conveyance of land at Old Point Comfort to the Federal Government to erect a lighthouse, which was completed in 1802. The lighthouse still stands today as a navigational aid to mariners. (NR 1972, Sec.7 and Sec.8: np)

Social History:
The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is locally significant under Criterion A for the development of Old Point Comfort as a local resort destination in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The development of lodges and transportation led to tobacco and souvenir shops, newsstands, and restaurants along Ingalls Road, which defines the west boundary of the Fort Area. Historic photographs and lithographs from the turn of the twentieth century depict a vibrant vacation destination complete with large ornate hotels, a promenade, sandy beaches, and many people. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 100)

The Hygeia Hotel was the first of three hotels to be built on Old Point Comfort. Built in 1821, the Hygeia was originally located just south of the Main Gate and quickly became the main social center for the fort, but was razed in 1862. By 1864 it was rebuilt along the waterfront, just east Baltimore Wharf and by 1881 had expanded to accommodate over 1,000 guests. The Hygeia Hotel was a popular destination, its guest list included President John Tyler and Secretary of State Henry Clay. The Sherwood Hotel opened across Ingalls Road from the original Hygeia in 1867. Housed in a building dating to 1843 that originally housed the fort's doctor, by 1889 it had expanded to accommodate 175 people. In 1896 a fire destroyed the Sherwood's upper three floors. That same year, the first Chamberlin Hotel opened just west of the second Hygeia Hotel, and featured electric lighting and rooms with private baths. The Chamberlin quickly became the social center of Fort Monroe, as tourists came from around the world and soldiers came for tea and to meet young women. In 1902 the owners of the Chamberlin obtained ownership of the Hygeia and demolished it, upon which the space became Continental Park. During World War I the army acquired the Sherwood and used the building as an officers' quarters and mess, leaving the Chamberlain as the only hotel on Old Point Comfort. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 100; HLI 2010: 81)

In 1920 the Chamberlin was completely destroyed by an accidental fire, but by 1928 the second Chamberlin Hotel, designed by Marcellus Wright, was built across the street and just west of Baltimore Wharf, offering an array of amenities such as an indoor saltwater pool. During World War II the US Navy took over the Chamberlin to house commissioned officers from all service branches. The Chamberlin is now an independent senior living community but continues to represent Old Point Comfort's long history as a resort destination. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 101)

Steamships and railroads were instrumental in the development of Old Point Comfort as a recreational and tourist destination. The Baltimore Steam Packet Company, commonly known as The Old Bay Line, operated a line to from 1840 until 1959. The steamships arrived and departed from the Baltimore Wharf, which was removed in 1961. The C&O Railroad provided passenger service from 1881 until 1939. In the 1890s a streetcar line was constructed from Newport News (approximately 10 miles from the fort) to Baltimore Wharf, via Ingalls Road. Many of these transportation pathways remain in use by pedestrians and vehicles around the fort. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 101)

CRITERION B

The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is nationally significant under Criterion B for its association with the lives of several important figures in American history, including Robert E. Lee, Benjamin F. Butler, and Jefferson Davis.

Robert E. Lee:
Robert E. Lee graduated from West Point in 1829 as a Brevet Second Lieutenant. Between the years 1831 and 1834, Lee was a Second Lieutenant of Engineers assigned to Fort Monroe where he assisted Captain Andrew Talcott in the construction of the outer works and moat. Under Lee's direction, the moat was fully excavated, and the counterscarp, scarp, and Water Battery were completed. While employed at Fort Monroe, Lee and his wife Mary Anne Randolph Custis lived in Building #17 located within the fort. In November 1834, Lee left Fort Monroe and reported for duty in Washington, D.C. as an assistant to the Chief of the Engineer Department. Building #17 is extant today. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 106)

Benjamin F. Butler:
Benjamin F. Butler began his career in 1840 practicing law in Lowell, Massachusetts, shortly after entering the Massachusetts militia. Butler was elected a Massachusetts state representative in 1853 and senator in 1859. Though he had no formal military training, following his participation in the defense of Washington D.C. and shortly before his assignment to Fort Monroe, Butler was promoted to Brigadier General by President Lincoln. In May 1861 Butler was assigned to Fort Monroe, where he made what is known as the "Contraband Decision." This decision was based on arguments justifying the classification of escaped slaves as contraband of war, despite the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. His actions and legal arguments preceded any policy on the matter of limiting the rights of slaveholders and emancipation policy in general enacted by either the president or Congress. Butler's legal arguments became the basis of the Contraband policy adopted by President Lincoln and the War Department for all theaters of combat. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 106-107)

After an otherwise undistinguished military career, Butler served in Congress between 1867 and 1875, and 1877 and 1879. He was a member of the radical Republicans and supported their reconstruction platform. Butler served as the lead prosecutor during the Senate impeachment trial of President Johnson. He also helped to draft important human rights legislation, including the Civil Rights Acts of 1871 and 1875 that were passed to combat rampant infringement on African American suffrage. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 107)

Jefferson Davis:
Jefferson Davis served as the president of the Confederate States of America from 1861 to 1865 and was captured on May 10, 1865, and then charged with treason on May 10, 1866. He began his imprisonment in om May 19, 1865 in Casemate 2 of Building #20, which was specifically prepared as his prison cell. In the fall of 1865 Davis was moved to Carroll Hall (no longer extant; today Building #9 occupies the site). After securing bail in 1868 Davis was released from Fort Monroe. His trial began on December 3, 1868, but charges were dropped in 1869 after courts determined that the general amnesty proclamation made by President Andrew Johnson was applicable in his case. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 107-108)

In 1955 a 500-yard section of the fort's terreplein was designated as Jefferson Davis Memorial Park, along with a 50-foot wrought iron archway marking the entry into the park above the south bastion. It has been recorded that Jefferson Davis walked the terreplein while imprisoned. The arch was gifted from the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Note: In 2019 the Fort Monroe Authority had the letters on the arch removed (see Physical History section). (NR 2014, Sec.7: 3,62; HLI 2010: 39-40,56; Dixon and Green 2019)

CRITERION C

Engineering:
The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is nationally significant under Criterion C as an example of seacoast defensive engineering in the United States between 1816 and 1867. The stone fort at Fort Monroe is one of the first and largest examples of a Third System Coastal Defense fortification, as well as one of the few with a wet moat. Construction of Fort Monroe started in 1819 and continued for close to two decades. The Third System is characterized by massive brick and stone construction that represented a shift in defensive fortification strategy focusing on a permanent, integrated, and organized defense system. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 93)

Coastal defenses were an early priority for the United States and went through three major construction periods: First System (1794-1807), Second System (1807-1816), and Third System (1816-1867). The First System was the nation's initial attempt to fortify coastal locations to protect American cities. These fortifications were either earthen, or wood and earth, construction. Second System defenses were more elaborate defenses featuring masonry construction and the use of casemates and arched gunrooms. The first and second systems were developed because of direct threats of war, but the third system was developed in the aftermath of war, when the Second System failed to prevent the invasion and subsequent burning of Washington D.C. during the War of 1812. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 93)

In 1816 President James Madison formed the Board of Engineers for Fortifications, appointing Brigadier General Simon Bernard as the lead military engineer to design a new Third System. Bernard was educated at the Ecole Polytechnique in France and had designed several fortification systems in Europe. The Board's goals aimed to protect important harbors, key American cities, and naval bases from attack and to prevent interior navigable waterways from an enemy blockade. Determining that many of the existing forts were vulnerable, the Board recommended that all forts should be able to withstand a siege for at least fourteen days, allowing time for relief troops and supplies to arrive. The Board prioritized construction of the recommended Third System forts by grouping them into three different phases, with the most crucial locations constructed during the first phase. Hampton Roads was one of three locations identified "as the main rendezvous for the fleet" (the other two were Boston and Narragansett Bay). (NR 2014, Sec.8: 94)

As one of the earliest forts constructed during the Third System, Fort Monroe was the largest and most complex. The design of the fort was in direct response to the size and shape of the parcel of land, the location of the water (tidal surge), the direction of the perceived threat, and its location in relation to Fort Calhoun (now Fort Wool) across the channel to the south. Such factors resulted in a polygonal shape that was similar in appearance to earlier fortifications. Designs of Third System fortifications built later, specifically after 1820, featured regular hexagon shapes except for the sides facing land that were truncated. These later forts were also smaller, mainly because railroads sped up the transport of reinforcements, thus reducing the need withstand a long siege. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 94; HLI 2010: 105; Review comments, Firth, 28 September 2020)

Bernard incorporated and improved several Second System design elements into the Third System, such as contained casemates, bastions, and outer works. Casemates are vaulted brick structures formed by connecting networks of brick arches providing cover for both firepower and crew in times of battle. Additionally, the casemates could be tiered, which increased the amount of possible firepower, and also served as quarters, administrative offices, mess halls, and prisons. The top of the casemates were generally covered with earth; this earthen area known as the terreplein contained the fort's ramparts. Bernard also designed several features unique to Fort Monroe, including a wet moat, a bastion placed in the middle of one of its sided straight walls, and the incorporation of a water battery as a casemated coverface. The design of the water battery (non-extant) allowed for more guns and firepower than was normally possible in a regular casemate, which made the works valuable in defending the shipping lanes into Hampton Roads. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 94-95)

When originally designed, military engineers had confidence in the capabilities of the Third System forts to repel enemy attacks. However, during the Civil War the use of rifled artillery made such large masonry forts obsolete. Fortification walls, like those at Fort Sumter and Fort Pulaski, were destroyed from artillery

bombardment, and the defenses of the Mississippi River failed to prevent a Union naval flotilla from capturing New Orleans. By 1867 all construction on Third System fortifications halted. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 95)

A new system of coastal defenses did not appear until the last decade of the nineteenth century when a group led by Secretary of War William Endicott recommended a large-scale modernization program. The Endicott Board supported the construction of well-dispersed, open top, reinforced concreted emplacements that held up to four large caliber rifled guns, protected by sloped earthworks. The new fortifications were a radical departure from traditional masonry forts concealing massed batteries of cannon that had dominated harbor defense for most of the nineteenth century. Fifteen such batteries were construction at Fort Monroe in 1897-1906, and seven remain today, including the Experimental Battery (1899), the only one within the Fort Area. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 95)

Architecture:
The Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument is nationally significant under Criterion C for its collection of buildings and structures illustrating the design evolution of army construction between 1819 and 1960. Fort Monroe was an active coastal fortification throughout most of the nineteenth century, and those buildings constructed prior to the Civil War were generally located inside the stone fort. After the Civil War when Fort Monroe, like other stone fortifications, became obsolete, construction increasingly took place outside of the fort walls. Although representing a succession of styles, including Federal, Victorian, Richardsonian Romanesque, Gothic Revival, and Colonial Revival, the architecture was unified by the military's practice of standardizing designs and arranging buildings in groups or rows. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 96)

The earliest, extant structure built at Old Point Comfort is the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse, completed in 1802, seventeen years before the federal government began construction of fort. The hand-cut ashlar stone tower tapers to a height of 58 feet, and its light reaches approximately 16 miles out to the lower Chesapeake Bay. A Keeper's House (Building #60) was built next to the Lighthouse in 1890, after which the lighthouse received several modernization projects, concluding with its automation in 1973. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 96-97; NR 1973, Sec.8: np)

The army constructed nearly 150 buildings at Fort Monroe before the Civil War, but only 10 remain: the lighthouse, the stone fort (see Engineering above), and Buildings #s 1, 2, 17, 18, 23, 27, 50, 166 (Chapel of the Centurion). Some of the earliest buildings inside the fort were constructed in the popular Federal style, including Quarters No.1-Building #1 (1819), the fort's first permanent structure, and Building #17 (1823), one of the fort's earliest officers' quarters. The Chapel of the Centurion dating to 1858 is the army's oldest wooden structure in continuous use for religious services. The building is an adaptation of a small mission church designed by Richard Upjohn and includes stained glass windows designed by famous artisans such as Louis C. Tiffany. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 96-98)

After the Civil War, the army instituted massive cuts in military spending and consequently there was little construction at Fort Monroe until a nationwide building program began in 1874. An objective of the program was to improve the living conditions at army posts, namely through the construction of T-shaped duplexes. It was also during this period that the army began to use standardized quartermaster plans, which were cost-efficient and helped address the need for cheaper, more hygienic housing. Although the Quartermaster Corps no longer performed the actual construction and building design, they oversaw the work and approved all plans, which were simplified versions of Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Italianate, Romanesque Revival, and other popular architectural styles of the day. At Fort Monroe these styles appeared in new housing units as well as a hospital, firehouse, post headquarters, and a post office. However, beginning in 1907 new construction at the fort was almost exclusively in the Colonial Revival style. Of all the buildings constructed at Fort Monroe up until World War I, approximately 94 are extant. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 96-98)

Approximately 250 temporary buildings were constructed during World War I, but in the years immediately following the war another period of fiscal cuts halted construction. No new permanent buildings appeared until 1927 when another nationwide army building program was initiated to upgrade living conditions for officers, enlisted men, and non-commissioned officers. As part of this program, 22 buildings were constructed along Ingalls and Tidball Roads, Reeder Circle, McNair Drive, Pratt and Murray Streets.

During this period, the Quartermaster Corps incorporated the use of regional styles for facilities in different areas of the country, with buildings at installations in the east like Fort Monroe reflecting the Colonial Revival style. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 98)

In the 1930s, additional development was undertaken with funding from the Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), providing jobs to workers affected by the Great Depression. Hurricanes in August and September of 1933 caused millions of dollars in damages to buildings, artillery, equipment, and a railroad trestle. This prompted more construction, which included a new seawall and additional housing. During World War II, the area to the north of the fort was developed with temporary wooden barracks, mess halls, classrooms, and supply buildings. In 1943 the Military Affiliated Radio Station (Building #209) was built atop the southeast bastion, a rare example of the Bauhaus School of Modernism on the post. In the 1950s and 1960s, additional housing was built through the Wherry and Capehart military housing programs, but much of this has since been removed. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 98)

While residential housing is the most prevalent type of building resources at Fort Monroe today, other extant building types include administrative offices, support buildings, garage, storage facilities, and a variety of structures and recreational amenities. Many of the historic buildings have been re-purposed from their original functions to support Fort Monroe's current mission of training and education. Modern construction has occurred mainly north of the fort on modern man-made land. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 98-99)

CRITERION D

As stated in National Register documentation approved in 2015, Fort Monroe National Monument is significant under Criterion D in the area of Archaeology. The entire property of Fort Monroe is classified as one archeological site, 44HT0027, which encompasses twenty-one identified loci. The loci have date ranges that fall into three groups: eighteen are dated within the Period of Significance, two have both historic and prehistoric context, and one has only a prehistoric context. Twelve of the twenty-one loci are considered to be individually eligible. The others have not been evaluated for individual eligibility. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 101)

Archeological studies have been conducted at Old Point Comfort by John Milner and Associates (1999), Thunderbird Archeological Associates (2000 and 2003), and Panamerican Consultants (2004). Through these studies it has been determined loci 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 16, 18 (areas a and b) and 19 fall within the period of significance and are individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. According to the 2014 National Register documentation for Fort Monroe, "there is some archeological evidence which predates the period of significance, however, it is inconclusive and requires further study to determine the level of contribution to Fort Monroe. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 101)

National Register Significance Criteria:

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

National Register Criteria Consideration:

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1802 - CE 1802

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expanding Science and Technology	Technology (Engineering and Invention)	Transportation	

Time Period: CE 1819 - CE 1960

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Creating Social Institutions and Movements	Recreation	Tourism	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Federal (1780-1820)	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Romanesque Revival (1840-1900)	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Period Revivals (1870-1940)	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Queen Anne-Eastlake (1880-1900)	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Moderne Art Deco (1920-1945)	
Developing the American Economy	Defense	Defense	
Expanding Science and Technology	Technology (Engineering and Invention)	Military (Fortifications, Weapons, And War Vehicles)	
Shaping the Political Landscape	The Civil War	Abolishment Of Slavery	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Archeology

Area of Significance Subcategory: Historic-Non-Aboriginal

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Engineering

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Ethnic Heritage

Area of Significance Subcategory: Black

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Military

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Transportation

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Fort Monroe (2013 Update and Boundary Increase)
NRIS ID:	13000708
Primary Certification Date:	03/09/2015
NRIS Name:	Fort Monroe
NRIS ID:	66000912
Primary Certification Date:	10/15/1966
NRIS Name:	Fort Monroe
NRIS ID:	66000912
Primary Certification Date:	12/06/1976
NRIS Name:	Old Point Comfort Lighthouse
NRIS ID:	73002212
Primary Certification Date:	03/01/1973
NRIS Name:	Quarters No.1-Building #1
NRIS ID:	10000583
Primary Certification Date:	03/28/2011
NRIS Name:	Chapel of the Centurion (Building #166)
NRIS ID:	10000582
Primary Certification Date:	03/28/2011
NRIS Name:	Quarters No.17-Building #17
NRIS ID:	10000584
Primary Certification Date:	03/28/2011

State Register Documentation:

Identification Number:	#114-0002
Name:	Fort Monroe
Identification Number:	#114-0002-0001
Name:	Chapel of the Centurion (Building #166)
Identification Number:	#114-0002-0004
Name:	Quarters No.1-Building #1
Identification Number:	#114-0002-0005
Name:	Quarters #17

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark?	Yes
Theme:	Military
Contributing:	Contributing
NHL ID:	
NHL URL:	
Date:	12/19/1960

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1543	Established	Approximate date that the Algernoune Oak near Quarters No.1 -Building #1 begins its life.
CE 1607	Established	English settlers who founded Jamestown first land on and name Old Point Comfort.
CE 1609	Built	To protect the entrance to settlements along the James River, the British build Algernon Fort (Fort Algernourne) at Old Point Comfort.
CE 1612	Destroyed	Fort Algernourne burns in a fire. It is rebuilt but falls into disrepair.
CE 1632	Built	Construction of “The Fort at Old Point Comfort” begins.
CE 1667	Destroyed	A hurricane destroys “The Fort at Old Point Comfort.”
CE 1730	Built	Fort George, a fortification of brick and shell lime, is built at Old Point Comfort to guard against French invasion.
CE 1749	Destroyed	Fort George is destroyed by a hurricane.
CE 1774	Built	A navigational light is erected at Old Point Comfort.
CE 1802	Built	Old Point Comfort Lighthouse is constructed as an octagonal stone tower fifty-four feet high, on the south shoreline.
CE 1818	Built	Construction begins on Engineer Wharf.
CE 1819 - 1836	Built	Construction begins on “Fortress Monroe.” Led by General Simon de Bernard, the fort is designed according to the “Third System of Coastal Defenses,” a coordinated system of coastal defenses. Fort Monroe is a brick, granite, and earthen casemated fortification constructed as a bastioned work with seven fronts, surrounded by a moat. Construction ends around 1836.
CE 1819	Built	Quarters No.1-Building #1 is constructed on axis with the East Gate as the first permanent set of quarters built at Fort Monroe.
CE 1819	Built	Construction begins on the Water Battery (Building #216) just southeast of the fort.
CE 1821	Built	The Casemate for Powder Storage (#2) is completed.
CE 1822	Built	The Hygeia Hotel is built just beyond the boundaries of the fort walls, initially to house construction workers.
CE 1823	Built	Two permanent officers’ quarters (#17,#18) are built to house eight bachelor residences. They are called the “Tuileries.” Building #17 would later become known as Lee’s Quarters as Robert E. Lee lived there from 1831-34. They are located in the southwestern part of the fort.
CE 1823	Built	The Old Guard House, or Sally Port (#48), is constructed as the main gate, guardhouse, and stockade casemate.
CE 1823	Built	The Old Bakery Casemate (#23) is completed.
CE 1823	Built	The Flagstaff Bastion, East Gate, North Gate, and Postern Gate are completed.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1823	Built	Approximate year construction begins on the boat launch and the moat.
CE 1824	Established	The army's Artillery School of Practice is established at Fort Monroe.
CE 1824	Graded	The Parade Ground is cleared and graded for a visit from Major General Lafayette.
CE 1826	Built	The Jefferson Davis Casemate (#20), a one-story structure with sixteen casemated bays, is constructed as the First Front of the fort.
CE 1827	Built	The Chapel Center Casemate (#21) is constructed, comprised of fourteen interior casemates and two magazines to serve as the Second Front of the fort.
CE 1828	Built	By 1828, buildings of the fort also included several temporary quarters, engineer stables, well house, smith's shop, hospital, workshop, lumber shed, and laboratory for the ordnance department. Additional support buildings are located outside of the fort's walls, as well as six wharves.
CE 1829	Built	The Third Front (#22) is built as a rectangular block structure comprising fourteen casemates flanked by two magazines.
CE 1834	Built	A duplex residence (#50) is built on the southeast side of the Parade Ground.
CE 1836 - 1859	Developed	From the late 1830s into the 1850s, new areas of buildable land are created southwest of the fort with fill.
CE 1850	Built	Cannon Park, a triangular-shaped open space bounded by Ingalls Road is located opposite the main gate by 1850.
CE 1857	Built	The Chapel of the Centurion (#166) is constructed in a Carpenter Gothic style at the far southwest corner of the Parade Ground.
CE 1861	Altered	A Rodman gun, known as the Lincoln Gun, is placed on the beach as part of the Union defenses.
CE 1861 - 1865	Inhabited	Following General Butler's Contraband Decision on May 22, 1861, Congress passes the Confiscation Act providing a de facto ratification to Butler's action. By the time the war ends in 1865, more than 10,000 formerly enslaved people have sought refuge at Fort Monroe.
CE 1864	Built	The second Hygeia Hotel is built southwest of the fort, along the south shoreline, after the first Hygeia Hotel is demolished in 1862.
CE 1865 - 1867	Altered	One of the casemates (#20) is altered to serve as a holding cell for Jefferson Davis.
CE 1865	Established	Bureau for Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands or the "Freedman's Bureau" is established at Fort Monroe.
CE 1867	Established	The Sherwood Hotel is built across Ingalls Road from the first Hygeia Hotel.
CE 1875	Built	A servant's quarters (#T-28), is built next to a residence (#19).
CE 1875	Built	Sub-Tuileries (#3,#16) are constructed as multi-family quarters on the northeast side of the Parade Ground and next to the Tuileries, respectively.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1879	Built	A Victorian style duplex (#15) is built at the southwestern edge the Parade Ground.
CE 1879	Built	Old Main Barracks (#5) is built on the north edge of the Parade Ground to replace seven temporary barracks.
CE 1880	Built	A library (#7) is built north of the Parade Ground.
CE 1880	Built	Two single-family military houses (#14,#19) are constructed on the west side of the Parade Ground and at the southwest bastion, respectively.
CE 1880 - 1890	Altered	In the 1880s the fort's casemates are converted to officers housing, and porches and fences are added in front of each casemate entrance.
CE 1881	Built	A brick firehouse (#24) is erected on the northeast side of Cannon Park, close to the main gate.
CE 1881	Altered	By 1881 the second Hygeia Hotel has expanded to accommodate 1,000 guests.
CE 1884	Built	As early as 1884, historic photographs show brick sidewalks crossed the Parade Ground
CE 1885	Established	President Grover Cleveland directs Secretary of War, William Endicott, to plan a new system of coastal defenses, resulting in the construction of what are known as the Endicott Period Batteries.
CE 1886	Built	A two-story, single family military quarters (#55) is constructed on Ingalls Road, south of Cannon Park.
CE 1887	Built	A guardhouse (#8) is built north of the Parade Ground.
CE 1889	Built	Two Victorian style wood framed duplexes (#62,#63) for officers are constructed on the west side of the Parade Ground, south of the Sally Port.
CE 1890	Built	The Old Point Comfort Lighthouse complex is improved with the construction of a new Keeper's House (#60).
CE 1890 - 1899	Built	By the 1890s, a streetcar line is built along Ingalls Road.
CE 1890 - 1899	Built	In the 1890s, multiple officers' quarters are built on both sides of Ingalls Road, north of Cannon Park (outside of Fort Area).
CE 1894	Built	The post headquarters (#77) is constructed on the northeast side of Cannon Park, next to the firehouse.
CE 1895 - 2020	Built	After 1895 seawalls and groins are built along the bay side of the peninsula to control beach erosion, a process that continues to this day.
CE 1896	Built	The first Chamberlin Hotel is built just west of the second Hygeia Hotel.
CE 1896	Destroyed	A fire destroys much of the Sherwood Hotel.
CE 1897 - 1906	Built	Fifteen Endicott batteries are completed on Old Point Comfort between 1897 and 1906.
CE 1897	Built	Battery Humphries is completed just to the north of the fort, alongside the moat.
CE 1897	Built	The Water Battery is modified to accommodate a new 8-inch barbette gun.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1898	Built	Buildings #84 and #85 are built north of the Parade Ground.
CE 1898	Built	The Army constructs a railway to bring ammunition and materials to the Batteries in the area north of the inner fort.
CE 1898	Built	The Experimental Battery, a two-bay concrete Endicott Period gun emplacement located along the terreplein in the East Bastion, is constructed. Batteries Gatewood and Parapet are also built along the terreplein
CE 1898	Built	A hospital (#82) is constructed just off Cannon Park.
CE 1898	Built	A post office (#83) is constructed at the corner of Ingalls and Fenwick Roads.
CE 1898	Built	Battery Gatewood and Battery Parapet are built atop Front #4, the Southeast Bastion, and South Bastion.
CE 1898	Built	Battery Barber is completed just to the north of the fort, alongside the moat.
CE 1900 - 1922	Developed	Between 1900 and 1922 approximately 90 acres of fill from Mill Creek are dredged and deposited as near the entrance gate along the Mill Creek shoreline to just west of the intersection of Fenwick Road and Fuller Lane. The new area is used to train and house troops for World War I.
CE 1900	Built	The Experimental Battery is built on the terreplein of the East Bastion.
CE 1900	Built	Buildings #6 and #9 are built north of the Parade Ground.
CE 1900	Memorialized	Around 1900 a Pet Cemetery is established and used for approximately one hundred years. It is located along the terreplein, from the Flagstaff Bastion to just west of the North Gate.
CE 1900	Built	A two-story quarters (#90) is constructed along the Moat Walk.
CE 1901	Built	Buildings #46 and #47 are built north of the Parade Ground.
CE 1902	Destroyed	The corporation that owns both the Hygeia and Chamberlin hotels razes the Hygeia.
CE 1902 - 1903	Built	Continental Park is constructed after the demolition of the second Hygeia Hotel. At the center of the park is a bandstand which held its first concert in 1934 and remains in use today.
CE 1902	Built	A large 3.5-story barracks (#10) is built on the west side of the Parade Ground, north of the Sally Port.
CE 1903	Built	The Colonial Revival style YMCA (#171) is built next to the main gate, just outside the fort.
CE 1904	Built	Building #53 is built north of the Parade Ground.
CE 1906	Built	A storehouse (#117) is built north of the Parade Ground.
CE 1907	Built	A two-story residence (#119) is built in the Colonial Revival-style for the Commanding General.
CE 1907	Established	The Artillery School becomes the Coastal Artillery School.
CE 1907	Built	A new officers' quarters (#120) is built along Fenwick Road.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1908	Built	A new officers' quarters (#118) is built along Fenwick Road.
CE 1908 - 1910	Altered	Colonial Revival style porches are added to housing units (#s 3,16,17,18).
CE 1909	Built	New buildings within the fort included the Post Exchange and Annex (#105,#105A) north of the Old Main Barracks, three large duplex residences (#s 126,127,128) on the east and south sides of the Parade Ground, a large barracks (#139) at the northeast corner of the Parade Ground, and a wireless station (#49) northeast of the Parade Ground.
CE 1909	Built	A new officers' quarters (#121) is built along Fenwick Road.
CE 1909	Built	A large duplex residence (#123) is built on Ingalls Road facing Cannon Park and the first of four identical duplexes (#140) is built facing the Moat Walk.
CE 1909	Built	The library (#138) for the Coastal Artillery School is built along Ingalls Road.
CE 1910	Built	Two new officers' quarters (#141,#142) are built along Fenwick Road.
CE 1910	Built	Two residences (#146,#147) are built opposite Batteries Irwin and Parrott.
CE 1911	Built	New buildings within the fort include a barracks (#159) north of the Parade Ground, two duplex units (#155,#156) northeast of the Parade Ground, and a duplex (#157) on the south side of the Parade Ground.
CE 1911	Built	Three identical duplexes (#s 148,149,150) are built along the Moat Walk.
CE 1918	Built	Fort Monroe establishes the Coastal Artillery School Training Center.
CE 1919 - 1941	Established	The first Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) camp at Fort Monroe begins in 1919, which continued until 1941.
CE 1919	Built	A residence (#158) is built on Ingalls Road, across from the school.
CE 1920	Destroyed	The first Chamberlin Hotel is destroyed by fire.
CE 1921	Built	A Mine Control Room (#217) is built at the Southeast Bastion.
CE 1928	Built	The second Chamberlin Hotel is built at the site of the first Chamberlin that burned.
CE 1930	Built	A new housing unit (#33) is constructed near the lighthouse.
CE 1933	Destroyed	Hurricanes in August and September 1933 cause millions of dollars in damages to the fort facilities, and prompts construction of new seawall and replacement of temporary buildings with permanent buildings, especially in areas north and east of the fort.
CE 1934	Built	A new housing unit (#64) is constructed near the lighthouse.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1941	Built	Mercury Boulevard (US 258) is constructed across Mill Creek as a military highway linking Fort Monroe to Fort Eustis in Newport News.
CE 1941	Established	In 1941 an Officer Candidate School is established.
CE 1942	Established	The Coast Artillery School continues training throughout World War II, but it absorbed by the Replacements and School Command in 1942.
CE 1942	Removed	A war-time scrap drive removes most of historic armament displays.
CE 1942	Built	A transformer shed (#198) is built near Building #50.
CE 1943	Built	The Military Affiliated Radio Station (MARS) (#209) signal station is built on top of the Southeast Bastion and is the post's only example of the Bauhaus School of Modernism design.
CE 1945	Built	A telephone building (#182) is built behind the Post Headquarters.
CE 1946	Removed	The role of coastal fortifications is deemed obsolete and the Coast Artillery School is removed from Fort Monroe.
CE 1951	Established	The 1826 casemate (#20) becomes the Casemate Museum.
CE 1953	Built	The Wherry housing units are constructed at the sites of Endicott era batteries Montgomery and Eustis.
CE 1954	Built	A workshop/garage (#T-216) is built behind the Commanding General's house (#119).
CE 1955	Memorialized	A 500-yard section of the terreplein is designated as Jefferson Davis Memorial Park and a 50-foot wrought iron archway is installed to mark the park entrance at the South Bastion.
CE 1959	Established	The 1827 casemate (#21) is renovated into the Education Center and now serves as the Chapel Center
CE 1960	Established	The Fort Area, along with around 400-acres encompassing the southern two-thirds of the Old Point Comfort peninsula, is designated as a National Historic Landmark for its role in the military history of the United States.
CE 1962	Damaged	A hurricane floods buildings and the Parade Ground.
CE 1972	Damaged	Another hurricane floods buildings and the Parade Ground.
CE 1987 - 1988	Built	Between 1987 and 1988 a number of new garages (#s 40,41,71,76,78,122,223,229,238,240,478,479) are constructed, both inside and outside the fortification walls to support military and maintenance needs on the post.
CE 2002	Built	A storage structure (#8A) is built in the Northwest Bastion.
CE 2003	Damaged	Hurricane Isabel causes millions of dollars in damage to the fort, the most since 1933.
CE 2007	Established	The Fort Monroe Federal Area Development Authority is established to determine need for municipal services for the area and to develop a reuse plan.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 2007 - 2009	Built	In 2007-2009 the section of seawall running from the Navy Wharf to the Battery Parrott jetty is replaced with a new, reinforced concrete sea wall two feet higher than the previous wall.
CE 2011	Damaged	Hurricane Irene strikes, damaging remaining Wherry housing units and other structures.
CE 2011	Abandoned	Fort Monroe closes as an army installation, a result of the 2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decision.
CE 2011	Established	On November 1, 2011, Fort Monroe National Monument is created as a 325-acre unit of the National Park Service located within the 400-acre National Historic Landmark district.
CE 2013	Demolished	All but one of the Wherry housing units is razed, including those bordering the Fort Area.
CE 2015	Established	The NHL boundary is increased to 565 acres, which adds the northern one-third of Old Point Comfort and identifies additional areas of historical significance.
CE 2017	Rehabilitated	National Park Service begins a multi-year exterior preservation project on Quarters No.1 -Building #1 that is managed by the Historic Architecture and Conservation and Engineering Center (HACE).
CE 2019	Removed	Fort Monroe Authority removes letters from Jefferson Davis Memorial Park Arch.

Physical History:

INTRODUCTION

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the Fort Area, organized by time periods, and surrounding areas as appropriate. The narrative draws primarily from the 2014 “National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form, Fort Monroe (Update and Boundary Increase)” by Rebecca Calonia, and the 2010 “Fort Monroe Historic Landscape Inventory, Evaluation, and Recommendations” by Megan Weaver Tooker, et.al. Like the National Register documentation, this report uses the army designated building numbers to identify extant resources.

NATIVE AMERICAN SETTLEMENT (to 1607)

The Chesapeake Bay region has been used by indigenous people for more than ten thousand years. When the English established their first American colony in Jamestown in 1607, the indigenous governmental structure of the region included three major Native chiefdoms, a group of tribes under the influence of a central chief. These three chiefdoms were the Powhatan, the Piscataway, and the Nanticoke. Most of the tribes in the region belonged to one of these three groups, though some retained their independence. All three chiefdoms spoke languages based in the language family, Algonquian, and tribes communicated with one another to form alliances and trade. Their tribal lands, the region that would become southern Virginia, was rich with fertile soils, deposits of limestone and iron, and full of wildlife. (Tayac 2006: 6-7)

What is now known as Old Point Comfort was a critical crossroads for trade. In the Hampton area, Spanish and English colonists encountered the Kecoughtan, a tribe of the Powhatan Confederacy. Within the first one hundred years following the arrival of Europeans in the early seventeenth century, the Powahatan, the Nanticoke, and the Piscataway would experience severe loss of life, mainly from diseases introduced by the Europeans. (Tayac 2006: 6-7)

COLONIAL PERIOD (1607–1818)

During this period, the Hampton Roads and the James River regions were settled by European colonists, early fortifications at Old Point Comfort were constructed by settlers to protect colonial interests, and the first enslaved Africans were first brought to North America. The period closed with completion of a lighthouse and its capture by the British in the War of 1812.

Early Forts at Old Point Comfort:
The English settlers who founded Jamestown first landed on and named Old Point Comfort. On April 29, 1607, George Percy wrote, "rowed over to a point of land where we found a channel and sounded six, eight, ten or twelve fathoms, which put us in good comfort. Therefore we named that point of land Cape Comfort." In 1608, John Smith while trading with the Kecoughtan Indians, studied Point Comfort and considered this "little lie (sic) fit for a castle." (NR 2014, Sec.8: 88-89, citing Balicki et.al. 1999: 14 and Weinert Jr. and Arthur 1978: 3)

The first fortification was constructed on Old Point Comfort in 1609 to deter hostile ships from sailing up the James River and threatening the new settlement. Known as Fort Algernon or Algernourne, by 1611 it was surrounded by a stockade, employed seven heavy guns, and garrisoned at least forty men. Between February and March 1612, the fort was partially destroyed by fire, and although it was rebuilt, poor construction and disuse led it to fall into disrepair. A large southern live oak that began life around 1550 in this area survived and is now known as the "Algernourne Oak." (NR 2014, Sec.8: 89)

In August 1619, a ship carrying enslaved Africans arrived at Old Point Comfort on the White Lion, an English privateer ship. Earlier the White Lion had engaged the Spanish slave ship San Juan Bautista in battle in the Bay of Campeche. The English sailors took the enslaved African people aboard, many who were skilled in farming, herding, blacksmithing, and artisan crafts, as human contraband from the Spanish. The sailors then traded the enslaved African people to the English settlers in Jamestown for provisions to return to Europe. This event began more than 246 years of slavery in what would become the United States. (FD 2015: 6)

In 1632 another fort was built, referred simply as The Fort at Old Point Comfort, but for the next several decades it was occupied only when the English colony was threatened. Such a threat occurred in 1667 when colonists improved the fort for a possible Dutch invasion, though it was destroyed that same year by a hurricane. The next fortification did not appear until 1730 when colonists built Fort George, a brick structure named after the reigning English King. In 1749 it too succumbed to a hurricane, prompting Governor Dinwiddie in 1756 to report that, "we have no Forts in y's Dom'n. There was one erected at the mouth of the Jas. River, but it was built on Sandy Foundation'n, the Sea and Weather destroy'd it [so] y't the Guns lie dismounted, and [are] of no Use…" (NR 2014, Sec.8: 89, citing Weinert Jr. and Arthur 1978: 16)

Construction of the Lighthouse:
In 1774 the caretaker of the fort's ruins, John Dames, erected a navigational light to warn passing ships of the peninsula's dangerous tip jutting out into the harbor. The following year the Virginia Assembly gave Dames a salary to maintain this important service until a permanent structure could be built, but no progress was made until 1802 when the federal government built a 54-foot octagonal-shaped stone lighthouse on the site. The Old Point Comfort Lighthouse remains an active navigation aid to this day, maintained by the United States Coast Guard, and is the oldest structure in the Fort Area. (NR 2014, Sec.8 89; NR 1973, Sec.8: np)

During the War of 1812, British forces captured the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse for use as an observation post. In June 1813 the British burned Hampton, and with little resistance at the entrance to the sailed to Washington D.C. in August and burned it. The destruction of Washington D.C. revealed the vulnerability of the nation's capital to attack and the need to strengthen coastal defense for the nation's security. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 89)

FEDERAL PERIOD (1819–1860)

This period saw the construction of Fort Monroe at Old Point Comfort and the establishment of the Artillery School of Practice. Construction also occurred outside of the fort's walls along what are now Ingalls Road and Fenwick Road, some of which was related to the area's growth as a tourist destination. The period also marked the beginning of the fort's many associations with persons of historical importance.

The "Third System" of Coastal Defenses:
The prospect of war with European powers in the 1790s led to a national program of coastal defenses that spanned seventy years, known as the First, Second, and Third Systems. The "First System" of fortification (1794-1807) in the United States was largely made up of the few forts that survived the Revolutionary War. They incorporated "cannon in open works with earth parapets, generally unrevetted, with blockhouses or redoubts to defend them from land attack." In the "Second System" (1807–1816), the primary structures were "masonry faced earthen forts similar to those of the First System, but with increased use of circular or elliptical segments." Both the First and Second Systems were responses to the immediate threats posed by Britain in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Therefore, they were built quickly without uniformity, and with limited ability to provide adequate defense. (McGovern and Smith 2006: 9)

Congress and the military recognized the need for more forethought and uniformity in fortification design. In 1817, to help define the parameters of the new coastal defense network, President James Madison appointed Brigadier General Simon Bernard, a former aid to Napoleon Bonaparte, to serve as an assistant in the Corps of Engineers and head of the Board of Engineers. Tasked with recommending improvements to the country's existing coastal defense system, the Board proposed the "Third System" (1817-1867), which employed a systematic approach to design and construction through guidelines and directives. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 93-94; Tooker, et.al. 2010: 14-15)

The Third System of Coastal Defense was designed as a network of large, permanent fortifications on the coasts to protect port cities, waterways, and Washington, D.C. from invasion. The massive stone forts maximized their strength through concentrated firepower, tiered defensive walls, and protective casemates. Although the Board recommended more than two hundred works along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, only a small portion were constructed. The strategic location of Old Point Comfort – at Hampton Roads guarding the water route to Washington – was chosen as a location for one of the first major defenses of the Third System. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 6)

Construction of Fort Monroe and Establishment of the Artillery School:
Following the completion of Engineer Wharf on the bay side of the peninsula in 1818, construction began in 1819 on "Fortress Monroe," named in honor of President James Monroe. General Bernard's designs for Fort Monroe, as well as other forts of the Third System, such as Fort Adams in Newport, Rhode Island, closely followed the recommended design principles that had been part of European forts for decades. Fort Monroe, one of the largest of the Third System fortifications, was a brick, granite, and earthen casemated fortification enclosed by a wet moat, featuring a 2,394-yard perimeter and encompassing 63 acres (Figure 1). Designed as a seven-bastioned work with seven fronts, the fort included a series of casemates, which were vaulted brick structures inside the fort walls formed by connecting networks of brick arches. Fort Monroe's casemates (Buildings #2, #20, #21, #22, #23) housed cannons, concealed firepower, and provided cover for artillery personnel during battle. Many of these spaces were also used as quarters or for administrative functions. The earthen area known as the terreplein above the casemates contained the fort's ramparts. Other features at Fort Monroe included the bastions, gates, and boat launch. (FD 2015: 7; NR 2014, Sec.7: 6,38, and Sec.8: 89; HLI 2010: 15-17)

Fort Monroe was considered close to impregnable from both land and sea, built to hold 380 gun mounts and over 2,600 men in time of war. Indeed, Bernard envisioned Fort Monroe as the "headquarters" for the entire coastal fortifications system. However, due to its size and complexity, construction of Fort Monroe continued for another fifteen years, into the 1830s. Initial work focused on the Water Battery (#216), which featured forty casemated guns as part of the outer works to

protect the fort from direct attack. This was followed by the Casemate for Powder Storage (#2), completed in 1821 as a single-story brick and granite structure appended to the parade wall of the Northwest Bastion. The Old Bakery Casemate (#23) was completed in 1823 and was originally used to house gun emplacements and as storage. It was named after its proximity to the fort's bakery. The Old Guard House or Sally Port (#48) was finished in 1823, serving as the main gate, guardhouse, and stockade casemate (Figure 2). In 1823 the Flagstaff Bastion, East Gate, North Gate, and Postern Gate were also completed, and construction on the boat launch and a moat fed by water from Mill Creek began. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 7,15)

In addition to the fort itself, construction of support facilities was underway both inside and outside the fortification walls. The first non-fortification structure at Fort Monroe was an officers' quarters, Quarters 1 (#1), built in 1819 (Figure 3). The structure appeared in plans dated 1818 as a permanent quarters for the post's commanding officer, but the first occupant was actually the fort's Construction Engineer. Quarters 1 was built in the Federal style on axis with and facing the East Gate, with its rear elevation facing the Parade Ground. The 2-story building was designed to suit the coastal southern environment, featuring main living floors and porches elevated above ground level to catch summer breezes. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 7)

In 1823 two residences (#17, #18) with one-story porches were constructed between the west and southwest bastions adjacent to the Parade Ground (Figure 4). Like Quarters 1, the buildings faced the fortification walls and not the Parade Ground. Both were built in the Federal style and each was meant to house eight bachelors. Together the buildings were known as "the Tuileries," the name of the French Royal palace. (HLI 2010: 18; NR 2014, Sec.7: 20-21)

A typical feature of military posts was the Parade Ground, a large flat area where soldiers marched and practiced military movements. Fort Monroe's Parade Ground was essentially part of the original design, located within the center of the fort, and it was supposedly cleared and leveled in 1824 for a visit from Major General Lafayette in 1824. At the time the fort was constructed, the Old Point Comfort peninsula was densely wooded, especially with southern live oaks. Many, but not all, of the trees at the building site were removed; those left standing became an integral feature within the fort's walls and would help define the edges of the Parade Ground, a rough-pentagon shape anchored by Quarters 1 at its east end (Figure 5). (NR 2014, Sec.7: 3,29,62,68; HLI 2010: 51,105,115,162)

Work on the Parade Ground coincided with the arrival of the first of eleven artillery companies to the fort, in 1824. That same year, the army established the Artillery School of Practice at Fort Monroe, the first service school in the United States. The school focused on training artillery soldiers in the use of a variety of field, siege, and seacoast guns, mortars, and howitzers, as well as proper loading and firing techniques. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 2; HLI 2010: 18,51,105)

In 1826 the army completed the first of the fort's seven fronts. The "First Front," now known as the Jefferson Davis Casemate (#20), featured sixteen one-story casemated bays. One year later the "Second Front," now the Chapel Center Casemate (#21), was finished, featuring fourteen interior casemates and two magazines and used to house numerous artillery pieces. In 1829 the "Third Front" (#22) was completed as a regular block structure containing fourteen casemates flanked by two magazines. The remaining four fronts were completed in the following years. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 13-14)

By 1828 buildings within Fort Monroe's fortified walls included Quarters 1 and the Tuileries, several temporary quarters, engineer stables, well house, smith's shop, hospital, workshop, and a lumber shed and laboratory for the ordnance department. Outside of the fort's walls were temporary quarters, stonecutters shop and office, carpenter shop, tool house, lime house, mortar house, engineer laborers' quarters, commissary storehouse, and the provost guard. In addition, six wharfs were built west of the fort, along Hampton Roads (see Figure 5). (HLI 2010: 57; NR 2014, Sec.7: 7)

On February 8, 1828, the Secretary of War ordered that the defensive works at Old Point Comfort be called Fort Monroe, and not Fortress Monroe. Although War Department General Order 11 formally designated the post as "Fort Monroe" a few years later, the fortification continued to be unofficially

called Fortress Monroe into the twentieth century.

The First Hotel:
The fort's construction relied on military convict labor as well as many enslaved persons hired out by the owners of local plantations. To help house some of the fort's construction workers, the army granted private investors permission in 1821 to erect the Hygeia Hotel west of the fort's main gate, where the YMCA (#171) now stands. The hotel soon became the main social center for the fort, serving both officers and visitors. The Hygeia was one of several hotels that would be built near the fort, launching Old Point Comfort's resort industry that would endure for another hundred years. (HLI 2010: 120)

Robert E. Lee and Completion of the Fort:
In early 1831, Robert E. Lee was assigned to Fort Monroe, where he was to assist Captain Andrew Talcott in building the fort's outer works and moat. Under Lee's direction, the moat was fully excavated and the final construction was completed on the counterscarp, scarp, and the Water Battery (#216). Shortly after his arrival, Lee married and lived with his wife in the two rooms that formed a wing on the west side of Building #17 of the Tuileries. In November 1834, Lee left Fort Monroe and reported for duty in Washington, D.C. as an assistant to the Chief of the Engineer Department. The same year, a duplex residence (#50) was constructed on the southeast side of the Parade Ground, though today it stands as a triple set of quarters with a T-shape floor plan. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 95; HLI 2010: 19)

Although construction of gun emplacements, and repairs and modifications to the fortification, were ongoing, Colonel Charles Gratiot declared the fort complete in 1836. Like the other early forts of the Third System at this time, Fort Monroe was large, irregular, and polygonal in shape with large bastions. Most forts designed later under the Third System were smaller, due in part to the development of railroads that made transport of relief troops and supplies quicker, thus reducing the risks of a long siege. Later forts were also more regular in shape, often hexagons, with symmetrical tiers for casemates. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 90,94)

One of the last buildings constructed within the fort during this period was the Chapel of the Centurion (#166) in 1857 at the far southwest corner of the Parade Ground (Figure 6). The chapel was designed in the popular Carpenter Gothic style and an adaptation of Richard Upjohn's design in Rural Architecture. A sketch of the Parade Ground from this period shows mature southern live oaks along the edges of the open space (Figure 7). (NR 2014, Sec.7: 7; HLI 2010: 20,52)

New Operations Beyond the Fort:
With the construction of the main fortification essentially complete, the army continued expansion into adjacent areas outside of the fort's walls and among the earlier support facilities. From the late 1830s into the 1850s, new areas of buildable land were created southwest of the fort with fill. By 1843 a portion of Fenwick Road southwest of the fort was in place, as was much of Ingalls Road to the west of the main gate, which also served as the primary road connecting the Old Point Comfort peninsula to Hampton and the mainland to the northwest. By 1850, directly opposite the main gate, Ingalls Road formed the west side of a rough triangle-shaped space, the future Cannon Park. Between Ingalls Road and opposite the west bastion was an orchard, and across the street from the orchard was a large ordnance yard, at the intersection of the Ingalls and Fenwick roads (Figure 8). Straddling the two roads were numerous buildings, quarters, stables, and yards associated with the Engineering, Ordnance, and Quartermaster departments. By 1855, two bathhouses also extended into the water, opposite the main gate (Figure 9). (HLI 2010: 64-65; NR 2014, Sec.7: 27)

By the end of the Federal Period, more than 150 buildings had been constructed within and around Fort Monroe, though only sixteen of these buildings remain today (#s 1, 2, 17, 18, 23, 27, 50, 166, Old Point Comfort Lighthouse, and the seven fronts on the stone fort) (Figure 10). The Hygeia Hotel stood amongst the many military facilities outside of the fort's walls (Figure 11). The advent of steamships and railroads further aided the development of Old Point Comfort into a recreational/tourist destination. The Baltimore Steam Packet Company, commonly known as The Old Bay Line, had begun operations in 1840 and steamships operated between Old Point Comfort, Norfolk, Richmond, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 7)

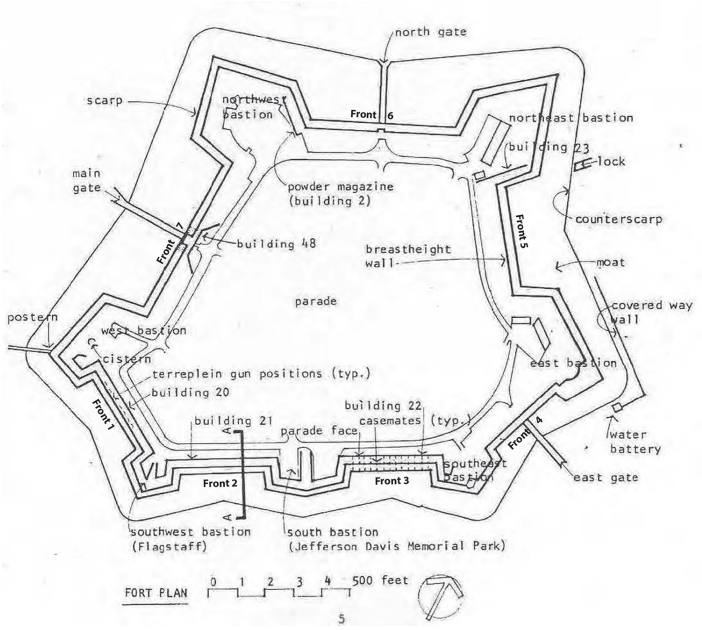


Figure 1. Drawing of Fort Monroe, no date. (Fort Monroe Cultural Resources. From Tooker et.al., "Fort Monroe Historic Landscape Inventory, Evaluation, and Recommendations" [hereafter HLI], 2010: 48, partially annotated by Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 2020)

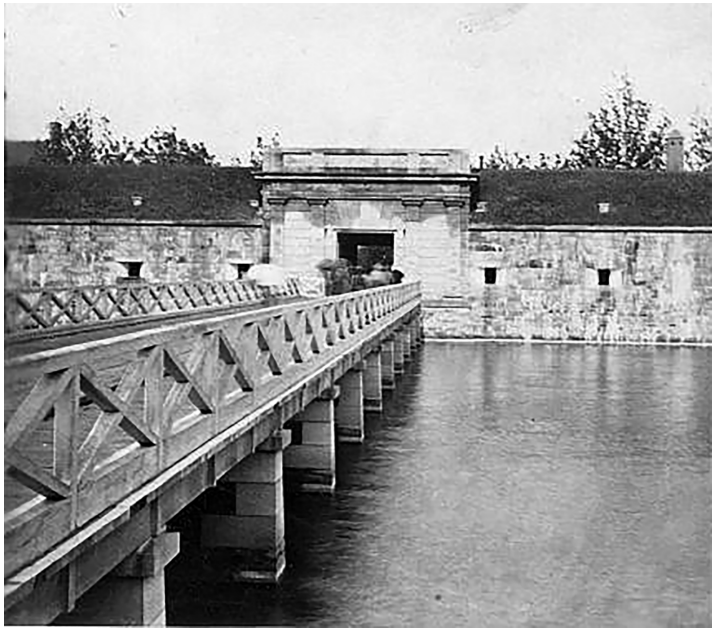


Figure 2. View looking east at the Main Gate and Guardhouse/Sally Port (Building #48), 1861. (Library of Congress)



Figure 3. View looking northwest at the front of Quarters No.1-Building #1, 1868. (National Archives and Records Administration, College Park [hereafter NARA]. From HLI 2010: 51)

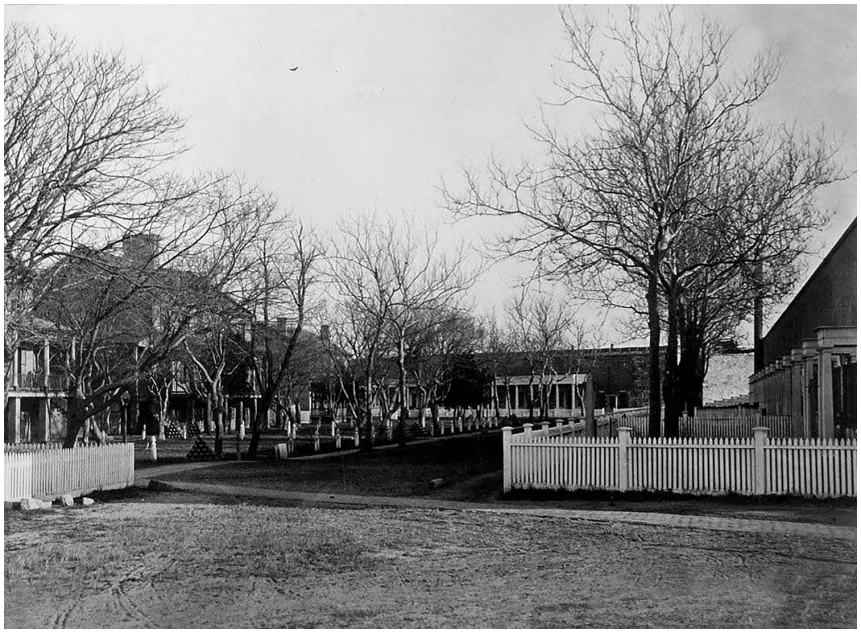


Figure 4. View looking east at The Tuileries (Building #17 at image left and Building #18 near center), 1885. The Jefferson Davis Casemate (Building #20) is at far image right, and in the background is the Chapel Center Casemate (Building #21). ("The History of Fort Monroe." From HLI 2010: 52)

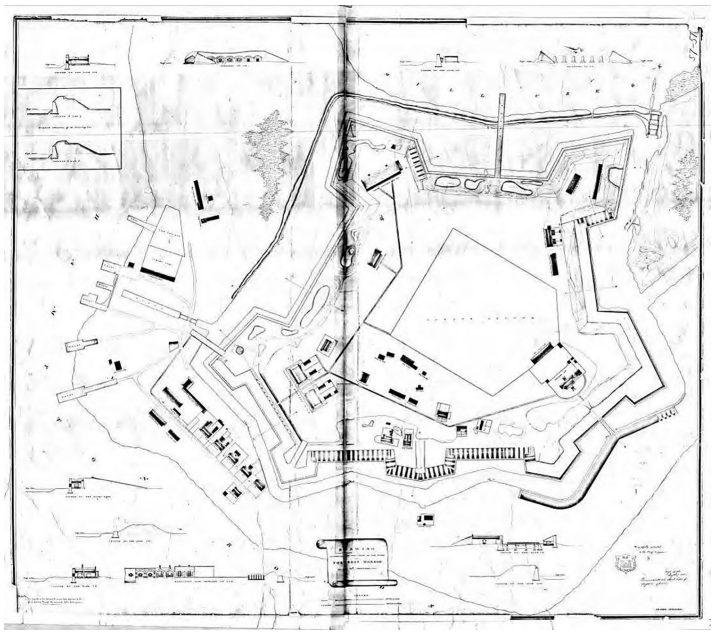


Figure 5. "Drawing, Fort Monroe," 1828. (NARA. From HLI 2010: 16)



Figure 6. View looking west at the Chapel of the Centurion (Building #166), no date. (Fort Monroe Cultural Resources. From HLI 2010: 20)



Figure 7. Sketch of the parade ground by Alfred R. Waud, 1861. Live oak, sycamore, and willow are inscribed within the drawing. (Library of Congress)

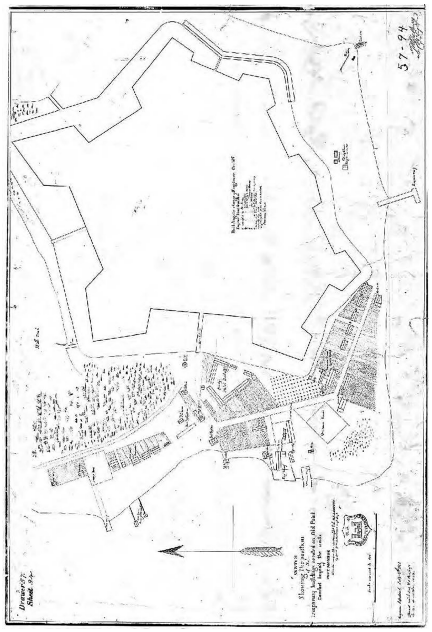


Figure 8. "...Showing the positions of the temporary buildings erected on Old Point Comfort beyond the walls of Fort Monroe," 1843. (NARA. From HLI 2010: 59)

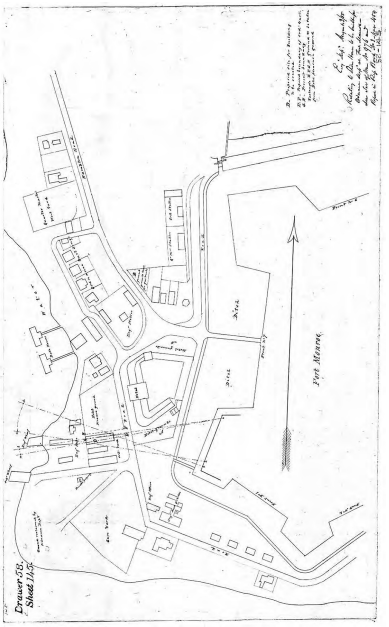


Figure 9. Map of Ingalls Road area, 1855. (NARA. From HLI 2010: 65)



Figure 10. View looking southwest at the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse and Fort Monroe, 1864. (Library of Congress. From HLI 2010: 14)



Figure 11. "Fort Monroe, Old Point Comfort, and Hygeia Hotel, Va.," 1861. View looking northeast. (Library of Congress)

CIVIL WAR (1861–1865)

Fort Monroe's many roles during the Civil War affected the outcomes of battles and influenced changes to federal policies. This included what became known as the "Contraband Decision," which helped to lay the foundation for the Emancipation Proclamation and created the fort's nickname "Freedom's Fortress." By the end of the war, temporary encampments holding both military personnel and "contrabands" escaping slavery covered much of the open land of Fort Monroe, including the Parade Ground. Today there is little evidence of the physical landscape changes that occurred from the period, as most construction was temporary.

The Lincoln Gun:
During the Civil War, Fort Monroe was one of only four forts held by the Union that was within the seceding Southern states. Fort Monroe remained under Union control for the duration of the war. Due to its proximity to the shipyards and ports of Norfolk, Virginia, and its ability to protect Hampton Roads and the James River to Confederate trade, Fort Monroe became a critical outpost for the Union Army (Figure 12). (NR 2014, Sec.8: 90)

In March 1861, Fort Monroe received a prototype of a fifteen-inch Rodman smooth bore gun for testing. Named the "Lincoln Gun," is was one of the largest smoothbore cannons ever made, cast of solid iron, weighing approximately 49,000 pounds, and able to fire a three hundred-pound projectile more than four miles. The massive gun was placed on the beach between the ordnance yard and the lighthouse as part of the Union defenses. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 8)

The Contraband Decision:
On May 22, 1861, Major General Benjamin F. Butler took command of Fort Monroe. One day later, three self-emancipating men, considered escaped slaves under the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, arrived and sought asylum at Fort Monroe. Confederate Colonel Charles Mallory of Virginia immediately demanded that General Butler return his men, arguing that they were his property under the Fugitive Slave Act. Two days later, General Butler made his famous "contraband decision" regarding the three men who had been enslaved and forced to work Confederate defenses under the ownership of Colonel Mallory. In his statement General Butler refused to authorize their return to the Confederate lines, equating the enslaved men to contraband of war that could be confiscated by the Union Army. Using the Confederacy's definition of the men as "property," Butler retained the men

declaring them “contraband of war.” Butler argued that the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 did not apply in territory that was no longer part of the United States. (FD 2015: 9-11)

When word spread of General Butler’s decision to provide safe harbor to the enslaved, freedom seekers sought refuge at the Fort Monroe. By October 1861, more than nine hundred men, women, and children lived in sixteen camps surrounding the fort, and it became the largest assemblage of contraband camps in the United States. Two camps also developed in the Hampton area, the “Grand Contraband Camp” in present-day downtown Hampton, and Camp Hamilton, a military camp in today’s Phoebus, known as Slabtown. Fort Monroe earned the name “Freedom’s Fortress” as a place of refuge for those escaping enslavement, and national newspapers highlighted Fort Monroe as a setting in the battle over slavery (Figure 13). (FD 2015: 9-11)

General Butler’s actions and legal arguments concerning the classification of escaped slaves as contraband and their treatment set a precedent for federal policy prior to the Emancipation Proclamation. President Lincoln accepted Butler’s rationale and ordered his other military commanders to enforce the contraband policy where military operations against the United States made use of captured or escaped slaves. (FD 2015: 9-11)

Notable Military Events:
Fort Monroe played its most direct role in military operations during the spring campaigns of 1862. On March 9, 1862, soldiers standing atop the fort witnessed a major change in the technology of naval warfare when the USS Monitor and CSS Virginia (formerly the USS Merrimac) came together in the epic, but non-conclusive naval Battle of Hampton Roads. While both ironclads survived the encounter, the battle marked the end of the era of the great wooden war ships. The garrison at Fort Monroe was summoned and remained under arms for the duration of this battle. The fort attempted to fire, but the battle remained out of range (Figure 14). Later in March 1862, Fort Monroe became the base for another, more intensive excursion against the Confederacy when General George B. McClellan launched his grand plan to capture Richmond, assembling more than 120,000 troops of the Army of the Potomac at the fort. By April the troops began their movement up the peninsula between the York and James Rivers towards Richmond. While McClellan was involved in his Peninsula Campaign, President Lincoln, along with Secretary of War Edmund Stanton and Secretary of State Salmon Chase, came to Fort Monroe and experienced from afar the surrender of Norfolk to General John Wool. Lincoln slept in Quarters 1 while at the fort. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 90-91; HLI 2010: 23-24)

Wartime events at Fort Monroe in 1863-1864 included receiving the second son of Robert E. Lee as prisoner, the participation of several regiments attached to Fort Monroe at Drury’s Bluff and City Point, the siege of Petersburg, as well as other engagements prior to the fall of Richmond. On February 3, 1865, President Lincoln was on the steamer River Queen anchored off the Virginia coast under the protective guns of Fort Monroe with Secretary of State William Seward, meeting with delegation of Confederate officials. The so called “Hampton Roads Peace Conference” lasted only four hours with Lincoln stating terms that were unacceptable to the Confederate delegates who desired that the Confederacy remain independent of the United States. (HLI 2010: 24-25)

Although many freedom seekers had found safety from enslavement under the protection of Fort Monroe, the military was unprepared for the humanitarian crisis that resulted. Conditions in the camps were horrible with insufficient food and water, inadequate housing and healthcare, and rampant disease. In March 1865, the Lincoln administration established the Bureau for Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, or the “Freedman’s Bureau,” to help millions of former black slaves and poor whites in the South in the aftermath of the Civil War. A field office for the Freedman’s Bureau was located at Fort Monroe. That same month, Harriet Tubman was appointed matron of a hospital at Fort Monroe set up to administer to the contraband community and the Colored Troops. (HLI 2010: 25-26)

Following the surrender of the Confederacy at Appomattox Court House, Confederate President Jefferson Davis was captured by Union forces, and on May 19, 1865 he was imprisoned in Building #20, Casemate 2, where he remained until he was removed to Carroll Hall on October 2nd. In 1868 Davis posted bail and was released from Fort Monroe. By the end of the year he was granted

amnesty. (HLI 2010: 25-26)

Physical Changes at Fort Monroe:
Beginning in 1861, the army erected many temporary structures at Fort Monroe to meet wartime demands, and as such none were retained. Following the war the Lincoln Gun was moved to the edge of the Parade Ground, where it remains today as the only physical remnant of the Civil War period. In addition to the many contraband camps outside of the fort's walls, the most significant change to occur during the Civil War period was the removal of the Hygeia Hotel in 1862. A new, but smaller, version was rebuilt southwest of the fort, along the bay waterfront, by 1864. Soon after, steamships began arriving and departing from the Baltimore Wharf next to the second Hygeia Hotel. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 7-8)



Figure 12. "Plan of Fortress Monroe, Virginia," 1862. Note the location of the "Lincoln Gun" on the shoreline, west of the lighthouse. (Library of Congress)

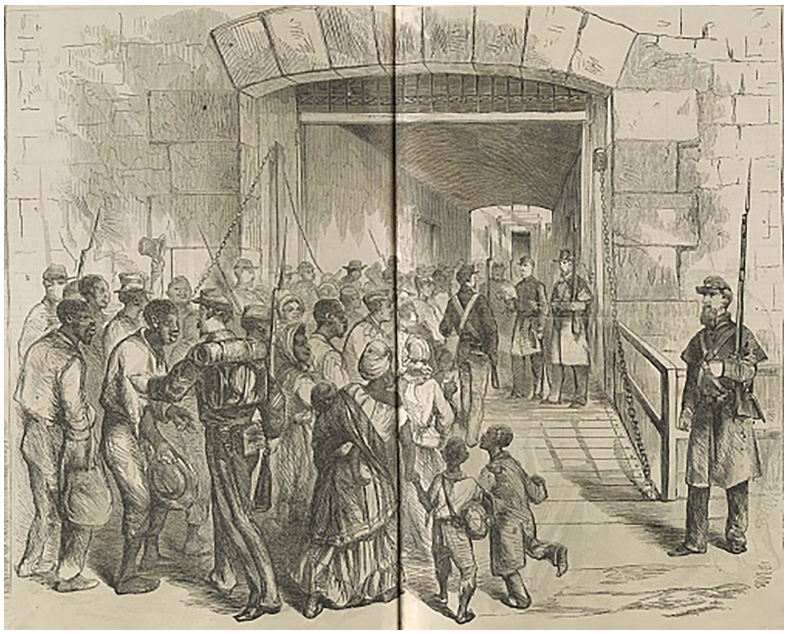


Figure 13. Detail of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, June 8 and August 16, 1861, showing enslaved people at the fort. (Library of Congress)



Figure 14. Detail from a map of Hampton Roads, 1862. Fort Monroe is at image upper right, and the site of the Battle of Hampton Roads is at lower left. (NARA)

NEW CONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION (1866–1916)

Physical changes at Fort Monroe during this period were prompted by the fort's use for training purposes, first through reestablishment of the Artillery School in 1867 and then the formation of the larger Coastal Artillery School in 1907. These educational missions required additional residential, administration, and recreational infrastructure, both within and outside of the fort's walls. Concurrent with these events was the construction of Endicott batteries along the shoreline, representing an evolution in the country's military technology and strategy. Lastly, the resort industry at Old Point Comfort continued to evolve, as new hotels and other tourist-related business sprang up outside of the fort.

New Fort Buildings:
The Civil War had demonstrated the weaknesses with the Third System of Coastal Defenses, prompting the federal government to halt further construction of them in 1867. At the same time the use of Fort Monroe shifted from defense to education with the reestablishment of the Artillery School of Practice. The increased need for infrastructure associated with Artillery School coincided with a nationwide initiative to improve military housing on army posts. As part of this effort, the Quartermaster General created standardized plans and specifications for single family and duplex housing. The plans, however, allowed for regional differences in architectural styles. At Fort Monroe, new construction through around 1906 was a mix of Victorian, Colonial Revival, Romanesque Revival, and other vernacular styles. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 97; HLI 2010: 27)

Numerous new residences and support buildings were constructed between existing buildings within Fort Monroe. In 1875 the 2-story Sub-Tuileries (#3,#16) were constructed as multi-family quarters similar in design to the Tuileries, located on the northeast side of the Parade Ground and next to the Tuileries, respectively. One of the largest buildings constructed during this period was the Old Main Barracks (#5), built in 1879 on the north edge of the Parade Ground to replace seven temporary barracks (Figure 15). That same year a Victorian style duplex (#15) was constructed on the southwestern edge of the Parade Ground. A wood structure (#19) with Victorian details, and a wood structure (#14) with Colonial Revival details, were constructed as single-family residences at the Southwest Bastion and west side of the Parade Ground, respectively, in 1880. Around the same time, a small residence (#T-28) was built behind Building #19 as a servant's quarters. Also during the 1880s, the casemates in some of the bastions were converted to officers housing with the

addition of front porches and fences (see Figure 4). Two Victorian style wood framed duplexes (#62, #63) for officers were constructed south of the Sally Port in 1889, and in 1902 a large three-and-a-half-story barracks (#10) was built north of the Sally Port. These three buildings occupied the west side of the Parade Ground. The various support buildings built during this period were mostly located north of the Parade Ground, including a library (#7) in 1880 and a guardhouse (#8) in 1887. The original uses of some of the other structures in this area are not known: #84 and #85 in 1898, #6 and #9 in 1900, #46 and #47 in 1901, #53 in 1904, and a storehouse (#117) in 1906. (HLI 2010: 55; NR 2014, Sec.7: 18,20)

New construction also occurred outside of the fort. A brick firehouse (#24) was erected in 1881 outside of the fort and near the Main Gate, and the post headquarters (#77) was constructed next to it in 1894. Both of these buildings faced Cannon Park. Among the new residences built during this period included officers' quarters (#55) along Ingalls Road south of Cannon Park in 1886, three more officers' quarters (#65, #66, #67) next to it in 1890, multiple officers' quarters on both sides of Ingalls Road north of Cannon Park in the 1890s, and the first of several quarters (#90) along the Moat Walk in 1900. A post office (#83) was constructed in 1898 at the corner of Ingalls and Fenwick Roads and a privately-funded YMCA (#171) next to the main gate in 1903. The Old Point Comfort Lighthouse complex was also improved during this period with the construction of a new Keeper's House (#60) in 1890. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 2 and Sec.8: 98)

Expansion of Tourism and Recreation:
Improvements in transportation, in concert with the increased activity generated by the Artillery School, benefitted the local resort industry. In 1881 the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad was extended to Newport News, ten miles from Fort Monroe. By the 1890s, a streetcar line ran from Newport News to Baltimore Wharf, via Ingalls Road. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 100)

The end of the streetcar line was next to the second Hygeia Hotel, which had expanded in 1868 and by 1881 could accommodate 1,000 guests. The 3-4-story hotel featured a dock, waterfront promenade, and ornamental garden. Meanwhile, the Sherwood Hotel, built across Ingalls Road from the first Hygeia in 1867, had expanded to accommodate 175 people by 1889. In 1896 a fire destroyed the Sherwood's upper three floors. That same year another enormous hotel was built, the first Chamberlin Hotel, just west of the second Hygeia Hotel. The Hygeia and Chamberlin were in competition for a while, but the Chamberlin quickly became the social center of Fort Monroe (Figure 16). The two hotels were eventually bought by the same corporation, which demolished the Hygeia in 1902. This site became Continental Park, an open public green crossed by sidewalks that by 1934 converge on a bandstand (Figure 17). (HLI 2010: 81; NR 2014, Sec.8: 91)

Another recreational attraction at Old Point Comfort was its sandy beaches. Erosion from storms resulted in the disappearance of most of the peninsula's original beaches, but many were rebuilt beginning in 1895 when sections of a seawall and groins were constructed, a process that has been ongoing since. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 2)

Construction of the Endicott Batteries:
In 1885 President Grover Cleveland convened a board, headed by Secretary of War William Endicott, to establish a plan to modernize coastal defenses nationwide. The Board recommended a series of dispersed, open top, reinforced concrete emplacements, protected by sloped earthworks to be located at strategic defensive points along the coasts. Implementation of the new defense system, or Endicott batteries, began in 1887, and in 1891 construction began on batteries at Fort Monroe. Due to the strategic importance of Fort Monroe in defending the Chesapeake Bay, fifteen batteries were completed between 1897 and 1906, and of them seven remain today: Irwin, Parrott, DeRussy, Church, Anderson, Ruggles, and the Experimental Battery (Figure 18). The army also constructed a railway in 1898 to bring ammunition and materials to the batteries. (HLI 2010: 86; NR 2014, Sec.8: 91-92)

The Experimental Battery was one of five new Endicott batteries constructed within the Fort Area (Figure 19). The battery was completed in 1900 on the terreplein of the East Bastion and featured a two-bay concrete gun emplacement that held a set of experimental 10-inch M1896 guns (Figure 20). This battery was often mistakenly identified as Battery Gatewood, another Endicott battery located in

the same area, but closer to the East Gate along the terreplein (Front #4). Battery Gatewood held four 4.7-inch Armstrong guns, and adjacent Battery Parapet that stretched from the Southeast Bastion to the South Bastion, held four 8-inch barbette guns. Both Gatewood and Parapet were completed in 1898. Just to the north of the fort and alongside the moat were Batteries Humphries and Barber, completed in 1897 and 1898, respectively. Humphries held a 10-inch disappearing gun and Barber held an 8-inch barbette gun. Immediately adjacent to Battery Barber was Battery Bomford completed the previous year (outside of Fort Area). Lastly, a single 8-inch barbette gun was installed in the Water Battery in 1897. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 26 and Sec.8: 91-92; "Fort Monroe," http://fortwiki.com/Fort_Monroe)

Coastal Artillery School Expansion:
Around the turn of the twentieth century army leaders realized that heavy fixed artillery required different training programs and tactics than mobile field artillery. In 1901 the artillery corps was separated into field and coastal units, and in 1907 the Artillery School at Fort Monroe was reorganized to become the Coastal Artillery School, which served to train all coastal defense officers and soldiers nationwide. To meet the subsequent need for additional classroom space and housing, the army conducted another building campaign at Fort Monroe, mainly between 1907 and 1912. A majority of the new construction made use of standardized plans with Colonial Revival designs. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 114; HLI 2010: 35)

Within the fort, the army constructed quarters and support buildings in the place of outdated buildings, or in between existing structures. Those completed in 1909 included the Post Exchange and Annex (#105, #105A) north of the Old Main Barracks, three large duplex residences on the east and south sides of the Parade Ground (#126, #127, #128), a large barracks (#139) at the northeast corner of the Parade Ground, and a wireless station (#49) northeast of the Parade Ground. In 1911 another barracks (#159) was built north of the Parade Ground, along with two duplex units (#155, #156) northeast of the Parade Ground and another duplex (#157) on the south side of the Parade Ground. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 8)

Outside of the fort, the army constructed a new Colonial Revival house for the Commanding General (Building #119) in 1907 along Fenwick Road, followed by five new officers' quarters in the same area: (#120 in 1907, #118 in 1908, #121 in 1909, and #141 and #142 in 1910 (Figure 21). These six new residences replaced a row of temporary quarters built for the engineers building the fort, and shared similar building setbacks from the street, large yard spaces, and unobstructed views of the Chesapeake Bay. Nearby, two additional residences (#146, #147) were added in 1910, opposite Batteries Irwin and Parrott. Additionally, a large duplex residence (#123) on Ingalls Road facing Cannon Park and the first of four identical duplexes (#140) facing the Moat Walk, were built in 1909. The other three duplexes (#148, #149, #150) were built along the Moat Walk in 1911. However, the most substantial construction occurred the corner of Fenwick and Ingalls Roads, in the former ordnance yard, where the Coastal Artillery School's large classroom and administrative buildings were built, mainly between 1909 and 1910 (Figure 22). The school's library (#138), however, was built across the street, on the other side of Ingalls Road. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 8)

Parade Ground, Cannon Park, and the Pet Cemetery:
With the completion of the housing duplex (#157) in 1911, the Parade Ground was entirely surrounded by buildings, completing a process that began in 1819 with the construction of Quarters 1. By this time the use of the Parade Ground had changed, reflecting the fort's transition from a local defensive location to a national center for military education. Drills and ceremonies were now joined by passive and active recreation, with the space essentially serving as a neighborhood park for the many military personnel living within and around the fort. Historic photographs show brick sidewalks crossed the Parade Ground and linked important buildings together as early as 1884, and by 1904 some were lit by lampposts (Figure 23). Southern live oaks ringed the perimeter of the Parade Ground, some of which been growing there for more than one hundred years, while picket fencing associated with the adjacent homes also defined the edges (Figures 24, 25, 26). Some areas of the Parade Ground also featured small-scale features such as ornamental stacks of military ordnance, wooden and iron benches, and beds of annual flowers (Figure 27). (HLI 2010: 60-69)

By the end of the nineteenth century, pieces of armament were also displayed in other areas of the

fort, especially at the junctures of streets and in front of prominent buildings. One such location included Cannon Park, the triangular open space at the fort's main entrance (Figure 28). In the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries, residents of the post and civilians in the surrounding area established a pet cemetery. The cemetery was located along the fort's terreplein, extending from the Flagstaff Bastion to just west of the North Gate. The cemetery includes more than 300 pet burials. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 2,71 Review comments, Dance, 28 September 2020)

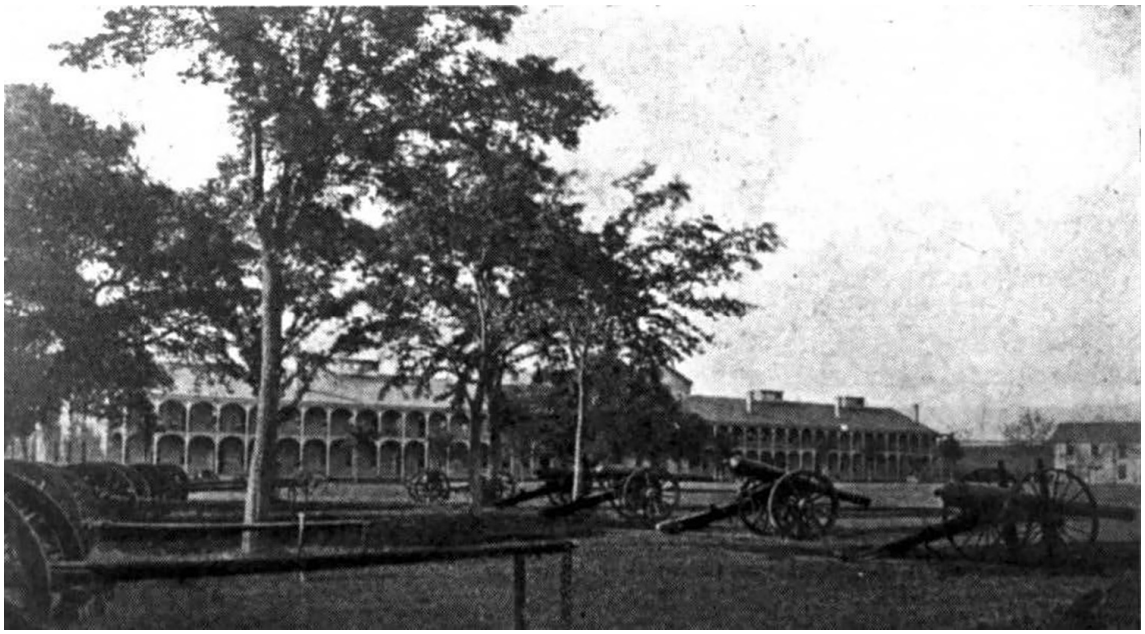


Figure 15. View looking north from the parade ground to Old Main Barracks (#5), 1885. ("The History of Fort Monroe." From HLI 2010: 28)

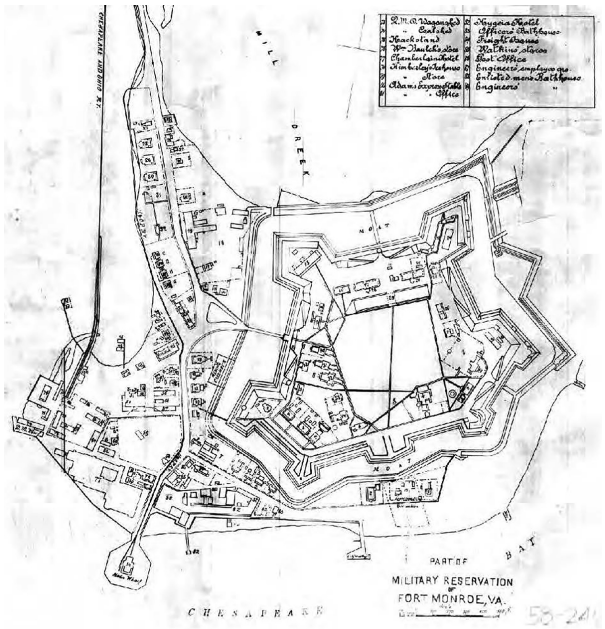


Figure 16. "Part of Military Reservation of Fort Monroe, VA," 1886. Flanking Baltimore Wharf (image lower left) are the first Chamberlin Hotel (left) and the second Hygeia Hotel (right). (NARA. From HLI 2010: 79)

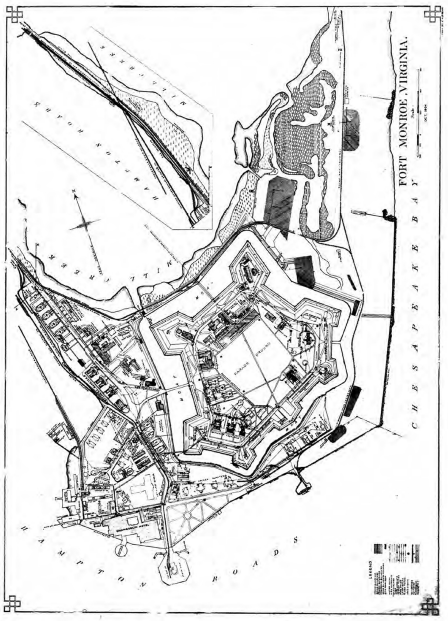


Figure 17. "Fort Monroe, Virginia," 1904. Continental Park is at bottom center, northeast of Baltimore Wharf. (NARA. From HLI 2010: 73)



Figure 18. One of the Endicott batteries at Fort Monroe, 1918. (NARA. From HLI 2010: 31)

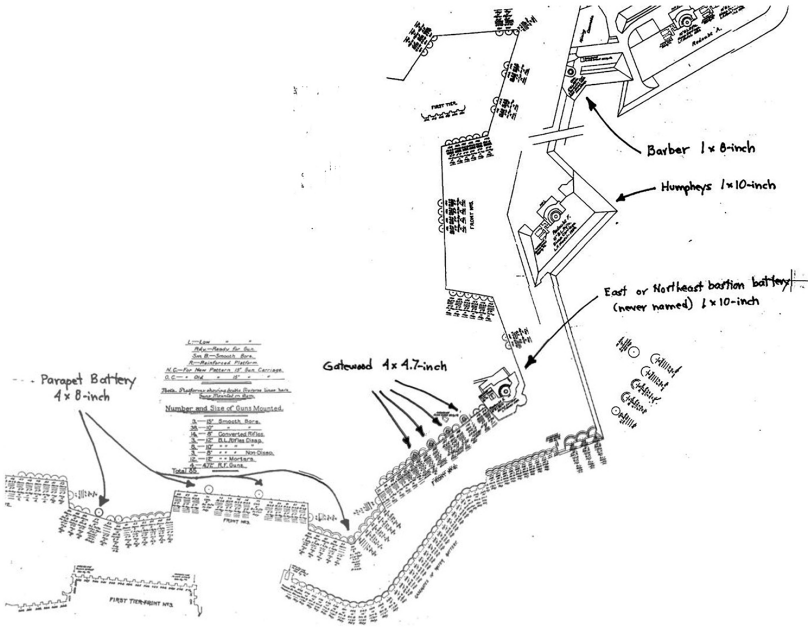


Figure 19. Drawing of the six Endicott batteries within the CLI project area, no date. ("Fort Monroe," http://fortwiki.com/Fort_Monroe)

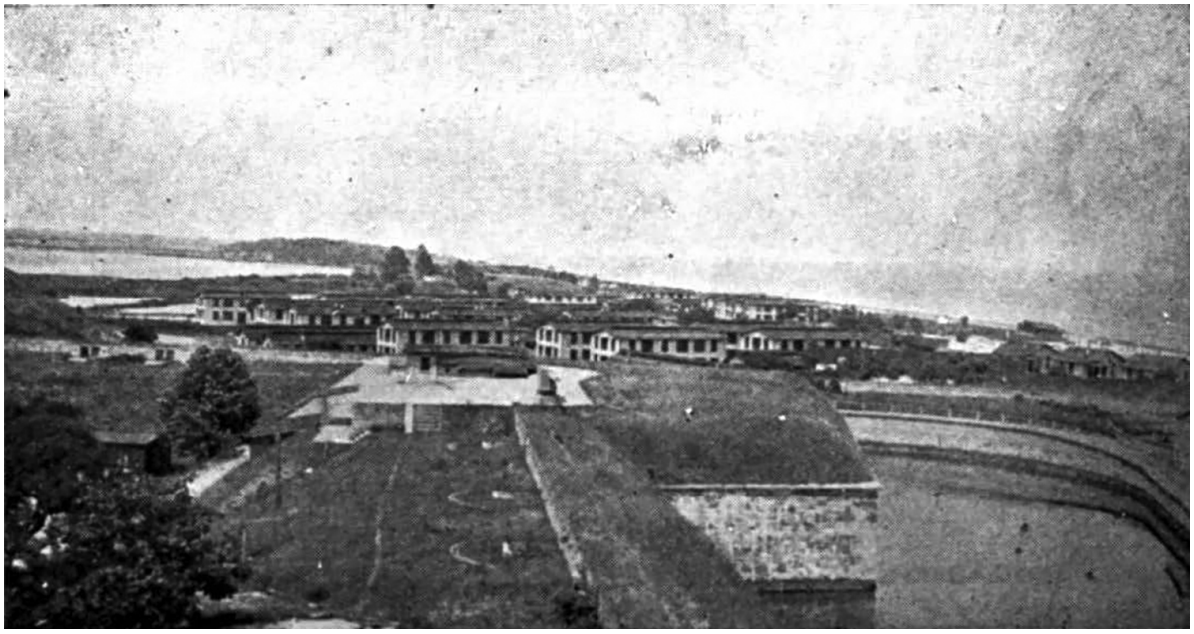


Figure 20. In the foreground is the Experimental Battery atop the East Bastion, 1918. In the background are cantonments erected during World War I. ("The History of Fort Monroe.")



Figure 21. View looking northeast at the new residence (#119) for the fort's Commanding General, early 1900s. ("The History of Fort Monroe." From HLI 2010: 34)



Figure 22. View looking southwest at one of the new Coastal Artillery School buildings along Ingalls Road, 1910-1920. (NARA. From HLI 2010: 33)



Figure 23. View looking northeast at a brick sidewalk crossing the parade ground, c.1884. In the background (left to right) is a structure that would be razed for a new barracks (#139) in 1909, one of the Sub-Tuileries residences (#3) prior to its renovations in c.1910, and the rear of Quarters No.1-Building #1. (Fort Monroe Cultural Resources)



Figure 24. View looking northwest across the parade ground towards the Old Main Barracks (#5), c.1900. Note the trees in the foreground and edging the parade ground in front of the barracks. (NARA)

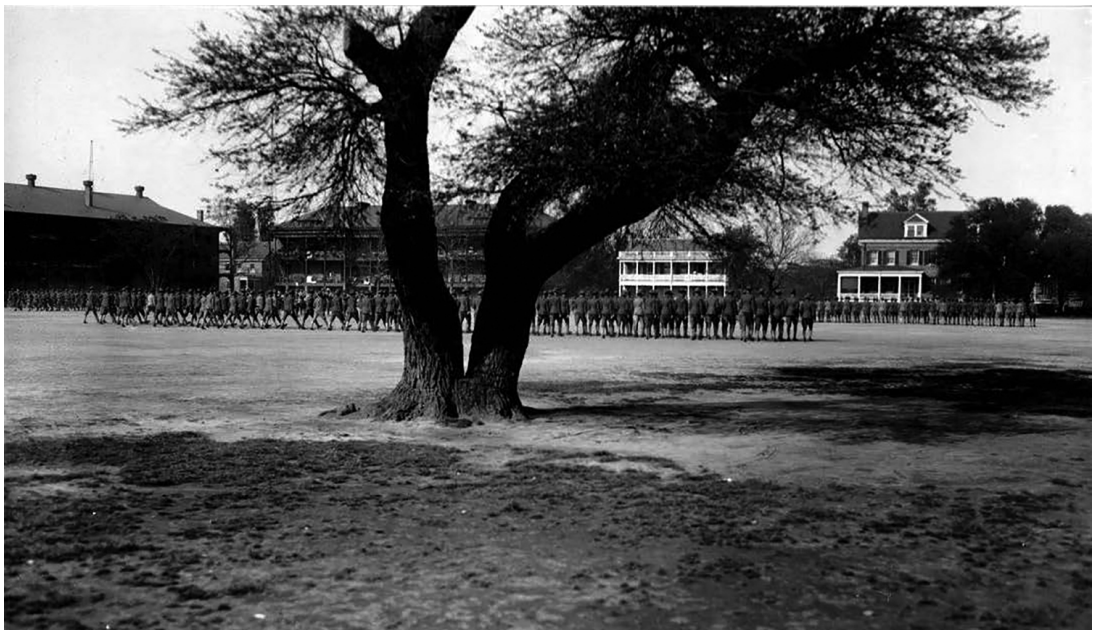


Figure 25. View looking northeast at a live oak near the edge the parade ground, c.1918. In the background (left to right) is a Old Main Barracks (#5), barracks (#139), one of the Sub-Tuileries residences (#3) after its renovations, and a duplex residence (#126). (NARA)

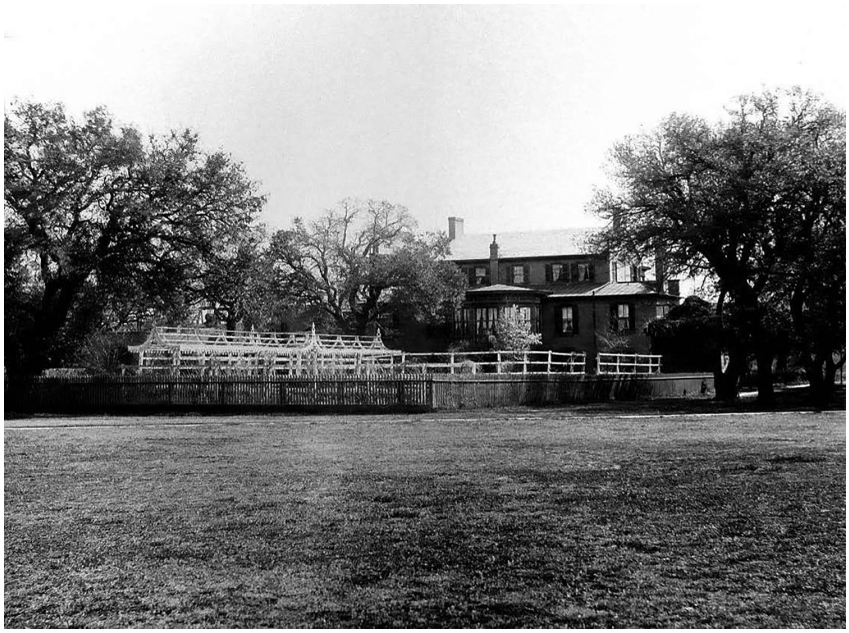


Figure 26. View looking east at the picket fencing abutting the parade ground, behind Quarters No.1-Building #1, c.1900. (Fort Monroe Cultural Resources)



Figure 27. Stereoscopic view of ordinance displays, 1907. This view looking northwest may be between Quarters No.1-Building #1 and the duplex residence (#50), at the site of where another duplex residence (#127) would be built in 1909. (Library of Congress)



Figure 28. View looking east at ordinance and weapons displayed at Cannon Park, and the Post Headquarters (#77), after 1894. In the background is the fort's main gate and sally port (#48). (Casemate Museum)

WORLD WAR I TO WORLD WAR II (1917–1945)

Although its Endicott era installations had become obsolete, Fort Monroe still served critical roles in guarding Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads and training and housing military personnel. During

the interwar years the army added almost 100 acres of land to the peninsula by dredging Mill Creek, creating space north and west of the fort for new housing, maintenance, and recreational facilities, as well as a landing strip. The Coastal Artillery School went through many iterations, eventually becoming the national Coast Artillery School Training Center.

Wartime Facilities:
In the years leading up to the First World War, the army had begun expanding the land mass of Old Point Comfort, dredging and depositing fill from Mill Creek to created buildable areas northwest of Fort Monroe and in the areas just northwest of the fort, especially around Batteries Humphries, Barber, and Bomford. By 1922, more land was added north of the fort, requiring the army to extend the inlet of the sluice to the new shoreline (Figure 29).

By 1918 some of these new lands were developed with housing and training facilities for soldiers (see Figure 20). Companies from Fort Monroe were also garrisoned at Cape Henry, Fisherman's Island, and Fort Wool, and some reported to Washington D.C. to act as service guards for the capital. As for defenses, Fort Monroe mounted an anti-aircraft gun on Battery Parrot, as the Endicott era weapons had become obsolete due to the increased range and accuracy of naval weaponry and the advent of aircraft. The army also placed a submarine net between it and Fort Wool, and constructed a Mine Control Room (#217) in 1921 at the Southeast Bastion. (NR 2014: Sec.7: 2)

The number of officer candidates at Fort Monroe increased significantly during this period. Unlike the Civil War, during World War I the Coastal Artillery School did not cease operation, instead evolving into the primary training center for the Coast Artillery Corps. As a result, by early 1918 Fort Monroe was at its capacity. On July 30, 1918, Fort Monroe established the Coast Artillery School Training Center, but on November 11, 1918 activities were halted with the Armistice. The only new structure built adjacent to the fort around this time was a residence (#158) on Ingalls Road, across from the school. (NR 2014: Sec.7: 2)

In 1927 another nationwide building program was initiated to upgrade living conditions at army posts. As part of this program, twenty-two Colonial Revival style buildings were constructed north and west of the fort along Ingalls and Tidball Roads, Reeder Circle, McNair Drive, and Pratt and Murray Streets. This housing is located outside of the boundaries of the Fort Area, but two new housing units were constructed within the boundary, near the lighthouse: #33 in 1930 and #64 in 1934. New construction also occurred in the surrounding resort community. In March 1920 the Hotel Chamberlin burned to the ground and a new Chamberlin Hotel, designed by Marcellus Wright, was built on its site in 1928. At nine stories, the hotel was the tallest building on the peninsula and was a popular tourist attraction. (HLI 2010: 81; NR 2014, Sec.7: 9)

In 1933 two hurricanes caused millions of dollars of damage to military facilities and prompted new construction through the Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA). With PWA and WPA funding, new seawall was constructed along the Chesapeake Bay waterfront, from north of the Endicott batteries to the existing seawall along Hampton Roads. PWA and WPA funds also supported the replacement of World War I temporary buildings with permanent construction, as well as new ball fields, tennis courts, and a beach club and pool. Most of this activity occurred in the newly filled land areas north and west of the fort (Figure 30). (HLI 2010: 91-94,97)

During World War II, Fort Monroe oversaw shipping on Hampton Roads and supported the inner minefield and the anti-submarine net and gate, all as part of the headquarters for the Chesapeake Bay Coastal Defense Sector. These duties were among a number of support commands and programs at the fort during the war. In 1941 an Officer Candidate School was established, and although the Coast Artillery School continued training throughout the war, the Replacements and School Command absorbed the school in 1942. The Army Ground Forces incorporated the Coast Artillery Corps during the same year, and in 1943 a light tank unit and members of the Women's Army Corps joined the garrison. In 1945 Fort Monroe became the processing center for reassignment of coast artillery and antiaircraft personnel returning from overseas into harbor defenses. (HLI 2010: 38; NR 2014, Sec.8: 93)

With the increased training and administrative tasks associated with World War II, fort development

continued to focus on areas north of the fort. New construction included temporary wooden barracks, mess halls, classrooms, and supply buildings, as well as an airfield. Mercury Boulevard (US 258) was also constructed across Mill Creek as a military highway linking Fort Monroe to Fort Eustis in Newport News (see Figure 30). Closer to the fort itself, new construction included the Military Affiliated Radio Station (#209) on top of Southeast Bastion in 1943, a telephone building (#182) behind the Post Headquarters in 1945, and a transformer vault (#198) next to Building #50 in 1942. Some of the fort's familiar landscape features were removed during this period; at the end of 1942 a massive war-time scrap drive wiped out most of historic armament displays. (HLI 2010: 22,37,94-97)

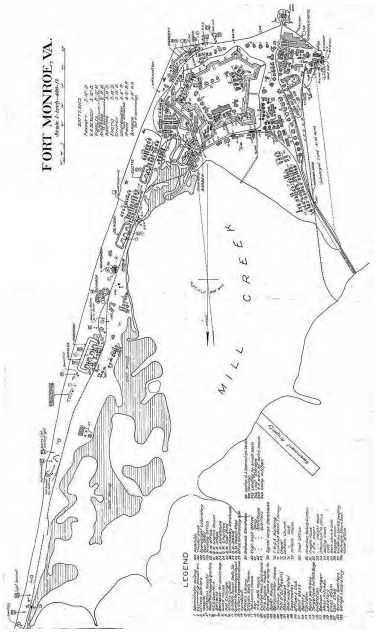


Figure 29. "Fort Monroe, VA," 1922. (NARA. From HLI 2010: 68)



Figure 30. Oblique aerial of Fort Monroe and fill areas (in white) along Mill Creek, new buildings north of the fort, and the new Mercury Boulevard accessing the peninsula (image top left), 1942. (Fort Monroe Cultural Resources. From HLI 2010: 91)

DEVELOPMENT AFTER WORLD WAR II (1946–2020)

Following World War II, Fort Monroe again experienced growth, mainly in the form of Cold War-era housing in areas north of the fort. Within the fort, Confederate President Jefferson Davis's time at Fort Monroe was memorialized through the development of the Casemate Museum and the Jefferson Davis Memorial Park. Wider recognition of Fort Monroe's history came in the 1960s with its designation as a National Historic Landmark and listing on the National Register of Historic Places. With cessation of military operations in 2011, a series of planning initiatives were instituted to shape the future of Fort Monroe as a public private partnership jointly managed by the state of Virginia through the Fort Monroe Authority and the National Park Service, among others.

New Housing Units:
After World War II, the role of coastal fortifications such as Fort Monroe was deemed obsolete, as the emphasis on air power and aircraft carrier-based strike forces grew and nuclear weapons began to emerge on the world stage. In 1946, the Coast Artillery School was moved to Fort Winfield Scott in San Francisco, but in 1950 it too was deactivated as a separate arm of the military. New development at Fort Monroe was limited through the early 1950s, but the post again became headquarters for several major commands of the US Army, including the Continental Army Command in 1955. The new roles created an influx of officers in need of housing. (HLI 2010: 38-39)

In 1953, Wherry housing units were constructed on the bay side of the peninsula, stretching from the fort northward to just beyond Battery Church. The Wherry housing program was the first major privatized effort to provide housing needs for service men and women on US military bases. At Fort Monroe, the sprawling complex provided 206 housing units in 53 buildings, and required the removal of Batteries Montgomery and Eustis. These buildings were generally designed as two-story, rectangular duplex or quadriplex block residences, with brick walls and a gabled or hipped roof. (HLI 2010: 39; NR 2014: Sec.7: 10 and Sec.8: 93)

Recognition of the Fort's History:
Fort Monroe became the site of two memorialization efforts in the 1950s. In 1951 the Casemate Museum opened to the public to highlight the cell that held Confederate President Jefferson Davis during his imprisonment at Fort Monroe after the Civil War. Located in Building #20, the casement was restored to illustrate the typical living quarters of both prisoners and soldiers. In 1955 a 500-foot section of the terreplein was designated as the Jefferson Davis Memorial Park. A fifty-foot tall wrought iron archway was gifted from the United Daughters of the Confederacy to mark the park entrance at the South Bastion. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 2,62)

In December 1960 the Fort Area, along with around 400-acres encompassing the southern two-thirds of the Old Point Comfort peninsula, was designated as a National Historic Landmark for its role in the military history of the United States. In 1966 the same area was listed on the National Register of Historic Places with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. The NHL boundary was increased in 2015 to 565 acres, which added the northern one-third of Old Point Comfort and identified additional areas of historical significance.

In 2019 Virginia Governor Ralph Northam requested the removal of the Jefferson Davis Memorial Park Arch, stating in a letter to a member of the Fort Monroe Authority Board of Trustees that it was "critical" to address the issue before a series of events this month concerning the 400th commemoration of the arrival of the first enslaved Africans. The board subsequently voted unanimously in favor of the arch's removal, but it was later determined that the removal of the entire arch would potentially damage the adjacent historic resources. In August of that year the decision was made to remove the lettering from the arch and place them with an existing Jefferson Davis exhibit inside the Casemate Museum. (Dixon and Green 2019)

Facility Updates:
Between the end of World War II and the 1980s, only one structure was built within the Fort Area: a workshop/garage (#T-216) behind the Commanding General's residence (#119) in 1954. Elsewhere, in 1959 the Officers' Club was moved from the Flagstaff Bastion to a new building facing the bay called the Officers' Beach Club, on North Beach between Batteries Ruggles and Church. Around the same time Casemate 21 was renovated into the Education Center and now serves as the Chapel Center. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 15)

For the next few decades, many buildings were renovated and repurposed to serve changing military functions. Between 1987 and 1988 a number of new garages (#s 40, 41, 71, 76, 78, 122, 223, 229, 238, 240, 478, 479) were constructed, both inside and outside the fortification walls to support military and maintenance needs on the post. The most recent addition, a storage structure (#8A) in the Northwest Bastion, dates to 2002. Occasional repairs were also needed, especially after the hurricanes in 1962 and 1972 caused major flooding of buildings and the Parade Ground (Figure 31). In 2003 Hurricane Isabel caused millions of dollars in damage to the fort, the most since 1933. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 54; HLI 2010: 40)

Closure of Fort Monroe and New Partnerships:
In 2005 the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommended the closure and decommissioning of Fort Monroe. The Commission was the congressionally authorized process used by the Department of Defense to reorganize its base structure to more efficiently and effectively support United States armed forces and increase operational readiness. With Fort Monroe slated for closure, the City of Hampton and the Virginia General Assembly established the Fort Monroe Federal Area Development Authority in 2007 to determine the need for municipal services for the area and to develop a reuse plan. Several infrastructure improvement projects were undertaken at the fort, including replacement of sections of seawall in 2009 with a reinforced concrete seawall two feet higher than the previous wall. (NR 2014, Sec.8: 88; https://www.acq.osd.mil/brac)

In 2009 a Programmatic Agreement, pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, was signed by the US Army, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Fort Monroe Federal Area Development Authority, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the National Park Service, committing the Fort Monroe Federal Area Development Authority to preparing a historic preservation manual and design standards to govern restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction and preservation of historic properties and compatible new development consist with the character of the National Historic Landmark district. The two-volume document, “Fort Monroe Historic Preservation Design Standards,” was completed by the company of Hanbury, Evans, Wright, Vlattas and Company in June 2010. On September 15, 2011, Fort Monroe closed as a result of the 2005 BRAC decision. On November 1, 2011, Fort Monroe National Monument was created by the authority exercised by President Barack Obama through his first use of the Antiquities Act and motivated by the community of citizens who care for and about the rich multi-faceted history of Fort Monroe. A Presidential Proclamation established the park as a 325-acre unit of the National Park Service located within the larger National Historic Landmark district. (FD 2015: 3; NR 2014, Sec.8: 88; Review comments, Dance, 28 September 2020)

By 2013 all but one of the Wherry housing units remained on Old Point Comfort. The Fort Monroe Authority was forced to demolish them after they were severely damaged by Hurricanes Isabel in 2003 and Irene in 2011. Some remnant sidewalks marking the locations of the lots and buildings are still visible. (HLI 2010: 39; FD 2015: 13)



Figure 31. View looking east at the flooded parade ground, 1972. (Fort Monroe Cultural Resources. From HLI 2010: 41)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Defense	Arms Storage	Arms Storage	Yes	No	No
Defense	Fortification	Battery (Defense)	Yes	No	No
Funerary	Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	No	No
Domestic (Residential)	Multiple Dwelling	Dormitory (Bunkhouse)	Yes	No	No
Recreation/Culture	Museum (Exhibition Hall)	Exhibit	Yes	Yes	No
Domestic (Residential)	Multiple Dwelling	Family Duplex	Yes	Yes	No
Government	Fire Station	Fire Station	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Formal Garden	Yes	Yes	No
Domestic (Residential)	Hotel (Boarding House)	Hotel (Boarding House)	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Leisure-Passive (Park)	Leisure-Passive (Park)	No	Yes	Yes
Transportation	Water-Related	Lighthouse	Yes	Yes	No
Defense	Military Facility (Post)	Military Facility (Post)	Yes	No	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Yes	Yes	No
Domestic (Residential)	Multiple Dwelling	Multifamily (4+ Units)	Yes	Yes	No
Defense	Fortification	Parade Ground	Yes	Yes	No
Government	Post Office	Post Office	Yes	No	No
Religion	Religious Structure (church)	Religious Structure (Church)	Yes	Yes	No
Transportation	Rail-Related	RR Trackage	Yes	No	No
Transportation	Air-Related	Runway (Helicopter Landing Pad)	Yes	No	No
Education	School	School	Yes	No	No
Domestic (Residential)	Single Family Dwelling	Single Family House	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Sports/Athletic Field	Yes	Yes	No
Education	Training Center	Training Center	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Scenic Landscape	View	No	Yes	No

Public Access:

Public Access: Other Restrictions

Public Access Narrative:

Fort Monroe National Monument is open year-round, seven days a week, for outdoor passive recreation activities, including walking and exploring the grounds, from 5:00 am to midnight. The Casemate Museum is operated by the Commonwealth of Virginia through the Fort Monroe Authority. The museum is open 10:30 am - 4:30 pm, October-April (Tuesday-Sunday) and May-September (daily). It is closed Thanksgiving, December 24, December 25, and January 1. Guided tours for pre-formed groups of 10 or more (and school groups Grade 3 and above) are available.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Landscape characteristics identified for the Fort Area at Fort Monroe National Monument include natural systems and features, spatial organization, land use, topography, buildings and structures, constructed water features, circulation, vegetation, views and vistas, small scale features, and archeological sites. Many of these characteristics include features that contribute to the site's overall historic character. The features that contribute were present during Fort Monroe's period of significance (1819-1960) and retain integrity.

INTEGRITY

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its historical significance. The National Register of Historic Places identifies seven aspects of integrity for historic properties: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. To retain historic integrity, a property must possess several or most of the characteristic aspects of integrity to convey the sense of a particular time and place. An evaluation of the seven aspects of integrity reveals that, despite a number of changes since the period of significance, the cultural landscape of the Fort Area retains its overall historic integrity. Deterioration of some buildings, structures, and landscape features, as well as the presence of several non-contributing, non-compatible features, has affected integrity, but the cultural landscape still conveys its historic significance.

Location:
Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. The Fort Area is comprised of fortifications, buildings, structures, constructed water features, roads, vegetation, and small-scale features that remain in their original locations.

Design:
Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. The overall structural design of the fort, the first and largest of the Third System of Coastal Defenses built in the United States, remains intact. Remnants of the Water Battery northeast of the fort and three Endicott batteries between the Southeast and South Bastions convey their original designs, but Batteries Humphries and Barber are gone. The layout of the Parade Ground space is intact, as is the overall arrangement of buildings, circulation features, and plantings that surrounds it. However, the preponderance of asphalt parking areas, especially on the north side of the Parade Ground in front of Building #5, detracts from the fort's historic design. The roster of historic buildings and circulation features that made the fortification operational are extant and reflect the evolution of military technology and policy through the 141-year period of significance. Despite the removal of some exterior features, the designs of the fort's many buildings and structures document the army's use of standardized plans and incorporation of popular architectural styles.

Setting:
Setting is the physical environment of the cultural landscape. Although Fort Monroe is no longer an active army post, its military infrastructure is intact, from the historic fortress itself to its many associated buildings, structures, objects, and spaces. The Old Comfort Point Lighthouse still stands as a beacon to mariners. The relationship between the Fort Area and the adjacent buildings, shorelines, and waterways remains strong. Although The Chamberlin is no longer a hotel, its presence evokes the time when Old Point Comfort was a resort destination.

Materials:
Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. The stone walls of the fortification and moat, the earthen ramparts and terrepleins, and the concrete forms of the Endicott era batteries are extant, as are most of the brick and wood-framed buildings and concrete and asphalt roads and walks. Although some non-historic materials have been introduced in the Fort Area through contemporary features, in aggregate they do not diminish the overall integrity of materials. The exception to this is the heavy use of asphalt associated with non-historic parking areas. Some of the Fort Area's most important historic materials are the extant southern live oaks trees that ring the Parade Ground and dot the surrounding lawn spaces.

Workmanship:
Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. Though there have incremental changes, most of the Fort Area's extant buildings and structures retain evidence of their original workmanship. This is most evident in thick stone walls of the fort itself. The Main Gate in particular is one of the most prominent and most identifiable features of the fort. The gate stands as a triumphal arch with incised voussoirs and a paneled parapet, and a bronze shield at the keystone. This aspect is evident in other buildings and structures through the patterns of bricks used in walls, arches, and openings.

Feeling:
Feeling is the expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time resulting from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey a property's historic character. The Fort Area's historic character is clearly conveyed through the fortification's thick stone walls and casemates, earthen ramparts and terrepleins, and watered moat. Although the officers and soldiers are gone, the grassy Parade Ground and buildings, walkways, and trees that surround it, evoke the feeling of a military post. This feeling is also present outside of the fort through the ordered rows of military facilities and displays of armaments that stand along Ingalls and Fenwick Roads. Views from the fort to the surrounding residential neighborhoods, beaches and parks, and Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads still convey the historic feeling of a strategic army fort set within a recreational destination.

Association:
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. Although no longer an active military property, the extant historic resources in the Fort Area landscape still convey their connections to the defense and protection of Hampton Roads and the lower Chesapeake Bay, and in particular the US Army's development of the Third System and Endicott coastal defenses and its commitment to artillery training and education.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

The following section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features in the Fort Area, and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic periods (1802, 1819-1960), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. If a feature is non-contributing, it is evaluated as "compatible" (visually congruent with the historic character of the landscape) or "incompatible" (visually incongruent with the historic character of the landscape). Graphics associated with this section are located at the end of the report.

Like the National Register documentation, this CLI uses the army designated building numbers to identify extant contributing and non-contributing resources. For comprehensive information about these resources, please refer to the 2014 "National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form, Fort Monroe (Update and Boundary Increase) by Rebecca Calonico, and the 2011 Fort Monroe Historic Preservation Design Standards, Volume 1 and 2" by Hanbury, Evans, Wright, Vlattas & Company. The numerical system assigned to structures at Fort Monroe was established by the US Army, and are used to identify buildings in the National Register documentation and this CLI.

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Historic and Existing Conditions:
Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation. The suitability of a site to fulfill a purpose or mission is determined in part upon its environmental context. In the case of Old Point Comfort, its southern tip was an ideal location for a navigational beacon, and later a lighthouse, to guide mariners. The peninsula also provided a strategic vantage point overlooking where the James River and the Hampton Roads harbor met the lower Chesapeake Bay. The construction of defenses, beginning with Fort Algernourne in 1609 to Fort Monroe in 1819, were designed to defend these important waterways from foreign enemies. Although advances in military warfare and technology would render the forts obsolete, the peninsula's strategic location warranted the construction of new batteries along the shoreline at the turn of the twentieth century.

The peninsula's size and shape, its unstable sandy soils, and the location of the Chesapeake Bay tidal surge, all affected Fort Monroe's design and contributed to its irregular polygonal shape. The position of the peninsula relative to the water and adjacent landforms was also a factor in the fort's design, as the fort's strongest walls faced south and east, the directions of the perceived threat from enemy navies. Similarly, the detached position of the fort's Water Battery northeast of the fort was designed to repel a possible land attack from the north. The extent of buildable land on the peninsula was initially adequate, but in time the army required additional space to expand operations. In the years before the Civil War, World War I, and World War II, the peninsula was widened north and west of the fort with fill dredged from Mill Creek.

The Old Point Comfort peninsula was densely wooded with pine and oak until the construction of forts began. Among the native trees were southern live oaks (Quercus virginiana), and several were preserved during construction of Fort Monroe. Today, some of these same trees encircle the fort's Parade Ground and are centuries old (see Vegetation section below) (Figure 32).

Natural processes continue to shape Old Point Comfort and are accelerated by storm events and sea level rise. Major hurricanes in 1667, 1749 ,1933, 1962, 1972, 2003, 2011 caused significant damage to natural and man-made features, eroding beaches and damaging infrastructure. The construction of seawalls, groins, and jetties have helped alleviate some of these effects.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 32. View looking southeast at live oaks on the western edge of the parade ground, 2017. (Olmsted Center for Landscape Preserbation [hereafter OCLP], IMG-0270)

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Historic Condition (to 1960):
Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in a landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces. Fort Monroe's spatial characteristics were based on the design guidelines of the Third System of Coastal Defenses as well as local environmental conditions. Beginning in 1819 the army worked on the irregular polygonal-shaped fort, comprised of seven fronts, seven bastions, and a moat covering around sixty-three acres. On the other side of the moat and opposite the East Bastion was the L-shaped Water Battery, its stone walls and earthen redoubt designed to repel a land attack on the fort. When completed in 1836, Fort Monroe's massive stone walls and earthen terrepleins stood in stark contrast to the surrounding flat landform jutting into the Chesapeake Bay.

Many of Fort Monroe's first buildings were temporary wood structures located inside the fort, typically in clusters around the edges of a central open space used as Parade Ground for drills, ceremonies, and recreation. Quarters No.1-Building #1, the fort's first permanent building, was constructed in 1823 at the far east edge of fort, directly aligned with and facing the East Gate. The Parade Ground was graded in 1824, and according to an early plan achieved its rough pentagon shape by 1828, anchored on its east end by the rear of Quarters 1. The next two permanent structures, Buildings #17 and #18 (the Tuileries), were built in 1823 at the far southwest side of the fort, and like Quarters No.1-Building #1 also faced away from the Parade Ground. The first permanent building erected to face the Parade Ground was Building #50, constructed in 1834. Other 2- and 3-story buildings oriented toward the Parade Ground were added through 1911 when Building #157 was completed, the final piece of structures encircling the Parade Ground. The buildings that were not located around the Parade Ground were either oriented toward Bernard

Road, a loop road that tracked along the fort's perimeter, or grouped around shorter roads and workyards that connected to it.

The facades of buildings were not the only features that defined the limits of the Parade Ground space. In time Ruckman Road was constructed along the west edge of the Parade Ground, while the other edges were marked by sidewalks, some of which tracked across the space to connect major buildings, and fences associated with the surrounding residences. Another defining characteristic of the Parade Ground was the mature trees that had been retained when the fort was constructed. Over time the army planted additional trees around the Parade Ground edges, as well as in the lawns that separated the buildings.

Following the Civil War, Fort Monroe's design was deemed no longer adequate to protect against modern ordinance, permitting the army to build beyond the walls and moat. On several occasions, the army added fill north and west of the fort to increase buildable land for new facilities and roads. When the fort's main entrance shifted from the East Gate to the sally port (#48) facing Ingalls Road, the triangular-shaped Cannon Park was created. Ingalls Road and Fenwick Road served as the corridors along which the army erected clusters of military buildings and workyards, which evolved into a network of connecting streets. In a reflection of military hierarchy, the new and prominent residences were built for the Commanding General and other high-ranking officers along Fenwick Road, and featured large yards, deep setbacks, and panoramic views of the bay.

Concurrent with the military's expansion was the construction of hotels, boarding houses, and shops by private developers. By the turn of the twentieth century two large hotels stood along the bay side waterfront, vying for tourists arriving at the adjacent steamship dock, the railroad station on the west shoreline, or by streetcar along Ingalls Road. In the 1920s, only the massive Chamberlin Hotel remained, situated across from Continental Park crisscrossed by walks.

Implementing recommendations of the Endicott Board in the late nineteenth century, the army laid out new defense batteries atop the East and Southeast Bastions, in areas just northeast of the fort, and along much of the bay side of the peninsula. This prompted development of new facilities north of the fort, primarily along an extension of Fenwick Road and the rail lines built to support the batteries. As the twentieth century progressed, development north of fort outpaced development inside the fort, primarily through the construction of over 250 housing units in the 1950s.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Since 1960, the overall spatial layout of the Fort Area has remained essentially the same. The fort's configuration of fronts, bastions, and the moat are unchanged, providing clear separation between the fortification and the surrounding landscape (Figure 33, see Cover). In the middle of the fort is the irregular pentagon shape of the open Parade Ground, surrounded by a mix of paths, roads, parking lots, and 2- and 3-story buildings (Figure 34). The most significant change has occurred in the ring of mature trees around the Parade Ground perimeter, which has been broken by the large parking lots that front the Old Main Barracks (#5).

The main gate is still located on the west side of the fort and fronted by Cannon Park and Ingalls Road (Figure 35). Ingalls Road and Fenwick Road are lined with early twentieth century military quarters and administration buildings, which for the most part form a continuous and evenly-spaced appearance aside from several lots that are now vacant (Figure 36). Anchoring the south and west ends of the two streets is the ten-story Chamberlin building. The many concrete walls and platforms of Endicott era batteries just northeast of the fort are gone, and this area is now grass, but the masonry and earthen remains of the Water Battery stand nearby (Figure 37). Just beyond the Fort Area boundary and continuing north are the ruins of several Endicott batteries, and only one of the 1950s housing units remains, although several streets and sidewalks built for the homes are still present (Figure 38).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Parade Ground	187967	Contributing			Location	239879	Yes
Buildings, Paths, and Trees Surrounding Parade Ground	187968	Contributing					No
Setbacks of Buildings along Ingalls and Fenwick Roads	187969	Contributing					No
Cannon Park	187970	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 33. View looking northwest at the fort, moat, and former army buildings along the Moat Walk, 2017. From left to right are Buildings #s 77, 182, 148, 149, 150, 140, and 90. (OCLP, IMG-0568)



Figure 34. View looking northeast across the parade ground, 2017. (OCLP, IMG-0264)



Figure 35. View looking north at Cannon Park, which marks the fort's main entrance, 2017. Old Rodman guns stand guard at the park's three corners. (OCLP, IMG-0250)



Figure 36. View looking northeast along Fenwick Road and Buildings #142 and #141, 2017. Note the lawns and setbacks. (OCLP, IMG-0641)



Figure 37. View looking southeast at the Water Battery (#240), 2017. Strategically placed across the moat just east of the fort, this battery was intended to thwart an attack by land from the north. (OCLP, IMG-0606)



Figure 38. View looking southeast from the Southeast Bastion toward Fenwick Road and Battery Parrott on the bay side of the peninsula (outside of Fort Area), 2017. (OCLP, IMG-0694)

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Historic Condition (to 1960):
Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction. Old Point Comfort's association with military land uses began in 1609 with the establishment of Fort Algernourne, erected to prevent enemy incursions into the James River and threatening the Jamestown settlement. This fort was followed by "The Fort at Old Point Comfort" in 1632 and Fort George in 1730. Military uses temporarily ended in 1749 when Fort George was lost to a hurricane. In its ruins in 1774 a navigational beacon was erected to guide mariners around the peninsula and nearby shoals, which was replaced by a permanent lighthouse in 1802. Military activity on the peninsula resumed when the lighthouse was captured by the British and used as an observation post in the War of 1812.

In 1819 Fort Monroe was built to defend the lower Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads harbor from enemy attacks, as part of the nation's Third System of Coastal Defenses. The fort served its most direct role in military operations during the Civil War spring campaigns of 1862. It was also an encampment for enslaved people seeking freedom (a direct result of the Contraband Decision made there in 1861), and a field office for the "Freedman's Bureau." In 1867 the army determined the Third System defenses were obsolete, but in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the fort's defense mission was restored with construction of several Endicott Batteries within the fort and along the waterfront. By World War II this technology was also abandoned, and the batteries were removed or fell into disrepair. However, the post became the headquarters for a series of major commands of the US Army.

At the same time Fort Monroe was serving as an active defense post, it was also training and educating military personnel. In 1824 the army established its first service school, the Artillery School of Practice, which endured in various forms and under various names until 1946. After the Civil War, the increasing needs of the school spurned multiple phases of new development, which added permanent and temporary facilities north and west of the fort for classrooms, administrative

offices, housing, and recreation. On several occasions, the army created additional areas of buildable land for these new facilities, which even include an airstrip.

Interspersed among these areas were several hotels, primary built to accommodate tourist but periodically pressed into service as military housing during periods of war. Shops and restaurants followed, and by the turn of the twentieth century the sprawling Chamberlin and Hygeia resort hotels stood along the bay side waterfront, southwest of the fort. In 1902 the Hygeia was razed and the lot became Continental Park, which by 1934 featured a bandstand for concerts. The walkways in the park connected to boardwalks leading to the beaches, enjoyed by tourists and soldiers alike.

One of Fort Monroe's most unique land uses during the historic period was the establishment of a pet cemetery, stretching along the terreplein from the Southwest (Flagstaff) Bastion to just west of the North Gate. The cemetery was established in the early twentieth century and included burials from families living on the post and from civilians in the surrounding areas. Many of the graves were marked with inscribed stones or plaques.

In the 1950s other commemorative land uses were introduced. In 1951 the Casemate Museum opened in Casemate 20 to showcase the cell that held Confederate President Jefferson Davis from 1865 to 1867. The museum also depicted the typical living quarters experienced by prisoners and soldiers housed within its walls. In 1955 a 500-yard section of the terreplein centered on the South Bastion was designated as Jefferson Davis Memorial Park and marked by a wrought iron archway gifted by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The park and archway commemorated Davis, who reportedly walked along the terreplein.

In 1953 significant land use changes occurred north and east of the Fort Area with the construction of a sprawling housing complex. Some 250 housing units and related facilities were built along an extension of Fenwick Road and several new roads, and abutting the old airfield and Endicott batteries. Known as the Wherry Housing Program, the homes were part of a nationwide program to expand and improve military housing.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
After 1960 and until the post's decommissioning in 2011, educational and training were the predominant activities at Fort Monroe. The same year the post closed, Fort Monroe National Monument was established. Today the Fort Area is one of two units of Fort Monroe National Monument, managed jointly between the NPS and the Fort Monroe Authority, a public-private partnership established through the Virginia General Assembly. The development of the park is shaped by the Fort Monroe Master Plan, approved by the Governor of Virginia on December 11, 2015. For the Fort Area, the plan proposes mixed residential, cultural, educational, and recreational uses, and preserves several historic land uses that are still extant, including the pet cemetery, Casemate Museum, and Jefferson Davis Memorial Park (Figures 39, 40).

Within the Fort Area is property owned in fee simple by the NPS – Quarters No.1-Building #1, Building #17, Building #50, and the Parade Ground – used for administrative, programmatic, and recreational purposes. The Old Comfort Point Lighthouse is still an active navigation aid maintained by the US Coast Guard. Just outside of the Fort Area is the former Chamberlin Hotel, now a senior residential community. The park's North Beach Area provides opportunities for swimming, boating, fishing, camping, and organized sports. (FD 2015: 4)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Pet Cemetery	187971	Contributing					No
Jefferson Davis Memorial Park	187972	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 39. View looking southwest from near the West Bastion, at grave markers in the pet cemetery, 2017. In the background at image right is the top of The Chamberlin. (OCLP, IMG-0537)



Figure 40. View looking southeast at the archway atop the South Bastion that marks the entrance to the Jefferson Davis Memorial Park, 2017. Note: In 2019 the Fort Monroe Authority had the letters on the arch removed. (OCLP, IMG-0677)

Landscape Characteristic: Topography

Historic Condition (to 1960):
Topography is the three-dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features (such as slope and articulation) and orientation (such as elevation and solar aspect). In contrast to the natural topography of Old Point Comfort, which is generally flat and rises only fourteen feet above mean sea level, significant alterations were made to the local topography to build Fort Monroe beginning in 1819. The army erected earthen rampart walls along the interior of the masonry scarp walls to protect assets in the fort, as well as to provide necessary site lines and clearance for artillery from the terreplein, the top or horizontal surface of the rampart. Conversely, the moat that encircled the fortification was excavated to a depth of about eight feet. On the other side of the moat, an earthwork berm formed part of the Water Battery at the southern end of the counterscarp. From 1897-1906, Endicott era concrete batteries were constructed north and east of the fort and bermed with earth to both conceal the structures and protect them from explosion. Within the Fort Area, this included Batteries Humphries and Barber. On several occasions during the historic period, the army added fill north and west of the Fort Area to created buildable land, generally to the same elevation as the surrounding topography.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
There have been few changes to the historic topography since 1960. The massive earth ramparts within the fort are extant, rising approximately fifteen feet above the ground plane, and the excavated moat is intact, although siltation has reduced its depth to around three feet (Figure 41, see Figure 33). Earthen berms associated with the Water Battery (#216) are present, but none associated with Batteries Humphries and Barber, or with Battery Bomford just to the north, remain (see Figure 37). Batteries Parrot and Irwin just east of the Fort Area still feature berms, but they are now partially covered in vegetation that blocks views to the water (see Figure 38). There are several small rounded and elongated berms in the southeast, southwest, and northwest portions of the Parade Ground (Figure 42). Their purpose is unknown, but they may have been built to assist with drainage or as a base to display military armament that began in the nineteenth century.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Earthen Ramparts	187973	Contributing					No
Earthen Berms, Water Battery	187974	Contributing					No
Earthen Berms in Parade Ground	187975	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 41. View looking north at earthen ramparts just north of the main gate, 2017. Building #9 is in the background. (OCLP, IMG-0561)



Figure 42. Earthen berm in the southeast corner of the parade ground, 2017. Note the mature live oaks. (OCLP, IMG-0358)

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic Condition (to 1960):
Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape,
while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity. At military installations, the design of buildings and structures is often influenced by changes in technology, as well as the mission, policy, construction standards, and stylistic preferences of the military branch that they serve. At Fort Monroe, these factors shaped physical development for more than one hundred and forty years. Regarding technology, the fortification design of the Third System of Coastal Defenses met perceived maritime threats for around fifty years, from 1819-1867, before it was deemed obsolete. Thirty years later, the dispersed system of Endicott Batteries lasted about fifty years, from 1896-1946, before it too was determined as outdated.

Army policy decisions aimed at improving military housing and expanding educational buildings also dictated the use and form of Fort Monroe's buildings and structures. Standardized building designs and construction methodologies were established by the Quartermaster General's Office to replace substandard quarters and facilities. Facilities were also influenced by stylistic preferences during the period in which they were constructed. With exception of the fort and lighthouse, the majority of the extant buildings located within the Fort Area were constructed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as part of army's decisions to improve housing and training infrastructure. A brief chronology of buildings and structures at Fort Monroe follows, organized by the same time period as presented in the Physical History chapter.

Colonial Period (1607-1818).
The Old Point Comfort Lighthouse was built in 1802 with hand-cut stone. The octagonal stone tower stood fifty-eight feet high, and featured an interior stone spiral staircase. Ten oil lanterns were set in reflectors to produce a light that could be seen from fourteen miles away. It is the oldest extant structure at Fort Monroe the oldest continually operating lighthouse on the Chesapeake Bay.

Federal Period (1819–1860).
Following the War of 1812, the area just north of the lighthouse was chosen as the location of a new fort, part of the nation's Third System of Coastal Defenses. Designed by French engineer Brigadier General Simon Bernard, the brick, granite, and earthen casemated fortification was a seven-bastioned work with seven fronts, enclosing about sixty-three acres of land and surrounded by an eight-foot deep moat. The fortification was not a perfect septagon due to several factors: the seaward fronts were longer than the landward fronts; the southern face, containing the second and third fronts, was the longest; and quicksand was discovered and avoided on the west side of the fort. The fort featured four casemates, which were fortified vaulted brick structures inside the fort walls from which guns were fired. At Fort Monroe, the casemates were designed to concentrate artillery in the first, second, third, and fourth fronts, which overlooked the Hampton Roads harbor and lower Chesapeake Bay. Casements in the first, second, and third fronts were stacked in tiers, while the fourth front casemate was designed to be solid and the most structurally sound because it directly faced the bay. The remaining three fronts were not related to seaward defense, but the fifth front was used to cover the land approach from the beach and protect the Water Battery (#217), a casemated structure that was part of the fort's outer works opposite the East Bastion. Holding 380 gun mounts and over 2,600 men in time of war, Fort Monroe was deemed close to impregnable from both land and sea.

Construction of Fort Monroe began in 1819 and continued until around 1836. Named features included the Casemate for Powder Storage (#2), Jefferson Davis Casemate/Casemate Museum (First Front) (#20), Chapel Center Casemate (Second Front) (#21), Third Front (#22), Old Bakery Casemate (#23), Old Guard House or Sally Port (#48), Water Battery (#216), Flagstaff Bastion (Southwest Bastion), East Gate, North Gate, Postern Gate, moat, and boat launch. Initial

construction was not limited to the fort itself, as many temporary living quarters, workshops, and storage sheds were constructed both inside and outside of the fort walls.

While construction was beginning on the fortification, the army completed the first permanent building, Quarters 1, in 1819 at the far east edge of the Parade Ground. The symmetrical, two-story block, Federal-style residence sat atop an English basement, with wings at both the northwest and southwest ends. Quarters 1 was sited prominently on an axis with the East Gate, its façade facing a front garden designed with a low stone wall and hedge in a half circular pattern. This wall first appears on an 1828 map, and may date to 1825. In 1823, Buildings #17 and #18, three-story, Federal style, multi-family residences were built at the southwest corner of the fort, facing Casemate 20. Called the "Tuileries," after the French royal residence, these buildings were designed to house eight bachelor officers. The thick brick walls, raised living floors, and "dog-house" dormers that adorned these quarters were all products of a southern architectural tradition. All three building reflected the prevalent building methods, which favored red brick and slate on rectangular forms, and porches running the length of the elevation and over-hanging the above-ground basements. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 3; Review comments, Brooks, 16 July 2020)

Building construction increased considerably during the 1830s through 1860s, but much of it was temporary, and like earlier temporary buildings most was eventually razed or replaced. Two notable exceptions were Buildings #50 and #166. Building #50 was a military residence originally constructed as a duplex in 1834 on the south side of the Parade Ground. The two-story, Classical Revival style, residence was the first building oriented to face the Parade Ground. Building #166 was a nondenominational church built in 1857. Originally named "Church of the Centurion" and now known as "Chapel of the Centurion," the church was commissioned by a survivor of an arsenal explosion at the fort a few years earlier. The Gothic Revival style church was constructed at the far southwest corner of the Parade Ground. (Review comments, Brooks, 16 July 2020)

Civil War (1861–1865).
Buildings constructed at Fort Monroe during the Civil War supported wartime needs. None were intended to be permanent, and they were demolished shortly following the war.

New Construction and Expansion (1866–1916).
Following the Civil War, the army instituted massive cuts in military spending, essentially halting development at Fort Monroe for the next ten years. It was not until a nationwide building program aimed at improving living conditions at army posts that new construction resumed. This effort also launched the use of standardized quartermaster plans and the construction of duplexes as a form of army housing. In 1872 Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs published standardized building plans that were cost-efficient and helped address the need for cheaper, more hygienic housing. The army experimented with duplexes to increase space for officers while retaining levels of privacy that were not sufficient in apartment units. One of the most commonly constructed building plans was the T-shaped duplex. The Quartermaster Corps oversaw the work and approved all plans for housing units as well as other facilities, which tended to be simplified versions of Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Italianate, Romanesque Revival, and other popular styles. New construction in the Fort Area during this period occurred both within the fort's walls, and beginning in 1881, outside of the walls.

New facilities inside of the fort included: two, two-story homes for colonels (#3, #16, the Sub-Tuileries) and one-story servant's quarters/storage (#T-28) in 1875; a two-story duplex quarters for colonels (#15) in 1878; the three-story Old Main Barracks (#5) in 1879; two, two-story quarters for colonels (#14, #19) and two-story library (#7) in 1880; a one-story guardhouse/storehouse (#8) in 1887; two, two-and-a-half-story duplex quarters for colonels (#62, #63) in 1889; a one-story general purpose building (#84) and one-story bathhouse (#85) in 1898; a one-story boiler house (#6) and two-and-a-half-story main guardhouse (#9) in 1900; two, one-story general purpose buildings (#46, #47) in 1901; a three-and-a-half-story barracks (#10) in 1902; a one-story bakery (#53) in 1904; a two-story storehouse (#117) in 1906; a two-story post exchange/general purpose building (#105), one-story annex (#105A), and three, two-and-a-half-story duplex quarters for colonels (#126, #127, #128) in 1909; a three-and-a-half-story barracks (#139) and one-story wireless station (#49) in 1909; and two, two-story duplex quarters for non-commissioned officers (#155, #156), two-and-a-

half-story duplex quarters (#157), and one-story barracks/administration (#159) in 1911. In total, 31 buildings were constructed within the fort.

New facilities outside of the fort included: a two-story firehouse (#24) in 1881; a two-story quarters for a colonel (#55) in 1886; a two-story Keeper's House (#60) and three officers' quarters for colonels (#65, #66, #67) in 1890; a two-story post headquarters (#77) in 1894; a two-story post office (#83) in 1898; a two-story quarters for the steward (#90) in 1900; a two-and-a-half-story YMCA (#171) in 1903; a two-story residence for the Commanding General (#119) and two-and-a-half-story officers' quarters (#120) in 1907; a two-and-a-half-story officers' quarters (#118) in 1908; a two-and-a-half-story duplex (#121), two-and-a-half-story duplex for colonels (#123), two-story library/general purpose building for the school (#138, Wisser Hall), and two-story duplex for non-commissioned officers (#140) in 1909; two, two-story officers' quarters (#141, #142), two-story quarters for a colonel (#146), and one-story quarters (#147) in 1910; three, two-story duplexes for non-commissioned officers (#148, #149, #150) in 1911; and a two-and-a-half-story quarters (#158) in 1919. In total, 22 buildings were constructed outside the fort.

Concurrent with work on new post buildings was the construction of Endicott Batteries at Fort Monroe from 1897 to 1906. Unlike the concentrated position of armaments in the Third System, the dispersed locations of emplacements in the Endicott system represented the evolution of technology and ideas concerning coastal protection. The army constructed fifteen batteries along the bay side of the Old Comfort Point peninsula, and five were located within the Fort Area. Three of the batteries were placed on the fort itself. The Experimental Battery was completed in 1900 along the terreplein in the East Bastion, and featured a concrete foundation and walls that formed two large bays supporting a set of experimental 10-inch M1896 guns. This battery was often mistakenly identified as Battery Gatewood, another Endicott battery located in the same area, but closer to the East Gate along the terreplein (Front #4). Battery Gatewood held four 4.7-inch Armstrong guns, while adjacent Battery Parapet that stretched from the Southeast Bastion to the South Bastion, held four 8-inch barbette guns. Both Gatewood and Parapet were completed in 1898. Just to the north of the fort and alongside the moat were Batteries Humphries and Barber, completed in 1897 and 1898, respectively. Humphries held a 10-inch disappearing gun and Barber held an 8-inch barbette gun. Immediately adjacent to Battery Barber was Battery Bomford, completed the previous year (outside of Fort Area). Lastly, a single 8-inch barbette gun was installed in the Water Battery (#216) in 1897.

World War I to World War II (1917–1945).
Approximately 250 temporary buildings were constructed during World War I on the grounds of Fort Monroe. In the years immediately following the conflict, aside from the addition of a one-story Mine Control Room (#217) in the Southeast Bastion in 1921, another period of fiscal cuts suspended permanent construction until 1927. When construction resumed, non-structural ornamentation was minimized as it was viewed as impractical and unnecessary. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 5)

Starting in 1927, the army initiated another nationwide building program to upgrade living conditions for officers, enlisted men, and non-commissioned officers. Two housing units for non-commissioned officers were erected on either side of the lighthouse complex – a two-story multi-family quarters (#33) in 1930 and a two-story single-family quarters (#64) in 1934 – but most other construction was directed to newly filled land areas north and west of the Fort Area. The twenty-two new buildings there featured Colonial Revival designs, the style that the Quartermaster Corps incorporated in many East Coast bases at this time.

During the Great Depression in the 1930s, additional development was undertaken with funding from the Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), providing jobs to unemployed workers. Hurricanes in August and September of 1933 caused millions of dollars in damages to buildings, artillery, equipment, and the railroad trestle at the tip of the peninsula. This prompted more construction, which included a new seawall along the bay side of the peninsula, and additional non-commissioned officer housing, mainly north of the Fort Area.

During World War II, the army erected another round of temporary barracks, mess halls, classrooms, and supply buildings. The new construction primarily occupied the abandoned

Batteries Humphries and Barber sites and extended north, beyond the Fort Area. Within the fort new construction was limited to three structures, a transformer shed (#198) in 1942 next to Building #50, a telephone exchange building (#182) in 1945 next to Building #77, and the Military Affiliated Radio Station (MARS) (#209) in 1943 atop the Southeast Bastion. The three-story MARS signal station was designed by the architecture firm of Beddow, Gerber & Wharples in the International style. After the war most temporary buildings were removed and the Endicott Batteries were officially decommissioned.

Development after World War II (1946–1960).
In the 1950s, the only new structure erected within the Fort Area was a one-story workshop (#T-216) located behind Building #119. In 1951 Casemate 20 was rehabilitated and opened to the public as the Casemate Museum to interpret the imprisonment of Confederate President Jefferson Davis. Another period of military housing development, known as the Wherry Housing Program, began in 1953, but it was located just east and north of the Fort Area. The 53 two-story, rectangular duplex or quadriplex block residences required the removal of Batteries Montgomery and Eustis. In the late 1950s, porches were removed from Buildings #s 5, 9, 21 22, 48, 117 when the buildings were converted to other uses.

Post Historic and Existing Conditions:
The roster of permanent buildings and structures that existed in the Fort Area in 1960 is mostly unchanged, except for the removal of three duplex officers' quarters (#65, #66, #67) along Ingalls Road in 2004 (Figures 43, 44, 45, 46). New construction within the fort has been limited to five small garages (#41, #78, #240, #478, #479) erected in 1987 and a storage shed (#8A) in 2002. Outside of the fort, six small garages (#40, #71, #76, #223, #229, #238) were also built in 1987. A garage (#94) erected in 1988 behind Building #158 was removed after 2011. There has been new building construction north of Fort Area, including a new Officers' Club. Only one of the many Wherry housing units is extant, although some sidewalks and streets remain from the development.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Experimental Battery	187976	Contributing					No
Old Point Comfort Lighthouse	197090	Contributing					No
The Flagstaff Bastion (Southwest Bastion)	197092	Contributing					No
#1: Military Residential/Quarters (Quarters No.1-Building #1)	197095	Contributing	1142499		Location	239878	Yes
#2: Casemate for Powder Storage	197139	Contributing					No
#3: Military Residential/Quarters (Sub-Tuileries)	197143	Contributing					No
#5: Administration Bldg. (Old Main Barracks)	197159	Contributing					No
#6: Administration Bldg. (Boiler House)	197164	Contributing					No
#7: Administration Bldg. (Library)	197169	Contributing					No

#8: Administration Bldg. (Guardhouse/Storehouse)	197173	Contributing					No
#8A: Storage	197177	Noncontributing					No
#9: Administration Bldg. (Main Guardhouse)	197179	Contributing					No
#10: Administration Bldg. (Barracks)	197184	Contributing					No
#14: Administration Bldg. (Quarters)	197185	Contributing					No
#15: Military Residential/ Quarters	197188	Contributing					No
#16: Military Residential/ Quarters (Sub-Tuileries)	197189	Contributing					No
#17: Military Residential/Quarters (Tuileries, Lee's Quarters)	197195	Contributing	976948		Location	239881	Yes
#18: Military Residential/Quarters (Tuileries)	197198	Contributing					No
#19: Military Residential/Quarters	197200	Contributing					No
#20: The Jefferson Davis Casemate (Casemate Museum) (First Front)	197202	Contributing					No
#21: The Chapel Center Casemate (Second Front)	197203	Contributing					No
#22: The Third Front Casemate	197205	Contributing					No
#23: The Old Bakery Casemate	197207	Contributing					No
#24: Administration Bldg. (Firehouse)	197214	Contributing					No
#33: Military Residential/Quarters	197216	Contributing					No
#40: Garage	197226	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#41: Garage	197230	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#46: Administration Bldg. (General Purpose)	197274	Contributing					No
#47: Administration Bldg. (General Purpose)	197277	Contributing					No
#48 (the Main Gate): The Old Guard House or Sally Port	197279	Contributing					No
#49: Administration Bldg. (Wireless Station)	197283	Contributing					No
#50: Military Residential/Quarters	197290	Contributing	1102898		Location	239880	Yes

#53: Administration Bldg. (Bakery)	197293	Contributing					No
#55: Military Residential/Quarters	197298	Contributing					No
#60: Military Residential/Quarters (Lighthouse Keeper's House)	197301	Contributing					No
#62: Military Residential/Quarters	197303	Contributing					No
#63: Military Residential/Quarters	197307	Contributing					No
#64: Military Residential/Quarters	197311	Contributing					No
#71: Garage	197314	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#76: Garage	197320	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#77: Administration Bldg. (Post Headquarters)	197322	Contributing					No
#78: Garage	197328	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#83: Administration Bldg. (Post Office)	197330	Contributing					No
#84: Administration Bldg. (General Purpose)	197333	Contributing					No
#85: Administration Bldg. (Bathhouse)	197336	Contributing					No
#90: Military Residential/Quarters	197338	Contributing					No
#105: Administration Bldg. (Post Exchange/General Purpose)	197346	Contributing					No
#105A: Administration Bldg. (Annex)	197350	Contributing					No
#117: Administration Bldg. (Storehouse)	197353	Contributing					No
#118: Military Residential/Quarters	197357	Contributing					No
#119: Military Residential/Quarters (Commanding General's Quarters)	197407	Contributing					No
#120: Military Residential/Quarters	197413	Contributing					No
#121: Military Residential/Quarters	197418	Contributing					No
#122: Garage	197421	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

#123, Military Residential/Quarters	197424	Contributing					No
#126: Military Residential/Quarters	197428	Contributing					No
#127: Military Residential/Quarters	197432	Contributing					No
#128: Military Residential/Quarters	197435	Contributing					No
#138: Administration Bldg. (Library/General Purpose-Wisser Hall)	197436	Contributing					No
#139: Administration Bldg. (Barracks)	197443	Contributing					No
#140: Military Residential/Quarters	197446	Contributing					No
#141: Military Residential/Quarters	197451	Contributing					No
#142: Military Residential/Quarters	197454	Contributing					No
#146, Military Residential/Quarters	197458	Contributing					No
#147, Military Residential/Quarters	197462	Contributing					No
#148, Military Residential/Quarters	197466	Contributing					No
#149, Military Residential/Quarters	197468	Contributing					No
#150, Military Residential/Quarters	197471	Contributing					No
#155: Military Residential/Quarters	197475	Contributing					No
#156: Military Residential/Quarters	197477	Contributing					No
#157: Military Residential/Quarters	197479	Contributing					No
#158: Military Residential/Quarters	197481	Contributing					No
#159: Administration Bldg. (Barracks/General Purpose)	197486	Contributing					No
#166: Chapel of the Centurion	197494	Contributing					No
#171: Administration Bldg. (YMCA)	197495	Contributing					No
#182: Administration Bldg. (Telephone Exchange)	197502	Contributing					No
#198: Transformer Shed	197508	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#209: MARS Signal Station	197520	Contributing					No

#216: Water Battery (remnant)	197527	Contributing					No
#217: Administration Bldg. (Mine Control Room)	197536	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#223: Garage	197542	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#229: Garage	197548	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#238: Garage	197554	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#240: Garage	197556	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#478: Garage	197557	Contributing					No
#479: Garage	197559	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
#T-28: Support Building (Servant's Quarters/Storage)	197560	Contributing					No
#T-216: Workshop	197564	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 43. View looking northwest at the Old Comfort Point Lighthouse, the oldest structure in the Fort Area. In the foreground is Building #64, and in the background is Building #60 (Keeper's House). (OCLP, IMG-0633)



Figure 44. View looking northwest at Quarters No.1-Building #1, 2017. Note the formal hedges surrounding the building and the intersection between Bernard Road and the East Gate. (OCLP, IMG-0717)



Figure 45. View looking north at Buildings #18 (image left), #17, and #16 from the Southwest (Flagstaff) Bastion, 2017. Sidewalks and lawns dotted with trees and shrubs are typical in the Fort Area. (OCLP, IMG-0670)



Figure 46. View looking northeast at the Experimental Battery atop the East Bastion, 2017. (OCLP, IMG-0350)

Landscape Characteristic: Constructed Water Features

Historic Condition (to 1960):
Constructed water features are built features and elements that utilize water for aesthetic or utilitarian functions in the landscape. The moat at Fort Monroe served as a water barrier between the fortification and its outlying defenses, and was one of the few constructed for Third System fortifications. Excavation of the moat began in 1821 and the granite walls were completed in the 1830s. The moat's width varied from 50 to 250 feet, while the average depth of water was eight feet. The moat was watered by Mill Creek, and as such was tidal.

A granite walled ramp was built into the fort's northeast counterscarp where boats could be launched into the moat. One such boat, the Maid of the Moat, provided access to a porch that extended into the moat from the Southeast (Flagstaff) Bastion when it served as an Officers' Club in the late twentieth century. The boat launch also functioned as a sluice that connected to Mill Creek, even after the construction of Endicott era batteries in the area. After the army filled land in this area in the 1930s, this moat-creek connection was severed. A 1904 plan suggests there was also a connection between the moat and creek opposite the Northwest Bastion. (HLI 2010: 54)

Other constructed water features included cisterns that were dug within the fort to supply potable water. A cistern appeared on the fort's 1928 plan, located on the earth ramparts of the West Bastion. According to an 1834 map, other cisterns had been dug within the fort. There were also multiple buildings that had cisterns built below grade in their basements. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 16; Review comments, Brooks, 16 July 2020)

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The configuration of the moat is unchanged, although siltation and sedimentation has reduced its depth. The water area of the moat is approximately nineteen acres and it is connected to Mill Creek via piping which allows passive tidal exchange through sluice gates. The boat ramp is extant, as is the cistern in the West Bastion, which is marked by brick circular walls and granite wing walls and steps (Figures 47, 48). (Lookingbill et.al. 2018: 59)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
The Moat	187977	Contributing					No
Boat Ramp	187978	Contributing					No
Cistern	187979	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 47. View looking southwest at the boat ramp, 2017. (OCLP, IMG-0597)



Figure 48. View looking northwest at the cistern located in the West Bastion, 2017. (OCLP, IMG-0533)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Condition (to 1960):
Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. Well before Fort Monroe was constructed, early settlers and colonial governments were inspired to defend and protect transportation on the waterways surrounding Old Point Comfort, erecting several fortifications and eventually a lighthouse. Such was the purpose of Fort Monroe beginning in 1819.

According to an 1828 plan, Fort Monroe originally offered only three access points into the fort, by way of three bridges across its moat: the East Gate, the North Gate, and one near the current Postern Gate. Inside the fort, linear pathways connected the fort's first permanent buildings (Quarters No.1-Building #1, Buildings #17 and #18) to other structures and work yards in the fort. Outside the fort, less formal paths extended from the Postern Gate area to surrounding facilities and wharves. Two of these paths would evolve into what are today the south end of Ingalls Road and west end of Fenwick Road. By the time the fortification was completed in 1836, a fourth gate was built on the west side of the fort (Front 7), an early form of Bernard Road tracked around the interior, and Fenwick Road and Ingalls Road had been extended north and east, respectively. The west gate became the fort's Main Gate, and at the intersection of Ingalls Road and Ruckman Road (Main Gate) the beginnings of the space that would become Cannon Park had formed. By 1869 the park's triangular shape was in place. By 1855 a road or path tracked along the west side of the moat, now known as the Moat Walk.

While roads and paths formed in and around Fort Monroe, steamships and railroads were as critical to both the post's development and other land uses on the peninsula. Steamboats began delivering troops, tourists, and supplies in the 1840s to the many wharves crowding the waterfront, including Baltimore Wharf at the end of Ingalls Road starting in 1862. The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad extended service to the area in the 1860s and provided passenger service from 1881 until 1939. In the 1890s a streetcar line was constructed from Newport News to Baltimore Wharf, via Ingalls Road, accommodating the burgeoning tourist industry. By this time the C&O had built a long trestle on the west end of the peninsula.

To support the dispersed system of Endicott batteries on the bay side of the peninsula, and the temporary training camps adjacent to them, the army built rail lines north and west of the fort, providing a crucial supply link between the batteries and camps and new warehouses and other facilities near the C&O tracks and wharves. When the batteries were abandoned most of the tracks were removed, but some of the rail corridors were repurposed. McNair Drive was built along the alignment of the trestle bridge, and new roads such as Patch Road, Griffith Road, and the northern end of Fenwick Road followed routes of the old tracks.

To improve pedestrian circulation, the army formalized several paths inside the fort in the 1850s, including wide sidewalks across the Parade Ground that connected the West Gate to Quarters 1, and after 1879 to the Old Main Barracks (#5). When new buildings were constructed around the edges of the Parade Ground, the perimeter sidewalks were extended, rerouted, or removed. Just prior to World War I, a wood footbridge was constructed across the moat, connecting the Officers' Club in the Southeast (Flagstaff) Bastion to officers housing along Fenwick Road. By 1920 Ruckman Road was extended from the Main Gate to the South Bastion, thus creating a new edge to the west side of the Parade Ground. Throughout the Fort Area, concrete sidewalks paralleling the various roads extended to the fronts and backs of individual buildings. Some of the walks were defined with bluestone curbs. According to a 1934 map, the sidewalks that crossed the Parade Ground were removed and replaced with an oblong running track, which itself was removed in the 1950s. The footbridge at the Southwest (Flagstaff) Bastion was removed sometime before 1960. (HLI 2010: 54)

The army's development of the Wherry housing area north and east of the Fort Area in the 1950s resulted in several new side streets, including the curved Bomford Lane just northeast of the fort.

Sidewalks lined the streets and accessed individual residences.

Post Historic and Existing Conditions:
The primary roads in the Fort Area that developed during the historic period are intact. Inside the fort, Bernard Road serves as the main road, inscribing the fort's interior and connecting to the North Gate, East Gate, and Main Gate (Ruckman Road), all of which provide vehicular access into the fort (see Figure 44). Ruckman Road, as well as Mathews Lane that was built after 1960, serve as bypasses around the far southwest area of the fort. Several asphalt parking areas have been developed along Bernard Road and Mathews Lane, and most of the buildings in the northern part of the fort are surrounded by paved lots. These parking lots are not visible from the Parade Ground. However, the large parking area that fronts Building #5 is clearly visible. Installed by 1982 and then expanded south into the Parade Ground in 2005, it is the fort's largest parking lot and is a major visual intrusion in the Parade Ground space. Walkways surrounding the Parade Ground, paralleling some of the streets, and accessing individual buildings may be historic, but such an evaluation will require additional research (see Figure 45). The Postern Gate remains in use as a pedestrian-only path, providing direct access between the Casemate Museum and the Moat Walk and Ingalls Road area (Figure 49).

Outside of the fort, Ingalls Road, Ruckman Road, Fenwick Road, Griffith Road, and Patch Road remain in their original alignments. Portions of these roads, as well as Bomford Lane and Murray Road, serve as the boundaries of the park's Fort Area but are not evaluated in this CLI. Engineer Lane provides rear access to parking areas and driveways associated with residences facing Fenwick Road. Like the sidewalks inside the fort, the history of walks amongst the various buildings and streets along Fenwick Road, Ingalls Road, and the Moat Walk requires further research. The Wherry homes north and east of the Fort Area were removed in the last decade but streets and some remnant sidewalks still remain.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
The East Gate	187980	Contributing					No
The Main Gate / Ruckman Road	197600	Contributing					No
The North Gate	197601	Contributing					No
The Postern Gate	197602	Contributing					No
Bernard Road	197605	Contributing					No
Mathews Lane	197609	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Engineer Lane	197608	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Parking Lots at Parade Ground (Building #5)	197617	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Parking Lots	197620	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Moat Walk	197622	Contributing					No
Walkways in the Fort	197626	Undetermined					No
Walkways Outside of Fort	197629	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 49. View looking northeast at the Postern Gate, which provides pedestrian access into the fort, 2017. (OCLP, IMG-0525)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Condition (to 1960):
Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. Around the time of Fort Monroe's construction, vegetation on the Old Point Comfort peninsula consisted of native beach grasses and forbs along the shore and native trees and shrubs within the interior. According to Richard Weinert in his book, Defending the Chesapeake, in the early years of Fort Monroe "the interior of the fort was heavily wooded – the same oaks were present as visible today." Throughout the historic period, southern live oaks, as well a few willows and sycamores, formed a ring around the grass-covered Parade Ground. Historic photographs also indicate trees and lawns growing between buildings and structures, both inside and outside of the fort. For a time, there was an orchard just outside of the fort, opposite the Postern Gate. (Weinert and Arthur 1990: 39, as cited in HLI 2010: 115)

An 1843 map reveals formal gardens and parterres surrounded Quarters 1, the fort's first permanent building. Beginning in the twentieth century, historic images documented a greater use of ornamental plantings along the edges of the Parade Ground around the fort's buildings. Outside of the fort, a four-panel parterre garden was situated behind the Commanding General's home (#119). The garden appears in a c.1831 drawing, 1924 aerial photograph, and a 1946 plan. (Review comments, Brooks, 16 July 2020)

Post Historic and Existing Conditions:
According to a study published in 1998, Fort Monroe National Monument was home to 249 plant species including 136 native species and 113 introduced species. Common grass species include Bermuda grass (Cynodon dactylon), and fescues (Festuca sp.). Common tree and shrub species include black cherry (Prunus serotina), American sycamore (Platanus occidentalis), pin oak (Quercus palustris), southern live oak (Quercus virginiana), eastern red cedar (Juniperus virginiana), Norway spruce (Picea abies), loblolly pine (Pinus taeda), longleaf pine (Pinus palustris), and crepe myrtle (Lagerstroemia sp.), among others. A list of plant species at Fort Monroe National Monument can be found in Galvez et.al. (1998), including an assessment of plant status (common, rare, occasionally present, and intentionally planted) (see Figures 42, 43, 44, 45). (Lookingbill et.al. 2018: 26, citing Galvez et.al. 1998)

Over 130 southern live oaks grow within the interior of Fort Monroe. One of these trees is the Algernourne Oak, a 450-plus-year-old southern live oak with a basal diameter of 90 inches and a height of over 60 feet (Figure 50). Several small wooded areas, some of them holding southern live oaks, are also located in the northern portion of the park. (Lookingbill et.al. 2018: 26)

Formal hedges define the front of Quarters 1, and many other shrubs and hedges can be found throughout the grounds, set within maintained lawns. The landscape character of residences surrounded by lawns, trees, and shrubs is intact. However, further research is recommended to determine the significance and integrity of individual plant material, especially those on NPS-owned parcels (Quarters No.1-Building #1, Buildings #17 and #50). The parterre garden behind the Commanding General's home (#119) features perennial and annual plantings and other woody vegetation, as well as turf panels.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Trees, Parade Ground	187981	Contributing			Asset	1534144	No
Algernourne Oak	187982	Contributing			Asset	1570413	Yes
Lawn, Parade Ground	187983	Contributing			Asset	1577675	Yes
Trees, Shrubs, and Lawns, Quarters No.1-Building #1, Building #17, Building #50	187984	Contributing					No
Trees, Shrubs, Lawns, throughout Grounds	187985	Undetermined					No
Parterre Garden, Building #119	187986	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 50. View looking northwest at the Algernourne Oak, in front of Building #126, 2017. (OCLP, no#)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition (to 1960):
A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived. The open views offered from the tip of Old Point Comfort across Hampton Roads harbor and the Lower Chesapeake Bay led to the development of the first defensive fortification in 1609 and a permanent lighthouse in 1802. The peninsula's strategic views motivated the British to capture the lighthouse in the War of 1812 for use as an observation post. Such views were also one of the main justifications to erect Fort Monroe, one of the country's first fortifications of the Third System of Coastal Defenses.

The views also influenced the fort's design, as the most fortified fronts, comprised of stone walled casemates of guns and topped by earthen terrepleins with more guns, directly faced the harbor entrance and the bay. After the Third System technology became obsolete, the terrepleins supported several Endicott batteries, the country's next system of coastal defense. The army erected three of these batteries on the fort, and twelve others along the shoreline. Although new technology eventually ended use of the Endicott system, several observation towers were erected along the terrepleins during the first half of the twentieth century.

Other views and vistas associated with the fort were not defense driven, but rather representative of military life, namely the views of the fort's central Parade Ground from the surrounding buildings that housed officers and enlisted soldiers. Other views intentionally conveyed the presence of the military: the main flagpole towering above the fort's Southeast Bastion, which was prominently visible from both inside and outside of the fort; the view of the front façade of Quarters 1, directly aligned with the East Gate; and the view of the central bay of Building #5, on axis with the North Gate. Lastly, new housing units built by the army in 1907-1910 for the Commanding General and other officers was located just outside of the fort on Fenwick Road, which offered unobstructed views of Chesapeake Bay. Lastly, panoramic views of the water also attracted tourists, who descended on the waterfront hotels and beaches beginning in the nineteenth century.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The Fort Monroe Historic Viewshed Report, prepared in 2010 by the US Army Corps of Engineers, evaluated views within the boundaries of the Fort Monroe National Monument, on the basis of significance and integrity. The report identified forty-one views in the Fort Area (Figure 51). Among these viewsheds were views to and from the fort terreplein to the water and views across the Parade Ground. In addition to these views, the historic views of the flagstaff, of Quarters No.1-Building #1 and Building #5, and of the bay from the Fenwick Road houses are extant (Figure 52).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Views from the Fort Terreplein to Water	187987	Contributing					No
Views of Flagstaff	187988	Contributing					No
Views across Parade Ground	187989	Contributing					No
View of Quarters No.1-Building #1 from East Gate	187990	Contributing					No
View of Building #5 from North Gate	187991	Contributing					No
Views from Fenwick Road Residences to Water	187992	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

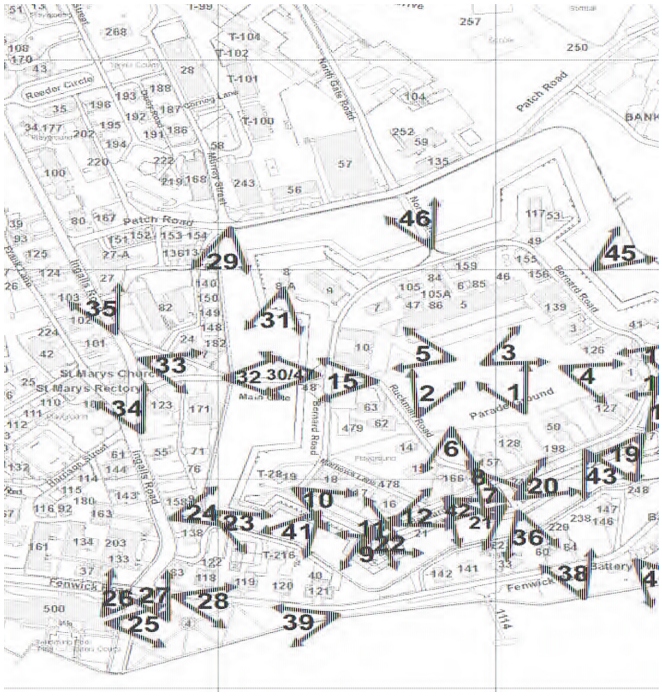


Figure 51. Part of a map showing locations of 41 evaluated views and vistas in the Fort Area, 2010. (Tooker, Megan et.al., Fort Monroe Historic Viewsheds, 2010: 61)



Figure 52. View of the Flagstaff Bastion, 2017. (OCLP, IMG-0662)

Landscape Characteristic: **Small Scale Features**

Historic Condition (to 1960):
Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. Around the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, pieces of armament were displayed in open green spaces throughout the post, especially at road intersections and in front of buildings. In the southeast corner of the Parade Ground was Siege Battery Park containing siege guns and a siege howitzer, and adjacent was Light Battery Park. After the Civil War a trophy park was established on the edge of the Parade Ground displaying stacks of cannon balls and guns going back to the Revolutionary War. In the 1880s a small conservatory building was built to house the field artillery pieces. Of all of the displays, the most revered piece of artillery was the fifteen-inch Rodman gun, known as the "Lincoln Gun." A prototype smooth bore gun, it was received in March 1861 and through the Civil War it was placed on the beach as part of the Union defenses. In 1862 it was nicknamed in honor of President Lincoln, who had a very strong interest in ordnance. The gun was moved to the west edge of the Parade Ground at an unknown date. Except for the massive Lincoln gun, most of ordnance displays were removed in 1942 as part of a wartime scrap drive, ending use of the three display areas. The fate of the conservatory is unknown.

Photographs from the 1880s indicate the presence of fencing around the many residences within the fort. The fences were usually a white picket style complete with gates, which mirrored the white porch railings on many of the buildings. A photograph from this period shows the same style fencing around the moat, but it was removed in the early 1900s. (HLI 2010: 120)

Other small-scale features dating to the historic period included a hexagonal-shaped gazebo (#1087) and a rectangular-shaped greenhouse in the yard behind Quarters 1 in c.1880. The fate of the greenhouse is unknown, but in c.1905 the gazebo was moved to a new parterre garden behind the Commanding General's quarters (#119). The Fort Monroe flagpole was erected on the roof of the Southeast (Flagstaff) Bastion in c.1938, and in 1955 a 50-foot wrought iron archway was installed at the entrance to the Jefferson Davis Memorial Park atop the South Bastion. The archway was a gift from the United Daughters of the Confederacy. (HLI 2010: 119; Review comments, Brooks, 16 July 2020)

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Today, the Lincoln gun remains prominently positioned along the west edge of the Parade Ground (Figure 53). Three pieces of armament set in concrete cradles are located at the three corners of Cannon Park (see Figure 35). Armaments are also displayed in front of Building #20 and at the base of the Southeast (Flagstaff) Bastion, and although not historic they are compatible with the fort's historic character. The wrought iron archway still marks the entrance to the Jefferson Davis Memorial Park atop the South Bastion (see Figure 40). Note: In 2019 the Fort Monroe Authority had the letters on the arch removed (see Physical History section). The flagpole (#29) atop the Southeast (Flagstaff) Bastion rises 101 feet and is a round pole set in a concrete base (see Figure 52). It is not the original pole and is therefore evaluated as non-contributing in the 2015 National Register documentation. Outside of the fort, the gazebo (#1087) still stands in the garden behind Building #119. The gazebo includes rebuilt portions, and features a bell-shaped copper roof and is embellished with arches, lattice, and a balustrade. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 63; Review comments, Brooks, 16 July 2020)

Chain link fencing surrounds the south and west sides of the moat for safety reasons, but the appearance of the brushed aluminum color on top of this historic feature detracts from the historic scene. Trash cans, recycling bins, utility boxes, and regulatory and informational signs are not historic but do not collectively detract from the historic character. The history and significance of other small-scale features such as light posts, benches, monuments, pipe rail fences, and cast iron signage will require future research. The Fort Monroe Historic Landscape Inventory prepared in 2010 by the US Army Corps of Engineers recommended a comprehensive object inventory of these features. (HLI 2010: 176-177)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Lincoln Gun on Parade Ground	187993	Contributing			Asset	1276429	Yes
Armament Displays	197649	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Jefferson Davis Arch	197652	Contributing					No
Flagpole (#29), Southeast (Flagstaff) Bastion	197657	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Gazebo (#1087)	197661	Contributing					No
Cast Iron Interpretive Signs	197663	Undetermined					No
Light Posts	197666	Undetermined					No
Benches	197667	Undetermined					No
Monuments	197668	Undetermined					No
Pipe Rail Fencing	197670	Undetermined					No
Picket Fence, Quarters 1	197675	Undetermined			Asset	1276617	Yes
Chain Link Fences	197677	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Trash Cans	197685	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Recycling Bins	197686	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Utility Boxes	197688	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Regulatory and Informational Signs	197689	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 53. View of the Lincoln Gun on the parade ground, 2017. (OCLP, IMG-0258)

Landscape Characteristic: Archeological Sites

Archeological sites are the locations of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. Only sites identified in approved National Register documentation are identified in this CLI. One archeological site designation has been assigned to Fort Monroe – 44HT0027 – and it is counted as one contributing site to the historic district. The site is comprised of 21 individual archeological loci, some of which have been determined to be individually eligible for inclusion on the National Register. Others have been determined to be not individually eligible, while some require further investigation before their eligibility status can be evaluated. For detailed information on archeological resources, consult the approved 2015 National Register documentation. (NR 2014, Sec.7: 101)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Site 44HT0027	187994	Contributing					No

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 7

Next Assessment Due Date: 09/29/2027

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/29/2020

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Based on an analysis of the park's FMSS data and field investigations, the condition of the Fort Area is evaluated as "fair." Some of the southern live oaks, which are character-defining features, are in declining condition because of deferred maintenance, while several areas of turf need rehabilitation. Numerous buildings are also in need of repair, and their appearance may impact the property's historic character. Other landscape features such as walkways and roads are in good condition.

A fair assessment indicates the property shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the property to degrade to a poor condition.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Deferred maintenance to vegetation, particularly the southern live oaks, and historic buildings within the park are impacting the condition of the overall landscape.

Date Identified: 09/29/2020

Type of Impact: Inundation (Flooding)

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Flooding of the Parade Ground and surrounding buildings has impacted the condition of the site.

Date Identified: 09/29/2020

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Undetermined

Treatment Completed: No

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

Approved treatments are determined through an NPS planning process or formal public review and comment. To date, an approved treatment for the landscape has not been developed. The 2011 Presidential Proclamation stipulated that the Secretary of the Interior, through the National Park Service, promulgate any additional regulations needed for the proper care and management of the park to the extent authorized by law. A management plan must be prepared for the purpose of preserving, restoring, and enhancing the public visitation and appreciation of the park. (FD 2015: 24)

Extensive planning has been completed to help inform this process:
Fort Monroe Reuse Plan; draft 2007.
Fort Monroe Historic Landscape Inventory, Evaluation, and Recommendations; 2010.
Fort Monroe Historic Preservation Manual and Design Standards; final draft, 2011.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

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Lissandrello, Stephen	National Register of Historic Places, Inventory-Nomination Form [NR], Fort Monroe, 15 February 1975.	1975	n/a			
Klepper, Katherine D.	National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form [NR-2], Quarters 17, 2010.	2010	n/a			
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Klepper, Katherine D.	National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form [NR-1], Chapel of the Centurion, 2010.	2010	n/a			
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Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: Map

Supplemental Information Narrative:

"Drawing, Fort Monroe," 1828.