

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

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

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**1. Name of Property**

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historic name Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
other names/site number Building Number 1, Quarters 1; VDHR File Number 287-0002; 287-0010-0036

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**2. Location**

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street & number 100 Block of Neville Rd, Quantico Marine Base not for publication N/A  
city or town Quantico vicinity N/A  
state Virginia code VA county Prince William code 153 zip code 22134

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**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
     See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
     See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- X private
public-local
public-State
public-Federal

- X building(s)
district
site
structure
object

Number of Resources within Property

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows: buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling
DOMESTIC Secondary Structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof ASPHALT
walls STUCCO; SYNTHETICS: Vinyl
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
X B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

MILITARY

Period of Significance 1920-1931

Significant Dates 1920-1924, 1929-31

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) Butler, Major General Smedley Darlington

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Department of Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks (architect); John K. Turton Company of New York City (builder)

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #

Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Virginia

Prince William County, Vir-  
ginia

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia; National Archives, Washington, D.C.; Alfred M. Gray Research Center (Quantico Marine Base), Prince William County, Virginia; Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland

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**10. Geographical Data**  
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**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18/299480	4266758	2			3			4		

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**  
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name/title Stephen A. Hansen

organization DC Historic Designs date December 15, 2008

street & number 2323 Ashmead Place, NW telephone (202) 355-4503

city or town Washington state DC zip code 20009

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**Additional Documentation**  
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

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

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

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

name Camp Pendleton & Quantico Housing, LLC

street & number 4401 Wilson Boulevard telephone (703) 221-9610

city or town Arlington state VA zip code 22203

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions,

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section 7 Page 1

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**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION**

The Commanding General's Quarters at Quantico Marine Base, in Prince William County, Virginia, sits on less than an acre and is a large, two-story, concrete-block-and-frame, Dutch Colonial Revival-style house constructed in 1920. Containing an area of 6,359 square feet, the main block consists of a two-story, five-bay, symmetrical, gambrel-roofed central block with lower level walls covered with stucco. The central mass is flanked on the west side by a service wing and on the east by an enclosed porch and second-story addition, which appear to have been added in the 1950s. A two car, hipped-roof garage, is located to the west of the main house and appears to contemporaneous with the dwelling. Commensurate with the status of the occupant, the Commanding General's Quarters is the largest and most well-appointed single-family dwelling on the Quantico base. The dwelling and garage have been well maintained.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

The house consists of a two-story, rectilinear central mass with a gambrel roof, flanked on either side by gable-roofed dependencies. A 1919 photograph of the house under construction shows that the shell is concrete block. Exterior finishes include white stucco on the first floor, and the second floor is clad in white vinyl siding. Brown composition shingles replaced the original slate roof. The central mass is flanked by two chimneys with stucco finish. Windows are six-over-six light, double-hung wood sash with black wood shutters on the central mass and double-hung, single-panes on the additions. The front entrance, located on the south elevation, is a wooden door with nine lights over one recessed wood panel. The door is framed by an eleven-pane transom and side-light surround.

The original two-story west wing matches the main house with a gambrel roof, and with two six-over-six, double-sash windows on each floor. A two-story gable roof addition was subsequently added onto this wing, with a door and double-sash window on the first floor, and an adjacent pair of double-sash windows on the second floor.<sup>1</sup>

When the house was completed in 1920, the original wing on the east side of the house was a one-story summer room on a poured concrete foundation. A second story was subsequently added above the summer room. Base records do not provide a date as to when this occurred, but the one-over-one windows are of a later character than those found in the above-mentioned addition, and, therefore, is believed to post-date the 1954 modernization program. Siding of both additions match that found on the central block of the house.

The building's interior retains most of its historic fabric. The interior of the first floor of the house consists of a central hall with a central staircase with a landing halfway between two flights of stairs. The central hall provides access to the living room to the right, and to the left, the dining room and the butler's pantry. A door at the rear of the hallway provides access to an enclosed porch that runs along the rear of the house. The butler's pantry connects to the kitchen, which provides access to another pantry and small office on the front of the house. The kitchen leads to a hallway with a servant's stairway to the second floor, as well and to an addition which includes a breakfast room at the back and a laundry room at the front of the addition.

Off the right of the center hall is the living room that runs the full east side of the house. Both the living room and the dining room maintain their original brick hearth fireplaces and mantels. The living room still maintains its original transom windows over the doorways leading to the central hall and adjoining sunroom in the interior of the room, but the transoms have been sealed over on the hallway and sunroom sides. Two doorways with double French doors on the other side of the fireplace lead onto the first floor of the enclosed porch. The first floor of the sunroom has a fieldstone hearth fireplace and a Colonial Revival-style mantel and surrounding recessed paneling.

The second floor of the main mass of the house maintains its original layout. What was originally the master bedroom is located above the living room. This room has a matching fireplace to that in the living room. The room created by the addition of a second story over the west summer room serves as a master bedroom. This room allows access to the master bath and two

closets that occupy the second-floor bay at the back of the house. The master bedroom has a rustic, stone hearth fireplace with a simple wood plank mantel.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

**Section   7   Page   2**

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One outbuilding is associated with the Commanding General's Quarters. A two-car, hipped-roof, stucco-covered garage, built into the bank of a hill is located at the west front corner of the house. The garage doors are modern replacements, but the six-over-six light wood sash windows located in the north and south walls are original. Decorative brackets in the eaves are identical to those seen on the main house, suggesting a contemporary date of construction. The garage is in very good condition and is a contributing building to the property.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section  8  Page  3

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**SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Located on less than an acre inside Quantico Marine Corps Base in Prince William County, Virginia, the Commanding General's Quarters (Officers Quarters #1) has served as the residence of the base commanding officer since its construction in 1920. The large, two-story, Dutch Colonial Revival-style dwelling now has additions on the east and west gable ends dating to the 1950s. The house is a contributing resource with the Quantico Marine Base Historic District (DHR File Number 287-0010), which was placed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places in 1999 and 2001, respectively.

Meeting National Register of Historic Places Criterion B in military significance, the Commanding General's Quarters is associated with the military career of Major General Smedley D. Butler (July 30, 1881 – June 21, 1940), who at the time of his death, was the most decorated Marine in U.S. history. His accomplishments as Commander of Quantico from 1920-1924 and 1929-1931 significantly influenced national trends of military education and practice and laid the foundations of the modern Marine Corps. These included the implementation of a professional military education system that is now the Marine Corps University, the advancement of early Marine Corps aviation that became a core component of the Corps' Doctrine of Amphibious Warfare, and a high profile public relations campaign that introduced the Marine Corps to the general public.

The General's most significant accomplishments took place during his terms spent at Quantico. The Commanding General's Quarters is nationally significant and the period of significance for the Commanding General's Quarters (1920-1931) is associated with the time that Butler served as Commander of Quantico and resided in the Commanding General's Quarters.

Due to the short term nature of Butler's postings prior to Quantico, his occupancy in the Commanding General's Quarters is the longest period he resided in a single residence before his retirement from the Marine Corps in 1931.<sup>2</sup> The Commanding General's Quarters is the best preserved house Butler occupied during the most significant period of his career in the Marine Corps.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

**Major General Smedley D. Butler**

***Early Military Career***

At the age of 16, Smedley Butler secured a commission in the Marines as a second lieutenant in the war against Spain in 1898 and in July of 1898 was sent to Guantanamo, Cuba. Only two weeks before his nineteenth birthday, Butler received a promotion to captain by brevet, in recognition of his bravery during the Chinese Boxer Rebellion in the incident. He would later become one of only 20 Marines to be awarded the U.S.M.C. Brevet Medal when the decoration was created in 1921.

In 1903, Butler fought to protect the U.S. Consulate in Honduras from rebels. An incident during that expedition allegedly earned him the first of several colorful nicknames, "Old Gimlet Eye", attributed to the feverish, bloodshot eyes which enhanced his habitually penetrating and bellicose stare.<sup>3</sup>

In 1905, he married Ethel Conway Peters of Philadelphia in Bay Head, New Jersey. Their first child, a daughter, Ethel Peters, was born in 1906. In 1909, Smedley, Jr. was born, and in 1913 their second son, Thomas Richard, was born.

From 1909 to 1912, Butler served in Nicaragua enforcing American policy. In December 1909, he commanded the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment on the Isthmus of Panama. He remained on duty in Nicaragua until November 1912, when he rejoined the Marines of 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment at Camp Elliott, Panama.

In 1914, Butler received his first of two Medals of Honor for his activities in the U.S. occupation of Veracruz, Mexico. In 1915, he received a second Medal of Honor for his efforts in securing Haiti against the "Cacos" rebels, as well as the Haitian Medal of Honor.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section  8  Page  4

=====

During World War I, at the age of 37, Butler was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and placed in command of Camp Pontanezen at Brest, France. In October 1918, a debarkation depot near Brest funneled troops of the American Expeditionary Force to the battlefields. For his services, Butler earned both the Distinguished Service Medal of both the Army and the Navy and the French Order of the Black Star.

In May 1918, Gen. John A. Lejeune, Quantico's first Commander, left Quantico for France and was replaced in command by Colonel Smedley D. Butler. Lejeune returned to Quantico in October 1919 to resume command, with Butler serving as Chief of Staff. Lejeune was promoted to Commandant of the Marine Corps in June, 1920 when Butler took over full command of Quantico, transforming what was a temporary wartime training camp into a permanent Marine post.

In 1924, Butler took a leave of absence from the Marine Corps, and after a tour as brigade commander in North China, returned to take command of Quantico in July 1929. Upon return to Quantico at the age of 48, he was promoted to Major General — the youngest major general in the Marine Corps to that point.<sup>4</sup> During his second term as Commander of Quantico, Butler made Quantico the showplace of the Marine Corps, building a tradition of precision drills, parades, immaculate roads, and grounds.

***Quantico Commander 1920-1924 and 1929-31***

On July 1, 1920, Gen. Butler became Commanding General of Quantico and the first base commander to occupy the newly completed Officer's Quarters #1. Butler served as Commander for two terms as major commandant of Quantico 1920-24 and 1929-31. This was the longest tour of any of its commanding officers. In October 1920, the title of Quantico's commander was changed from Commanding officer to Commanding General as an indication of Quantico's growing importance.<sup>5</sup>

It was during his tenure at Quantico that Butler reached the height of his military career through such accomplishments as establishing Quantico as a permanent base for the Marine Corps, developing and implementing the initial education programs (including the first training courses in amphibious warfare), launching and overseeing the first permanent building program, the development of early Marine aviation, and public relations activities that raised the status of the Marine Corps with the civilian public. These activities helped establish the Marines as a fully independent body and assured their survival in the years between World War I and II. Under Butler, Quantico became a great military university, laying the foundation for the Marine Corps Education Center, eventually becoming the current Marine Corps University.

***Establishment of Quantico's Initial Educational Programs***

Prior to the establishment of Quantico Marine Base in 1917, the formal education of the Marine Corps officers began in 1891 with the establishment of the School of Application at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C. The School of Application opened July 1, 1891 with seven officers who had recently graduated from the Naval Academy. After 12 years, the School of Application moved to Annapolis, where it was renamed the Marine Officers' School in 1909. In 1910, the school again moved to the Naval Disciplinary Barracks, Port Royal, Norfolk, Virginia, and finally to Quantico in April 1917. Under a 1916 expansion of the Marine Corps, 23 newly commissioned officers taken from the ranks attended the Marine Officers' School for only a short time before joining a combat unit.<sup>6</sup>

General John A. Lejeune, Quantico's first Commander, attributed the carnage of trench warfare in France to "intellectual bankruptcy" on the part of the Allied military leaders, lacking formal education, not anticipating the requirements of a new type of war, and not effectively applying new weapons and technologies.<sup>7</sup> Taking command of Quantico in late September 1917, Gen. Lejeune "decided that the Marine Corps would pioneer new military thinking and concepts and Quantico would become the seat of learning for the Corps."<sup>8</sup>

As a result, 1918 saw the beginning of more formalized training at Quantico for units that were formed for duty in France during World War I.<sup>9</sup> The "officers' camp of instruction," which had begun informally in mid-1917, became the "officers' training camp" and was formally convened in April 1918 with a class of 600 officer candidates. In a speech on April 12, 1920, Colonel Butler (then serving in the capacity of LeJeune's Chief of Staff) described this new concept for a professional and educational system as "a revolution...something new. The old officers of the MC would turn over in their graves if they knew what we were doing

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section  8  Page  5

=====

because in the old days, they did nothing but soldier. We want to make this post and the whole Marine Corps a great university. We want to find out who our most capable men are and to give them opportunities accordingly. <sup>10</sup> This unique concept for the future of Quantico led to more sophisticated undertakings such as the Marine Corps Institute. <sup>11</sup> Butler set up Quantico's initial educational programs within severe budgetary constraints on a mainly "self-help" basis, conceived as an egalitarian and communal effort. Courses were taught by either officers or enlisted men, depending on expertise. "If the Captain can't lead his men and Private can, we are going to reverse it and make the Private a Captain." Privates were to be "in the status of a cadet." Butler planned for "a collegiate course" corresponding to that in some of the better small colleges, with a long-range goal that Quantico would be "modeled after the US Naval Academy and West Point of such merit that it will be recognized by the public and educational authorities as ranking among the best." <sup>12</sup> By the end of his first term as Commander in 1924, Quantico had 14 full-time instructors in its schools: five in administration, four in tactics, two in law, and three in topography. <sup>13</sup>

***Post World War I Construction (1918-1930)***

The development of Quantico as a permanent Marine Corps base was a direct result of goals established by Butler and Lejeune through a building program that transformed Quantico's temporary training grounds into a permanent home and educational campus.

The first permanent construction began at Quantico in 1918 with bungalow-style buildings – the dominant style for smaller houses throughout the country from 1905 through to the early 1920s. At Quantico, these buildings served as company offices, mess halls, barracks, and latrines. Additional single-family officers' quarters were built in the same bungalow style by the Turton Company in 1920. <sup>14</sup>

Butler had difficulties in meeting his building goals, finding it difficult to obtain the necessary funding to contract outside help. As a result, most construction under Butler during this period was the result of "boot strap" efforts by Marine Corps personnel on the base. <sup>15</sup> All the original clearing and management of the landscape had to be accomplished by them, as well as the erection of all the temporary barracks, related facilities, and training grounds.

In 1923, Butler served as the high-ranking officer on a board established by Lejeune to create a master plan for the future development of the base. Along with two other officers and a consultant, Butler sought to provide guidelines for the type and amount of necessary structures and power plants "together with provision for such road, drainage and water supply development, etc. as may be necessary to complete the layout of a permanent post." <sup>16</sup> The Board wished to establish Quantico as "the center for the professional and vocational development of Marines, the agency for the development of Marine Corps war fighting doctrine and equipment, and as the home of the future Marine Corps University." <sup>17</sup> The "Quantico Building Program" was initiated in 1927 when Congress approved \$2,205,000 for the construction of new facilities at Quantico. <sup>18</sup> A portion of these funds went to the construction of officers' housing in the Dutch Colonial Revival style. Modeled on the Commanding General's house, their greater size clearly marked them as residences for senior officers. <sup>19</sup>

***Early Marine Aviation***

Butler is also credited with advancing the application of aviation to marine warfare and with its increased proficiency. He oversaw the establishment of Quantico as the earliest permanent Marine air force base. In 1921, three hangers were completed at the Quantico airfield. <sup>20</sup> In September that same year, Quantico received five Martin torpedo planes from the Navy and used them in training support for ground forces. Quantico's growing air force took part in training exercises and cross country trips to develop the full potential of this new weapon of war and to increase the proficiency of Marine aviators. <sup>21</sup>

Under Butler, aerial maneuvers included: such innovations as air-ground pickup with a plane sweeping low to catch a message suspended on two poles; aerial photography with pictures developed in the plane and ready to be printed upon landing; and night flying—a practice new to marine aviators; and under conditions where night instruments were primitive. <sup>22</sup>

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section  8  Page  6



In April 1923, Quantico received four more torpedo planes from the Navy, which were flown to Quantico from California in 11 days -- one of the longest air delivery projects on record. This was hailed as one of the most noteworthy accomplishments by American aviators.<sup>23</sup> By the mid-1920s, the aviation complement at Quantico totaled 13 officers and 157 enlisted marines, flying a variety of aircraft ranging from De Havilland DH-4 and Curtiss JN-4, JN-6, and N9, along with observation balloons.<sup>24</sup> Although a balloon unit was formed at Quantico in 1918 to aid artillery spotting and was disbanded in early 1919, Butler continued experimentation with balloons of various sorts at Quantico until late 1929. This led to Quantico Marine Base as the logical choice to host the Barrage Balloon Training School that was formed in 1941.

Aerial aviation courses were inaugurated at Quantico in 1926 in response to the needs of the Marines fighting in the Caribbean. By the early part of 1927, two observation squadrons were trained and readied at Quantico--one consisting of six aircraft was shipped to China in March with less than three day's notice. In May of the same year, a squadron of about the same size was sent to Nicaragua with only a day-and-a-half advance warning.<sup>25</sup> Quantico continued flying activities with reserve officer training, night flying, and aircraft support troops in training into the 1930s.

***Public Relations for the Marine Corps***

Butler's efforts at publicity helped to save the existence of the Marine Corps during the "between the war years" of the 1920s, as the Marines lacked any urgent mission or capabilities to suit isolationist military policies during the postwar years. Amid constant threats of being absorbed into the army, the marines held their own in the 1920s with Butler's public relations exercises helping to sell the Marine Corps to Congress and the public. In an 1968 interview, Major Gen. Blake said of Butler, "he may well have saved the Marine Corps then [1920s] when it looked as though it was going to be scuttled."<sup>26</sup>

Butler was constantly striving to put the Corps in the public eye as much as possible.

"... Butler understood the importance of top quality sporting events and of favorable publicity in attracting men to the Corps. He apparently realized that good Marine Corps publicity would do much to counteract waning interest in the military, and he started vigorous programs to these ends. Education, colorful demonstrations, and first class athletic teams were Butler's tools for attracting recruits and keeping the public aware that there was still a Marine Corps."<sup>27</sup>

Butler went to great lengths with bold experiments to introduce the military into civilian life, popularizing and justifying the military by articulating with civilian trends.<sup>28</sup> He continuously worked at such innovative peacetime projects as annual expeditionary maneuvers into surrounding states, marine mail guards, historic Civil War reenactments, and military involvement in civilian sports.

Initially planned to occur once during the fall football season, and twice a year otherwise, Butler's expeditionary overland maneuvers culminated in a military pageant that included Civil War battles enacted at their original sites. These were the modern counterpoints to an actual historic reenactment. Each reenactment was run first as an historic recreation, then as a modern battle problem. The first expedition in 1921 was staged at the battlefield near Chancellorsville. Along with over 3,000 men, consisting also of drafts from other East Coast commands sent for practice mobilization, the expedition included "every bit of our equipment to be displayed as a modern counterpoint to the historic reenactment." Equipment employed for this reenactment included 155 mm guns weighing nineteen tons, sixty-inch search lights, anti-aircraft guns, seventy caterpillar tractors, an armored car, a tank, eighteen airplanes, a captive balloon, and over a hundred trucks. Another expedition, which featured a reenactment of Pickett's charge at Gettysburg, was attended by President Harding, the governors of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Maryland, newsreel moving picture crews, and an estimated hundred thousand spectators.<sup>29</sup>

While football at Quantico began in 1919, it was significantly promoted under Butler. The Marines' participation in team sports were meant to boost Quantico onto a par with West Point and Annapolis, and "securing the true college spirit" for a marine

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia

Section  8  Page  7

=====

university.<sup>30</sup> Over the next three years, Butler built up teams and increasingly formidable baseball and football schedules with rival service units and civilian colleges. But of all the sports, football was the primary effort, winning greater publicity and was much more suitable as a mass spectacle in which the entire Quantico command and the entire East Coast Marine Corps could participate. The Quantico football team was recruited from the entire Marine Corps and fielded some of the great athletes of the day. In 1922, Butler claimed that there was not "a man on our team who has not been a college start."<sup>31</sup> By 1923, Quantico had penetrated the ranks of civilian college football, playing George Washington University, Villanova, and the University of Michigan.

In 1921, Butler purchased a bulldog that he named "Jiggs" to be the official Quantico mascot. Jiggs quickly became the unofficial symbol of the Marine Corps, and as a result, Quantico's athletic teams became known far and wide as the "Fighting Bulldogs." Butler's idea for a bulldog as the mascot was the result of the German World War I nickname for Marines, "Devil Dogs," depicted on German military propaganda as a bulldog. Jiggs officially entered the Marine Corps on the 14th of October, 1922, when Butler signed the enlistment papers. Within two and a half weeks he was promoted to corporal, and by New Year's Day 1924, had become a sergeant. By the following July he had been promoted to Sergeant Major.<sup>32</sup>

Upon his return to command Quantico in 1929, Butler took up where he left off, publically promoting the varsity football, baseball, and basketball teams, and "putting the Quantico Marines in the big leagues throughout the East Coast."<sup>33</sup>

***Butler and the Development of the Marine Corps Doctrine of Amphibious Warfare***

The Marine Corps' Doctrine of Amphibious Warfare was developed and implemented at Quantico in the 1930s under the leaderships of Quantico Commanders Brigadier General Randolph C. Berkeley (1930-31) and Brigadier General James Carson Breckinridge (1933 and 1937-39).

A noteworthy and important component in the doctrine was "close air support" for landing operations— which traced its inception to the efforts of Smedley Butler and the early Quantico aviators who developed, tested, and refined this principle since the early 1920s. By 1941, the Marine Corp had firmly adopted the Doctrine of Amphibious Warfare and the educational system to support it.<sup>34</sup> The Doctrine ensured the success of the first amphibious assaults of WWII in the South Pacific, as well as later at Iwo Jima and Normandy and remains the foundation of the Marine Corps amphibious warfare mission of today.<sup>35</sup>

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section  8  Page  8

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**Commanding General's Quarters**

Constructed in 1920, the Commanding General's Quarters is an example of domestic architectural design created by the Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks. The Bureau of Yards and Docks was the branch of the United States Navy tasked from 1842 to 1966 with building and maintaining the nation's naval facilities.<sup>36</sup> The Bureau's team of skilled engineers and architects was responsible for an amazing array of projects both in the United States and abroad that ranged from entire bases intended to accommodate tens of thousands of service personnel, to the construction of individual, temporary storage buildings.

An 1893 U.S. Department of the Interior publication describing the organization of the nation's government defined the functions of the Bureau of Yards and Docks as "all that relates to the planning, construction, and maintenance of all docks, slips, wharves, piers, quay walls and buildings of all kinds for whatever purposes needed."<sup>37</sup> As a result of this broadly defined scope, Bureau plans ranged from designs for the monumental to the prosaic. For example, the 1918 extensions to Bancroft Hall and 1919 design for Luce Hall at the U.S. Naval Academy are impressive not only because of their massive size, but also as fine examples of Beaux Arts-style architecture.<sup>38</sup>

Less notable, but equally important from a mission perspective, are the Bureau's scores of uncelebrated designs for undistinguished utilitarian structures, such as boiler plants, mess halls, and sewage treatment facilities. During its 124-year history, the Bureau of Yards and Docks was responsible for the design and construction of dozens of naval facilities and thousands of buildings and structures at home and abroad.

The Marine Corps Base at Quantico, Virginia, and by extension the Commanding General's Quarters, were a direct consequence of the war-inspired military boom resulting from the United States' entry into World War I and the unprecedented effort to expand and modernize the nation's defenses.<sup>39</sup> On April 6, 1917 the U.S. Congress declared War on Germany and on June 4, 1917 the Bureau of Yards and Docks was authorized to begin construction on 320 permanent and temporary buildings at the newly established Marine Corps training facility at Quantico, Virginia.<sup>40</sup>

The Commanding General's Quarters was completed in 1920 according to Bureau plans developed during the previous two years.<sup>41</sup> The Bureau's architects produced three different designs specifically for officer housing at Quantico. Two were a variant of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, known as the "Flemish farmhouse," and were designed and intended for the most senior officers. The third house type was a bungalow. The bungalow plan was widely replicated for use in other officers' quarters, while only three dwellings were built according to the plan for the smaller Dutch Colonial Revival house.

Historically, only four of the original 49 dwellings constructed for use as officers' housing were built in the Flemish Farmhouse variant of the Dutch Colonial Revival style. Three of those buildings were the smaller house identified on the 1918 plan as "Type B". Plans. The remainder were "Type C" bungalows.

The Commanding General's Quarters was originally constructed as an unusual building among Quantico's officer housing and perhaps military housing in general. As previously stated, the architectural drawings used to construct Quantico's military housing were not existing stock plans, but were site-specific designs intended for use at this facility. This practice stands in contrast to that of the U.S. Army which regularly used standardized plans for military housing projects.<sup>42</sup>

Identified simply as "Plan A" on architectural drawings, the dwelling reflects the preeminent status of the Commanding General both through its size and finish.<sup>43</sup> Commensurate with the status of the occupant, the Commanding General's Quarters is the largest dwelling on the base. The house encompasses an area of 6,359 sq. ft. In comparison, the next largest dwelling is Build- ing #8, also officer housing, which contains 2,505, sq. ft. of space.<sup>44</sup>

Plan A provided for a "servant chamber" and "servant kitchen" and a separate service stair. These segregated spaces were

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section 8 Page 9

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located in the house's recessed two-bay wing and now serve as an office and expanded kitchen. The presence of a servant's quarters is not only in keeping with the Marine Corps policy to provide domestic help to senior military officers, but reflects broader social practices of the time. Servant quarters were an equally common feature in civilian upper-middle class and affluent housing until the 1930s.<sup>45</sup>

In addition to greater size, the dwelling's prominent location on a large lot at the top of the hill symbolizes the Commanding General's superior rank. The three smaller Dutch-inspired dwellings are less prominently situated and on smaller lots lower on the hill. All four houses were built by the John K. Turton Company, using locally available labor. The John K. Turton Company was a noted Manhattan-based building contracting firm responsible for many large-scale public and private buildings. The company's work was notable and the *New York Times* reported on their projects.<sup>46</sup>

With respect to architectural type, the house also displays all of the traditional hallmark features of the "Flemish farmhouse" variant of the Dutch Colonial Revival style. Unlike most Dutch Colonial Revival buildings, which represent very loose and inaccurate interpretations of historic Dutch architecture, the Flemish farmhouse subtype somewhat more accurately incorporates traditional design elements.<sup>47</sup> The Dutch Colonial Revival style, itself a variant of the Colonial Revival style, achieved popularity in the last years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>48</sup> The Flemish Farmhouse subtype, however, appeared somewhat later. Aymar Embury II (1880-1966), a New York architect, started promoting this more "authentic" version around 1910. Its popularity increased and the design remained relatively common during the next two decades.<sup>49</sup>

Not surprisingly, the Dutch Colonial Revival and Flemish Farmhouse subtype share some basic similarities. For example, both varieties exhibit the graceful and distinctive gambrel roof, containing almost a full second story of living space. Wide flared eaves represent another common feature. The Flemish Farmhouse, however, tends to have a longer and lower profile than its parent style. In addition, the Flemish farmhouse facade tends to have a more textured appearance, by combining stone, stucco or brick on the lower level, while clad in weatherboard on the upper level.

Following its occupancy by Smedley Butler, the Commanding General's Quarters included five Quantico Commanders who became Commandant as its residents. These were Major General Thomas Mendell C. Neville (1927 and 1929), Major General John H. Russell (1931 and 1937), Major General Thomas Holcomb (1935), Lieutenant General Clifton B. Cates (1946 and 1952), and Major General Lemuel C. Shepherd (1948).

During the 38 years he spent as a U. S. Marine, General Wendell saw action in Cuba, Mexico, China, the Philippines, Nicaragua, and France. For his valor and leadership in those engagements, he earned the Medal of Honor, Brevet Medal, Army Distinguished Service Medal, Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Cross of the Legion of Honor, five Croix de Guerre with three stars and two palms, five citations and eight campaign and expeditionary awards.

In addition to numerous letters of commendation on his excellent performance of duty during his long and varied career, Major General John H. Russell was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal; Navy Cross; Haitian Medaille; West Indies (Sampson) Medal; Spanish Campaign Medal; Expeditionary Medal with West Indies Clasp; and the Haitian Campaign Medal. During Russell's tenure as Commandant of the Marine Corps, the old system of seniority promotions of officers was changed to that of advancement by selection; the 1st Marine Brigade was withdrawn from Haiti; the Fleet Marine Force assumed a new importance; the Reserves were given more attention; and the number of ships carrying Marine detachments continued to increase.

During Major General Thomas Holcomb's seven year tour of duty as Commandant, the Marine Corps expanded from 16,000 to about 300,000 Marines. Also, on February 13, 1943, he officially announced that women were eligible to serve in the Marine Corps; a date that is recognized and celebrated as the anniversary of women in the Marine Corps. On April 12, 1944, Holcomb was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his outstanding work as Commandant

Lieutenant General Clifton B. Cates's medals and decorations include the Presidential Unit Citation ribbon with three bronze stars (Guadalcanal, Tinian and Iwo Jima); the World War I Victory Medal with Aisne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne and Defensive Sector clasps; the Army of Occupation of Germany Medal; the Expeditionary Medal (China-1929-31); the Yangtze Service Medal (Shanghai-1930-31); the China Service Medal (China-1937-39); the American Defense Service Medal; the Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal with one silver star in lieu of five bronze stars; the American Area Campaign Medal; the World War II Victory

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section  8  Page  10

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Medal; the National Defense Service Medal and the Netherlands Order of the Orange Nassau with crossed swords and rank of Grand Officer. He also held LL.D. degrees from the University of Tennessee and the University of Chattanooga.

For exceptionally meritorious service as Commanding General of the 6th Marine Division in the assault and occupation of Okinawa (1 April to 21 June 1945), Major General Lemuel C. Shepherd was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a second Distinguished Service Medal. The citation for this decoration reads in part: "Schooled by grim experience in the art of countering Japanese strategies, Major General Shepherd organized a major Marine Corps fighting unit for the second time within a year, planned its commitment into battle with brilliant military acumen...and demonstrated a superior ability to use the men and weapons at his command. His indomitable courage and astute judgment were important factors in the success of his division's operations."

The residence was visited during World War II by his Royal Highness, the Duke of Windsor as a guest of Major General Philip H. Torrey. The Duke spent part of an afternoon at the Commanding General's Quarters and commented on the beauty of the grounds.<sup>50</sup>

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section 8 Page 11

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**ENDNOTES**

- <sup>1</sup> While few records on changes to the Quarters still exist, the Cultural Resource Study at the Marine Corps Development and Education Command states that that the house underwent renovations in 1954 and this addition is believed to be from this renovation program.
- <sup>2</sup> Schmidt, Hans. 1987. *Maverick Marine: General Smedley D. Butler*. Kentucky: University of Kentucky Press. p. 202. Upon his return to Quantico in 1929, Butler purchased an old farmhouse in Newtown Square, PA, near West Chester and began major renovations, remodeling an open central axis into a two-story living room-hallway.
- <sup>3</sup> Willock, Roger. 2008. "Smedley Darlington Butler." in Dictionary of American Biography, Supplements 1-2: To 1940. American Council of Learned Societies, 1944-1958.
- <sup>4</sup> *ibid*, p. 56.
- <sup>5</sup> Fleming, Lieutenant Charles A., MUMC, Captain Rogin L. Austin, USMC, and Captain Charles A. Braley III, USMC. 1978. Quantico: Crossroad of the Marine Corps. Washington, DC: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. p. 44.
- <sup>6</sup> *ibid*, p.26.
- <sup>7</sup> *ibid*, p. 39.
- <sup>8</sup> *ibid*, p. 39.
- <sup>9</sup> *ibid*, p. 32.
- <sup>10</sup> S.D. Butler speech, *Leatherneck*, 16 April 1920.
- <sup>11</sup> Schmidt, p. 114.
- <sup>12</sup> Smedley D. Butler speech at Quantico Schools, *Leatherneck*, 16 April 1920; Navy News Bureau release, 24 Jan. 1920, and "Vocational and Educational Schools at Marine Base, Quantico," ca. 1920, Butler MSS (MCHC).
- <sup>13</sup> Fleming, et al. p. 50.
- <sup>14</sup> National Register, p. 55.
- <sup>15</sup> Bairley and Maginniss, p. 39.
- <sup>16</sup> United States Navy. 1923. Bureau of Yards and Docks. General correspondence, shore establishment, 1918-25. Box 474, folder: 677-1, Quantico. "Letter from John 80 Lejeune, Maj. Gen. Commandant Butler, Maj. Peter R. Horton, and tenet era in part, March." Record group 71. National archives Washington, DC.; National Register, p. 60.
- <sup>17</sup> Grelson, J.D. n.d. "Progress and Preservation at Marine Corps Bases Quantico," [photocopy]. Reference Branch, Marine Corps History Center, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C., p. 3.
- <sup>18</sup> National Register Nomination, p. 57.
- <sup>19</sup> *ibid*, p. 57.
- <sup>20</sup> *ibid*. p. 46.
- <sup>21</sup> *ibid*, p. 44.
- <sup>22</sup> Schmidt, p. 137.
- <sup>23</sup> Fleming, et al., p. 48.
- <sup>24</sup> *ibid*. p 44.
- <sup>25</sup> *ibid*, p. 52.
- <sup>26</sup> Schmidt, p.120.
- <sup>27</sup> Fleming, et al., p. 42.
- <sup>28</sup> Schmidt, p 128.
- <sup>29</sup> *ibid*, p. 136.
- <sup>30</sup> *ibid*, p. 138.
- <sup>31</sup> *ibid*., 139
- <sup>32</sup> McLain, Nicky. 1964. "Brief Reference ~ Mascots in the Marine Corps. Historical Branch, G-3 Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.
- <sup>33</sup> Fleming, et al., p. 56.
- <sup>34</sup> Parker, William D. 1970. A Concise History of the United States Marine Corps, 1775-1969. Washington, D.C.: Historical Division, Headquarters, United States Marine Corps., pp. 50-53.
- <sup>35</sup> Kachilla, Major M.A. 1993. *Doctrine Development: A Look At History*. United States Marine Corps CSC.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section 8 Page 12

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<sup>36</sup> The U.S. Marine Corps is a separate service branch operating within the U.S. Department of the Navy. Due to this organizational structure, The Navy Bureau of Yards was also responsible for the construction of Marine Corps facilities.

<sup>37</sup> The United States Government of 1893. Washington: DC United States Department of the Interior, Division of Documents. Published by Government Printing Office, 1894

<sup>38</sup> *Activities of the Bureau of Yards and Docks Navy Department: World War 1917-1918*, Washington: DC Government Printing Office. (1921) 37

<sup>39</sup> *ibid*, p. 17.

<sup>40</sup> *ibid*, p. 94

<sup>41</sup> Department of the Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks, U.S. Marine Barracks Quantico, VA, Officer's Quarters, prepared 1918. Architectural Drawings RG 71 (Yards and Docks), National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD.

<sup>42</sup> Grashof, Bethanie C. 1999. *A Study of the United States Army Family Housing Standardized Plans*. Atlanta, Georgia: Georgia Institute of Technology.

<sup>43</sup> Department of the Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks, U.S. Marine Barracks Quantico, VA, Officer's Quarters, prepared 1918. Architectural Drawings RG 71 (Yards and Docks), National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD.

<sup>44</sup> Quantico Marine corps Base Historic District, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1999.

<sup>45</sup> Foley, Mary M. 1980. *The American House*. New York, NY: Harper & Row., p.214.

<sup>46</sup> "Kew Hall Apartments Now Under Construction", New York Times, August 6, 1922.

<sup>47</sup> Foley, p. 214

<sup>48</sup> Wilson, Richard Guy. 2004. *The Colonial Revival House*. New York, NY: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., p. 6.

<sup>49</sup> Baker, John Milnes. 1994. *American House Styles: A Concise Guide*. New York: NY. W.W. Norton & Company. p. 122.

<sup>50</sup> National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form. 1979. "Quarters #1, Commanding General's Residence. On file at the Virginia Department of Historical Resources, Richmond, VA. VDHR FILE NUMBER: 287-0002.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section   9   Page  13 

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section   9   Page  14 

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section 10 Page 15

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**VERBAL BOUNDAY DESCRIPTION**

The Commanding General's Quarters is located at 100 Neville Road on the Quantico Marine Base in Quantico, Virginia. The house, UTM reference 18/299480/4266758 is located in an area on the base currently known as Marine Training Area #1. Prince William County, VA does not maintain tax map parcel information for Quantico Marine Base since the Marine Corps purchased the land in 1917. A Marine Corps Base, Quantico Composite property Map at that time shows that the Commanding General's Quarters would fall within Parcel No. 1. A section of the map showing the location of Parcel No. 1 is included as additional material.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The Commanding General's Quarters is located on less than acre inside Quantico Marine Base, Prince William County, Virginia. The dwelling and the associated garage are located on the grounds historically associated with the Commanding General's Quarters.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section PHOTOS Page 16

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All photographs are common to:

**PROPERTY: Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base**

**LOCATION: Prince William County, Virginia**

**VDHR FILE NUMBER: 287-0002; 287-0010-0036**

**PHOTOGRAPHER: Stephen A. Hansen, DC Historic Designs**

**DATE: November 20, 2008**

**ELECTRONIC IMAGES: Stored at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia.**

VIEW OF: Exterior: Front Façade, view looking northeast.  
PHOTO 1 of 15

VIEW OF: Exterior: Front Façade, view looking east.  
PHOTO 2 of 15

VIEW OF: Exterior: East Elevation, view looking northwest.  
PHOTO 3 of 15

VIEW OF: Exterior: North Elevation, view looking southeast.  
PHOTO 4 of 15

VIEW OF: Exterior: North Elevation, view looking southeast.  
PHOTO 5 of 15

VIEW OF: Exterior: North Elevation, view looking southwest.  
PHOTO 6 of 15

VIEW OF: Exterior: West Elevation, view looking southeast.  
PHOTO 7 of 15

VIEW OF: Exterior: Garage, view looking northeast.  
PHOTO 8 of 15

VIEW OF: Interior: Center hallway and staircase.  
PHOTO 9 of 15

VIEW OF: Interior: View of living room taken from center hallway.  
PHOTO 10 of 15

VIEW OF: Interior: View of dining room taken from center hallway.  
PHOTO 11 of 15

VIEW OF: Interior: View of dining room fireplace.  
PHOTO 12 of 15

VIEW OF: Interior: View of butler's pantry from kitchen.  
PHOTO 13 of 15

VIEW OF: Interior: View of first floor sunroom looking southwest.  
PHOTO 14 of 15

VIEW OF: Interior: View of first floor sunroom looking northeast.  
PHOTO 15 of 15

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Commanding General's Quarters, Quantico Marine Base  
Prince William County, Virginia**

Section ADDITIONAL MATERIALS Page 17

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**LIST OF ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

- Figure 1. USGS Map showing Quantico Historic District and Location of the Commanding General's Quarters
- Figure 2. Sketch map of Commanding General's Quarters and Garage (not to scale).
- Figure 3. Photo Image of Commanding General's Quarters under construction (1919).
- Figure 4. Commanding General's Quarters 1919 Floor Plans (First Floor)
- Figure 5. Commanding General's Quarters 1919 Floor Plans (Second Floor)
- Figure 6. 1917 Composite Property Map of Quantico Marine Base.

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