

An obelisk, in memory of Col. E. Wood, Class of 1806, was originally erected in 1814 on a knoll south of the Ordnance Compound. In 1899, the Superintendent suggested that this monument, which in its original location had served Hudson River travellers as a navigational landmark, be relocated in front of the new Cullum Hall.⁶² Instead, the monument was installed in the cemetery shortly after the turn of the century.

A recently added monument, which honors Margaret ("Molly") Corbin, stands west of the Chapel. Corbin had taken the place of her fallen husband at the Battle of Fort Washington during the Revolutionary War. Pensioned by the Army, Corbin spent her last years in the West Point area.

General of the Army, Winfield Scott, who fought in the War of 1812 and was a leading general during both the Mexican and Civil Wars, is memorialized by a large stone monument surrounded by a handsome iron fence.

An elaborate "wedding cake-like" memorial marks the grave of Civil War Major General Daniel Butterfield, the composer of "Taps" (illustration #77).

Dedicated to Major Francis Longhorne Dade, who was massacred with his troops by the Semionle Indians in Florida on December 28, 1835, is a monument which has occupied several locations. A column topped with an eagle clutching a garland, this monument was originally erected in 1845 (illustration #78). Located on a spot east of the present Cullum Hall site, the monument had to be removed across the street, to the Plain, due to the erection of Cullum Hall. Moved farther south around 1917, the monument stood across from the old Library until 1948, when it was removed to the cemetery to make room for a memorial to a more recent hero, General George Patton.



77. An elaborate monument over the grave of General Butterfield, the composer of "Taps."

ca. 1950

USMA Archives



78. The Dade Monument memorializes Major Francis Dade and his troops, who were massacred by the Seminole Indians in 1835. One of the earliest memorials at the Academy, this monument was originally located on the Plain.

1957

USMA Archives

A monument with an even more complex history is that to General George Armstrong Custer. Although Custer graduated at the bottom of his class at West Point in 1861, it must have been believed that a memorial to him would inspire the cadets. In 1879, the monument, consisting of a bronze statue and stone pedestal designed by Wilson MacDonald, was dedicated near the old Administration Building (illustration #79). Criticized for its swashbuckling pose, with the subject wielding both saber and pistol, the statue was removed in late 1884. Years later, after rediscovering the statue in the Quartermaster's storage at West Point, a scheme was devised to separate the bust from its objectionable extremities. Sent to the John Williams Foundry in New York City, the statue is last mentioned in a letter from Stanford White, a prominent architect who was charged with overseeing the modification. Since that time the location of the statue has not been determined. By 1965, an obelisk was placed atop the original pedestal, which had been relocated to the Cadet Cemetery (illustration #80).⁶³

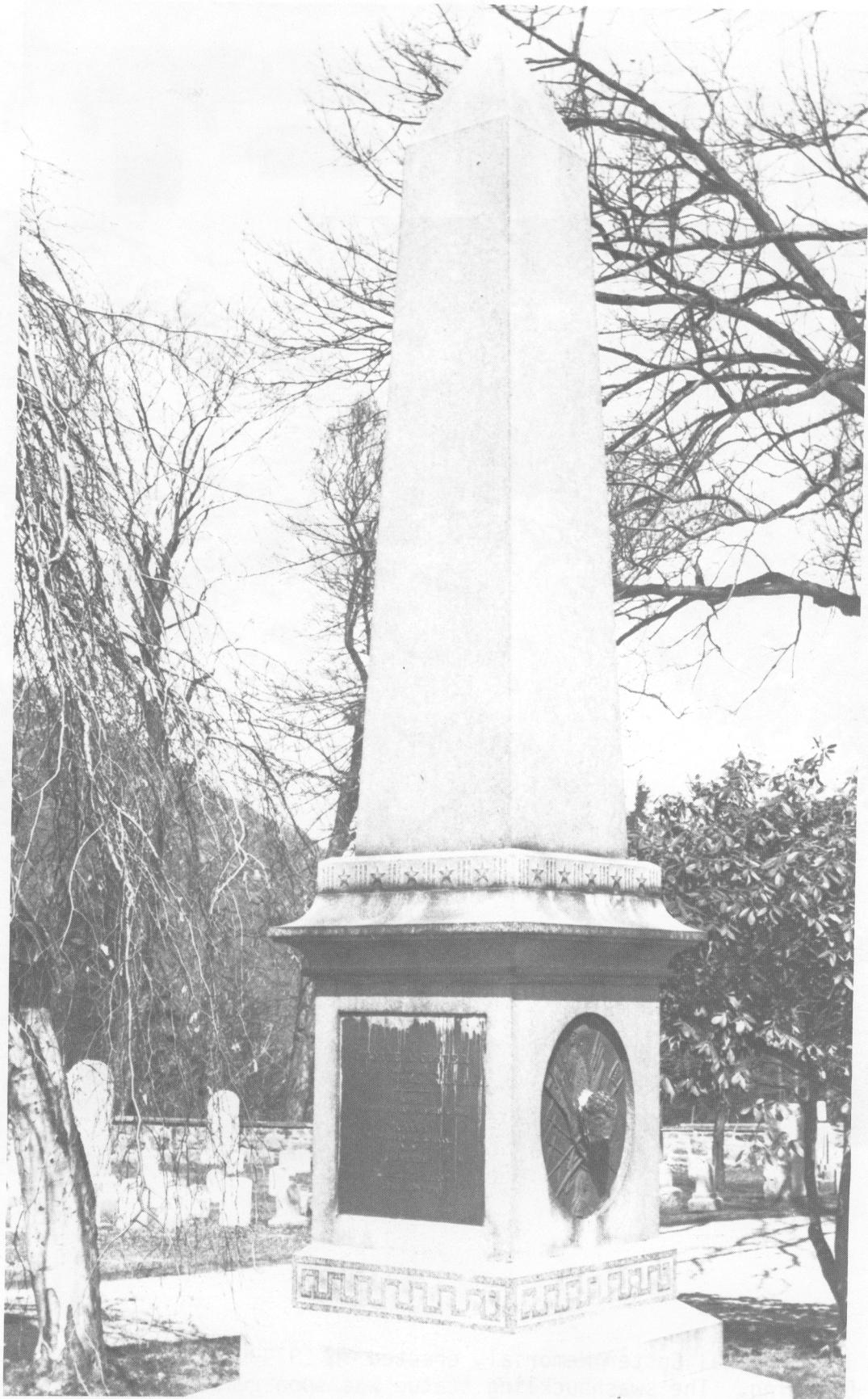
One of the most interesting memorial designs is the mausoleum of General Egbert C. Viele. According to some, Viele's claim to history was denied him after the commission to design Central Park was taken from him and given to Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux.⁶⁴ Nevertheless, he continued an involvement with landscaping, including supervising the work at the expanded West Point Cemetery. Preceded in death by his wife, Viele devised an Egyptian Revival Mausoleum, which featured two Sphinx-like figures at the entrance (illustration #81). Legend has it that he was either afraid of being buried alive or expected to rise from the dead, and he had installed in the crypt an alarm, which would sound in the Groundskeeper's Quarters. It requires little imagination to suppose that mischievous cadets were wont to set off the alarm as a sophomoric prank to arouse the startled occupant of the Groundskeeper's Cottage.



79. The original Custer Memorial, erected in 1879 near the Headquarters Building. The swashbuckling statue was soon removed from view, and later lost entirely.

ca. 1880

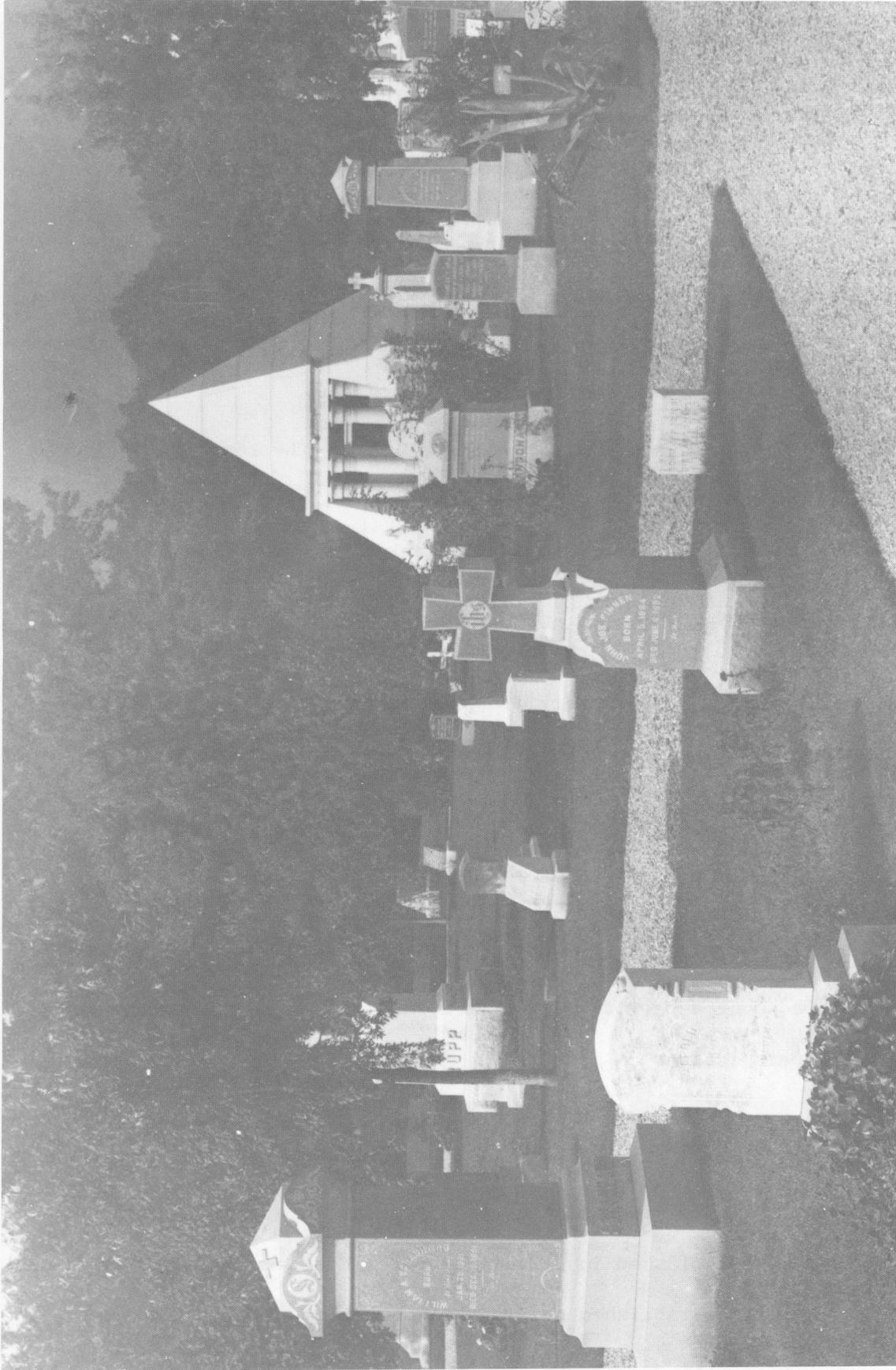
USMA Archives



80. The recycled pedestal of the original Custer Memorial. After the turn of the century it was relocated to the cemetery and topped with a less flamboyant monument.

ca. 1950

USMA Archives



81. An early view of the cemetery, following its expansion under the direction of General Egbert C. Viele. In the background is an Egyptian-Revival crypt designed by Viele for his wife and himself. This crypt has long been the scene of cadet pranks.

ca. 1903

USMA Archives

Hundreds of other monuments memorialize a wide range of individual, from George W. Goethals, builder of the Panama Canal, to Edward H. White, class of 1952, first man to walk in space. Each of these men was involved in one of the most significant technological advances of his generation. Yet the cemetery also memorializes those who served much less dramatic roles in the history of West Point. One such example is that of Louis Bentz, or "Old Bentz" as he was known to all who passed through the Academy for the thirty-two years that he served as Academy bugler during the mid 19th century.

The West Point cemetery is designated a Category II Zone . The cemetery includes items of exceptional historical and architectural interest. What prevents this area from qualifying as a Zone I area is only its lack of a more direct relationship with the teaching mission of the Academy. As the final resting place for the Academy's honored dead, the cemetery serves to reinforce the linkage between the contributions and sacrifices of previous graduates with the responsibility and seriousness of purpose expected of future graduates.

Early Enlisted Men's Area

Northwest of the cemetery stands the Early Enlisted Men's area (illustration #82). Having developed over a period of 120 years, this area can best be viewed from a chronological perspective.

By examining this zone, we are reminded that there historically have been two missions at West Point. Most obvious is the teaching mission of the United States Military Academy, established in 1802. The other mission is that of the military post. Having been established during the Revolutionary War, West Point is now the oldest American military post in continuous use.

Clearly, the importance of the military post mission has waned since the conclusion of the War of 1812. Since then, the mission of the military post has evolved into a support group for the needs of the ever-growing teaching mission.

The Early Enlisted Men's area, which includes what was known as Rugerstown (named after Superintendent Thomas M. Ruger, 1871-1876), was the second location used to segregate the enlisted men and their families from the impressionable cadets. The first area, known as Camptown, was located north of, and below, Professors Row. Despite the fact that the topographical restraints imposed by a river on one side and a mountain on the other dictated a limited selection of sites for expansion, there are indications that other motives led to the selection of what was then the northern extreme of the post.

Common among military installations, the segregation of military post personnel and their families from the cadets was evident during every period of development at West Point. In the 1899 Report of Visitors, the suggestion was made that the number of enlisted men quartered on post be reduced rather than increased.⁶⁵

Four reasons were given: first, the soldiers and their families were a source of infectious diseases which were a constant threat to the Cadet Corps; second, the inclusion of large numbers of housing units for soldiers and their families exhausted the Academy's appropriated funding; third, the area used for such quarters could be used for purposes more immediate to the needs of training cadets; and finally, providing quarters for soldiers and their families only encouraged marriages, thus increasing the number of dependents on post. Although it is impossible to know the precise depth of such hostilities, it is safe to say that such concerns did have an impact on the planning and layout of this part of the Academy.

The push of enlisted personnel to the this area began as early as 1865, with the construction of a number of ordinary frame quarters (#352, 356, 360, 364, 368) designated for married enlisted men (illustration #83). Humble, yet adequate, in design, the buildings which survive from that period reflect the appearance of this area's mid-19th century landscape, which has been lost due to the the many structures added since the end of the century. (See HABS No. NY-5708-52 for detailed description and history of Quarters #352.)

In 1867, a munitions magazine for the Ordnance Department (#715) was placed in what is now the center of this area. Though heavily modified, this building still stands, and is used as a switch station.

In 1875, a one-story brick schoolhouse for soldiers' children (#693) was erected at the area's southeastern boundary, further reinforcing the function of this area. This replaced the earlier use of the basement of the Soldiers' Chapel, situated near the present site of Eisenhower Hall.⁶⁶

Beginning in 1890, this area experienced a concerted building program centering around a long-awaited new soldiers' hospital (#126). Completed by 1892, this building replaced an 1851 hospital, which had been located near the site of the present field house. This two-story building with one-story side wings was erected on a knoll between the sites of the old artillery and cavalry vegetable gardens (illustration #84). The higher elevation offered greater availability of fresh air and corrected sanitary and sewage problems present in the older hospital. These sanitary improvements, combined with the pleasing low-lying design, added up to a significant improvement over the earlier hospital. (See HABS No. NY-5708-17 for detailed description and history.)



83. A typical example of quarters built for married enlisted men during the 1860s in the Early Enlisted Men's area. A few examples of this type of building remain.

ca. 1910

USMA Archives

In 1894, a Hospital Steward's quarters (#374) was built on the slope north of the hospital (illustration #85). Additional improvements to the Hospital include: the completion of a stone wall around the Hospital in 1900; an addition to the steward's quarters in 1901; the rebuilding of the Hospital's front porch after it was damaged by a fire in 1907; and a rear wing of nurses quarters added in 1914.⁶⁷ (See HABS No. NY-5708-18 for detailed description and history.)

The hospital became a focal point for the enlisted men's area, and, during the 1890s, more family quarters for enlisted men were added to the south (#330, 332, 334), east (#336, 340, 344, 348, 352), and west (#364, 368, 345, 349, 353, 347, 361, 365, 369, 373) (illustration #86). Designed in two slightly different styles, these simple brick buildings were designed to be humble, yet sufficient. (See HABS No. NY-5708-53 for detailed description and history of quarters #344.)

Twentieth-century additions to the area include: a 1919 enlisted men's quarters (#692) south of the hospital, which reflects the low horizontal lines of the hospital (illustration #87); two 1935 Non-Commissioned Officer family quarters (#423, 415) west of the Steward's Quarters; a set of four attached 1935 Non-Commissioned Officers family quarters west of the Hospital (#427, 429, 431, 433); and a 1935 relocation of an 1895 enlisted men's family quarters. The latter reference refers to one of the twelve Non-Commissioned Officers quarters which were listed in a 1935 Superintendent's Report as being relocated from the site of a new building (perhaps the site of the Facility Engineers Facility #667, in the Post Services area).⁶⁸ (See HABS No. NY-5708-54 for detailed description and history of quarters #692.)

Currently most of the buildings designed as quarters continue to serve as such.

In contrast, the enlisted men's barracks (#692) presently serves as a Religious



84. The focal point of the expansion in the Early Enlisted Men's area, the old Soldiers' Hospital was built during the early 1890s. Presently serving as quarters, this building still serves as this area's focal point.

ca. 1910

USMA Archives



85. To the north of the Soldiers' Hospital, this Hospital Stewart's Quarters was built in 1894.

ca. 1912

USMA Archives



86. A row of 1890s quarters for married enlisted men along Biddle Loop.
Many of these buildings remain today.

ca. 1900

USMA Archives



87. A 1919 enlisted men's barracks, located southeast of the old Soldiers' Hospital, which today serves as a religious education facility.

ca. 1925

USMA Archives

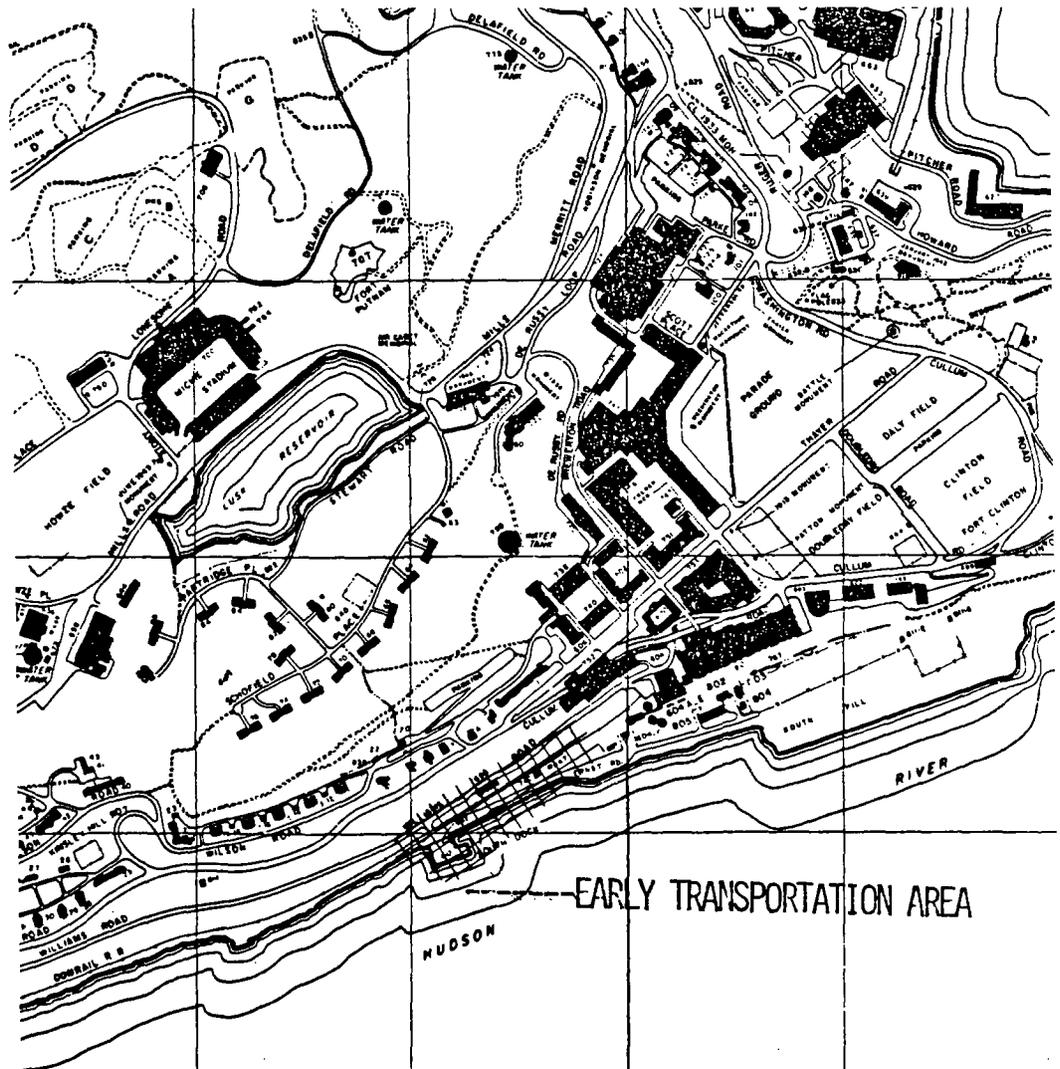
Education Facility. The hospital, later a military police barracks and guard house, now serves as family housing. The magazine is currently a switch station, and the soldiers' children's school, greatly expanded, serves as a youth center.

This area has been designated a Category II Zone for three reasons, which reflect its historical and architectural interest. The area was established over 100 years ago to house the enlisted men required to fulfill the support mission of the military post. It should be pointed out that the historical importance of the military post mission is second only to the teaching mission at West Point. Second, the area includes the 19th-century buildings designed to service the soldiers, a hospital and school. Third, this area includes examples of quarters built for soldiers and their families during the 1860s, 1870s, 1890s, 1910s, and 1930s. The presence of these residences and service buildings serves as a constant reminder of the separate community created for the enlisted men and their families since the 1860s.

The Early Transportation Area

Along the Hudson River, south of the Academic area and east of the old frame officers' quarters along Thayer Road, stand the South Dock and the Railroad Station (illustration #88). As the significance of this area to West Point primarily lies in now abandoned modes of transportation, it is described as the Early Transportation area.

At the north end of this area, the railroad tracks run into two tunnels; one runs under the Plain, and one to the Heating Plant. At the south end of this area, a 1971 utilitarian structure serves as the Harbor Craft Office (#682). Between the tunnels and the Harbor Craft office, on the east side of the tracks, is a small,



88. Location map showing the Early Transportation area, as defined by the HABS Historic Structures Inventory.

1978

USMA Planning Office (modified)

simple baggage shed (#742) with a sloped roof supported by large brackets. This was built at approximately the same time, and in the same style, as the original 1880s train station, which no longer stands. Between the South Dock and the baggage shed, located on the west side of the tracks, is the Railroad Station (#696) built in 1926. A handsome brick building with Tudor motifs, the Railroad Station features glazed terra cotta trim. (See HABS No. NY-5708-29 for detailed description and history.)

In order to appreciate the significance of this zone, one must look back to the days prior to the invention of the automobile. During the first half century of West Point's existence, visitors, officers and cadets alike usually arrived by packet, steamship, or ferry (illustration #89). One of two approaches from the river (the other being North Dock, west of Gee's Point), South Dock most often was used to receive prominent visitors. As could be expected with something as vulnerable to the elements as a dock, the structure has been rebuilt many times in several different sites in this general area (illustration #90). Research has determined a few of these rebuildings, which include: the 1883 erection of a dock by the railroad, which was listed as being located north of the Garrison-West Point Ferry Company slip; an 1899 new south dock and ferry slip; a 1942 rebuilding; and a 1957 repair after the oil tanker, "The Cabins", lost control rounding Gee's Point and practically destroyed the south dock.⁶⁹ Prior to the construction of a railroad on the western shore, visitors arriving by rail from New York City could take the ferry across from Garrison's Landing on the Hudson's eastern shore (illustration #91).

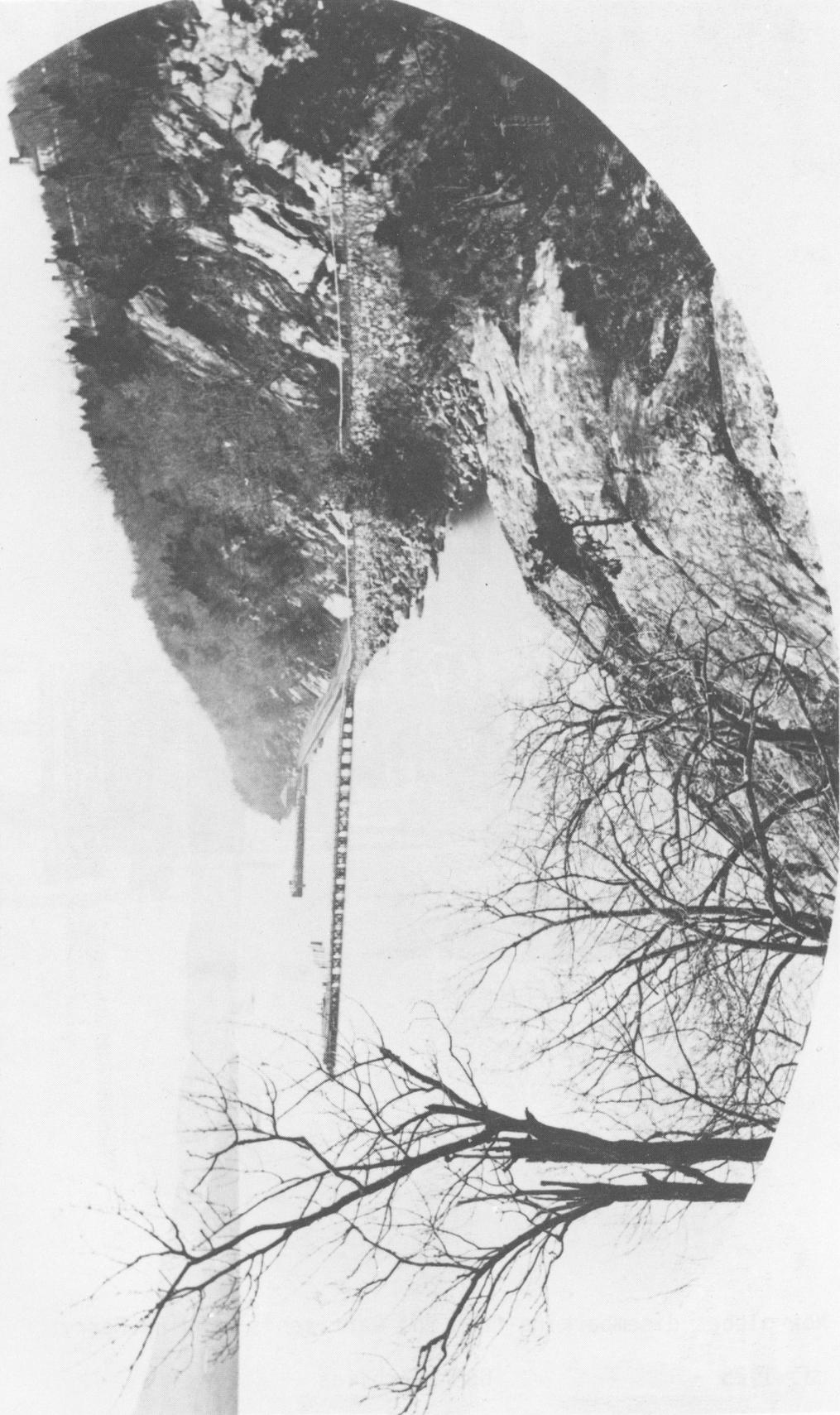
The railroad on the West Point side of the river was first approved by an Act of Congress on December 14, 1867, giving the Hudson River and West Shore Railroad Company permission to operate a railroad across the public lands at West Point.



89. A view of the Academy from the opposite shore of the Hudson, at the Garrison's Landing Ferry slip.

ca. 1865

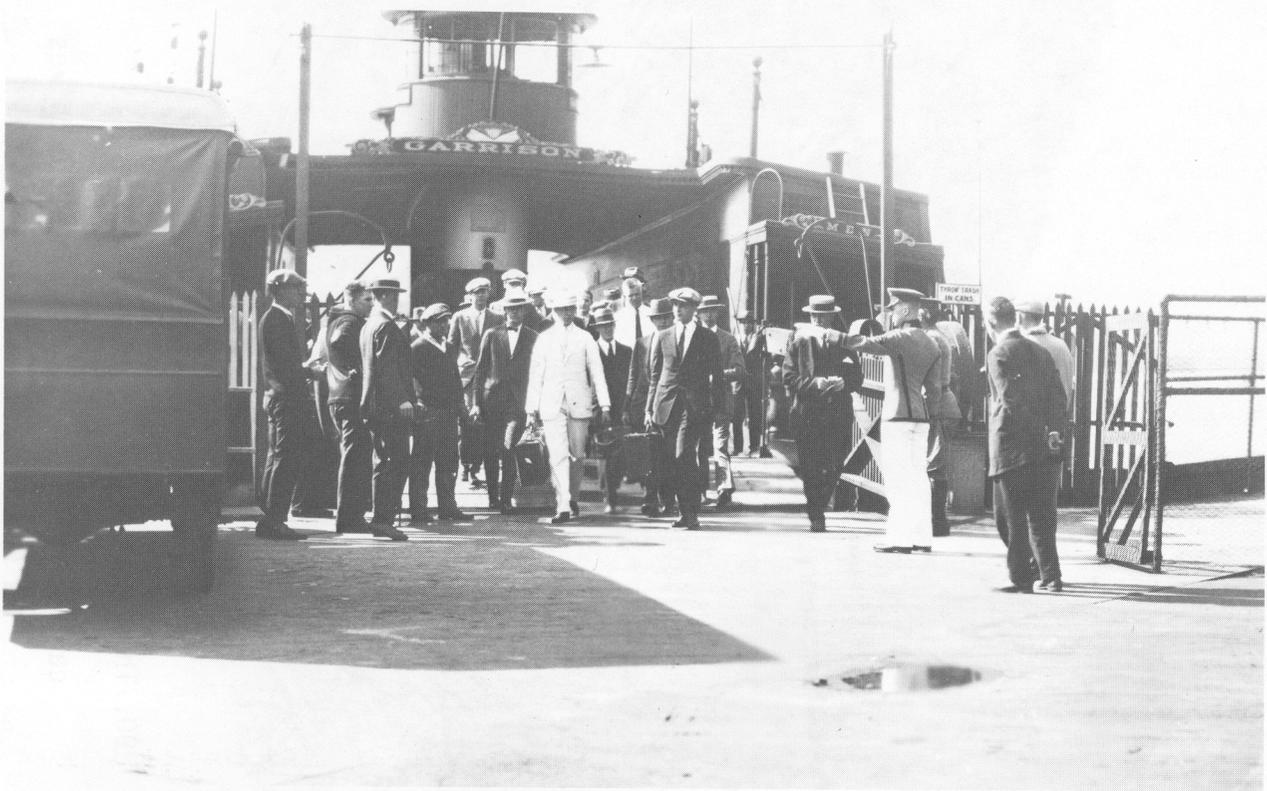
USMA Archives



90. The South Dock area, looking south.

ca. 1870

USMA Archives



91. New plebes disembarking from the Garrison's Landing Ferry.

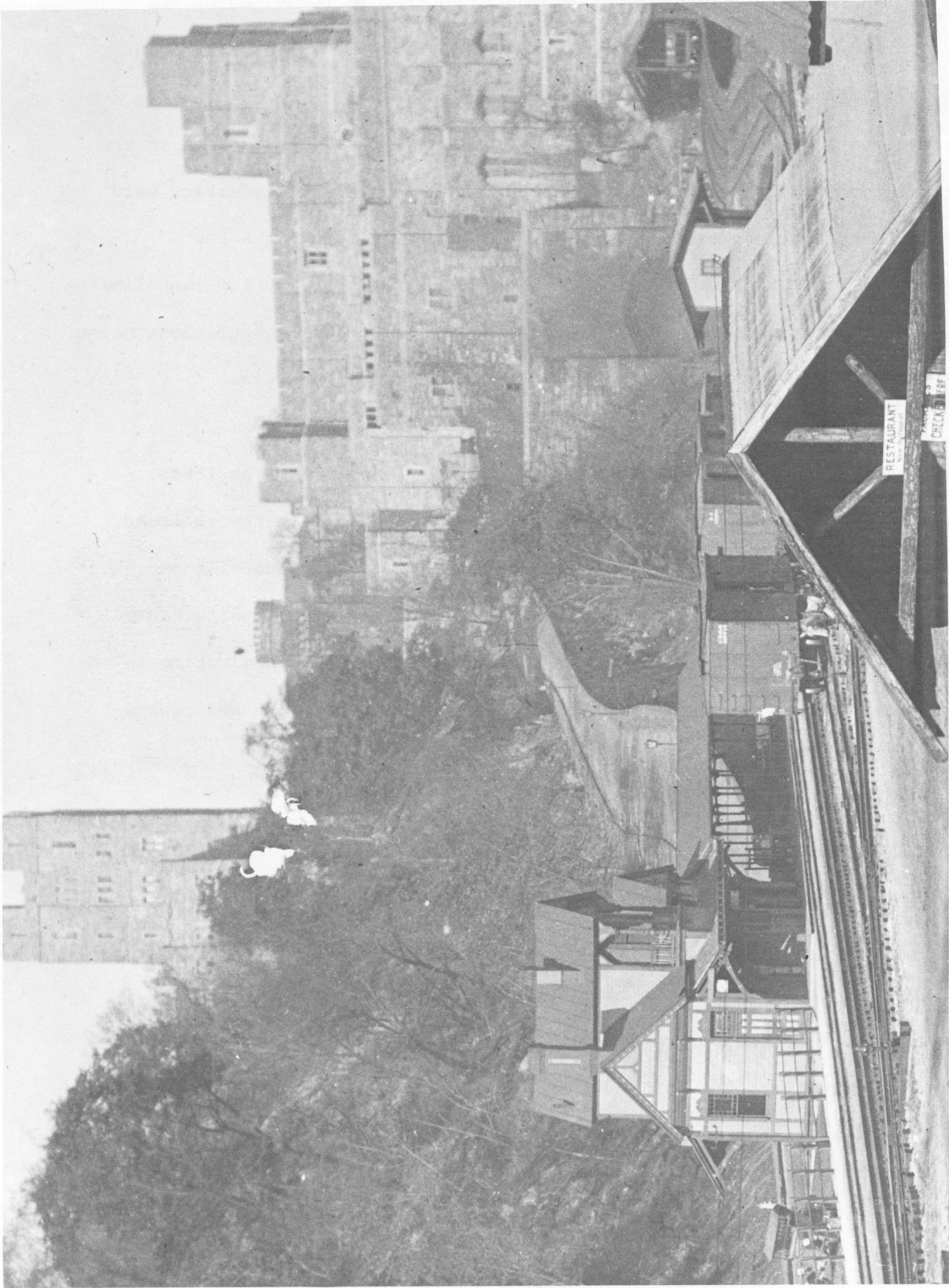
ca. 1925

USMA Archives

Despite a plan approved by the Secretary of War in 1872 to tunnel below the Plain, it was not until 1880 that the "Railroad Advisory Board" at West Point finally developed a completely agreeable plan (illustration #92). The new agreement dictated that the railroad assume the costs of all disruptions to the Academy. Not only did the railroad fill in the land where shallow waters were believed to contribute to malarial disorders, but they also built a new observatory east of Lusk Reservoir.⁷⁰ This was necessary because the tunneling under the Plain had disturbed the accuracy of the astronomical calculations being made by the sensitive equipment located in the old Library's towers.

The railroad station existing today was built in 1926, replacing the 1880s, two-story, frame structure (illustration #93 & 94). Even as the new railroad station was being constructed, the growing popularity of the automobile and the increase in bus transportation was causing the railroad to fade in importance. By the late 1950s, passenger service was halted on this line, contributing to the disuse of this area as a significant point of arrival for visitors and cadets (illustration #95).

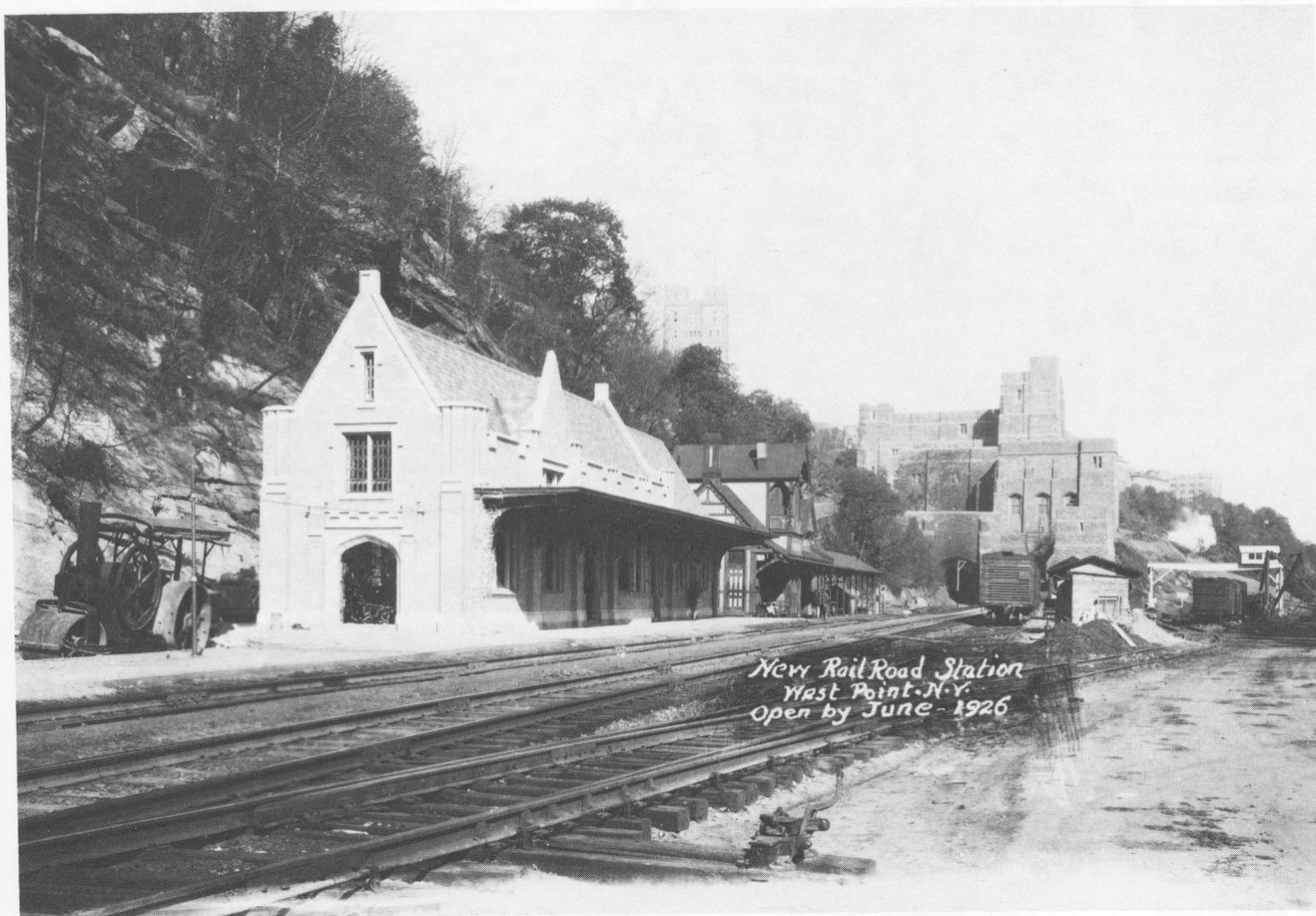
Designated a Category II Zone, this area serves as a reminder of the predominant modes of transportation during most of West Point's existence. Although no longer utilized to its previous extent, the railroad and the dock area rate high historically for their functional connection with the hundreds of important visitors and the thousands of cadets who first saw West Point from this area. The surviving structures are important as visible symbols reflecting this historic transportation function.



92. The Academic area, as seen from the Early Transportation area, showing the original 1880s train station and the entrance to the tunnel which runs under the Plain.

ca. 1920

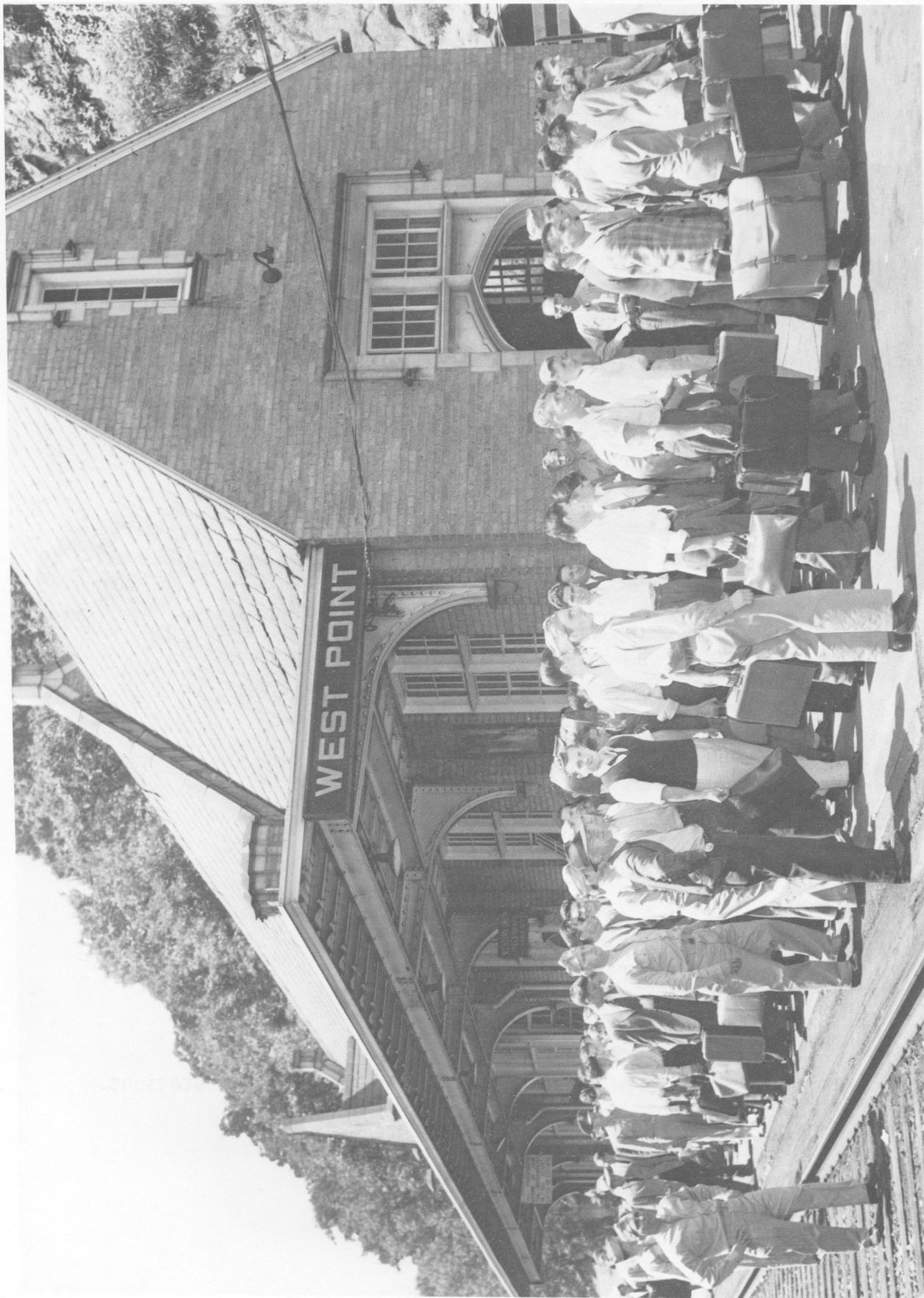
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93. An interesting view showing the old and new railroad stations.

1926

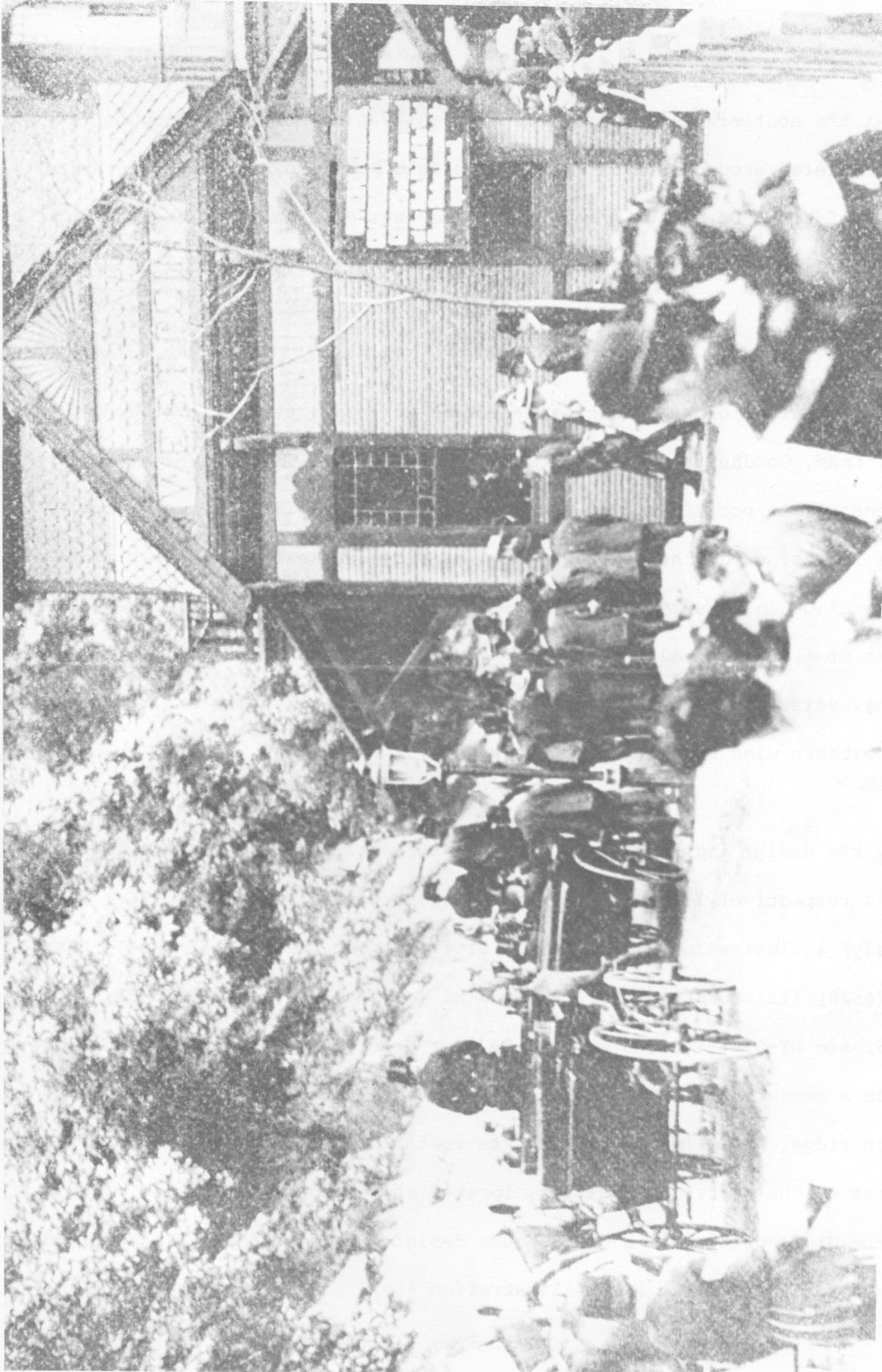
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94. New plebes arriving at the new West Point Railroad Station.

1943

USMA Archives



95. One of many important visitors to West Point, President Theodore Roosevelt arrives at the old train station.

ca. 1902

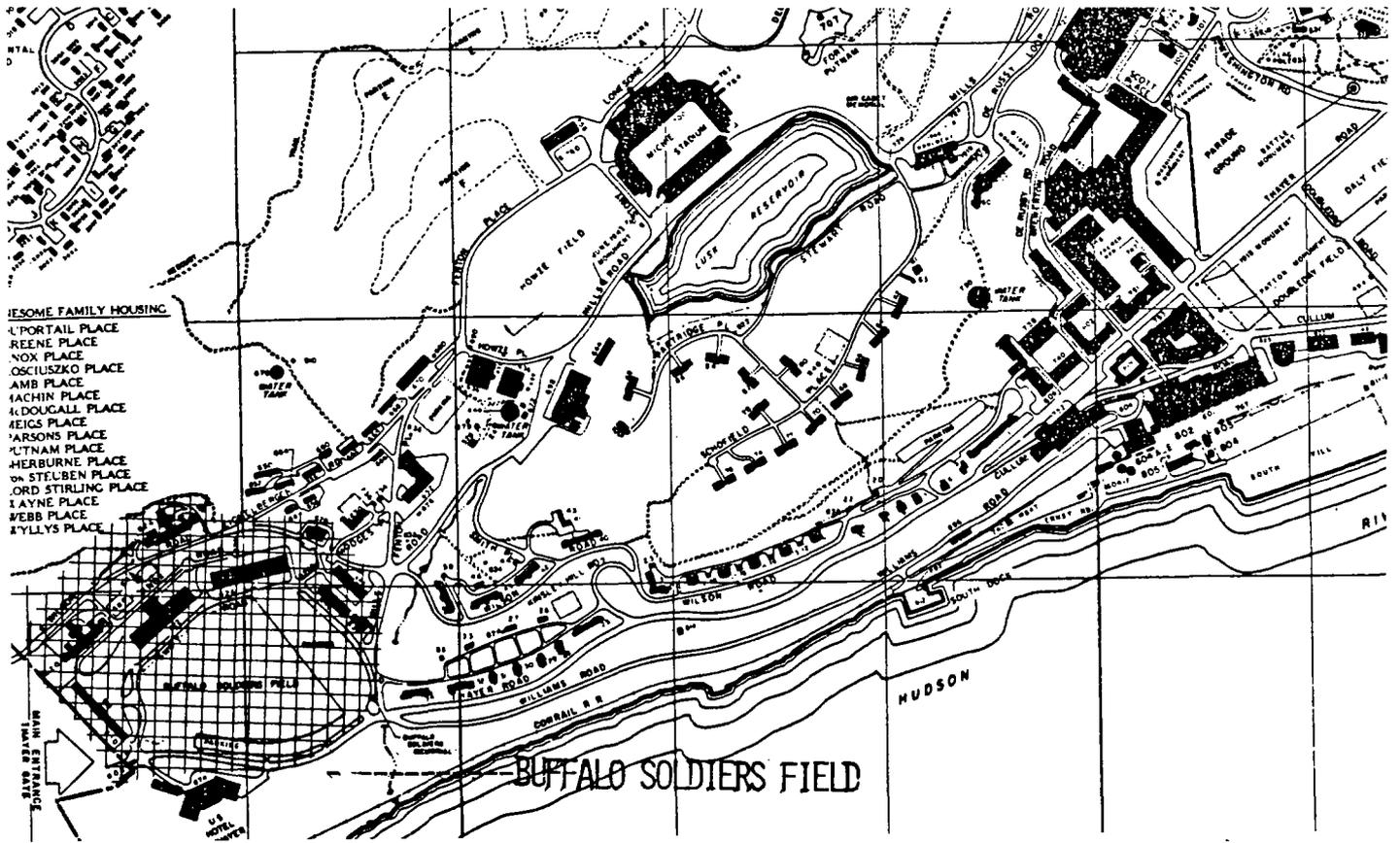
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Buffalo Soldiers Field

Situated at the southern end of the military reservation stands a group of buildings centered around an area known as Buffalo Soldiers Field (illustration #96). Part of the 1903 design scheme, this area was designed as a cavalry and artillery drill area by Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson. The original six buildings were built in 1908.

Despite the intention of West Point authorities to locate the drill ground on this spot, Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson had expected to utilize an area at the northern end of the post, near the old Soldiers' Hospital (#126). After both sites were reconsidered, the southern site was chosen. Reasons in favor of the southern location included: a distance from the Riding Hall of 4,050 feet, versus that of 6,900; the advantage of 1,845,000 square feet for drill maneuvering, versus only 584,000; and the shelter which this site afforded from the cold northern wind sweeping down the Hudson.⁷¹

Originally the design included six buildings: the artillery and cavalry barracks (#620 & 624 respectively); the artillery and cavalry stables (#622 & 626 respectively) (illustration #97); a field artillery gun shed (#618); and a Branch Exchange (#628) (illustration #98). (See HABS No. NY-5708-27, NY-5708-28, NY-5708-46, and NY-5708-47, and NY-5708-56, for detailed description and history.) Situated in a semi-circle around an open field, the stables rest at the foot of the western ridge, with the gun shed to the south, the exchange to the north, and the barracks to the west. In addition, located at the southeastern end of this area was the South Gate, with a Guard House designed by Richard Morris Hunt and erected, after his death, in 1898 (illustration #99).



96. Location map showing the Buffalo Soldiers Field area, as defined by the HABS Historic Structures Inventory.

1978

USMA Planning Office (modified)



97. Designed by Cram, Goodhue, and Ferguson, the Cavalry Stable (1908) is one of a group of cohesively designed buildings at Buffalo Soldiers Field.

ca. 1908

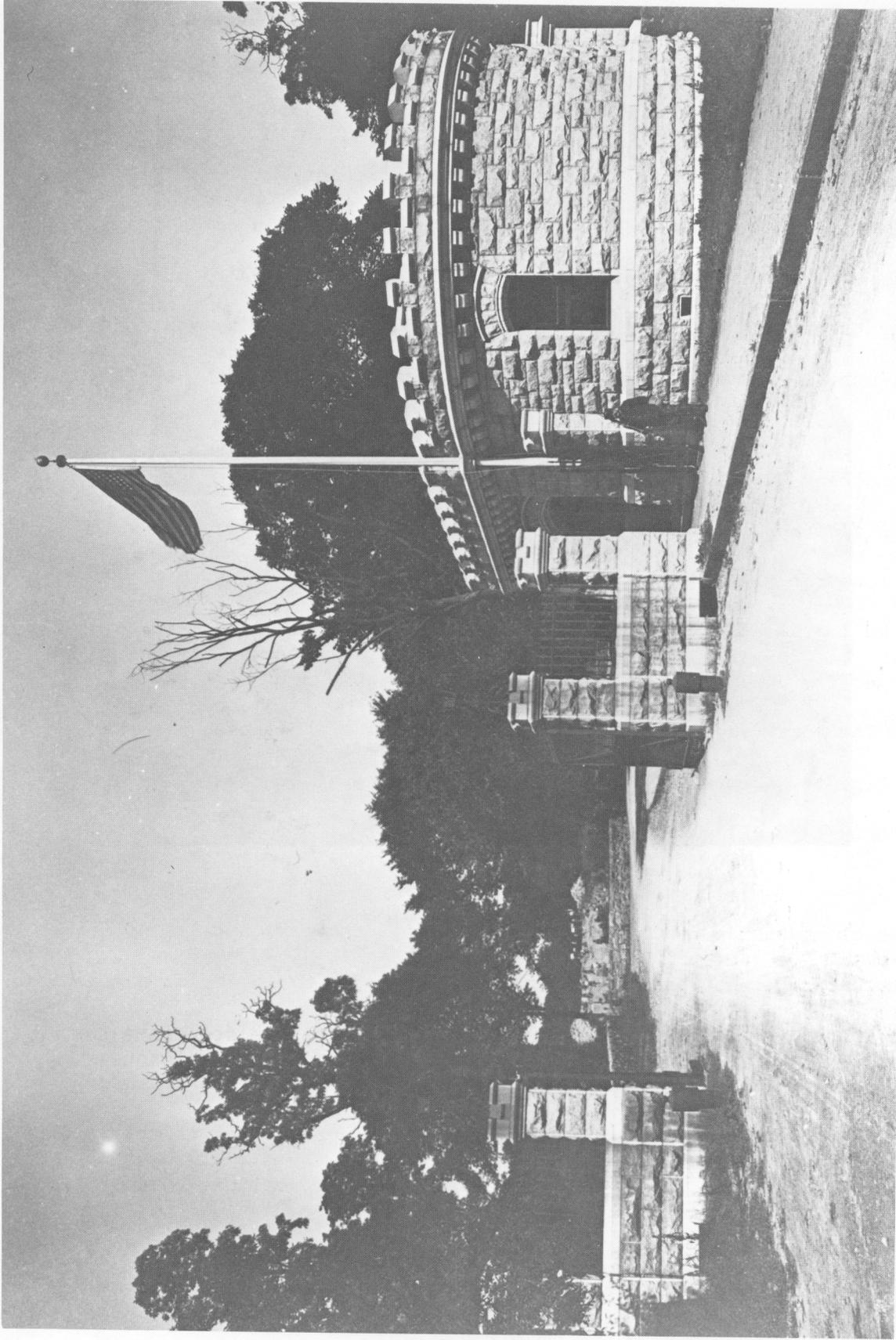
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98. The Branch Exchange (1908), near Buffalo Soldiers Field, before the front extension covered the original Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson facade.

ca. 1909

USMA Archives



99. Designed by Richard Morris Hunt, the old South Gatehouse stood at the southern entrance to the Academy between the 1890s and the 1920s.

ca. 1902

USMA Archives

The term "Buffalo Soldiers Field" was not officially used until 1973 when the area was named in honor of those men of the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments who served here. The term Buffalo Soldier allegedly was given by the Indians to their dark-skinned adversaries, the Black soldiers who comprised these two regiments. Having a long history of fighting Indians after the Civil War and later fighting alongside Colonel Theodore Roosevelt at San Juan Hill, these proven soldiers were selected to assist with cavalry instruction. In 1907, a detachment of the 9th Cavalry Regiment was assigned to West Point, and served until 1931, when they were replaced by the 2nd Squadron of the 10th Cavalry.⁷²

The days when great emphasis was placed on equestrian talents were nearly over by the time this area was developed. The advanced military technology of rapid-fire, long range weaponry demanded that the soldier maintain sufficient cover, and the increased efficiency of mobilization by rail, plane, and motorized vehicle removed the dependence upon the horse as the sole form of rapid deployment. The first decades after the establishment of this area witnessed a weakening influence of equestrian training, culminating in the abandonment of such training by 1947 (illustration #100).

More tangible changes also occurred around the area. Sometime between 1910 and 1928, the Hunt guard house was removed, probably to widen the gate for automobile traffic. By 1936, a new stone gate was erected with funds from the Works Progress Administration.⁷³ In 1951, the guard house from Wilson Gate, which had been built in 1945, was moved to this location. It replaced an older temporary wooden gate house, which was then moved to the 22-caliber outdoor pistol range.⁷⁴

In 1935, a veterinarian facility (#670) was added north of the Branch Exchange.



100. A sign of changing times, in August of 1947 the Academy auctioned-off the majority of its horses, bringing to an end the 100 years during which equestrian training was a major part of cadet life.

1947

USMA Archives

A light-gun shop (#646) and a general storehouse (#648) were erected at the north end of the grouping in 1939 and 1943, respectively. A fire station (#634) was added at the northeastern end of the grouping in 1945.

At present, nearly every building serves a function different from that originally intended. The two former stables serve as an enlisted men's club and a general storehouse with offices. The barracks continue to house enlisted men, yet no longer the Buffalo Soldiers of the 9th and 10th Regiments. The artillery gun shed is now a Visitors Information Center and garage. The light-gun shop, doubled in size in 1919, is a print shop, and the general storehouse is a craft and auto shop. Around 1961, the fire station was remodeled to become the Main Post Office. The Branch Exchange continues as an exchange, but was modified in 1945 by a projecting brick addition, which covered the original facade. The veterinary facility continues to serve its original function.

Despite alterations, additions, and changes in use, Buffalo Soldiers Field continues to appear as a cohesive architectural unit. Designated as a Category II Zone, this area succeeds in impressing the viewer with a definite sense of time and place. The importance of the location of each building, reinforcing a central area, is still intact. The area appears largely the same as when built and is as an excellent example of an early 20th-century Cavalry facility.

Remaining as an architectural reminder of the equestrian aspects of the teaching mission at the Academy, this area maintains a high degree of historical integrity, despite the discontinuation of its original function. A fine example of the work of Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson from the 1903 competition, Buffalo Soldiers Field represents an excellent interpretation of the styles used for the handsome officers' quarters designed by that firm throughout the post.

South End Officers' Quarters Area

The area between Buffalo Soldiers Field and the Academic area is a residential area with officers' quarters fronting on Wilson, Cullum and Thayer Roads (illustration #101). Within this zone, one finds quarters of both frame and brick construction. The land was originally part of the Gridley and Kinsley tracts (approximately 300 and 225 acres), which were purchased in 1824 and 1889.

At the northern end of this area stands South Apartments (#1), designed by Cram and Ferguson, which was completed in 1929. Farther south are five frame quarters (#5, 6, 7, 9, 10) built in 1870. (See HABS No. NY-5708-49 for detailed description and history of quarters #7.) Prior to the 1920s, there were several other 19th-century quarters in this area (illustration #102, 103). Quarters #8 is brick and was probably built in 1892. The frame quarters are of vernacular styles, while the brick quarters mirrors two identical buildings along Washington Road designed to standardized Quartermaster plans.

The area across Thayer Road from Quarters #8 and #9 is the location of the old southern gate. This gate featured a gothic frame cottage, built in 1859, and the iron gate, which in 1897 was moved to the cemetery (illustration #104).

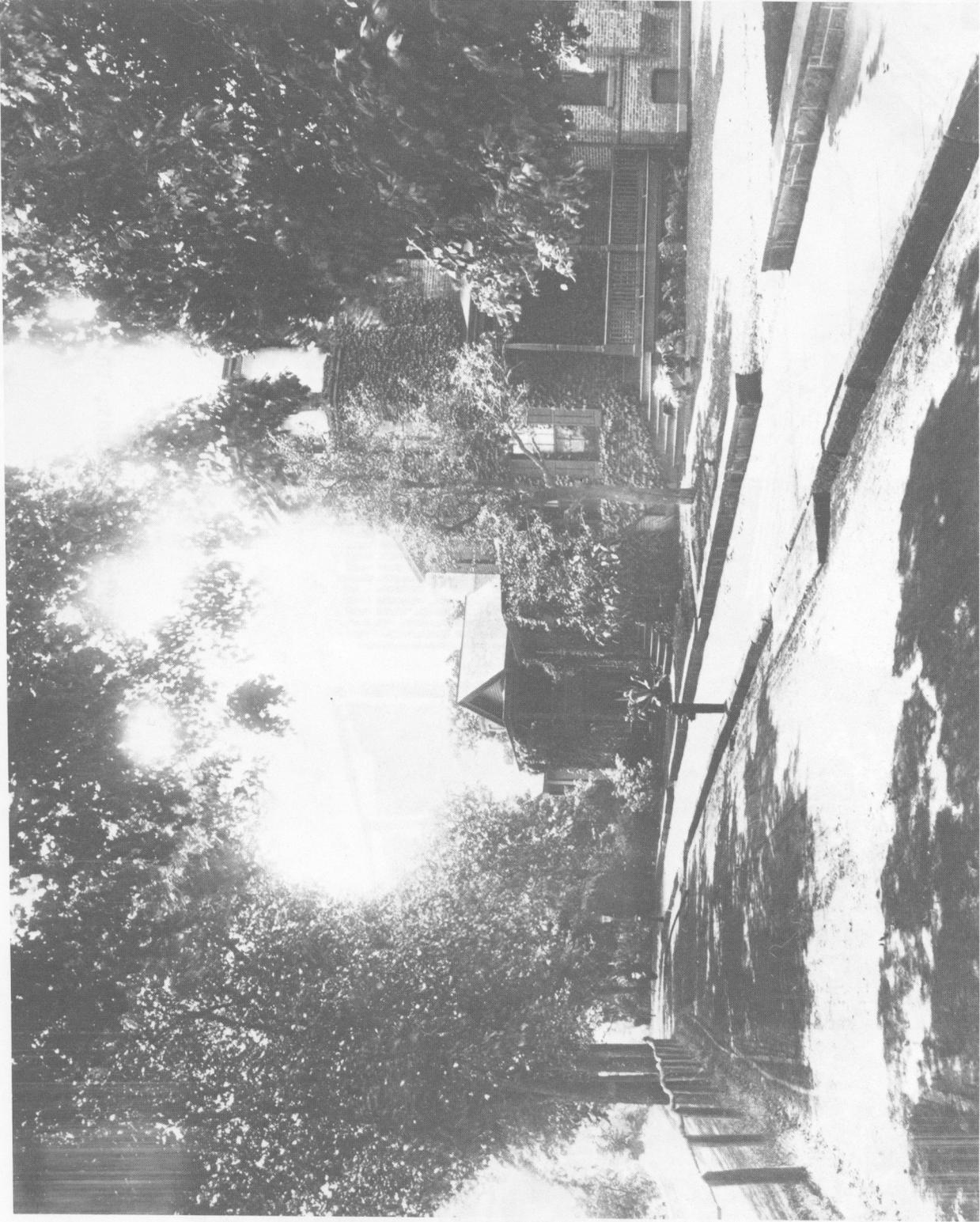
Farther south along Wilson Road are Quarters #11, #13, #15, #17, and #19. These are standardized designs of the office of the Quartermaster General, built in 1901. (See HABS No. NY-5708-51 for detailed description and history of quarters #11.) Similar designs can be found on Army installations across the country. At the end of this small group of quarters is a large set of Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson brick quarters (#21) built in 1910. (See HABS No. NY-5708-30 for detailed description and history.) Continuing up the hill on Wilson Road are



102. Officers' Quarters #'s 4, 6, and 8 ca. 1870 (right to left). Quarters #6 and #8 were demolished and replaced by Central Apartments during the 1920s.

ca. 1900

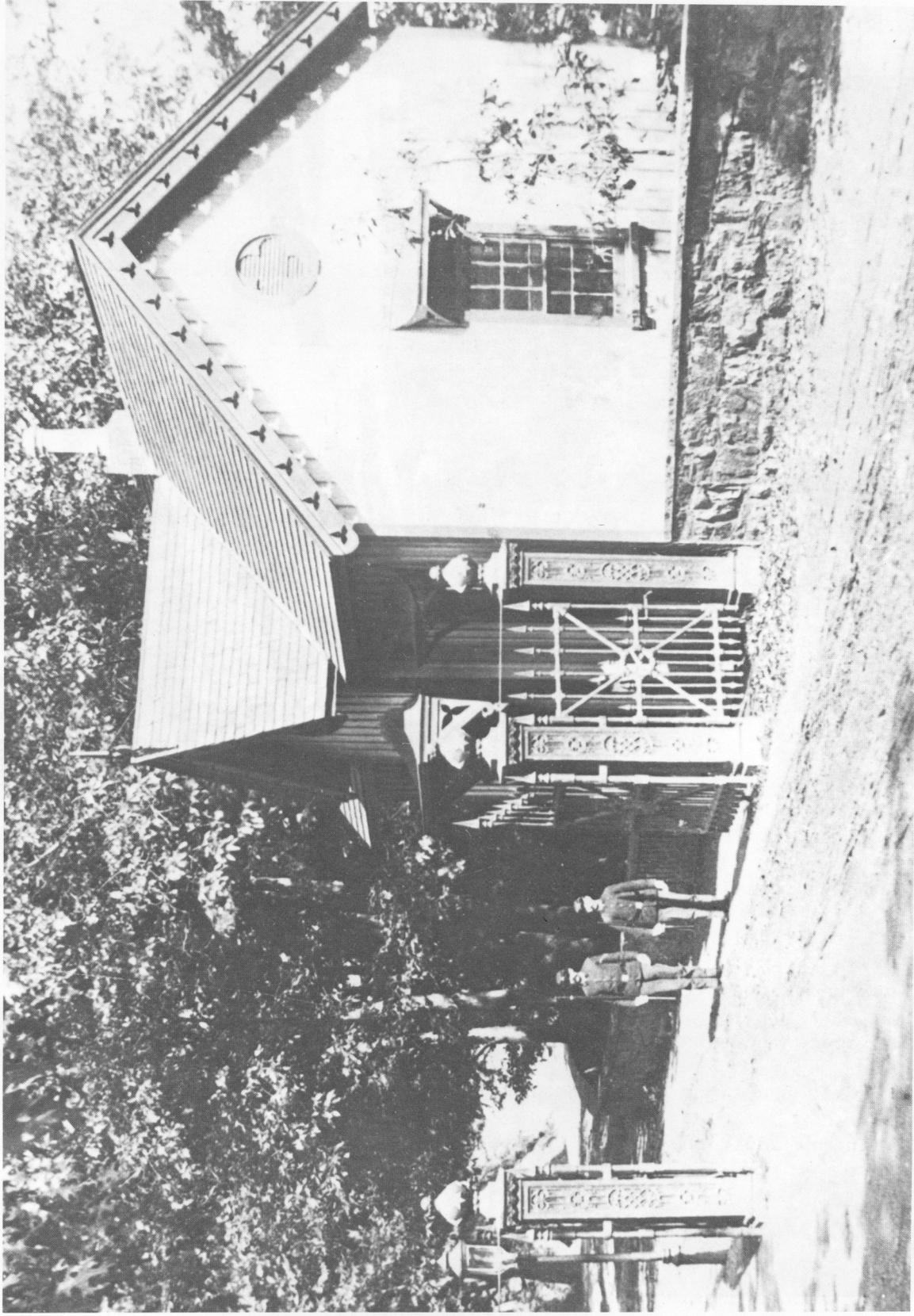
USMA Archives



103. Officers' Quarters originally located along Thayer Road. These were replaced by the Central Apartments in the 1920s.

ca. 1900

USMA Archives



104. Located across from where Quarters #8 stands, this was the southern gatehouse during the mid-19th century.

ca. 1880

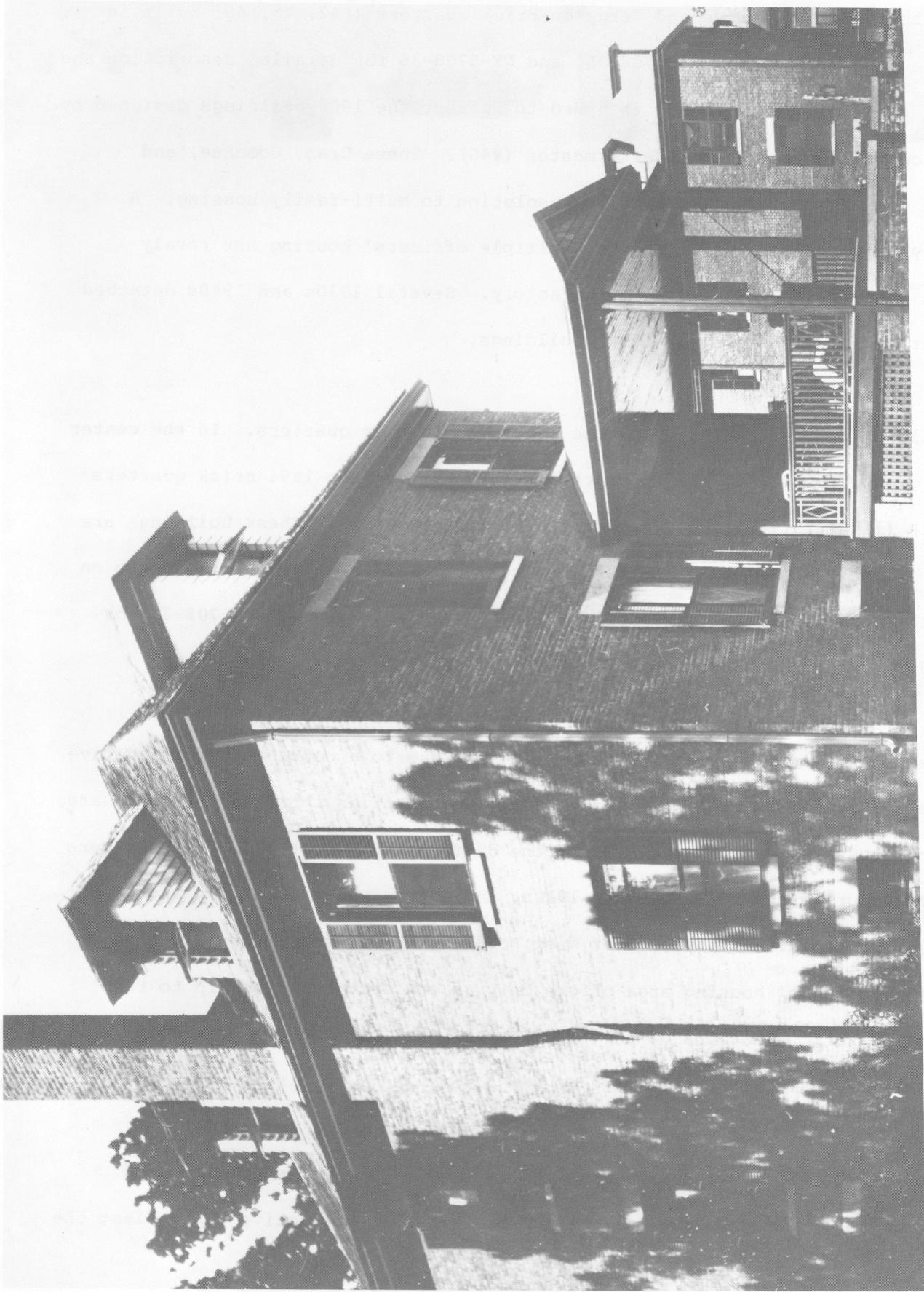
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three sets of Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson brick quarters (#42, 45, 48) built in 1908 (See HABS NY-5708-34, NY-5708-35, and NY-5708-36 for detailed description and history) and one 1919 building, intended to reflect the 1908 buildings designed by the office of the West Point Quartermaster (#40). These Cram, Goodhue, and Ferguson designs represent an excellent solution to multi-family housing. A necessity on most Army installations, multiple officers' housing has rarely received a design so elegant and satisfactory. Several 1930s and 1940s detached brick garages are located near these buildings.

Below Wilson Road, at Thayer Road, are a number of other quarters. In the center of this group are two 1891 brick quarters (#28, 29) and two 1894 brick quarters (#30, 31) (illustration #105), all of Quartermaster design. These buildings are flanked by one Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson quarters (#25) on the north and two on the south (#32, 34). (See HABS No. NY-5708-31, NY-5708-32, and NY-5708-33 for detailed description and history.)

This area has been designated a Category II Zone due to a combination of positive and negative factors. From an architectural and historical perspective, this area is important as it contains examples of the different types of officers' quarters constructed during the 1870s, 1890s, 1910s, and 1920s, which present a picture of the domestic life of the officers of West Point during these periods. Yet this role as an officers' housing area offers only an indirect relationship to the important historic functions of the teaching and post missions at West Point, adding only minimal additional value to the Academy's major historic themes.

Additional positive values derive from the architectural success of the Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson's housing units which are visually attractive and reflect the general theme of the architects' designs at West Point.



105. Old Officers' Quarters #33. Although this 1890s building was demolished, its original identical neighbors, #28 and #30, are still standing.

ca. 1900

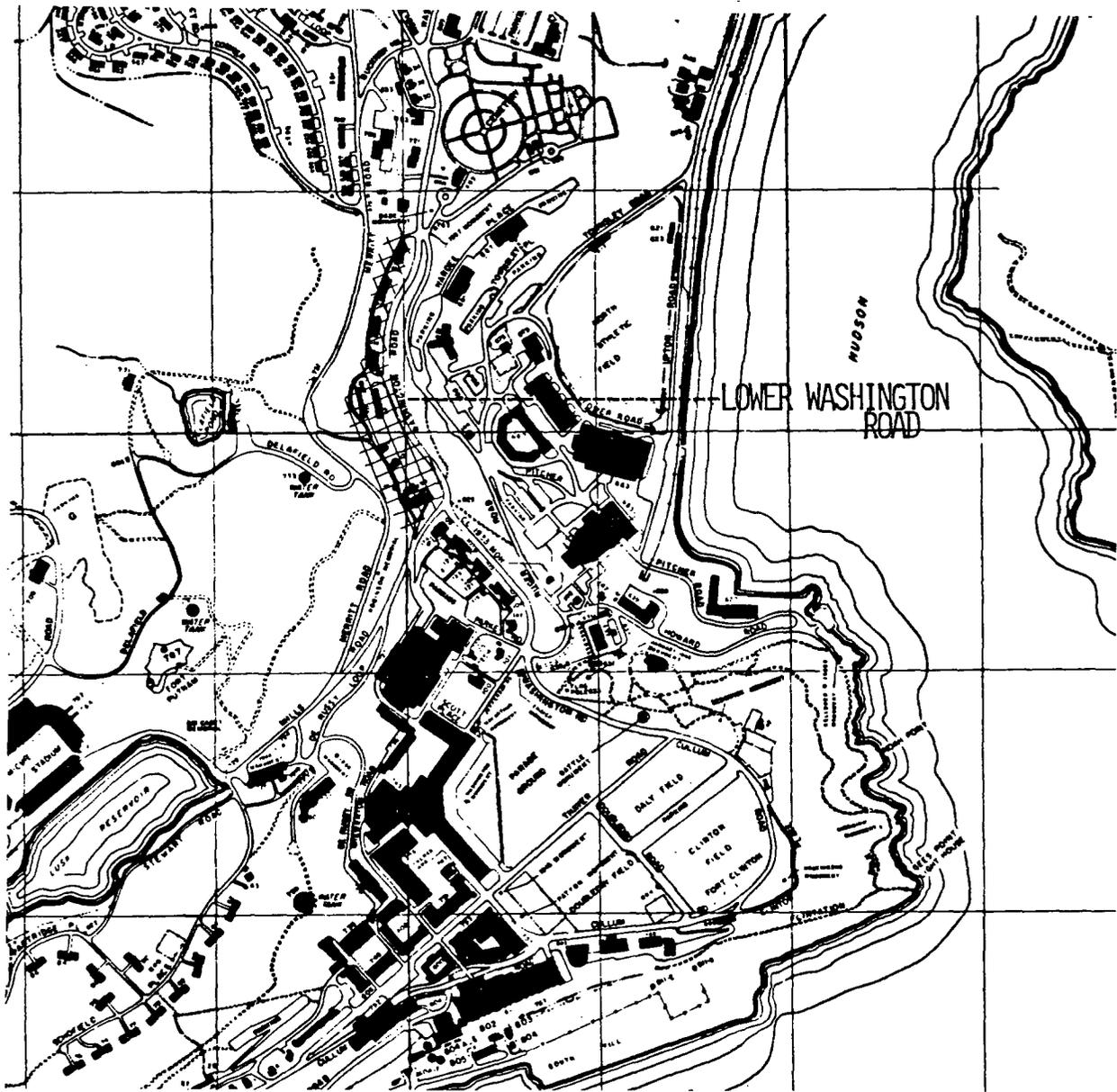
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Lower Washington Road

Beginning at the junction of Mills and Washington Roads and continuing up Washington Road to a point across from the old Cadet Chapel, stand eight sets of Officer's Family Quarters, one church, and a few detached garages (illustration #106). Seven of the eight quarters are brick, one is frame, and the church is granite.

The Catholic Chapel and Rectory (#699) was built by the Roman Catholic Church on West Point land at the southern end of this zone. Opened in 1900, the church was designed by the New York firm of Hines and LaFarge. A new wing was added in the 1930s (illustration #107) and the church was enlarged further, including a remodeled steeple, in 1960. Stone used for the latter enlargement came from the old Observatory near Lusk Reservoir. Having obtained permission to build a church at West Point after several decades of effort, the church's permit was revoked and then approved again just prior to the turn of the century. Even upon final approval, the Academy reserved review authority over the architect's design for the church.⁷⁵

At the northern extreme of this area sits an interesting white frame building (#124). An example of quarters for the numerous civilian personnel at West Point, this quarters was built in 1868 (illustration #108). Records indicate that the building cost approximately \$10,500, which came from the Cadet Quartermaster Department Fund. According to an 1889 account, the east end was leased by a cutter employed in the clothing branch of the Cadet Quartermaster Department, and the western end was leased to the lessee of the public stables, both for a total of \$200.00 per year.⁷⁶



106. Location map showing the Lower Washington Road area, as defined by the HABS Historic Structures Inventory.

1978

USMA Planning Office (modified)



107. The Roman Catholic Chapel along Washington Road. Designed by Hines and LaFarge at the turn of the 20th century, this building received a new Rectory in the 1930s, and a new steeple in 1960.

ca. 1938

USMA Archives



108. Although the location of this building has not been determined, it is similar to Quarters #124 which was built for civilians at the northern end of the Lower Washington Road area in the 1860s.

ca. 1890

USMA Archives

Among the buildings located between these end buildings are five sets of Tudor brick Officer's Quarters, four of which (#116, 118, 120, 122) were designed by Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson and built in 1909. (See HABS No. NY-5708-37, NY-5708-38, NY-5708-39, and NY-5808-40 for detailed description and history.) The fifth quarters (#114) was designed by the Academy Quartermaster Department and built in 1919 as a simplified version of the Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson designs mentioned above.

To the south of the 1919 quarters are two, of an original group of three, 1892 quarters (#112 and #113) (the third of which was destroyed by fire in the 1960s). The two brick quarters remaining feature a three-story projecting bay, topped by an open balcony and an interesting "zippered brick" detailing where the walls meet each other on the projecting octagonal bay. The standardized design for these brick buildings was utilized in the South End Officers' Quarters area in at least two instances, only one of which remains today (#8).

The Lower Washington Road area is designated as a Category II Zone. Historically, the area served as one of two bridges between the Academic area to the south and the Enlisted Men's area to the north (the other bridge being Ruger Road, which runs through the Post Services area below Washington Road).

Apparently an extension of the early 19th-century Professors Row to the south, this area acquired its present appearance during the few decades before and after the turn of the century, at the same time that the enlisted men's area was expanding. If it is true that an effort was made to protect the cadets from the influences of the enlisted men (see section on the Early Enlisted Men's area) then this area surely served as a buffer zone between the two.

Post Services Area

Situated northwest of the Academic area, this area sits on the declining slope which leads from the Plain's northwestern end to the Hudson River. The slope which drops from the cemetery serves as the western border; the slope to the north of Washington Road serves as the southern border; the fall line of Howard Road from the Plain to the North Dock forms the eastern border; and the shoreline and railroad causeway complete the area's north border (illustration #109).

This area was originally known as Camptown, named after William Camp, a man who lived in a barn in this area until his death in 1829.⁷⁷ The northern boundary has only existed since the 1880s, when a railroad was tunneled under the Plain and extended north along the present causeway. Shortly thereafter, the area west of the causeway was infilled, creating the land now used for an athletic field. Historically, a number of buildings of various styles have been located here. This stylistic confusion was inevitable for an area whose purpose is, and always has been, to accommodate the numerous service functions necessary for the operation of both the Academic and Post missions. The most visible buildings presently located in this area are large brick structures designed during this century. Most of the buildings original to the area were torn down during the expansion programs of the 1930s and early 1970s. The precise location of the earlier buildings may be suggested best in context with what replaced them. Therefore, a discussion of the extant buildings will come first, followed by a discussion of the original buildings presented in order of location rather than chronology. This approach is taken to allow a clearer picture of this historically crowded and visually complex area.

Approaching this area from the Plain, one cannot help but notice Eisenhower Hall (#695), the Cadet Activity Center. The building's solid brick mass obstructs one of the primary views of the Hudson River. Built in 1974, this is the newest building in the Services area.

Farther west is the Commissary and Facility Engineers Facility (#667), built in 1935. A West Point Quartermaster design, this semi-octagonal structure features a central tower on the front (south) side. This and numerous other major buildings at West Point bear the influence of Edwin V. Dunstan, Quartermaster at West Point during the 1930s. These red brick structures are simplified and economical adaptations of the Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson style for West Point. While attractive and generally harmonious with their sites, the Dunstan buildings fall short of the crispness of the Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson designs.

To the north is the old Rifle and Pistol Range Building (#665), and farther east is the Field House (#663), which was designed by Paul P. Cret. These buildings were built in 1938 and 1937, respectively. A second Cret-designed building, the 1937 Ordnance and Engineering Laboratory, is across from the 19th-century Ordnance Compound (#639). Each of these buildings is faced with red brick, the standard building material for the Post Services area during the 1930s, and do not reflect the type of architecture for which Cret is most well-known.

A set of buildings designed as a group is located on the slope below the cemetery. The Military Police Barracks (#681), the old Service Detachment Barracks (#685), and the Auxiliary Barracks (#687), designed by Dunstan, follow in design and construction Cram, Goodhue, and Ferguson's Buffalo Soldiers Field Barracks. The two end buildings were built in 1935 and the center one in 1939.

Additional 20th-century structures include the frame storehouse (#627) near the north dock, built in 1943, and the grandstand (#617) at the North Athletic Field, built in 1939.

Only a few structures in this area survive from the 19th century; most of the early buildings having been demolished as recently as 1970. South of Eisenhower Hall is a Gothic Revival cottage (#146) built in 1858. This building was fictionalized in the movie, "The Long Gray Line," as the quarters of the old soldier, Marty Mayer. Strongly reminiscent of the Gothic cottages of A. J. Davis, who designed many such buildings in this region, the building features pointed-arch windows with label molds, a steeply pitched gable roof and a smaller cross gable with ornamental bargeboards. (See HABS No. NY-5708-16 for a detailed description and history.)

Farther east, along Howard Road, is the old Cadet Restaurant (#147), also known as the Confectionery, the Boodlers, or Retiring House. Built in 1878 as a one-story brick confectionery, the building was remodeled to its present appearance in 1889 (illustration #110).⁷⁸ Unfortunately, no photographs have been found which clearly show the original condition. The Italianate-style building presently features segmentally-arched windows with hood molds, a projecting central section, and a flat roof. Currently, the building serves as a community center. (See HABS No. NY-5708-19 for detailed history and description.)

Another early building is the old Bandmaster's Quarters (#144), built in 1873, which still stands south of the commissary (illustration #111).⁷⁹ The Bandmaster, originally a civilian, was quartered only yards from the Band Barracks, which was located on the site of the Eisenhower Hall parking lot.



110. The old Cadet Restaurant building has been in the Post Services area performing various services for the cadets since the 1880s.

ca. 1900

USMA Archives



111. The old Bandmaster's Quarters built on this site in 1873 still stands.

ca. 1900

USMA Archives

Only two other early buildings survive in this area. The old Pontoon Shed (#673), built in the 1850s, served as a Pontoon Shed and Commissary in 1889, a Commissary in 1930, and an enlisted men's gymnasium in the 1940s and 1950s.⁸⁰ Originally along the water, the Pontoon Shed's usefulness was decreased when the area north of it was land-filled. The other building is the old Main Guard House (#675) built in 1850 (illustration #112). This 130-year-old building also served as an electrician's shop.⁸¹ These buildings, overlooked by most historians, rank among West Point's oldest remaining structures.

The remainder of this analysis of the Post Services area will consist of a discussion of the historic use of this area as demonstrated through the various buildings which were once located here (illustration #113).

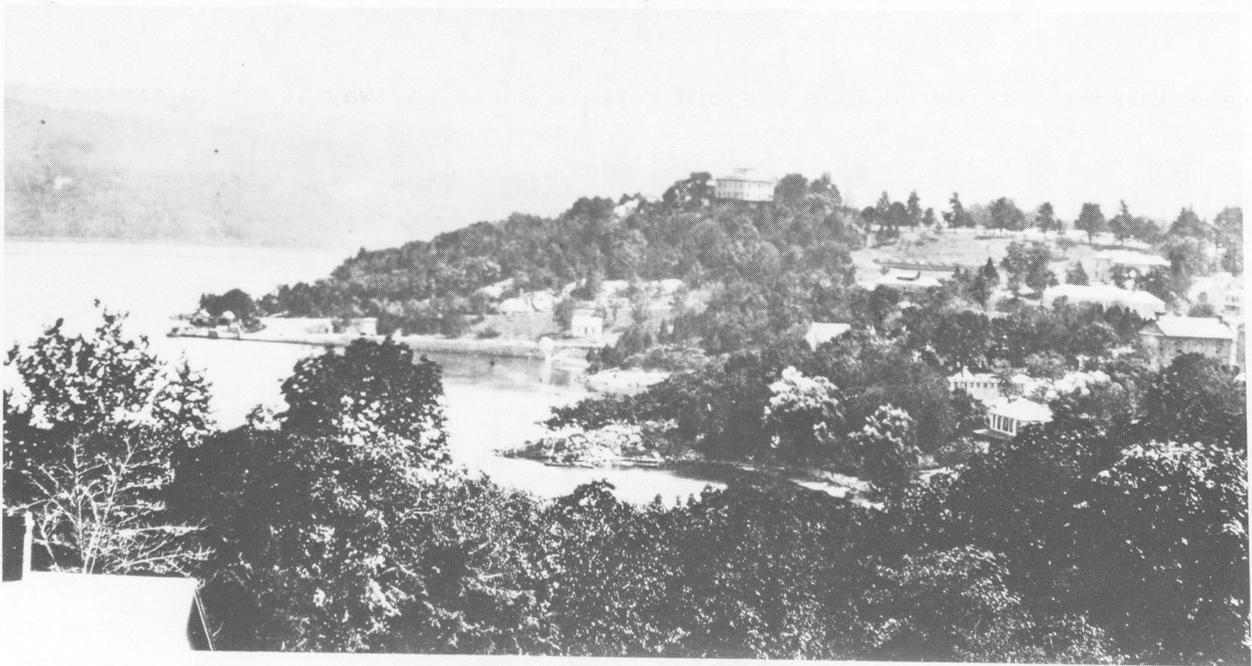
We shall begin at the North Dock, much as one might have approached West Point during most of the 19th century (illustration #114). The exact date of erection of the dock is uncertain. As with the south dock, the construction and precise location of something as vulnerable as a dock is likely to change over the years. We do know that during the Revolutionary War a dock was maintained at Gee's Point, at the northeast edge of the Academic area. The earliest account of a dock near the present site dates to 1814.⁸² Additional records indicate that the "north wharf" was rebuilt in 1870 and repaired in 1888.⁸³ While the south dock was the debarking area for the majority of passengers, it was the north dock which received the greater part of the supplies arriving by boat, such as coal, firewood, hay, lumber, brick, and all heavy ordnance.⁸⁴ In 1889, the dock contained about 4,500 square feet and featured an elevated coal handling cable railway, which extended to each of the coal sheds which dotted the slope of the Services area. This railway was described as having seventy-three trestles, varying from two feet to thirty-six feet in height.⁸⁵ By 1897, the



112. Built in the 1850s, the old Main Guard House was tucked away along a slope in the Post Services area. It is one of the oldest buildings at West Point.

ca. 1900

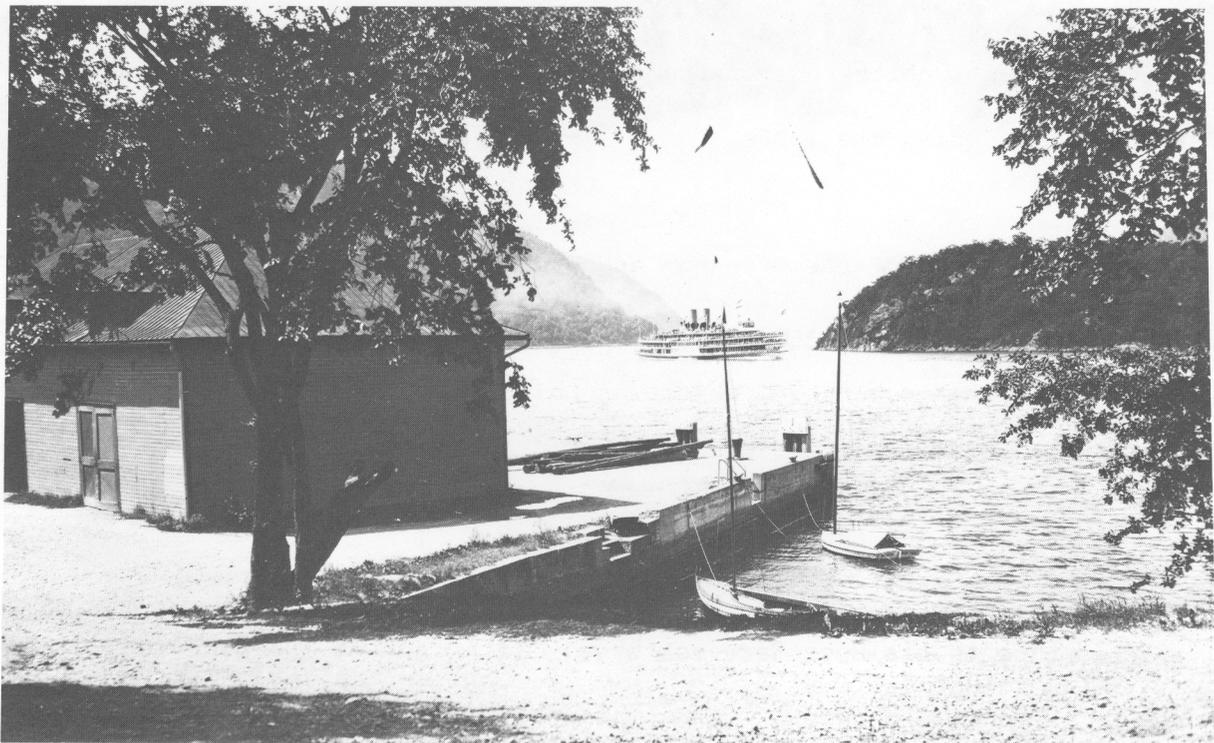
USMA Archives



113. The Post Services area, as seen from the cemetery.

ca. 1880

USMA Archives



114. The excursion boat "Alexander Hamilton" passes North Dock.

ca. 1900

USMA Archives

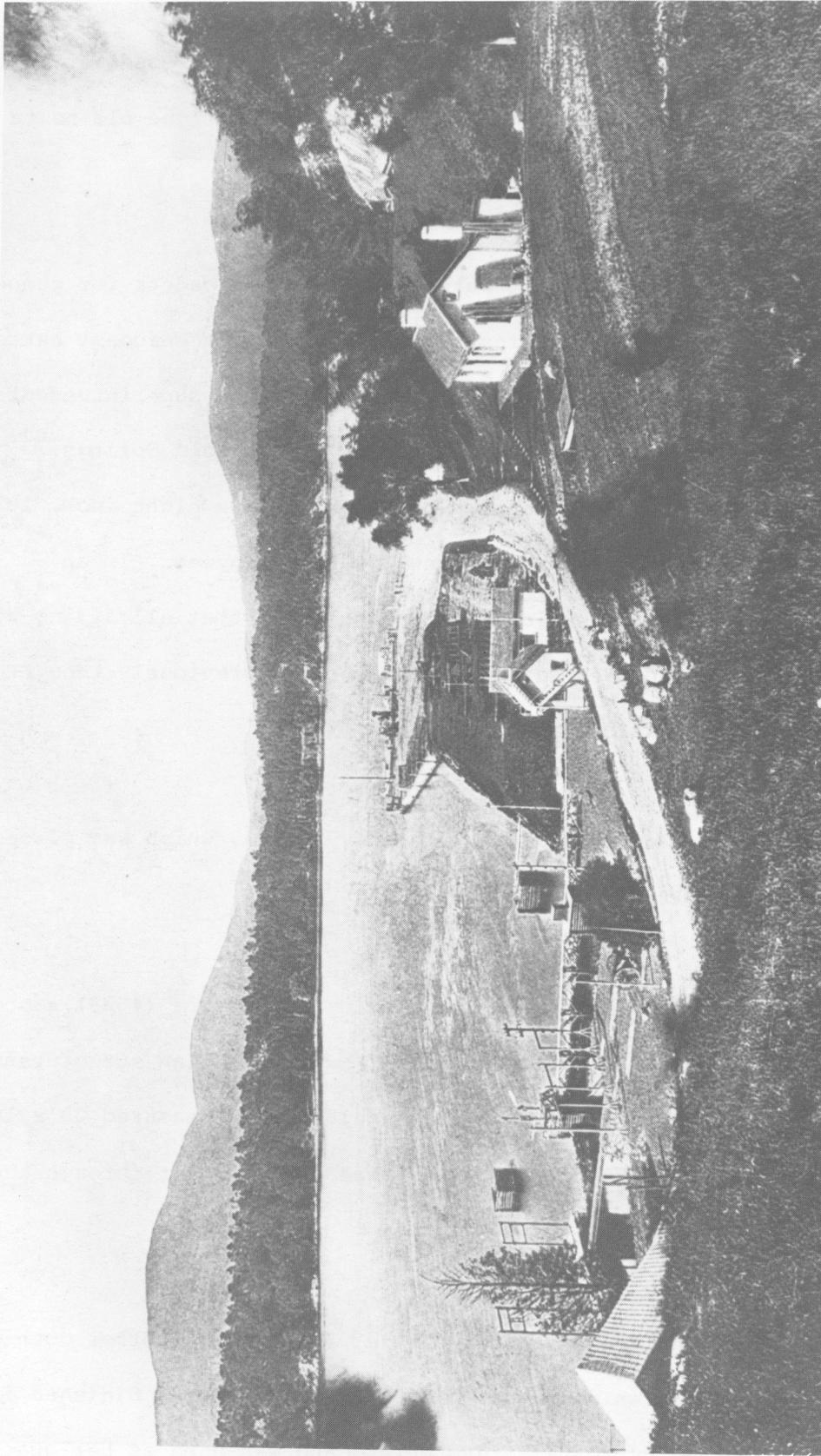
Superintendent reported that the old surface cable railway had been replaced by a suspension cableway, which led in a straight line from the coal sheds at the top of the hill to a new dock constructed a short distance east of the old north dock.⁸⁶

To the west of the dock was the seacoast battery used by the cadets for gunnery practice (illustration #115). One interesting story about the seacoast battery is related in a letter dated June 7, 1887, from a Mr. Platt, the superintendent of the Hudson River Ore and Coal Company, across the river, in Cold Springs.⁸⁷ Mr. Platt reported that at around 5:30 pm on the previous day, an eight inch, 182 pound shell flew overhead and landed near a few of his employees. In an apologetic letter, the Superintendent of West Point stated that all firing would be discontinued until it was proven safe, and that he had previously thought such a long distance shot was impossible (illustration #116).

Farther west is the northern entrance to the railway tunnel, which was placed under the Plain during the 1880s.

Near the present site of the Ordnance and Engineering Laboratory (#639) stood the gas works, which was established in 1857. A group of utilitarian structures, the gas works included a coal shed, which was built in 1873, and measured 30'x 104' with a 500-ton capacity, and a round tank, which was still extant through the late 1890s (illustration #117).⁸⁸

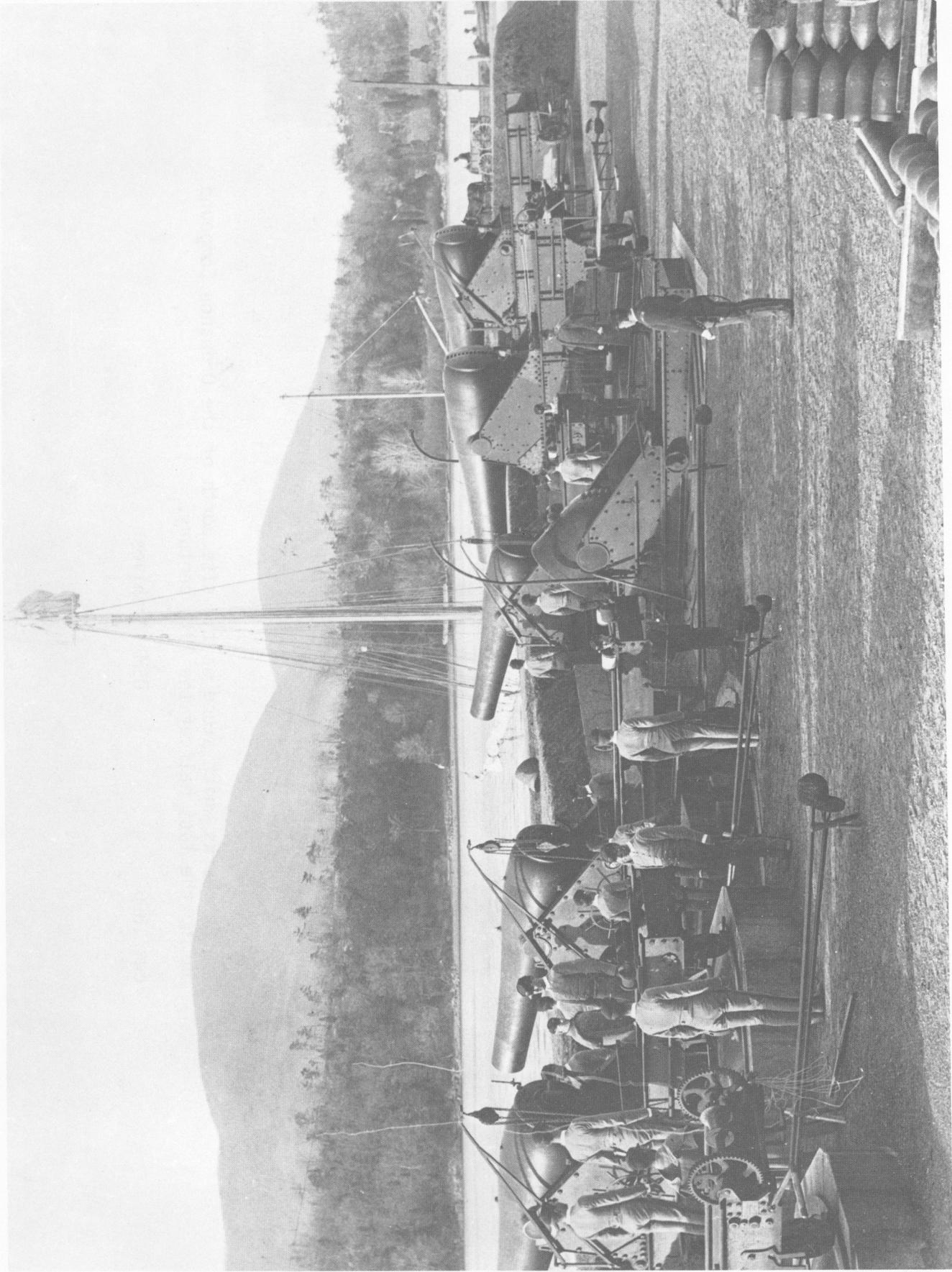
To the west of the Gothic cottage mentioned earlier (#146) was another Gothic cottage of frame construction which stood until the early 1970s. Finished in late May of 1850, it was occupied by Postmistress Berard and was used as her quarters and as the Academy post office (illustration #118).⁸⁹



115. The North Dock and the Sea-Coast Battery.

ca. 1860

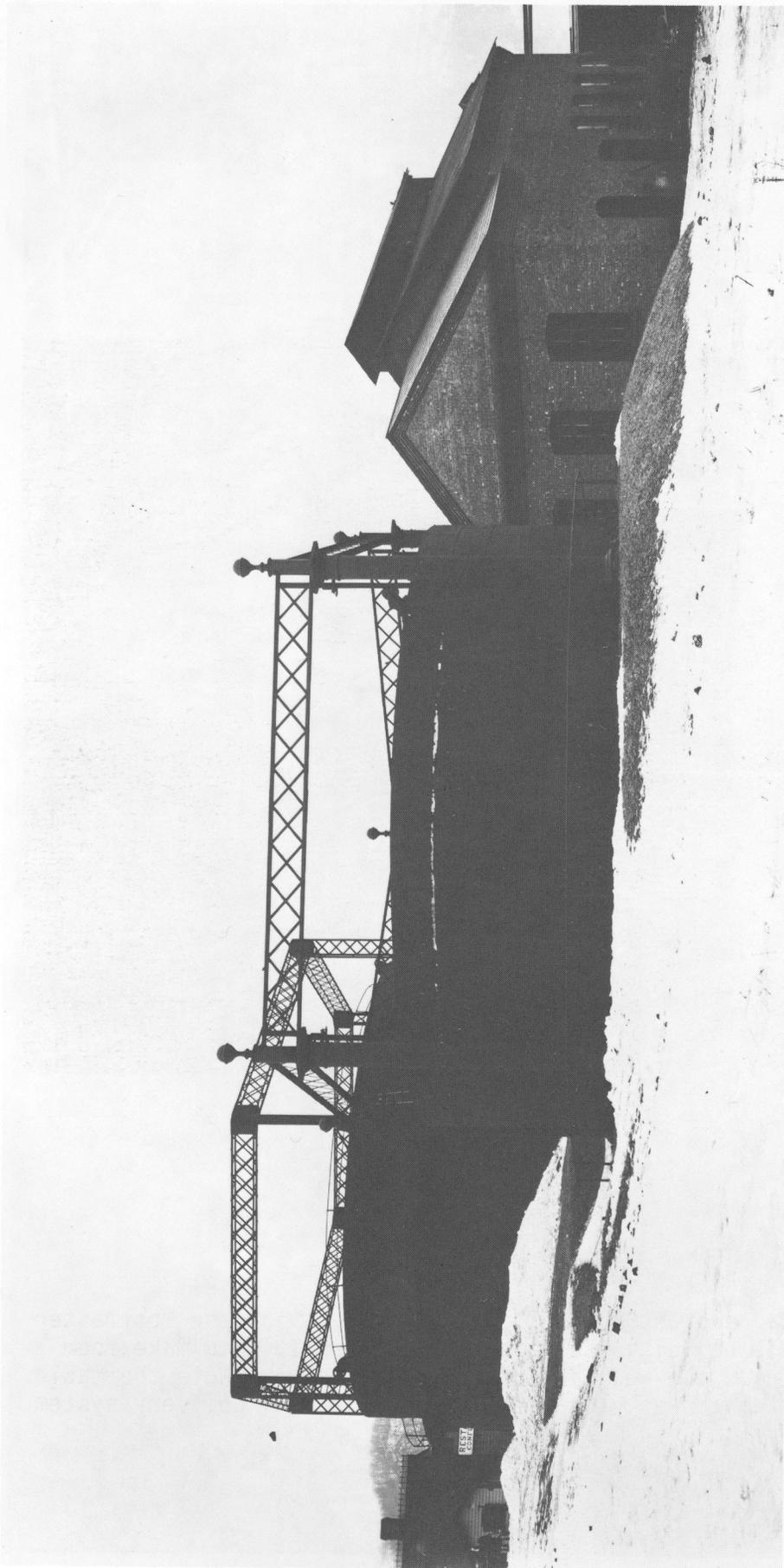
USMA Archives



116. The Sea-Coast Battery near North Dock.

ca. 1880

USMA Archives



117. The Gas Works which stood on the site north of the Ordnance Compound during the last half of the 19th century.

ca. 1890

USMA Archives



118. The 1850s cottage used as Post Office and quarters for the Postmaster or mistress. This building was demolished around 1970 to make room for Eisenhower Hall, the new Cadet Activities Center. Note the cable car to the right which was part of the Academy's coal delivery system.

ca. 1910

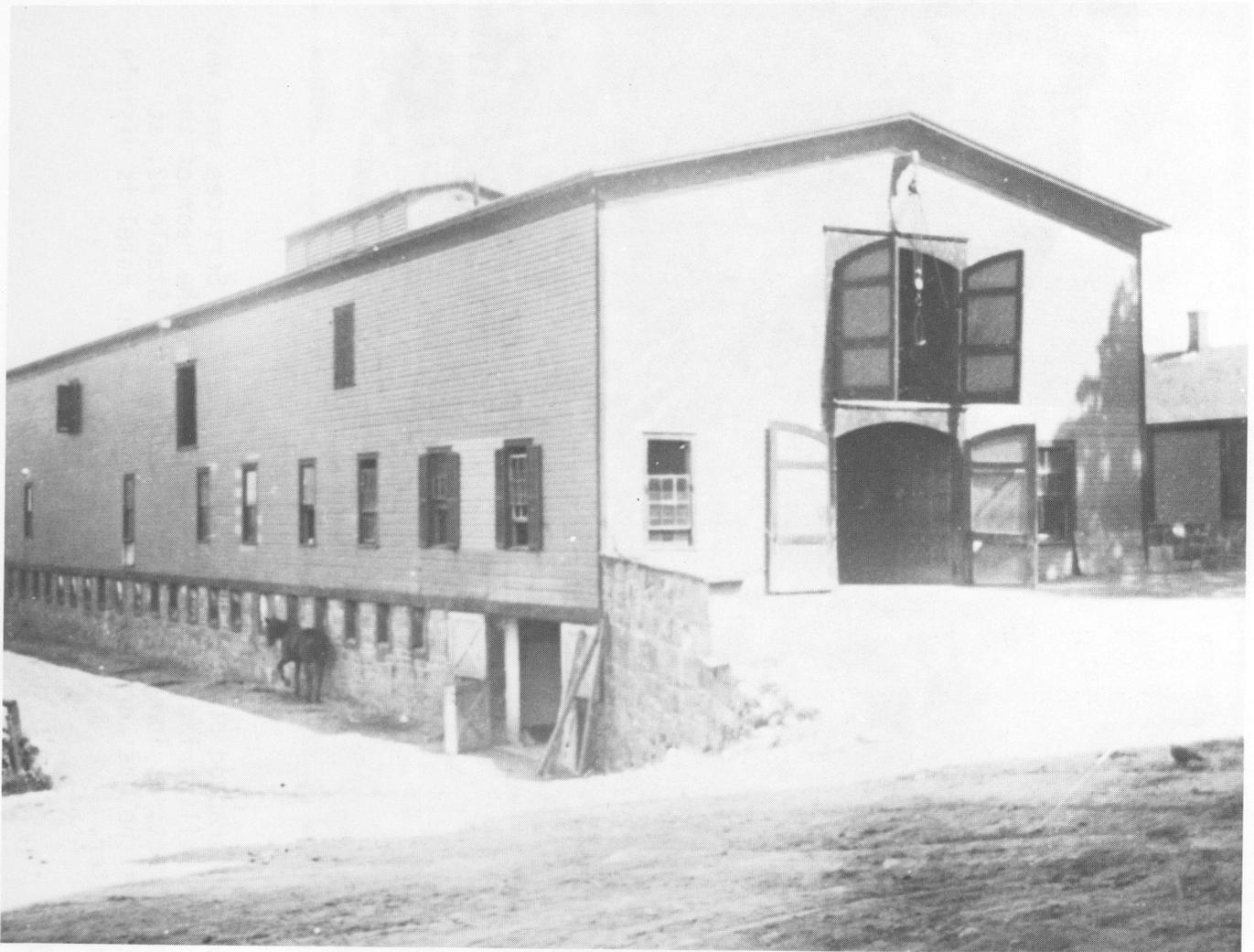
USMA Archives

North of the two Gothic cottages were a number of more utilitarian structures (illustration #119, 120). A stone coal shed, measuring 150'x 41' with a capacity of 1,750 tons, was erected in 1873 for the Quartermaster's Department. A one-story stone stable, measuring 155'x 23', plus a one-story frame shed, 14'x 31', was erected at an unknown date for the public carrier (taxi service), and included stalls for twenty-one horses.⁹⁰

Much later, but in this same vicinity of the Post Services area, a seaplane hangar and ramp were erected by 1926. Realizing the need to familiarize the cadets with the airplane, an amphibious aircraft was used on this riverfront section east of the railroad tunnel.⁹¹ This hangar served as a reminder of early aviation at West Point until it was removed after the 1960s.

Farther west, beginning with the area now occupied by Eisenhower Hall, was another grouping of service-related buildings (illustration #121). The largest of this group was the old Band Barracks, built in 1872 or 1873. This three-story brick building formed three sides of a quadrangle (illustration #122). With eighty rooms, the barracks housed both single and married enlisted men.⁹² The eclectic design featured a hipped roof, double segmental-arched windows with hood molds, two crenelated pavilions, two gabled pavilions, and a central cross gable topped by a square belfry. It was demolished around 1970 in preparation for the construction of Eisenhower Hall.

Directly to the east was a row of three buildings.⁹³ The southernmost building was the old Soldiers' Chapel, erected in 1856. The basement of this frame building served as a school for the children of enlisted men during the 1860s. The Chapel also contained a band practice room (illustration #123).⁹⁴ Farther



119. Quatermaster Stable #1, dates of construction and demolition unknown.

ca. 1900

USMA Archives



120. A rarely photographed part of the Academy, the Post Services area was crowded with utilitarian structures. At right is the rear of the Cadet Restuarant, at lower center is Quartermaster Stable #2, at mid-center is the Gas Works, and the old West Point Hotel is visible at upper center.

ca. 1900

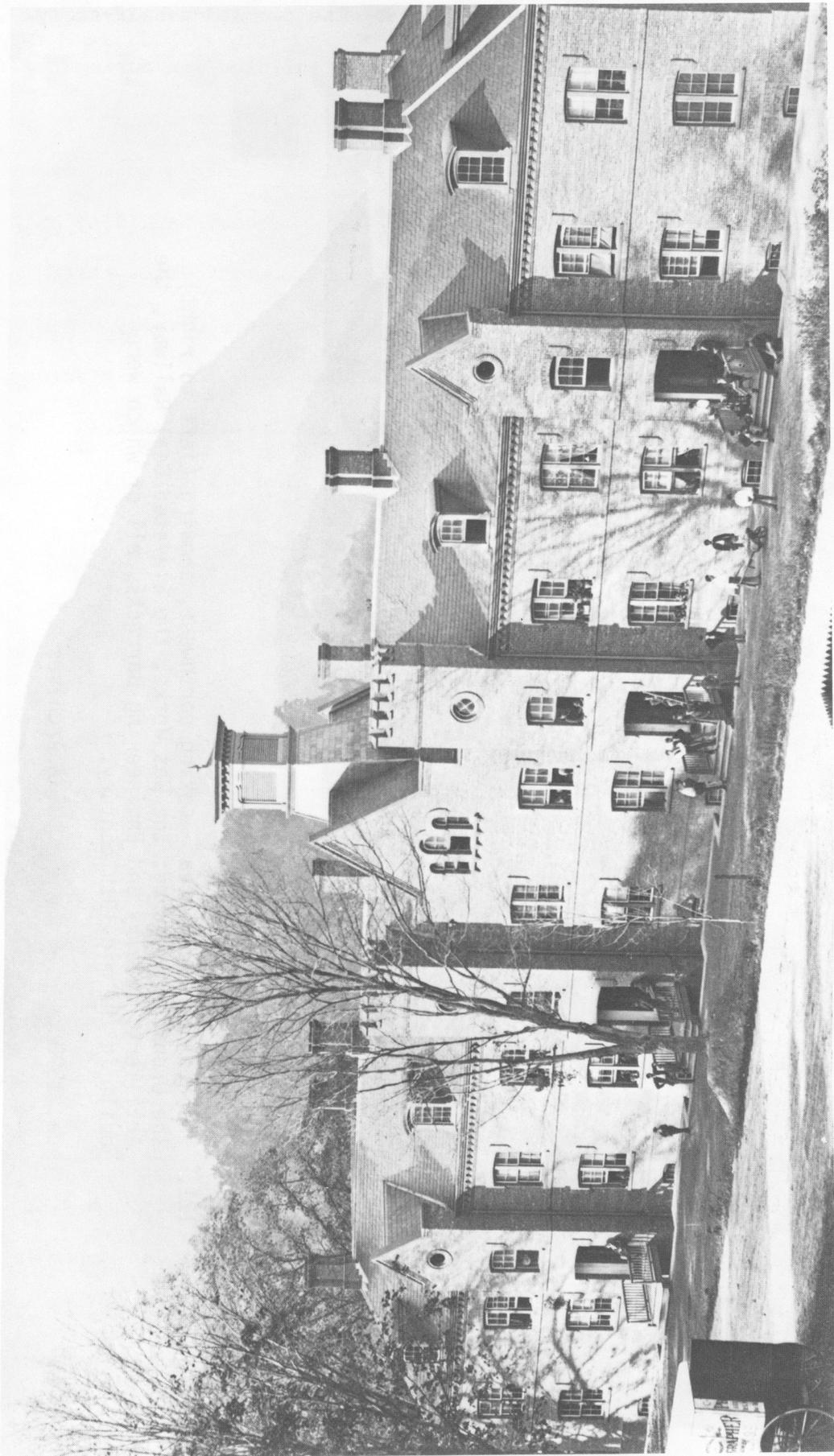
USMA Archives



121. The Post Services area, looking northwest, showing (left to right): the Ordnance Compound, the Gas Works, the Elevated Coal Railway, the Artillery, Cavalry and Engineering Barracks, all of which were built in the mid-19th century.

ca. 1890

USMA Archives



122. One of the largest buildings ever built in the Post Services area, the old Band Barracks was built in the 1870s. It was demolished around 1970 to make room for the new Cadet Activities Center, Eisenhower Hall.

ca. 1880

USMA Archives

north was the old Artillery Barracks erected in 1858. The two-and-a-half-story building contained eight rooms and quartered thirty-five enlisted men during the 1880s. At the north end of this small grouping stood the brick two-and-a-half-story Cavalry Barracks (illustration #124). Built in 1857, this building contained twelve rooms with accommodations for forty men. Although a Riding Hall and stable had been established east of the Plain at about the same time that these barracks were constructed, it was not until 1892 that a new Cavalry Barracks was built beside the Riding Hall and Stable, saving the long walk across the Plain from barracks to stable.⁹⁵ The old Artillery and Cavalry Barracks remained until they were demolished in the early 1970s to make way for the parking area west of Eisenhower Hall.

Farther north, on the site presently occupied by the Field House, stood the original 1852 Soldiers' Hospital. According to an 1854 description, the two-story brick building housed a large ward, dispensary and steward's room on the first floor; three wards on the second floor; and a kitchen and attendant's quarters in the basement.⁹⁶ This building, with a veranda on one side, was converted to a service detachment barracks after the hospital moved to its new location in 1892. The date of demolition is believed to have been shortly after the turn of the century (illustration #125).

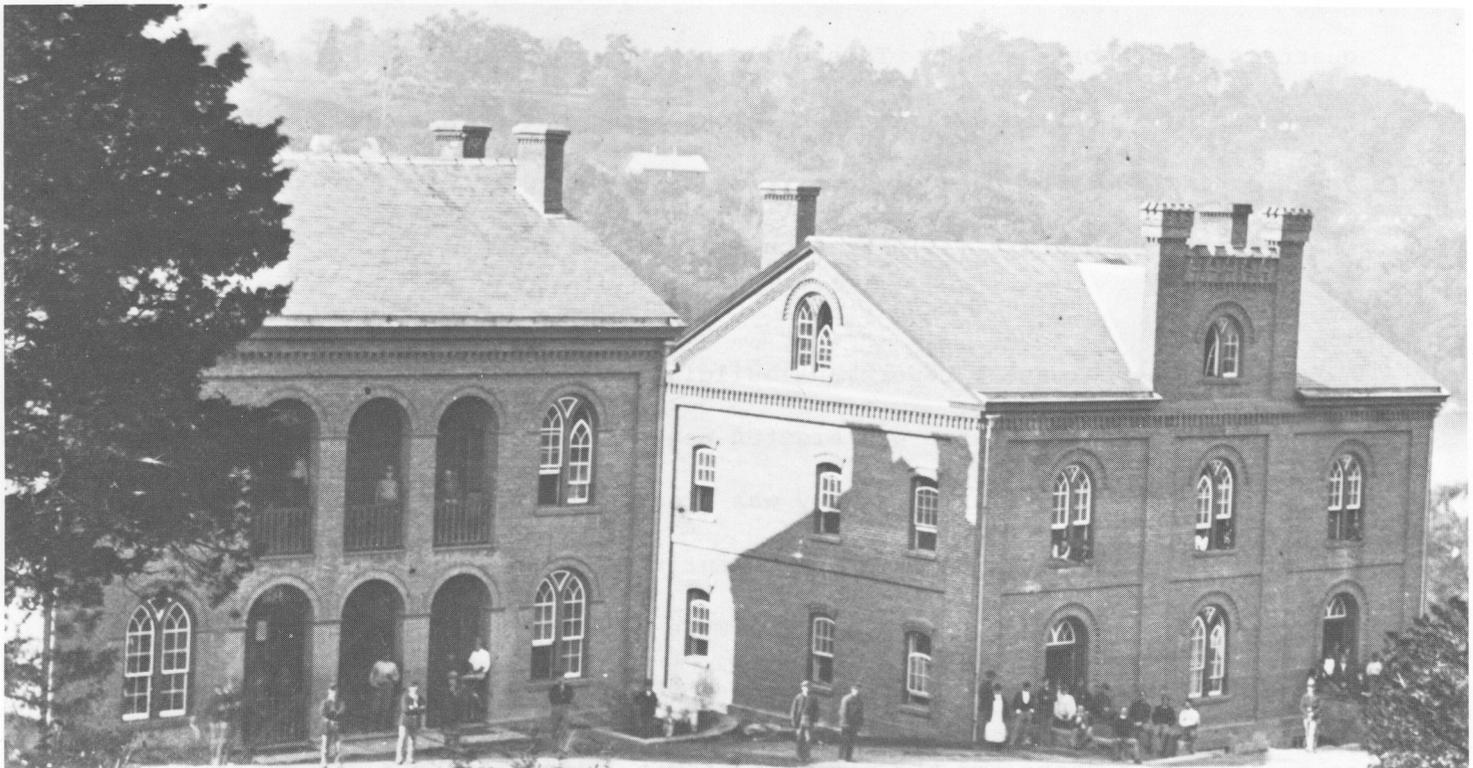
A few more Quartermaster Department buildings stood nearby. In 1870, a 140' x 40', two-story frame stable was erected near the Cavalry Barracks. In 1883, a 25' x 29', one-story frame grainary was erected near that same location. A two-story brick Quartermaster shop, measuring 127' x 30', with a 45' x 24' north wing, was built in 1888. Finally, a simple two-story frame building, measuring 24' x 44', was erected in 1843 on a site north of Ruger Road. This had been known as the Trader's Store and the old Meat Market (illustration #126).⁹⁷



123. Built in the 1850s, this building served as the Soldiers' Chapel. Its basement was used as a school for soldiers' children. It was demolished shortly after the turn of the 20th century.

ca. 1900

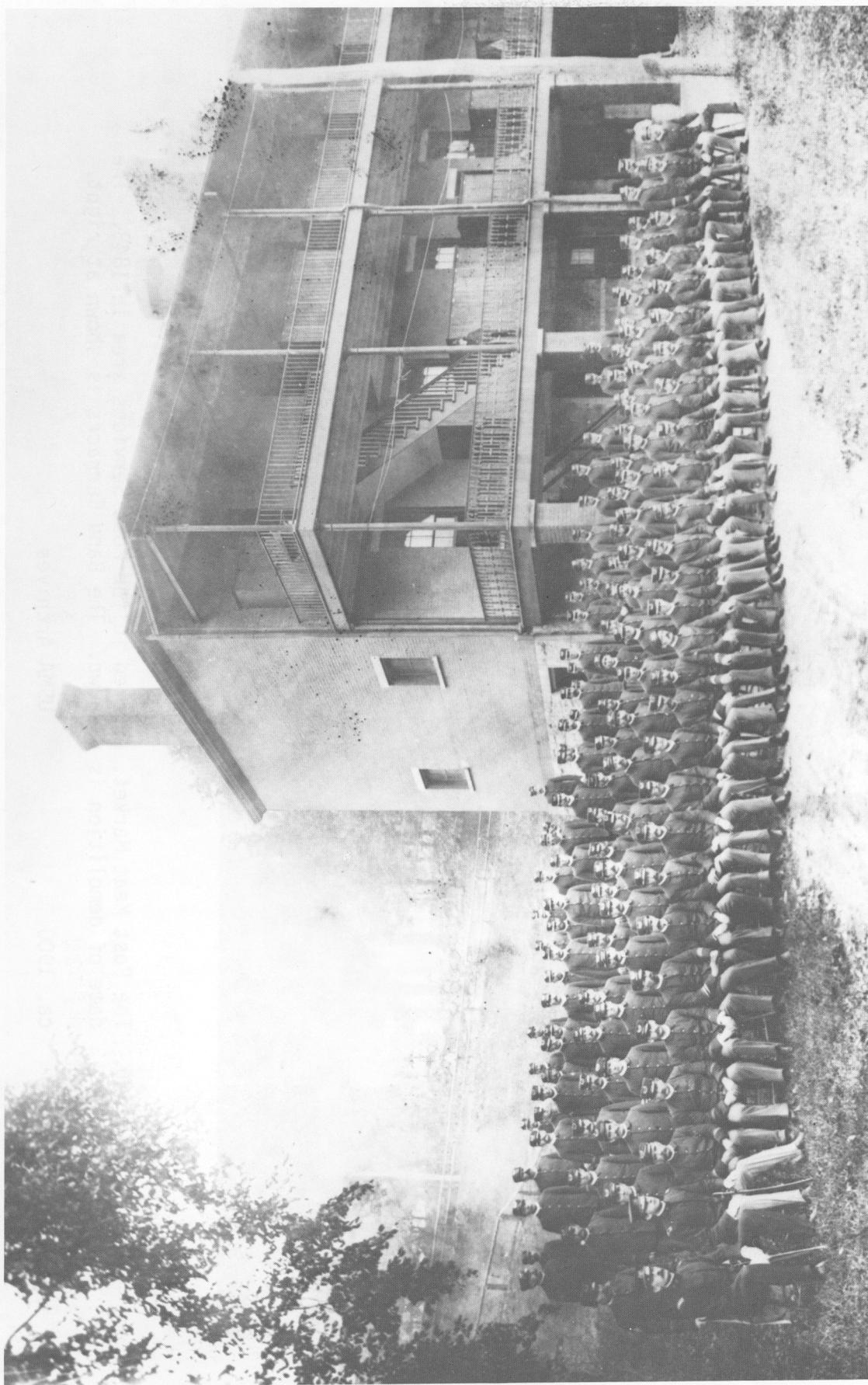
USMA Archives



124. The old Artillery and Cavalry Barracks (left to right) were erected in the 1850s. Their location in the Post Services area reflects the effort to locate the enlisted men away from the cadet population.

ca. 1870

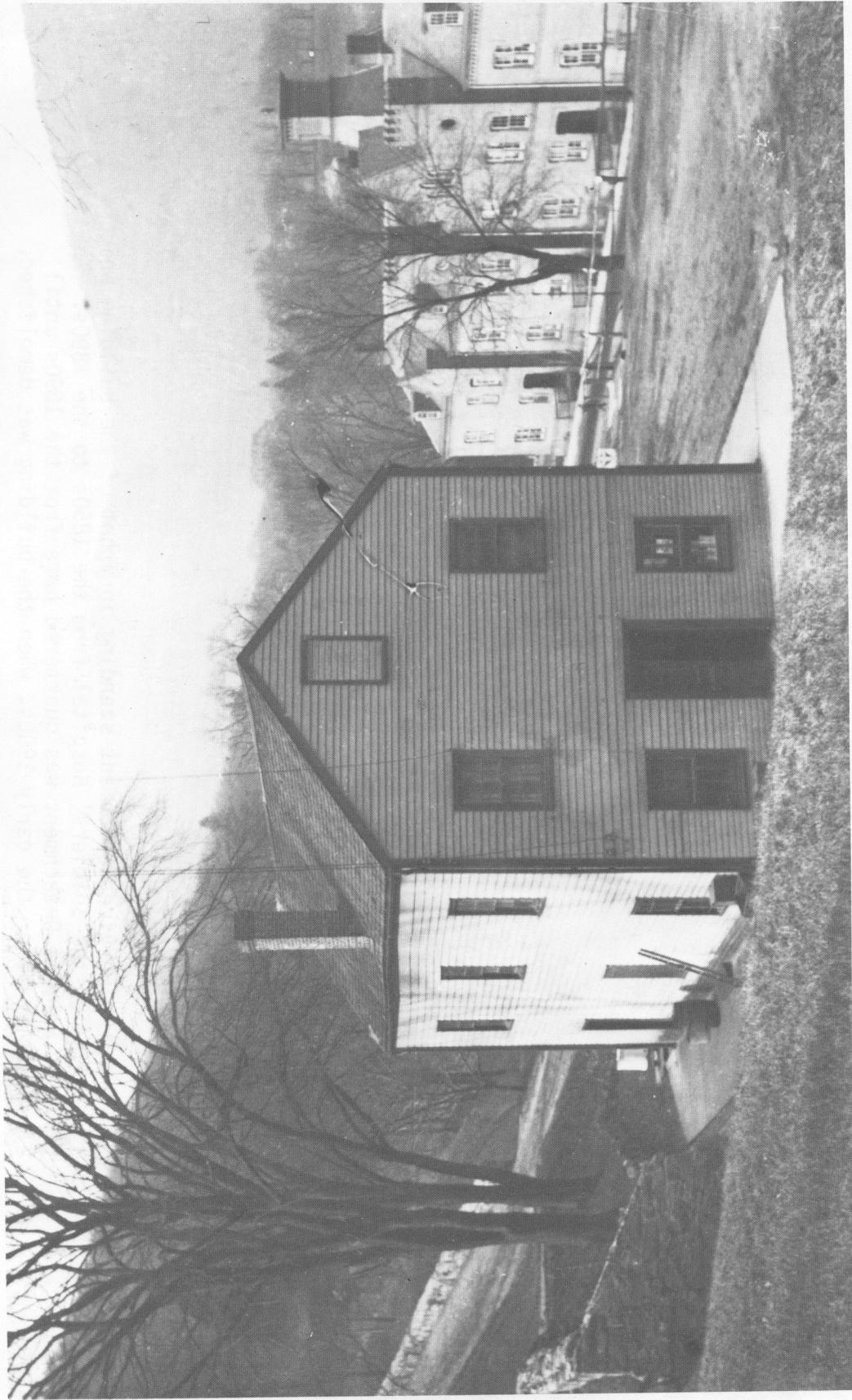
USMA Archives



125. The Army Service Detachment standing in front of the building which served as the Soldiers' Hospital from the 1850s to the 1890s. The Army Service Detachment was quartered here from the 1890s until sometime after the early 1900s, when the building was demolished.

ca. 1903

USMA Archives



126. The Post Meat Market, erected in the Post Services area in 1843. The date of demolition is unknown. The Band Barracks is shown at right.

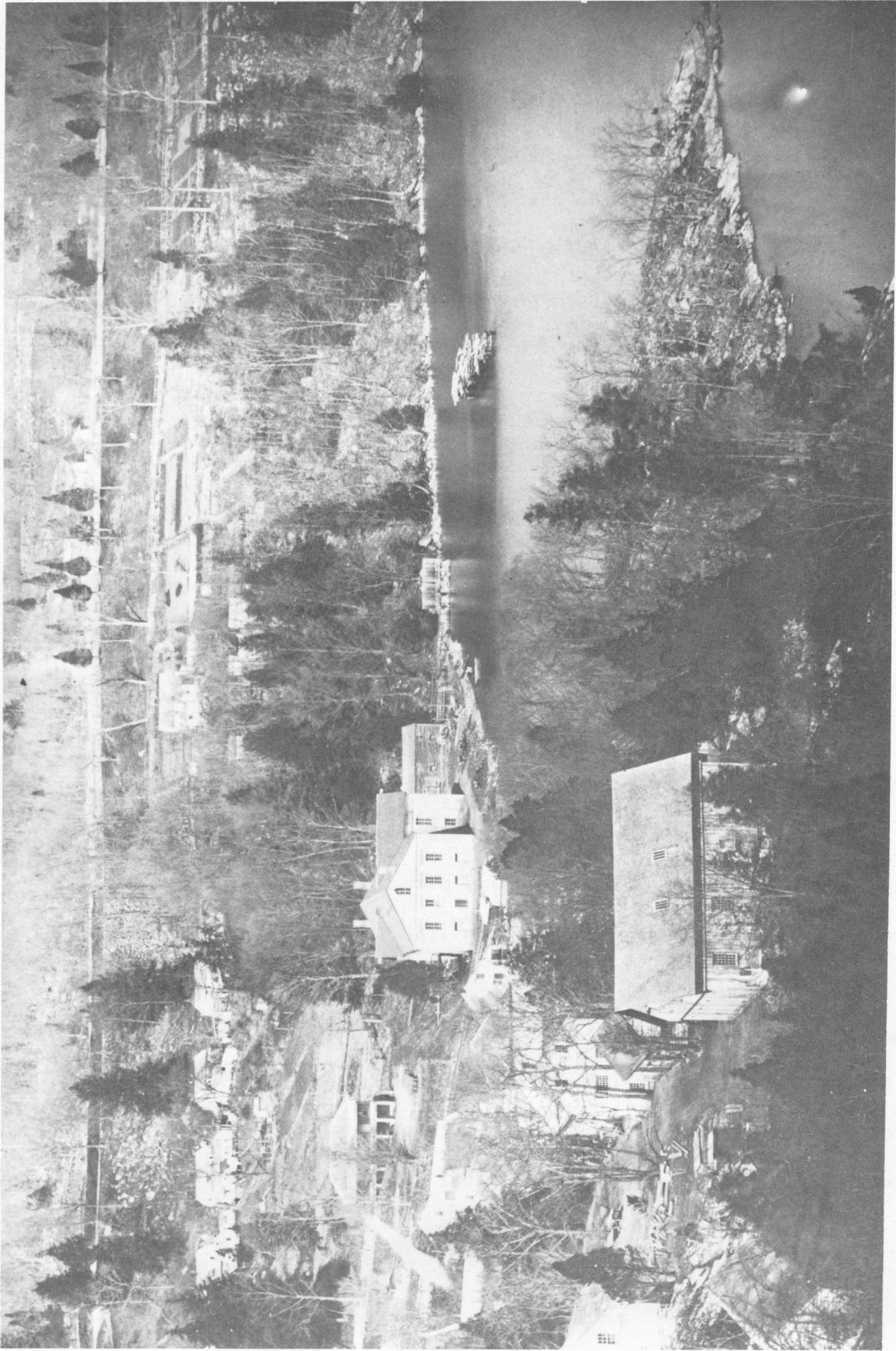
ca. 1900

USMA Archives

Toward the western part of this zone stood several other buildings. The old Pontoon Shed (#673) originally stood on the shore line, until the infilling of the area west of the Railroad causeway moved the shore line farther north (illustration #127). Farther uphill, to the south, stands the old Main Guard House (#675). Still farther uphill, near the site of the present Commissary's western parking area, stood the old Engineers Barracks, built in 1858, (illustration #128) which was a large two-and-a-half story brick building, measuring 100'x 43' and featuring handsome round-arched windows. The building quartered seventy-five enlisted men (illustration #129).⁹⁸ A one-story frame stable, with eight stalls and a loft, stood nearby for the engineers' horses.

On the hill near the present Military Police Barracks (#681) stood a number of buildings, including the Cadet laundry and the old Post Bakery. Both of these probably were built in the 1850s. The laundry was originally 113'x 27' and later was expanded to 152'x 27' (illustration #130).⁹⁹ The laundry facility was relocated to the south end of the post in 1919, and the old building was used as barracks for the Coast Artillery Corps and the Quartermaster Company until it was torn down in the 1930s. The old Post Bakery was a one-story brick building which received additions in 1889.¹⁰⁰ This building also probably was torn down in the 1930s when the Dunstan-designed buildings (#681, 685, 687) were constructed.

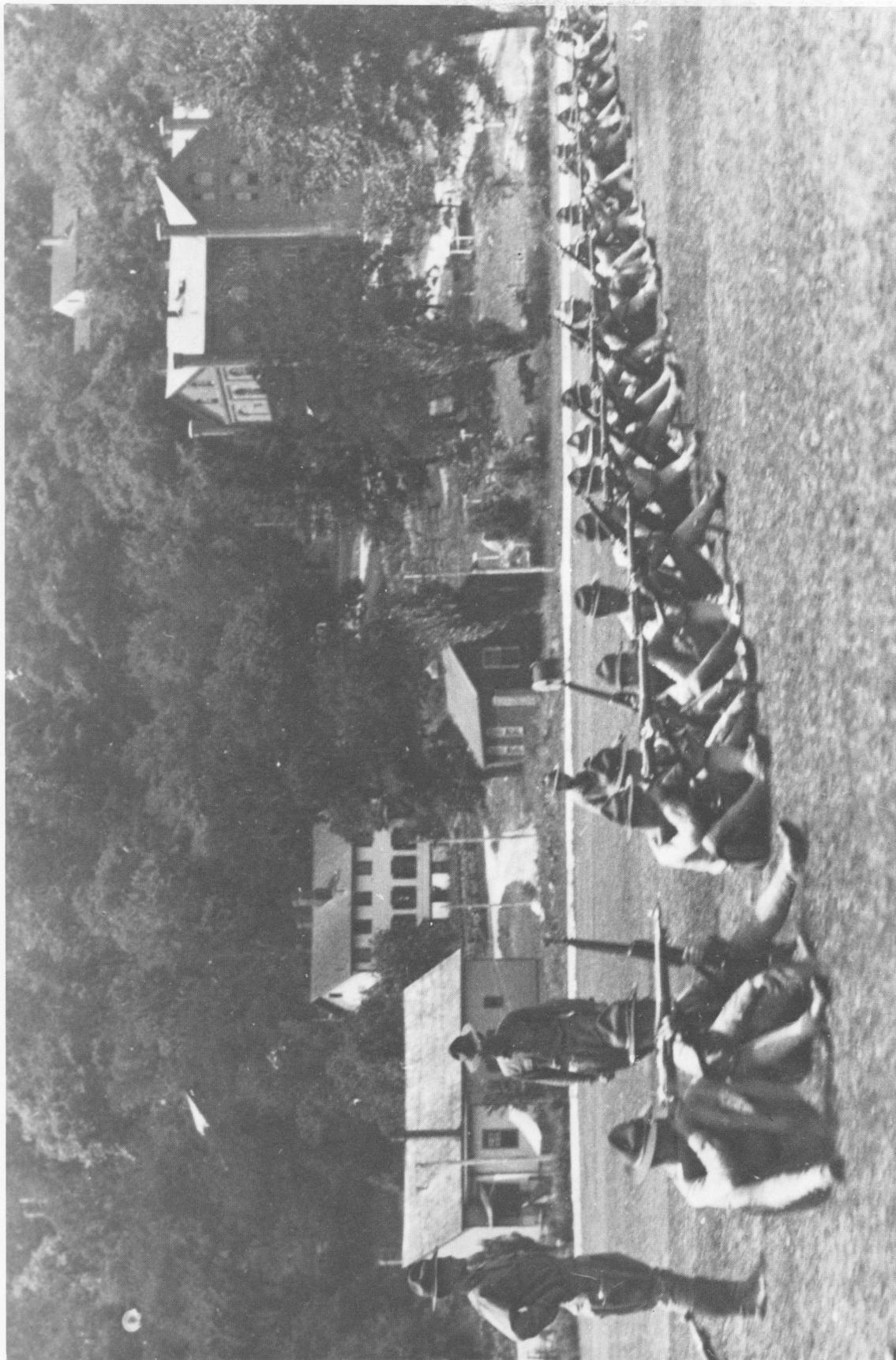
The designation of this as a Category III Zone stems from two reasons. The first reason is that this topographical depression was historically utilized for the many service functions necessary to operate the Post and Academy missions. Although less glamorous than the Academic area, the role of this area was vital to the day to day operations of the Academy.



127. The Post Services area, looking northwest. The old 1850s Pontoon Shed at center, the old 1850s Guard House at center-left, and a row of 1860s soldiers' quarters beginning at top left. Note that the landfill of this area has not yet been undertaken.

ca. 1880

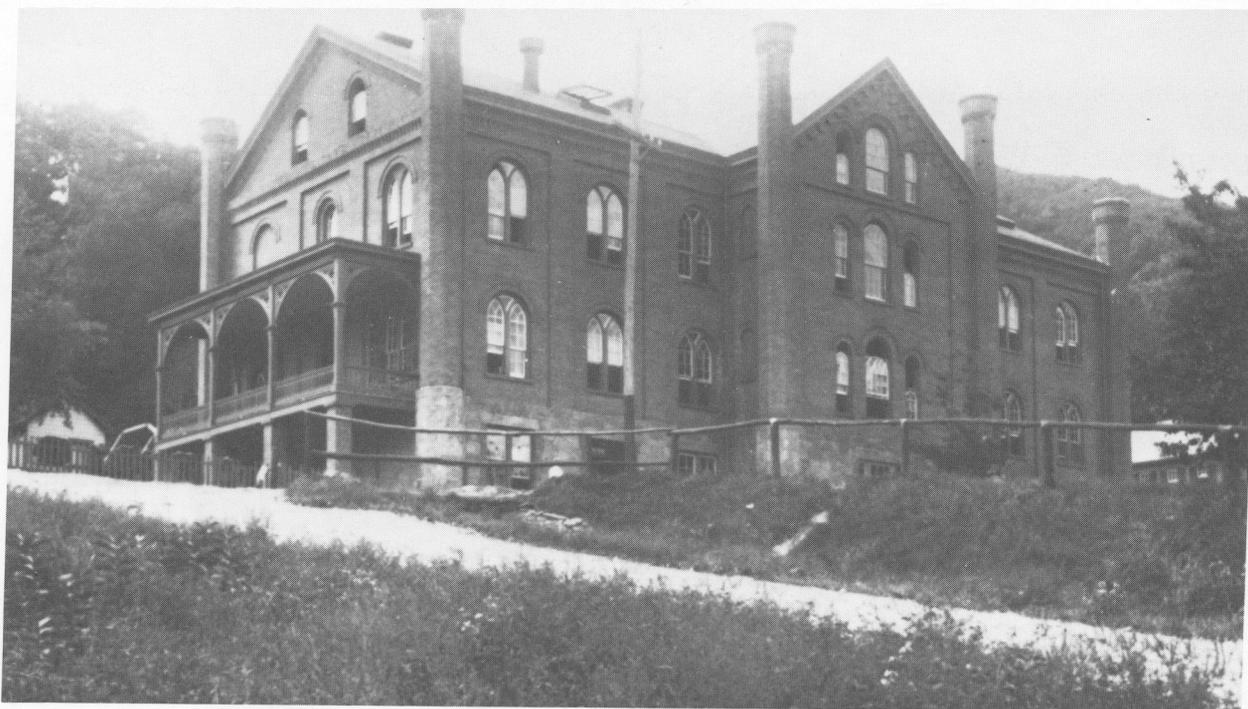
USMA Archives



128. Cadet target practice along what is now North Athletic Field, showing the Post Services area in the background, including the Engineers Barracks.

ca. 1918

USMA Archives



129. Another 1850s building, the Engineers Barracks was demolished at some point after the 1930s.

ca. 1900

USMA Archives



130. The old Cadet Laundry Building was built in the 1850s. In 1919 the Laundry facility was relocated north of Buffalo Soldiers Field. This building was used as barracks for the Coast Artillery Corps and the Quartermaster Company until it was torn down in the 1930s.

ca. 1890

USMA Archives

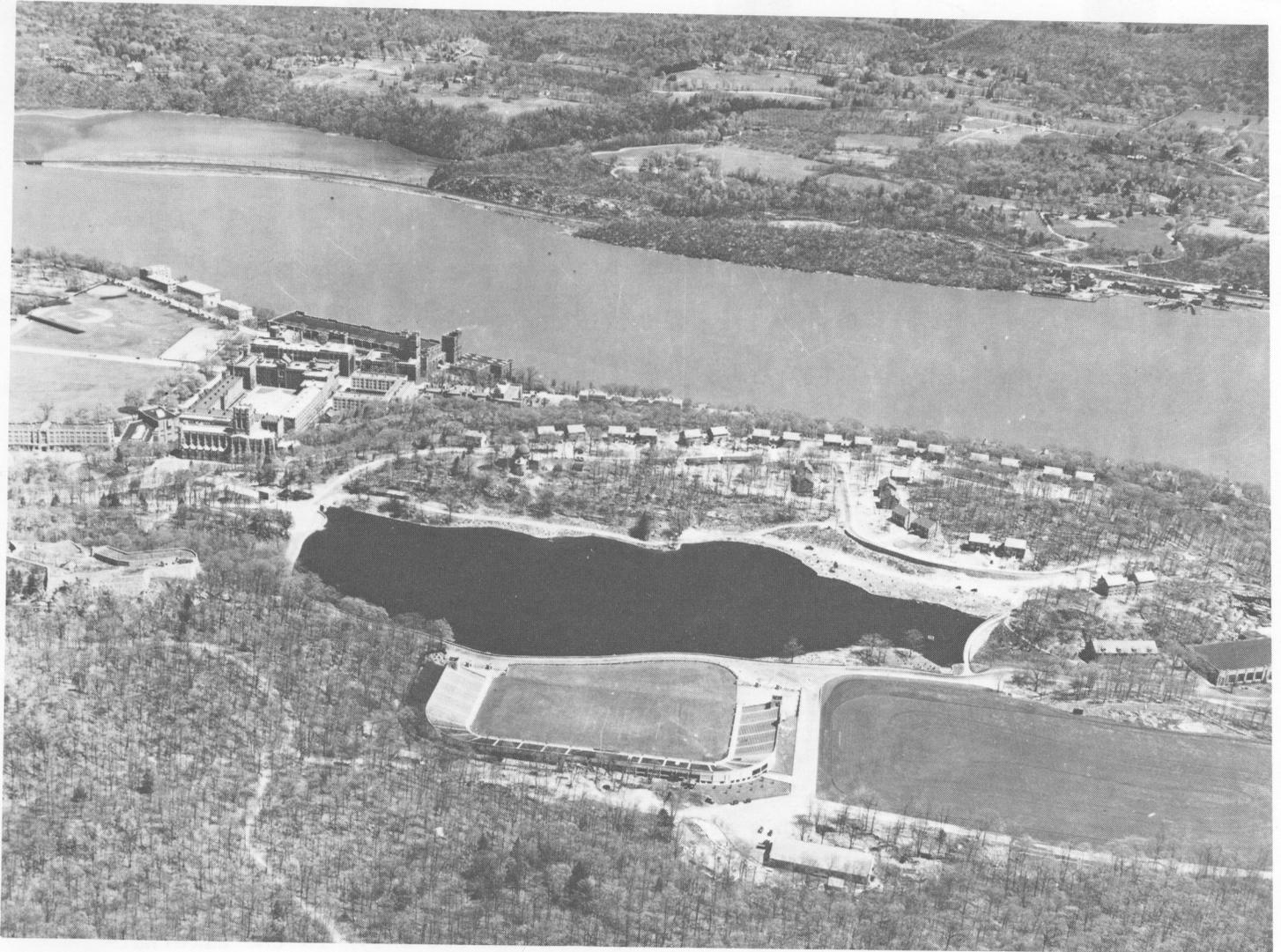
During the early 19th century, this area housed most of the enlisted personnel in crude quarters. Beginning with the middle of the century, a great number of service functions operated out of this area. Post personnel lived here, ate here, worked here, and worshipped here. Even today, although most of the buildings are new, many of the service functions of the Post and Academy missions operate out of this area. The convenience of placing such functional buildings out of sight from the Plain, in a natural hollow, has been utilized historically and in recent times.

The second factor influencing this zone designation is the negative value of the architecture of the many 20th-century structures which now fill the area. At best these large buildings may be described as functional. They reflect no clear style, possess little visual continuity, and represent no unified historic landscape.

As the Academy reservation has expanded in all directions, the Post Services area has grown relatively closer to the center of the Academy. Attempts at monumental building, such as Eisenhower Hall, have largely destroyed the cluttered, yet interesting atmosphere which had existed when so many different service functions were being performed in this area.

Lusk Area Officers' Quarters

Situated on high ground near the eastern edge of Lusk Reservoir, this area consists of three streets: Schofield Place, Partridge Place, and Stewart Road (illustration #131 & 132).



132. A 1930s aerial view showing the recently developed Lusk area. Officers' Family Housing and the 1880s Observatory are at center. The football stadium is in front of Lusk Reservoir, and Fort Putnam is to the left.

May 4, 1933

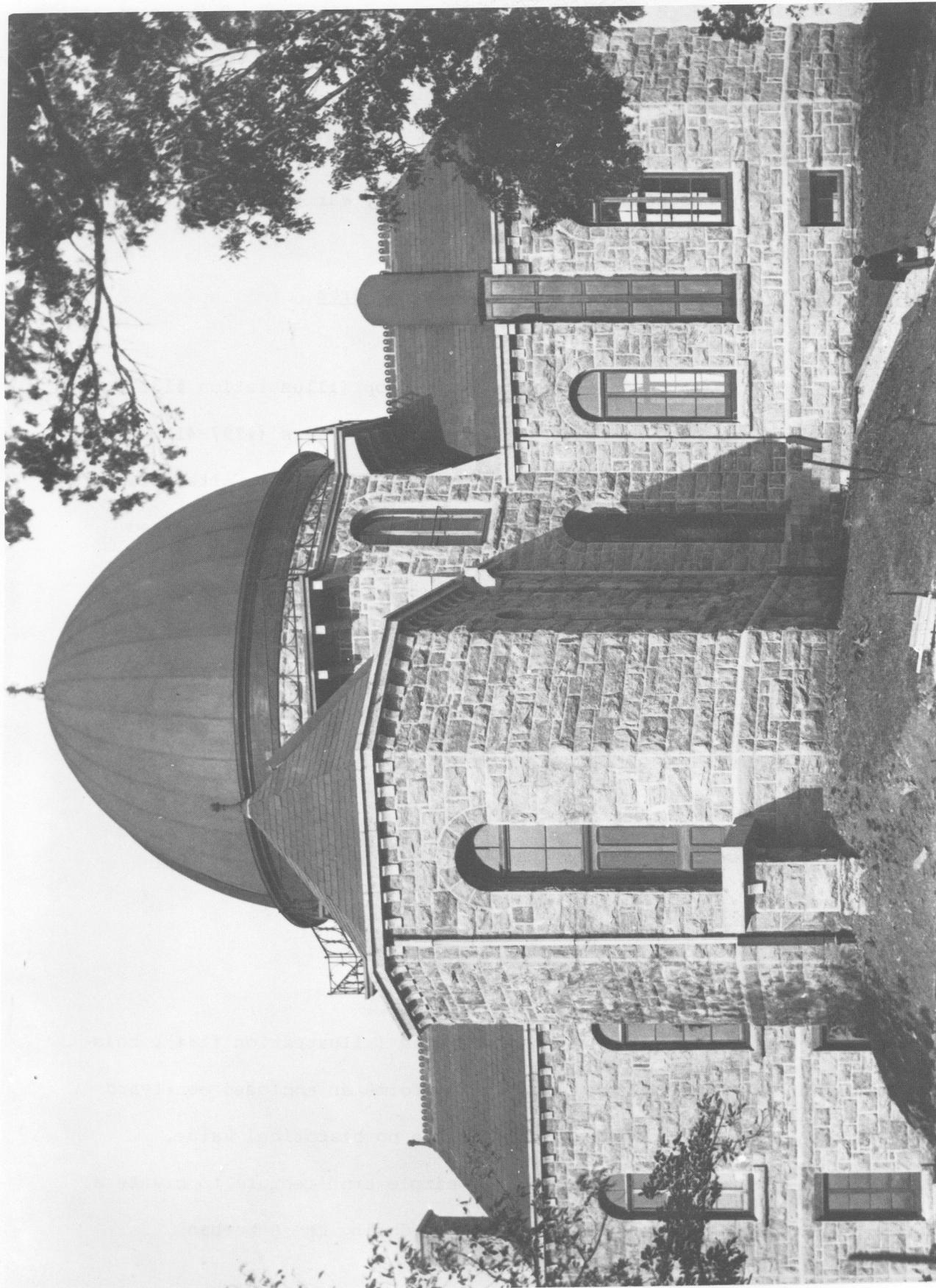
USMA Archives

Built along a Revolutionary War redoubt, the Observatory was located in this area in 1883, after it was found that the new railroad tunnel under the Plain disturbed the sensitive instrumentation of the Observatory in the old Library. Designed by Wilson Brothers and Company, it featured a dome thirty feet in diameter, two tons in weight, and made of paper (illustration #133). The paper was utilized to reduce electrical disturbances to the sensitive instruments. The paper dome was also one-tenth the weight of a copper dome. In 1924, the paper dome was replaced with one of a paper and board construction covered with canvas.¹⁰¹ In 1935, the Observatory was shut down, and the abandoned building was finally demolished in the late 1950s.

At the northeastern edge of this area is a frame quarters (#61) built in 1885. This handsome quarters stands within feet of the site of the old Observatory. According to an 1889 account, the building was occupied by the "mechanic assistant in the Department of Natural and Experimental Philosophy," who took care of the observatory instruments.¹⁰²

Fourteen of the buildings in this area are quarters of a common design; double sets of two-story brick quarters joined by a two-bay, one-story garage. The only difference between these buildings (#62-88, even numbers only) is the alternating use of a pedimented or balustraded entranceway. These buildings were designed under Quartermaster Edwin Dunstan in 1932.

The final building in this area is located at the end of Partridge Place (#1001). This is a large single brick quarters, built in 1940, which is different in design from, yet in harmony with, the older buildings. It is presently owned by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and serves as the residence for the football coach.



133. The Observatory in the Lusk area was built in the 1880s, after the railroad tunnel below the Plain disturbed the astronomical instruments located in the old Library towers. This building was shut down in 1935 and was demolished in the late 1950s.

ca. 1890

USMA Archives

The Lusk area was determined to be a Category III Zone. Although of interest as an example of 1930s officers housing and well-planned and located in a setting which is pleasing to the eye, the area's architecture is without distinction. Only limited historical values exist due to the historic location in the area of the Observatory and the presence of an old Revolutionary War redoubt.

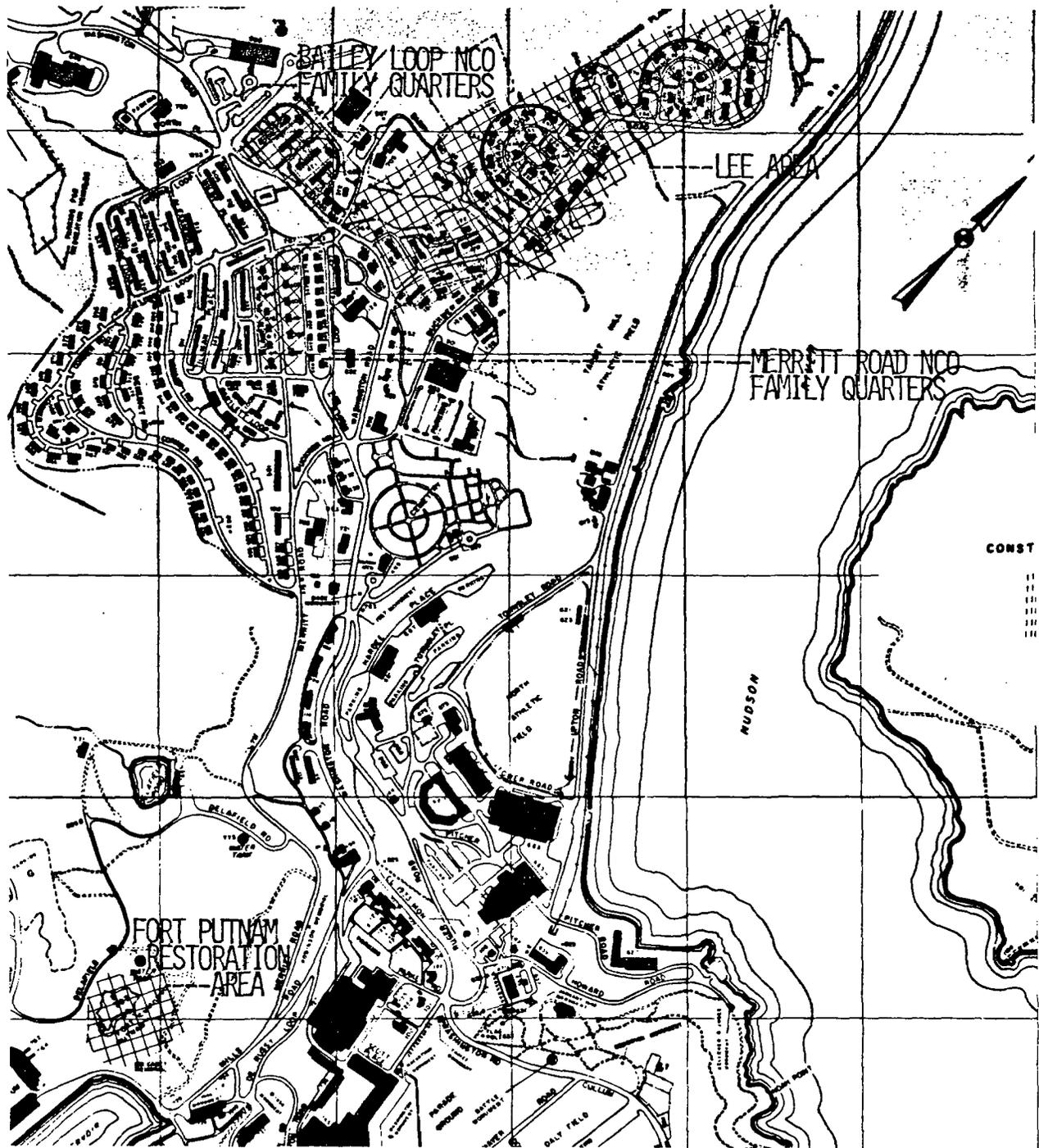
Merritt Road Non-Commissioned Officers' Family Quarters Area

Located on both sides of Merritt Road near Bartlett Loop (illustration #134), this area contains a dozen sets of double brick family quarters (#397-419, odd numbers only). All built in 1931, these structures differ only by alternating front porch entrances. Each building has either a balustraded or pedimented porch supported by simple columns.

Designated as a Category III Zone, this area has no particular architectural interest and only possesses the limited historical interest attached to the general movement of enlisted men out to this area, farther away from the Academic area. This area is of limited interest as an example of a typical repetitive layout of Army non-commissioned officers' housing.

Bailey Loop Non-Commissioned Officers' Family Quarters Area

Located on the northern side of upper Washington Road (illustration #134), this area contains two sets of buildings, each of which forms an enclosed courtyard (#421 and 422). Built in 1932, these buildings have no historical value. Visually, they rate highly because they utilize simple architecture to create a very pleasing central area, typical of goals sought during the suburban



134. Location map showing: Merrit Road area, Bailey Loop area, Lee area, and Fort Putnam, as defined by the HABS Historic Structures Inventory.

1978

USMA Planning Office (modified)

architectural design movement at this time. Considering the usual lack of aesthetic concern with most Army NCO housing areas, Baily Loop area is an interesting deviation from more simple designs. Bailey Loop is a Category III Zone.

Lee Gate Officers' Family Quarters Area

Beginning at the area across from the old Soldiers Hospital, on the north side of upper Washington Road, continuing north to Lee Gate, is the Lee Gate area (illustration #134).

The lower end of this area includes a half-dozen sets of double officers' family quarters built under Academy Quartermaster D. Esitz during the 1930s (#150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 173, 175, 176, 181, 208, 211, 216), plus a number of detached garages. Farther north are forty attractive buildings set along Lee Road, Beauregard Place and Bernard and Bowman Loops (#220, 223, 225, 231-247 odd numbers, 256-280, even numbers, 277, 282-298 even numbers), plus detached brick garages. These quarters are attractive, well-designed brick buildings, situated in a setting reflective of the garden-like atmosphere sought in suburbs throughout the country during the 1930s. Their design represents an excellent solution to the problem of locating dozens of similar structures in one area.

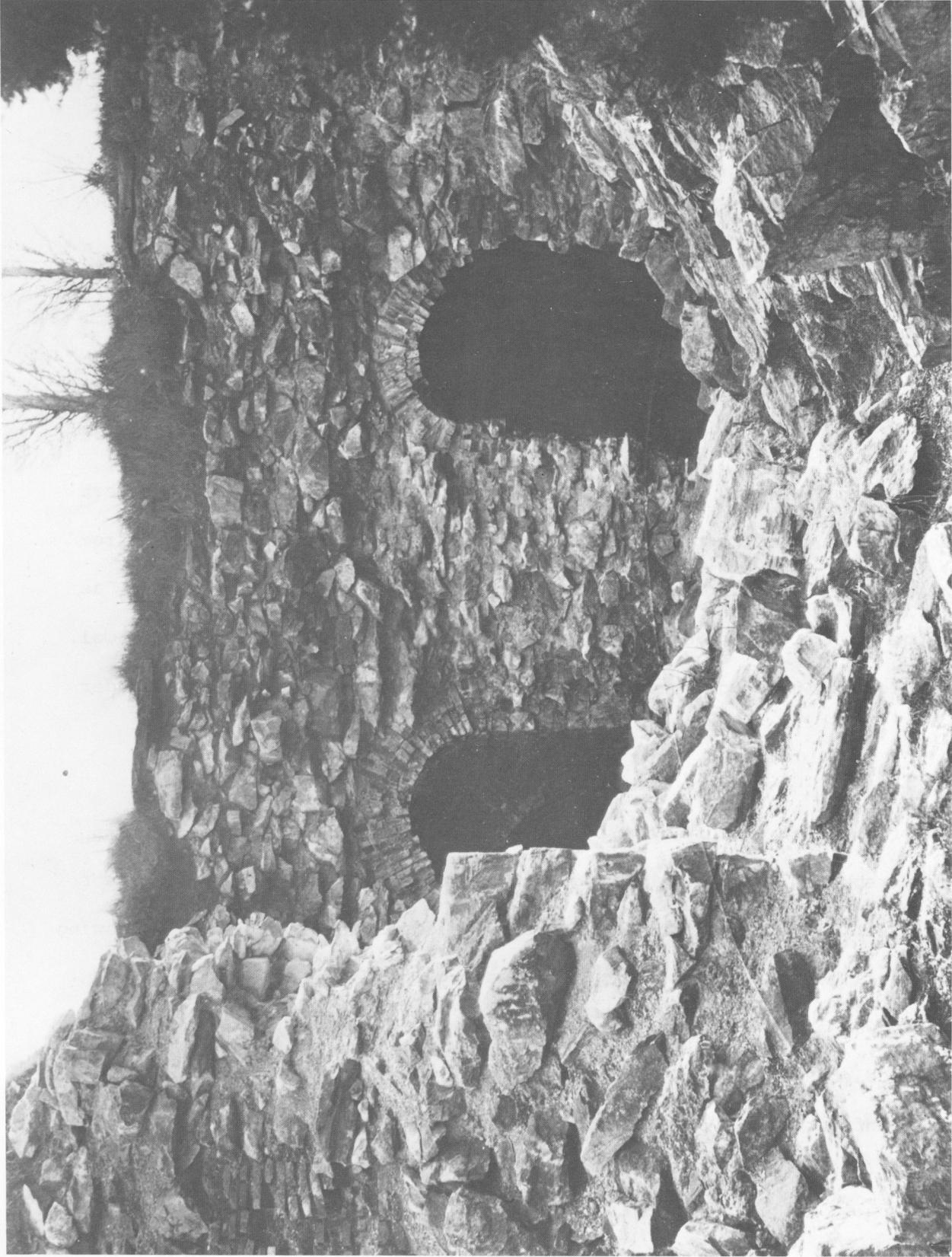
At the northern end of Lee Road is Lee Gate, the northernmost gate to the post. The handsome stone gates and gateposts (#701 and 703) were designed in the mid 1930s and constructed with funds from the Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.).¹⁰³

Historically, this area has only limited significance, as its association with the officers of West Point dates only from the 1930s. Architecturally and visually, the Lee Gate area is quite appealing. The utilization of loops, cul-de-sacs, and enclosed courtyards places Lee area at the forefront of 1930s suburban design concepts. This area is a category III Zone.

Fort Putnam

Named for the officer in charge of its construction, this fort was built by Col. Rufus Putnam's Massachusetts Regiment in 1779.¹⁰⁴ Part of a series of Revolutionary War forts, redoubts, and batteries, Fort Putnam, and the West Point area in general, was believed by General George Washington to serve as a lifeline between the New England and Mid-Atlantic states. The elevated location of Fort Putnam, above and behind Fort Clinton, was selected to prevent the British from again capturing a riverfront fort by attacking from high ground at its rear, as they had done down river at Fort Montgomery. The complete effectiveness of Col. Putnam's design was never determined because Fort Putnam was never tested under enemy fire.

By the end of the 19th century, the fort was in ruins (illustration #135). In 1910, it was rebuilt, based on a configuration that had been drawn by Professor of Drawing, Seth Eastman in 1830. Distinct differences between Eastman's drawing and various outlines on Revolutionary War maps suggest that the 1830s configuration was an imprecise rendering of the actual fort. As part of the Bicentennial celebration at West Point, the fort was again rebuilt according to the Eastman configuration. In addition to the questionable authenticity of the



135. Fallen to ruin by the latter part of the 19th century, the casements of Fort Putnam were among the only surviving sections of this Revolutionary War Fort. The fort was reconstructed in 1910, and again in the 1970s.

ca. 1880

USMA Archives

configuration of the fort, the fort's integrity is in question because the use of stone reflects its appearance only after the dirt and wood walls were replaced at some point after the initial construction.

Determined to be a Category III Zone, this reconstruction of a Revolutionary War fort has no direct relationship to the historic teaching mission of the Academy. It does, however, serve as a representation of the military post mission during West Point's early years. Additional documentation on the fort is available in the USMA Archives, and should be consulted for further information on Fort Putnam.

OUTLYING AREAS

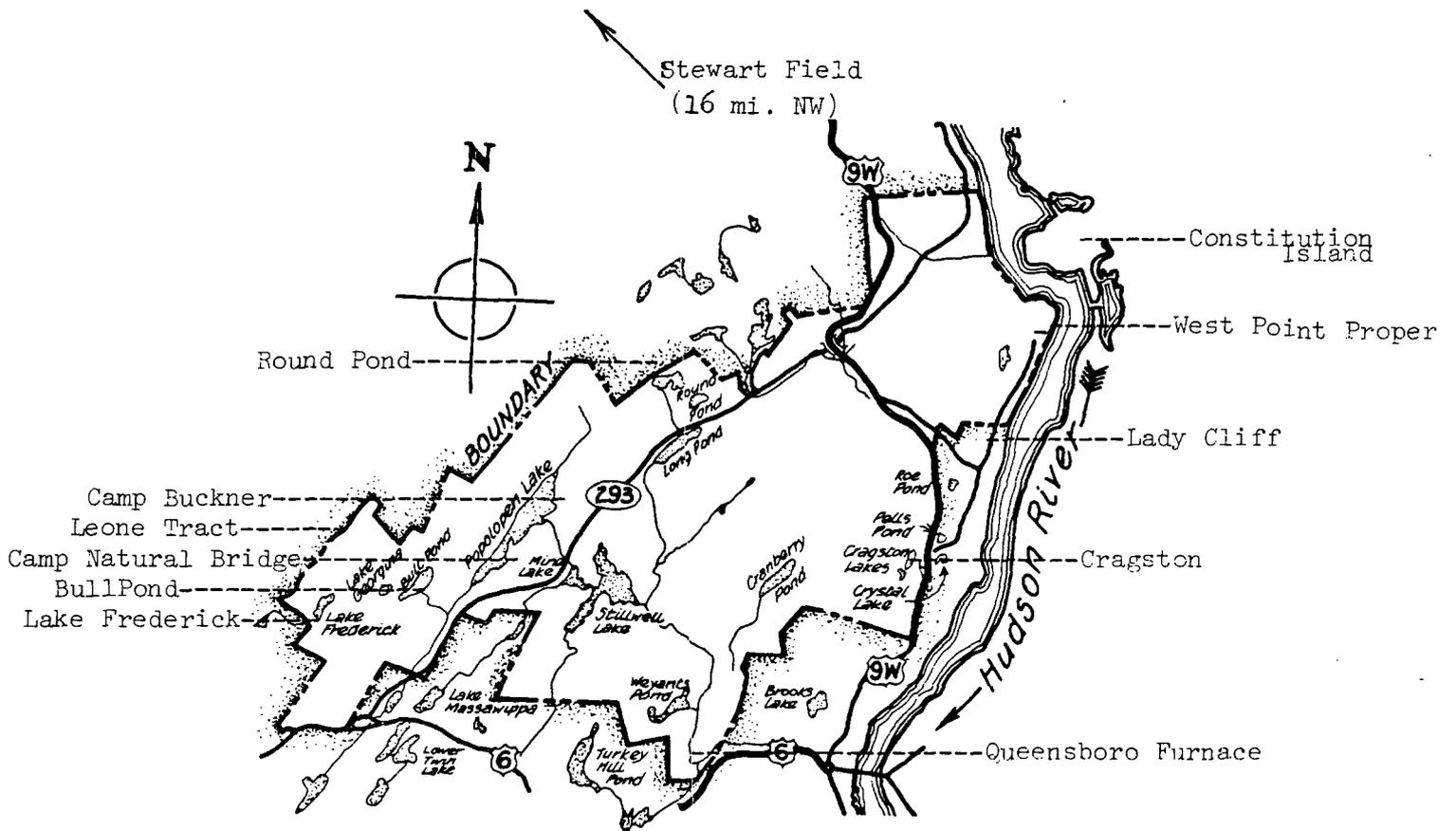
The following is a brief discussion of identifiable areas acquired by the Military Academy since the turn of the century (illustration #136). The majority of these areas were acquired in connection with the 1931 Land Acquisition Act (see the Historic Land Use and Acquisition section of this report). In most cases, pre-acquisition land-use patterns of the properties do not relate to either the important teaching or post missions; nor do they, through design or construction, contribute to the visual beauty of the main Academy. Due to these considerations, all areas and buildings within the outlying areas have been designated as category IV properties. The only exception is in the instances when an area or building meets National Register of Historic Places criteria as a property separate from the USMA National Historic Landmark district. In that case, the property is evaluated in terms of its own significance, independent of the Academy's significance.

Constitution Island

Situated in the Hudson River across from West Point, Constitution Island is separated by a marsh from the eastern shore of the Hudson River (illustration #136). Access is possible only via boat or a narrow railroad causeway from the eastern shore. The island was acquired by the Military Academy in 1908.

The fortifications along the Hudson, of which Constitution Island was an important part, have received in-depth attention in other studies.¹⁰⁵ For the purposes of this report only a brief discussion was deemed necessary.

OUTLYING AREAS



136. Location map of Outlying areas, as defined by the HABS Historic Structures Inventory.

1982

Drawn by R.K. Anderson, HABS/HAER

The history of ownership of Constitution Island may be traced to the original land grant. During the mid 18th century, the British Crown granted the island to the Philipse Family, who maintained it into the 19th century. Originally known as Martelaer's Rock, the island is believed to have been renamed by the American colonists in reference to their efforts to preserve their rights under the British Constitution. To fortify the Hudson Highlands Congress authorized the construction of defensive works, including those begun on Constitution Island, in the summer of 1775 under the direction of Bernard Romans. Unfortunately, these defenses proved inadequate against the advancing British troops in October of 1777. The British held Fort Constitution for three weeks, until their loss at the Battle of Saratoga forced them to regroup closer to New York City. With the beginning of 1778, the Americans returned to rebuild their defenses. Under the supervision of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Constitution Island received additional fortifications (parts of which are still visible at the southwest corner of the island), and Forts Arnold (later renamed Fort Clinton) and Putnam were established on the West Point side of the river. In April of 1778, a "Great Chain" was run from West Point to the island to block the passage of enemy ships. The Great Chain at West Point was never put to the test by the British and was later removed.

On November 3, 1836, Henry Warner, a New York lawyer, purchased the island from Samuel Gouverneur and his wife, who are presumed to be heirs of the original owners, the Philipse family. Warner originally had become interested in the island when visiting his brother Thomas, who served as Professor of Geography, History and Ethics, as well as Chaplain at the Academy. Henry Warner suffered major financial losses in the panic of 1837, from which he never recovered. A widower, he moved his two daughters, who were cared for by their aunt, to the Island that same year. The daughters--Susan, who was seventeen, and Anna, who

was twelve--were to remain on the island in exile from the New York City society in which they had grown up. Efforts by Henry Warner to obtain a right of way out to the island were unsuccessful, and throughout the sisters' lifetimes access to the isolated island could be gained only across water or through the marsh along the eastern shore of the Hudson.

Both Susan and Anna possessed high degrees of literary and artistic talent. Neither ever married, and they spent their years on the island writing novels, poems, and hymns, and sketching local scenes. The sketches, which remain in their papers in the archives of the Constitution Island Association, serve to provide us with scenes of the island in the nineteenth century as it was perceived and depicted by the Warners.

The writing, especially of novels, though acclaimed in literary circles, proved financially unrewarding due to lax copyright laws and, as a result, the two women barely supported themselves through their literary endeavors. The hymns, particularly the well-known "Jesus Loves Me," brought lasting fame to their author, Anna Warner. Susan Warner published approximately 44 books using the pen name Elizabeth Wetherell. Her first and most successful novel, The Wide Wide World was published in 1851 and is said to have been second only to Harriet Beecher Stowe's classic, Uncle Tom's Cabin, in sales during that decade. Anna was also a prolific writer, authoring 42 books which were published under the pen name Amy Lothrop. The work of both of these women was influenced by the flowery sentimental literature popular at that time and, while not surviving as great literature today, it has value as a faithful portrayal of 19th-century life in the Hudson Highlands.

Susan and Anna Warner grew extremely attached to the Military Academy during their long years on the island. Their relationship with the Academy was strengthened after they initiated a series of Bible classes for the cadets at West Point. For several decades, the excursion to the sisters' Bible study class was one of the few opportunities for the cadets to get away from the Academy. Susan and Anna, who died in 1885 and 1915 respectively, received the honor of burial in the West Point Cemetery. In addition to donating an original Gilbert Stuart portrait of George Washington to the Academy, Anna, with the assistance of Mrs. Russell Sage, presented Constitution Island to the United States Government for use as a recreation area and military training site for cadets. In 1916, the Constitution Island Association, made up of many friends and former pupils of the sisters, was founded. Today, the Constitution Island Association owns the contents of the Warner House and provides an ongoing educational program on the house and grounds. The Association also maintains a small library and archives relating to the Warners.

The Warner House (#1183) remains intact on the island today. (See HABS No. NY-5708-48 for detailed description and history.) Two associated structures, located to the rear, are constructed mainly of fieldstone; one serves as a tool shed/carriage house (#1185), and one served, until recently, as a caretaker's house (#1184).

The residence, operated as a house museum, remains much as it was when the Warners lived there. When Henry Warner moved his family to the island, he added onto an existing structure which is thought to date from the 18th century and to have served as a cottage for the Philippses' caretaker. A single fieldstone wall is said to be part of a 1782 Revolutionary War barracks, which early maps depict as on or near that site. The Warner addition to the original structure in the

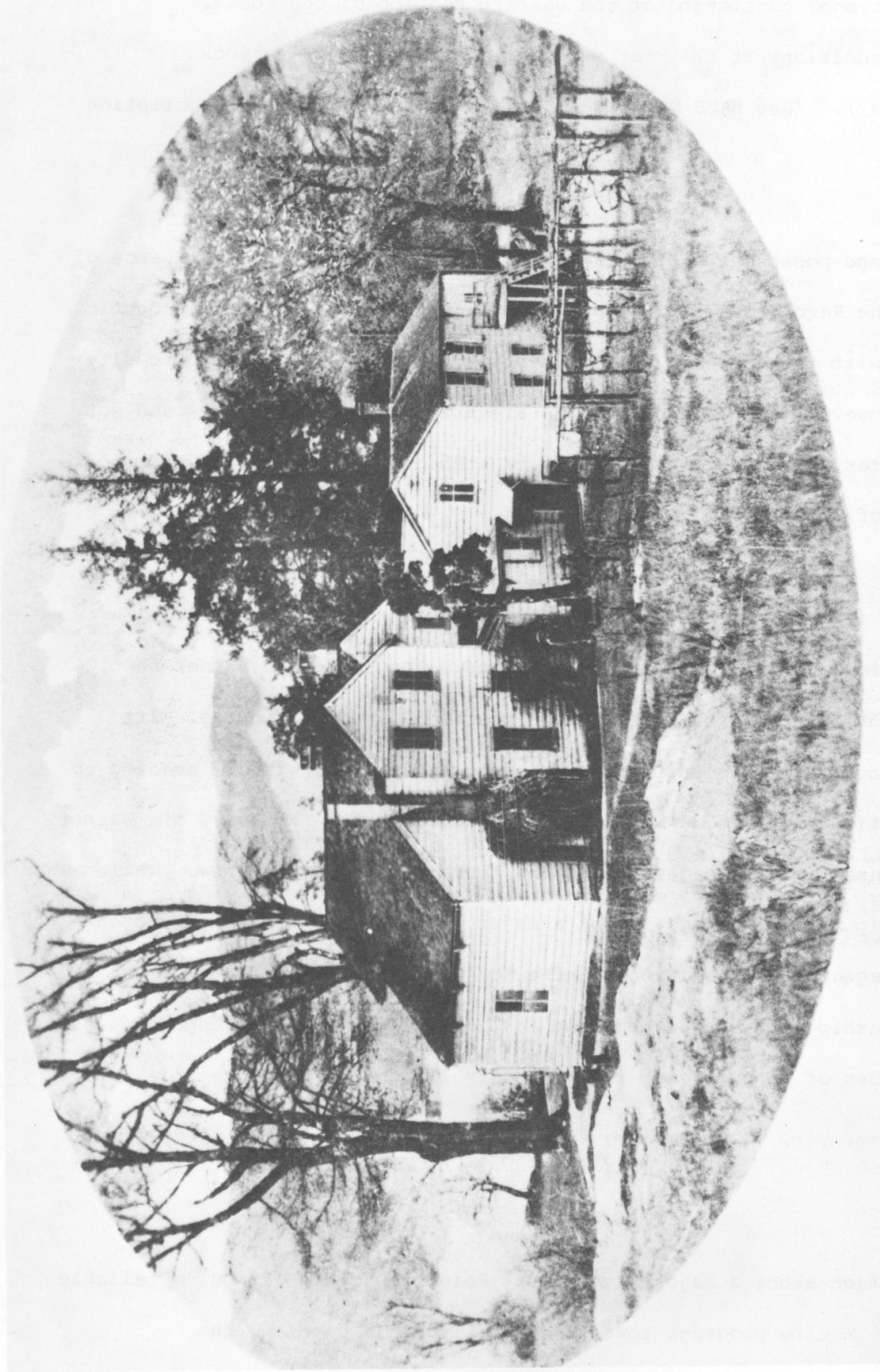
1830s was a major one, consisting of the eastern section of the house. Projecting shed additions at the rear were added at subsequent periods (illustration #137). (See HABS NY-5708-48 for detailed history and description of the house.)

Constitution Island possesses significance on several levels. The importance of the remains of the Revolutionary War fortifications is great, and independent of any association with the Academy, preservation of the island as a historic site is justified. However, since these remains are archeological resources and not standing structures, they must be evaluated by archeological criteria which do not form a part of this report.

The Warner House is significant as both a relatively unchanged 19th-century residence, in which nearly all of its furnishings belonged to the Warner family, (illustration #138), and as the home of two important literary figures. Its historic importance is sufficient for independent evaluation, without needing to draw on its location in the USMA National Historic District. However, the Warner sisters' relationship to the cadets gives the house further importance. While their relationship to the Academy is not a major one, the Warner sisters do have a place in the legends and traditions of the Academy. The Island, because of its historic relationship with the Academy and its intrinsic interest independent of the historic values of the Academy, is a Category II Zone.

Round Pond

Despite its location along a major river, West Point was often without a reliable source of water. Making progress towards correcting this problem, the authorities acquired, and later tapped, Round Pond. Located west of the Academy



137. East of the Academy, on Constitution Island, the early 19th century Warner House was the home of Susan and Anna Warner. The sisters spent much of their time writing popular stories and instructing cadets in Bible study.

ca. 1870

USMA Archives



138. An interior view of the Warner House. Note the portrait of George Washington which was later donated to the Academy.

ca. 1908

USMA Archives

proper (illustration #136), the higher elevation of Round Pond provided the Academy with a large supply of water, which ran down to the Academy through a long pipe laid across land made available to West Point through property easements. Although the pond itself was purchased for the Academy in 1879 from Ezra Drew, the property leading up to it from the highway, and the land around it, was not acquired until 1942 from Libby Motax.¹⁰⁶ In addition to the recreational structures built by the government after the 1942 acquisition, there are a couple of rustic cabins and shelters built around the pond by the W.P.A. in the 1930s.

At the entrance to the road leading from the highway to the pond is a stone residence (#1330). Little information on this building was available, but local residents say that it was built at the beginning of the twentieth century. To the south of this building is a small cemetery with over a dozen grave markers. Most of the markers are from the 1830s, one being as early as 1815. Some of the names which appear on the markers are: Curry, Krankhyte, Files, and Fiels. Farther up the road is a handsome frame residence (#1340) last owned by Libby Motax. Little information on the history of this building was found.

Population census information provides some insight into an earlier owner of the pond, Ezra Drew.¹⁰⁷ According to the 1900 Census, he was a white male, born in September, 1821, in New York. A literate farmer who owned this property around the pond, he shared his house with his single son, Albert W. Drew, who was born in November of 1846. The earlier 1880 census lists a fifty-seven-year-old wife Mary, a thirty-four-year old son Albert, and a three-year-old daughter Ellen.

Although of limited interest in terms of local history, this area is not considered significant to the historic missions at West Point. Unable to meet National Register criteria separate from its minor relationship with the USMA, this is a Category IV Zone.

Stewart Field

Located west of the city of Newburgh, this tract of land is approximately 16 miles away from the main Academy. Its relationship with West Point began in the early 1930s, when Samuel L. Stewart donated the family farm to the town of Newburgh for use as a municipal airport. Despite the assistance of W.P.A. funds, the city was unable to make much progress towards its construction due to the Depression. In 1935, the town of Newburgh agreed to turn the property over to the Federal government for one dollar, plus certain access rights to the Army's new airfield. In September of 1936, the Army officially took control of the property, and, in 1937, the first plane landed at the new field (one day prior to the official first landing a local publicity seeker stole the honor of "first landing" from the Army). On August 25, 1942, the first group of 250 Second Class cadets entered a basic flying training center which became known as "the Wings of West Point" (illustration #139, 140).

Additional tracts were added to the original Stewart Tract, on which schools, shops, and housing facilities were erected. At the height of activity during World War II, over 2,000 people were housed at Stewart. The last class of air cadets was graduated in June, 1946, and, in 1948, Stewart was placed under the jurisdiction of the recently established Department of the Air Force. Stewart served as part of a chain of strategic air bases along the east coast until 1969, when the Air Force left and it became a municipal airport for the Newburgh area,



139. Cadets participating in the Army Air Corps Program at Stewart Field, known as the "Wings of West Point."

1942

USMA Archives



140. Cadets inspecting a Northrup plane at Stewart Air Field.

1942

USMA Archives

with housing facilities for USMA personnel. Stewart returned to the limelight briefly in early 1981, when it was the airfield used when the American hostages returned from Iran on their way to the Hotel Thayer at West Point.¹⁰⁸

Only two pre-acquisition structures seem to have survived in this area, and these were not part of the original Stewart Farm. Only fragmentary information was found on these buildings. One of the buildings is a frame structure (#2624), which most likely predates the turn of the twentieth century. Its typical rural design, plus the fact that it stands on a road once known as Pig Lane, suggests that it served as a farm residence.¹⁰⁹ The other building (#2606), of stone construction, is located farther north. A search in the County Recorder of Deeds office failed to provide very much information which was helpful in understanding the history of either of these buildings. An early county atlas for 1903 shows a building owned by William McGregor, located on, or near, the site of the stone building.¹¹⁰ A search for that name in the census for 1900 disclosed that William McGregor was a single, white man, born in Scotland in December, 1848, who came to the United States in 1852. He was listed as a literate farmer who owned a mortgaged property.¹¹¹

Having only recent and short term association with the USMA, this area fails to sustain any significant degree of historic importance separate from its limited association with West Point. It is a Category IV Zone.

Cragston Dairy Farm

Located south of the village of Highland Falls, just west of Route 9W, is the old dairy farm of J. P. Morgan's Estate, Cragston (illustration #136). The

millionaire banker owned a great deal of land in the area and traveled between his homes on the west shore of the Hudson and New York City via his private yacht "Corsair."¹¹²

In early 1928, the Cragston Development Corporation acquired 731 acres of the deceased banker's estate. Hoping to exploit the Cragston name, the Development Corporation set out to create a profitable summer colony. During the summer of 1928, they found the project too consuming of time and money and sought to sell their holdings. The Cragston Holding Company purchased 411 of the acres, but soon sold them to the Cragston Yacht and Country Club for \$350,000. It should be remembered that all of these dealings took place shortly prior to the crash on Wall Street which led to the Great Depression. Further threatening their project, the Federal Government at this time began to consider acquiring the property for West Point. The Cragston Yacht and Country Club soon went bankrupt, thus straining the holding company's ability to continue its contractual obligations with the Development Corporation. Reluctantly, the Development Corporation foreclosed and regained possession of the property, selling over 500 acres of it to the Government in 1941.¹¹³

Remaining on this site are two major structures: the Cragston Dairy Barn, a large frame barn, painted red, with concrete additions (#2026); and a stone residence (#2020). Although the date of erection of the barn is unknown, its historic use is apparent. The role of the stone residence is open to speculation, though its construction likely preceded the purchase of the property by Morgan. Deed or tax assessment information was either unavailable or uninformative about the structure or its occupants. The 1871 and 1903 County Atlases list John Denton as occupying a building on, or near, this site.¹¹⁴ The 1900 census gives information on Mr. Denton and his household.¹¹⁵ Born in January, 1821, in New

York, Mr. Denton was a white, literate property owner and the son of parents also born in the state. His wife of six years was born in August, 1837, in New York. Her parents were born in Germany. The Denton residence also housed a white, single, literate farm hand. In addition, on the day of the enumeration, the household included Mr. Denton's 61-year-old sister-in-law and a young couple from Germany with their two sons. According to the 1870 and 1880 censuses, Mr. Denton lived with a previous wife, who was the same age as her husband and who had been born in Ireland.¹¹⁶

The old stone house reflects the earlier farming function of the area. It has been modified by the addition of a rear wing. While its precise history cannot be traced, it is probable that the building possesses limited local significance.

This area has been affiliated with the USMA only since the 1940s, and its points of interest are not related to the significance of the USMA. Since it does not meet the criteria of the National Register for Historic Places as a property separate from the Academy, it is a Category IV Zone.

Camp Buckner

On the eastern shore of Lake Popolopen, southwest of the main Academy area, stands Camp Buckner, the summer training camp for cadets. This area was acquired in the spring of 1942 (illustration #136). The camp was begun with eight sets of salvaged Civilian Conservation Corps (C.C.C.) Barracks, which were relocated from an old C.C.C. camp at the Crows Nest area, north of Lee Gate area.¹¹⁷

Lake Popolopen was created in 1817 by a dam, which was built to prevent flooding of the Forest of Dean's Mine, which had opened in 1755. At the entrance to the



141. As technological advances in modern military equipment changed the way cadets would train, West Point required additional land. This picture shows cadets training in the Popolopen area in WWII era tanks.

1944

USMA Archives



142. Cadets charging from a trench during field exercises in the Popolopen area.

1944

USMA Archives



143. Cadets and their guests relaxing on the beach at Camp Buckner.

ca. 1945

USMA Archives

camp are the remains of the old Mine Lake Inn, a tavern owned by Terrance Gibney and operated by a Mr. Julian.¹¹⁸ During the early part of the 20th century, Lake Popolopen became a popular summer hideaway, with its shores dotted with dozens of summer cottages and bungalows.

Soon after this area was acquired by the Academy, work began on a camp for 1,000 cadets, with barracks, utility buildings, water supply, sewers, and twenty-four target ranges on 100 cleared acres (illustration #141, 142).¹¹⁹ Camp Buckner continues to service the summer training program with numerous 1960s barracks (#1501, #1526), a guest house (#1537), and recreation facilities (#1534, #1560, #1576, #1592) (illustration #143).

The Camp was named in honor of Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., class of 1908. General Buckner had been Commandant of Cadets in the mid-1930s and was killed in action on Okinawa while leading the Tenth Army in 1945.¹²⁰

The Camp Buckner area possesses neither architectural nor historical significance. Since its connection with the USMA is a relatively recent one, this is a Category IV Zone. It is recommended that further research be undertaken to determine the role this area played in cadet training since World War II.

Prisoner of War Camp/Camp Natural Bridge

Located southeast of Lake Popolopen stands Camp Natural Bridge (illustration # 136). Shortly after this area was acquired in 1942, West Point sought to utilize it as a Prisoner of War Camp. A letter of August 7, 1944, from Acting Superintendent Hannen requests authorization to create a P.O.W. camp at West

Point to offset the "critical shortage of civilian labor in this vicinity." He stated three goals he hoped to accomplish with the Nazi laborers. First, to clear approximately 680 acres for new artillery ranges; second, to cut fire lanes and clear lines for surveys; and third, to improve roads and drainage in training areas.¹²¹ The plan proposed housing for 325 prisoners and 50 guards.¹²²

On January 13, 1945, the camp was activated under Captain J. Edward McEvoy, and, on January 16, three hundred German prisoners were admitted (all but two were enlisted men). The prisoners were housed in five "C.C.C.-type hutments," measuring 20'x 120' with sixty men assigned to each. All three hundred prisoners were said to be on work status, with approximately fifty of them employed by the Quartermaster on maintenance and repairs at the Academy. Most others were engaged in land clearance work, working a nine or nine-and-a-half hour day, at eighty cents per day. According to reports on file in the National Archives, the prisoners were well provided for during their internment. The report mentioned a "fist-ball field" at the center of the compound, films (most in English) viewed once a week, and the availability of newspapers, magazines, and radio broadcasts.

A later report by a representative of the State Department, who accompanied a delegate of the International Red Cross on a visit to the camp, describes the improvements made in the camp. In addition to an orchestra, a small library with a few German books had been established. German-speaking civilian clergymen from the surrounding areas provided services for Protestants and Catholics. The State Department representative reported that the prisoners, mostly of lower educational backgrounds, expressed no desire to participate in educational programs available at nearby schools and colleges. The camp contained a dispensary, with eight beds, staffed by the two German "protected prisoners" (probably officers). The West Point Hospital was used for serious bed cases and

dental problems. According to the report, the Camp Commander stated that two or three men per month required some disciplinary action, but no complaints from prisoners were received by the Red Cross delegate.¹²³

An additional source of information is a letter in the USMA Archives files from Borge Kourist, a P.O.W. at West Point between January, 1945, and April, 1946. Writing in 1972, he stated that his labors included working a power saw and axe in the woods on the artillery range. He claims to have helped "plan" and build the ski lift and to have worked in the kitchen of the Engineer Company at West Point. Kourist also claims that after the armistice he witnessed General Eisenhower drive past in a car while he was working on the ski lift.¹²⁴

After the war, the compound was used to house and feed the supervisory troops supporting the cadet training program. In September of 1949, the wire fence around the compound was taken down, removing the last clearly identifiable feature of the P.O.W. Camp.¹²⁵

The suggestion was made to name the camp after Lt. Col. Jack J. Richardson, Class of 1935, who had died in Germany less than three weeks before the end of the war. However, rather than confuse the name with the better known former Commandant, Lt. General R. L. Richardson, it was decided to use the local reference to this area, Natural Bridge.¹²⁶

Since several buildings now at Camp Natural Bridge occupy the same sites as the original structures, it is unclear whether the wooden barracks were replaced with metal ones or reclad with metal siding during the 1950s and 1960s.¹²⁷ There remain no architecturally significant buildings and only a few original structures which reflect the use of this area as a P.O.W. Camp. Of only recent

association with the USMA and unable to meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places as a property separate from the significance of the USMA, this is a Category IV Zone.

Bull Pond

Located southwest of Camp Natural Bridge is Bull Hill, the highest point of land owned by West Point (illustration #136). Near the top of Bull Hill is Bull Pond, the Superintendent's summer camp, which consists of one stone cottage (#1800) and two frame structures, which serve as a community house (#1802) and boat house (#1804). No documentary material was located on this area; further research is recommended. Unless additional research proves additional significance, this will remain a Category IV Zone.

Lake Frederick

Located at the southwestern extreme of the land acquisitioned in the 1940s, this property was purchased in May, 1944, from the estate of Frederick Proctor (illustration #136).¹²⁸ Presently, only one large building exists (#1848), featuring an odd conjunction of large columns, dormers, and rubble stone walls. The house, believed to have been a servants' quarters, was last owned by Mrs. Donnell, daughter of the late Mr. Proctor. There originally had been a few other buildings on this property of over twelve hundred acres. A series of metal A-frames of recent construction and a rustic wood and stone shelter are located west of a man-made lake.

Unable to meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places as a property separate from the USMA, this is a Category IV zone.

Queensboro Furnace

At the extreme southern end of the reservation, on land acquired in 1942, stands the old Queensboro Iron Furnace (#1980) (illustration #136). The furnace is situated at the junction of the Queensboro and Popolopen Creeks, about two and one-half miles west-southwest of the village of Fort Montgomery. In a comprehensive study of furnaces in the area, James M. Ransom dates the construction of this structure to sometime shortly after 1783.¹²⁹

This stone furnace differs from other furnaces of its period only in the unusually high pointed arch on the southside. Restored by the federal government in 1912, the furnace bears a tablet indicating that the nearby creek was forded at this point by British soldiers on their way to attack Fort Montgomery during the Revolutionary War. (See HABS No. NY-5708-57 for a detailed description and history.)

Evaluated as an individual structure rather than as an area, this excellent example of an iron furnace is a Category I structure, due to its age, its relatively good state of preservation, and its important relationship to the early production of iron in this region. While this structure does not relate to the history of the Academy, it possesses sufficient importance to warrant separate nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. (See the nomination form included in Volume I.)

Leone Tract

In December of 1959, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Leone, of the well known Mama Leone's Restaurant in New York City, donated about 1,000 acres of land to West Point.

Adjoining the western edge of the lands acquired during the 1940s, this land was used for the expansion of the cadet summer training area (illustration #136). Mr. Leone had long been a friend of West Point. In fact, he was an honorary member of the West Point Class of 1915.¹³⁰ This property added room to the western end of the reservation for the practice of modern military tactics.

No buildings are left on this property from the pre-acquisition period. Unable to meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places as a property evaluated separate from the USMA, this is a Category IV Zone.

Lady Cliff

Situated on about forty acres, this property lies east of Main Street, Highland Falls, and extends from the southern gate of West Point to Buttermilk Falls (illustration #136). Now known as New South Post, the Lady Cliff property was recently purchased by the federal government.

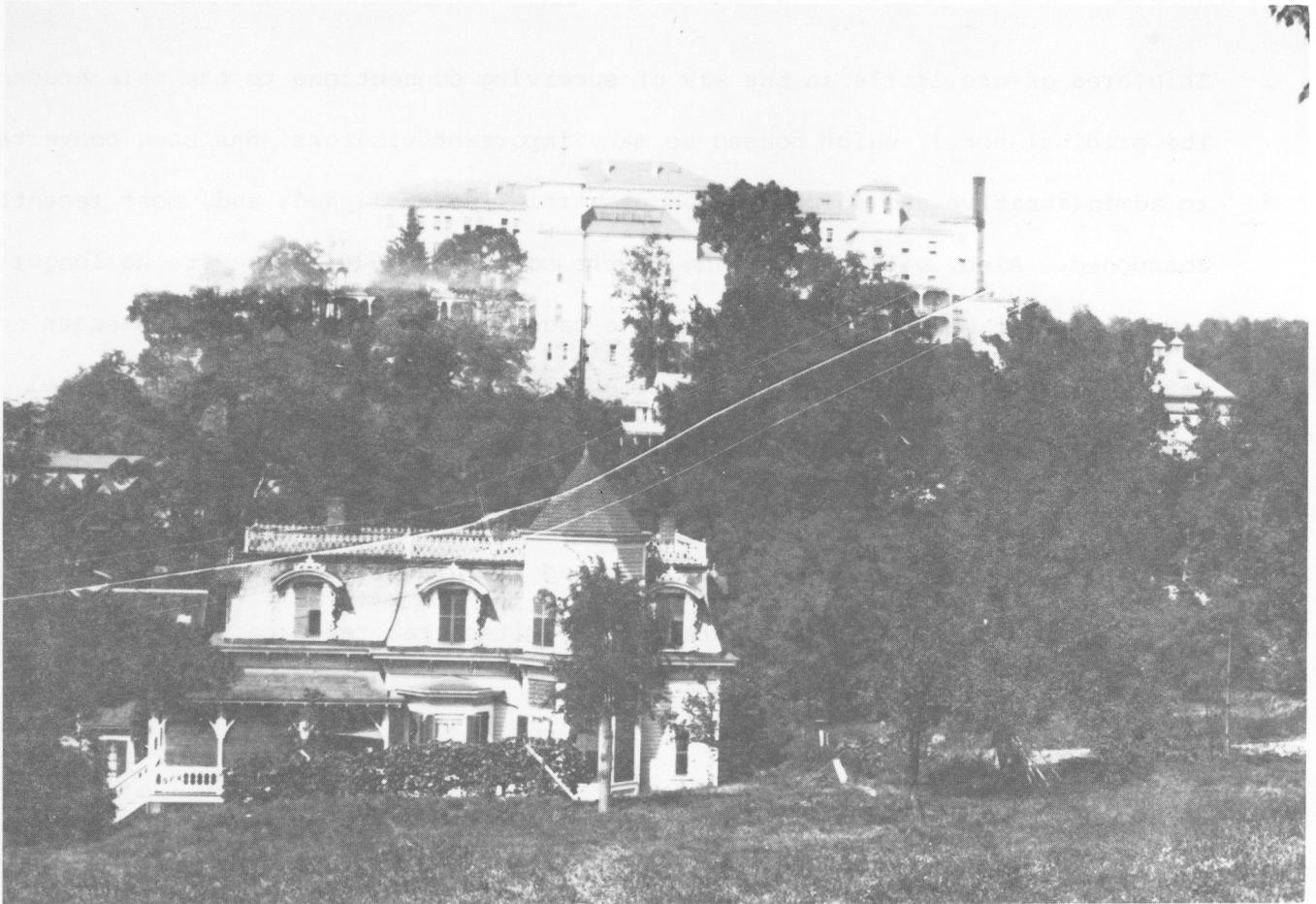
Originally a great hotel, Cozzen's (later Cranston's), was built on this site in 1849. It was later rebuilt after an 1859 fire.¹³¹ During the second half of the last century, the hotel hosted many prominent individuals, including President Lincoln, Generals Winfield Scott and George Sherman, Mrs. U.S. Grant, Mrs. Jefferson Davis, and the Prince of Wales. The Hotel became known as a resort for the elite and wealthy, with weekly rates for a single room allegedly running into the hundreds of dollars. However, by the end of the century, business at the old hotel had declined to such an extent that the Hudson City Savings Institution was forced to foreclose and sell the property. On January 1, 1900, the Franciscan Sisters, who had operated a school in Peekskill since 1869, officially acquired the property for \$60,000 and established Lady Cliff Academy.

During its first year of operation, sixty female students were enrolled at Lady Cliff Academy. By 1908, that number had increased to 200. In 1933, the Academy added a four-year college program to its high school program. By 1956, there were over 200 girls in the Academy, 175 in the college, with a staff of over 60 sisters, priests, and lay people. Experiencing financial difficulties, Lady Cliff announced on April 18, 1980 that it would close its doors (illustration #144).¹³²

The interest in Lady Cliff expressed by West Point has had precedents over the years. In 1902, it was suggested that West Point acquire Lady Cliff for future expansion.¹³³ The suggestion was made again by the 1908 Board of Visitors, in hopes of acquiring a new hotel site.¹³⁴ On April 19, 1910, Congress appropriated \$150,000 to purchase the property for a hotel in lieu of building a new one on post.¹³⁵ However, later that year, the Superintendent learned that the Catholic Church never had any interest in selling the property, at any price, at any time.¹³⁶

During the 1930s, West Point formulated yet another plan for Lady Cliff. In search of a suitable air field for the Cadets, Academy officials drew up plans for an "airdrome" on the site of Lady Cliff Academy.¹³⁷ Once again, these plans were never carried through.

Today, there are several other buildings in addition to what remains of the old hotel. A 1956 News of the Highlands newspaper article gives dates for the major buildings built by the church.¹³⁸ In 1913, Lady Hall, containing classrooms, was built north of the old hotel's west wing. The hotel section was then used exclusively for administration and dormitories. In 1937, Rosary Hall was built, north of the hotel's east wing, for use as college classrooms. In 1948, the



144. Originally a grand hotel during the second half of the 19th century, the building in the background became Lady Cliff Academy after the turn of the 20th century. Recently closed, the former girl's school, which is adjacent to West Point's southern river-front property, will likely be the next parcel of land purchased by West Point.

ca. 1908

USMA Archives

eastern two-thirds of the old hotel were demolished to make way for the Mary Hall dormitory (completed 1951). An old wing to the south of the demolished section remains, as indicated by the tower, and was remodeled as a church in 1955. A modern dormitory and library were built sometime after 1960.

This area offers little in the way of surviving connections to the main Academy. The original hotel, which housed so many important visitors, has been converted to administrative and dormitory space, partially demolished, and, most recently, abandoned. Also, with the closing of the school in 1980, there are no longer young women of Lady Cliff attending the cadet dances. Lady Cliff possesses no major significance in relation to the Academy. The remains of the old hotel possess limited historical significance to the local community of Highland Falls. Unfortunately, demolition of a major part of the structure, modification of exterior as well as interior fabric, and its present deteriorated condition severely affect its value as a historic architectural resource.

CONCLUSION

This overview has examined the different areas of the USMA which contribute, in varying degrees, to the USMA National Historic Landmark District. The organization of this overview tries to reflect this relationship, with the Academic area possessing primary significance, the Close-In Historic areas possessing secondary significance, and the Outlying areas possessing tertiary significance.

This overview assumed a mid-level of concentration on specific buildings due to the wide range of area covered. Other components of the overall West Point Study include less or greater degrees of detail for existing buildings. One part of the study is a categorization table, arranged by building number, which lists building name (present and historic), architect (if known), year of construction or acquisition, and category of significance for both the individual building and its zone (see Volume I of this study). Each building is also represented on inventory cards, which include the basic information cited above, plus a detailed description, a statement of significance, a site map, and a 35 mm photograph. The most important buildings received detailed written and photographic documentation done to HABS standards. These selected buildings also received detailed preservation guidelines which consider future options for care and planning (see Volume 3 of this study). All of this data, plus 4" x 5" negatives of the historic photographs used in this overview, is available in the HABS/HAER Collection of the Prints and Photographs Division at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., 20540.

Whether hurriedly viewed by a tourist or closely scrutinized by a team of experienced historians and architects, the USMA's historic and architectural traditions are tangibly reflected in the design and placement of its buildings.

Unfortunately, when, in the past, the preservation of these visual elements of West Point's traditions were in conflict with plans for expansion and growth, the lack of sufficient historic evaluations contributed to the removal of such buildings as the old Library. It is therefore hoped that this study will not only serve as a record of West Point up until the 1980s, but, together with the data listed above, serve as a future planning tool, to be utilized by the USMA to protect against damage to the important features of the USMA National Historic Landmark District.

FOOTNOTES

¹Sidney Forman, Hudson Highlands Hill People (Highlands, New York: By the Author, 1982) p.2.

²Ibid., p.3.

³Ibid., p.4

⁴"Post Facilities Report, 1889," U.S.M.A. Archives, Record Series 280, p. 78; "Superintendent's Annual Reports," U.S.M.A. Archives, Record Series 6, 1901 Report.

⁵"Post Planning Board Files," U.S.M.A. Archives, Box 8 & 9, File #601.1, item #8.

⁶"Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1912 Report.

⁷Ibid., 1838 Report.

⁸Ibid., 1842 Report.

⁹"Post Facilities Report, 1889," p. 42-45.

¹⁰"Reports of the Annual Board of Visitors," U.S.M.A. Archives, Record Series 315, 1843 and 1854 Reports.

¹¹"The Clock Tower," The Pointer (U.S.M.A.), June 1929.

¹²Montgomery Schuyler, "The Architecture of West Point," The Architectural Record, December 1903.

¹³"Post Facilities Report, 1889," p. 47.

¹⁴"Observatories in the United States," Harpers Monthly, March 1874.

¹⁵"Superintendent's Letter Books," U.S.M.A. Archives, Record Series 2, February 6, 1839 and June 3, 1839.

¹⁶Ibid., June 14, 1839.

¹⁷Ibid., June 3, 1839. "Fortification File," Cartographics Division, National Archives, Alexandria, Va. Drawer 32, Sheets 14-A, 14-B, 14-C.

¹⁸"Reports of the Annual Board of Visitors," 1873 Report.

¹⁹"Post Facilities Report, 1889," p. 36.

²⁰Ibid., p. 122.

²¹Ibid., p. 41.

²²"Superintendent's Letter Books," February 25, 1856.

- 23"Post Facilities Report, 1889," p. 38 and 127.
- 24Ibid., p. 39.
- 25Ibid., p. 122 and 53.
- 26Ibid., p. 126.
- 27"Superintendent's Letter Books," February 12, 1889.
- 28"General Letters Received," U.S.M.A. Archives, Record Series 155, January 28, 1888.
- 29"Superintendent's Letter Books," March 31, 1891, and May 19, 1891.
- 30"General Letters Received," August 20, 1891.
- 31"Superintendent's Letter Books," August 20, 1891.
- 32Ibid., October 22, 1890.
- 33"Superintendent's Annual Report, 1895, p. 7.
- 34Charles W. Larned, History of the Battle Monument at West Point (West Point: U.S.M.A., 1898).
- 35"Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1894 Report.
- 36Ibid., 1896 Report.
- 37"Superintendent's Letter Books," September 11, 1894.
- 38Ibid., June 10, 1896 and June 30, 1896.
- 39Ibid., June 30, 1895.
- 40Ibid., May 9, 1901.
- 41"Superintendent's Letter Books," July 25, 1901.
- 42"General Letters Received," May 17, 1895 and May 20, 1895.
- 43"Reports of the Annual Board of Visitors," 1901 Report.
- 44Charles W. Larned," U.S.M.A. Headquarters Report of Buildings 1888-1902," Special Collections Branch, U.S.M.A. Library.
- 45"Superintendent's Press Letter Books," U.S.M.A. Archives, Record Series 3, 1-402 1/2.
- 46"Superintendent's Press Letter Books," June 1, 1903, p. 318.
- 47Schuyler, "The Architecture at West Point."

- 48"Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1912 Report.
- 49"Reports of the Advisory Board," U.S.M.A. Archives, Record Series 325, March 10, 1904.
- 50"Superintendent's Annual Report," 1910 Report, p. 74.
- 51"Post Planning Board Files," Box 6, File 600.12.
- 52West Point Architectural Competition, 1944, Special Collections Branch, U.S.M.A. Library.
- 53"Post Planning Board Files," Box 7, File 600.1.
- 54"Washington Statue" File, Historical Inquiry Files, U.S.M.A. Archives.
- 55"Post Facilities Report," 1889," p. 132-136.
- 56Ibid.
- 57Ibid.
- 58"Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1890 Report.
- 59Ibid., 1897 Report.
- 60Ibid., 1900 Report.
- 61Marie T. Capps, "A Walking Tour of the West Point Cemetery," Special Collections Branch, U.S.M.A. Library.
- 62"Superintendent's Letter Books," Vol. 11, April 15, 1899.
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- 64"Egbert C. Viele" File, Historical File, Special Collections Branch, U.S.M.A. Library.
- 65"Annual Reports of the Board of Visitors," 1899 Report, p. 77.
- 66"Superintendent's Letter Books," January 31, 1867.
- 67"Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1901, 1908, and 1914 Reports.
- 68Ibid., 1935 Report.
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- 70"Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1880 Report.
- 71"Reports of the Advisory Board," October 5, 1903 and October 13, 1903.

- 72"Buffalo Soldiers Field" File, Historical Inquiry File, U.S.M.A. Archives.
- 73"Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1936 Report.
- 74"Post Planning Board Files," Box 12 and 13, File 658.
- 75"Catholic Chapel" File, Historical Inquiry Files, U.S.M.A. Archives.
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- 77Ibid., p. 91 and 92.
- 78Ibid., p. 134.
- 79Ibid., p. 90.
- 80"Reports of The Annual Board of Visitors," 1854 Report, p. 155; The Atlas of West Point, Special Collections Branch, U.S.M.A. Library.
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- 82Augusta B. Berard, Reminiscences of West Point, (Special Collections Branch, U.S.M.A. Library, 1866).
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- 87"General Letters Received," #666, June 7, 1887.
- 88"Post Facilities Report," 1889 p. 20.
- 89"Superintendent's Letter Books," Vol. 2, August 12, 1850.
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- 91"Post Planning Board Files," Box 11 and 12, File 634.
- 92"Post Facilities Report," 1889, p. 110.
- 93Ibid., p. 111, 112, 115.
- 94"Superintendent's Letter Books," January 31, 1867.
- 95"Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1892 Report.
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- 97"Post Facilities Report, 1889," pps. 115, 116, 117, and 134.
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- 99Ibid., p. 120.
- 100Ibid., p. 119.
- 101"Old Observatory" File, Historical Inquiry files, U.S.M.A. Archives.
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- 104Dave R. Palmer, The River and the Rock (New York: Greenwood Publishing Corp., 1969).
- 105"Adjutant General Records," File #206-09, Installation Historical File, 1963, Constitution Island, U.S.M.A. Archives.
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- 116Ibid., 1870 and 1880.
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- 124 "Camp Natural Bridge/Prisoner of War Camp" File, Historical Inquiry Files, U.S.M.A. Archives.
- 125 "Post Planning Board Files," Box 1 and 2, Files 354.1.
- 126 Ibid., item 156.
- 127 "Superintendent's Annual Reports," 1950s and 1960s Reports.
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- 137 "Post Planning Board Files," Box 8 and 9, File 601.1.
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BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY

The purpose of this study is to provide an historical overview of the physical development of the United States Military Academy. This overview serves to aid in establishing a context of historical and architectural values from which all buildings were categorized. Research for this report was performed at the following locations: USMA Archives and Special Collections Branches of the USMA Library; the Modern Military Branch and the Natural Resources Branches of the National Archives in Washington; the Orange County Recorder of Deeds office in Goshen, N.Y.; and the Public Library, Highland Falls, N.Y.

Before any primary sources were consulted, various books written on the general history and development of West Point were reviewed. Among the more useful books were: West Point, by Sidney Forman, New York, 1950; West Point, by Thomas J. Fleming, N.Y., 1969; and Men of West Point, by Richard C. Dupuy, N.Y., 1951. The first two titles trace the general growth of the teaching mission at the Academy, and the third title considers the significant roles played by numerous West Point graduates. There are no known books or comprehensive reports which discuss, in detail, the buildings at West Point.

The next step was a selective review of the holdings of the USMA Archives. As the information sought was broad in scope, the research proceeded in an open-ended manner, rather than one of specific searches. Record series were selected for review from the Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the United States Military Academy, compiled by Stanley P. Tozeski (Washington, D.C.: General Services Administration, 1976). Each record series entry contains a synopsis providing information on content, period, and degree of indexing. Contents

relevant to this study included: buildings and grounds; expansion programs and land acquisition. Periods of interest were the building boom decades of the 1840s, 1850s, 1890s, 1900s, 1930s, 1940s, and 1960s. The degree of indexing was an important variable in determining the time spent on document searches relative to the anticipated yield of useful information. This flexible equation dictated that some potentially useful record series required more time than was practical, and were therefore not considered for the purposes of this report.

USMA Archives

An annotated listing of consulted record series follows:

- Record Series #1, 2 Superintendent's Letter Books, 1838-1902. A very valuable series of letters written by the various superintendents during this period. A subject index directs the researcher to relevant letters.
- Record Series #3 Superintendent's Press Letter Books, 1902-1910. Similar to Record Series #2. No index.
- Record Series #6 Superintendent's Annual Reports, 1871-1976 (with gaps). General discussion of the affairs of the entire academy, emphasis on academics. No indexing, yet usually follows a consistent pattern of organization from which researcher can find relevant sections (i. e., "buildings and grounds").

Record Series #129 and 130 Adjutant General, Letters Sent, 1845-1902.

Very good information on all administrative concerns, including buildings and grounds. Subject index does not begin until 1879.

Record Series #153-156 General Letters Received, 1881-1903.

Subject index directs researchers to letter register which then leads to letters. Very useful information. Letters are often in response to Superintendent's letters sent. Unfortunately, about 80% of those original letters pertaining to buildings were either misfiled or removed. Registers provide a synopsis of each letter, plus cross reference to other letters in correspondence. Researchers should take notes from register in case letters are missing.

Record Series #166, 167, 179 Post Orders (1838-1904) and Post Regulations (1888-1964).

Not very useful in a study such as this. Orders and Regulations always seem to be directed to those present at the time of issuance, leaving out information crucial to understanding the context of the order.

Record Series #280 . . .

Post Facilities Report, 1889.

Extremely valuable survey of most of the buildings at West Point as of 1889. Often provides building dates, dimensions, occupants, and alterations.

Record Series #286-289

Expansion Planning and Control Office, 1964-1971.

Register of photographs showing construction and demolition during this period. Photographs usually record the progress of each construction project.

Record Series #310

History of Army Medical Service, 1788-1950.

Good outline of the development of the hospital services, both cadet and soldiers. Gives descriptions and locations of early hospitals.

Record Series #315

Reports of the Annual Board of Visitors,

1819-1975 (with gaps).

A very good report on the needs and improvements at the Academy during each year. No index.

Record Series #324, 325

Advisory Board, 1903-1905.

Reports of a special board appointed to assist the Superintendent in ruling on various details of the 1903 building program. Although incomplete, the subject index is very useful.

Record Series #346-348

Stockbridge Photographic Collection, 1902-1932.

Over 1,000 prints and nearly 2,000 negatives. Most negatives are glass plate, with excellent images of early West Point scenes. Very good indexing.

Record Series #411-412

White Studio Photographs, 1925-1966.

Nearly 38,000 film negatives of West Point scenes. Includes several copy negatives of 19th-century West Point scenes. Good architectural views. Subject index.

Record Series (unnumbered)

Post Planning Board, 1930's-1970's.

Excellent detailed information on Post planning items, such as building programs and land acquisition. Some files go back as far as the 1910s. A War Department decimal indexing is less helpful than a standard subject indexing, yet the detail of information makes extra work worthwhile. Maps and plans of many of the projects are boxed separately.

Miscellaneous Archives Series:

Archives Photo Collection

Copy negatives of many Stockbridge and White Studio photographs, plus negatives of pictures taken from

class albums and newspapers. Valuable as a less fragile negative for reproduction than glass plates. Arranged alphabetically by subject, no index. Covers periods 1860s-1960s.

Historic Inquiry Files

Subject files of questions and replies and other data relevant to historical inquiries made of USMA Archives since the 1950s. Useful for quick reference to research already performed by archives staff.

Adjutant General Records

Although not yet completely part of the Archives holding, these records were used in connection with the section on the Warner Sisters of Constitution Island. Specifically, "File #206-09, Installation Historical file for 1963, Constitution Island," provided useful information on the Island and Warner Sisters.

National Archives

The National Archives in Washington, D.C. was consulted for a few types of records, including: Still Pictures, W.P.A. records, and, W.W. II Prisoner of Warrecords. A review of the Still Pictures and Navy and Old Army Branches led to

the conclusion that more productive photographic research should be conducted at the USMA Archives due to the specialization of their collection. The search for detailed information on W.P.A. work at West Point failed to yield enough relevant information to justify large expenditures of research time. An investigation was also made at the National Archives Modern Military Branch, for documents pertaining to the World War II Prisoner of War Camp at West Point. Although only two documents were located (which dealt with inspections of the camp) they provided valuable information on the specific situation at West Point.

The Fortification File at the Cartographic Division of the National Archives was reviewed for early plans, elevations, and maps. These assisted in establishing the influence of outside architects on the Academy's early buildings.

Special Collections Branch

The Special Collections Branch of the USMA Library was utilized throughout the duration of the project. A number of their holdings were very useful to this study and are mentioned below. A book valuable to an understanding of the Revolutionary War fortifications at West Point is, The River and the Rock, by Dave R. Palmer, (N.Y.: Greenwood Publishing Corp., 1969). The map collection proved quite valuable in developing an understanding of Academy growth and helped determine historic building locations. The map collection includes: numerous maps of the Revolutionary War period and early 19th-century maps; a particularly helpful 1883 U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey map; a large-scale 1904 topographic map; and, The Atlas of West Point, a series of illustrative, yet at times inaccurate, maps showing the expansion of the Academy from 1808 to 1937.

Historic photographs were reviewed from vertical files, class albums, photographic albums, and the Pittman Collection (ca. 1870). Other features of the Special Collections Branch's holdings are the manuscripts and reminiscences, which go back as far as the Revolutionary War period. A few of the useful reminiscences were those of Augusta Berard and L. L. Bailey, which paint a picture of West Point during the early 19th century. A number of other useful articles and reports include the following:

Sylvester Baxter, "The New West Point," Century Magazine, July 1904.

S. Allen Chambers, Jr., and Benjamin Levy, Summary Report on the Academy Development Plan for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C.: National Park Service 1970.

Colonel David Gray, The Architectural Development of West Point, West Point, N.Y.: U.S.M.A. 1951.

Professor Charles L. Larned, Report of Buildings, 1882-1902, West Point, N.Y.: U.S.M.A.

Montgomery Schuyler, "The Architecture of West Point," The Architectural Record, December, 1903.

N.Y. District Engineers, Architectural Competition for Permanent Building Construction. West Point, New York: U.S.M.A. 1945.

Other Sources

Another type of record consulted dealt with the history of land use and ownership of the outlying areas. At an early stage in the research it was determined that since Academy records almost never pertained to the "pre-acquisition" role of these properties, non-Academy sources had to be reviewed. This task proved difficult, largely because of the obscure location of these properties, and their lack of pre-acquisition association with the Academy. Review of tax records proved fruitless with regard to properties removed from the tax roles decades ago. Deed research also proved unsatisfactory due to their concentration on real property rather than buildings. Some success came with county atlases; Beer's County Atlas of Orange, N.Y., 1875; and Atlas of Orange County, New York, A.H. Mueller and Co., 1903. When these atlases listed the name of the occupant next to the building in question, these names were then sought in the 1880 and 1900 U.S. Population Census. Certain biographical information on the early occupants of the outlying areas was gathered from the censuses.

Additional general information on the outlying areas was gleaned from the following:

The News of the Highlands newspaper, Highland Falls, N.Y.; Cornwall, by Lewis Beech, a history and description of the greater West Point area written in 1873; and, Hudson Highlands Hill People, a brief study of the people who lived in the greater West Point area during the 18th and 19th centuries, written by Dr. Sidney Forman in 1982.

