UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 28 1981

DATE ENTERED OCT 9 1981

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The United States Animal Quarantine Station in Clifton contains 27 buildings constructed between 1900 and 1907, including three frame dwellings, three garages, four sheds, 14 brick cattle barns (stables), and a frame sheep barn. Land for the Quarantine Station was purchased between 1900-1903 and originally totaled 49 acres. The present 26 acres remains after portions to the west and northwest were sold off in 1948 and 1955. Clifton City Hall/Civic Center, erected in 1979, is the single non-contributing building in the complex. Owned by the City of Clifton, the property is an irregular tract with the following street frontage:

415 feet along Van Houten Avenue 666 feet along Clifton Avenue 333 feet along Colfax Avenue 1206 feet along the easterly right-of-way of the Erie-Lackawanna Railroad

The entire wooded tract rises slightly to the northwest with a gully extending along the Colfax Avenue frontage.

The Quarantine Station was planned in a uniform grid pattern with most of the buildings linearly oriented in a northeast-southwest axis. There are four rows of structures. The first row is administrative, residential, and storage buildings while the evenly spaced successive rows are primarily animal stables. An extensive system of gravel roads, also in grid pattern, frame the buildings.

The following is an inventory and description of all the buildings within the boundaries of the nominated property, keyed to the district site map:

Cattle Barns. Built between 1900 and 1903 by the David Henry Building Company, Paterson, New Jersey (Identification - A1, A2, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, D1, and D2).

The fourteen brick stables still standing on the property were all termed cattle barns in the building inventory of the United States Department of Agriculture done in 1949, although many other types of animals were kept in the buildings. The cattle barns are all 1 1/2 story brick and concrete stables having a modified hip roof with

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
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1500-1599	X AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_X1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DATES 1900 - 1979 BUILDER/ARCHITECT				

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

During its continuous operation from 1900 to 1979, the United States Animal Quarantine Station in Clifton was the only facility on the East Coast for receiving and isolating foreign animals arriving in this country. All major components of this facility are intact and illustrate the strict standards the United States Department of Agriculture implemented at the turn of the century to safeguard the nation's livestock and poultry against diseases of foreign origin. While its primary function was directed towards confining and inspecting commercial animals, numerous wild animals for zoological parks and other exhibition purposes were also processed throught the Quarantine Station.

The legal basis for the station's activities dates back to the Federal Sundry Civil Bill approved July 7, 1884, which provided funds "for establishing and maintaining quarantine stations for neat cattle." Subsequent legislation broadened the authority to include sheep, other ruminants, and swine. Congress also authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to prescribe periods of quarantine and make the necessary regulations. The main original station was established in Garfield, New Jersey in 1885-86. The Department of Agriculture also rented farms up and down the coast and animals were kept in the barns on these premises, but these structures were not conductive to thorough cleaning and disinfecting. When it became clear that quarantining imported livestock was to be a permanent practice, officials of the Bureau of Animal Industry, who represented the Secretary in administering animal quarantines, made plans for the purchase of suitable sites and the construction of substantial buildings and improvements.

Using funds provided by Congress in 1900, the Bureau purchased nearly 50 acres of land in the Athenia section of Clifton. The site was chosen because of its combined isolation and convenient railroads serving the port of New York. In a few years most of the buildings for the permanent quarantine center had been completed. It operated as a unit of the Field Inspection Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry in the United States Department of Agriculture. The superintendent of the station that was to be later called the Animal Import Center was a veterianarian having broad experience in the administration of animal quarantines. Superintendents of the Animal Import Center were:

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

U.S. Animal Quarantine Station

Continuation sheet

Clifton, Passaic Co. NJ

Item number

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Page

National Register eligibility comments requested by the United States Department of Agriculture on April 10, 1978.

Determination of Eligibility on May 9, 1978.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

U.S. Animal Quarantine Station

Continuation sheet Clifton, Passaic Co., NJ Item number



Page 1

Description (continued)

clerestories, and story and a half end gables. The wide entrances on the end gables have multi-paned semi-circular lights with a large round brick arch highlighted by a narrow concrete strip. (Photos 13, 21, 22). Uniform three bay end gables originally had large double door entry and 6/6 sash windows to either side. The longitudinal facades vary in length from three bays to 15 bays using a uniform modular format. Each module is distinguished by buttresses and three single windows. The clerestories are set in one bay from the ends, also expanding with each module. They have alternating windows and louvers, providing light and ventilation. These cattle barns have a through center wagon aisle and wooden animal pens to either side. The floors are concrete, and the ceilings and partitions wooden (Photos 27, 28, 29).

The largest building in this basic form, labeled C5, has a variation. Its 15 bays are divided up the center with a projecting three bay feed room.

At the junction of the roof peaks and engaged in the clerestory is a peaked cupola with raised seam tin roof (Photo 15). All of the animal stables probably originally had tin roofs, but most are now asphalt. Other changes include the replacement of many of the original double batten entry doors with modern track garage doors.

The cattle barns are all in fair to good condition although many are poorly secured. A number are empty, but several are being adaptively reused.

(Photos 12-16, 20-22, 24-32, and 34).

Old Red Sheep Barn (D3)

Moved from the old Garfield quarantine facility (fl. 1885-1900) around 1900, this 1 1/2 story frame barn with vertical board and batten siding has eight animal pens for sheep. There are eight small windows beneath the eave at the longitudinal facades and entrances at each gable end. Two louvered cupolas are atop the gable roof. The building is in poor condition (Photos 33, 34).

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

U.S. Animal Quarantine Station

Continuation sheet Clifton, Passaic Co., NJ Item number 7



Page 2

Description (continued)

Crawford House (L1)

Built in 1902, this clapboard house is one story with a Mansard roof. The front facade has three bays and a side entrance protected by a full front porch. The windows are mostly 2/2 sash with simple window cap moldings. The entry doorway has decorative pilasters and an arched glass transom. The roof is Mansard with two dormers on each plane. There is a central brick chimney. The building's foundation is stone. Good condition. A chain link fence encloses the entire property. (Photos 8, 11).

Shed for Crawford House (L2)

Built in 1908, this is a small one story L-form frame storage shed with a gable roof and cinder block foundation. A wooden arbor is along-side. (Photos 8, 11).

Station Barn (L3)

Completed late in 1908 by David Henry Building Company, this is a 2 1/2 story, three bay, rectangular frame barn with narrow clapboard siding and a hip roof topped by small louvered cupola. The first floor has irregular fenestration - two large wagon bays, a small entry door and a 6/6 sash window on the northwest facade; two entry doors, two 6/6 sash windows, and a small six pane window on the southeast facade; and single entry doors on the ends. The foundation and floor are concrete.

The second floor has small six pane windows immediately beneath the eave with a large center opening on each linear facade. The northwest facade door is double leaf board and batten while the southeast wall has a vertical board sliding door.

The interior has wagon bays, horse stables, harness room, and tool room on the first floor. The upper floor was for storing hay. Good condition. (Photos 8, 9, 11, 12).

Pump House (P1)

Located at the highest point of elevation at the Quarantine Station and originally the pump house, this is a one story, L-form, flat roofed stone building. Although U.S.D.A. records indicate that the pump house was built in 1900, it is evident that it was actually constructed in two

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

U.S. Animal Quarantine Station
Continuation sheet Clifton, Passaic Co., NJ Item number



Page 3

Description (continued)

phases. The stonework is similar in both sections, but the west unit has segmental arch window openings and 6/6 sash while the smaller east unit has 4/4 sash and flat window openings and 6/6 sash while the smaller east unit has 4/4 sash and flat arch window openings. The windows and doors are recessed considerably on the exterior in both. Fair condition, in need of stabilization and security measures. (Photos 17, 18).

7

Superintendents' Residence (S1)

Built in 1901 by Calvin and Conklin, Passaic, New Jersey at a cost of nearly \$5,700, this is a simple Colonial Revival style 2 1/2 story, center entrance, three bay, square, clapboard dwelling with a hip roof. Across the front facade is a one story porch with round columns resting atop square bases into which the bannister engages. The bannister and porch floor continue around the corner to a small side entry, also protected by a portico. Similar to that at the front, this porch has a wooden balcony on the roof. Access to this balcony is provided by a Palladian motif doorway. The other first and second story windows are generally 2/2 sash with very simple window cap moldings. front facade window on the second floor, however, is a casement type. The roof of the building is hip with center dormers on each plane. The roof is capped by a balustrade. Beneath the overhanging eave are brackets, dentil moldings and then a simple entablature. The first floor has cornerboards, but there are none on the second floor, suggesting that the upper level and dormers were originally shingled. Good condition. The interior was not accessible.

Barn/Garage (S2)

Built in 1903, this is a square, three bay, two story, clapboard frame structure with a truncated hip roof and louvered cupola. The first floor main facade has two large garage bays and the final bay has a 6/6 sash window. The other facades have 6/6 sash and four lite window fenestration. The second floor has a wide center loading bay with double inward swinging doors. A hoisting apparatus projects out from the roof above. Flanking the door are single six lite windows. These stationary windows continue along the other facades. The foundation and floor of the building are concrete. There is a later one story garage bay addition on the west end. Good condition. (Photos 6, 10).

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

U.S. Animal Quarantine Station

Continuation sheet Clifton, Passaic Co., NJ Item number 7



Page 4

Description (continued)

Shed (S3)

This is a small one story board and batten workshed with small windows. The roof is gable with a center cross gable. The foundation is concrete. Good condition (Photos 10, 19)

Gate House/Foreman's House/Animal Caretaker's House (S5)

Completed in 1903 by P.S. Van Winkle of Paterson, this house is a four bay, two story, T-form clapboard frame dwelling with a hip roof and classical details. The stem of the T is the front of the house. The entrance, which is at the inset of the T-form, has a porch with round wooden columns on square bases into which the bannister is engaged. This portico projects beyond the house and ends in a semi-circle. The hip roof has a slight overhang and ends in a simple boxed cornice with beveled paneled frieze. The clapboarding on the first floor has corner-boards while there are none on the second floor suggesting that the upper level was originally shingled. Windows are 1/1 sash with a simple window cap molding. Off the rear of the house is a small one story board and batten addition. The foundation is sandstone. Good condition. The interior was not accessible. (Photos 2, 23)

Formeman's Garage (S6)

In the rear of the Gatehouse is a one story hip-roofed frame garage which accommodates three vehicles. The garage has bifold doors with six small window panes in the upper panels. The foundation and floor are concrete. It was built in 1903. Good condition. (Photo 2)

Bunkhouse (X3)

Built in 1903, this is a small gable roofed, one story clapboard frame workman's bunkhouse with a porch within the inset of the L-form. The windows are 6/6 sash. Off the rear of the building is a one story leanto frame wing, also with 6/6 sash windows. Good condition (Photos 13, 24)

City Hall/Civic Center

Built in 1979, this is the only modern structure within the district, but it is also the largest. It is a box-like rectangular, two story, long masonry building with a flat roof. The main front entrance is at the center of the building and is recessed beneath the second floor. Although it does not contribute to the character of the Quarantine Station, City Hall was designed to minimize the negative impact on its surroundings. (Photo 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 19)

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

U. S. Animal Quarantine Station
Continuation sheet Clifton, Passaic Co., NJ Item number 8



Page 1

Significance (continued)

John Wilson	1936-1940
Alvin Staub	1940-1943
Truman Cole	1943-1949
Francis Herchenroeder	1949-1955
B. Conwell Swindle	1955-1962
Harold Waters	1962-1967
Paul Lampshear	1967-1975
S.S. Richeson	1975-1979

The function of the superintendent in charge was to observe the animals for foreign disease by examination and blood sampling. The Center did not treat any animal found to be ill; rather, that animal was either deported to its original country or destroyed on the premises. The Center was very private and observed strick regulations regarding visitors and employees. No visitors were allowed to observe the animals, thus decreasing the chance of any disease being carried from the premises. All employees were required to shower and change clothes before leaving for home. Very rarely was an animal spotted on the grounds. They were all kept in the barns to reduce the possibility of any insects carrying a disease away after exposure to the quarantined animals. The center usually dealt with hoofed animals such as horses, cattle, zoo animals, hogs, etc., but birds and some mammals had been included in recent years. (Personal interview Dr. Lamphear, 1977).

During Clifton Quarantine Station's first fifty years of operation the majority of foreign animals arrived by ship in the New York Harbor, were transferred to one of the two railroads servicing Clifton, (Erie-Lackawanna had a depot alongside the Import Center; the other within one-quarter mile) and were transported to the Quarantine Station. After 1950, however, shipping declined while air transport of animals in-This caused the U.S. Department of Agriculture to gradually sell off excess land and seek a new Animal Import Center site. the City of Clifton bought part of the quarantine tract from the Federal Government to house a new high school. In 1956 Clifton purchased 15 additional acres of the property and seven more acres were obtained in 1959 (New York Times, Nov. 10, 1974). An easement deed of August 22, 1962 to the City of Clifton, New Jersey, under provision of Public Law 86-608 (74 Stat. .363) approved on July 7, 1960 that "land of the United States Animal Quarantine Station, Clifton, New Jersey, Holding A-ARA-11, of .038 acres, more or less, "be transferred to the City of Clifton, New Jersey." (Records at Animal Import Station).

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Significance (continued)

A completed sale was made in 1966 and the City of Clifton made a \$100,000.00 downpayment with vacation of the station dependent upon location of a suitable alternate site (Golden Jubilee, 1967). Since foreign animals now come into this country almost exclusively by air, the quarantine center relocated to Newburgh, New York, near Stewart Air Force Base in 1979.

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officers, respectively, respectively, no

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Correspondence

Goodell, Andrew. Caretaker of Animal Import Center, Clifton, New Jersey.

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 $\textbf{U.S.} \ \, \textbf{Animal Quarantine Station}$

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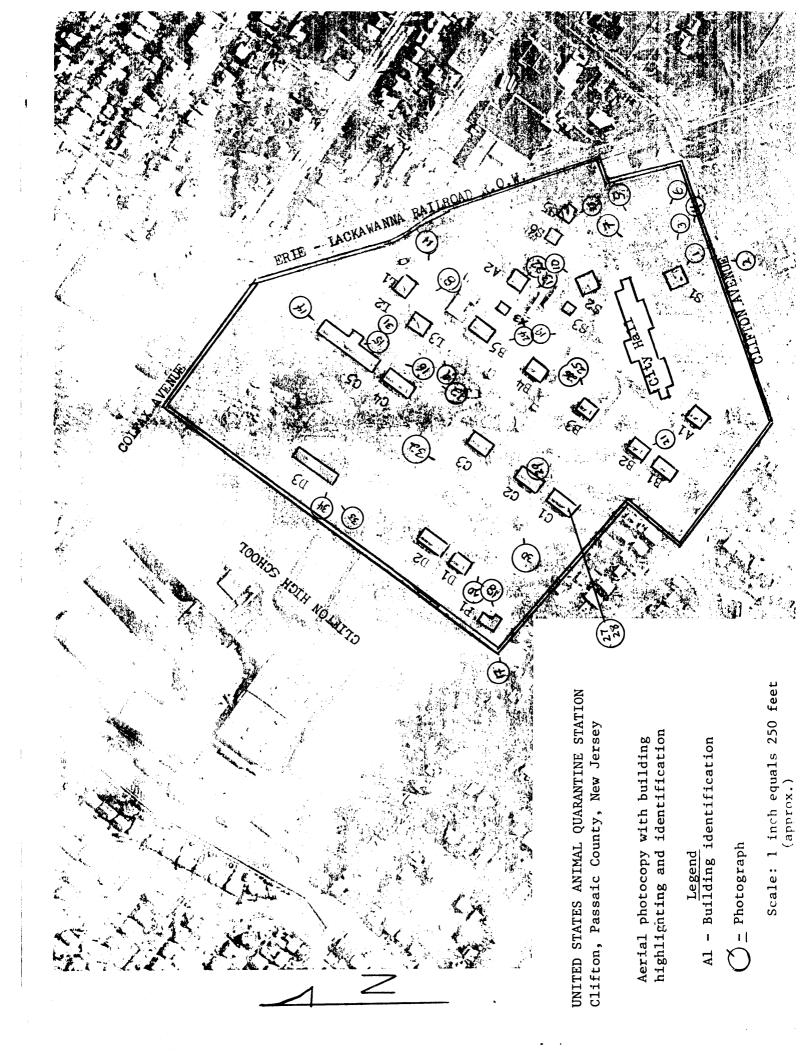
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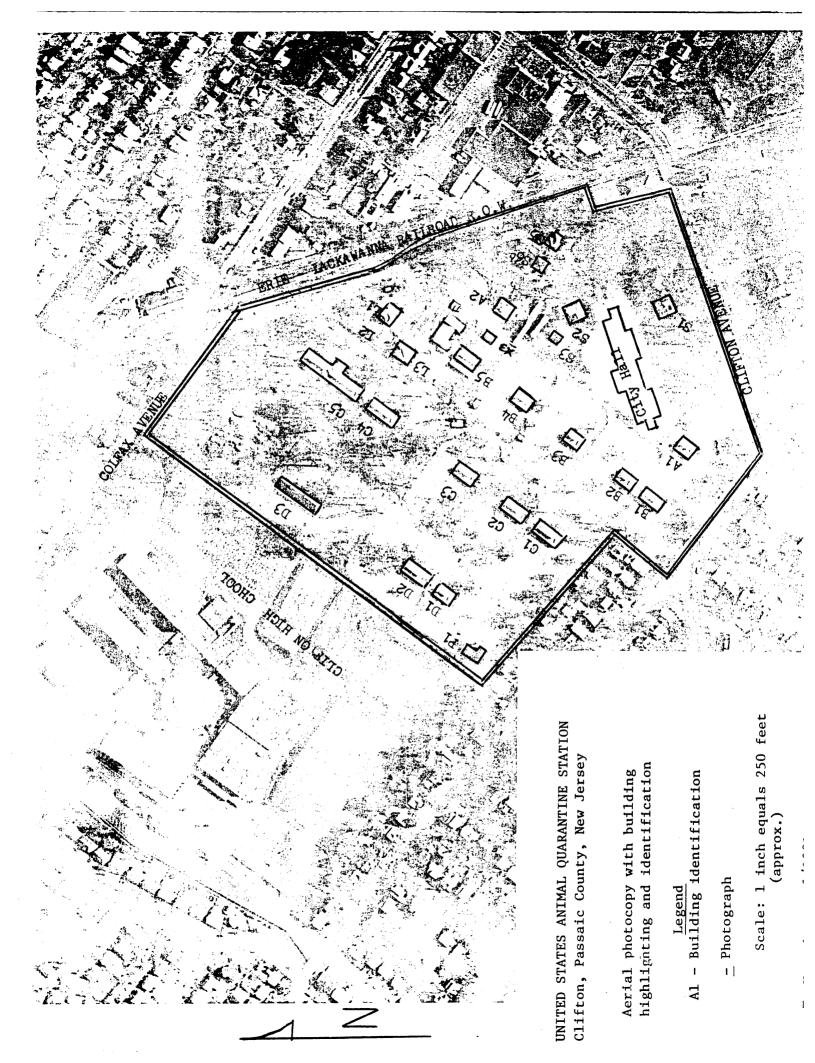
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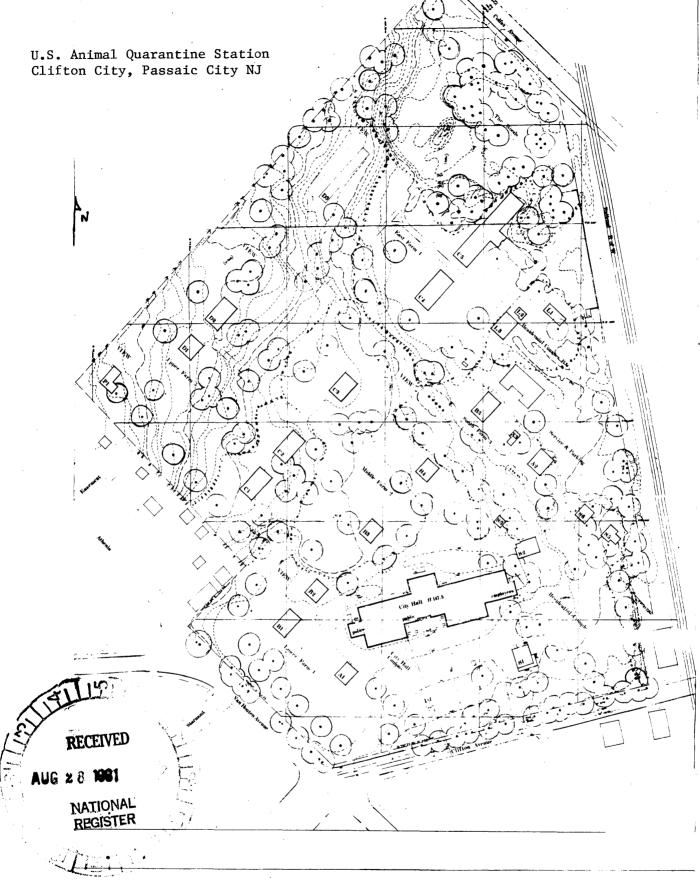
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This property is bounded on the north by the Clifton High School property; on the east by the west limit of the Erie-Lackawanna Railroad right-of-way; on the south by Clifton Avenue; and on the west by Van Houten Avenue and the rear property lines of the private houses front Van Houten to the beginning of the Clifton High School property.

These boundaries enclose the entire extant facility of the U.S. Animal Quarantine Station.







Daniel D. Stewart Landscape Architect 70 Aug. Rt., No. York, N.Y. 10014 (210) 901-0642 Redevelopment of U.S. Animal Import Center Clifton, New Jersey

Joan D. Sullivan Landscape Designer
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Site Analysis

