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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Fort McClellan World War II Housing Historic District
other names/site number 800 Area

2. Location

street & number Berman Rd., Bachelor Dr., Iron Mountain Rd., Micron Wy. not for publication N/A
city or town Anniston vicinity N/A
state Alabama code AL county Calhoun code 015 zip code 36205

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jan A. [Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

26 SEP 06
Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

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

Edson H. Ball 11-8-06

[Signature]
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>28</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>28</u>	<u>1</u> Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DEFENSE Sub: Military Facility

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub: _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Utilitarian

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: CONCRETE

roof: ASPHALT

walls: WOOD

other: _____

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

8. Statement of Significance

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

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

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

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Military _____
Community Planning and Development _____
Architecture _____

Period of Significance 1941-1943

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary Location of Additional Data:

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

Name of repository: US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 27 ac.

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
1	<u>16</u>	<u>613433</u>	<u>3731809</u>	4	<u>16</u>	<u>613111</u>	<u>3731564</u>
2	<u>16</u>	<u>613603</u>	<u>3731608</u>	5	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
3	<u>16</u>	<u>613293</u>	<u>3731348</u>	6	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David B. Schneider, Consultant; Christy Anderson, Alabama Historical Commission

organization Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC date 12/09/05

street & number 411 E. 6th Street telephone 256-310-3620

city or town Anniston state AL zip code 36207

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

Property Owner

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

name Anniston-Calhoun County Joint Powers Authority

street & number 180 Headquarters Dr., Building #61 telephone 256-236-2011

city or town Anniston state AL zip code 36205

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7. Narrative Description

The Fort McClellan World War II Housing Historic District is centrally located within the developed core of the former 45,680-acre Fort McClellan Military Reservation. Located immediately northwest of the traditional limits of the City of Anniston and now incorporated within the city, McClellan was closed as a military base in 1999 and is currently being redeveloped for a mix of public and private uses. The fort developed in a relatively flat area at the base of Choccolocco Mountain which traditionally served as a natural barrier that provided an ideal setting for target ranges for everything from small arms to artillery. Within the developed area at the base of the mountain, a small city of facilities in which to house and train soldiers grew during the fort's eighty years of operation. Originally established as a camp in 1917, most of the present layout of the fort dates from improvements that occurred during the 1930s and 1940s. A low hill near the center of the developed area became the site of the headquarters area that included offices, a hospital, barracks, a church, a fire station, entertainment facilities and officers' quarters. The industrial area located to the northeast of the headquarters area was sited to take advantage of a natural flat area through which a railroad spur was constructed from the main tracks located west of the fort to a more central spot within the facility. The industrial area included a variety of maintenance facilities, storage areas and other facilities necessary to support the activities of the fort. Additional barracks housing was historically clustered around this central area and, over time, was infilled with a variety of training facilities. Firing ranges, training areas and munitions storage were located along the base of the mountain.

The World War II Housing Historic District is located to the east of the headquarters and industrial areas. Topographically, the area is flat. Berman Road, Bachelor Drive and Columbia Avenue are the district's principal streets and run in a southwest to northeast direction from Iron Mountain Road to Micro Way. A series of fourteen one-story barracks buildings (Resources #6 - #22) line and face the west side of Bachelor Drive and have rear access to Berman Road.¹ Five two-story barracks buildings (Resources #1 - #5) line and face the east side of Bachelor Drive. Seven additional two-story barracks buildings line and face the east side of Columbia Lane. Churches (Resources #7 and #21) face the east side of Berman Road at its southwest and northwest ends respectively. A modern one-story barracks building (Resource #11) is centered between the two churches and is the district's only noncontributing resource. A recreation field and remnants of a former basketball court are located in the eastern portion of the district.

Two two-story barracks buildings that once faced Bachelor Drive were removed in recent years, as was a small service building along Lauren Road. Individual resources within the district typically retain integrity and most are in generally good condition despite years of deferred maintenance.

The Fort McClellan World War II Residential Historic District includes twenty-eight contributing resources and one noncontributing resource that date from 1941 to 1943. As a group these buildings form the largest and most intact concentration of World-War II era barracks on the former military base. The design and layout of the district's resources are consistent with the overall planning that typified the fort's development during this period.

- 1 Building T-835 1942 ca. Bachelor Dr., 60 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; central entrance at façade with single leaf door flanked by single wood 8/8 double hung sash windows, similar windows at most bays of both levels of side elevations; rear bays of southwest elevation have paired secondary entrances flanked by a small awning window placed high on the elevation with an 8/8 window off-center above the entrances at the 2nd level flanked by a similar awning window;

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northeast elevation is similar; painted wood novelty siding; concrete pier foundation concealed by modern skirting; interior plan generally consists central corridor with rooms on either side and a stair, bathrooms and mechanical rooms to the rear.

- 2 Building T-834 1942 ca. Bachelor Dr., 75 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1.
- 3 Building T-833 1942 ca. Bachelor Dr., 87 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1
- 4 Building T-832 1942 ca. Bachelor Dr., 110 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1
- 5 Building T-831 1942 ca. Bachelor Dr., 831 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1
- 6 Building T-814 1941 ca. Berman Rd., 888 Contributing
Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, 4 round metal attic ventilators along roof ridge, 2 additional modern vents and an oversized double flue metal chimney have been added; faces southeast, 3x12 bays; no porch at facade; central entrance with double leaf metal doors flanked by single wood 6/6 double hung sash windows; 8 front bays of southwest elevation have similar windows regularly spaced, irregularly spaced 3 northern bays contain an entrance, a single window and a double window; rear elevation has entrance with double leaf doors at its north bay flanked by a double 6/6 window; northeast elevation similar to west except for small shed wing at the 11th bay (from front); exterior walls clad with composition tile siding; painted continuous concrete block foundation; interior plan consists of a single large room corresponding to the southern 8 bays of the exterior with shower, bathroom and mechanical rooms to the rear.
- 7 Building T-893 1942 ca. Berman Rd., 897 Contributing
Rectangular 1-story frame church building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof, frame steeple at front of roof ridge with tall bellcast pyramidal roof with exposed rafter ends; faces southeast, 3x7 bays with small frame shed chancel extension to rear; entrance bay gable canopy with wood posts; central entrance at façade within slightly projecting entrance bay with double leaf doors flanked by single wood 4/4 double hung sash windows, original narrow louvered attic vent at gable end with later square louvered vent below; northeast elevation has single 4/4 window at its front bay, 5 oversized 16/16 windows at its central bays, and a small 6/6 window at its rear bay; southwest elevation is similar; rear elevation has a central entrance at the chancel extension flanked at the core by

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6/6 windows, similar windows at side elevations of chancel with secondary entrance at southwest elevation with shed awning; painted wood novelty siding; continuous poured concrete foundation.

- | | | | | |
|----|--|----------|------------------|-----------------|
| 8 | Building T-813 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 904 | Contributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except has 2 single windows at rear elevation. | | | |
| 9 | Building T-812 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 926 | Contributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except some windows have been infilled at side elevations, triple window at rear elevation. | | | |
| 10 | Building T-811 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 940 | Contributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except some windows have been infilled at side elevations, triple window at rear elevation. | | | |
| 11 | Building T-891 | 1960 ca. | Berman Rd., 951 | Noncontributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a side gable composition shingle roof, synthetic siding. | | | |
| 12 | Building T-810 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 954 | Contributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except with single entrance at façade with no windows, some windows have been infilled at side elevation, triple window at rear elevation. | | | |
| 13 | Building T-809 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 968 | Contributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except that some windows have been infilled at side elevations, 2 single windows at rear elevation. | | | |
| 14 | Building T-808 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 992 | Contributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except with shed porch at façade with wood posts and insect screening, similar porch at rear entrance, triple window at rear elevation. | | | |
| 15 | Building T-807 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 1006 | Contributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except triple window at rear elevation. | | | |
| 16 | Building T-806 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 1020 | Contributing |
| | Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except with shed porch at façade (now collapsed), triple window at rear elevation. | | | |
| 17 | Building T-805 | 1941 ca. | Berman Rd., 1034 | Contributing |

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Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except with shed porch at façade with wood posts, 2 single windows at rear elevation.

- 18 Building T-804 1941 ca. Berman Rd., 1058 Contributing
Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except with triple window at rear elevation.
- 19 Building T-803 1941 ca. Berman Rd., 1072 Contributing
Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6.
- 20 Building T-802 1941 ca. Berman Rd., 1086 Contributing
Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6 except with triple window at rear elevation.
- 21 Building T-793 1942 ca. Berman Rd., 1091 Contributing
Rectangular 1-story frame church building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof; faces southeast, 3x7 bays with small frame shed chancel extension to rear; central entrance at façade within slightly projecting entrance bay with double leaf doors flanked by single window openings (south window removed, north window covered); northeast elevation has single 6/6 synthetic replacement window at its front bay, 5 oversized 12/12 synthetic replacement windows at its central bays, and a similar 6/6 window at its rear bay; southwest elevation is similar; rear elevation has a central entrance at the chancel extension flanked at the core by 6/6 windows, similar windows at side elevations of chancel with secondary entrance at southwest elevation with shed awning; painted replacement asbestos shingle siding; continuous concrete block foundation.
- 22 Building T-801 1941 ca. Berman Rd., 1100 Contributing
Rectangular 1-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends; similar to resource #6.
- 23 Building T-837 1942 ca. Columbia Ln., 6 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1.
- 24 Building T-838 1942 ca. Columbia Ln., 20 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1.
- 25 Building T-839 1942 ca. Columbia Ln., 34 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1.

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- 26 Building T-840 1942 ca. Columbia Ln., 48 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1.
- 27 Building T-841 1942 ca. Columbia Ln., 72 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1.
- 28 Building T-842 1942 ca. Columbia Ln., 86 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1.
- 29 Building T-843 1942 ca. Columbia Ln., 100 Contributing
Rectangular 2-story frame barracks building with a front-facing gable-on-hip composition shingle roof with exposed rafter ends, continuous pent roof with exposed rafter ends between 1st and 2nd levels, 1 exterior end brick chimney at rear elevation; faces northwest, 3x7 bays, 29'6 x 80'0; similar to resource #1 but in deteriorated condition.

Archaeology

Extensive archaeological surveys were conducted of Fort McClellan and are summarized in An Historic Preservation Plan for Fort McClellan, Alabama by New South Associates, Inc. (1994). The report did not record any sites within the Industrial Historic District, however potential subsurface remains could provide additional information about the historical development of the district.

¹ Despite their historic orientation, all of these buildings now have Berman Road addresses.

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The Fort McClellan World War II Residential Historic District is significant under National Register Criterion A and C. Historically, the district's buildings were constructed as barracks during World War II to help meet the increased demand for housing at Fort McClellan brought on by the war. Established as a National Guard Training camp in 1917, Fort McClellan was upgraded to a permanent fort in 1929 and at one time encompassed some 45,680-acres. Closed in 1999, Fort McClellan was a major military installation for more than eighty years during which time it was also an integral part of the economy and the community character of the City of Anniston. Generations of American men and women received their military training at McClellan and the fort's trainees have fought in every military conflict from World War I through the present. During World War II alone, almost one-half million soldiers were trained at McClellan. Architecturally, the district is representative of the continuation of Fort McClellan's overall military facility planning in the early 20th century, a time during which "an outstanding group of city planners, architects and landscape designers who were trained in the principles of the City Beautiful and Garden City movements" were employed to create military installations that met high standards for both functionality and aesthetics. This attention to design detail coupled with McClellan's natural setting at the base of the Choccolocco mountain range combined to earn the fort the reputation for being "the military showplace of the South." As a group, the buildings included within the Fort McClellan World War II Residential Historic District form the largest and most intact concentration of World-War II era barracks on the former military base. The period of significance for the district extends from 1941 through 1943 and reflects the construction dates of its earliest and latest contributing extant buildings.

The indented portions of the following historical narrative were prepared by Denise P. Messick of New South Associates in 1994 as part of a series of three draft National Register nominations completed under a contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The nominations were based on their report: An Historic Preservation Plan for Fort McClellan, Alabama (Historic Preservation Plan). Additional documentation for this revised nomination was taken from other documentary sources as well as New South's 2000 report: Historic Context Study: World War II and Cold War Era Buildings and Structures. Fort McClellan, Alabama (WWII and Cold War Era Buildings).

Fort McClellan

The post's military significance derives from its roles in both world wars, first as a National Guard camp in 1917, and then as a permanent installation after 1928 with several divisions of soldiers later training there during World War II. These included the 92nd Division, which was the Army's second African-American division, as well two detachments of Women's Army Corps. The Prisoner of War (POW) camp established at Fort McClellan in June of 1943 also figures significantly into the history of the post. The German prisoners became a part of the labor pool and are credited with building stonework walls, landscape features and the exceptional murals which dress the Officers' Club walls. McClellan's evolution and transformation from hastily erected temporary structures to a permanent, planned community reflects the development of the United States military from World War I to World War II.

The twentieth century history of Fort McClellan is closely tied to that of nearby Anniston which was founded after the Civil War by the Woodstock Iron Company. Samuel Noble of Rome, Georgia, and General Daniel Tyler, a wealthy industrialist from Connecticut, set out to establish a model city, a progressive Southern town structured by industry. It was laid out on a grid plan on the valley floor adjacent to iron ore deposits. Trees were placed on major avenues to relieve the monotony and parks were made part of the overall plan. The town was privately owned until 1883 and it enjoyed growth and prosperity until the depression of the 1890s. It began to actively look for ways to enliven its economy and, through pressure on influential members of

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Congress, was chosen as the location for Camp Shipp which occupied a site north of town on Blue Mountain from 1898 to 1899. By the time the reserve camp was closed, Anniston's iron making industry was being replaced by textile manufacturing and pipe making. In 1912 Congressman Fred L. Blackmon made advances toward the War Department to spur interest in the Choccolocco Mountains as a range for artillery training. The federal government decided in 1917 to purchase the property north of Anniston. The acquisition was orchestrated by the Anniston Chamber of Commerce and, under the purchase agreement, farmers were allowed to work their fields through the summer of 1917. When the Army needed the land sooner than expected, the Chamber underwrote the crop loss. A key factor in the success of Anniston's proposal was the cohesive manner in which they approached the military as a harmonious economic unit.

The events of 1917 compelled the hasty construction of a National Guard camp. War was declared on Germany on April 6th and the Selective Service Bill was passed on May 18th. The Cantonment Division of the Army was mandated to have 32 camps ready by September 1. Camp McClellan was one of the chosen thirty-two, a National Guard cantonment able to handle 27,152 soldiers. It was the first Southern installation named in honor of a Northerner, worse, the commander of the Union forces between 1861 and 1862 (Atlanta Journal, April 13, 1959). This challenge to Southern sensibilities was transcended in light of the economic boost the camp would inject into the town of Anniston. In Washington a cadre of volunteers formed a Committee on Emergency Construction, with William Starrett as chair, to set up a building program. These men included industrialists, construction experts, architects and others who managed the complicated process of preparing typical layouts and plans. Charles L. Dulin was the Constructing Quartermaster placed in charge of Camp McClellan. Dulin chose the site of the new camp in the northwestern quadrant after completing a survey of the reservation which considered topography and geography. No towns or villages were displaced since the land use had been mostly agricultural. The area was fairly level, well-drained, and connected by existing roads to Anniston and Jacksonville. It was also closest to the tracks of the Southern Railway.

The World War I post was laid out in 26 blocks designated as areas, each performing a specific function and containing a set number of buildings. The layout of buildings within each block, particularly those devoted to housing the infantry units, was highly regimented. The positioning of the blocks was not quite linear and appears to have been dependent on the most advantageous way to use the creeks and topographical features of the site. The logistics of establishing this incipient city were laboriously orchestrated by Colonel Dulin as he struggled with water supply, finding laborers, dealing with labor strikes, and the scientific management of labor, road construction and heavy rainfall. Soldiers would be delivered by train, marched over fields and taken to a cleared area to begin constructing their camps. Only one-fourth of the materials used in the camp's construction was actually carried by rail to the site; the bulk were brought in by truck or wagon on the country road. By November of 1917, all officers and enlisted men of the 29th Division, totaling 27,753 individuals, had arrived. Training at the camp was hard. Community relations were forged with the election of a town representative, W. P. Acker, to deal with the military. When the 1st Separate Negro Company of Maryland arrived, they were promptly introduced to the African-American community of Anniston to avoid the racial tension that occurred during the Spanish-American War (MacGregor 1985: 7). By February of 1919, 1,534 buildings had been constructed at the division camp, plus 118 associated with the hospital, 28 built by military organizations, and 16 built by societies. The hospital was imposing, with single ward buildings aligned in four columns and joined through walkways. The whole area was bounded by a circular street pattern and sited on an elongated knoll, ostensibly to ward off contamination and noise. This hill would later become the Post Headquarters area.

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In the 1920s the incredible expansion of the previous decade was cut back, permanent construction was discouraged, and maintenance on a reduced budget became the Quartermaster Corps' primary mission. As the World War I camps began to fall into disrepair, the mood of the public began to swing in the direction of increased funding. In 1924 Secretary of War John Weeks submitted a long-range plan to Congress to replace temporary structures with permanent barracks, quarters, and hospitals and updated water and sewage systems. The Construction Service was awarded \$126 million by Congress between 1926 and 1930 and talented men were recruited to fill the ranks of the Quartermaster Corps. Major General B. Frank Cheatham's vision of a new program of post development resulted in a period of successful and healthy growth which included Camp McClellan, now Fort McClellan, by authority of a 1929 War Department order. Army Chief of Staff General Charles P. Summerall, who had negotiated the camp's purchase in 1917, was also influential in attaining its permanency as a Regular Army Post for one regiment of Infantry. Three infantry barracks were completed by February 1930 to be followed by quarters for officers and noncommissioned officers. The first buildings in the Industrial District were a garage and stable, both completed in 1932.

The intensity of the Depression halted further progress while military spending was curtailed in 1933. President Franklin D. Roosevelt launched the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Public Works Administration (PWA) to help stem unemployment. These programs and others which followed benefited construction at military posts across the country by channeling funds into relief programs which created and sustained work for the Construction Division. In 1936 and 1937 W.P.A workers constructed warehouses, garages, stables, a wagon shed, bakery, blacksmith shop, coal trestle, and machine gun and howitzer shed in the Industrial District. They also built numerous buildings and structures in other areas plus utilities, streets and lighting. New Deal programs defined and enhanced the post and provided work to the unemployed. In many ways the 1937 fort was a new and improved version of the 1919 camp. The layout of the permanent buildings was essentially grafted upon a site plan and design brought into reality in the haste of 1917. A strict grid arrangement was absent and streets and occupation areas conformed to the topography.

The 1930s post also benefited from the expertise of city planners, modern architects and landscape architects who were consulted and hired by General Cheatham to improve the beauty as well as the function of the new fort. George B. Ford's hand is evident in the plans of a score of other posts of that generation including Fort Benning in Georgia. Lt. H. B. Nurse (1928: 15) gave the theoretical framework with which the posts were planned, citing five laws of design that are portrayed in nature: Unity, Consonance in Design, Diversity, Balance, and Radiation. Also considered were the three elements of Army posts: operation, administration, and housing. Buildings would be styled in one theme, surrounded by open spaces, and connected by broad main arteries and local streets of various plans and widths which followed natural contours. Plans were not simply generated in Washington, but each post commander and Corps Area Commander had an active voice in the planning process from the beginning. Land use zoning regulations were being developed in the United States in the 1920s. Posts would be divided into areas grouped by function and it was the planner's task to unify the whole. Ford was interested in creating an environment that would be a healthy place to bring up children. Cheatham also suggested that posts have individual programs for landscaping.

Barracks were usually the first buildings constructed, followed by single family homes for officers' families. The Design Branch deemed Georgian Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival styles appropriate to certain regions of the country. While bases in New England tended to have brick exteriors and slate roofs, stucco

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exteriors and tile roofs were more common in their Southern counterparts. Climatic conditions were also considered. The Spanish Colonial Revival Style of the Post Headquarters Area did not extend to the more utilitarian areas such as the Industrial District of Fort McClellan. By 1946, Fort McClellan would be divided into at least five defined areas: the Post Headquarters Area, the Warehouse (or Industrial) Area, the Railhead Area, the Hospital Area, and the Magazine Area. The Industrial District stands out as a compact and cohesive example of the implementation of Cheatham's ideas and Ford's plans for functional divisions of space in the new military community.

The period between the two World Wars was a time of transition for the Army. While it appeared clear to many military experts that the future conduct of war would be fought with modern mechanized armies, others were reluctant to change. Thus airfields, garages, and stables were built during the same era. Even in the mid-1930s most of the new buildings constructed in the transportation area of Fort McClellan were focused on the horse. However, by the end of the Second World War the horse and mule had become symbolic. The buildings were converted in the early 1940s to accommodate a modern mechanized Army. Today the facilities are used for the storage and repair of automobiles and buses.

The updated installation was used by infantry units, ROTC units, National Guard units and as headquarters for supervising 45 CCC camps in the Southeast. The 1940s brought a second boom period for Fort McClellan directly related to world events. The Selective Service bill of 1940 was passed on the condition that the draft would commence once proper arrangements were made for the draftees' housing, sanitation and medical care (American Public Works Association 1976: 596). McClellan was placed within the second tier of forts to be ready by October 1940. The 1940s saw the careful evolution of functional areas, but the areas which housed troops remained situated as they were in 1937, albeit with more buildings. Units remained intact within their separate camps. A civilian village was added between 1937 and 1946, and this residential area was laid out similar to the post command area. A traffic circle was added by the fire house. The base plan still retained the overall look of the 1917 camp, with the main areas still clustered around the railroad spur while the battalion areas remained in block formation stretching to the north and south. Standardization in building design was practiced in World War I but truly refined during the second World War. In addition to the temporary buildings constructed during this period, the fort was expanded to the east and west. The policy set by the Quartermaster's Office was to hire local/regional firms capable of meeting the standards set by the government.

The 27th Division, a National Guard unit from New York, trained at Fort McClellan with a new three-phase program devised by the War Department to test field operations. The city of Anniston continued to have a close and harmonious relationship with the troops by having public dances in their honor, bringing women from local colleges to the events, and staging vaudeville shows and boxing events. Local churches provided clubrooms for the soldiers. After the 27th Division left for the Pacific, the Basic Immaterial Training Center (BIRTC) was formed to give recruits eight weeks of basic training before being sent to specialized units for combat or other training. This was replaced in 1943 by the Infantry Replacement Training Center (IRTC). While an African-American division (the 92nd) was stationed at Fort McClellan, the Army still rigidly held to a segregationist policy with blacks being housed and fed in separate facilities. The two detachments of Women's Army Corps (one white and one black) were given clerical roles, handled the motor pool, and worked in bakeries, service clubs, mess and supply (Lane 1955: 25). The housing for women was considered "separate, but better" than that given to male soldiers. In 1955 McClellan would become the first permanent

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home of the WAC.

Fort McClellan's POW camp was completed in May 1943 west of the Headquarters area with a standard layout for up to 3,000 individuals. It had three sections with rows of 20-man barracks in each section. The barracks were shotgun-like buildings with dimensions of twenty by forty feet. The camp was essentially self contained with kitchens, orderly rooms, dayrooms, dispensaries, a chapel, library, reading room, stage, and athletic fields. Most of the men interned at McClellan worked on the post and some were involved with local employers in the agricultural and industrial sectors who contracted out for their labor. In their off hours and in jobs assigned to them on post, POW s created a substantial legacy at Fort McClellan in the realms of masonry and art as well as less visible improvements. Stone walls, chimneys, patios, drainage ditches, and landscaping are credited to the prisoners, as well as the carved bar at the Officers Club (now removed) and the murals which decorate its walls.

Since 1945 Fort McClellan has undergone changes in mission and facilities, and has on occasion had to fight for its very survival as an active fort, but the Post Headquarters District has maintained its character and integrity as an intact example of community planning in the context of military architecture between the two World Wars. It is also a visible symbol of the successful relationship between the military installation and the community of Anniston. The post has played a significant role in local political and economic history and it has provided a connection between a small Alabama town and the national preparations for war.

Fort McClellan was placed on inactive status in 1946 only to be reactivated in 1950. In 1951 the fort became the home of the Chemical Corps School, later known as the U.S. Army Chemical Center and School. New facilities were completed for the school by 1954 which began a program of eight weeks of basic training followed by eight weeks of chemical training. The chemical training included decontamination and chemical warfare procedures in addition to the use of smoke grenades and flame throwers. 1954 also saw the creation of the Women's Army Corps Center at McClellan, a receiving, processing and training facility.

The U.S. Army Combat Developments Command Chemical Biological-Radiological Agency operated at McClellan from 1962 until 1973 when it and the Chemical School were deactivated. During the Vietnam War, an Advanced Individual Training Infantry Brigade trained more than 30,000 soldiers between 1966 and 1970. The Chemical School was reestablished in 1979. By this time the average military population at McClellan stood at about 10,000.

Rising costs and shrinking budgets forced the Defense Department to begin reevaluating its military facilities in the 1980s. The Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) was formed to complete this reassessment and made its first recommendations for base closures in 1989. While Fort McClellan was included on the 1989 list, it was not until 1995, by which time the Army had formulated a plan to consolidate and relocate Fort McClellan's mission to Fort Leonard Wood, that the BRAC voted to close McClellan. The official closing ceremony took place on May 20, 1999. Since that time, much of the fort's property has been transferred to the Anniston-Calhoun County Joint Powers Authority (JPA), a nonprofit agency that is now overseeing the former fort's environmental clean-up and redevelopment. The JPA has since officially renamed the area McClellan.

World War II Housing Historic District

The Fort McClellan World War II Housing Historic District includes twenty-eight contributing resources that date from

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1941 to 1943 and one modern noncontributing resources. As a group, these buildings are the only surviving concentration of World-War II-era temporary barracks facilities at McClellan. The design and layout of the district's resources are consistent with the overall planning that typified the fort's development during this period.

On the eve of World War II, the U.S. Military began to implement another major expansion of its facilities. With the passage of the Selective Service Bill of 1940, Congress required that adequate housing and services be established prior to the drafting of new troops. As a result, the military was under considerable pressure to quickly ready eighteen new and existing installations. Federal appropriations were released on September 9, 1940 and the initial phase of work at Fort McClellan was scheduled for completion of within little more than a month.² To accomplish this, the Army typically relied on the use of standardized plans with most of the activity involving what they termed temporary buildings, or those designed to be erected quickly, efficiently and inexpensively and typically with an expected lifespan of between five and twenty-five years. Some permanent construction was also undertaken primarily for facilities whose purpose was thought to be more lasting, including among other things industrial facilities, utilities, administrative buildings, transportation facilities, and munitions storage.

Using standardized plans developed by the Quartermaster Corps and adapted to local conditions, contractors completed numerous buildings at McClellan including barracks, mess halls, hospitals and a full spectrum of other facilities needed for the expanded operations at the fort. Construction of the majority of the new facilities at McClellan was completed by 1942 and included: "47 miles of paved roads, 27 miles of unpaved roads, 27 warehouses, 9 igloo magazines, 12 shops and a small foundry, school buildings, a cold storage facility able to handle the needs of 40,000 individuals, sewage facilities to handle 50,000, a general hospital, new cantonments, 3 dormitories for civilian workers, 4 swimming pools, 2 libraries, service clubs, guest houses, 200 dayrooms, 3 bowling alleys, 5 theaters, and an amphitheater with a 12,000 person seating capacity."³ Barracks at McClellan typically followed the Quartermaster Corps 700 Series Cantonment construction specifications and included both one and two story frame barracks buildings. A 1946 map of the fort indicates that there were thirteen groupings of similar barracks facilities at the time.

The first military unit to be stationed at the expanded Fort McClellan was the 27th Division of the New York National Guard. The unit arrived in Anniston in October 1940 for a sixteen-week basic training period. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the division was ordered to the Pacific and arrived in Hawaii in March 1942, where they later participated in the capture of Makin Island in November 1943, of Entiwetok Island in early 1944 and Saipan in July 1944.⁴ After the departure of the 27th, Fort McClellan became the site of one of the Army's two Branch Immaterial Replacement Training Centers in January 1942. During this time, recruits received eight weeks of basic training and were then transferred on to combat units or other specialized training. This system was replaced in 1943 by the Infantry Replacement Training Center, a seventeen-week training program that included eight weeks of combat training.

Despite their classification as temporary facilities, the buildings with the district continued to serve their original purpose for many more years, serving most recently as housing for the National Guard until 1998.

Architecture and Community Planning

The contributing resources within the district are excellent examples of period military housing design and are representative of churches and barracks constructed to the Quartermaster General's 700 series of standardized plans for cantonment areas. As a group, the district represents the only substantial concentration of such buildings at McClellan and formed the core of cantonment area eight, one of thirteen such areas that were constructed or active during World War II.

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9. Bibliography

This nomination form is based on draft National Register nominations prepared in 1994 by Denise P. Messick of New South Associates under a contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The nominations themselves were based on New South's report: An Historic Preservation Plan for Fort McClellan, Alabama (Historic Preservation Plan). Additional documentation for this revised nomination was taken from other documentary sources as well as New South's 2000 report: Historic Context Study: World War II and Cold War Era Buildings and Structures. Fort McClellan, Alabama (WWII and Cold War Era Buildings). New South's studies were "partly on a two-volume historic building inventory prepared in 1993 by New South Associates, Inc. of Stone Mountain, Georgia, and ERC Environmental and Energy Services Co., Inc. of Knoxville, Tennessee. Volume II of that report contains HABS inventory forms on all pre-1942 buildings at Fort McClellan." References used by New South for these publications are included in the following list. A list of additional sources used in the preparation of this nomination are also included.

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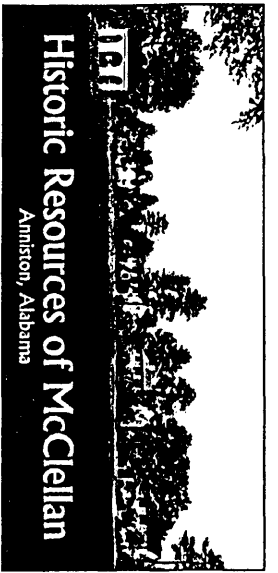
10. Geographic Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Fort McClellan World War II Housing Historic District are indicated on an accompanying scaled map. The map was based on information obtained from U.S.G.S. topographic maps and U.S.G.S. satellite images. Beginning at a point at the centerlines of the intersections of Elgin Road and Twill Lane; proceed in a generally northeasterly direction along the centerline of Twill Lane and its projection to the projection of the centerline of Micron Way; then proceed in a generally southeasterly direction along the centerline of the projection of Micron Way and the centerline of Micron Way to the centerline of Lauren Road; then proceed in a generally southwesterly direction along the centerline of Lauren Road to the centerline of Iron Mountain Road; then proceed in a generally northwesterly direction along the centerline of Iron Mountain Road and its extension as Elgin Road to the point of beginning.

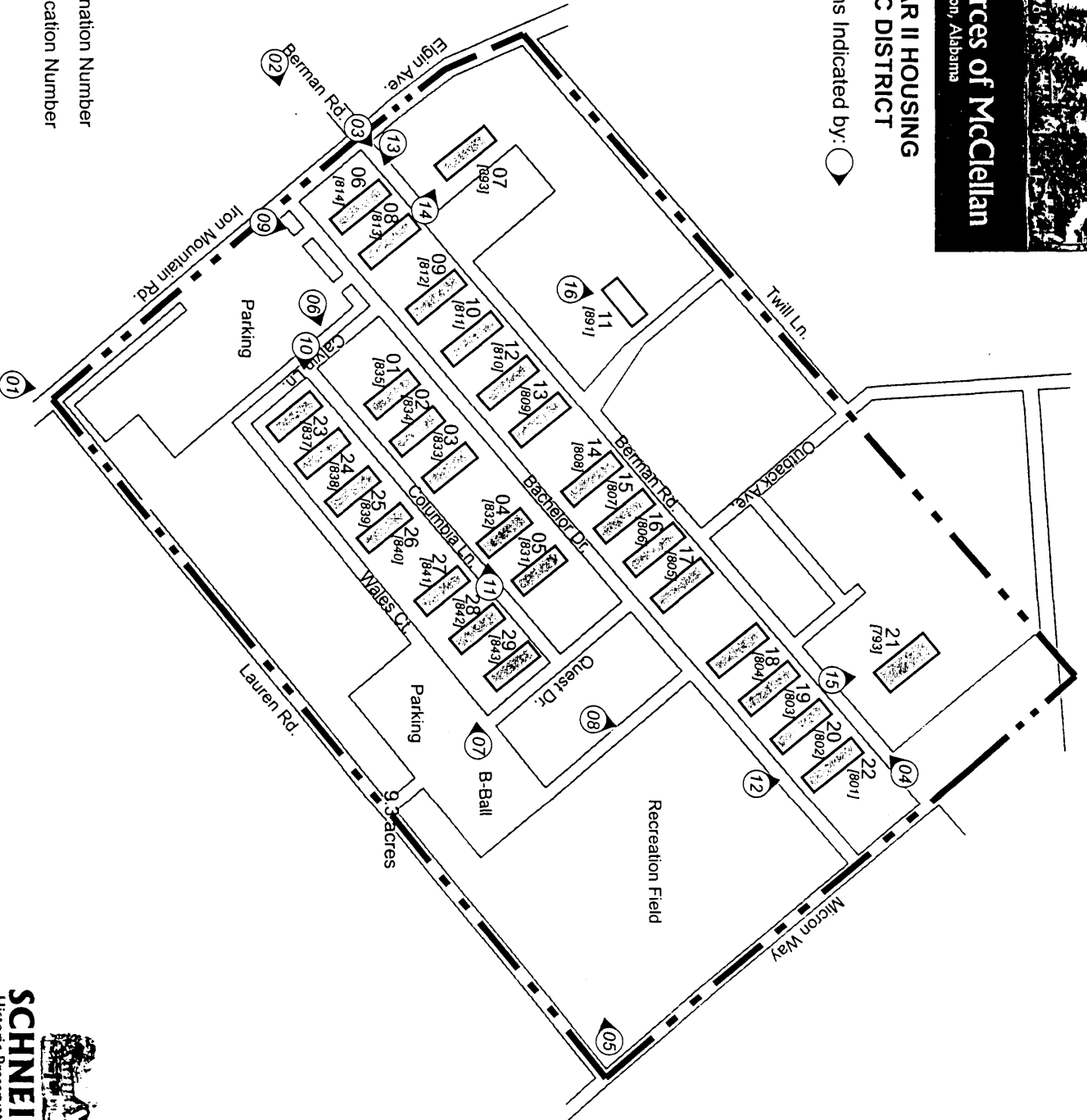
Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the extant portion of the Fort McClellan World War II Housing area. Property included within the entire district is currently under single ownership and no individual parcels have yet been delineated. As a consequence, physical boundaries were chosen and include the four roads that contain the district: Iron Mountain Road, Twill Lane, Micron Way and Lauren Road.



WORLD WAR II HOUSING HISTORIC DISTRICT

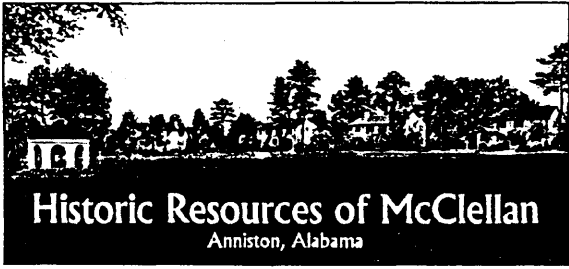
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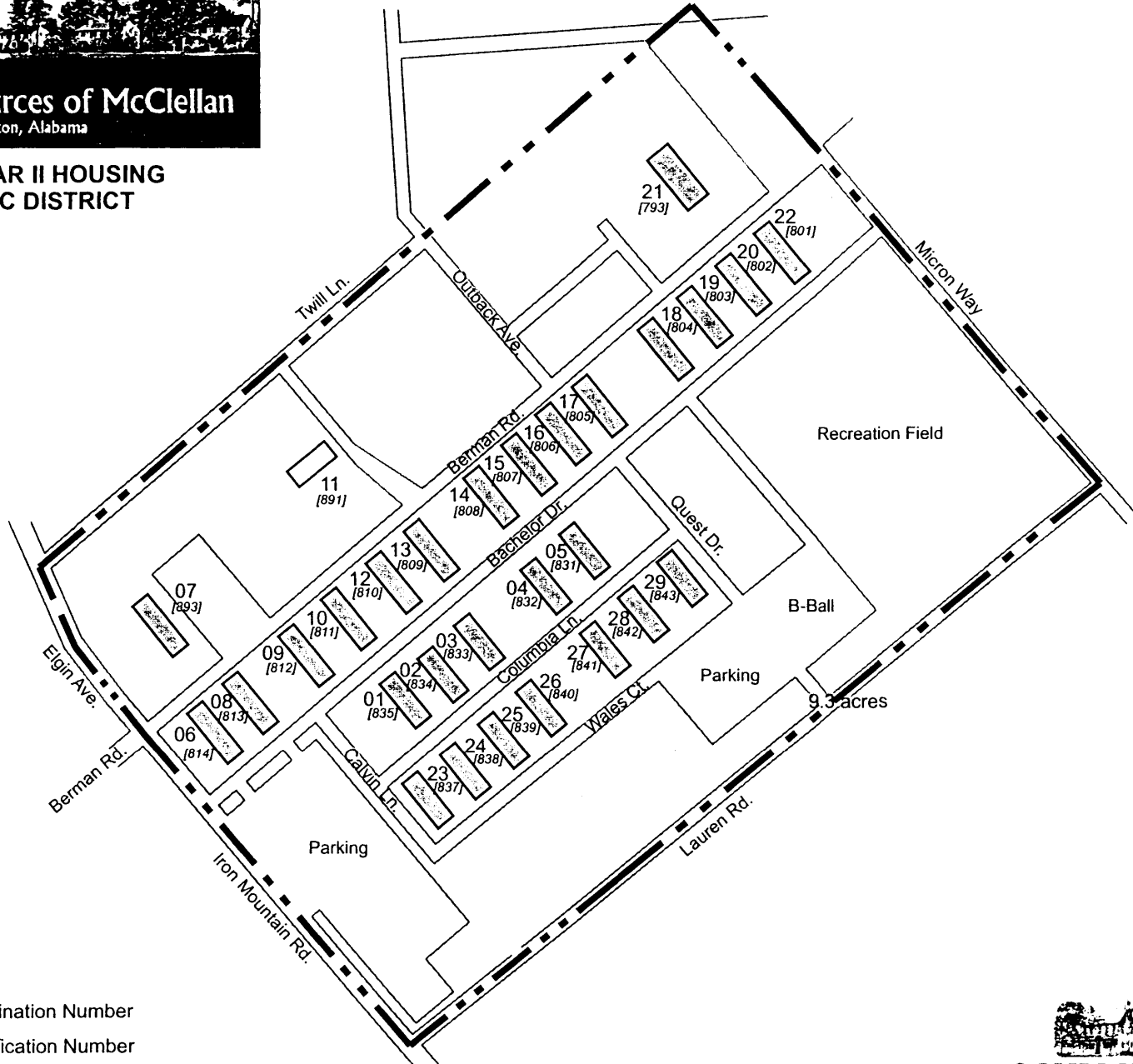
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**WORLD WAR II HOUSING
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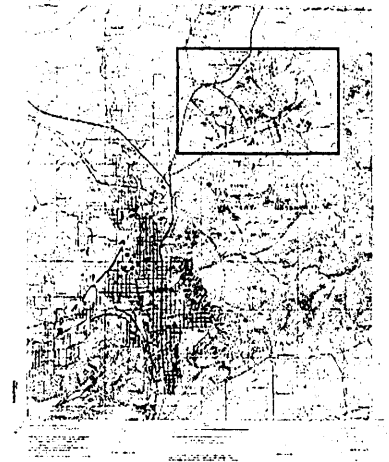
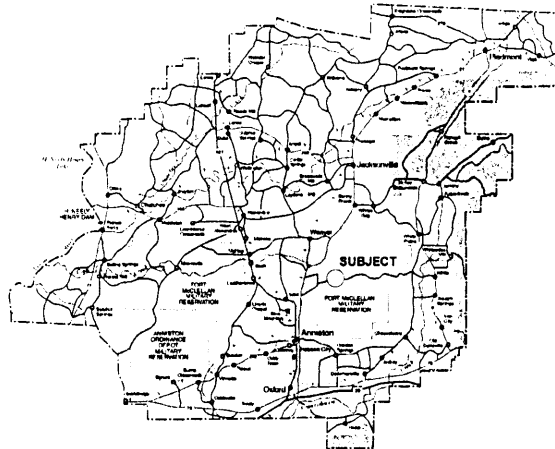
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