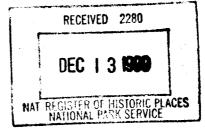
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM





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

1. Name of Property
historic name <u>Fort Stanton Historic District</u>
other names/site number <u>SR 60</u>
2. Location
street & number <u>7 mi. SE of Capitan, NM via U.S.380 and SR 214</u> NZA not for publication
city or town Capitan 🛛 vicinity
state <u>New Mexico</u> code <u>NM</u> county <u>Lincoln</u> code <u>027</u> zip code <u>88316</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this informination 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 is does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant and nationally is statewide in locally. (In See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official Date
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.) <u>Dovothy Dictor</u> , <u>Acting SHPD</u> <u>12/07/99</u> 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: I entered in the National Register See continuation sheet Keeper See continuation sheet Keeper K
<pre>determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.</pre>
determined not eligible for the National Register
removed from the National Register
• other (explain):

Fort Stanton Historic District

Name of Property

.

Lincoln County, NM County and State:

	ssification					
Ownership of Property) Ca		Category of Pro		Number of Resources within Property		
(Check	as many boxes as apply)	(Check only one b	oox)	(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)		
	private	building(s)		Contributing	Noncontributi	ng
	public-local	IX district		50	11	buildings
	public-State	\square site sites		4	0	sites
П	public-Federal	□ structure		1	0	structures
	F	□ object		0	0	_ objects
				55	11	_ Total
	of related multiple property "N/A" if property is not part of a r	0	g.)	Number of contr listed in the Nati	ributing resources onal Register	previously
N/A				Unknown		
6. Fun	ction or Use					
Histor	ic Functions		Curre	nt Functions		
(Enter o	categories from instructions)		(Enter	categories from instruct	ions)	
	ENSE/military facility		VA	CANT/NOT IN US	E	
	LTH CARE/sanitarium				<u> </u>	
DEF	ENSE					
			<u></u>			
	cription			• _ 1 _	<u></u>	
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Mater				
(Enter c	ategories from instructions)		(Enter C	categories from instruct	10115	
Color	nial Revival		founda	tion Stone		
Miss	ion Revival		walls	Stone		
Bung	galow		_	Wood		
			roof	Shingle		
			other	Wood		

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

Fort Stanton Historic District

Name of Property

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.
- \Box 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.

Lincoln County, NM

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(Enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

MILITARY

HEALTH/MEDICINE

ARCHITECTURE

ARCHAEOLOGY/Historic—Non-aboriginal

Period of Significance

1855-1946

Significant Dates

1855		
1861		
1862		

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Euro-American

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

Areas of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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:

Lincoln County, NM

County and State:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property See continuation sheet				
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)				
1 13 450 500 3706 400 Zone Easting Northing 2 13 450 900 3706 665	3 13 451 000 3706 440 Zone Easting Northing 4 13 451 540 3706 440 □ See continuation sheet.			
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)				
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)			
11. Form Prepared By				
name/title Corinne P. Sze, Ph.D.				
organization Research Services of Santa Fe	date September 1996			
street & number 1042 Stagecoach Road	telephone (505) 983-5605			
city or town Santa Fe				
Additional Documentation				
Submit the following items with the completed form:				
Continuation Sheets				
Maps				
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicatin A sketch map for historic districts and propertie				
Photographs				
Representative black and white photographs of the prop	erty.			
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any addition	al items)			
Property Owner				
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)				
name				
street & number	telephone			
city or town	_statezip code			
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, an obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, a Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is esti-	nd to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)			

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION

Pueblo No Style

MATERIALS

Walls: Adobe Metal

Roof: Asphalt Metal

Other: Wood

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

LIST OF MAPS

NOTE: Building numbers are those used by the State of New Mexico General Services Department, Property Control Division and are keyed to the map appended below (Map 1). Dating of buildings is based on historical maps and modern site plans as follows. Unless otherwise cited, copies are on file at the State of New Mexico Office of Cultural Affairs, Historic Preservation Division in Santa Fe. Those that could be reproduced are appended below as numbered in parentheses.

- 1995 "Fort Stanton Site Plan," adapted from *Request for Proposals for Fort Stanton Facility*, State of New Mexico, General Services Department, Property Control Division (June 30, 1995) VII-4. (Map 1)
- 1993 "World War II Internment Camp," adapted from William E. Anderson, Jr., "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," draft National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (October 13, 1993) 85. (Map 2)
- 1987 Walter R. and Nora Henn, "Inventory of Gravestones in Old Military Cemetery at Fort Stanton." (Map 3).
- 1995 "Tract 37 and Camp Sierra Blanca Situate within the Fort Stanton Military Reservation," Survey Plat, *Request for Proposals for Fort Stanton Facility*, State of New Mexico, General Services Department, Property Control Division (June 30, 1995) VII-2. (Map 4)
- 1866 "Ground Plan of Fort Stanton." (Map 5)
- 1876 "Plan of Fort Stanton, New Mexico," Outline Descriptions of the Posts in the Military Division of the Missouri, 153. (Map 6)
- 1883 "Map of the Military Reservation and Post of Fort Stanton, New Mexico."
- 1886 "Plan of Post, Fort Stanton, New Mexico." (Map 7)
- 1890 "Fort Stanton, New Mexico." (Map 8)

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- 1901 "Bird's Eye View of the United States Marine Hospital Service Sanitarium at Fort Stanton, New Mexico," (Map 9)
- 1933 "Part Approach Plan."
- 1941 "Approach Plan, U.S Marine Hospital, 16 May 1941. (Map 10)
- 1941 "Sewerage Layout for Immigration & Naturalization Service Camp at Fort Stanton, New Mexico," January 12, 1941. (Map 11)
- 1961 "Map showing Buildings and Grounds of Fort Stanton Tuberculosis Sanitorium (sic)," Fort Stanton Tuberculosis Hospital, 1958-1959-1960. (Map 12)
- [1972] "Map showing Buildings and Grounds of Fort Stanton Hospital and Training School," John Wilson, National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form, 1972. (Map 13)

SUMMARY

The Fort Stanton Historic District, as herein expanded, consists of three parts: a large main district, much of which was previously listed, and two discontiguous cemeteries which are newly nominated. The main district encompasses the parade ground and surrounding buildings of the nineteenth-century fort (1855-1896), which was subsequently occupied by a U.S. Merchant Marine tuberculosis sanatorium (1899-1952), a State Tuberculosis Sanatorium (1953-1966), and until recently a state facility for the developmentally disabled. The original nomination also included a portion of the area that was occupied during the 1930s by a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp and subsequently by a World War II internment camp (1941-1945). To this original district is hereby added a contiguous tract on the north which adds the total area occupied by the CCC/internment camps. This expanded nomination also adds the discontiguous nineteenth-century fort cemetery and twentieth-century Merchant Marine cemetery located respectively southwest and southeast of the originally nominated district. The original fort/hospital lies south of the Rio Bonito which flows through the district. It is centered around a rectangular parade ground upon which face 11 buildings, most dating from the era of the fort with modifications from the hospital period. East of the parade ground are former laundry buildings and stables dating from the fort, as well as grain silos, storage buildings, and dwellings

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that date from the hospital period. North and west are functional buildings and staff housing from the hospital period. On the south is an open terraced site once occupied by rows of the tents that were indispensable to sanatorium treatment of tuberculosis. North of the Rio Bonito is the site of the CCC/internment camp which consists primarily of foundations dating from the 1930s and 1940s. There are two intact buildings and the ruins of two buildings and one structure, all of which are contributing to the district. The fort cemetery is a fenced tract containing some 17 widely separated grave markers, the military graves having been removed to the National Cemetery in Santa Fe after the fort was decommissioned. The much larger Merchant Marine Cemetery contains more than 1000 marked graves. Within the boundaries of the three discontiguous parts of the nomination are a total of 62 buildings, of which 50 are contributing, 11 noncontributing, and one is unknown; one contributing structure; and four contributing sites. The fort/hospital buildings stand today as well preserved examples of a institutional complex that has seen various uses over the course of its history. represent their historic significance. The placement of buildings around the former parade ground today maintains integrity as a significant designed landscape. The site of the CCC and subsequent World War II internment camps has few intact buildings and presents an opportunity for study primarily through surface evaluation and historic archaeology. Fort Stanton was officially closed by the state of New Mexico on January 15, 1995 and is presently vacant until a new use is found.

DESCRIPTION

Located in south central New Mexico, Fort Stanton lies in the isolated valley of the Rio Bonito in predominantly rural Lincoln County, between the Pecos River and the Rio Grande, New Mexico's two longest rivers. The closest community is Capitan (pop. 800), 7 miles northwest and formerly the site of the nearest rail connection. The village of Lincoln (pop. about 55), once the county seat, is about 10 miles to the east; Carrizozo (pop. 1,100), the present county seat, is about 27 miles northwest. The nearest community of any size is Roswell (pop. 44,700), about 70 miles east in Chaves County. Fort Stanton is surrounded by the Lincoln National Forest, south of which is the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation. The Capitan Mountains lie to the north and east, the Sacramento Mountains on the west and south, and further south the Sierra Blanca. The Rio Bonito, a stream which arises in the mountains to the west, flows southeast through the district to the Rio Ruidoso and thence to the Hondo and the Pecos Rivers. The fort, which lies south of the Rio Bonito, is oriented according to the general line of the river, and is therefore actually on something of a diagonal in relation to true north and south. This nomination follows the usual convention of calling the side closest to the river, on which the commanding officer's quarters were historically located, the "north."

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Buildings and Other Features Associated with Fort Stanton (1855-1896)

The historic parade ground, the heart of Fort Stanton today as it has been since the time of the original military installation, is a rectangular open area planted in grass (Photos 1-3). A tall pine tree marks its center where in the days of the fort a flagpole stood. Occasional pine and deciduous trees also line the perimeter. Concrete walkways extending from the near middle of each side toward the center divide the parade ground into the four smaller rectangles which echo similar divisions shown on historic maps of the fort. Another walkway extends from the center of the east side to a point near the center of the south side.

The parade ground is almost entirely enclosed by the eleven buildings which face upon it. Eight of these date from the military era (817, 820, 822, 827, 830, 831, 832, 836); two date from the subsequent Merchant Marine Hospital, (825, 868); and one was built about ten years ago (9133). Most are painted white with dark green trim and have various forms of pitched roofs covered for the most part with shingles in a variety of materials and patterns. The original fort buildings are constructed of undressed stone; some have second stories added within the period of significance. Colonial Revival porches were added by 1890 to the buildings along the south side and to the barracks on the south ends of the east and west sides. In some cases, gambrel roofs replaced gables apparently by about the same time. There are two vacant spaces around the parade ground, one at the center of the west side and the other on the west corner of the south side, where buildings were razed and not replaced.

The pattern of fort buildings as reestablished after the Civil War remained essentially the same throughout the about 40-year history of the fort - addition, alteration, and rebuilding not withstanding.¹ The north side contained the commanding officer's quarters, flanked eventually by officers' quarters. Officers' quarters also lay at the north ends of the east and west sides. Four barracks lay at the south corners. Storage buildings were placed at the centers of the east and west sides, and the guard house near the center of the south side.

By 1866 the commanding officer's quarters faced the parade ground from the center of the north side, flanked by breast works and moats. An officers' quarters lay on the north corner

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¹ Although little is known about the fort before it was burned and abandoned in 1861, it is safe to assume that the original outline was followed when the burned-out, stone fort buildings were reroofed for immediate reoccupation. In subsequent years these original buildings were refurbished, enlarged, or replaced. There is no evidence for the claim sometimes made that the fort was moved to a new location.

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of the east side; the corresponding building on the west side was partially in ruins. Four similar L-shaped barracks faced the parade ground from the lower corners, all but that at the east end of the south side were "partially in ruins." Near the center of the west side, between the officers' quarters and the barracks, a rectangular building held the commissary. A similarly placed rectangular building on the east side was in ruins. A rectangular building on the south side off center toward the west was also partially in ruins and contained a guard room, guard house (prison), and adjutant's office. Breast works and moats protected those areas of both the north and south sides where there were no buildings. The parade ground itself was divided into four equal rectangular grass plots and trees lined its perimeter. An *acequia* taken from the Rio Bonito entered the parade ground at the northeast corner and flowed along the west and north sides to leave the parade ground at the northeast corner, and the sutler's store, an L-shaped building west of the northwest corner.

Ten years later a new commanding officer's quarters had been built on the same site at the center of the north side. Most ruined buildings had been restored to use, and the two barracks at the southwest corner enlarged. The hospital had moved to the barracks at the south end of the east side, and the laundress quarters placed in the old hospital. A library occupied the old guard room between the prison and the adjutant's office. By 1883 a third officers' quarters was added east of the commanding officer's house on the north side; the barrack at the south end of the east barrack and the previous guardhouse was constructed on the south side between the east barrack and the previous guardhouse which became the post headquarters. A new hospital had been built beyond the southwest corner of the parade ground and the former hospital returned to a barrack. Three years later the last open space facing the parade ground was filled with a new officers' quarters west of the commanding officer's quarters on the north side. Also by this time corrals, which appeared on maps as early as 1868 a short distance east of the parade ground, had been rebuilt.

Of the extant fort buildings facing the parade ground, perhaps the best preserved is the commanding officer's quarters at the center of the north side (817; Photo 4). The present building, which replaced an earlier quarters on the site prior to 1876, is a one-story. T-shaped building of symmetrical plan. The front porch has been replaced with an enclosure of the same

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size. The original front door with side lights and transom is extant; some windows are not original.² One historic outbuilding lies northeast of the house (818).

Located just east of the commanding officer's quarters, the regular officers' quarters is a one-and-one-half-story, rectangular building with a one-story open porch across the front (820; Photo 5). A taller round-arch window appears to have been added later between two original 6 over 6 windows on the front gable to create a Palladian window. Other doors and windows have been altered and the porch supports and railing have been replaced. After 1966 the interior room arrangement was completely altered.³

The two extant officers' quarters at the north ends of the east and west sides of the parade ground share a similar history (822, 836; Photos 6, 7). Both were originally one-story, rectangular stone buildings with side-gable, shingled roofs. Four rear wings were added to each by 1886, bay windows were installed by 1890, and probably at about the same time the second stories and dormer windows were added.

Two of the four barracks originally located at the south corners of the parade ground survive. The least altered (830; Photos 8, 9), which lies at the east end of the south side, preserves the original L-shaped plan. By 1890 a porch was added across the front and probably during the same period the roof was modified to gambrel. The other remaining barrack at the south end of the east side (827; Photos 10, 11) has been more altered from its original plan beginning with additions in the military period. By 1876 the original L-shaped building, which was mostly in ruins after the Civil War, had been rebuilt and converted to hospital use. By 1883 the front wing had been extended south to which was added a new wing stretching east to create a U shape and other rooms were added at the rear within the U. By 1890 both rear wings had been extended and a front porch added. In the 1930s further additions were made at the rear and the front entrance changed. About 1953 many windows including those across the front were changed.⁴

At the center of the south side of the parade ground are two military-era buildings, the first and second guardhouses. The earliest (832; Photo 12), which is located farther west, was a four-room, linear building constructed in 1866. Occupied by a prison and adjutant's office and

² The Williams Company AIA, "Fort Stanton, New Mexico: Masterplan for Preservation & Development," [1988] 34-37.

³ Williams Company 40-41.

⁴ Williams Company 47-49.

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later also a library, it became the post headquarters after a new prison was built on the east, and by 1890 also contained a school and reading room. A front porch was added by 1890. At an unknown date prior to 1901, the second floor and two-story porches were added. The secondstory windows are boarded today.⁵

The second guardhouse was built between 1876 and 1883 (831; Photo 13). The new building was a rectangular, three-room building set back from the line of its neighbors, with a front porch across nearly the entire main facade. The porch was enclosed in the 1930s leaving the only the center open as a front entrance.⁶

Beyond the parade ground just east of its southeast corner is the former laundress's quarters (841; Photo 14), built as four separate linear buildings between 1876 and 1883. After 1890 they were used as non-commissioned officers' and married soldiers' quarters. In 1927 the four buildings were connected by new sections, each with a dormer window. Many door and window openings have been changed and the last building on the east is no longer extant.⁷ Partial remains of the stables that were built by 1883 of unpainted stone stand further east of the parade ground (9255, Photos 15, 16) and north of the former laundress's quarters. Corrals and a rectangular granary that were located west of the stables in the fort period are extinct.

Two other major buildings dating from the fort period that once lay beyond the parade ground have also been torn down: the hospital, built between 1876 and 1883, a short distance southwest of the parade ground; and the sutler's store, an adobe building located farther west. Five fort buildings facing the parade ground have been removed: two were replaced by other contributing buildings during the Period of Significance; one by a recent noncontributing building; and two others were not replaced.

Buildings and Other Features Associated with the U.S. Marine Hospital during the Period of Significance (1899-1946)

After the decommissioned fort was taken over for use as a Merchant Marine tuberculosis sanatorium, most of the buildings were adapted for hospital use and structures added that were dedicated to the needs of the new facility. The commanding officer's quarters became the home

⁵ Williams Company 55-57.

⁶ Williams Company 53-54.

⁷ Williams Company 66.

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of the commanding officer in charge; the officers' quarters became medical officers' quarters or doctors' homes. The barrack on the east end of the south side became an administrative building. The two barracks at the southwest corner were used as a hospital until a new facility was built. The barrack at south end of the east side was a dining room, kitchen and Protestant church. The former post headquarters on the south side became an amusement hall, post office, and store; the guardhouse held a library, x-ray facilities, and dentist's office. A tennis court was placed on the parade ground east of the center.

In the early part of the century, the fort buildings were rehabilitated for hospital use. In the late 1930s a two-story, T-shaped, Colonial-Revival-inspired hospital was built, replacing the quartermaster's storeroom at the center of the east side of the parade ground (825; Photo 17). In the same era a U-shaped, Spanish-Pueblo-Revival-style nurses' quarters replaced the fort barracks and then hospital at the south end of the west side. This one-story, flat-roofed, brownstuccoed, Spanish-Pueblo Revival building remains conspicuous among the white-painted stone fort buildings that lie around the parade ground and strongly contrasts to the Colonial Revival influence evidenced in the buildings built or modified in the late nineteenth century (868; Photo 18).

At the northwest corner of the parade ground is a residence which appears in a photograph dated c. 1910 (838; Photo 19).⁸ Further north and west of the parade ground, small buildings were added for housing, for specialized functions, and for storage. For example, north of the northeast corner is a Mission-Revival-style chapel built of stone with a tile roof (845; Photo 20). Originally built between 1933 and 1941, it was reconstructed with an addition in 1943. East of the chapel is a cross-shaped building (844), which was used as a school in 1933, and a gable roofed structure that was a gift shop in 1933 (842; Photo 21): both built before 1933. Further east is the power plant and laundry (840). Because power plant/laundry building has a swastika-like symbol above the double doors on the north facade, it is believed to have been built by German internees. No documentary evidence was found to verify this supposition. A building at this location and of similar shape and function was built between 1933 and 1941. Along the north, at the farthest perimeter of the hospital complex and just below the Rio Bonito, is a row of seven small residences built by 1941 (861-867; Photo 22).

Beyond the west side of the parade ground (behind the vacant area at the center of the west perimeter), is located a building added before 1941 (835; (Photo 23). In 1941 it was used as

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⁸ Williams Company 39.

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a material office and store rooms. Further west are two buildings dating from the 1930s (847, 9171). In 1941 they were a garage and warehouse respectively. North of these are two small residences built before 1941 (848, 849). Southwest of the parade ground are seven residences (870-876), built in the late 1930s as married attendants' quarters.

East of the parade ground are located round, tall grain silos constructed of fired clay tile (9256; Photo 16). Abutting the stables on the south are two residences dating from before 1941 (852, 9071). Further south and east of the stables are five storage buildings (851; 853, Photo 24; 854, 855, 9072). In 1941 these functioned as barns, warehouses, garages, or support functions such as a carpenter and paint shop.

Beyond the buildings and road south of the parade ground is an extensive, flat, raised area (now vacant) that once contained the rows of tent cottages (Photo 25). In 1941 there were 15 rows of five cottages with four toilets and a bath house along the front, and another toilet behind the cottages. Farther east were a wood shop, shoe shop, cleaning shop, studio, and barber shop. This contributing site is terraced up two levels with a stone retaining wall, and reached by about 12 sets of some six steps. Other remaining features include stone piers, of unknown use, which may have marked rows of tents; a ditch along the terrace that appears to have been part of a drainage system; fire hydrants; and evidence of water and sewer lines. At the back of the terrace, where the slope is covered in flagstone, is the foundation of the toilet.

Buildings Added after the Period of Significance (1947-1995)

A modern cafeteria, built in the 1980s on the north side of the parade ground west of the commanding officer's quarters is the only building constructed on the parade ground after the Period of Significance. It is painted white and designed to be compatible in style with the historic buildings (9133; Photo 2, left). Several buildings were constructed west of the parade ground after 1946 (846, 878, 879, 880, 882). Of these two are residences, and the others a fire station (846), a guest house (880), and a school (882).

A few permanent buildings were added south of the parade ground after the Period of Significance, including a canteen in the 1970s (839) and a swimming pool and gymnasium built about 1980 (833). Further east is a gable-roof building which appears to be older but is not shown on the 1933 or 1941 plans. This was used as a community center in 1961 and most recently as the Fort Stanton Museum (850). South of this building is a school constructed in the 1950s (858).

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Buildings and Other Features Associated with the CCC/World War II Enemy Alien Internment Camps (1930s-1945)

The site of the CCC/World War II Internment Camps is located on the north side of the Rio Bonito opposite the fort parade ground. It covers an area of approximately 2310 feet by 990 feet.⁹ Abandoned for many years, this is a historic archaeological site with just two extant major buildings that are not in ruins: a house (9070; internment camp map 65) and a nearby rectangular building (9169; internment camp map 24). The walls of two other buildings are standing: the recreation hall (9251) and a smaller, structure on the east (no PCD number; internment camp map 11). The remains of a concrete swimming pool lie northwest of the recreation hall. Other extant features include approximately 30 foundations, approximately nine sidewalks, the remains of a water or sewage system, a large trash mound and associated trash trenches. Although the internment camp was established at an abandoned CCC camp which had been built in the 1930s, no buildings dating from the CCC camp have been identified among those standing.

The residence is a wooden building with hipped roof (Photo 26). The main entrance on the south facade has a wooden door with three over three small glass panes in the top section. The other surviving building may have housed a bowling alley for the internment camp. It is of wood-frame construction supported by a concrete foundation and surmounted by a metal roof (Photo 27, left).¹⁰

The recreation hall (Photos 28-31) was constructed of adobe bricks covered with cement plaster by German internees in 1944. This large, two-story rectangular building measures 150 by 40 feet. A small basement located at the western one third of the structure houses a large metal furnace; a crawl space extends underneath the eastern two thirds of the building.¹¹ The wood-shingle roof collapsed into the interior of the building in 1991 causing considerable interior damage.

The main (south) facade contains four entrances: two along the western one third; one on the eastern one third; and a central entrance reached via four circular steps (Photo 29). Above this main entryway is the German inscription "Erbaut 1944" (Built 1944). Nine large rectangular

⁹ William E. Anderson, Jr., "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, draft typescript (1993): 7:1.

¹⁰ Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:5.

¹¹ Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:3-7:4.

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window openings also penetrate the the south wall. The west facade contains two large rectangular window openings on the first floor; two small square window openings on the second; and a concrete block chimney off center to the northwest. A basement entrance, constructed of wood frame and adobe brick extends out approximately 16.5 feet from the west wall (Photo 30). The east facade has two large rectangular window openings and an entrance with a small concrete porch reached by six steps (Photo 31).

The interior of the recreation hall originally featured a hardwood floor. At the west end were some three small rooms, one of which was a restroom. Above these was located a movie projection room. At the east end was a large oak stage. Historic photographs show wooden balconies suspended along the northern and southern walls.¹²

The walls of an adobe building stand east of the recreation hall. This was a U-shaped building originally constructed to house single security-force men (Photo 32).¹³

In the spring and summer of 1941, the German internees constructed a swimming pool (Photo 33) southeast of the recreation hall. Measuring 92 feet by 52 feet with an approximate depth of 8 feet, it has a capacity of 100,000 gallons. Surrounding the pool is a concrete walkway varying in width from 7.9 feet to 13.5 feet. The support of a concrete diving platform remains near the northwest corner of the pool. An associated bathhouse was constructed of adobe bricks along the northwestern edge of the pool. It was square in design and measured approximately 10 by 10 feet. Low sections of the walls remain.¹⁴

A water pump house lies at the southwest corner of the interment camp site near the Rio Bonito. Built of wood with a metal roof, it measures 9.2 feet square. The single entrance is located at the center of the facade. Two features located near the pump house may have been connected with its function: a concrete foundation with two metal covers northeast of the pump house and a collapsed wooden structure with a shingle roof northwest of the pump house.¹⁵

A water storage tank structure is located approximately 100 feet north of the internment camp and has two holding tanks built of stone and mortar with a central dividing wall. The

¹² Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:4.

¹³ Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:6.

¹⁴ Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:1-7:2.

¹⁵ Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:3.

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structure measures 30.5 by 17 feet and was constructed to a depth of 11.5 feet. The original wooden roof has collapsed.¹⁶

During their first nine months of detention the German crewmen created two signature marks with stone inlaid in concrete; the first "ex/ S S" and the other "Columbus 41." They are located approximately 27 and 53 feet from the southwest corner of the extant residence (9070; internment camp map 65).¹⁷

A large trash mound and associated trash trenches are located at the far northwest corner of the internment camp. The trash mound measures approximately 10 feet in height and approximately 35 feet in diameter. Among the cultural remains noted on its surface by William Anderson were ceramic sherds, glass fragments, and metal cans. Three trenches angle away from the trash mound toward the north, east, and west. Surface artifacts noted by William Anderson at the trash mound and trenches included two large cast iron cooking stoves, iron rabbit pens, large metal barrels, concrete rubble, and sections of a chain-link fence.¹⁸

Fort Stanton Post Cemetery

The site of the former post cemetery is located on a rise southwest of the fort proper on a tract that measures approximately 237 feet on the north, 252 feet on the east, 182 feet on the south, and 249 feet on the west (Map 4). Within the wire fence that marks the perimeter are a small number of scattered markers made of marble, sandstone, granite, and concrete in a variety of sizes and shapes. Some graves are enclosed with wire fencing (Photo 34).

The post cemetery was established in the early years of the fort; the earliest death date among the soldiers later disinterred is 1856. Some 58 remains were removed and reburied in the Santa Fe National Cemetery in June 1896, after the decommissioning of the post. Of these the largest number (23) died in the 1880s.¹⁹ The graves that remain presumably commemorate local, nonmilitary deaths. A 1987 survey found 17 markers, most dating from the twentieth century (Map 3). However, the oldest then readable was that of James H. Hudgens who died at the age of 18 in 1879 (Photo 35). Presumably dating from two years earlier, however, is the most

¹⁶ Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:2.

¹⁷ Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:9

¹⁸ Anderson, "Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp," 7:8.

¹⁹ Carole Gorney, Roots in Lincoln: A History of Fort Stanton Hospital, typescript, State Planning Office (1969) 94.

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striking marker in the cemetery today, a tall, marble stone made by Marbleworks of Denver, Colorado, with the inscription "Sacred to the Memory of Paul Dowlin." Dowlin was a former Fort Stanton post trader as well as a prosperous rancher and local mill owner who was murdered in 1877 by a former employee in the chaotic period of the Lincoln County War.

Merchant Marine Cemetery

The Merchant Marine Cemetery is located southeast of the fort/hospital and east of SR 214, a main road into the fort. It occupies an irregularly shaped tract that measures approximately 869 feet on the north and east, approximately 503 feet on the south, and approximately 1087 feet on the west along the road (Map 4). It is surrounded by a wire fence and entered through an iron gate that is flanked by short sections of stone wall (Photo 36). Just within the entrance, an area in the shape of a ship's hull is fenced with rope supported by white-painted wooden posts. Within the fenced area a tall, white obelisk, erected by the U.S. Public Health Service at the end of World War II, bears the inscription "In Memory of the Men and Women of the American Merchant Marine." An anchor stands in front of it and a flagpole behind (Photo 37).

The cemetery was established in 1899 when Fort Stanton was set aside by Executive Order for the use of the U.S. Marine Hospital Service as a tuberculosis sanatorium. It contains more than 1000 graves, most patients from the Marine hospital, but also some resident staff. The earliest burial was John Dower who died on December 16, 1899. There are also the graves of four Germans who died while interned at Fort Stanton during World War II.

Most of the graves are marked by small, white-painted, wooden crosses, at the bases of which are small concrete blocks each marked with a cross and a number (Photos 38, 39). They are arranged in strict rows giving the cemetery a military appearance. There are also a number of small concrete markers with pointed-arched tops (Photo 40). In some cases individual stones have been added, mostly in granite. The graves are arranged in a large main section of 42 rows south of the fenced obelisk, and two much smaller sections of seven rows in the southeast corner and four rows farther north. The four German graves are somewhat isolated at the northwest corner and are identically marked with an upright stone at the head of a plot delineated by concrete curbing within which is a flat marker (Photo 41).

In the late 1980s Captain and Mrs E. Victor Schaerer undertook the restoration of the cemetery which was completed in 1991. Vast amounts of brush and weeds were removed, the

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whole area mowed and trimmed, and loads of dirt brought in to level graves that had settled. Posts linked with white rope were installed in the shape of a ship's hull around the flagpole and obelisk. Several hundred new wooden crosses, furnished by the Fort Stanton Hospital and Training School, replaced those that were broken or missing.

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CONTRIBUTING AND NONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Building identification numbers are keyed to the Fort Stanton Site Plan (Map #1) adapted from "Request of Proposals for Fort Stanton Facility, Lincoln County, New Mexico," State of New Mexico, General Services Department, Property Control Division (June 30, 1995) VII-5. Building names are based on the earliest known use.

CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

No.	Name
817	Commanding Officer's Quarters
818	Outbuilding, Commanding Officer's Quarters
820	Officers' Quarters
822	Officers' Quarters
825	Hospital
827	Company Quarters (Barrack)
830	Company Quarters (Barrack)
831	Second Guard House
832	First Guard House
835	Material Office - Storerooms
836	Officers' Quarters
838	Residence
840	Power Plant

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841 Laundresses' Quarters 842 Gift Shop 845 Chapel and Apartment Warehouse 847 848 Residence 849 Residence 851 Granary 852 Horse Corral Office 853 Warehouse 854 Carpenter Shop and Paint 855 Warehouse Residence 861 862 Residence 862 Residence 864 Residence Residence 865 866 Residence 867 Residence

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- 868 Nurses Cottage
- 870 Residence
- 871 Residence
- 872 Residence
- 873 Residence
- 874 Residence
- 875 Residence
- 876 Residence
- 9069 Residence
- 9070 Residence (Internment Camp)
- 9071 Milk House
- 9072 Garage
- 9169 Bowling Alley? (Internment Camp)
- 9171 Warehouse
- 9251 Recreation Hall (Internment Camp)
- 9252 Storage
- 9255 Stables
- 9256 Grain Silos

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Security Force Housing (Internment Camp Map 11)

NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

823	Infirmary	
833	Swimming Pool and Gym	
839	Canteen	
844	Farming Building	
846	Fire Station	
856	Post Office	
858	Otero School	
878	Residence	
879	Residence	
882	Curry School	
9133	Food Service Center	
Contrie	BUTING SITES	
A Para	de Ground	
B Sanatorium Tent Terrace		
C Post Cemetery (discontiguous)		

D Merchant Marine Cemetery (discontiguous)

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CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE

E Swimming Pool

UNKNOWN

850 Museum

(This building does not appear on the 1941 map (Map #7). Although it appears older, it has not been determined if it was built before 1946.)

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SIGNIFICANT DATES

1896 1899 1941-1945 Lincoln, NM

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SUMMARY

A frontier military post in Territorial New Mexico from 1855 to 1896, Fort Stanton is the only intact New Mexico fort originally built before the Civil War and one of the Southwest's most significant and best preserved. When no longer needed by the military, the facility served for 40 years as a tuberculosis sanatorium for merchant seaman, the first federal institution dedicated to the care of consumptives. The fort was initially established to subdue the Mescalero Apaches and was crucial to the settlement of south central New Mexico by settlers of originally European origin, both Hispanic and Anglo.²⁰ It remained central to frontier development and was associated with the major 19th-century upheavals of a broad region: the so-called Apache Wars, the Civil War in New Mexico, and the Lincoln County War. Burned and abandoned when a Confederate army invaded New Mexico in 1861, the fort was briefly occupied by Confederates. After their defeat in New Mexico, it was reestablished under Colonel Christopher (Kit) Carson, a major figure in General James H. Carlton's campaign to control the Indians of central and southern New Mexico through subjugation and restriction to reservations. Major figures in the turmoil known as the Lincoln County War got their commercial start at Fort Stanton and the post played a significant if controversial role in that conflict. Fort Stanton was a Marine Hospital for tuberculosis patients from 1899 to 1953, and in that period approximately 10,000 patients, mostly merchant seamen, were treated. In the 1930s, a CCC camp was established adjacent to the Fort Stanton Hospital and in 1941 that site was expanded to accommodate a World War II internment camp, primarily for German internees, the first American internment camp of the War. Located in an isolated rural area both fort and hospital were, to the extent possible, selfcontained communities. For more than 100 years these facilities were major providers of employment and services to a wide surrounding area. Both had their own water supply, raised some of their own food, maintained a bakery, general store, library, post office, and cemeteries. In the case of the hospital, a power and refrigeration plant, steam laundry, fire department, garage, and service station were provided. Although in need of some maintenance, the survival of most of the original stone buildings and their siting around a parade ground, the nearby stone stables, and other outbuildings of both the military fort and hospital, uniquely represent the era of the 19th-century frontier military post in New Mexico and the 20th-century era of the tuberculosis sanatorium. The nearby site of an interment camp, though mostly in ruins, provides an opportunity to gain information about this aspect of World War II in America.

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²⁰ The term Anglo is used as it is commonly in New Mexico to refer to all persons of neither Native American nor Spanish origin.

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HISTORY OF FORT STANTON

The Fort Stanton Military Post²¹

Fort Stanton was established May 4, 1855 for the purpose of subduing the Mescalero Apache Indians and thereby facilitating Hispanic and Anglo settlement of the area. Conflicts with the Mescaleros in southern New Mexico escalated in the 1850s as they found their traditional hunting range greatly restricted and rations from the government inadequate or nonexistent. Raids on ranches and farms brought out the army. Captain Henry W. Stanton from Fort Fillmore and one of his men were killed in January of 1855 by Indians who were being pursued into the Sacramento Mountains. As a result of these escalating conflicts an army post was established on the Rio Bonito, named in honor of Captain Stanton.

The site for the new fort was chosen for its accessibility by road and for an abundance of water, grass, wood, and building timber. At the end of May the garrison consisted of more than 400 men but was reduced in July to 239, still large for a single post, and again in August to 172. Until the post was abandoned in 1861, the number fluctuated from a low of 135 to a high of 330. The number of companies present alternated between three and four with varying numbers of casuals.

By the first summer, quarters were completed for eight officers, one company of enlisted men, a guardhouse, a commissary, and quartermaster storerooms. Although the original orders specified adobe buildings with stone foundations to be built entirely by the troops, by 1859 quarters, hospital, guardrooms, prison, and storehouses had been built of stone. The post, it was reported, was unique in the Department of New Mexico for its appearance of durability.

Lydia Lane, the wife of Lieutenant William B. Lane, described life at Fort Stanton in the 1850s:

Fort Stanton was a beautiful post, with the best quarters in the army at that time, but it was like being buried alive to stay there. Nothing ever passed that way, and it was seldom a stranger came among us. There was but one mail a month, and on the day it was expected we dropped all work and fixed our eyes on a certain hill, round which the man with the mail, carried on a mule, was bound to appear, after a while, if the Indians had not caught him.

²¹ Except as otherwise noted, the history of Fort Stanton are drawn from Lee Myers, *Fort Stanton, New Mexico: The Military Years, 1855-1896* (Lincoln, NM: Lincoln County Historical Society Publications, 1988).

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Whoever spied him spread the news that the mail was coming. Then all was excitement until the post-office was opened and each had his own letters and papers in his hands....

The Mescalero Apaches were in camp that winter near the post and came and went as they pleased, walking into our houses and sitting on our porches without the least hesitation. I found a young fellow in front of our quarters with a child's colored picture-book in his hands, chuckling and muttering with great delight....

I never could become accustomed to the Indians staring at me through the window when I was sewing or reading....Sometimes a slight noise made me turn round, and there would be one or two Indians standing in my room. I did not use much ceremony in putting them out and locking the door behind them They delighted in going to the hospital to get a dose of medicine from the doctor; and no matter what kind of stuff he mixed them, they took it with apparent enjoyment....

In May orders were received from Captain Elliott's company to take station at Fort Bliss, Texas, and we were charmed at the prospect of going where we would see more people and have a good market. There was never anything to buy at Fort Stanton but an occasional piece of venison, or a wild turkey, from a Mexican or Indian. The game was very good of its kind, but we wanted a wider range, which we were sure to have at Fort Bliss.²²

Until 1861 the troops of Fort Stanton were not only involved with the Mescaleros but also participated in campaigns against the Navajos, Comanches, and Kiowas. However, the engagement of the Civil War, brought a different threat from Texas. When news was learned of the fall of Fort Fillmore near the southern border to Confederates invading from the south, Fort Stanton was abandoned. Supplies that could not be moved were destroyed, and the fort torched.

After the Confederates retreated back to Texas, General Carlton, turned his attention with a vengeance upon the Mescaleros. Colonel Kit Carson with five companies of New Mexico Volunteers was ordered to reoccupy the ruined Fort Stanton. Temporary roofs of logs and earth rendered some of the burned out stone buildings usable and a relentless campaign against the Mescaleros was launched with orders to kill or capture all Indian men they encountered. By 1862-1863, most of the tribe had been taken to the newly established Fort Sumner and Carson turned his attention to the Navajos.

In 1865-1866 Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Emil Fritz of the California Volunteers commanded the post to be succeeded by Brevet Major Lawrence G. Murphy, of the First New Mexico Cavalry. After leaving volunteer service in 1866 Fritz and Murphy became the post

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²² Lydia Spencer Lane, *I Married a Soldier or Old Days in the Old Army* (1893; Albuquerque: Horn & Wallace, Publishers, Inc., 1964) 64-67.

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sutlers and later established a store at La Placita (Lincoln). After Fritz's death in 1874 a dispute over his estate between Murphy and Alexander McSween, the attorney for Fritz's relatives, culminated in the battle at McSween's home in Lincoln in 1878.

The principal activities of the post were garrison duties and scouting expeditions against Indians that took parties of soldiers into the White, Sacramento, and Guadalupe mountains, and eastward toward the Pecos River. Also to establish better control, temporary outposts were set up at various times manned by detachments from Fort Stanton.

In 1868 the number of employees in the building trades at Fort Stanton increased dramatically to seven carpenters, eight masons, and one painter among a total of 62 civilians working at the post. By comparison, just one mason was listed in 1865, among 12 civilian employees. During this period a major reconstruction and building program was undertaken which lasted into the 1870s.

Stone barracks quartered the men who each had 1,000 cubic feet of space in the squad rooms which were furnished with double bunks in single tiers. A rear wing of the L-shaped buildings contained a kitchen and a mess room. The two officer's quarters, also stone, were divided into eight rooms with two halls. None of the fort's buildings was supplied with water until the 1880s when the open *acequia* that had passed through the parade ground was replaced by underground pipes and a sewer system replaced outside sinks and privies. All buildings were heated with fireplaces except for the prison room which went unheated. The library, in the same building as the prison, offered 125 volumes of "historical works and standard novels."

Each company on duty cultivated a garden and there was also one for the hospital. Gristmills and sawmills were in operation within thirty miles. Hay and grain for animals were contracted locally, but most supplies for the garrison had to be brought in by wagon. The nearest supply depot was at Fort Union, some 200 miles north by the shortest route which also offered little water. In dry seasons another 100 miles had to be added to the trip.

In 1873 a Mescalero Apache reservation was established south of Fort Stanton; the Indian agency was headquartered in the L. G. Murphy & Co. sutler's store building at the post. The soldiers' duties expanded to chasing squatters off of Indian land, stemming the sale of illicit liquor, going after Indians who went beyond the new restrictive boundaries, and pursuing both Indian and Anglo cattle rustlers and horse thieves tempted by the burgeoning cattle ranching industry.

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In the 1870s personnel from the fort became involved in the broader disturbances of the region, known as the El Paso Salt War and the Lincoln County War. The former was a disagreement between Mexican nationals who claimed a traditional right to salt from the saline lakes 100 miles east of El Paso and an American who filed mineral rights on the same resource. Closer to the post was the Lincoln County War. In February 1878 a state of lawlessness was declared in the village of Lincoln, a few miles east of the post, and the army was called out to preserve the peace. The following April the situation was described thus in the post returns:

The state of lawlessness and reign of terror, which has for some months existed in the town of Lincoln, remains unimproved, the civil authorities being apparently powerless to cope with the difficulties, and prevent the frequent acts of murder and violence which are a frequent occurrence. In this connection the troops have been engaged throughout the month in acting as posses in serving civil processes and otherwise assisting the civil authorities.

One of the early murders in this period, though not directly related to the war, was that of Paul Dowlin who was shot and killed by a former employee on May 5, 1877 at Dowlin's mill six miles from Fort Stanton. Dowlin had served as a captain in the New Mexico Volunteers during the Civil War and afterwards became post trader. He also served a term in the territorial legislature and at the time of his death, owned a flour mill, sawmill, ranches, livestock, a store, and other property in the area.²³ His tall grave marker is one of the few that remain in the Fort Stanton post cemetery.

In June, an attempt by Fort Stanton troops to assist the sheriff in Lincoln was cut short because of the illegality of using the army for civil purposes. The next month found members of one warring faction barricaded in several buildings, including the home of the lawyer McSween, and under attack from members of the other faction. When an unarmed soldier from Fort Stanton was slightly wounded near the McSween home, Lieutenant Colonel N. A. M. Dudley, the Fort Stanton post commander, had a pretext to march into town with a contingent sixty cavalrymen, one lieutenant colonel, three captains, several lieutenants, Gatling gun, and a mountain howitzer. Dudley ordered the Justice of the Peace to issue warrants for the arrest of McSween and others who refused to surrender and were subsequently burned out and killed.²⁴ The next year a Court of Inquiry was convened at Fort Stanton to examine charges instigated by

²³ William A. Keleher, Violence in Lincoln County (1957; (1957; Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1982) 19.

²⁴ Keleher, 140-148.

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Governor Lew Wallace against Dudley relating to the murder of McSween and his participation in events at Lincoln. After much testimony, Dudley was exonerated by the court.²⁵

In the 1880s troops from Fort Stanton were occupied with the last vestiges of Apache resistance under various leaders, the most famous of whom were Victorio, Nana, and Geronimo. Finally the surrender of Geronimo in 1886 marked the end of decades of conflict.

By the time that Second Lieutenant John J. Pershing, fresh out of West Point joined the garrison at Fort Stanton in 1887, the so-called "Indian Problem" that had prompted the establishment of the fort, was at an end, and field maneuvers had replaced actual campaigns. In the first month after his arrival, a small command of enlisted men, led by Pershing, pursued a "raiding party" and captured the raiders after a 26-hour march of 110 miles.

Fort Stanton had outlasted its period of usefulness and finally in 1895 was abandoned. One commissioned officer and four enlisted men were left to ship the portable property to other posts and guard what was left. The fort itself was turned over to the Department of the Interior.

The Fort Stanton Marine Hospital

In 1899 Fort Stanton was transferred by U.S. President William McKinley from the Interior Department to the U.S. Marine Hospital Service (later the Public Health Service), a bureau of the Treasury Department, for the purpose of creating a facility dedicated to the care of tubercular merchant seaman. A reservation was set aside for a sanatorium by executive order and the station officially opened on April 17, 1899 with Dr. J. O. Cobb in charge. The following November Joseph Ryan was transferred from the Marine Hospital in Chicago and admitted as the first patient at Fort Stanton. The first patient to be buried in the Fort Stanton hospital cemetery was John Dower who died on December 16, 1899.

The establishment of the sanatorium was the culmination of the efforts over many years by officers of the Marine Hospital Service to convince the government to establish a sanatorium for consumptive sailors. Finally in 1898 Surgeon General J. O. Cobb was detailed to evaluate abandoned government military reservations in territories of Arizona and New Mexico as sites for such a sanatorium. He recommended Fort Stanton for its climate of mild winters and cool summers, generous water supply, large reservation, and substantial stone buildings which it was

²⁵ Keleher, 226-243.

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estimated could accommodate 200 patients with quarters for officers and attendants.²⁶ By 1903 six surgeons and 30 attendants were caring for 100 patients.

After four years of abandonment, the nearly 40 fort buildings had become dilapidated and overgrown. An initial sum of \$30,000 was appropriated for the reconstruction and remodeling of the facility for use by staff and patients including an up-to-date laboratory for the study of the disease. Plans and specifications were prepared by a government architect, J. Ross Thomas, himself a third stage consumptive. A modern steam laundry and a one-ton ice plant were contracted for, as well as an electric light plant.²⁷

The medical was staff was drawn from the Marine Hospital Service, and in the early years consisted of a surgeon as commanding officer, two other commissioned officers, and two acting assistant surgeons. Later a dental officer was added and a pharmacist. One of the junior officers served as the officer of the day for a 24-hour tour of duty. It was his responsibility to make daily inspections and report to the commanding officer; answer emergency calls; and receive newly arrived patients. Two officers were assigned to the physical examination room, one was in charge of the bacteriological laboratory, and one the nose and throat clinic.

Admittance was restricted to seaman employed on Merchant Marine vessels of the United States, officers and men of the Revenue Cutter Service, keepers and crews of light house establishments, and seamen employed on vessels of certain other branches of the public service other than the Navy. Patients, who were of every nationality, had to have served as much as three months on an American merchant vessel and were admitted through other U. S. Marine hospitals which were maintained by the government at lake, river and ocean ports. Unlike many private sanatoria which selected for admittance those patients most likely to be cured, the Fort Stanton hospital admitted patients in all stages of the disease. Some, however, were regarded as unsuitable for transfer such as those who pulse rate and temperature remained elevated in spite of bed rest, and those whose disease was complicated by other conditions such as asthma or chronic alcoholism. No charge was made for the services of the hospital including food and medical attention. Railroad fare was provided to New Mexico and half rates to the homes of those who were discharged. Later the Military Transport Service provided transportation back to the hospital from which the patient had originally come or to the nearest port.

²⁶ J. O. Cobb, "The Sanitarium for Consumptive Sailors Established by the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service at Fort Stanton, N. M.," *Journal of the American Medical Association* (October 20, 1900) 1010.

²⁷ Cobb 1010. Santa Fe New Mexican 18 September 1900.

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As in sanatoria generally, treatment emphasized abundant rest, wholesome food, and unlimited fresh air. Rules were in place to insure the attainment of all three. Much of the diet thought necessary for the cure of tuberculosis was produced on the large farm attached to the facility. A herd of Jersey milk cows supplied milk. In the early years the cream was separated and then added back to skim milk in order to assure the consistently high percentage of fat regarded as essential. Purebred Hereford beef and pork were provided by stock grown at Fort Stanton. Ham and bacon were cured there and a large quantity of lard rendered. All used greases were turned to the making of soap. Chickens provided eggs as well as meat. Forage and grain for cattle, pigs, horses, and chickens were raised on the reservation. In addition a garden supplied fresh vegetables. As both the needs of the hospital increased and the availability of outside produce, additional fresh vegetables were furnished by nearby truck farms or purchased from local produce houses that shipped from California and Mexico. Canned fruits and vegetables were also brought in. However, in 1925 an estimated nearly one half of the supplies used by the Dietetic Department in a single month came from the Farm Department.²⁸

Initially, the required fresh air was obtained by requiring patients to sleep with windows and doors open and during the day to spend as much time as possible in the open air, swinging in hammocks, riding ponies provided for their use, reclining in easy chairs, or doing odd jobs. One patient bought himself a tent and slept out every night;²⁹ Soon after tents were provided by the hospital for two or three patients as an experiment. By 1903 so impressive were the improvements that 50 patients were housed in 30 tents.³⁰ By 1912, 87 class A and class B tent houses had been constructed, each holding two patients and heated by a small wood stove. Patients were kept in the infirmary only until they became ambulatory, that is able to walk to the dining room for meals and to take care of their tents.

It was sometimes difficult to impose a life of "regularity and temperance" on sailors accustomed to regard their time on land as a opportunity to relax from the rigors and limitations of sea life. Because of the isolation of the facility, special efforts were needed to provide entertainment. At first "harmless" games were encouraged and the use of the library.³¹ There

²⁸ "History of the Movement of Establish a Tubercular Sanatorium at Fort Stanton, New Mexico, by the U.S. Public Health Service," typescript, n.d. [c.1925] 23.

²⁹ Cobb 1010-1011.

³⁰ Paul L. Carrington, "Further Observations on the Treatment of Tuberculosis at Fort Stanton, New Mexico," Journal of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States" 14 (1904) 219-220.

³¹ Carrington 224-225.

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was also a golf course which was not particularly popular with the sailors. Later there were more opportunities for amusement and gainful employment both to occupy the time required by the cure and prepare the patient to return to productive life outside of the institution. As no federal appropriation was made for entertainments, they had to be otherwise provided. Patients and attendants formed a private organization to provide amusements. The Seamen's Social Club (no longer extant) was erected by patients in 1907 with pool tables and card tables. Both the YMCA and the Knights of Columbus maintained secretaries at the station and provided moving pictures, toilet articles, playing cards to all patients, many of whom were nearly destitute. After World War I surplus Army clothing was made available to the patients. All hospital and ambulatory section beds were equipped with radio-phones. In later years, patients were permitted hunting and fishing in the nearby mountains, outings to Lincoln, trips to local attractions such as the resort at Ruidoso, and as far as El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juarez on the opposite side to the Rio Grande in Mexico. Patients with their own automobiles, provided transportation to nearby villages at cost. Other destinations farther afield were accessible by train or bus.

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By 1912, 1,937 cases had been discharged. The majority of cases were far advanced upon admission and only a small number incipient. The numbers reported were 229 patients apparently cured, 291 arrested, 565 improved, 184 unimproved, and 668 dead. Most of the latter were buried in the sanatorium cemetery. The average duration of treatment in all cases was one year, 5 months and 17 days. Over the years other techniques such as heliotherapy and induced pneumothorax were added as they became standard in TB treatment. As patients improved, they were required to take on gradually increasing programs of physical exercise involving light work such as policing the grounds, picking stones, working in the garden, painting, cleaning, and so forth. Patients were discharged when their capacity for work was sufficient to earn a living without detriment to health.³²

The aim was always to restore the patient to working capacity as soon as possible. Because of the nature of the disease, many chose not to return to the sea. By 1925 the Education Department was providing grade and high school subjects as well as typewriting, stenography, and bookkeeping. Foreign-born patients were given a course in "Citizenship." The Occupational Therapy Division established in 1920 provided vocational training. A number of arts and crafts such as commercial art, wood and leather work, basket and rug weaving, hammered brass work,

³² F. C. Smith, "The Public Health Service Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Fort Stanton," *Public Health Reports* 27.35 (30 August 1912) 4.

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silver craft, and decorative art were taught.³³ A small living could be earned from the sale of articles made. Towards the end of their stays, patients could work in the barber shop, cleaning and pressing shop, print shop, photo lab, and shoe repair shop. All were operated by patients until discharged, at which time others took over.

In 1953 with the need for sanatorium treatment greatly diminished by new drugs, the Fort Stanton Marine Hospital closed after Congress failed to appropriate funds for its continuance. The Merchant Marine patients were transferred to other hospitals and the facility was turned over to the New Mexico Department of Public Welfare to be used as a TB facility for the citizens of the state. The new patients included men, women, and children.

The number of state TB patients at Fort Stanton had dwindled to about 100 by 1966. After transferring them to the hospital at Fort Bayard, the state converted the facility to a branch of the Los Lunas Hospital and Training School for developmentally disabled clients. About 20 years later the federal court ordered community placement of the developmentally disabled. In 1995 Governor Gary Johnson closed the facility, still the largest employer in the county. Fort Stanton is presently vacant and awaiting a new use.

The World War II German Internment Camp³⁴

At an unknown date in the 1930s a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was established at Fort Stanton, on the north side of the Rio Bonito opposite the fort proper. In the famous "Hundred Days" after his 1933 inauguration, President Franklin D. Roosevelt set out to fulfill his pledge of a "New Deal for the American People" through a series of measures designed to relieve the economic hardships of the unemployed and promote recovery from the depression that had begun in 1929. The CCC, enacted in March 1933, was designed to provide employment to young men in national parks and forests.

One of 44 such camps in New Mexico, the CCC camp at Fort Stanton was designated SCS-6-N. The young men stationed there were employed under the National Forest Service on reforestation and soil conservation in the Lincoln National Forest. In mid December 1940, they

³³ "History of the Movement of Establish a Tubercular Sanatorium at Fort Stanton," 17-18.

³⁴ Except as otherwise noted, this discussion is drawn from William E. Anderson, Jr., "Guests for the Duration: World War II and Crew of the S.S. *Columbus*. An Historical Archaeological Investigation of the Fort Stanton Enemy Alien Internment Camp (1941-1945)," M.A. thesis, University of New Mexico, 1993.

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were moved to the Girls' Camp at Baca Canyon within the Lincoln National Forest in preparation for the use of the camp to intern the German crew of a scuttled passenger liner.³⁵

At that time the camp at Fort Stanton consisted of six barracks, a kitchen, mess hall, laundry, lavatory and shower rooms, a small infirmary and officer's quarters. The presence of these buildings was among several factors that made the camp an attractive site to U.S. government officials looking to establish an internment camp for about 400 German seaman.

Although France and England had declared war on Germany on September 3, 1939, the United States was still officially neutral the following December when the German luxury liner, *S.S. Columbus*, was sunk. In response to the European war, the Foreign Ministers of the Americas had by the Declaration of Panama declared a Neutrality Zone off the coastline of both North and South America from which belligerent warships were to be excluded. The U.S. Neutrality Patrol was charged with maintaining the zone by tracking and reporting the movements of belligerent ships and submarines within its perimeters.

The *Columbus* was one of approximately 85 German merchant ships in the waters of the Western Hemisphere when war broke out in Europe. Built in 1924, the ship was the third largest in the German merchant fleet and the thirteenth largest steamship in the world. Having departed from New York City for a pleasure cruise in the Caribbean under Captain Wilhelm Daehne when war was declared, the ship proceeded to Havana, Cuba, where most of the 725 passengers were discharged. The ship and crew then continued on the Vera Cruz, Mexico, to refuel and await further instructions from Berlin.

Having been ordered by Hitler to return to Germany, and having obtained a guarantee of protection by the U.S. Navy within the Neutrality Zone, the *Columbus* left Vera Cruz under U.S. escort on December 14, 1939. Five days later, about 350 miles off of the coast of New Jersey, the *Columbus* encountered the British destroyer *H.M.S. Hyperion* in full battle readiness. The British received no reply when they radioed the *U.S. Tuscaloosa*, which was still observing the *Columbus*, as to the identity of the ship. When the *Hyperion* fired two warning shots across the bow of the *Columbus*, Captain Daehne, who had been ordered not to allow his ship to fall into enemy possession, ordered the crew into life boats and the ship sunk.

³⁵ James J. McBride, "The Internment of the SS Columbus Crew During World War II," M.A. thesis, University of New Mexico, 1996, 103.

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The *Tuscaloosa* rescued the approximately 579 surviving crewmen and brought them to Ellis Island as distressed seaman, not prisoners of war, as the U.S. was not yet a party to the conflict. Nine women crew members together with 20 men and 28 cabin boys were repatriated to Germany aboard an Italian liner. The remaining crew were sent to California under the protective custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) with the expectation that they would be repatriated via a Pacific route. About 100 of the crew did return to embark on Japanese vessels; the rest remained sequestered for about a year at the Immigration Station at Angel Island in San Francisco Bay as "guests" of the United States. Growing public hostility in San Francisco to the Germans, who were allowed to visit the city frequently, caused the INS to seek a new location.

Fort Stanton was the first of three internment camps established by the Border Patrol early in 1941.³⁶ Captain Daehne and an INS inspector visited several sites before deciding on Fort Stanton which was chosen for its remoteness, the availability of abandoned CCC camp buildings, and the presence of nearby medical facilities. After preliminary repairs by the CCC in December 1940, Captain Daehne with two small groups of carpenters, painters, and mechanics from among the crew of the *Columbus* completed the renovation of existing buildings and the construction of four new barracks to accommodate the full contingent of 410 crewmen, the rest of whom arrived the following March (Map 11).

With the entry of the United States into World War II on December 7, 1941, the status of the German crew members changed to enemy aliens. The CCC constructed a chain-link fence around the perimeter of the camp, a surveillance lighting system was installed, guard towers constructed, and a 24-hour guard established.

In 1942 the internment camp consisted of 24 buildings, including barracks, warehouse/storerooms, mess hall, work shops, offices, and recreation buildings. A prison guardhouse was constructed in the fall of 1942 where violators of the camp rules were incarcerated.

Approximately 290 additional German crewmen from other ships were transferred to Fort Stanton between March and August 1943, requiring the addition of five barracks which were brought from another abandoned CCC camp. The same year a bakery and additional buildings for a barbershop, photographer's shop, and cobbler's shop were added to the camp. The INS also

³⁶ The others were located in Montana for Italian seamen and in North Dakota for Germans. McBride 104.

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constructed a separate segregation camp at a presently unknown location within the internment camp to which were brought unruly internees from other INS internment facilities. By August 1944, 24 internees were held there.

In order to pass the time and stay active Captain Daehne encouraged his crew to construct several recreation facilities including a large concrete swimming pool, the ruins of which are extant. Water for the pool was furnished from a spring and was pumped through a purifying system. The medical officer at the Fort Stanton hospital was instructed to monitor the chemical additives and periodically have the pool drained.

The internees also constructed tennis and handball courts, a boxing ring, and a bowling alley. First down by the river and later, after a flood, on higher ground, the internees built many small cottages which they used as private retreats. They lavished care on landscaping and some had vegetable gardens or raised small animals such as chickens or rabbits for food.

A library was established early and grew to about 1000 volumes through donations by the internees themselves, the German Consul, and charitable organizations such as the War Prisoner's Aid of the Young Men's Christian Association. Educational courses were taught by the internees including English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Astronomy, mathematics, engineering, and mechanics.

A canteen, started with a \$650 loan from the German Consulate in San Francisco offered for sale items such as tobacco products, beer, candy, fruits, toiletries, and construction materials including tools. Movies were regularly shown there in both English and German and periodically the ship's orchestra would perform.

The large recreation hall, the walls of which are still standing, was built in 1944 by the internees at a cost of approximately \$14,000. The men were paid wages of ten cents per hour based on the \$21 monthly earnings of a U.S. private. About 13,200 adobe bricks were manufactured by the internees for the construction. The hall contained a second floor movie projection room at one end and a large oak stage at the other.

Before the U.S. entered World War II nine Border Patrol guards were assigned to Fort Stanton. There was no fence around the facility and considerable latitude was given for hiking in the nearby hills and travel to towns as far away as Roswell. After December 8, 1941, security was tightened and by 1943 the security force, including civilian guards, numbered 90. The

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internees could only leave the camp with a guard escort. Under regulations specifying the treatment of enemy aliens, incarceration for a maximum of 30 days was the only form of permissible punishment for offences against the camp rules, the most serious of which to occur was escape or the attempt thereof.

Routine medical care was provided at the camp by the physician from the *Columbus* who ran a small infirmary staffed by volunteer internees. Serious illnesses or injuries were treated at the Fort Stanton Marine Hospital. Four internees died while at the camp and were buried in the Marine Hospital cemetery. The causes of death were coronary occlusion, trichinosis, suicide, and head injuries sustained in a fight.

The camp remained in operation until the end of the War in 1945. In accordance with the original agreement by which the CCC camp was occupied, the property was to be returned to the Fort Stanton Hospital when no longer needed by the INS. Portable barracks were removed to other INS facilities; the approximately 150 small internee houses were destroyed. The large swimming pool and some of the remaining buildings continued to be used by Fort Stanton Hospital personnel for a time.

A total of 778 internees, including 695 Germans, 21 Italians, and 62 Japanese were detained at the camp between January 30, 1941 and September 1, 1945. Anderson found documentary evidence of about 50 structures at the camp, but only located the remains of 33.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Fort Stanton and South Central New Mexico

South central New Mexico was one of the last major regions of the New Mexico territory to be settled by Europeans or their descendants. Spaniards, such as Antonio de Espejo in 1582 and Gaspar Castaño de Sosa in 1590-91, had followed the Pecos River as a route of exploration, but had found the area unwelcoming as did later Spanish settlers who were discouraged by the area's lack of essential resources and by the resistance of the Apache Indians established in the mountains. In over 250 years the area never came under effective Spanish or Mexican control.

In 1846, early in the Mexican War, New Mexico was occupied by United States troops and four years later was admitted to the Union as a territory. The first priority of the federal government was to take control of the newly acquired lands, and to protect trade and settlement

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from those Native Americans who resisted their presence as they had that of the Spanish. To those ends a system of forts was constructed at strategic points near major trade routes and centers of developing population. During the 1850s the federal government spent over three million dollars per year and more in subsequent decades, to develop roads, forts, and logistical supply lines as part of its campaign against the Indian tribes. It has been estimated that more than eight percent of the money in circulation in New Mexico came from Army expenditures.³⁷

New Mexico Governor David Meriwether negotiated a treaty with the Mescalero Apaches in 1855, but Congress, reluctant to pay the Indians for their land, refused to ratify the treaty. Sporadic attacks by Mescaleros on farms, ranches and trails brought responses from troops stationed at the southern forts. Fort Stanton, the only fort established in southern New Mexico east of the Rio Grande, was constructed initially in 1855 and named for Captain Henry Whiting Stanton who had been killed a few months earlier in the Sacramento Mountains in a skirmish with Mescalero Apaches. Encouraged by the presence of the fort, which provided not only protection but a market for crops that could be grown in the Bonito Valley, Hispanic settlers founded a small adobe village on the Rio Bonito ten miles to the east, which they first called Las Placitas and later Rio Bonito. Finally, in 1869 the name of this farming and trading community was changed to Lincoln, when it became the seat of the newly formed Lincoln County.

In 1861 with the Civil War under way, Fort Stanton was torched and evacuated in front of Confederate troops who invaded from the south and took over the fort briefly. The Confederates marched on to Albuquerque and Santa Fe but were forced to withdraw after the loss of their supply train in the battle at Glorieta Pass.

While the military was distracted by the Southern invasion, the Mescaleros once again dominated the region and drove out the inhabitants of Las Placitas. However, after the Civil War in New Mexico ended, General Carlton, the commander of military operations in the territory, turned his attention to the subjugation of the Indians throughout the Territory. He devised an uncompromising policy of total military defeat of the hostile tribes to be followed by their confinement to reservations where they could be taught to be Christians and farmers. Toward this end Fort Sumner and the Bosque Redondo Indian Reservation, in east central New Mexico, were established on the Pecos River in 1862-1863.

³⁷ Howard Roberts Lamar, *The Far Southwest, 1846-1912: A Territorial History* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1970) 95.

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Colonel Christopher (Kit) Carson, who reoccupied Fort Stanton after the Confederate withdrawl, mounted a campaign against the Mescalero Apaches, the first object of this renewed resolve to defeat the tribes. Several hundred defeated Mescaleros were taken from their home in the mountains to the Bosque Redondo Reservation. Soon they were joined by eight thousand Navajos, their traditional enemies, who were marched on foot five hundred miles from the northwest section of the territory, a tragic episode ever after known as the "Long Walk."

Eventually there were roughly nine thousand Indians and three thousand troops at the Bosque Redondo Reservation and Fort Sumner, many more than the arid land of the Pecos valley could support. Government contractors sought provisions, and to this waiting market came Texas cattlemen who could purchase cattle cheaply in Texas, feed them at no cost on public domain lands as they drove them to Fort Sumner. By the time the Bosque Redondo experiment ended in tragic failure in 1868, a heavily-traveled cattle route up the Pecos had been established.

Of the many cattlemen who trailed cattle up the Pecos River valley, John Chisum was one of the first to headquarter a large cattle operation in the Pecos Valley. Known as the "Cattle King of the Pecos," he became the largest cattle rancher on the Pecos River range, and for a time was probably the largest individual cattle owner in the United States.

In the late 1870s, the area was wracked by a period of unbridled violence provoked by competition for the range as well as commercial and political rivalries in the town of Lincoln, the county seat. Lincoln was the leading community in Lincoln County, which after it was enlarged in 1878 covered the entire southeast quarter of the territory. This huge, largely uninhabited expanse of 27,000 square miles, bounded on the south and east by Texas, was reputedly the largest county in the United States. Out on the range, there were not only increasing numbers of cattle ranchers and homesteaders, but also of cowboys and drifters of all sorts, many of whom came to New Mexico one step ahead of the Texas law. Inevitably, conflict arose between other ranchers and John Chisum. His large number of cattle on a vast range that he owned only by right of possession and enlarged simply by sending out cowboys to claim more of it, was both a source of resentment and an easy temptation to theft by rustlers and other ranchers.

By 1877 open war broke out between Chisum and his principal competitor for beef contracts, L. G. Murphy, who had briefly commanded Fort Stanton and got his commercial start as the fort sutler. Starting with three thousand head of cattle, Murphy had established a ranch in the Seven Rivers area from which he sold so many cattle that his was called "the magic herd," a magic Chisum believed derived from the theft of his cattle. Murphy, was also the leading

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merchant in Lincoln, as well as the boss of county politics and law enforcement, ruling with support from the Santa Fe Ring, as the dominant political machine at the state level was known.

Murphy's mercantile firm in Lincoln enjoyed a monopoly on trade supplying the county at exorbitant prices until an Englishman, John H. Tunstall, set up a rival store in Lincoln with the support of Chisum and lawyer Alexander McSween. Further aggravating the situation, Chisum also set up a bank to rival Murphy's with Tunstall as vice-president and McSween as cashier.

From the murder of Tunstall in 1878 by men sent by Sheriff William Brady to attach Tunstall's property in a dispute between Murphy and McSween over the proceeds of an insurance policy left by Murphy's former partner, Emil Fritz, until the killing of Billy the Kid 1881, the bloody Lincoln County War raged between the two large rival factions in the county. The conflict was marked by a succession of murders including the shooting of Sheriff Brady by Billy the Kid, a former Tunstall cowboy, and the death of McSween in a shootout and fire at his home in Lincoln where he and fourteen followers, including the Kid, had barricaded themselves. The War continued out of control until President Rutherford B. Hayes, declaring the county to be in a "state of insurrection," sent in a federal investigator. Eventually it burned itself out but not before the governor and other territorial officials (all Presidential appointments under Territorial government), most of them members of the Santa Fe Ring, had been removed and Civil War General Lew Wallace of Indiana appointed governor. Wallace issued a proclamation of amnesty to all except Murphy's partner Dolan and Billy the Kid. Dolan surrendered, stood trial, and was acquitted. The Kid escaped for a time across the Texas line but was eventually killed by Sheriff Pat Garrett at Fort Sumner on July 14, 1881 - the event which formed the dramatic conclusion of the Lincoln County War.

In 1873 a Mescalero Apache reservation had been established south of Fort Stanton. Throughout the 1870s and into the 1880s federal troops in New Mexico sought to subjugate the Indians and by 1890 were no longer needed in the territory. The forts were decommissioned and most left to deteriorate and disappear. A new use was found for Fort Stanton in 1899 as a federal tuberculosis sanatorium.

The Treatment of Tuberculosis and the Sanatorium Movement in the U.S.

Tuberculosis is a disease now known to be caused by a bacillus which can attack any part of the body. The name derives from the "tubercles" or "little lumps" which are formed in infected tissue. In the past before the causative agent was identified, different names were given

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to different forms of the disease depending on the affected organ, such as scrofula referring to tuberculosis of the lymphatic glands and lupus that of the skin. The lung was by far the most common site of infection. Because the chronic form of pulmonary tuberculosis causes a characteristic emaciation to the extent that the body appears to be consumed, this form was called consumption. The typical symptoms of the disease, which often attacked young people, were in addition to weight loss, coughing, red-tinged sputum, and pulmonary hemorrhage, the latter often the first indication of the disease which has a long early symptomless phase. Until the 1950s there was no cure for tuberculosis although the disease could be arrested. Since ancient times food, sunlight, altitude, and fresh air had been thought to contribute its alleviation.

Hipprocates a fifty-century B.C. Greek physician was the first to clearly describe the symptoms of pulmonary tuberculosis which he called in Greek *phthisis*, "a wasting away." Another Greek physician, Galen, who lived in the second century A.D Rome, described the disease and believed that it was caused by something that was transferred from one person to another. He sent his patients to dry elevated regions and advised them to drink plenty of milk. Galen remained the authority until the seventeenth century. Although the Greeks speculated that the disease was transmitted from one person to another, the method of transmission was not known until the late nineteenth century and opinion of its contagiousness varied because it could take years after exposure for the active disease to manifest itself. The exact causative agent was not known until 1882 when the German physician, Robert Koch, announced the discovery of the tubercle bacillus, a rod-shaped bacterial organism. The 1895 discovery of x-rays would provide a major diagnostic tool.

Tuberculosis was the major killer in the nineteenth century and the medical profession had little to offer. Even after the bacterium was identified, the disease eluded a cure for more than seventy years. Nevertheless, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, principles of successful treatment were established which led to the creation of sanatoria designed to provide conditions most favorable to the arrest of the disease. The underlying goal of sanatorium care was to allow the body to best marshall its own defenses. The important elements of the cure were rest to permit healing, exercise to provide strength, and rich food, particularly eggs and dairy products, to restore wasted tissues. It was also believed that pleasant surroundings would promote an optimistic frame of mind which could also strengthen the body.

At the same time quasi-scientific theories gained acceptance which ascribed healing properties to the reduced air pressure of high altitudes and a dry sunny climate with fresh air freely circulating around the body. The association of climate and altitude with health was borne

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out by the relative condition of well-being found in higher and drier locales in contrast with the fevers and agues which seemed to plague the colder, wetter, more humid regions. It was also recognized that tuberculosis was transmitted from person to person and therefore those in crowded living conditions were more susceptible. In fact the incidence was low in sparsely populated rural areas and in western cities.

Therefore, it became important to isolate TB sufferers from the general population and put them under controlled conditions of activity and diet, preferably in locations where they could gain the benefits of the reduced air pressure, as well as cleaner and fresher air of higher elevations. Under the careful guidance of medical personnel at a sanatorium, the patient's entire life could be controlled first to fortify the body against the disease and then to learn a new way of life to permit continued health after the sanatorium. In addition, community life provided the moral support of other patients and lessons learned from their examples and mistakes.

By rest was meant absolute and complete rest, mentally, emotionally, and physically for twenty-four hours a day in a recumbent position for months. The motion of the lungs was further limited through the application of pressure to the exterior chest wall by simple, non-operative, mechanical measures such as sand bags, chest binders, and posture or by means of surgical methods such as artificial pneumothorax where air was introduced into the pleural cavity to collapse the lung so that lesions could heal. Exercise when added to the regimen was at carefully controlled levels. When patients were strong enough, diverting activities were essential to the cure, both to promote the proper positive frame of mind and prepare for life outside of an institution.

The first TB hospitals and sanatoria based on theories of the therapeutic benefits of rest, rich food, fresh air, and exercise were established in mid-nineteenth-century England and Germany. At first exercise was thought to be of paramount importance, but was soon replaced by rest. Dettweiler in Germany first introduced the idea of long periods of bed rest on open-air balconies. In the United States, the founding of the modern sanatorium movement is generally attributed to Edward Livingston Trudeau who opened a semi-private institution in 1885 in the Adirondack Mountains at Saranac Lake, New York, originally called the Adirondack Cottage Sanitarium. Here treatment and research facilities were combined in one institution. After the turn of the century, the sanatorium movement grew rapidly. In 1904 it was estimated that there were 96 sanatoria in the United States with a total of 9,000 beds. By 1910 the numbers had

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grown to 393 institutions with 26,000 beds, and by 1920 there were 550 sanatoria and 56,000 beds.³⁸

The cottage plan sanatorium was based on the model of Saranac Lake and usually consisted of a main building often called an administration building containing dining room, kitchen, treatment facilities, offices, and a recreation room. Nearby were small cottages sleeping one or two patients. These were often simple wooden buildings with gable roofs and a door at the gable end. Sometimes the upper half was made of tent material.³⁹ Window glass was omitted to assure maximum fresh air.

The sanatorium turned out to be a highly effective means of controlling tuberculosis in its dual function of isolating the contagious and providing the most promising conditions for the patient. The all important regimen could be most easily sustained under controlled conditions and the patient could thus best learn how to live with the disease. It became axiomatic that "treatment of patient [was] more important than treatment of the disease".⁴⁰ Furthermore, sanatoria became not only places of treatment but sources of information on tuberculosis and training centers for doctors and nurses as well. However, private sanatoria were generally available only to those who could afford the treatment and the time for an extended period of inactivity.

Better methods of early detection and accurate diagnosis as well as the treatment provided by the sanatorium movement led to a marked decrease in the incidence of the disease in the United States. Even before the development of successful drug therapies, the annual death rate decreased from about 200 per 100,000 population in 1900 to 40 in 1944. TB had dropped to eighth place as the cause of death in the U.S. but remained the first cause among those aged fifteen to thirty-five. There were still about 55,000 deaths from diagnosed pulmonary TB and about 125,000 new cases reported throughout the country.⁴¹

In 1943 Streptomycin was demonstrated to be capable of halting the progress of tuberculosis though not of curing it. In the early 1950s, Isoniazid was developed which if taken

³⁸ Jake W. Spidle, Jr., *Doctors of Medicine in New Mexico* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1986) 146.

³⁹ Spidle, Doctors of Medicine, 146.

⁴⁰ Edward W. Hayes, Tuberculosis as it Comes and Goes (Springfield Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, 1947) 66.

⁴¹ Hayes 22.

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over a period of months could finally cure the disease. The era of the sanatorium soon come to an end.

The Health-Seeker Era and the Sanatorium Movement in New Mexico

The salubrity of the southwestern climate had been noted since the earliest Hispanic exploration. Nineteenth-century frontiersmen as well as traders on the Santa Fe Trail brought back the same report. For example, in July 1842, Brevet Captain John C. Fremont on an exploring expedition in the Rocky Mountains noted in his journal, "this climate has been found very favorable to the restoration of health, particularly in cases of consumption."⁴² Despite the difficulties of the journey, many made the overland trek seeking the healthful advantages of the western climate.

New Mexico became truly accessible to large numbers of health-seekers only after the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway built a main line through the territory in 1879-80. As part of its promotion of travel, the railroad itself strongly publicized the healthful qualities of the region in accordance with nineteenth century theories of climate and altitude. The New Mexico Bureau of Immigration, established in 1880 to encourage settlement, emphasized among the territory's assets climate and fresh air - a place to find "health, wealth, and homes."⁴³ First spas were established around hot or cold mineral springs and later sanatoria. The railroad itself founded one of the earliest luxury spas, which was called Montezuma at a location about six miles northwest of Las Vegas, New Mexico.

By the early 1900s, New Mexico boosters had dubbed the territory "Nature's Sanatorium," and "lungers" were flocking to the region in response to a well-established national reputation for an abundance of health-promoting high altitude, sunshine, low humidity, clean air, and pure water. These assets combined with remote location and sparse population recommended the territory to physicians looking to establish tuberculosis sanatoria. Once established, these doctors joined ranks of those promoting the salubrious attributes of the region thereby drawing more health-seekers to the territory.

⁴² Quoted by Karen D. Shane, "New Mexico: Salubrious El Dorado," New Mexico Historical Review 56 (October 1981) 387.

⁴³ Shane 389.

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Although it is indisputable that health was a major source of New Mexico immigration and economic development in the early decades of the twentieth century and that many of the most influential individuals in the history of the state first came west as health seekers, there are few statistics indicating exactly how great this number was or what percentage of the population it represented. Jake Spidle, historian of New Mexico medicine, has characterized the "tuberculosis industry" as "one of the basic factors in the peopling and development of the state in the critical decades just before and after statehood [1912]...nothing less than co-equal in importance to cattle and mining." He estimates that around 1920 approximately 10 percent of the state's total population consisted of health-seekers.⁴⁴ In 1913, Ernest Sweet, a Public Health Service physician concluded in a study of health-seeker migration that in the majority of New Mexico towns (excepting mining communities) 20% to 60% of all households had at least one family member who was tubercular and about 90% of those consumptives were not native. Of the total state population of 330,000, about 30,000 were there for reasons of health.⁴⁵

The health-seeker movement drew not only patients but medical professionals, many themselves "lungers," to New Mexico with an inestimable impact on the development of New Mexico medicine. According to Spidle, the number of physicians in the territory more than doubled between 1886 and 1906 from 99 to 221, while the total population increased by less than 80%. Between 1906 and 1914, 737 new doctors were issued licenses to practice in New Mexico.⁴⁶ As Spidle points out, many of the health-seeking doctors were exceptionally well trained and would probably not have come to a "relative backwater frontier" except for their own cure. "The state reaped a harvest of medical brain power that it would not otherwise have enjoyed. But for the mycobacterium which forced them to the salubrious Southwest, many of New Mexico's medical luminaries of the past half-century or so would have exercised their considerable talents elsewhere."⁴⁷

Generally New Mexico's health-seekers were young, tuberculosis being a disease of the youth. It has been estimated that at the beginning of the century, pulmonary tuberculosis was responsible for one third of all deaths between the ages of fifteen and forty-four.⁴⁸ Those seeking private sanatorium care had to be able to afford the time and money of a protracted stay in institution, and thus amounted to a select few. At the other end of the cost spectrum in New

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⁴⁴ Jake W. Spidle, Jr., "An Army of Tubercular Invalids," New Mexico Historical Review 61 (July 1986) 179.

⁴⁵ Cited in Spidle, "An Army of Invalids," 190.

⁴⁶ Spidle, Doctors of Medicine, 165.

⁴⁷ Spidle, Doctors of Medicine, 166.

⁴⁸ Spidle, Doctors of Medicine, 99.

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Mexico were federal hospitals like Fort Stanton which provided the same type long-term treatment as the private institutions at no cost to those for whom the national government took responsibility.

By 1910 there were 15 tuberculosis sanatoria in New Mexico large enough to be listed in a national directory. These institutions had a total capacity of 1150 beds and most had been founded after 1900. There were no territorial, county or city sanatoria but three were supported by the federal government. The largest institutions, with capacities of 250 and 400 were federal hospitals at Fort Stanton and Fort Bayard. The rest (total 500 beds) had capacities ranging from 10 to 80 beds, with about half of the total (8) in the range of 20 to 35 patients.⁴⁹ Forty-four percent of tuberculosis beds were in private or semi-private institutions, the remainder in federal institutions.

In addition to institutions large enough to find their way into national directories, numerous smaller facilities came and went. According to data compiled from New Mexico Commercial Directories, between 1902 and 1947 fifty-seven sanatoria, twenty-seven health homes, ranches, and camps, and nineteen spas had existed at some time in New Mexico.⁵⁰ Spidle has compiled a list of fifty-six sanatoria in New Mexico between the years 1865 and 1937.⁵¹ Neither of these listings takes into account the numerous smaller institutions which came and went without being cited in a directory.

In the 1930s public sanatoria began to take over the field. The influx of health-seekers to New Mexico dwindled both because of the economic conditions of the Great Depression, improved diagnostic techniques, and the success of sanatorium care. The regimen based on a disciplined life of rest and wholesome food had proven so effective that theories of climate and altitude were fading into the background and in those straitened economic times many sought care closer to home. Furthermore, fewer patients needed long-term sanatorium care because TB was being diagnosed at an earlier more curable stage. By the early 1950s drug therapy totally ended the need for tuberculosis sanatoria.

By 1954 most of the state's 1013 tuberculosis beds were in eight relatively large institutions, in all but three cases as TB units in general hospitals. Government, both federal and

⁴⁹ A Tuberculosis Directory (New York: The National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, 1910) 42.

⁵⁰ Jerry L. Williams, New Mexico in Maps (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1986) 131.

⁵¹ Spidle, Doctors of Medicine, 147-149.

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state, had taken over responsibility for TB patients. New Mexico had established two state TB hospitals, including Fort Stanton, with a total capacity of 394 patients. The federal government supported two Veterans Administration hospitals with a total of 343 beds for TB and an Indian Sanatorium with a capacity of 100.⁵²

Little remains of the sanatoria which represented such a major force in the history and growth of New Mexico. With the development of successful drug therapies, institutions designed for the particular needs of the tuberculosis patient lost their utility and economic viability. State and Federal government institutions took more responsibility for the patients that remained. Some former sanatoria located in population centers evolved into major hospitals, others like Santa Fe's Sunmount (first a hotel and now a Carmelite Monastery), were converted to uses not related to health care. Often not sturdily built, some have been altered beyond recognition, others have disappeared all together. The cottages, typical of these institutions, as well as evidence of their layout are usually gone even if larger buildings remain.

The Marine Hospital Service (Public Health Service)

The Marine Hospitals were established by an Act of Congress approved in 1798 and the first hospital opened in that year "for the relief of sick and disabled seamen." From 1798 to 1870 all seamen were taxed 20 cents per month for the service and from 1870 to 1906, 40 cents per month. In 1884 a tonnage tax for the operation of the hospitals was imposed on all vessels entering the U.S. from foreign ports and after 1906 the hospitals were supported by annual Congressional appropriation. The name Marine Hospital Service was changed to the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service in 1902 and ten years later to the U.S. Public Health Service. In 1951 the name Marine Hospitals was changed to Public Health Service Hospitals.

In 1899, when the Fort Stanton Marine Hospital was established, the Marine Hospital Service was under the U.S. Treasury Department. Officers of the service paralleled those of the military branches: an assistant surgeon was comparable to a lieutenant in the Army or an ensign in the Navy. Officers were rotated every few years from one post to another as the bureau served multiple purposes. For example, in the 1930s in addition to assignment to Public Health Service hospitals such as Fort Stanton, other duties included immigrant health examinations, inspection of vaccines and antitoxins for inter-state traffic, leprosy work, administration of quarantine at

⁵² Tuberculosis Hospital and Sanatorium Directory (New York: National Tuberculosis Association, 1954) 97-99.

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seaports, and the preparation of government bulletins on hygiene.⁵³ In 1932 the Service conducted 25 hospitals, which were not connected with those owned by the Army or Navy.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Most forts in New Mexico were built of adobe, the cheapest and most readily available building material. Like most Western forts they were not fortified with circling walls, as their role was offensive rather than defensive and they did not expect to be attacked. Regulations concerning the layout of Western forts were vague and they display a variety of designs. Most had a central area or parade ground surrounded by quarters for officers and enlisted men, although exact layouts differed fort to fort. These posts have been compared with company towns dedicated to the business of "chasing Indians" rather than mining or manufacturing. Indians traded and lived on or near the military reservations as might settlers who sold their crops and livestock to the soldiers.

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

In 140 years of nearly continuous use, Fort Stanton has had an immense impact on the surrounding area which developed under its protection. When closed by the New Mexico governor in 1995, the facility was still the largest employer in Lincoln County. The frontier forts of New Mexico made possible the settlement and economic development of the territory by peoples of European origin, and determined the course of the lives of the Native Americans whose lands they helped to secure for others. Troops from Fort Stanton opened new areas for Hispanic and Anglo settlement, built roads, provided a market for local products, and participated in the major historic events of the area. Once the era of the fort was over, the sturdy stone buildings were readily adapted to hospital use. The attraction of climate, altitude, and available sturdy buildings brought doctors, patients, employment opportunities, and a continuing market for local farmers and merchants in a still sparsely populated county. The Fort Stanton Marine Hospital, the first federal hospital devoted exclusively to the treatment of tuberculosis, represents the era of the TB sanatorium in New Mexico, important to the development of many localities in the state. Architecturally Fort Stanton with its stone buildings around the original parade ground, stables, and cemetery is arguably the best preserved fort west of the Mississippi River. The internment camp was the first such World War II installation in the United States and

⁵³ Wilfred McCormick, "Outpost for Health," New Mexico (May 1938) 39.

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thus predated the infamous and better known Japanese internment camps. Although the site is mostly in ruins it offers an opportunity to gain an understanding of the less well known and less studied camps primarily for Germans.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY

Main District (UTM References 1-7): 181 acres

Post Cemetery (UTM Reference 8): 1 acre

Merchant Marine Cemetery (UTM References 9-12): 13 acres

UTM REFERENCES

	Zone Easting		Northing
5.	13	451 560	3705 660
6.	13	450 710	3750 660
7.	13	450 710	3705 940
8.	13	451 240	3705 270
9.	13	451 960	3705 560
10.	13	452 200	3705 680
11.	13	452 320	3705 460
12.	13	452 180	3705 400

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the main district is delineated by a polygon, the vertices of which are marked by UTM reference points 1-7 above and on the accompanying USGS Map. A discontiguous parcel of about one acre is centered on reference point 8. A second discontiguous parcel of about 13 acres is delineated by a polygon, the vertices of which are marked by UTM references points 9-12 above and on the accompanying USGS Map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of the main district encompasses the significant resources associated with the Fort Stanton military post and subsequent hospital, including the buildings on or near the original parade ground, as well as housing and other support buildings of the sanatorium constructed at a somewhat greater distance. The boundary also includes the area north of the fort that was occupied by a World War II internment camp. Two discontiguous cemeteries associated with the fort and sanatorium respectively are included as integral to their respective facilities but geographically separated from the main district by undeveloped land.

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INFORMATION COMMON TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1 Fort Stanton Historic District
- 2. Lincoln, County, New Mexico
- New Mexico Office of Cultural Affairs Historic Preservation Division Santa Fe, New Mexico

INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. Parade Ground. Camera facing northeast.
- 7. Photo #1
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. Parade Ground. Camera facing north.
- 7. Photo #2
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. Parade Ground. Camera facing southeast.
- 7. Photo #3
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. South and east facades. Camera facing northwest.
- 7. Photo #4
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. South and west facades. Camera facing northeast.
- 7. Photo #5

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- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. West facade. Camera facing east.
- 7. Photo #6
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. South and east facades. Camera facing northwest.
- 7. Photo #7
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. West facade. Camera facing east.
- 7. Photo #8
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. South and west facades (rear). Camera facing northeast.
- 7. Photo #9
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. West facade. Camera facing east.
- 7. Photo #10
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. South facade. Camera facing north.
- 7. Photo #11
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. North and east facades. Camera facing southwest.
- 7. Photo #12

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- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. North facade. Camera facing south.
- 7. Photo #13
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. South and east facades. Camera facing northwest.
- 7. Photo #14
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing northeast.
- 7. Photo #15
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing northwest.
- 7. Photo #16
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. Camera facing east.
- 7. Photo #17
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. East facade. Camera facing west.
- 7. Photo #18
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. East (main) facade. Camera facing northwest.
- 7. Photo #19

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- 3. Mary Ann Anders
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. South facade. Camera facing north.
- 7. Photo #20
- 3. Mary Ann Anders
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. South and east facades. Camera facing northwest.
- 7. Photo #21
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing northwest.
- 7. Photo #22
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. East facade. Camera facing west.
- 7. Photo #23
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. South and west facades. Camera facing north.
- 7. Photo #24
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing south.
- 7. Photo #25
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. South and west facades. Camera facing northeast.
- 7. Photo #26

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- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing northeast.
- 7. Photo #27
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. West and south facades. Camera facing northeast.
- 7. Photo #28
- 3. Mary Ann Anders
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Detail, south facade. Camera facing north.
- 7. Photo #29
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. West facade. Camera facing east.
- 7. Photo #30
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. West facade. Camera facing southwest.
- 7. Photo #31
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. South facade. Camera facing north.
- 7. Photo #32
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing west.
- 7. Photo #33

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Fort Stanton Historic District

Name of Property

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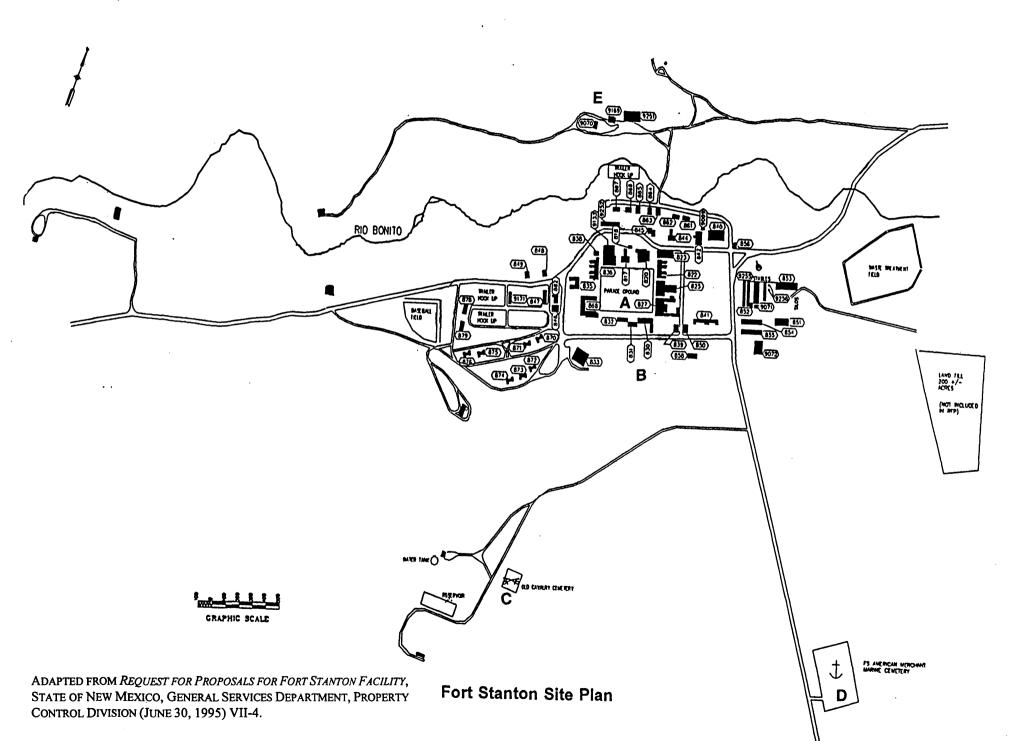
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. Camera facing east.
- 7. Photo #34
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 9 November 1995
- 6. Camera facing east.
- 7. Photo #35
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing west.
- 7. Photo #36
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing west.
- 7. Photo #37
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing west.
- 7. Photo #38
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing west.
- 7. Photo #41
- 3. Corinne P. Sze
- 4. 25 March 1996
- 6. Camera facing west.
- 7. Photo #41

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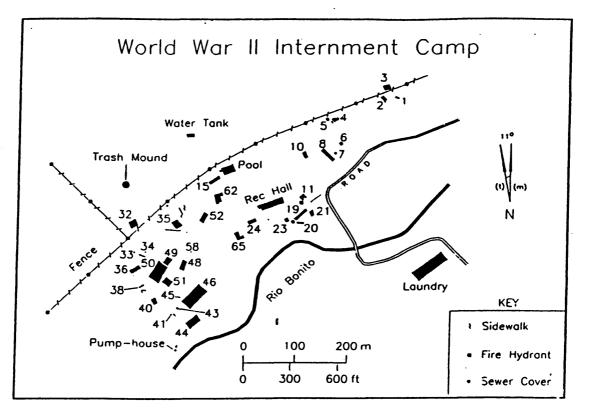
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MAP 2



Key to Structures/Structural Remains

Extant Structures

- 11 Small adobe structure
- 24 Garage (possible canteen and bowling alley)
- 65 Private residence

Structural Remains: cement foundations

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 19, 20, 21, 23, 32, 35, 36, 38, 40, 43, 44, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 62

Circular Stone Foundations

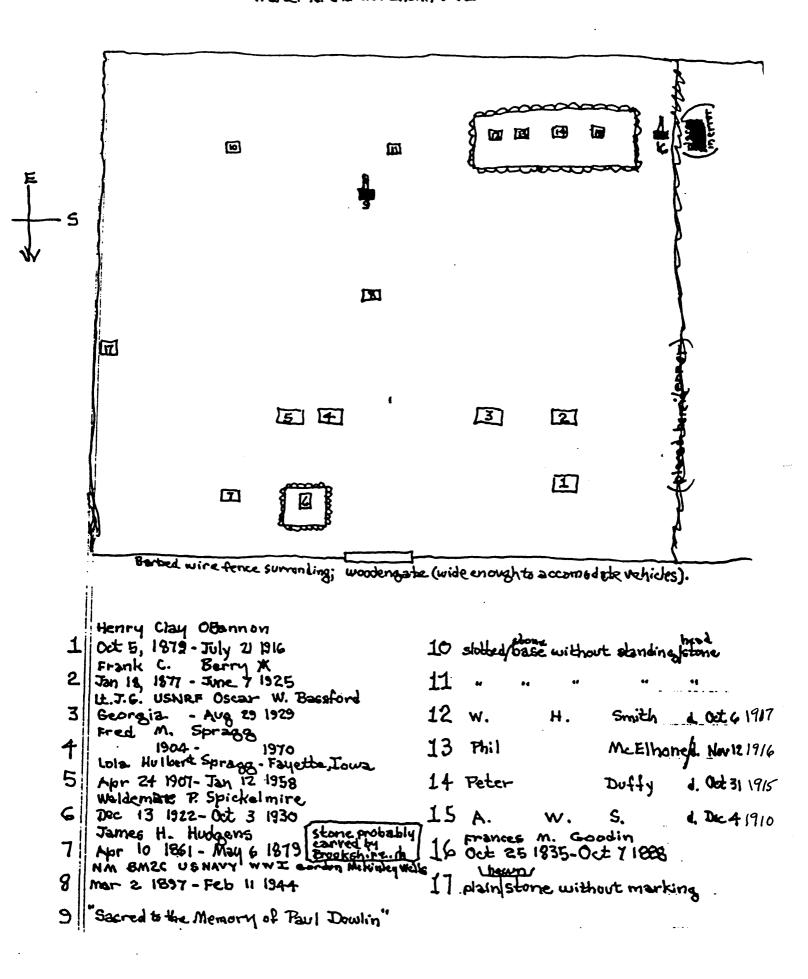
7, 41

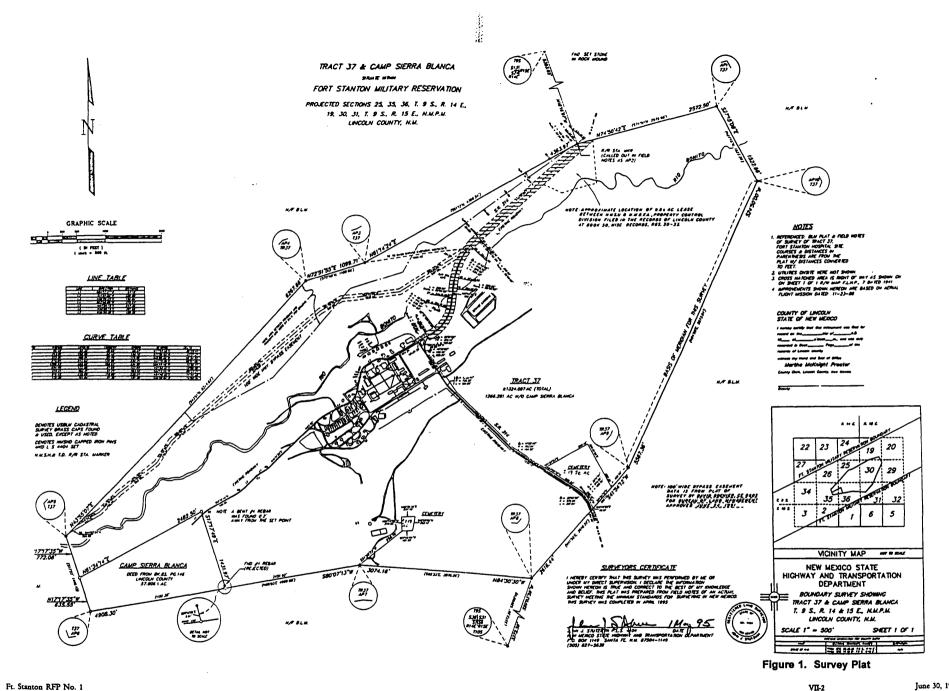
<u>Water Fountain</u>

33, 34

ADAPTED FROM WILLIAM E. ANDERSON, JR., "FORT STANTON ENEMY ALIEN INTERNMENT CAMP," DRAFT, NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM (OCTOBER 13, 1993) 85.

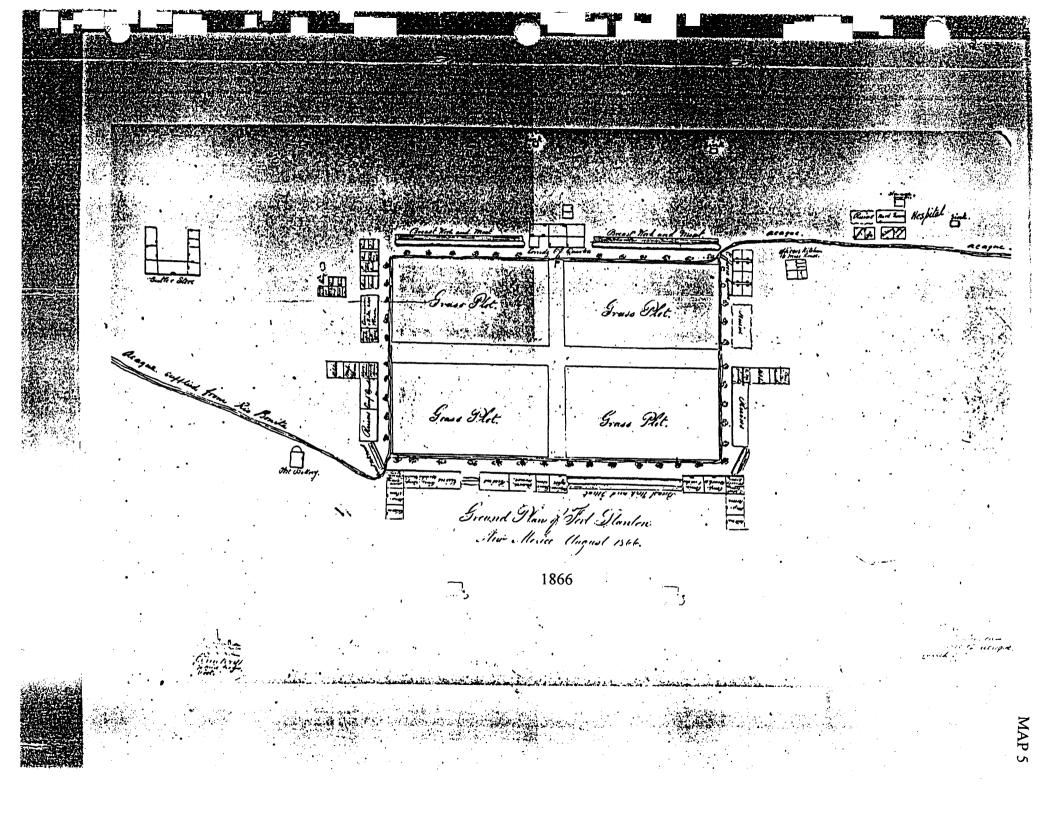
INVENTORY OF GRAVESTONES IN OLD MILITARY CEMETARY AT PORT STANTON Walter R. and Norzhenn Oct \$ 1987



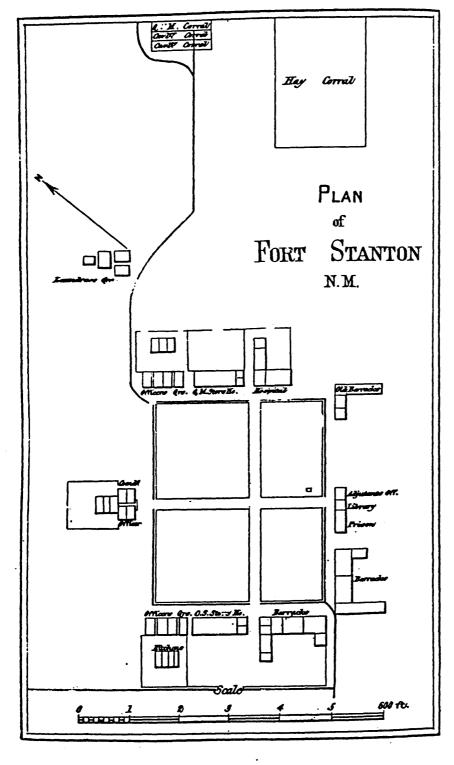


Ft. Stanton RFP No. 1

June 30, 1995

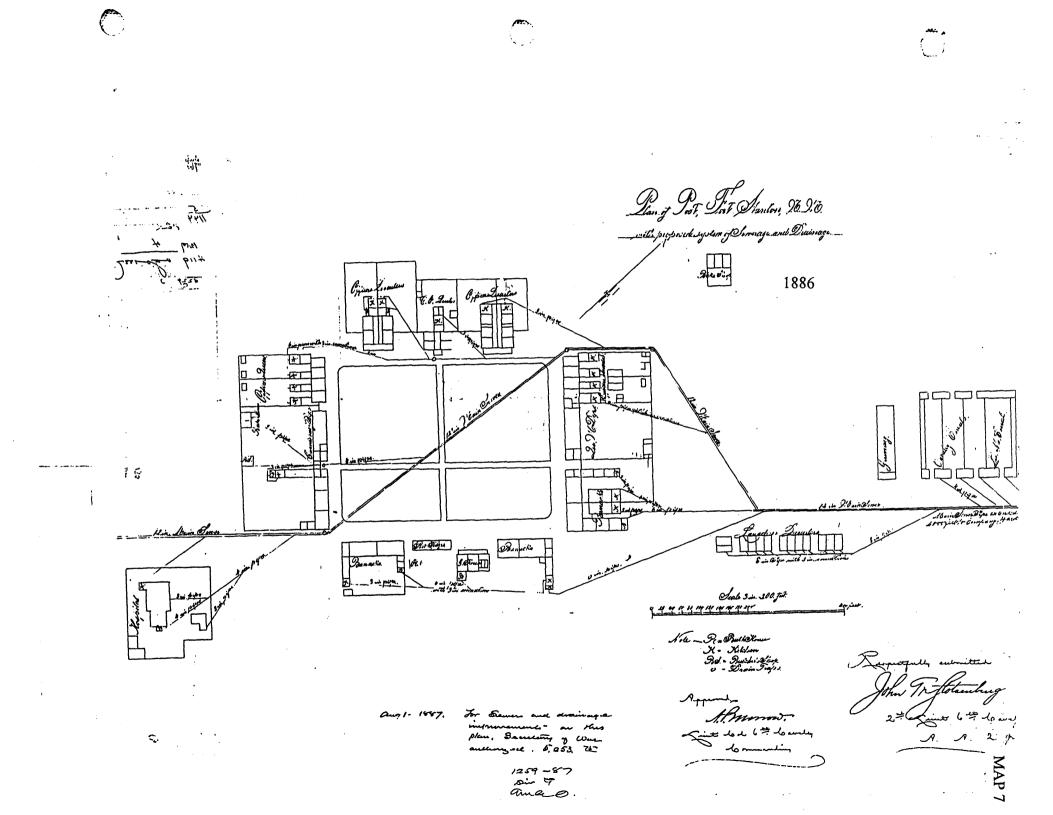


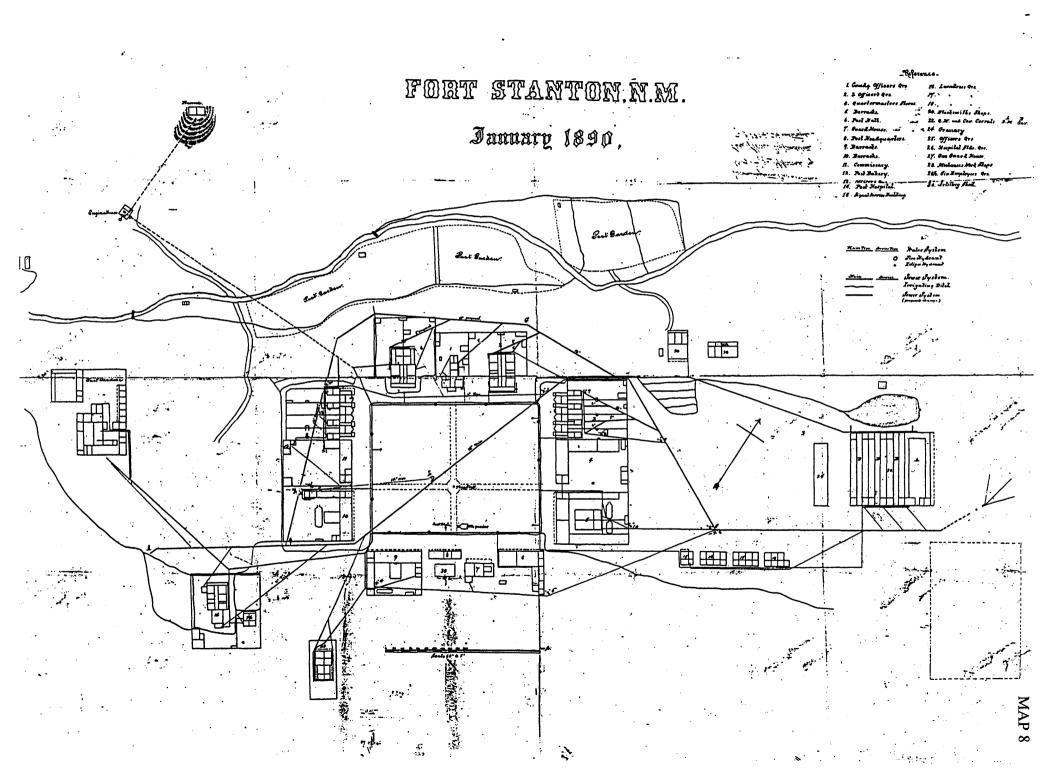
153

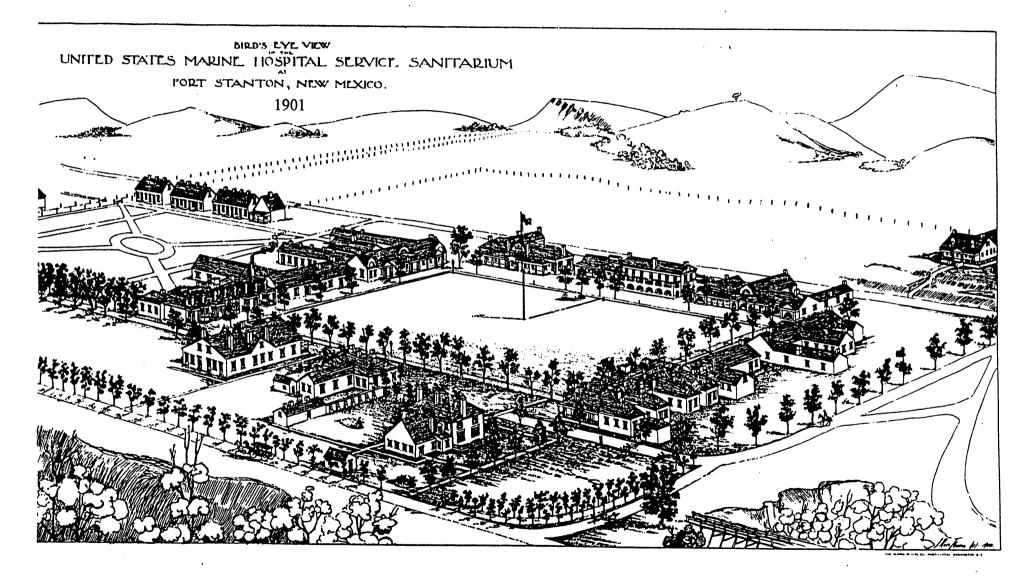


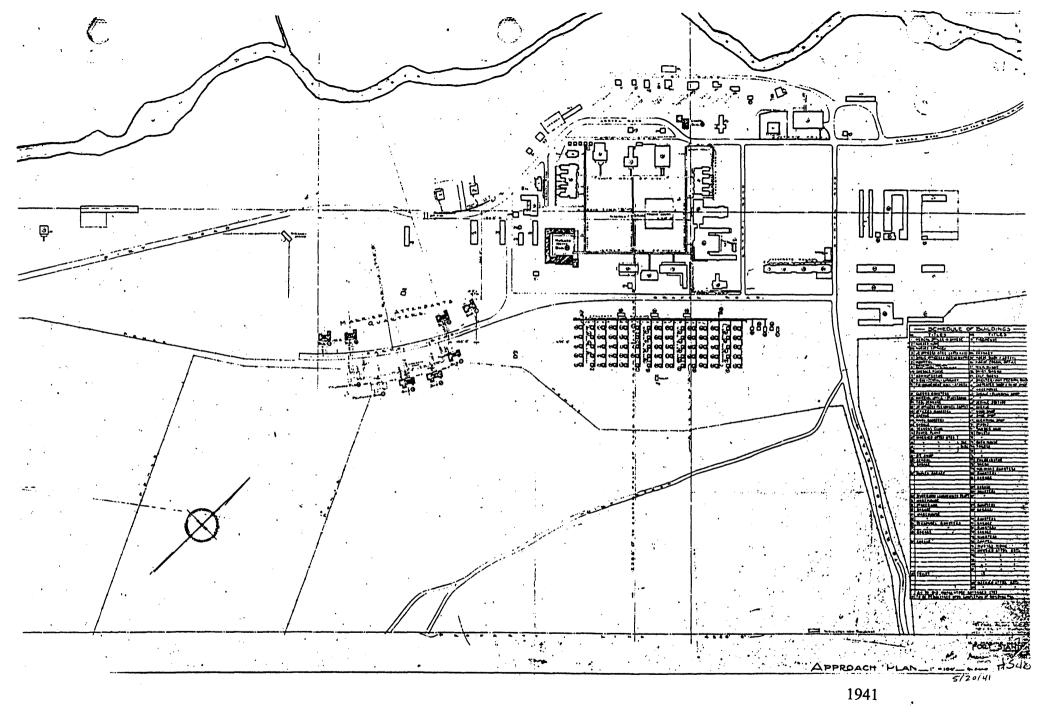
1876 [·]

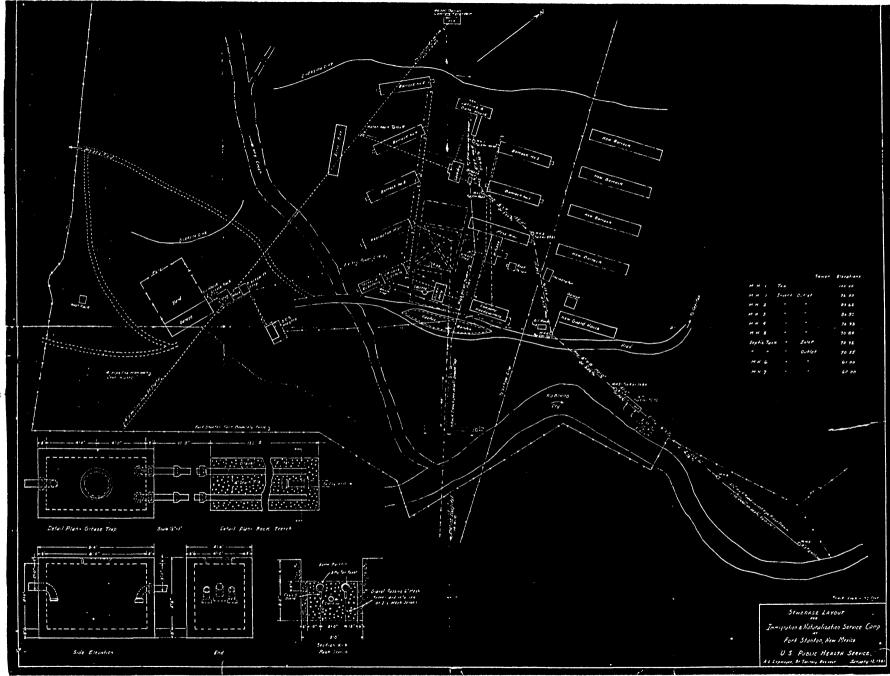
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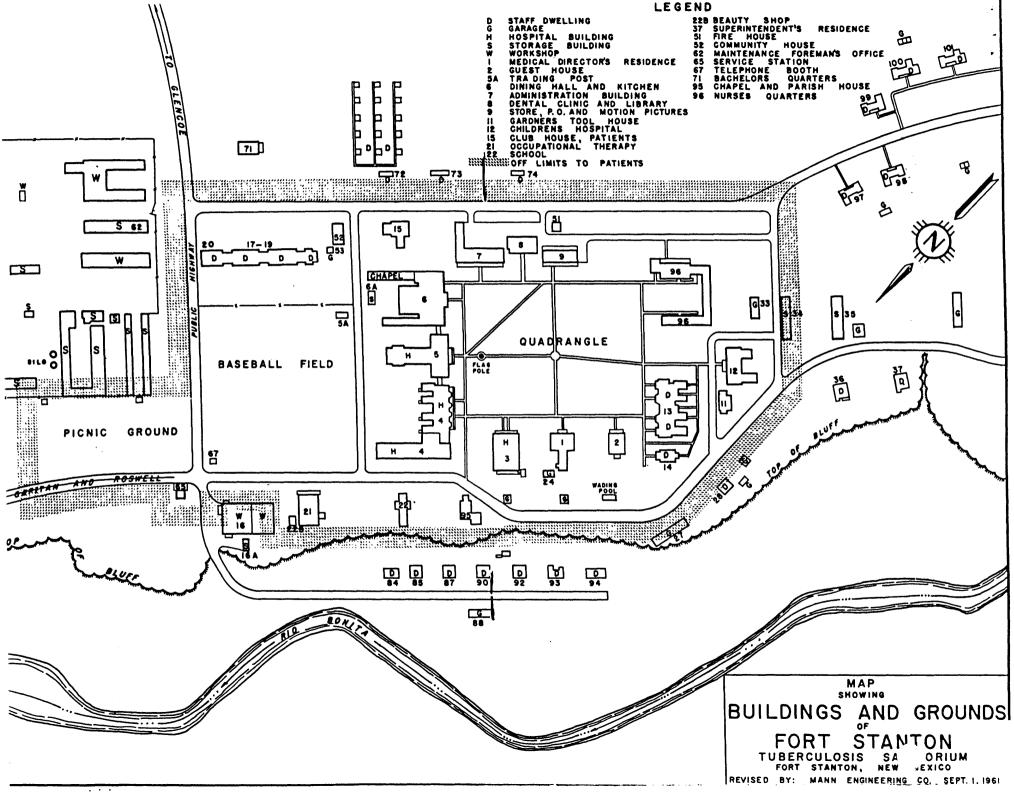




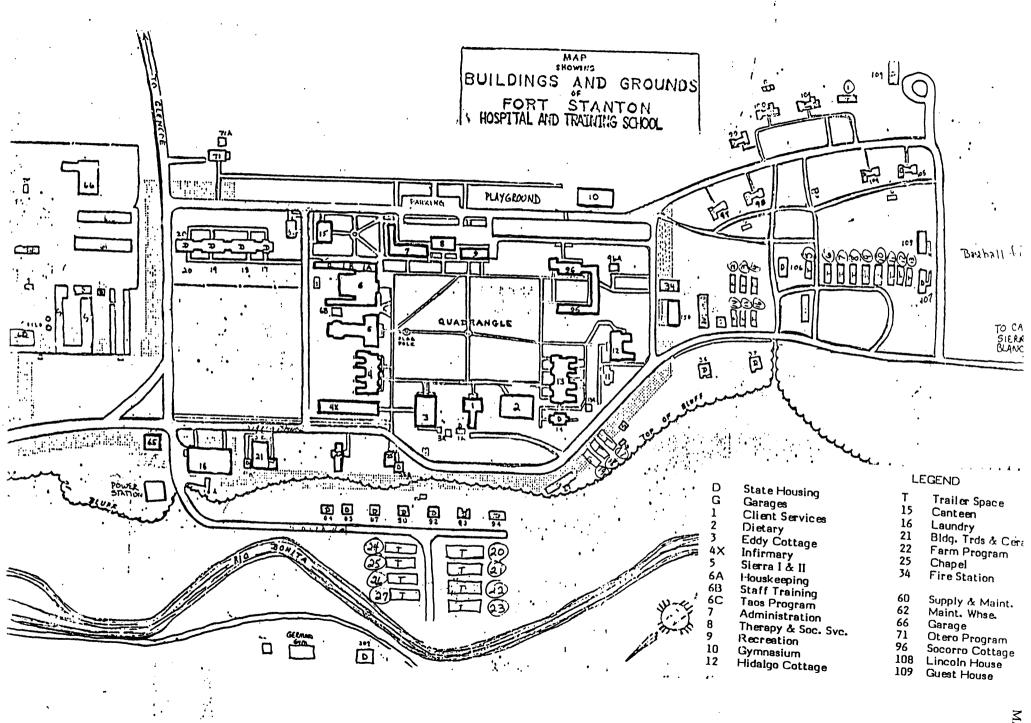
.

1941

MAP 11



MAP 12



MAP 13