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Buildings/Quarters

MILITARY-RELATED BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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GENERAL SOURCES

Denfeld, D. Colt. "How World War II Bases Were Built Fast--and Good!" Periodical (Apr 1991):
pp. 24-31. Per.
The 700-series of designed mobilization buildings.

Mallory, Keith, & Ottar, Arvid. The Architecture of War. NY: Pantheon, 1973. 308 p. UG460.M38.
Photos & maps of selected building types, fortifications and other military-related
construction in the 20th century.

U.S. Dept of Army. Office of the Chief of Engineers. Permanent Buildings. Folio No 1, 1 June 1949.
ca. 225 sheets. UG460.F64.1949.no1oversize.
Blueprints and outline specifications of more than 100 buildings.

See also:

-Bibliographies on Barracks & Family Housing in Buildings/Quarters.

CANVAS BUILDINGS, 1850s

Clary, David A., ed. "I am Already Quite a Texan': Albert J. Myer's Letter from Texas, 1854-56." Southwestern Historical Quarterly No. 82, pp. 25-76. Per.

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. Mexican War Correspondence. House Exec Doc No 60, 30th Congress, 1st session, 28 Apr 1848. Wash, DC: GPO, 1848. E404.U59.
See Zachary Taylor's letter of 7 Nov 1845, pp. 111-12.

QUONSET HUTS

Modeled on the World War I British Nissen Hut, an easily constructed, half-cylinder structure of corrugated sheet metal, the Quonset Hut was first built by the US Navy in 1941 at Quonset Point, RI. By 1943, production of the prefabricated buildings had been turned over to the Stran-Steel Division of the Great Lakes Steel Corporation. No pertinent US Army technical manuals are on file here nor have any been identified in publication indexes. See:

Pearson, Charles T. "Quonsets for Airports." Flying (Mar 1946): pp. 49 & 100. Per.

Polmar, Norman, & Allen, Thomas B. World War II: America at War. NY: Random, 1991.
pp. 583 & 669. D743.5.P65.

Schroder, Walter K. Defenses of Narragansett Bay in World War II. Providence, RI: RI Bicentennial Foundation, 1980. pp. 92-93. VA70.N4.T6.

Taylor, A. Marjorie, compiler. The Language of World War II. NY: Wilson, 1948. pp. 162-63.
D740.L36.

U.S. Bureau of Yards and Docks. Building the Navy's Bases in World War II. Vol. 1. Wash, DC: GPO, 1947. pp. 160-61. D795U6A48v.1.
See also Vol. II, index.

Williford, Glen M. "Temporary Housing for New Alaskan Bases." Coast Defense Journal (Aug 2006): pp. 23-30. Per.

Young, T. Luke. "The Unassuming Quonset: Survival of Semi-Circular Significance." Periodical (Spring/Summer 1998): pp. 90-99. Per.

Mallory & Ottar, The Architecture of War, cited above, pp. 78-79. UG460.M38.
Photos and instructions and index.

NOTE-Guest Houses

No comprehensive history of the subject was found, but various superseded regulations suggest that such facilities first appeared by that name during WWII. According to Paragraph 1 of Army Regulation 840-80 governing service clubs, issued in 1942, the guest house--"if there is one"--was defined as a service club facility. This regulation outlined permissible services and operations of the guest house (Para 11). Effective 1 July 1944, guest houses were included in the authorized activities of the Army Exchanges (AR 210-65, 1 Jun 1944, Para 10). Presumably, guest houses existed under both service clubs and post exchanges.

One noteworthy point in this regulation is that guest houses were designed "to furnish overnight transient accommodations for immediate families, relatives and friends of enlisted men." [underlining added]. Although later regulations expanded the admission slightly (to allow officers' families and friends accommodation in those guest houses located at general hospitals) preference during peak periods went to the guests of enlisted personnel (AR 210-70, Change 1, 24 Aug 1944).

After the war, in 1950, guests of military personnel, both officer and enlisted, were authorized equal accommodations, but still the preference for guests of enlisted personnel remained (Special Regulations 60-10-1, 12 May 1950, Para 3). However, the enlisted preference disappeared by the end of the 1950s. A decade later, the guest house had its own regulation (AR 210-2), which expanded the categories of authorized occupants but carefully prioritized them. The evolution of guest houses, 1942-73, can be traced in these regulations:

U.S. Dept of Army. Exchange Service: Authorized Patrons, Activities, and Sales: SR 60-10-1, dated Oct 1949, Para 4. MilPub-SR.

And editions of 12 May 1950, Para 3a & 29 Jul 1954, Para 7a.

_____. Exchange Service; General Policies: AR 60-10, dated Apr 1957, Para 1a & d. MilPub-AR.
And May 1950 edition, Para 10.

_____. Guest Houses: AR 210-2, dated Sep 1973, p 1-1. MilPub-AR.

U.S. War Dept. Army Exchanges: AR 210-65, dated Jun 1944, Para 10. MilPub-AR.

_____. Service Clubs, Hostesses, and Librarians: AR 850-80, dated Jun 1942, Para 1 & 11.
MilPub-AR.

And 26 Aug 1942 edition, Paras 1 & 11.

_____. Service Clubs and Libraries: AR 210-70, dated Jun 1944, Paras 1 & 11. MilPub-AR.
And Change 1, 1944 of May 1945 edition, Paras 1 & 11.

VARIOUS SPECIFIC BUILDINGS:

Allen, Marie B. "'The Greatest Monstrosity in America': A Brief History of the Old Executive Office Building." Prologue (Winter 1985): pp. 247-58. Per.
See progress reports in the Annual Report of the Secretary of War (U24A1).

Bell, William G. Quarters one: The United States Army Chief of Staff's Residence, Fort Myer, Virginia. Wash, DC: CMH, 1991. 36 p. UA26.M93.B44.

DeMena, Dolores. Residents of Quarters One, Panama Canal: The Story of the Army Component Commanders' Residence and Those Who Lived Therein. Fort Clayton, Panama: USARSO History Office, 1998 update of 1996 edition. 163 p. UA26.P35.D4.

Everly, Elaine C., & Wehmann, Howard H. "The War Office Fire of 1800." Prologue (Spring 1999): pp. 22-35. Per.

See also:

-Bibliography on the Pentagon in Forts/Posts/Installations.