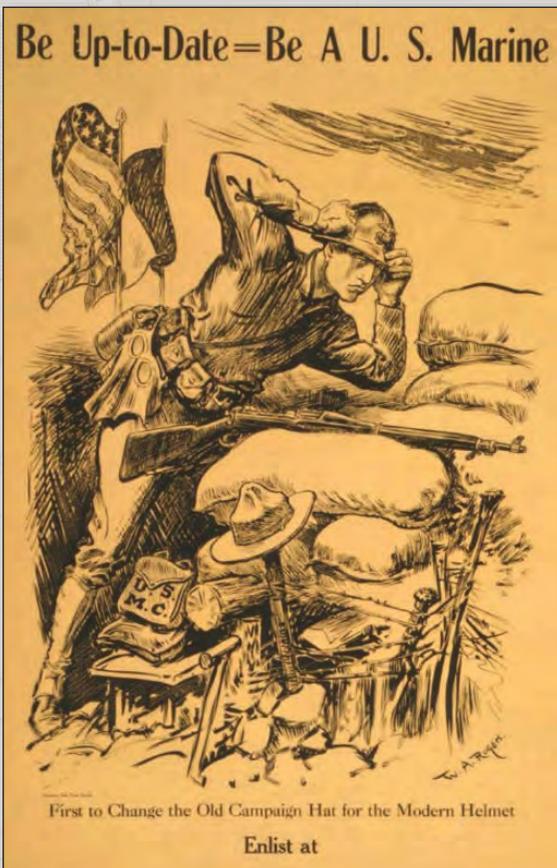


## 1915 - 1921

“Come on you sons of bitches! Do you want to live forever?”  
- Gunnery Sergeant Dan Daly

### CHAPTER | TWO PREPARING FOR WAR



By 1914, the world was in crisis. War had broken out in Europe, and closer to home, Marines saw action at Vera Cruz and Haiti. As a response to the impending peril, in October 1915, Parris Island's naval facilities were turned over to the Marine Corps for recruit training. The installation was officially designated "Marine Barracks, Port Royal, SC."

With the passing of the National Defense Act in 1916, recruiting efforts were amplified. Included in this act was the creation of the Marine Corps Reserve. The depot quickly grew to meet the challenges of an expanding role in preparing the nation for war. After 1915, most recruits received training at Parris Island or Mare Island, California. During World War I, about 80% of all recruits trained at Parris Island. West coast training was expanded in 1923 by moving Mare Island's operations to San Diego.

The course of instruction at Parris Island lasted eight weeks. The first three weeks were devoted to instruction and practice of close order drill, physical exercise, swimming, bayonet fighting, personal combat, wall scaling, and rope climbing. During the fourth and fifth weeks, recruits perfected their drills, learned boxing and wrestling, and were taught interior guard duties. The last three weeks were dedicated to marksmanship.

Parris Island also hosted a variety of other skill-based schools including noncommissioned officer, field music, radio, signal, clerical, pay, and cooks' and bakers' schools. On 1 July 1918, a Presidential proclamation ordered possession to be taken of the entire island not already owned by the United States Government, comprising 6,000 total acres.





Prior to 1928, boats were the only method used to transport the increasing number of new recruits to Parris Island. (pictured here)

Recruiting standards required all applicants to be unmarried, English educated, male citizens, with no dependents and of good health, strong constitution and 'sound as to senses and limbs.'

All new arriving recruits were processed by marching through the post, to the quarantine station for evaluation before finally taking the oath of enlistment.



## MARINE BARRACKS - PARIS ISLAND

**1915**

October 1915, Parris Island's naval facilities are turned over to the Marine Corps and a recruit training depot was re-established.

**1915**

Recruits begin training with the Springfield '03 rifle



**1917**

22 June, the post is renamed "Marine Barracks, Paris Island" using a single "r."



Recruiting station circa 1918



Oath of enlistment circa 1918



Pistol qualification circa 1918

**1917**

6 April, the U. S. declares war on Germany. Paris Island has 835 recruits in training.



**1918**

11 November, World War I ends. By the war's end 46,202 recruits are transformed into new Marines on Paris Island.



**1919**

3 May, the official spelling is changed to "Marine Barracks, Parris Island," to match the island's namesake, Alexander Parris.



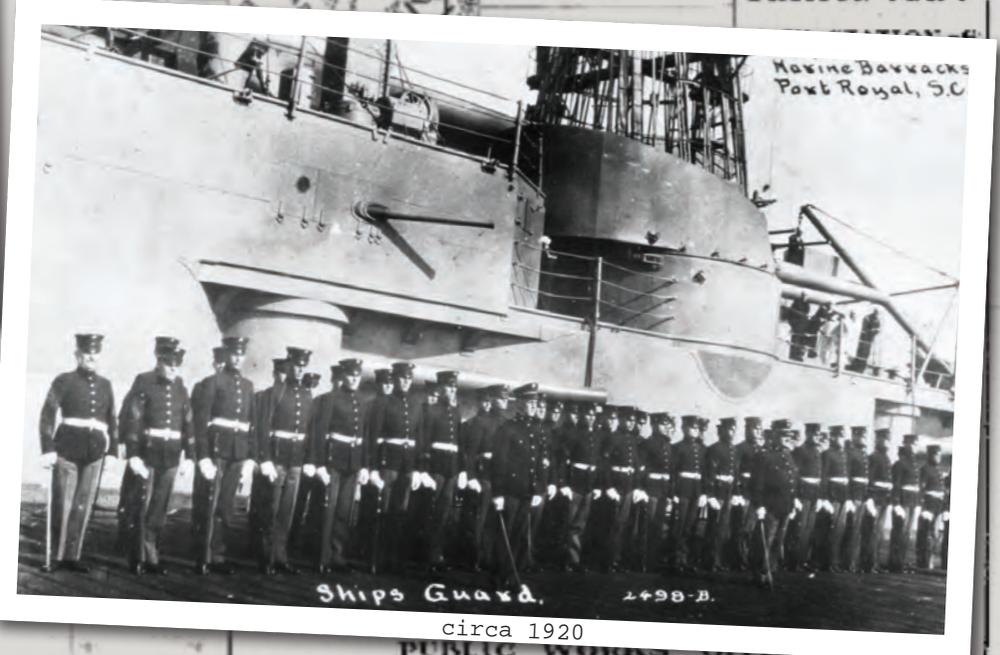
Tent City 1918



Living emblem 1920



Rope climbing 1918



Ships Guard. 1918-B.

circa 1920



Recruits practice slow fire at 600 yards with sand-bag rests. Notice the Eagle, Globe and Anchor on the instructor's unusual headgear. Rifle Range, circa 1918.



Marines playing baseball during recreational time, circa 1920.



# Parris Island Plans

On 28 October 1915, the Navy officially transferred the land and buildings of then existing Port Royal Naval Station to the Marine Corps, thus establishing Headquarters Detachment, Marine Barracks, Port Royal. Training of Marine recruits became the principal mission and an expansion of the installation became necessary.

With a heavy influx of recruits, the volume of recruit mail also increased. Marine Corps Order No. 27, dated 22 June 1917, reads "At the request of the Postmaster General and in order to avoid delay in the delivery of mail, it is directed that the official designation of the Marine Corps post at Port Royal, S. C., be changed from Marine Barracks, "Port Royal," S. C., to Marine Barracks, "Paris Island," S. C. Mail intended for this post will be addressed accordingly." The spelling of "Paris" with one "r" was the official version until the spelling with two "r's" was directed by Marine Corps Order No. 32, dated 3 May 1919.

Before the war, Parris Island consisted of 78 acres, of which 58 acres were firm ground and the remainder was made up of marsh wetlands. On 7 August 1918, a Presidential proclamation ordered possession to be taken of the entire island not already owned by the United States. After the war, the settlement of claims for reimbursement took many years to complete.

The following official description of the island is quoted from the Presidential proclamation: "All that certain tract of land, situate, lying and being in Beaufort County, State of South Carolina, known as "Parris Island or Paris Island," being all that tract of land shown on U.S.C. and G. S. chart no. 571, lying south of Archer's Creek as said creek is shown on said chart, and being bounded on the east by waters of the Beaufort River and on the south and west by waters of Port Royal Sound and Broad River, containing in all 6,000 acres, more or less, of fast land and marsh land..."

In 1917, the Bureau of Yards and Docks described the 6,000 acres as consisting of "3,000 acres high and 3,000 acres marsh." On 21 April 1917, the Bureau of Yards and Docks awarded a contract for the construction of 233 temporary buildings, providing accommodations for 2,000 men. By the end of 1918, an additional 288 buildings were constructed, providing quarters for 4,100 men, officers' quarters, piers, and additional necessary structures to support recruit training.



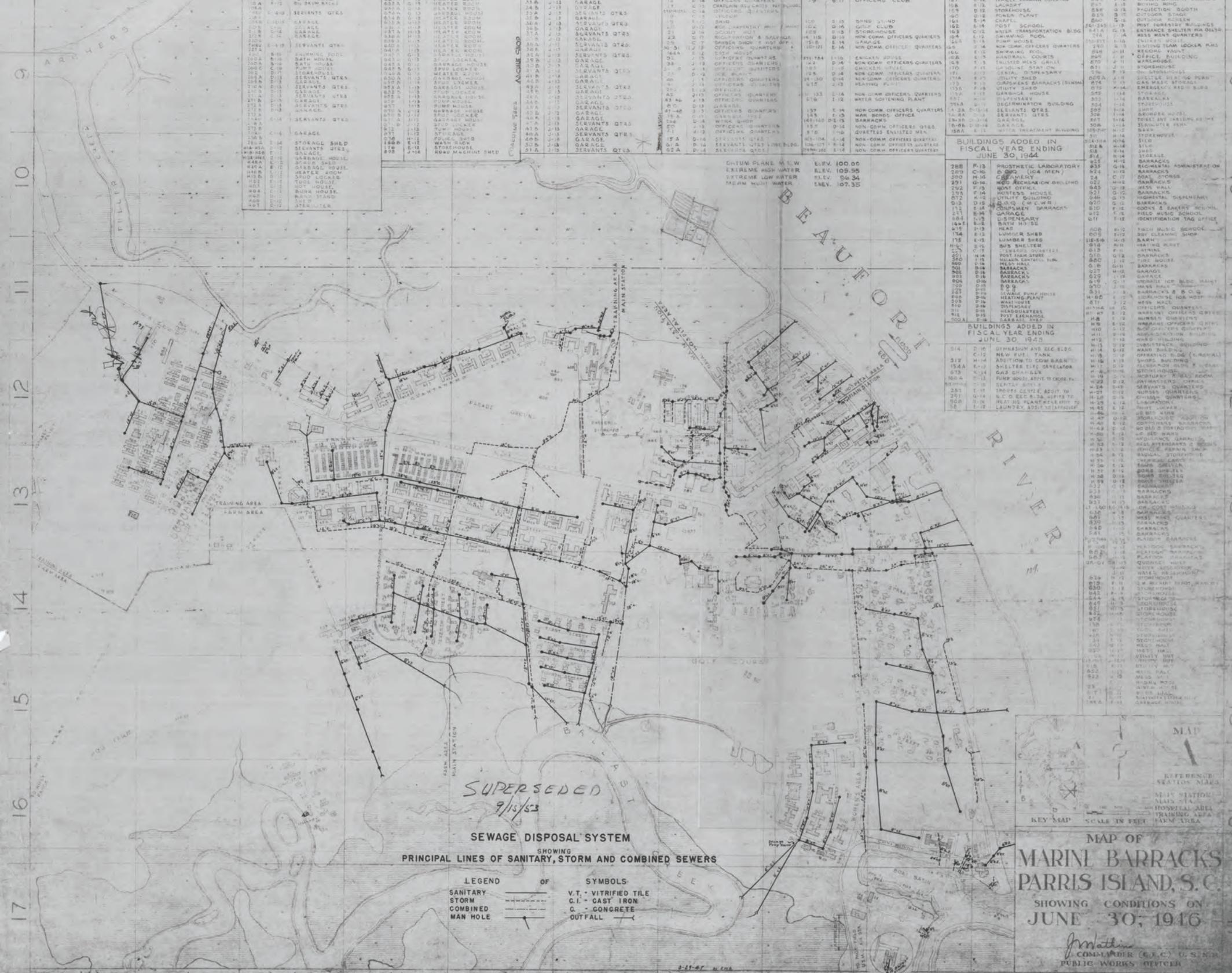
Dry Dock Workers, circa 1910.



Building Number 10, circa 1915.

Due to the high salt content of the surrounding bodies of water, Beaufort and Broad rivers, having a fresh supply of drinking water readily available posed quite an extensive logistical problem. (map pictured right) The salt water wells were reserved for washing stations and bathing, where the fresh drinking water had to be regularly shipped in by boat. Shortly after, a submerged pipe line between Parris Island and Port Royal Island, near the northern boundary, was laid in order to provide a continued source of fresh drinking water.

Additional support services began to develop aboard the island, primarily from the YMCA and the Knights of Columbus. The YMCA opened its first hut on Parris Island on 10 July 1917, and provided recruits and permanent personnel with a religious, educational, entertainment, athletics, and a locally published newsletter called "The Marine." The Knights of Columbus opened a year later, offering stationery, books, magazines, newspapers, staged shows, phonographs and exhibited movies and candy for recreation. Training areas were continually developing and changing. By 1924, Parris Island had several rifle ranges, physical training courses, a brig and fully functioning air field.



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16  
17

35A	0-10	GAZELLE	35A	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35B	0-10	GAZELLE	35B	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35C	0-10	GAZELLE	35C	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35D	0-10	GAZELLE	35D	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35E	0-10	GAZELLE	35E	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35F	0-10	GAZELLE	35F	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35G	0-10	GAZELLE	35G	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35H	0-10	GAZELLE	35H	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35I	0-10	GAZELLE	35I	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35J	0-10	GAZELLE	35J	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35K	0-10	GAZELLE	35K	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35L	0-10	GAZELLE	35L	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35M	0-10	GAZELLE	35M	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35N	0-10	GAZELLE	35N	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35O	0-10	GAZELLE	35O	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35P	0-10	GAZELLE	35P	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35Q	0-10	GAZELLE	35Q	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35R	0-10	GAZELLE	35R	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35S	0-10	GAZELLE	35S	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35T	0-10	GAZELLE	35T	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35U	0-10	GAZELLE	35U	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35V	0-10	GAZELLE	35V	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35W	0-10	GAZELLE	35W	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35X	0-10	GAZELLE	35X	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35Y	0-10	GAZELLE	35Y	0-10	HEATED ROOM
35Z	0-10	GAZELLE	35Z	0-10	HEATED ROOM

36A	0-10	GAZELLE	36A	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36B	0-10	GAZELLE	36B	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36C	0-10	GAZELLE	36C	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36D	0-10	GAZELLE	36D	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36E	0-10	GAZELLE	36E	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36F	0-10	GAZELLE	36F	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36G	0-10	GAZELLE	36G	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36H	0-10	GAZELLE	36H	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36I	0-10	GAZELLE	36I	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36J	0-10	GAZELLE	36J	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36K	0-10	GAZELLE	36K	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36L	0-10	GAZELLE	36L	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36M	0-10	GAZELLE	36M	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36N	0-10	GAZELLE	36N	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36O	0-10	GAZELLE	36O	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36P	0-10	GAZELLE	36P	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36Q	0-10	GAZELLE	36Q	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36R	0-10	GAZELLE	36R	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36S	0-10	GAZELLE	36S	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36T	0-10	GAZELLE	36T	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36U	0-10	GAZELLE	36U	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36V	0-10	GAZELLE	36V	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36W	0-10	GAZELLE	36W	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36X	0-10	GAZELLE	36X	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36Y	0-10	GAZELLE	36Y	0-10	HEATED ROOM
36Z	0-10	GAZELLE	36Z	0-10	HEATED ROOM

37A	0-10	GAZELLE	37A	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37B	0-10	GAZELLE	37B	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37C	0-10	GAZELLE	37C	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37D	0-10	GAZELLE	37D	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37E	0-10	GAZELLE	37E	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37F	0-10	GAZELLE	37F	0-10	HEATED ROOM
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37I	0-10	GAZELLE	37I	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37J	0-10	GAZELLE	37J	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37K	0-10	GAZELLE	37K	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37L	0-10	GAZELLE	37L	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37M	0-10	GAZELLE	37M	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37N	0-10	GAZELLE	37N	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37O	0-10	GAZELLE	37O	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37P	0-10	GAZELLE	37P	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37Q	0-10	GAZELLE	37Q	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37R	0-10	GAZELLE	37R	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37S	0-10	GAZELLE	37S	0-10	HEATED ROOM
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37Y	0-10	GAZELLE	37Y	0-10	HEATED ROOM
37Z	0-10	GAZELLE	37Z	0-10	HEATED ROOM

38A	0-10	GAZELLE	38A	0-10	HEATED ROOM
38B	0-10	GAZELLE	38B	0-10	HEATED ROOM
38C	0-10	GAZELLE	38C	0-10	HEATED ROOM
38D	0-10	GAZELLE	38D	0-10	HEATED ROOM
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38W	0-10	GAZELLE	38W	0-10	HEATED ROOM
38X	0-10	GAZELLE	38X	0-10	HEATED ROOM
38Y	0-10	GAZELLE	38Y	0-10	HEATED ROOM
38Z	0-10	GAZELLE	38Z	0-10	HEATED ROOM

**SUPERSEDED**  
9/15/53

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM**  
SHOWING  
PRINCIPAL LINES OF SANITARY, STORM AND COMBINED SEWERS

LEGEND		OF		SYMBOLS	
SANITARY	—	V.T.	—	VITRIFIED TILE	—
STORM	---	C.I.	—	CAST IRON	—
COMBINED	---	C.	—	CONCRETE	—
MAN HOLE	○		—	OUTFALL	—

**BUILDINGS ADDED IN FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1944**

288	F-13	PROSTHETIC LABORATORY	825	H-15	BARACKS
289	C-16	B. Q. (4A MEN)	824	H-16	BARACKS
290	H-16	CONCRETE	823	H-17	BARACKS
291	G-14	MOB. RECREATION BUILDING	822	H-18	BARACKS
292	F-14	POST OFFICE	821	H-19	BARACKS
293	F-14	POST OFFICE	820	H-20	BARACKS
294	F-14	POST OFFICE	819	H-21	BARACKS
295	F-14	POST OFFICE	818	H-22	BARACKS
296	F-14	POST OFFICE	817	H-23	BARACKS
297	F-14	POST OFFICE	816	H-24	BARACKS
298	F-14	POST OFFICE	815	H-25	BARACKS
299	F-14	POST OFFICE	814	H-26	BARACKS
300	F-14	POST OFFICE	813	H-27	BARACKS
301	F-14	POST OFFICE	812	H-28	BARACKS
302	F-14	POST OFFICE	811	H-29	BARACKS
303	F-14	POST OFFICE	810	H-30	BARACKS
304	F-14	POST OFFICE	809	H-31	BARACKS
305	F-14	POST OFFICE	808	H-32	BARACKS
306	F-14	POST OFFICE	807	H-33	BARACKS
307	F-14	POST OFFICE	806	H-34	BARACKS
308	F-14	POST OFFICE	805	H-35	BARACKS
309	F-14	POST OFFICE	804	H-36	BARACKS
310	F-14	POST OFFICE	803	H-37	BARACKS
311	F-14	POST OFFICE	802	H-38	BARACKS
312	F-14	POST OFFICE	801	H-39	BARACKS
313	F-14	POST OFFICE	800	H-40	BARACKS
314	F-14	POST OFFICE	799	H-41	BARACKS
315	F-14	POST OFFICE	798	H-42	BARACKS
316	F-14	POST OFFICE	797	H-43	BARACKS
317	F-14	POST OFFICE	796	H-44	BARACKS
318	F-14	POST OFFICE	795	H-45	BARACKS
319	F-14	POST OFFICE	794	H-46	BARACKS
320	F-14	POST OFFICE	793	H-47	BARACKS
321	F-14	POST OFFICE	792	H-48	BARACKS
322	F-14	POST OFFICE	791	H-49	BARACKS
323	F-14	POST OFFICE	790	H-50	BARACKS
324	F-14	POST OFFICE	789	H-51	BARACKS
325	F-14	POST OFFICE	788	H-52	BARACKS
326	F-14	POST OFFICE	787	H-53	BARACKS
327	F-14	POST OFFICE	786	H-54	BARACKS
328	F-14	POST OFFICE	785	H-55	BARACKS
329	F-14	POST OFFICE	784	H-56	BARACKS
330	F-14	POST OFFICE	783	H-57	BARACKS
331	F-14	POST OFFICE	782	H-58	BARACKS
332	F-14	POST OFFICE	781	H-59	BARACKS
333	F-14	POST OFFICE	780	H-60	BARACKS
334	F-14	POST OFFICE	779	H-61	BARACKS
335	F-14	POST OFFICE	778	H-62	BARACKS
336	F-14	POST OFFICE	777	H-63	BARACKS
337	F-14	POST OFFICE	776	H-64	BARACKS
338	F-14	POST OFFICE	775	H-65	BARACKS
339	F-14	POST OFFICE	774	H-66	BARACKS
340	F-14	POST OFFICE	773	H-67	BARACKS
341	F-14	POST OFFICE	772	H-68	BARACKS
342	F-14	POST OFFICE	771	H-69	BARACKS
343	F-14	POST OFFICE	770	H-70	BARACKS
344	F-14	POST OFFICE	769	H-71	BARACKS
345	F-14	POST OFFICE	768	H-72	BARACKS
346	F-14	POST OFFICE	767	H-73	BARACKS
347	F-14	POST OFFICE	766	H-74	BARACKS
348	F-14	POST OFFICE	765	H-75	BARACKS
349	F-14	POST OFFICE	764	H-76	BARACKS
350	F-14	POST OFFICE	763	H-77	BARACKS
351	F-14	POST OFFICE	762	H-78	BARACKS
352	F-14	POST OFFICE	761	H-79	BARACKS
353	F-14	POST OFFICE	760	H-80	BARACKS
354	F-14	POST OFFICE	759	H-81	BARACKS
355	F-14	POST OFFICE	758	H-82	BARACKS
356	F-14	POST OFFICE	757	H-83	BARACKS
357	F-14	POST OFFICE	756	H-84	BARACKS
358	F-14	POST OFFICE	755	H-85	BARACKS
359	F-14	POST OFFICE	754	H-86	BARACKS
360	F-14	POST OFFICE	753	H-87	BARACKS
361	F-14	POST OFFICE	752	H-88	BARACKS
362	F-14	POST OFFICE	751	H-89	BARACKS
363	F-14	POST OFFICE	750	H-90	BARACKS
364	F-14	POST OFFICE	749	H-91	BARACKS
365	F-14	POST OFFICE	748	H-92	BARACKS
366	F-14	POST OFFICE	747	H-93	BARACKS
367	F-14	POST OFFICE	746	H-94	BARACKS
368	F-14	POST OFFICE	745	H-95	BARACKS
369	F-14	POST OFFICE	744	H-96	BARACKS
370	F-14	POST OFFICE	743	H-97	BARACKS
371	F-14	POST OFFICE	742	H-98	BARACKS
372	F-14	POST OFFICE	741	H-99	BARACKS
373	F-14	POST OFFICE	740	H-100	BARACKS

**BUILDINGS ADDED IN FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1945**

314	C-12	DISINFECTION AND SEC. BLDG.	825	H-15	BARACKS
315	C-12	NEW FUEL TANK	824	H-16	BARACKS
316	H-14	ADDITION TO COW BARN	823	H-17	BARACKS
317	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	822	H-18	BARACKS
318	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	821	H-19	BARACKS
319	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	820	H-20	BARACKS
320	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	819	H-21	BARACKS
321	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	818	H-22	BARACKS
322	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	817	H-23	BARACKS
323	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	816	H-24	BARACKS
324	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	815	H-25	BARACKS
325	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	814	H-26	BARACKS
326	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	813	H-27	BARACKS
327	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	812	H-28	BARACKS
328	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	811	H-29	BARACKS
329	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	810	H-30	BARACKS
330	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	809	H-31	BARACKS
331	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	808	H-32	BARACKS
332	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	807	H-33	BARACKS
333	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	806	H-34	BARACKS
334	H-14	SHILTER, CIV. SHELTER	805	H-3	