

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 an 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 Building 1071

other names/site number White House

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication

city or town Camp Shelby vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Forrest code 35 zip code 39407

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Kenneth H. P. Paul JUNE 27, 1997
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

| I hereby certify that the property is: | Signature of the Keeper | Date of Action |
|--|-------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet. | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet. | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register. | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register. | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Building 1071
Name of Property

Forrest, Mississippi
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | buildings |
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | | objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | Total |

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DEFENSE: military facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DEFENSE: military facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Ranch style
Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete piers
walls Weatherboard
Hardboard
roof Concrete tiles
other

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Period of Significance

1938-1945

Significant Dates

1938-1945

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown/Works Progress Administration

Narrative Statement 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:

Building 1071
Name of Property

Forrest, Mississippi
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | | | |
|------|---------|----------|---------|
| 1 | 16 | 288300 | 3453820 |
| Zone | Easting | Northing | |
| 2 | | | |

| | | | |
|------|---------|----------|--|
| 3 | | | |
| Zone | Easting | Northing | |
| 4 | | | |

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 Dottie Gibbens (revised by Jennifer Opager, MDAH)

organization U.S. Army Corps of Engineers date 1991 (revised 1996)

street & number 109 St. Joseph St./P.O. Box 2288 telephone 205-694-4114

city or town Mobile state AL zip code 36628-0001

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name Mississippi Military Department

street & number P.O. Box 5027 telephone 601-973-6232

city or town Jackson state MS zip code 39296-5027

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Narrative Description

Building 1071, called the "White House," is located at Camp Shelby, Forrest County, Mississippi and was built in 1938 as a Works Project Administration project to house offices and quarters for the camp commander and staff. It is still used today for administrative offices of the Mississippi National Guard and quarters for the Camp Commander and staff.

The original structure apparently consisted of two buildings at a 90 degree angle to each other. The smaller (western) building measured approximately 21 feet x 49 feet, was covered with a hipped roof, and had an entrance portico facing the street. This smaller building probably housed the offices. The larger (eastern) building measured approximately 77 feet x 33 feet, including a 10 foot wide veranda on its facade (south elevation). This building had an "A" roof and probably housed the quarters for the camp commander and staff. A later remodeling and/or addition on the east side created an unusual and incongruous multi-level roof structure combining several hips with a flat deck section, which was accessed through a door in a second level parapet wall. Another remodeling covered the 20-foot space between the buildings with a flat roof to create a garage. The veranda's east end apparently was enclosed at this time to create an office. The last extensive remodeling of the roof took place in 1989, removing the previous incompatible roof addition and consolidating the two buildings under a single unified hipped roof covered with concrete flat tiles. The original wooden clapboard exterior is now covered in hardboard siding. However, the double-hung windows, exterior doors, porch columns and railing reflect Colonial Revival detailing and appear original.

Currently the building displays many of the dominant features of the Ranch style, including the built-in garage, low-pitched hipped roof, asymmetrical rambling shape, wide eave overhang, and a modest use of traditional detailing, here expressed in the Colonial Revival style. The veranda and windows on the south and east sides have metal awnings. Windows are double-hung, six over six sashes, except for the bathroom windows which are double-hung, four over four sashes.

The original floor plan is unknown. The current floor plan provides two offices, a kitchen, a dining room, conference room, two bedrooms and two bathrooms in the original larger building. The post commander's quarters--consisting of a bedroom, living room, kitchen, and bathroom--is in the original smaller building and retains its separate outside entrance. The interior does not resemble its original appearance since all walls are covered with modern 4 foot x 8 foot sheets of wood veneer paneling or wall paper. In addition, the ceilings are covered with acoustical tiles,

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and fluorescent fixtures are predominately used for lighting. The floors are covered with carpet or sheet vinyl.

Outbuildings on the property include a detached wooden latrine of recent construction and a gazebo that was built in the early 1980s. The grounds are formally landscaped.

Through the years, the White House has undergone many changes and renovations. But while re-roofing, new siding, and awnings belie its historic architectural character, the building's overall integrity is still strong: its shape and location have remained fundamentally unchanged, its porch details are original, the setting is the same as in World War II, and the building continues to be used as the camp headquarters. Thus, the White House, although altered in some ways, is still very recognizable to those who may remember its World War II appearance. This continuity of place and form is important in establishing the White House's integrity as the best surviving structure from Camp Shelby's World War II era.

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Narrative Statement of Significance

Building 1071, the "White House", is significant under Criteria A on the local and state levels, for its historic associations with the important role Camp Shelby played in the training and mobilization of United States armed forces during World War II. Camp Shelby was established in 1917 and named for Isaac Shelby, a Revolutionary War hero and first governor of Kentucky. The post was demobilized following World War I. The State of Mississippi acquired Camp Shelby in 1934 for use by the National Guard as a summer camp. In 1938, Building 1071 was built by work forces for the Work Progress Administration. In 1940, with war becoming inevitable, the United States government reacquired the camp and remobilized it as a federal installation.

At its height in 1943, Camp Shelby spread over 360,000 acres of ranges and maneuver areas and was home to 100,000 troops, making the post the largest training facility in the world. An additional 400,000 acres were leased for additional maneuver space. In all, over a thousand square miles were in use for training. Troops were housed in over 14,000 tents, forming the largest tent city in the world.

Among the famous units that trained at Camp Shelby were elements of the 38th Division; the "Cyclone Division" of Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia; the 31st Infantry (Dixie) Division, and the famous Japanese-American 442nd Regimental Combat Team that became the most highly decorated unit in the European theater. Women's Army Corps (WAC) units also trained at Camp Shelby. In addition, the post contained a large convalescent hospital and a prisoner of war camp that initially housed members of the German Afrika Corps.

Soon after the end of World War II, the War Department began selling off many of the surplus buildings at Camp Shelby. Buildings that were bought were cut up and moved off the base or used for scrap.¹ Today, the White House is the only significant structure still standing at Camp Shelby from the World War II era. A few warehouses and service buildings also remain.

Because the White House is being nominated under Criterion A, rather than Criterion C, its architectural integrity is less important to its nomination than its integrity as an example of an important historical event or theme. The White House still retains its World War II use, location,

¹ "Surplus Buildings At Shelby for Sale," Jackson *Daily News*, Jackson, MS: July 5, 1946. In one sale alone, the War Department put at least 1314 buildings up for sale.

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and setting, and general appearance, and it therefore qualifies to represent the significant role which Camp Shelby played in the mobilization of United States armed forces during the war.

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Major Bibliographic References

Anonymous. "Camp Shelby." Brochure available at Post Museum, Camp Shelby, MS. No Date.

Jackson *Daily News*, Jackson, Mississippi.

Skates, J.R. "World War II and Its Effects." A History of Mississippi, Vol II. R.A. McLemore, ed. Jackson, MS: University and College Press of Mississippi, 1973.

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Section number 10 Page 6

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

Property is defined on the north by Jackson Avenue, on the west by Jackson Avenue West, on the south by the northern boundary of a parking lot. An imaginary line extending north-south approximately 225 feet from Jackson Avenue West is the eastern boundary. The property forms a rough rectangle of approximately 75' x 225' with an area of about 16,900 square feet. (See enclosed scale map). A fence currently delineates the boundaries.

Boundary Justification

Building 1071 and its surrounding landscaping have apparently had the same general boundaries since World War II. Since the landscaping forms an integral part of the post headquarters, the boundaries have been chosen to include it with the building itself.

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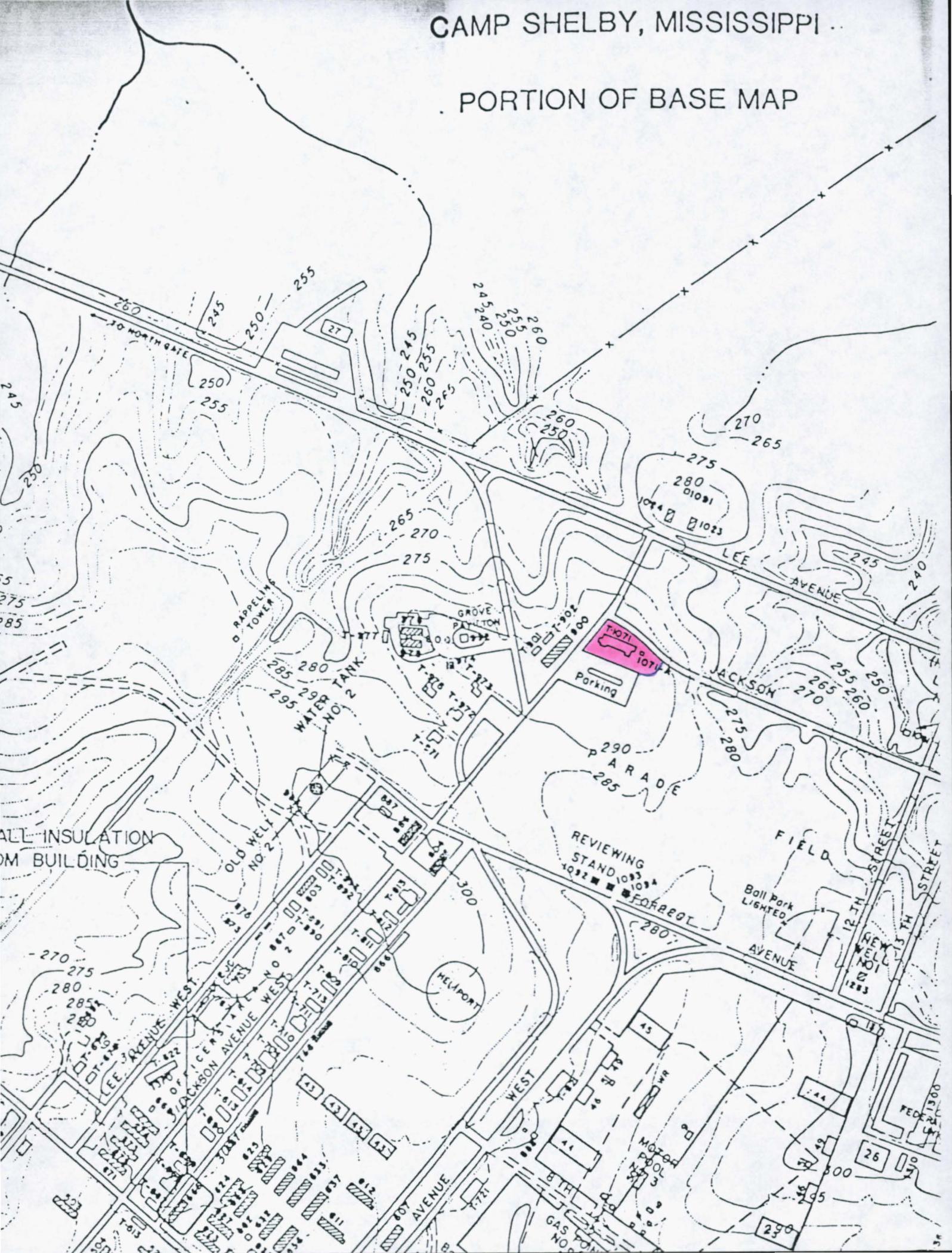
Photographic Documentation

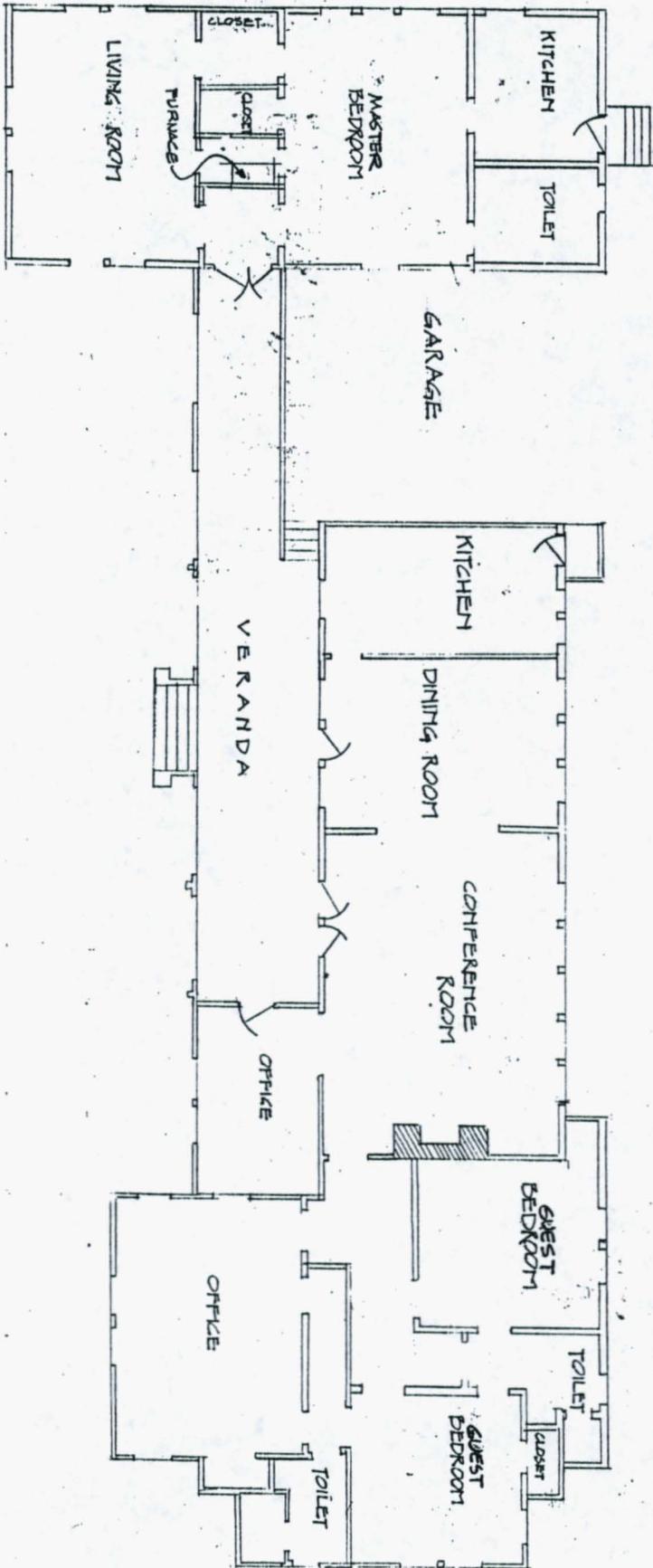
1. Building 1071 (White House)
2. Camp Shelby, Forrest County, Mississippi
3. Dottie Gibbens
4. August, 1990
5. Mississippi Department of Archives and History

- Photo 1 WPA plaque in front (south) yard, view north
- Photo 2 Facade (south) elevation, view to north
- Photo 3 Facade (south) elevation, view to northwest
- Photo 4 West and south elevations, view to northeast
- Photo 5 Rear (north) elevation, view to southeast
- Photo 6 Post Commander's office, view to east
- Photo 7 Guest bedroom, view to south
- Photo 8 Kitchen, view to north
- Photo 9 Gazebo and shed, view to southwest

CAMP SHELBY, MISSISSIPPI

PORTION OF BASE MAP





FLOOR PLAN BLDG. 1071

SCALE: 1/8 inch = 1 foot

WHITE HOUSE

**WPA
PROJECT #4448
1938**

**USED FOR
OFFICE & QUANTERS
BY
CAMP COMMANDER
AND
STAFF**

CAMP SHELBY LANDMARK

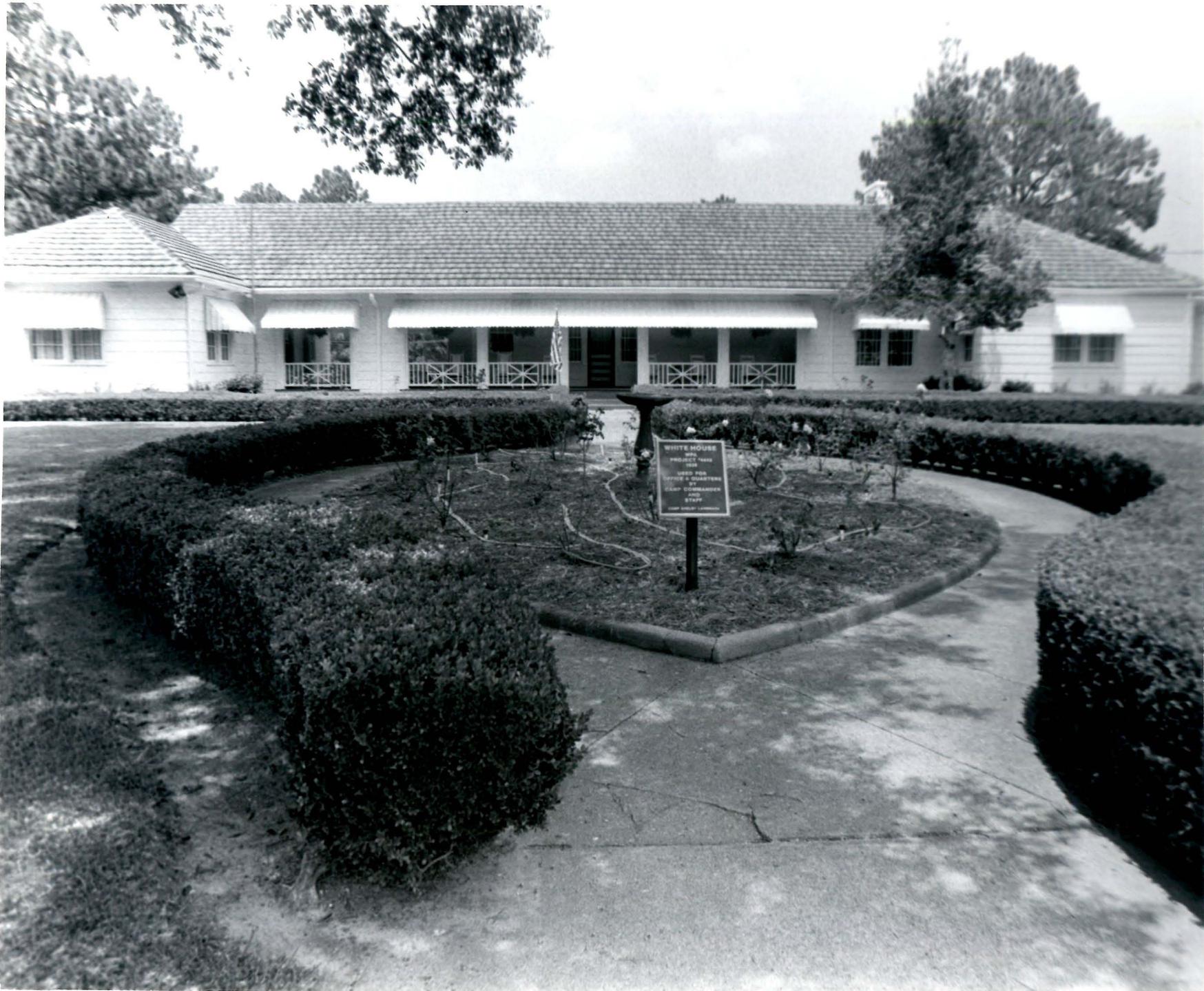
Building 1071 / White House
Camp Shelby, Forrest County, MS.

Dottie Gibbens

August, 1990

Mississippi Department of Archives & History
WPA plaque in front (south) yard, view north
Photo 1

Field checked, October 1996 - Jennifer Opage



WHITE HOUSE
BPA
PROJECT 1944
1946
USED FOR
OFFICE QUARTERS
BY
COOP COMMANDER
AND
STAFF
CAPT. MICHAEL L. LAMBERT

Building 1071 / White House
Camp Shelby, Forrest County, MS.

Dottie Gibbens

August, 1990

Mississippi Dept. of Archives & History

FACADE (south) elevation, view north

Photo 2

Field checked, October 1996 - Jennifer Opage



Building 1071 / White House
Camp Shelby, Forrest County, MS.

Dottie Gibbens

August, 1990

Mississippi Dept. of Archives & History
Facade (south) elevation, view to northwest
Photo 3

Field checked, October 1996 - Jennifer Ojager





Field notes, 1996
Camp 5
5

Field checked, October 1996 - Jennifer Opago



6

Field checked, October 1996 - Jennifer Opage



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7

Field checked, October 1996 Jennifer Opago



8

Field checked, October 1996 - Jennifer O'pater



Building 1071 / White House
Camp Shelby, Forrest County, MS.

Dottie Gibbens

August 1990
Gazebo Shed

Photo # 9

Field checked, October 1996 - Jennifer Opage