

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Philadelphia
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Marine Corps Supply Activity

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Quartermaster's Depot, U. S. Marine Corps

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1100 South Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Philadelphia (6540)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
First

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE 42 COUNTY: Philadelphia CODE 101

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No 

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

**4. AGENCY**

U. S. Marine Corps

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)  
Headquarters Marine Corps

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE 09

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code LFE)

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Headquarters Marine Corps

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE 09

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
N/A

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

STATE:

COUNTY:

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

As originally designed and built in 1904, the Quartermaster's Depot was an impressive five-story, Greek-style building constructed of stone, red brick and concrete, and characterized by Ionic capitals atop brick pseudocolumns having the typical scroll-like ornaments and cornices of that style architecture. It was located from a point just north of today's main entrance north to Washington Avenue, which was one of the few streets accommodating both rail and motor traffic. In 1908, the building was extended southward to Alter Street and now measures 183 feet long, 82 feet wide, 71 feet high, while retaining the original architectural character. During the same year, six lots were purchased by the Marine Corps and another building was constructed and physically connected to the rear of the main building. Built originally as an administrative and warehousing facility, the interior has been renovated to accommodate the Command Headquarters, administrative offices and the Data Processing facility. The basement contains an armory, gymnasium and store rooms. Throughout the years, several other buildings have been constructed to the rear of the primary depot building. It has been in continuous use by the Marine Corps since 1904 and has maintained its exterior integrity.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Marine Corps Supply Activity is located in Philadelphia, the birthplace of the Nation and of the Marine Corps.

The Activity had its beginning back in 1798 in a canvas tent that served as a Marine Corps Supply Depot. Lt. Franklin Wharton, the first Quartermaster, and an officer who later became Commandant, commanded the tent depot. In 1804, the Activity was assigned a function that was to become one of its main tasks for the next 158 years. The Secretary of the Navy designated the Activity an "establishment in barracks for making and mending clothes" for Marines.

Clothing manufacturing was carried out in barracks at the Philadelphia Naval Base and in a four-story building in center city. Much of the work was contracted out to local tailors, but material was also cut at the depot and distributed to local housewives who made it into uniforms in their own homes.

Construction of the main building at the Activity's present location commenced in 1904 and was completed in 1908.

Nine years later, the Activity was confronted with the demands of World War I. During 1917-18, it outfitted and equipped 36 expeditionary units, including four regiments of 4,000 men each. Activity personnel totaled 14 officers, 100 enlisted, 420 civilian men and 593 civilian women.

The Activity was a full scale manufacturing and distribution plant under the management of U. S. Marines. Assembly line production of military hardware and housekeeping supplies included hat ornaments, mosquito nets, mess pans, helmets, articles of uniforms, foot lockers, buckets, stoves, etc.

During World War II, more than 6,000 employees worked around the clock making uniforms, tentage and such lumber and metal products as tent poles, lockers and bunks. The Activity also stored and issued general property from warehouses throughout the area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Pennsylvania	
COUNTY Philadelphia	
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(Number all entries)

8. Significance

Statement of Significance (Continued)

For its efforts, the Activity received five awards of the Army-Navy "E" pennant for production efficiency, the first being presented in 1943.

Since World War II, the Activity has supported forces in Korea, Lebanon, Dominican Republic and Vietnam.

In 1962, the historic clothing manufacturing function was transferred to the Defense Personnel Support Center, a Department of Defense Agency organized to procure uniforms for all military services.

From 1962 to 1967, the Activity was an Inventory Control Point for certain Marine Corps secondary items and repair parts. In addition, this Command had technical data management responsibility for all items used by the Marine Corps, irrespective of source, and the mission of provisioning all new major items of Marine Corps equipment.

On 1 May 1967, the mission of the Activity was again changed by the implementation of the Marine Corps Unified Materiel Management System (MUMMS). The Activity then became the single Inventory Control Point managing the Supply (Stores) System of the Marine Corps. In designing and developing MUMMS, the Activity implemented Department of Defense procedures as set forth under Military Standard Requisition and Issue Procedures (MILSTRIP) and Military Standard Transaction Reporting and Accounting Procedures (MILSTRAP).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Depot Digest, July 20, 1944, "Views and Records Depot History"

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39° 56' 0"	75° 10' 0"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE:	COUNTY:	CODE:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: LtCol. J. A. FRASIER, 3RD, Dir, Office of Suptng. Servs. DATE: 8 October 1974

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Marine Corps Supply Activity (Code 500)

STREET AND NUMBER: 1100 South Broad Street PHONE: 985-3544

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- Yes
- No
- None

\_\_\_\_\_  
State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is  National  State  Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Representative Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS