

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

P.O. BOX 942896
SACRAMENTO, CA 94296-0001
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



May 15, 2013

Tom Moore, President
Board of Directors
Marina Coast Water District
11 Reservation Road
Marina, California 93933

**RE: Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital Nomination to the
National Register of Historic Places**

Dear Mr. Moore:

The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) has received a nomination package to consider the above referenced property for the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). The National Register is the official list of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of recognition and preservation. The nomination identifies you as the property's owner of record.

A copy of the nomination is enclosed for your information. OHP will review the nomination for accuracy and completeness. The current nomination is a preliminary draft subject to change upon completion of the OHP review. The property will be reviewed in accordance with the eligibility criteria for the National Register program. If the nomination is complete and the property meets the National Register criteria, OHP will schedule the nomination for hearing by the State Historical Resources Commission (Commission). The Commission is a nine member body appointed by the Governor to evaluate the eligibility of properties for listing on registration programs. The Commission meets four times a year.

Please review the draft nomination. If you are opposed to the nomination, you are requested to submit a notarized letter of objection to the above address. Please see the enclosed instructions on how to support or oppose designation. If the nomination is presented to the Commission for hearing, this office will notify you of the date and location of the meeting. The meetings are open to the public and you may attend to present comments. Or, you may wish to submit written comments directly to OHP fifteen days before the Commission meeting.

Time, date, and location of scheduled Commission meetings are also posted on the OHP website at www.ohp.parks.ca.gov. Information on the National Register program is also posted on the website.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Registration Unit at (916) 445-7008 should you have further questions on the nomination or the National Register program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D.".

Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D.,
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures: Nomination and How to Object/Support

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Army Station Veterinary Hospital, Fort Ord

Other names/site number: Fort Ord Equestrian Center, Marina Equestrian Center, former Fort Ord buildings 3132, 3140, 3141, 3142, 3143, 3144

Name of related multiple property listing:
NA

2. Location

Street & number: 2872 Fifth Avenue

City or town: Marina State: CA County: 053 Monterey

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

<p>_____</p> <p>Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Date</p>
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<p>In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____</p> <p>Signature of commenting official:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Title :</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Date</p> <p>_____</p> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>6</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
<u>5</u>	_____	objects
_____	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DEFENSE/military facility

HEALTH CARE/U.S. Army horse veterinary hospital WW2

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation___

DOMESTIC/institutional housing_____

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium___

RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum___

7. Description

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Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/WWII standard temporary construction, Type C-5 Veterinary Clinic, Type C-6
Veterinary Surgical, Colic building, Barracks

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: ___ Wood, Concrete _____

Foundation: post and pier, slab

Roof composition: shingles

Walls: shiplap

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The former U.S. Army Station Veterinary Hospital (SVH) at Fort Ord is located at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Ninth Street in Marina, CA. It comprises six buildings, five of them lining the east side of Fifth Avenue and one, the barracks, on the west. This is the complete set of original structures. The hospital opened in January 1941 to provide medical care for the horses and mules of the field artillery and cavalry. The buildings are uniform in appearance, a matched set. All structures maintain substantial architectural integrity. The style is 700-series mobilization-era construction typical of (and fast disappearing on) Fort Ord: wooden structures with shiplap shingles and concrete foundation. The barracks is three-quarter size; research suggests it is the only such mini-barracks on base. Horse-related objects still present are the four concrete watering troughs that stood in the breezeways of the wards, three hitching posts, and one of the three original horse stocks, retrieved from a private veterinary practice in south Monterey County in 2011. After WWII, hitching rails and other apparatus specific to horses were removed and the SVH was used for a small-animal clinic in the C-5 building and a dog kennel in the C-6 building. The C-6 building was modified by the addition of rows of kennels built as lean-tos, which did not destroy the original exterior walls.

After the decommissioning of Fort Ord (1998), the “Fort Ord Equestrian Center”—the five eastern buildings of the SVH and an encompassing 35-acre parcel with active boarding stables—were given to the City of Marina through the National Park Service’s Land to Park program. The western building (the barracks) was given to the Marina Coast Water District, an agency independent of the City of Marina. The integrity is substantial, creating an immersive setting for living-history events.

Narrative Description

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Overview

The Station Veterinary Hospital (SVH) stands complete as designed. It occupies a rectangle of about 2.5 acres on a rise at the corner of at 5th Avenue and 9th Street, a mile from the Monterey Bay and close to today's California State University, Monterey Bay, campus.

The SVH was one of the first facilities built on Fort Ord, completed on January 31, 1941, just after the barracks in December 2010. 76th Field Artillery and 107th Cavalry horses were stabled 150 yards southwest of the hospital. The smithy, saddlery, and stable-sergeant's offices and twelve of the original twenty-one stables stood till 2011.

After the closure of Fort Ord in 1993, the SVH buildings remained intact, but were divided as to jurisdiction. Five of the six buildings are located in what is now the Marina Equestrian Center, a 35-acre horse-boarding facility and public park given to the City of Marina through the National Park Service "Lands to Parks" program as a regional park and recreation area in 1998. These buildings have remained in continuous horse use since construction and have been employed in recent years for WWII living-history events and an extensive "flash" Fort Ord warhorse museum (set up and taken down in one day). The equestrian center provides a trailhead for riding, biking, and hiking access to an 82-mile trail network on federal recreational land.

The sixth building, across 5th Avenue, is owned by the Marina Coast Water District. It was built as a barracks for army veterinary personnel and used by army intelligence during the Cold War, up the time of base decommissioning. While it is currently unoccupied, future uses might include a barracks exhibit and/or use by living historians, or a visitor's center.

Description of Buildings, counterclockwise from the northeast corner of 5th Avenue and 9th Street.

1. The C-5 building. This was the clinic for routine care and exams. The veterinarian and staff sergeant's offices are intact and face 5th Avenue. Horses were admitted through the barn door at the rear and tied to a hitching rail along the south wall. The exam room contained two horse stocks for confining the patient. The holes where the feet of the stocks were anchored in the concrete floor, and the wooden slats covering a shallow pit with drainage under the stocks, still remain. In 2011, one of the original five horse stocks in the SVH was retrieved from a south Monterey County veterinary hospital and returned to the examination room. The provenance of the stock is attested by the veterinarian who removed it from Fort Ord in the 60s.

Specifications for the C-5 building:

Building T3140 Type C-5 Veterinary Clinic (Drawing Series 700-271) is a rectangular 700 Series Temporary building designed by the Office of the Quartermaster General. Description: Clinic, Veterinary, Medical, Type C-5. Date of design May 5, 1937. Authorized to supplement the Surgical Clinic where the animal strength warranted need. Includes an office, latrine, rooms for supplies and heater, dispensary, and dressing floor with stocks and hitching rails.

Dimensions: Length 84.2 feet x width 25.4 feet

Construction: concrete foundation; floors, concrete

Material: wood-frame walls; asphalt roofing

Style: Characteristic WWII construction with shiplap exterior

This building is original and intact with slight modifications between 1946–1948 when the SVH converted from a horse-based facility to small-animal care, food inspection, and riding stable.

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Windows and doors are original. A very fine and exceedingly rare example of a Type C-5 Veterinary Clinic.

2. The colic building “Colic” covers various serious and painful gut problems that can be fatal to horses. The colic building contains a kitchen and deep sink, sleeping area, and restroom with shower for round-the-clock monitoring of patients. It also has a dispensary area encaged by heavy wire. General Charles Elia, who was on the scene as a young man in 1946, stated that the main room was padded against injury due to thrashing. This structure was expanded after original construction, as shown by separate foundations, but from the exterior, the building is of one piece. Doors and windows are original.

Specifications for the Colic Building

Building T3141 Type VCB-1 Colic Building. Square-shaped 800-series temporary building designed by the Army Corps of Engineers. Description: Veterinary Colic Building, Type VCB-1, Drawing 800-1308, Date; September 18, 1941, authorized 1 per camp for each 3,000-animals strength, includes colic room and rooms for supplies and heater.

Construction: concrete foundation; floors, concrete

Material: walls, wood framed; asphalt roofing.

Characteristic WWII construction

3, 4. Wards A and B. The twin buildings to the north of the colic building are hospital wards, with sixty stalls for infirm horses. The stalls were remodeled inside to create tack rooms; originally, the eastern end opened onto a reception room with restraining stocks and a small office (still intact). The patient could be isolated by drawing the interior pocket door in the wall, about twenty feet in. In the breezeways were concrete watering-trough supports, which are still on the property. All windows and doors original. Included rooms for attendants and heater, treatment room with dressing stock, and 24 single and six box stalls. The front treatment room has been divided into four rooms, two on each side. The dressing stock on the north side of the building has been removed, and sawn-off stock legs are evident. Concrete blocks remain where water troughs were mounted. The troughs are currently used as planters.

Specifications for the wards

- Building T3142 Veterinary Ward A is a rectangular 800-series temporary building designed by the Office of the Quartermaster General. Description: Veterinary Ward, Type VW-30, Drawing 800-1303, Date September 24, 1941, authorized one per camp for each 600–1,200-animals strength.
Length 130 feet x width 29.6 feet
Construction: concrete foundation; floors, concrete;
Material: walls, wood frame; asphalt roofing.
Characteristic WWII construction
West end of Ward A houses tractor and equipment.
- Building T3143 Veterinary Ward B is a rectangular 800-series temporary building designed by the Office of the Quartermaster General. Description: Veterinary Ward, Type VW-30, drawing 800-1303, date September 24, 1941. Authorized one per camp for each 600–1,200 animals strength. Included rooms for attendants and heater, treatment room with dressing stock, and 24 single and six box stalls
Construction: concrete foundation; floors, concrete

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Material: walls wood frame; asphalt roofing.
Characteristic WWII construction

5. C-6 surgery. Surgery was performed in the surgery building, the northernmost structure of the SVH. Windows are original, sliding door on the east end was removed and replaced by a “man” door. Building was converted between the years of 1946 to 1948 by General Elia into a small-animal clinic. Horse operating table, stocks, and hitching posts were removed. Walls were modified for its new use and covered kennels were added to the north and south side of the building, probably in the 1950s. Only slight modifications were made to the original structure in adding the lean-to roofs that cover the dog kennels along the south and north walls. The exterior shiplap of the original building is intact in very way and can be easily seen throughout the building. The interior was modified and repartitioned by the County of Monterey for use as an animal shelter from 1999–2005.

Specifications for the C-6 building

Building T3144 Type C-6 Veterinary Clinic (Drawing Series 700-272) is a rectangular 700-series temporary building designed by the Office of the Quartermaster General. Description: Clinic, Veterinary, Surgical, Medical, Type C-6, date of design May 5, 1937, authorized one per camp. Included an office, latrine, rooms for supplies and heater, dispensary, laboratory, and room with operating table, hitching rails.

Dimensions: Length 84.2 feet x width 25.4 feet.

Construction: concrete foundation; floors, concrete

Material: walls, wood frame; asphalt roofing.

Characteristic WWII construction.

6. Barracks. Used to house the veterinary detachment serving the veterinary hospital during WWII and modified slightly when the building was used to house a military intelligence unit in later years. The reinforced windows allowed storage of medical supplies and, later, of secret documents. This barracks is three-quarters size, the only such one we have identified on the base.

Specifications for the barracks

Construction: wood pier; floors, wood

Material: walls, wood frame; asphalt roofing.

Characteristic 700-series barrack construction with “aquamedia” shirt roof

Surroundings:

The area surrounding the hospital has seen little modification. To the east is the old stockade, recently used for paintball adventure, and west of the colic building is the WWII camp for German and Italian prisoners. The northern half of the Marina Equestrian Center park contains open space, a radio station built by the Signal Corps in 1940, and an unused modern, temporary building. To the south is CSUMB. The Marina Equestrian Center was intended by the National Park Service, in its land transfer, to provide a staging area for multiuse trail connection to the Fort Ord Dunes State Park (a mile west) and Fort Ord National Monument (three miles east). The eastern trail exists and the western trail, though still possible, has yet to be developed.

Artifacts:

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There are three hitching posts and four concrete watering troughs on the premises. The hitching posts are presumed original. Two are located between the wards and one is north of the C-6 building. The concrete troughs appear as though they molded onsite. They are removed from their original positions, but are intact and can be replaced.

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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
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MILITARY (U.S. Army Horses WWII)

HEALTH/MEDICINE (only remaining example of WWII Station Veterinary Hospitals for horses)

Period of Significance

1941-1945

Significant Dates

January 31, 1941: doors opened

December 1941: 76th Field Artillery at Fort Ord dismantled

May 1942: 107th Cavalry at Fort Ord dismantled

1946: conversion to small-animal clinic

Significant Person

General Joseph "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Fort Ord was one of the last locations for mounted and horse-drawn units of the U.S. Army. The quickly built, quickly obsolete SVH site is a rare reminder of this pivot point in history, and commemorates the sudden radical redefinition of the duties of the US Army Veterinary Corps with the coming of mechanization. General Joseph Stilwell was commander of the 7th Infantry Division at Fort Ord when the SVH was built, and the 19th Veterinary Evacuation Hospital activated at Fort Ord performed in Stilwell's subsequent theater of command. The SVH was the site of officer and GI horse recreation from the 1940s through base closure in 1993.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Ancient use of warhorses began with the chariots of Mesopotamia and progressed to the mounted cavalry of the Greek and Roman empires. Around the world and over thousands of years, man and horse fought as a unit. In America, the horse was the US Army's greatest friend, whether in the vast western territories or the front lines of WWI—a relationship that ended abruptly in WWII as modern weaponry and motor vehicles finally outmatched horsepower.

Fort Ord, California, saw the final step in this evolution. Built in 1941 on the the assumption that horses would remain an important military asset and rendered anachronistic within two years, the SVH at Ford Ord captures a dramatic pivot point in world and American history. This SVH is the only intact mobilization-era example in the United States, containing the only examples of Type C-5 Veterinary Clinic and Type C-6 Veterinary Surgical Clinic buildings of its type. (Regrettably, the last twelve of the twenty-one accompanying stables were demolished in 2011.)

Meaning specific to the Veterinary Corps While horses and mules were still seen in World War II, the need for a large cadre of veterinarians dried up and the duties of the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps shifted radically. In WWI, ninety percent of veterinary duties involved the treatment of horses, and ten percent was food inspection. During WWII, those figures were reversed to about ninety-percent food inspection and lab services and ten- to fifteen-percent animal services. Like the troopers, the veterinarians, too, retired their riding boots. The 1941 SVH was staffed and equipped to serve thousands of horses. The nearly total redefinition of expectations and focus for career Army veterinarians occurred when these buildings were but freshly built. The 19th Veterinary Evacuation Hospital was activated here and saw duty in the China–Burma–Indian theater.

Meaning within the region The construction of veterinary infrastructure at Fort Ord is consistent with cavalry and field artillery use of the land as far back as the Civil War, and possibly as far as the Spanish era. The “Gigling Reservation,” as Fort Ord was formerly known, was an important training ground for the U.S. Army at the Presidio of Monterey and Citizen's Military Training Camps of the 20s and 30s, as well as reserve and active troops from Fort Lewis,

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Washington, the Presidio of San Francisco, the Bay Area, and southwestern states. The veterinary buildings supported this historic use and implied assurance that it would continue.

Since the unearthing of the SVH's history by military researcher Greg Krenzelok in 2008, the SVH buildings have been the setting for public living-history events, called "Fort Ord Warhorse Days," and Veterans Day celebrations. These events attract visitors from around the state, and reenactors from San Diego to San Ramon. A great favorite with the public is Sgt Allan MacDonald, 89 years old, a horse cavalryman who has been very active in saving the historical buildings and cavalry trails.

Narrative summary (adapted from article by Davis, Margaret, "The Forgotten Warhorse History of Fort Ord," *Salinas Valley Historical Society Newsletter*, September 2010)

Few may remember, but in the massive buildup to World War II, the burgeoning army base of Fort Ord was planned as a major warhorse installation. Thanks to the work of military researcher Greg Krenzelok, this forgotten history has been rediscovered.

By the time of the Great War, the dashing cavalry charge of old had been checked by barbed wire and the depredations of the machine gun; yet World War I was nevertheless very much a "horse war," with horse-drawn artillery and pack trains used heavily on all sides.

During the 30s, the role—if any—of mounted and horse-drawn units in the war of the future was hotly debated. But as America mobilized in 1940, horses were still in.

Just south of Fort Ord at the Presidio of Monterey, the 76th Field Artillery Regiment's second battalion had been training with the 11th Cavalry since 1922. Now it was decided that the full regiment, whose units were scattered throughout the country, would be reunited and brought to wartime strength by the addition of a third battalion. The regiment would assemble at the new cantonment of Fort Ord, where the mild climate, varied terrain, and sheer sprawl provided a peerless training ground. For the 76th's permanent home, a major warhorse installation was in order.

Stables and Barracks

In June, 1940, the 76th's men and horses moved into a tent encampment and temporary corrals at Camp Clayton (by the present Marina Dunes shopping center)—the first unit to arrive.

Fort Ord was built by Works Progress Administration civilians, who lived in their own tent city fringing Highway 1. Policing these crews at the various construction sites was among the troopers' chief duties. Along 4th Avenue, running south from 8th Street, twenty-one stables for the 1,400 horses of the field artillery—flanked by stable sergeant, blacksmith, and saddler shops—were among the first raft of buildings erected. To the southwest were barracks for the troopers, followed in early 1941 by a station veterinary hospital just northeast. When the first of the new barracks was ready for occupancy in December 1940, Lt. Lee Stickler was among the troopers relieved from the mud and cold. (Now 93 and a resident of Monterey, Mr. Stickler witnessed the demolition of his barracks, at 1st Avenue and Divarty Street, in 2009.)

Mr. Stickler relates that besides police and fire duty and drilling with horses and artillery sections, the men had stable chores: feeding, grooming, turning out, and loading the wryly named "honey wagon" morning and night. Artillery horses were burly animals to meet the weighty cannons, and reportedly less than exquisitely cooperative: Stickler describes the morning hitch-up as a "circus." Nevertheless, one minded one's temper: mistreatment, neglect,

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or injury was grounds for court martial. Army horses and mules were procured and trained by the Quartermaster Remount Service, which in 1939 had anticipated a need for 200,000 equids (horses and mules) as war in Europe loomed.

Mr. Stickler has a tale to tell about the boss. Major General Joseph Stilwell of the Seventh Division, who was not known as a horseman, had first command of Ford Ord, and Mr. Stickler confesses to a personal encounter. During a night exercise, one rider kept falling behind, requiring Stickler to double back and administer “strong words” to the silent laggard. In the morning he was chagrined to learn he had chewed out “Vinegar Joe” himself.

Mechanization

In the end, it was not advanced weaponry after all, but automotive technology that did the warhorse in. The Army had hesitated to trust in motor vehicles, which broke down, went flat, and ran out of gas, but as reliability grew and mobilization funds came available, the Army rapidly mechanized its units. The tank and truck were the beast of burden for modern war, and the scrappy, jaunty jeep (1940) the very image of versatility and fresh thinking.

By December 7, 1941, the swift displacement of the horse was near completion. Days after Pearl Harbor, the 76th was sent to war without their “most trusted companion” for the first time, as they deployed to France. The horses were shipped to San Rafael, Jolon, or Bay Meadows Race Track in San Mateo, where, as trooper Teddy Nelson of the 76th Battalion tells Krenzelok, they were handed off to the Coast Guard or auctioned off. Hollywood was a big buyer.

Send in the Cavalry

Before the month was out, Fort Ord received a fresh contingent of horses and men: the National Guard’s 107th Cavalry (Horse–Mechanized), originally of Ohio, brought west to watch the beaches for signs of Japanese invasion. The unit arrived on a rainy Christmas 1941 after a six-day rail journey, their horses so spent and irritable, they had chewed each other’s tails off.

Cpl. Walter Schweitzer, now 92 and living in Cincinnati, has written an engaging account of his year at Fort Ord (see p. 5, “Memoirs of a Fort Ord Cavalryman”). About beach patrol, Schweitzer notes, “ten portees [trucks] carried men and their mounts to various locations. Each portee delivered a team of eight horsemen who traveled in twos for a 25-mile stretch. Because of the rocky terrain it was not possible, even on horseback, to follow the coastal waters. None of our patrols reported a sighting.”

Horse–mechanized combined units such as the 107th were an attempt to conserve the advantages of the mounted cavalry by integrating motorized support, notably horse-transport portees to speed the cavalry to the fray. The unit’s hybrid status ended in June 1942, when the Coast Guard took over beach patrol and appropriated the animals, leaving the unit mechanized only. The horseless 107th spent the next six months fighting sand and heat in the Mojave Desert and in December 1942 departed for Le Havre, France.

Dawggon’ Army Mules

Besides field artillery and cavalry, the Army’s third major employment of equids (principally mules) was as pack animals in the quartermaster supply trains.

According to Krenzelok, the 68th Quartermaster Corps Pack Troop was stationed at Fort Ord c. 1941, departing for Australia and the China–Burma–Indian theater in 1943. Krenzelok estimates forty-nine men in the command and 140 animals. Research indicates a different QMC troop stationed at Fort Ord’s East Garrison in 1943–44, consisting of Negro enlisted soldiers.

The Horse Doctors

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From 1940 through 1942, 1,450 stalls and twelve horse hospitals were added to the Army veterinary system. Fort Ord's station veterinary hospital (SVH) was one of the biggest. Completed in January 1941, the complex included a clinic building with hitching rails and stocks to keep the patient still; a colic building, padded to prevent injury due to thrashing; two wards of thirty stalls each; a surgery with operating table, dressing floor, laboratory, and dispensary; and (what may be unique on Fort Ord) a 3/4-size barracks to accommodate forty-five veterinary staff. The doors of the SVH were opened by a platoon of the 1st Veterinary Company, attached to the 1st Medical Regiment (which opened the post's station hospital one street over). With hundreds of patients to inoculate, worm, dip, float, treat, and operate on, the SVH staff's duties were 90% horse care, 10% small animal and food inspection. By 1945, these figures were reversed for the veterinary corps as a whole.

Besides routine duties, the Fort Ord SVH prepared the 19th Veterinary Evacuation Hospital for overseas duty. In August 1944, the 19th was activated at Fort Ord and deployed ten weeks later to the China-Burma-Indian theater, where the impassible terrain defeated motor vehicles—even the jeep—and therefore the soundness and safe shipping of military pack animals was of paramount concern.

The SVH was converted to a small-animal clinic in 1946, with Capt. Charles Elia in charge. In an interview with Greg Krenzelok, now-General Elia (ret.) recalls that the wards were not used for horses in 1946-1948; this datum is helpful in establishing when horses were no longer present in significant numbers.

Other Known Hoofprints

- The Fort Ord Military Police Rangers patrolled on horseback in 1943 for “strange boats, people who have no business on the beaches, and objects that drift ashore from the bay.”
- A blurb in the *Fort Ord Panorama*, September 1951, notes that Fort Ord Riding Stables (at the station veterinary hospital) has twelve horses available for pleasure riding.
- The Aggressor Forces at Fort Ord trained in tactical exercises on horseback in 1951.

Significance

The tangible remains of Fort Ord's World War II warhorse history were hidden in plain sight for seventy years—their vivid origins with the horse-drawn field artillery, mounted cavalry, quartermaster pack trains, and Army Veterinary Corps long forgotten. Displaying all the assets Army horses require to live and do their job, this historical district testified to the turning point before which horses were assumed vital to the conduct of war, and after which a deep and ancient mutual reliance was abruptly sundered.

In the face of mechanization and modern battle conditions, the American trooper was dismounted and his powerful comrade carried away. The quickly built, quickly abandoned warhorse facilities at Fort Ord capture the final phase in the evolution of horse-reliant warfare: its decisive rejection by the U.S. Army after 1942.

Status and Public Potential

On the close of Fort Ord, the City of Marina inherited the complete, intact SVH—the sole survivor of the dozen built during mobilization—as part of what is now the Marina Equestrian Center Park, located at 5th/California Avenue and 9th Street. This historic site was granted by the National Park Service to the City of Marina in 1998 as part of a 35-acre transfer for the creation of a multiuse, horse-oriented city park. A proposed living history museum to interpret Fort Ord's warhorse and veterinary history, enriched by cavalry, field artillery, quartermaster,

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and veterinary events, will enhance public usage of the park and attract visitors to Marina.

Twelve of the twenty-one cavalry stables with blacksmith shops survived 71 years along 4th Avenue on land given to California State Monterey Bay. Sadly, they were demolished in July 2011 and, with them, an irreplaceable portion of America's heritage.

Out on old Fort Ord recreational land, the pre-World War II watering troughs line the grave of Comanche, Fort Ord's last ceremonial warhorse, ridden by Sgt, Allan MacDonald and buried with honors in 1993. The three-mile Sgt. Allan MacDonald Cavalry Trail connects Comanche's Grave, in Fort Ord National Monument, with the Marina Equestrian Center (MEC) and the Lt. Lee Stickler Artillery Cutoff, an ocean-view trail loop. Westward from the MEC, the proposed Cpl. Walter Schweitzer Beach Patrol trail provides the final link connecting the warhorse sites with each other and the coastal rec trail.

Sgt. MacDonald, for whom the trail is named, joined the 5th Cavalry in 1938 and was stable sergeant for General Douglas MacArthur in occupied Tokyo. Arriving at Fort Ord after retirement, Mr. MacDonald rode Comanche in countless parades and ceremonies, and now, at 89, obligingly dons his cavalry uniform, with its chestful of medals, and presides over living-history events at the Marina Equestrian Center.

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Table 1: Equine Veterinary Facilities Built in 1941 and 1942

Table 1 shows veterinary hospitals and dispensaries newly established in the construction programs, fiscal years 1941 and 1942. Note: this table features WWII period, 700- and 800-series buildings similar to the Fort Ord SVH

Equine veterinary location	Ward Cap .	Notes on status	Contact Information
Camp Bowie, TX	20	No 700- or 800-series veterinary buildings or stables (WWII era) standing	
Camp Carson, CO	110	No 700- or 800-series veterinary buildings or stables (WWII era) standing	Captain Hoffman, post veterinary clinic, 719-526-3803
Camp Hale, CO	190	No 700- or 800-series veterinary buildings or stables (WWII era) standing	Michael Fletcher, public-affairs specialist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 402-995-2418
Camp Livingston, LA	20	No 700- or 800-series veterinary buildings or stables (WWII era) standing	Mark H, Gutzman, archeologist, U. S. Forest Service, Kisatchie, 318-446-2986
Camp Lockett, CA	30	Heavily modified 700-series surgery and ward still standing	Rich Borstadt, curator, Mountain Empire Historical Society, 619-818-0107
Camp Peay (Camp Forest), TN	20	Nothing standing but foundations and chimneys	David Hiebert, historian, Arnold Engineering Development Center, 931-454 4203
Carlisle Barracks, PA	10	No 700- or 800-series veterinary buildings or stables (WWII era) standing	Roger S. Durham, director, US Army Heritage Museum 717-245-4364
Fort Devens, MA	20	No 700- or 800-series veterinary buildings or stables (WWII era) standing	Fort Devens Public Affairs Office, 978-784-3956
Fort Jackson, NC	50	No 700 or 800 Series Veterinary Building or Stables (WWII era) standing	Bessie Williams, curator, US Army Basic Combat Training Museum, 803-751-7419
Fort Lewis, WA	60	Remount station with vet facilities demolished years ago.	Duane Colt Denfeld, architectural historian, Fort Lewis Cultural Resources, 253-966- 1781
Fort Ord, CA	60	700-series hospital intact	Greg Krenzelok, military veterinary

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		and complete, 12 stables standing	historian, 907-299-1564
Indiantown Gap Reservation, PA	20	No 700- or 800-series veterinary building or stables (WWII era) standing	Directorate of Plans and Training, 717-861-2410

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**Table 2: Veterinary hospitals and dispensaries with animal patient capacities
for 10 or more animals, up to mid-1940.**

Note: List consists mostly of older installations with pre-WWII brick veterinary hospital and wards

Equine veterinary location	Ward Cap .	Notes on status
Fork Clark, TX	35	
Fort Belvoir, VA	24	
Fort Benning, GA	26	
Fort Bliss, TX	90	
Fort Bragg, NC	18	
Fort Brown, TX	50	
Fort Des Moines, IA	37	
Fort Ethan Allen, VT	31	
Fort Francis E. Warren, WY	58	
Fort Hoyle, MD	21	
Fort Knox, KY	22	
Fort Leavenworth, KS	20	
Fort Myers, VA	21	
Fort Oglethorpe, GA	28	
Fort Reno Remount Depot, OK	31	
Fort Riley, KS	51	Per curator, Fort Riley U.S. Cavalry Museum, no WWII stables or veterinary buildings still standing, 785-239-2737
Fort Ringgold, TX	20	
Fort Robinson Remount Depot, NE	45	Per Michael J. Brodhead, Historian, US Army Corps of Engineers: "It sure does look like the Fort Ord building were unique. Usually the Army stuck pretty close to the standardized plans." Email received Tue, 21 Apr 2009, Michael Brodhead to Greg Krenzelok, Subject: RE: Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital, Greg Krenzelok
Fort Sam Houston, TX	13	
Fort Sheridan, IL	10	
Fort Sill, OK	55	
Fort Snelling, MN	18	
Front Royal Remount Depot, VA	75	
Presidio of Monterey, CA	49	
Presidio of San Francisco, CA	35	
West Point, NY	12	

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1. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Archives of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey

Baynes, Ernest H. *Animal Heroes of the Great War*, NY: Macmillan, 1933.

Binkley, Cameron, Deputy Command Historian, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey

Brodhead, Michael J., historian, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Buecker, *Thomas R.*, curator of the *Fort Robinson Museum*, Crawford, NE 69339

Cooper, Colonel James C. (Ret.), stationed at the Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital from 1971 to 1974

Davis, Margaret, "The Forgotten Warhorse History of Fort Ord," *Monterey County Historical Society Newsletter*, September 2010

Denfeld, Duane Colt, architectural historian, Fort Lewis Cultural Resources

Elia, Brigadier General Charles V.L. (Ret.), stationed at the Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital from 1946 to 1948

Fort Ord Panorama, 1940–1994 - DLIFLC & POM Archives

Gerlock, Debbie, Archivist, Office of Medical History, Office of the Surgeon General

Krenzelok, Greg, military researcher and historian on the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps

Kuss, Kurt, archivist, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey

Local sources, interviews and information from libraries

MacDonald, Sergeant First Class, Allan A. (Ret.), B Troop, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (horse mounted and mechanized)

Marble, Dr. Sanders, Office of Medical History Office of the Surgeon General

Merillat, Lt. Col. Louis A., Veterinary Reserve, Campbell, Lt. Col. Delwin M., Veterinary Reserve, *Veterinary Military History of the United States*, Kansas City, Missouri, Burd & Fletcher Company, Volumes I & II, 1935

Miller, Everett B, *United States Army Veterinary Service in World War II*, In the official series Medical Department, United States Army, Wash, DC: Office, Surgeon General, 1961.

Payne, Stephen M., Command Historian, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey

Prew, Kathy, director at Monterey County Animal Services

Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital

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Smith, Adam, architectural historian, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory

Sticker, Major Lee (Ret.), stationed at Fort Ord with the 76th Field Artillery Regiment (Horse Drawn) from 1940 to 1941

U.S. Army Veterinary Corps Service – AMEDD historical information

U.S. War Department, *Animal Transport: Field Manual 25-5*, 1939. W/chng, FM.

U.S. War Dept, Veterinary Administration, *Technical Manual 8-450*, 1 May 1941, With Change 1, Jul 1942.

www.fortordveterinaryhospital.notlong.com (Website on the Fort Ord horse soldiers and veterinary hospital)

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: DLIFLC & POM Archives (Monterey)

Fort Ord Panorama

Surgeon General's Office

US Army Veterinary Corps website

Memoirs, Mr Walter Schweitzer

Interviews Mr Allan MacDonald, Mr Lee Stickler, Mr Joe Santone,
et al.

Post Historian, Presidio of Monterey

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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2. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.5

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 36° 39'43.37" N Longitude: 121°47'58.01" W
(corner of Fifth Avenue and Ninth Street)

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The SVH buildings line Fifth Avenue in Marina, which runs north-south, between California Avenue and 9th Street. They are bounded by 9th Street on the south, a parking lot

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on the north, and a driveway and arenas to the east.

Starting from the southeast corner of Fifth Avenue and Ninth Street and heading north, the sequence of buildings is 1) the C-5 clinic and veterinary office, 2) the colic building, 3) ward A, 4) ward B, and 5) the C-6 surgery.

Crossing to the west side of Fifth Avenue, the barracks is across from ward B and about 50 yards north of the corner of Fifth Avenue and Ninth Street

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
This includes all six buildings.

3. Form Prepared By

Margaret Davis
Executive Director,
Friends of the Fort Ord Warhorse
Box 1168
Marina, CA 93933
attnmargaret@gmail.com
831-224-4534
April 15, 2013

Assistance from:
Greg Krenzelok, Director
U.S. Army Veterinary Corps Historical Preservation Group
609 Teak Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
907-299-1564

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

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- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Fort Ord Army Station Veterinary Hospital

City or Vicinity: City of Marina

County: Monterey

State: CA

Photographer: Margaret Davis

Date Photographed: April 15, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. Overview of SVH buildings looking northeast from corner of 9th Street and 5th Avenue. From left to right: Barracks (to left of car), C-6 surgery, Ward B, Ward A, Colic Building, C-5 Building.
2. Overview of SVH buildings looking south from centerline of 5th Avenue. Left to right: C-6 Surgery, Ward B, Ward A, Colic Building, C-5 Building, Barracks.
3. C-5 Building, looking northeast from corner of 5th Avenue and 9th Street, with Colic Building in background.
4. Colic Building, looking southeast from 5th Avenue, with C-5 Building in background.
5. Ward A, looking northeast from from 5th Avenue, standing in front of Colic Building. Ward B is in background.
6. Ward B, looking northeast from from 5th Avenue, standing in front of Ward A. Note breezeway door to left of hitching post.
7. Ward B hitching post concrete stands for watering troughs. All troughs are on the premises.
8. Interior of C-6 Surgery showing lean-to addition and original walls still intact.
9. Barracks, looking west from 5th Avenue.

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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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.govNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
HOW TO SUPPORT OR OBJECT TO LISTING

Under federal law, a privately owned property may not be listed in the National Register over the objection of its owner or, in the case of a property with multiple owners, over the objection of a majority of owners. A district may not be listed in the National Register over the objection of a majority of owners of private property within the proposed district. Each owner or partial owner of private property has one vote regardless of what part of the property that person owns. Within a district, each owner has one vote regardless of how many buildings he or she owns.

If a majority of private property owners should object, the property or district will not be listed. However, in such cases, the State Historic Preservation Officer is required to submit the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register for a *determination of eligibility* for the National Register. If the property or district is determined *eligible* for listing, although not formally listed, it will be given the same protection as a listed property in the federal environmental review process. A property determined eligible for listing is not eligible for federal tax benefits until the objections are withdrawn and the property is actually listed. The laws and regulations regarding this process are covered in the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and in 36 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations), Part 60.

Supporting a National Register Nomination:

Private owners who seek National Register listing for their properties are not required to submit statements of concurrence. However, letters of support, from owners or any others, are welcomed and become a permanent part of the nomination file.

Objecting to a National Register Nomination:

If you object to the listing of your property, you will need to submit a notarized statement certifying that you are the sole or partial owner of the property, as appropriate, and that you object to the listing. Owners who wish to object are encouraged to submit statements of objection prior to the meeting of the State Historical Resources Commission at which the nomination is being considered. However, statements of objection may be submitted and will be counted up until the actual date of listing. Listing usually takes place 45 days after the nomination is mailed to the Keeper of the National Register following the State Historical Resources Commission meeting.

Send letters of support or objection to:State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816-7100