GUIDE TO HISTORIC POINTS



FORT MONROE VIRGINIA

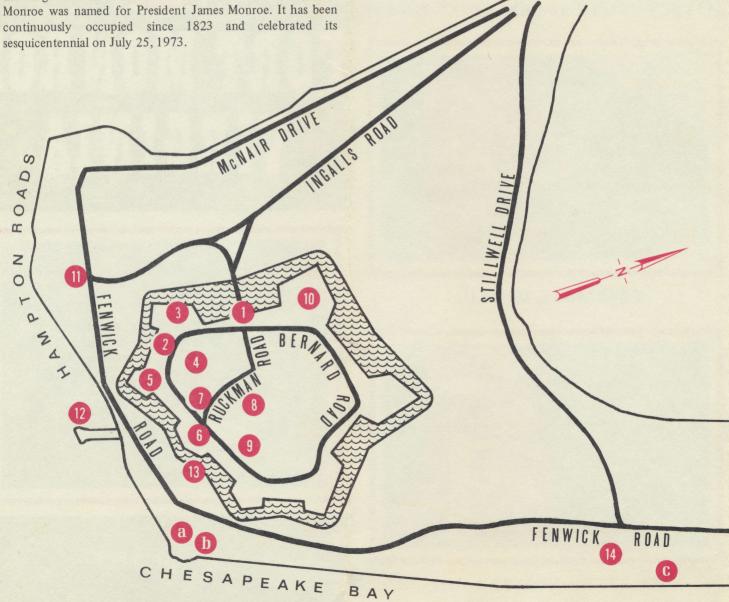


MAIN SALLYPORT

FORT MONROE, VIRGINIA

FORT MONROE—Fort Algernoume occupied this site from 1609 to 1667. The next was Fort George built in 1727 and destroyed by a hurricane in 1749. During the War of 1812 the ineffectual system of coastal defense allowed the British to sack Hampton and sail up the Chesapeake Bay to capture Washington. The government then planned a new system of coastal defense which included Fort Monroe. Begun in 1819, the largest stone fort ever built in North America, Fort Monroe was named for President James Monroe. It has been continuously occupied since 1823 and celebrated its sesquicentennial on July 25, 1973.

The Fort's full armament was to consist of three hundred eighty guns. Today Fort Monroe houses the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command which is responsible for training (service schools, training centers, and ROTC programs) and the combat development process. The Department of the Interior named Fort Monroe a Registered National Historic Landmark on May 9, 1961.



- 2 CASEMATE MUSEUM—Located within the old fort's walls, it displays the cell in which Jefferson Davis was imprisoned May 22 to October 2, 1865. (He was later moved to Carroll Hall). In addition the museum tells the story of the battle between the Monitor and Merrimack, the history of Fort Monroe, and Old Point Comfort. It is also the starting point of the walking tour.
- 3 OLD CISTERN—Since no drinkable water was ever found on Old Point Comfort, Fort Monroe obtained its drinking water from cisterns like this one and water brought from the mainland.
- 4 LEE'S QUARTERS—Future Confederate General, Robert E. Lee, was at Fort Monroe from 1831 to 1834 as a Lieutenant of Engineers and occupied these quarters. (PRIVATE RESIDENCE)
- 5 FLAGSTAFF BASTION—This site commands a view of Hampton Roads. From this point Fort Wool across Hampton Roads, Engineer Wharf, and the site of the battle between the Monitor and the Merrimack can be seen.
- 6 JEFFERSON DAVIS MEMORIAL PARK—Located on the ramparts of the old fort, the small park boasts a gunnery track for a 15-inch Rodman gun (such as the Lincoln gun on the parade ground).
- CHAPEL OF THE CENTURION—Dedicated in 1858, it is the Protestant chapel of Fort Monroe. It was named for the Roman centurion, Cornelius, who was converted to Christianity by the Apostle Peter.

8 LINCOLN GUN—Cast in 1860 and named for President Lincoln in 1862, it was the first 15-inch Rodman gun. It was used to bombard Confederate batteries on Sewell's Point.

9 QUARTERS NUMBER ONE—Built shortly after 1819, it is the oldest building at Fort Monroe. President Lincoln stayed here in May 1862, planning operations which led to the fall of Norfolk. Another famous guest was General Lafayette who stayed here in 1824.

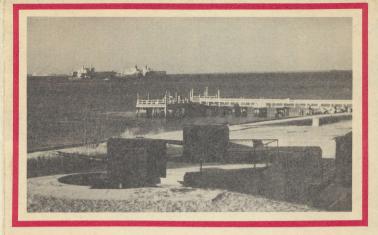
10 SITE OF CARROLL HALL—Built in the 1820's and no longer standing, it housed Jefferson Davis after he left casemate two from October 1865 to May 1867. It stood near what is now the band building.

HOTEL CHAMBERLIN—Successor to the first and second Hygeia Hotels and the first Hotel Chamberlin, the present Chamberlin, a civilian-owned and operated hotel, opened its doors in 1928. The area is and has been a resort area since 1820. Prior to the Civil War the hotel at Old Point Comfort was to planters and statesmen of the South what Saratoga was to those of the North.

12 ENGINEER WHARF—Built by the Corps of Engineers about 1818, Jefferson Davis landed here as a prisoner on May 22, 1865.

13 LIGHTHOUSE—Built in 1802, it has been in continuous operation since that time.

SEACOAST BATTERIES—In 1886 the Endicott Board, named for the Secretary of War, William C. Endicott, made recommendations for seacoast defense. Most of the defense was to consist of detached batteries. Primarily built between 1891 and World War I, visitors can drive by Fort Monroe's seacoast batteries. They include a Battery Irwin, Battery Parrott, Battery DeRussy, Battery Church, Batteries Anderson and Ruggles.



BATTERY IRWIN and ENGINEER WHARF



CASEMATE MUSEUM



QUARTERS NUMBER ONE