

RARITAN ARSENAL, GENERAL STORE HOUSE  
(Raritan Arsenal, Building 12)  
2890 Woodbridge Avenue  
Bonhamton Vicinity  
Middlesex County  
New Jersey

HABS No. NJ-1061-C

HABS  
NJ  
12-BONTO.V,  
1C-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Philadelphia Support Office  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

RARITAN ARSENAL, GENERAL STORE HOUSE  
(Raritan Arsenal, Building 12)

HABS No. NJ-1061-C

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12-BONHTON,  
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Location: 2890 Woodbridge Avenue, Bonhamton vicinity, Middlesex County, New Jersey

USGS Perth Amboy, New Jersey Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 18.554250.4484780

Significance: Building 12 is significant for its role in the manufacturing activities at Raritan Arsenal. This support structure played a role in the overhaul, repair, service, and maintenance of small arms and artillery.

Description: Building 12 is located in the corner formed by the Building 14 (HABS No. NJ-1061-D) ell addition. The clapboard-clad frame structure has an asphalt-shingle gable roof and a stuccoed concrete block foundation. There are three walls; the fourth wall (north) is the exterior wall of Building 14's proof-firing room. There are two one-over-one light double-hung wood sash windows on the west elevation and a single window opening on the south. A doorway on the east elevation leads from the loading platform along the west elevation of Building 14. There are no interior finishes or partition walls and no floor remains. Two metal incandescent light fixtures are suspended from the rafters. The building is in poor condition and the roof is collapsing.

History: Sources conflict regarding the construction date and use. The date provided on a list created at the time of decommissioning is 1951 (U.S.E.P.A. 1990: Appendix E). A second source references a "box shed" constructed at or near this location in 1949 for the outside covered storage of boxes (Dames & Moore 1993: Appendix E). A third source notes that the structure appears in a 1947 aerial photograph (U.S.E.P.A. 1992: 26). The building does not appear on a 1943 site plan of the property. The building is also referenced as a general storehouse (U.S.E.P.A. 1990) and as a "paint drying building" (Beatty, et al. 1990).

The building is owned by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and is currently vacant. In 1990, it was determined that demolition of the structure would be more economically feasible than reconstruction (Beatty, et al. 1990). Further deterioration of the building has raised serious safety concerns requiring that demolition be carried out.

Sources: Beatty, Harvey and Associates Architects, Building Demolition Docket. Prepared for United States Environmental Protection Agency, Edison, New Jersey, Region II, 1990.

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Dames & Moore. Archival Search Report Former Raritan Arsenal, Edison, New Jersey, Volumes 1 and 2. Prepared for the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, Kansas City, Missouri, July 1993.

Oversize manuscript map "Raritan Arsenal Building Numbers, January 2, 1943." R.G. 156, Entry 646, Box 225, National Archives, College Park, Md.

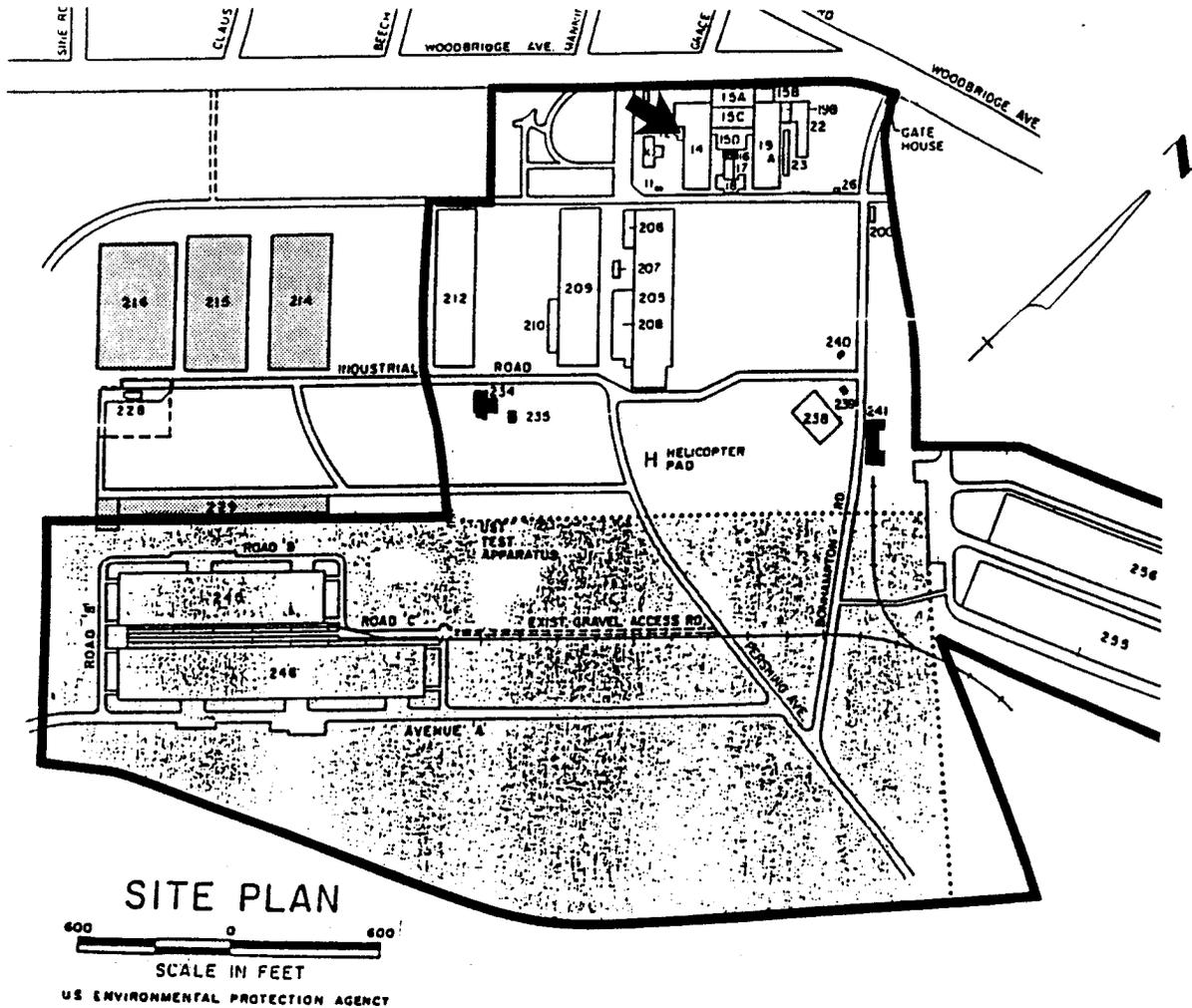
United States Environmental Protection Agency Region II, Gannett Fleming, Inc., Ecolsciences, Inc. Historic Resources Management Plan for the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Edison Facility, July 1992.

United States Environmental Protection Agency Region II, Gannett Fleming, Inc., Ecolsciences, Inc., and Historic Sites Research. Stage I Cultural Resources Survey United States Environmental Protection Agency Edison Facility, Edison Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey, October 1990.

Historian: Stacy E. Spies, Richard Grubb & Associates, October, 1996

PROPERTY PLOT PLAN

Map of the U.S.E.P.A.-owned property which includes part of the former Raritan Arsenal. Arrow points to subject building. Map altered from Figure 2 of the Stage 1 Cultural Resources Survey, United States Environmental Protection Agency Edison Facility, Edison Township, Middlesex County, 1990.



**KEY:**

- - EPA BOUNDARY
- ▨ - BUILDINGS OWNED BY MIDDLESEX COUNTY COLLEGE
- - BUILDINGS RECENTLY DEMOLISHED

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SKETCH FLOORPLAN

