Fort McCoy Firing Ranges and Military Training Lands

A History and Analysis

Madison L. Story, Adam D. Smith, and Sunny E. Adams

September 2022

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Fort McCoy Firing Ranges and Military Training Lands
A History and Analysis

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Final Report

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Directorate of Public Works
Fort McCoy, WI 54656

Under Project 485435, “FT MCCOY CULTURAL RESOURCE EFFORTS,” MIPR 0011401101
Abstract

The US Congress codified the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the nation’s most effective cultural resources legislation to date, mostly through establishing the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NHPA requires Federal agencies to address their cultural resources, which are defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object. Section 110 of the NHPA requires Federal agencies to inventory and evaluate their cultural resources, and Section 106 requires them to determine the effect of Federal undertakings on those potentially eligible for the NRHP.

Fort McCoy is entirely within Monroe County in west-central Wisconsin. It was first established as the Sparta Maneuver Tract in 1909. The post was renamed Camp McCoy in 1926. Since 1974, it has been known as Fort McCoy. This report provides a historic context for ranges, features, and buildings associated with the post’s training lands in support of Section 110 of the NHPA.
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Preface

This study was conducted for the Cultural Resources Program, Natural Resources Branch, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works (DPW) at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, under Project 485,435, “FT MCCOY CULTURAL RESOURCE EFFORTS.” The technical monitor was Mr. Ryan Howell (Cultural Resources Manager, DPW).

The work was performed by the Training Lands and Heritage Branch, of the Operational Science and Engineering Division, of the Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (ERDC-CERL). At the time of publication, Dr. Chris Rewerts was chief, Training Lands and Heritage Branch; Dr. George Calfas was chief, Operational Science and Engineering Division; and Mr. Jim Allen was the technical director for Environmental Quality and Installations. The deputy director of ERDC-CERL was Ms. Michelle Hanson, and the director was Dr. Andrew Nelson.

COL Christian Patterson was commander of ERDC, and Dr. David W. Pittman was the director.
1 Methodology

1.1 Background

The US Congress codified the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the nation’s most effective cultural resources legislation to date, to provide guidelines and requirements for identifying tangible elements of our nation’s past. This legislative requirement was met through creation of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Contained within this piece of legislation (NHPA Sections 110 and 106) are requirements for Federal agencies to address their cultural resources, defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object. Section 110 requires Federal agencies to inventory and evaluate their cultural resources. Section 106 requires the determination of effect of Federal undertakings on properties deemed eligible or potentially eligible for the NRHP.

Fort McCoy is located in west-central Wisconsin, east of La Crosse and between the towns of Sparta and Tomah (general area shown in Figure ). Fort McCoy lies entirely within Monroe County. The US Army first established Sparta Maneuver Tract in 1909 as a field artillery training site. The post was renamed Camp McCoy in 1926, and a Citizens’ Military Training Camp (CMTC)\(^1\) was established at the southern end of the post. A Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)\(^2\) base was established in 1933 at the former CMTC and existed until 1939. After this, a new cantonment was planned north of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad using 800 Series War Department mobilization building plans and laid out in a triangular formation or, as the Army referred to it, a “triad.” The Army deactivated Camp McCoy on 1 February 1953, after which it was used for National Guard and Army Reserve training. The Army reactivated the post in 1970, and it was redesignated Fort McCoy in 1974.

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1 CMTC was a program that allowed male citizens to obtain basic military training without an obligation to call-up for active duty.

2 The CCC was a public works relief program for environmental projects that operated from 1933 to 1942 for unemployed, unmarried men of ages 17–28. It was one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal programs during the Great Depression.
1.2 **Objective**

The objective of this research project was to create a historic context regarding training lands that can be used in the future to assess the integrity of ranges, features, and buildings associated with Fort McCoy’s training lands for listing on the NRHP as they reach 50 years of age.

1.3 **Researchers**

This project was conducted by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Engineering Research Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory in Champaign, Illinois. The research team included Adam D. Smith, Master of Architecture, as project manager, with 24 years of experience in military architectural history; Sunny E. Adams, Master of Architecture, as architectural historian, with 19 years of experience; and Madison L. Story, Master of Science in Historic Preservation, with 1 year of experience.
1.4 Scope

1.4.1 Site visits

ERDC-CERL personnel made three trips to Fort McCoy: in July 2020 to gather maps from Fort McCoy DPW, in April 2021 to gather information on extant buildings, and in August 2021 to conduct archival research.

1.4.2 Archival repositories

ERDC-CERL researchers conducted a review of books, archival repositories, and online resources related to Fort McCoy, training lands, and range building construction. The following people and places were either contacted or searched:

- NRHP listings and nomination forms (online at https://www.nps.gov/Nr/publications/index.htm);
- Fort McCoy Cultural Resources Office of the Directorate of Public Works;
- Fort McCoy Historian’s Office;
- Fort McCoy Real Property Office;
- Monroe County Local History Room and Museum;
- Bessie Kmiecik, local historian in Monroe County, WI;
- Wisconsin Historical Society (online at https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS15310);
- Personal collection of Ryan Howell.
- University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries Digitized Collections (online at https://search.library.wisc.edu/search/digital); and the
- National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), College Park, Maryland (NARA 111-SC, 111-SCA, and 111-CCS).

1.4.3 Analysis

After initial research was completed, the team analyzed the gathered information. Archival information and field information were integrated throughout the course of the project. The information available was contained in text documents, photographs, and historic maps. Using archival sources, the research team extracted relevant historical information. The material was then combined to tell the story in both text and images.
2 Chronology of Training Activities

Fort McCoy was officially founded in 1909 as Sparta Maneuver Tract, a seasonal training ground four miles south of the present Fort McCoy cantonment; however, its beginnings lie in the late 19th century, when then-Colonel Robert B. McCoy (1867–1926) began acquiring land near Sparta, Wisconsin.4 By 1905, he owned approximately 4,000 acres, which he let as pasture for grazing (Figure 2). On learning that Major Samuel Allen, commander of the 7th Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, needed an artillery range, Colonel McCoy invited Major Allen and his battalion to the McCoy Ranch. The battalion and an Army board of reviewing officers spent 16 days encamped there in September 1905 using staked-out ranges for artillery practice. This is the first recorded firing at what is now Fort McCoy. The battalion encamped again in September 1907.7

Figure 2. Pasture at Camp McCoy, n.d. (Image from Monroe County Local History Room and Museum [MCLHR]. Public Domain).

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6 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Volume 1.

In 1906, Secretary of War W. H. Taft sought to establish a military maneuver camp for use by both the active Army and National Guard in Wisconsin. Camp Douglas, WI, already in use by the Wisconsin National Guard, was the preferred site; however, the state was not interested in relinquishing control and selling to the War Department. The War Department then sought to purchase a nearby tract of land near Camp Douglas, but landowners raised prices from $3 to $30 per acre, making the $150,000 appropriation for the purchase inadequate. Due in part to the history of military encampments in the area, a 14,206.65 acre tract of land approximately 3.5 miles east of Sparta, which included McCoy Ranch, was purchased in 1909 to be the Sparta Maneuver Tract. This area was divided approximately in half by the existing Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad (CMSTP&P). North of the tracks was Camp Emory Upton (Figure 3), a maneuver camp with pipes and an elevated steel tank for water distribution. Camp Robinson, an artillery camp, was established south of the tracks (Figure 4).

In 1911, a second rail line, constructed by the Milwaukee, Sparta, and Northwestern Railroad, opened on the reservation. This line ran parallel to the CMSTP&P lines. The railroads transported troops to and from the camp throughout the decade; however, the lines and their associated infrastructure were also used for training: in 1910, two infantry battalions conducted a maneuver in which the CMSTP&P simulated an important supply line that the one participating battalion needed to protect and the other needed to overtake. Occasional exercises continued on the reservation until 1917.

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12 Fort McCoy, “History.”


15 Reservation is an encompassing term for property (usually a large area) over which the US government has exclusive jurisdiction. It is also separate from the surrounding state in a territorial sense.
During WWI, the Army erected a series of standardized mobilization buildings at Camp Robinson including barracks, mess halls, warehouses, and stables. As was typical for temporary construction during wartime, the Army arranged the buildings in simple grids. The design of the
mobilization buildings allowed for their easy removal after hostilities ceased, but oftentimes, the buildings remained and converted to different uses.\textsuperscript{16}

Following the conclusion of WWI, the barracks and mess halls were dismantled. The reservation was soon designated as the site of the Sparta Ordnance Depot, though it was often still referred to as Camp Robinson in newspapers at the time.\textsuperscript{17} All training activities (including artillery and small arms firing) on the reservation ceased in 1919, and its primary function became the handling, storage, and shipping of explosive materials, particularly powder and Pyrex cotton, an explosive made of nitric and sulfuric acid-treated cotton.\textsuperscript{18} Numerous portable magazines and a narrow-gauge railroad system were constructed in the range areas.\textsuperscript{19}

In 1923, the War Department transferred the reservation and all surplus war materials to the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), which would use the post to prepare explosives for highway work, though troops also completed summer training at the reservation during 1923.\textsuperscript{20} The USDA’s custodianship continued until May 1925, at which point they had cleared all powder and explosives from the camp, as requested by the War Department in 1924.\textsuperscript{21} During the USDA’s custodianship, civilian employees worked to dismantle temporary wartime barracks and deactivate the ordnance depot. The depot’s explosive materials were reprocessed on-site at a plant on the south range designed for that purpose, and the resultant product was sold commercially as dynamite. Surplus ordnance was boxed and shipped to other government depots by the DuPont Powder Company


\textsuperscript{17} Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 32; “Men are Busy Handling Explosives Near Tomah,” \textit{Cashton Record}, Oct. 3, 1919, 1.

\textsuperscript{18} Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 32.

\textsuperscript{19} Post Engineer Office, Camp McCoy, “Historical Data Camp McCoy, Wisconsin”; “Agricultural Department Will Take Over Camp Robinson,” \textit{Norwalk Star}, Nov. 3, 1922, 1.

\textsuperscript{20} “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” \textit{Fort McCoy Triad} Commemorative Issue (Jan. 1, 1999), Monroe County History Center Archives, 8; “Camp McCoy Ready for Training Season,” \textit{Cashton Record}, May 15, 1923, 1.

using lumber salvaged from the dismantled barracks. 22 No military personnel were assigned to the reservation at this time.23

Following the change in custodianship from the USDA to the War Department, the reservation, which had been officially designated as Camp McCoy on 19 November 1926, was “destined within the next three years to be the greatest training camp in the United states [sic].” Improvements were to be made per a three-year plan, underway as of April 1927, that would result in “constructions of a permanent nature.”24

In the 1930s, Camp McCoy also became a district headquarters for the CCC, a New Deal–era unemployment relief agency. The WWI cantonment site served as a field for tent camps pitched by visiting troops on an annual basis. Some permanent buildings for the administration of summer training activities were erected on the perimeter of the cantonment.25

The height of training at Camp McCoy during the early 20th century occurred during World War II (WWII) (Figure 5). In addition to serving as a training center, Camp McCoy—specifically the former CCC Discharge and Reception Center—served as a Japanese internee relocation camp following the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941.26 The Internment Camp consisted of 35 buildings in a 20-acre enclosed space.27 Later, these facilities were used to confine 2,700 Japanese, 3,000 German, and 500 Korean prisoners of war (POWs). The POW camp closed in June 1946.28

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23 Post Engineer Office.
In addition to Japanese internees, Camp McCoy also housed 1,400 Japanese Americans who had been serving in the Hawaiian National Guard in the early 1940s. In June 1942, the men were sent to Camp McCoy. In June 1942, they were organized into the 100th Infantry Battalion.29 They trained at Camp McCoy for approximately seven months—initially with only wooden guns, due to fear of treason—before being sent to Camp Shelby, MS, then North Africa, and, eventually, Italy.30 The 100th ultimately became one of the most decorated units in US Army history.31

Following the end of WWII, Camp McCoy was designated as a Reception and Separation Center. Twenty-two buildings were converted for this task. The Reception Station handled 5,400 soldiers per week, while the Separation Center handled 800. The center closed a year later after handling nearly 250,000 soldiers, primarily from Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, and Montana.32 In early 1947, Camp McCoy served as an Induction Center for recruits from the same states.33

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30 Theimer, “All Fighters, All Americans,” 1.


2.1 The Sparta Maneuver Tract

On Sunday, 10 September 1905, the 169 men of the 10th and 30th Batteries of the 7th Battalion arrived at McCoy Ranch, approximately four miles east of Sparta, WI (Figure 6). The men had marched from Camp Snelling, MN, accompanied by 166 horses and 24 mules. The camp was situated south of the railroad track and east of the crossing and [was] laid out in two streets of ten conical tents each. The co-o, mess and supply tents [were] at the end of each street and the hospital and officers’ quarters [were] south of camp. The horses and mules [were] picketed in strings to the wheels of each caisson and [had] no shelter.34

It was “situated so as to permit perfect sanitation and police and the nature of the ground insure[d] absolute safety from accidents while the batteries [were] in action,” as the batteries were given “the freedom of [McCoy’s] entire ranch, comprising about 3,000 acres” in addition to the camp. Silhouette targets resembling “front and side views of men on horseback” and infantrymen in standing, kneeling, and prone positions were placed “chiefly in Section 2, Angelo, and south ½ Section 35 of Lafayette, and [were] fired on from points in a circle, excepting towards the village of Angelo.” They were placed at “points unknown to the gunners” and were to be found using telescopic sights and a range finder. The ranges themselves were one to three miles long.35 Firing began the Tuesday after their arrival (September 12) and continued during the following mornings. Firing ended when the 144 shells and 456 shrapnel, each of which was filled with 360 bullets, were spent.36

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35 “The Artillery in Camp.”
36 “The Artillery in Camp.”
The Sparta Maneuver Tract hosted its first official military training season during the summer of 1909 (Figure 7 and Figure 8). Prior to troops’ arrival, galvanized storage buildings and a spur of the CMSTP&P were built on the camp’s grounds (Figure 9). In early July, three regular light field artillery batteries arrived from Fort Sheridan, IL; Fort Leavenworth, KS; and Fort Snelling, MN. On July 13, a hospital corps unit of 130 personnel, arrived from Fort Russel, WY. They stayed until August. On July 15, two days after the batteries’ arrival, 31 National Guard surgeons also arrived at the reservation, as Camp Robinson had recently been selected as a school of instruction for National Guard medical officers.

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37 “The Artillery in Camp.”
38 “The Culmination of a Dream.”
40 Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 32.
Figure 7. The first official encampment at Camp Robinson, 1909 (Image from MCLHR. Public Domain).

Figure 8. Indiana National Guard campground at Camp Robinson, 1909 (Image from MCLHR. Public Domain).
On 16 August 1909, Major General Fred D. Grant toured the Sparta Maneuver Tract via automobile and horseback as artillery practice batteries from Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota arrived for training (Figure 10, Figure 11, Figure 12, and Figure 13). He recommended the purchase of additional land and improvements to the reservation. Consequently, $150,000 was appropriated for the purchase of 7,600 acres to expand the rifle range; only half of the appropriation was necessary for the purchase, however, so the purchase of a total of 14,100 acres was subsequently approved. At the time of this purchase, the Sparta Maneuver Tract was the largest maneuver camp in the US.

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42 Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 32.
Figure 10. Major Grant’s artillery unit encamped after hiking to Camp Robinson, 1910 (Image from MCLHR. Public Domain).

Figure 11. Artillery training at Camp Emory Upton, c. 1909 (Image from MCLHR. Public Domain).
The same year, a total of $84,000 was appropriated for a shooting gallery and ranges, of which $40,000 was immediately available for

the construction and equipment for field firing of the artillery, cavalry and infantry branches of the army [sic] for machine guns, including the construction of a concrete storehouse, portable railroad, and one camp
site for water and sanitation of land authorized to be acquired near Sparta, Wis., as a site for target range and all necessary expenses connected therewith.\textsuperscript{46}

The “expenses connected therewith” likely included timber and brush clearing, as the “Officer in Charge” of range construction noted in a July 1910 letter to Fort Snelling’s adjutant general that the labor conditions were “very difficult,” and no work could occur until the site was cleared.\textsuperscript{47}

Of the appropriated $40,000, an estimated $20,000 was used for target butts, which cost approximately $10 per linear foot (Figure 14, Figure 15, Figure 16, and Figure 17). A 30 × 100-foot storehouse was to be constructed for $5,000; a “water distributing system” for $7,000; and a two-mile portable railway, likely for moving targets, for $4,000. The remaining $4,000 would be used for switches, accessories, and cars associated with the railway, which would cost $100 to $200 each.\textsuperscript{48}

\begin{figure}
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{figure14.png}
\caption{Costs of various range features, 1910 (War Department, Office of the Quartermaster General, Washington, DC, Memorandum for the Quartermaster General, 10 January 1910).}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{46} “To Improve Sparta Range,” Kendall Keystone, Feb. 10, 1910, 1.
\textsuperscript{47} Fort Snelling, Minnesota, Letter to the Adjutant General of the Department of Dakota, July 6, 1910, Folder: Military – Ft. McCoy Land Purch., Monroe County Local History Room and Museum, Sparta, WI.
\textsuperscript{48} War Department, Office of the Quartermaster General, Washington, DC, Memorandum for the Quartermaster General, Jan. 10, 1910, Folder: Military – Ft. McCoy Land Purch., Monroe County Local History Room and Museum, Sparta, WI.
Figure 15. Construction crew at a range on the South Post, n.d. (Image from MCLHR. Public Domain).

Figure 16. Concrete target butt of 1,000-yard range, n.d. (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).
From 1909 to 1919, the camp’s training facilities were used by active Army batteries (Figure 18 and Figure 19). Exercises included the quartering of batteries of light field artillery in 1909 and maneuvers in 1910. By September 1910, a new range, described as having “more natural advantages for an ideal range” than any other location in the US, had been constructed. It had “clear fields, rolling grounds, heavy underbrush, [and] some timber,” that gave ‘the contending troops unlimited variation” for maneuver purposes. There was a trout stream adjacent to the rifle range firing line and “artesian wells” at the maneuver and artillery camps. The shooting camp was “located in the extreme southwest corner of the reservation.”

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51 “An Ideal Rifle Range.”
Between 1910 and 1911, office buildings and a storehouse were built, though their exact location is unknown. In 1912, the size of the camp was increased, and the range was reforested with Norway Pine and Scotch Pine seedlings.

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52 Post Engineer Office.
53 Post Engineer Office; “Reforesting the Range,” Sparta Herald, April 9, 1912, 3; “Reforesting at The Range,” Sparta Herald, May 18, 1912, 3.
Also in 1912, three battalions marched from Dubuque, IA, to the Sparta Maneuver Tract to participate in “drills, exercises, etc.” The march allowed the battalions to test new equipment and experimental outfits and determine the suitability of automobile trucks for military purposes. On arrival, they conducted infantry drill, during which “much attention to the equipment of mounted men of the infantry and experiments [were] made to ascertain if a mounted staff for infantry regiments [was] desirable.” “Some entirely new suggestions for a field train with forge tools for blacksmithing and for equipment for veterinary service” were also tested.\textsuperscript{54}

Field artillery and infantry units continued to train using the reservation’s facilities until WWI.\textsuperscript{55} Additional rifle range construction began in 1915, and, in 1917, barracks, mess halls, warehouses, and stables were constructed in the area now known as Old Camp McCoy.\textsuperscript{56} The National Guard also used these facilities, and a large field artillery and infantry encampment occurred in 1918 (Figure 20 and Figure 21).\textsuperscript{57}

\textbf{Figure 20.} Camp Robinson postcard, no date (Image from Fort McCoy Cultural Resources Management [CRM] Office. Public Domain).

\begin{flushleft}
\textsuperscript{54} “Operations At The Range,” Sparta Herald, April 16, 1912, 3.
\textsuperscript{55} “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 8.
\textsuperscript{56} “Fort McCoy, Wisconsin,” Historical Time Capsules of Monroe County, 1.
\textsuperscript{57} Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 32; “Fort McCoy, Wisconsin,” Historical Time Capsules of Monroe County, 3.
\end{flushleft}
One account of training at the Sparta Maneuver Tract between 1917 and 1919 recounts using a compass and map to find “Hill 920” in fog so thick we could not see a hundred yards ahead nor any of the big hills to give us a general direction. Not one of us had been there before and we had some time. We tried to keep near the railroad but encountered that “Excepted ten acres” and had to retreat to get around it.

The fog had cleared by the time we were assembled on the hill and we proceeded to work. . . . Long after dinner time we started back by way of the north range, where we encountered swamps, ploughed thru brush, then cut across the open field between Lafayette and Selfridge knolls where we expected 33nd [sic] to start firing at any moment. But they didn’t.58

The account then describes artillery practice on Hill 1,060. The firing positions were “on the high point north of 1,060” (Figure 22). A man was “sent

with flags on a knoll to relay the signal should they be necessary.”59 Battery positions were located near multiple hills, but were concentrated around Perry Peak (Figure 23, Figure 24, and Figure 25).

Figure 22. Concrete walls surrounding an artillery firing point south of Perry Peak on South Post during WWI, 1918 (Image from ERDC-CERL, Public Domain).

Figure 23. Battery positions shown on a pre-WWII map, no date (Image from personal collection of Ryan Howell. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL, Public Domain).

59 Waldo, 357, 360.
Other practice occurred near Hill 1090 (Figure 26) and Pine Bluff (Figure 27). Cavalry training is described as starting near the south range and involving “enemy” positions near hills 920 and 1060.⁶⁰

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⁶⁰ Waldo, 359.
Figure 26. Schematic of artillery practice positions near Hill 1090, 1918 (Image from Waldo, 335. Public Domain).

Figure 27. Schematic of artillery practice positions near Pine Bluff, 1918 (Image from Waldo, 335. Public Domain).
Though Camp Robinson had the only range in the United States that could accommodate field artillery practice with a long-range cannon, training activities ceased while the camp served as an ordnance depot from 1919 to 1923. Training picked up again in 1925, when the 14th Light Field Artillery marched from Fort Sheridan, IL, to the Sparta Maneuver Tract to engage in target practice while stationed at the reservation for the entirety of the summer (Figure 28).

Figure 28. Aerial photo of ranges at the Sparta Maneuver Tract, 1925 (Image from Fort McCoy CRM Office, Public Domain).

The following year, National Guard and Reserve units from Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa, conducted field artillery training in the summer (Figure 29 and Figure 30), as did an antiaircraft battery. A small detachment of quartermaster troops was assigned to the camp, and the War Department also began making improvements to the remaining buildings and roads during 1926. Further construction was deemed necessary during maneuvers two years later, as the local airfield was found to be too small, and a new aviation field was subsequently developed along County Trunk “B” in the vicinity of Spring Bank. Construction continued through 1929.

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63 Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 32.
64 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 9.
Figure 29. A gun crew completes a practice exercise prior to heading to the field to fire their weapons, 1920s (Image from Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 35. Public Domain).

Figure 30. Field artillery practice, n.d. (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).
2.2 Camp McCoy

In the late 1920s, a Citizens Military Training Camp (CMTC) was established at the reservation, which was designated as Camp McCoy in 1926. The first CMTC exercise at the camp was held in 1928 (Figure 31 and Figure 32). The exercise, which lasted 30 days, consisted of instruction in citizenship, physical training, hygiene, close order drill, guard duty, marksmanship, and horsemanship.65

Other training activities during the late 1920s included summer training for a battery of antiaircraft guns in 1925 and 1926 as well as summer artillery training for National Guard units from Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. These summer training activities continued through at least 1933.66

Figure 31. Soldiers participated in physical training exercises, field training, and maneuvers, 1929 (Image from "Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army," 9. Public Domain).

65 Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 34.
66 Post Engineer Office, Camp McCoy, “Historical Data Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.”
During the 1931 summer field training at Camp McCoy, the horse-drawn guns and caissons of the 120th Field Artillery were replaced by motorized units.67 The final horse-drawn artillery unit trained at Camp McCoy nine years later in 1940.68

In 1933, Camp McCoy served as a CCC quartermaster supply base, which administered clothing, subsistence, and equipment to Wisconsin CCC camps. Camp McCoy’s role as a CCC supply base ended in 1935, and the CCC was completely phased out of Camp McCoy by 1939. A Discharge and Reception Center was consequently constructed at the camp to out-process CCC enrollees.69 Regular summer training occurred in 1933 and 1935, though it is unclear if it occurred in 1934.70

Field artillery firing for 1936 summer training took place from June 1 to August 15.71 The following year, Camp McCoy hosted one of their busiest encampments, which included the typical number of soldiers for summer training as well as Sixth Corps Area maneuvers.72 This “war game” featured the largest concentration of troops at Camp McCoy in “many years”

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67 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 9.
68 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
69 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
70 Post Engineer Office.
71 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 9.
72 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
with the goal of testing the “latest implements of war now possessed by the United States” as well as testing the Sixth Corps Area mobilization plan.73 Artillery, infantry and machine gun battalions, antiaircraft artillery, cavalry, air corps, and tanks were tested.74 Regular summer training continued in 1937 and 1938.75

2.2.1 WWII and the new cantonment

The Army acquired the 9,500-acre maneuver area from the USDA in 1939.76 Camp McCoy likely was chosen for these maneuvers due to the area’s terrain, which resembled that of Europe.77 The following year, the Army General Staff decided that the 65,000-man Second Army should conduct 1940 maneuvers in and around Camp McCoy (Figure 33).78

The diversified terrain in the 1,000 square mile area, ranging from flat plains covered with heavy second growth to the craggy heavily wooded heights of the Purdy Valley ridge, is ideal for training purposes. Troops of all kinds will learn to evaluate terrain in order that full advantage may be taken of it in the use of the various types of weapons.79

The maneuvers took advantage of numerous training areas available at Camp McCoy in 1940, including multiple combat ranges and engineer, artillery brigade, and musketry training areas (Figure 33), and were conducted in August of that year (Figure 34 and Figure 35).80 Much of the land on which the maneuvers were conducted had been obtained for Army use in the spring of 1940, when two officers from the Second Army headquarters in Chicago sought to “obtain legal rights to 1,000 square miles of central Wisconsin for those three weeks in August.”81 This acreage was obtained through agreements with Monroe, Jackson, and Juneau Counties,

73 “6,000 Regulars in Training in Camp McCoy War Game,” The Tomah Journal, Aug. 19, 1937, 1.
74 “6,000 Regulars in Training in Camp McCoy War Game.”
75 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
76 Wasch, World War II and the US Army Mobilization Program, 205.
78 Wasch, World War II and the US Army Mobilization Program, 205.
80 US Army Corps of Engineers, Bivouacs & Training Areas 2D Army Maneuvers 1940, 1940, 1:20,000 (Sparta, WI: 2d Army) Monroe County Local History Room and Museum, Sparta, WI.
as well as with prominent area landowners.\textsuperscript{82} The maneuvers featured the largest concentration of troops in a single Midwest location since WWI.\textsuperscript{83}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{Figure_33_1940_maneuvers_map.jpg}
\caption{1940 maneuvers map (Image from Fort McCoy CRM Office. Public Domain).}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{82} Doherty, "Blitzkrieg for Beginners," 90.
\textsuperscript{83} “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
Due to the previous maneuvers, the constructing quartermaster office determined that Camp McCoy and its surrounding area would be suitable for a large cantonment.84 Much of this land—specifically a 40,000-acre tract of land in townships 17 and 18 north, ranges 2 and 3 west—would be used to extend a target and maneuver range which had been worked on in 1940 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) (Figure 36, Figure 37, and Figure 38).85 The new land would increase the then-25,000-acre range by “approximately one-fourth” and would enhance the existing 155 mm howitzer, 105 mm gun, and trench mortar ranges.86 Support facilities, including two concrete block ordnance magazines (Figure 39) and a concrete

84 Wasch, 205–206.
85 “Plan 7,500 Acre Extension For M’Coy Post Gun Range,” Sparta Herald, Dec. 29, 1941, 1; Opinion of the Attorney General That the United States of America is in Possession Under a Clear and Complete Title of Certain Land Situated in the County of Monroe, State of Wisconsin, Designated Camp McCoy, Folder: 870-5b 1948 Miscellaneous Documents, Fort McCoy Historical Center, Fort McCoy, WI.
86 “Plan 7,500 Acre Extension Fort M’Coy Post Gun Range.”
loading platform (Figure 40), were also built in 1940, likely in support of this expansion.87

Figure 36. Range construction, n.d. (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).

Figure 37. Range construction, n.d. (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).

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87 Villa Cowles Yackel, [Book of 1940 range buildings’ and structures’ real property cards], Fort McCoy Historical Center, Fort McCoy, WI.
Figure 38. Bayonet practice dummies on completed range with no visible target butt, n.d. (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).

Figure 39. 10 ft by 10 ft ordnance magazine completed on 1 August 1940, n.d. (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).
On 10 February 1942, the War Department officially announced its decision to build a new cantonment at Camp McCoy and immediately take possession of 9,600 acres of forested land to house the cantonment; however, the plans to increase the size of the installation were underway by August 1941, when the appraisal of 53,000 acres near Camp McCoy for purchase began. The land was to be acquired “in a fair manner, and all owners of property [were advised] to be patient and that the land acquisition board will pay a price fair to both buyer and seller.”

In February 1942, 9,600 acres were seized from 15 farmers, though the farmland was, according to the Federal government, suboptimal. By 21 May 1942, the amount of land to be seized had grown to 25,000 acres. Ultimately, 37,437 acres were purchased under a directive from the Secretary of War. This purchase required over 200 farmers to relocate. By 1942, Camp McCoy consisted of 61,143 acres.

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88 “Opening Brings Realization of Years’ Efforts,” Monroe County Democrat, Aug. 27, 1942, 1, 6.
89 “McCoy Land Appraisal Opens; Begin Activity,” Sparta Herald, Aug. 11, 1941, 1–2.
92 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
93 “Farmers Forced To Move From Camp McCoy Site.”
94 “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
In the design for the new cantonment approved by General Cummins [Figure 41], the architect-engineers arranged three curvilinear segments, each containing from five to nine battalion blocks, in a triangular pattern. The three infantry regiments of the triangular division would occupy the northern segment, which was situated close to the infantry training areas in the proposed reservation. The eastern half of the southern segment was intended for the artillery of the division and battalions of special troops attached to the division. The artillery batteries, at the end of the southern segment, were located a short distance north of the firing ranges constructed earlier for artillery practice at the original Camp McCoy. Thus, the two principal groups of troops, the infantry and artillery, could travel quickly and unimpeded to their respective training areas. 95

As of 1941, training areas at Camp McCoy included at least two obstacle courses, three hand grenade courses, and two bayonet courses (Figure 42 and Figure 43). Ranges included a pistol range and a known distance range.96 Ammunition was stored just south of the cantonment at the ammunition supply point (ASP). It consisted of 14 igloos, each accompanied by an earth berm as a blast barrier (Figure 44). The igloos provided a total of 54,450 cubic ft of storage.97

96 Office of the Post Engineer, *Reservation Boundary Map*, 1941, no scale (Fort McCoy: US Army Corps of Engineers) Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
97 Office of the Post Engineer, *Analysis of Existing Facilities* (Camp McCoy, WI: Office of the Post Engineer, 1960s).
Figure 41. Exhibit No. 8 from the March 1942 edition of the *Engineering Manual of the Office of the Chief of Engineers*, depicting the adaptation of a typical layout at Camp McCoy (Image from Fort McCoy CRM Office. Public Domain).
Figure 42. Cantonment in 1941 with training areas and ASP outlined in red (General Site Plan & Building Use Map, 1941, scale 1:400, Milwaukee, WI. US Engineer Office, Fort McCoy DPW, Fort McCoy, WI. Red lines added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 43. Training areas northeast of the cantonment, 1941 (General Site Plan & Building Use Map, 1941, scale 1:400, Milwaukee, WI. US Engineer Office, Fort McCoy DPW, Fort McCoy, WI. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
The plan for the new camp (Figure 45) included “mock up fortifications” and a training village northeast of the south artillery range. Mock villages became popular during WWII as they allowed soldiers to become immersed in realistic environments while training. They were elaborately constructed and featured typical styles of housing, communal buildings, and shrines as found in the countries they represented. At Camp McCoy, these training features resembled Japanese villages when initially constructed (Figure 46 and Figure 47).

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Figure 45. Plan of Camp McCoy cantonment, 1941 (Mead, Ward, and Hunt, *Reservation Boundary and Land Use Map. Public Domain*).
Figure 46. Buildings in a mock Japanese training village, 1947 (Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office, *This Month in Fort McCoy History. June 2020* [Image 2 of 2]. Public Domain).
There would be antiaircraft (AA) and radio-controlled aerial target (RCAT) areas north of the cantonment.\textsuperscript{100} AA ranges were used to fire at aerial targets and generally consisted of a cleared or leveled area. They typically allowed both large and small arms firing.\textsuperscript{101} RCAT areas were a specialized type of AA area. RCATs themselves were typically shaped like aircraft, though constructed at a smaller scale than true aircraft, and launched by catapult or using an airfield.\textsuperscript{102}

Improvements were also made to the firing ranges during the early 1940s (Figure 48, Figure 49, and Figure 50).\textsuperscript{103} One such improvement was the construction of six underground concrete shelters in the South Artillery Area, which were to be used for temporary ammunition storage during maneuvers. Notably, according to a recollection gathered from a former

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{100} Office of the Post Engineer, \textit{Reservation Boundary Map}.
\item \textsuperscript{101} Daniel Archibald, Adam Smith, Sunny Adams, Manroop K. Chawla, \textit{Military Training Lands Historic Context: Large Arms Ranges}, ERDC/CERL TR-10-8, (Champaign, IL: ERDC/CERL, 2010), 63–64.
\item \textsuperscript{102} Archibald et al., \textit{Military Training Lands Historic Context: Large Arms Ranges}, 80–81.
\item \textsuperscript{103} US Army Corps of Engineers, \textit{Battle Map}, 1942, 1:40,000 (Fort Humphreys, Washington, DC: Engineer Reproduction Plant, US Army) Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
\end{itemize}
field artillery soldier who was stationed at McCoy in the 1920s and early
1930s, these may have been constructed by the WPA in the early 1930s.104

Figure 48. An unspecified range, 1942 (Image from Fort McCoy CRM Office. Public Domain).

Figure 49. Looking west at a target butt on the South Arms Ranges, c. 1942 (HABS No. WI-308. Public Domain).

Additional improvements likely included the construction of 12 latrines and 3 target houses near the ranges, as shown on a 1944 map (Figure 51). This map also shows a tower near the south entrance gate and pistol range towers scattered throughout the south portion of the installation.\textsuperscript{105}

Figure 51. Map showing training ranges and associated facilities, 1944 (Office of the Post Engineer, *Reservation Boundary Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
The new cantonment, referred to as the “New Camp,” was used to house an estimated 35,000 to 40,000 troops during the height of WWII training activities. The first unit to train at the camp, the 100th Infantry Battalion of Hawaii, arrived in June 1942 and departed for Camp Shelby, MS, in January 1943. The 2nd Infantry Division (ID) trained at Camp McCoy from November 1942 until the fall of 1943, and the 76th Infantry Division arrived shortly after the 2nd ID’s departure for 12 months of training. Both IDs were deployed to Europe on their departure.106

In July 1944, the Chemical Warfare Service (CWS) began testing mortar tubes at Camp McCoy.107 Prior to this, the CWS had been active at Camp McCoy using tear gas and smoke to simulate chemical agents for field exercises. The mortar tube testing continued until the end of WWII.108

In addition to regular training that occurred until 1945, other units trained at Camp McCoy during WWII included nurses from VI Corps, who underwent their four-week basic training at the camp hospital, and members of the Women’s Army Corps (WAC).109 A WAC detachment consisting of one officer and 21 enlisted female personnel arrived in May 1943 and quickly became a vital part of the camp, serving as clerks, librarians, statisticians, typists, office managers, and members of the post’s motor pool. A Limited Service School for training physically handicapped soldiers was also established at Camp McCoy in 1943.110

The Limited Service School offered soldiers standard training under a compressed four-week schedule (Figure 52).111 The first week of training included instruction on subjects including military discipline, articles of war, equipment and clothing, defense against chemical attack, and first aid; the second week incorporated rifle marksmanship, marches, and bivouacs; the third week, map reading, drill, and advanced military training. In the fourth week, “a more intensified study and practice of military

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106 Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 35-36; “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
107 Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 35-36; “Fort McCoy: 90 Years of Service to America’s Army,” 10.
109 Post Engineer Office; Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 36.
subjects [was] undertaken as the men undergo their final conditioning.”112
It was commanded by noncommissioned officers and, on moving to the
New Camp in 1942, the school had a capacity of 4,000 students.113 Stu-
dents graduated in 250-man classes.114

Figure 52. Second-week Limited Service school students practice aiming and shooting service
rifles (Image reprinted with permission from La Crosse Tribune and Leader-Press, November
15, 1942, 7.).

2.2.2 Early Cold War

Because of the massive postwar reduction in the size of the US military,
training activities nearly ceased at Camp McCoy in 1946. The only regular
training activity to continue was Task Force Frost. This exercise was one of
three task forces organized by the War Department to test Army winter
equipment and clothing, and approximately 1,000 troops for Task Force
Frost trained at Camp McCoy by spring 1947 (Figure 53 and Figure 54).115

112 “Rigid Training Course Mapped Out for Men in Limited Service Group,” La Crosse Tribune and
Leader-Press, Nov. 15, 1942, 7.
113 “Limited Service School is Moved,” La Crosse Tribune and Leader-Press, Nov. 15, 1942, 7;
“Country’s Only Limited Service Unit at McCoy,” La Crosse Tribune and Leader-Press, Nov. 15, 1942, 7.
114 “Rigid Training Course Mapped Out for Men in Limited Service Group.”
Figure 53. Soldiers navigate obstacles during winter training, 1943 (Image from Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 39. Public Domain).

Figure 54. Members of Task Force Frost testing different types of winter clothing (Image reprinted with permission from Toledo Sunday Times, “Arctic Quartet,” January 5, 1947, n.p.).
After serving as an induction center from January to June 1947, Camp McCoy was placed in inactive status with only a caretaking detachment assigned to the reservation.\(^{116}\) Army Reserve and National Guard training occurred again during the summer of 1948, when 31,850 men trained at McCoy. This number included 5,406 organized reserve corpsmen, 988 ROTC students, 18,780 Army National Guardsmen, 4,798 Air Corps National Guardsmen, 2,019 Regular Army support, and 765 camp overhead. The Fifth Army headquarters’ light aviation also provided eight-week summer training for 68 reserve ground corps.\(^{117}\)

The following summer featured “the most intensive training cycle since the war years” at Camp McCoy, with over 30,000 men training at the camp.\(^{118}\) The 1949 field training featured 105 hours of recoilless weapons, antiaircraft artillery, and demolition training, as well as a three-hour C-82 battalion demonstration and a 3-day bivouac over a 15-day period.\(^{119}\) Approximately 1,100 ROTC students participated in a six-week encampment that included armored cavalry practice maneuvers in 26- and 45-ton tanks and field artillery practice that “poured thousands of rounds of deadly high explosive shells into the hillside ranges.”\(^{120}\) A two-week period of field training was also given to the 103rd ID from Minnesota and Iowa. Emphasis was placed on training with a variety of weapons and using a variety of field maneuvers (Figure 55 and Figure 56) as well as learning the new recoilless rifle (Figure 57) and air transportability techniques. Weapons fired included 60 and 81 mm mortars, 57 and 75 mm recoilless rifles, carbines, and the M-1 rifle.\(^{121}\) On return to their home bases, the enlisted men learning were qualified to instruct other members of their units on these weapons.\(^{122}\)

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\(^{119}\) “44th Division Arrives Saturday” [newspaper clipping], Aug. 11, 1949, Folder: 870-5b Newspaper Clips, Fort McCoy Historical Center, Fort McCoy, WI.

\(^{120}\) “Break Up Camp At McCoy Post; Training Ended.”


\(^{122}\) “Enlisted Men Learning Instruction Techniques.”
Figure 55. Reservists train with a .50 caliber machine gun, 1949 (Image from “Emphasize Firing of Weapons and Maneuvers. Thorough Field Training for Reservists,” *Council Bluffs Nonpareil*, n.p. Reprinted with permission from the *Daily Nonpareil*).

Figure 56. Each trainee fired approximately 60 rounds from a .50 caliber machine gun, 1949 (Image from “Part of the Field Training,” *Daily Iowan*, n.p. (Reprinted with permission from the *Daily Iowan*).
After the two-week training periods ended, all vehicles used in training were returned to the bases from which they were loaned. Personnel would also return to their home bases, and 150 temporary employees would complete their work by mid-October. Camp McCoy would then revert to standby basis with approximately 60 housekeeping personnel, which included the post commander, post engineer, post adjutant, military personnel officer, a civilian personnel officer, and five enlisted men serving as a guard detachment.123

Summer training also occurred in 1950 (Figure 58). ROTC cadets used the small arms ranges, both north and south, during the last week of June. Air gunnery and rocket firing by air units occurred simultaneously on the North Artillery Range. In a newspaper warning to Sparta-Tomah area residents (Figure 59), the north ranges were described as that area of the reservation bounded by South Clear Creek on the north, highway 21 on the south, County Road “H” on the east and County Road “I” on the

west. South ranges are located in an area bounded on the north by the Chicago and Northwestern railroad and on the south by County Road “T” and Highway 71, on the east by a line running south from Tomah to Town Hall and on the west by County Road “B.”

Figure 58. Camp McCoy installation map, 1950 (Image from RG 77/456/537, AMS V-V61M, NARA College Park, MD. Public Domain).
On 9 August 1950, it was announced that Camp McCoy would reopen as a full-time training center for combat and service soldiers. It would open immediately for training of units smaller than a division but would need time to prepare for occupancy. Consequently, Camp McCoy began to serve as a major training center for the Fifth Army when eight National Guard and Reserve units arrived from across the Midwest during September 1950. The training center served to prepare soldiers for deployment to Korea.

The maximum strength reached at Camp McCoy during the Korean War was approximately 19,000 soldiers. Residents were again warned in September to stay off the ranges as there was “unexploded mortar and artillery ammunition (duds) in many sections of the reservation,” and “at times in the past, when the ranges were in use, hunters, fishermen, berry pickers, and other unauthorized persons” had been found on the ranges. Warnings about uses of the ranges continued through November.

Figure 60. A soldier crosses a ditch on a log, 1952 (Image from Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 39. Public Domain).

In preparation for deployment, troops participated in close-order drill and record firing on ranges. They also used Camp McCoy’s other facilities for training; for example, in March 1951, soldiers used open terrain to conduct wire pickup training. During this training, soldiers learned how to operate a vehicle-mounted device that picked up W110B wire from the ground through tension from a power-driven winch at the rear of the vehicle (Figure 61). They also used open terrain to blow up an imaginary road in response to a hypothetical enemy assault using “cratering charges” (Figure 62). Training on Camp McCoy’s ranges and other facilities continued through the winter and into the spring of 1951 (Figure 63).

Figure 61. Wire-pickup truck training, March 1951 (Image from Defense Visual Information Distribution Service [DVIDS]. Public Domain).

132 Photograph No. 359504, Jan. 2, 1951, McCoy, CP, WIS., Book #2, Record Group 111-SCA 400, NARA, College Park, MD.
Figure 62. Soldiers of the 114th Combat Engineer Battalion conduct an assault on a hypothetical enemy, January 1951 (Image from RG111-SCA Album 400, NARA, College Park, MD. Public Domain).
Troops also used other training areas on the post, including the infiltration course which required soldiers to “crawl for 15 to 20 minutes through 60 to 100 yards of barbwire while under fire” (Figure 64 and Figure 65). Training also used the small arms ranges (Figure 66), artillery ranges (Figure 67 and Figure 68), the combined woods and village fighting course (Figure 69, Figure 70, and Figure 71), classroom facilities (Figure 72), grenade courses (Figure 73), and even the cantonment (Figure 74). New recruits, primarily from Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota,
and Iowa, participated in six-week basic training using these facilities before being assigned to a unit at Camp McCoy.136

Figure 64. Camp McCoy infiltration course, 12 January 1951 (Image from RG111-SCA Album 400, NARA College Park, MD. Public Domain).

Figure 65. Exploding land mines and overhead machine-gun fire increased the realism of combat training on the infiltration course, 1950 (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).

136 “McCoy Activities In Past Year Told.”
Figure 66. Soldiers use one of Camp McCoy’s rifle ranges, 1949 (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).

Figure 67. Soldiers fire a 105 mm howitzer M2A1 on an unknown range, 1940 (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).
Figure 68. A gun crew reacts after firing an 80 in. howitzer, 1952 (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).

Figure 69. Soldiers use a training village at Camp McCoy, 1940 (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).
Figure 70. A training village at Camp McCoy, 1951 (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).

Figure 71. Soldiers enter a home while using Camp McCoy's training village, 9 April 1951 (Image from RG111-SCA Album 400, NARA College Park, MD. Public Domain).
Figure 72. Infiltration lecture, December 1950 (Image from RG111-SCA Album 400, NARA College Park, MD. Public Domain).

Figure 73. Training with practice grenades, 1953 (Image from RG111-SCA Album 402, NARA College Park, MD. Public Domain).
In October 1951, Camp McCoy's Reassignment and Separation Center was reactivated. It closed in January 1953 after processing approximately 33,000 soldiers.\textsuperscript{137} Camp McCoy was officially deactivated on 1 February, shortly before the Korean War ended in July of 1953.\textsuperscript{138}

2.2.3 The Vietnam War

Despite its deactivation, summer training of National Guard and Army Reserve units continued at Camp McCoy—13,500 troops were reportedly training at Camp McCoy at once during the summer of 1954.\textsuperscript{139} Improvements to the reservation occurred in 1958, including the installation of M31A1 targets on several ranges. M31A1 targets were a type of pop-up

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{137} Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 38.
\item \textsuperscript{138} US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Volume I, 14.
\end{itemize}
silhouette target built into embankments on the target line. They required portable towers to control the targets (Figure 75).\textsuperscript{140}

Figure 75. Typical M31A1 target portable control tower, Fort Bragg, NC, 1963 (Standard drawing No. 28-13-09 drawing 5 of 7, Range, rifle, known distance, layout and details for installation of M31A1 target device, 6 November 1963, Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Office, Fort Bragg, NC. Public Domain).

Training continued through this period of construction. In 1958, the 32nd ID of the Illinois Army National Guard conducted live-fire exercises at Camp McCoy (Figure 76 and Figure 77), and by 1960, it was reported that approximately 65,000 reservists and guardsmen trained at Camp McCoy each summer (Figure 78 and Figure 79).\textsuperscript{141}

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{enumerate}
\item “Thunder of Camp McCoy’s Rockets Rolls Over Peaceful Farms in Monroe County,” \textit{The Milwaukee Journal}, July 7, 1960, 1; [Photo of men of 32nd ID, Illinois ANG, on range], 1958, Fort McCoy CRM Office; [Photo of men of 32nd ID, Illinois ANG, preparing for an 8 mm mortar live fire], 1958, Fort McCoy CRM Office.
\end{enumerate}
\end{footnotesize}
Figure 76. The 32nd ID uses a range at Camp McCoy, 1958 (Image from Fort McCoy CRM Office. Public Domain).
Figure 77. The 32nd ID prepares to fire an 81 mm mortar, 1958 (Image from Fort McCoy CRM Office. Public Domain).
Figure 78. Ranges at Camp McCoy, 1958 (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).

Figure 79. Soldiers use a range at Camp McCoy, 1958 (Image from Fort McCoy Historical Center. Public Domain).
Also established at Camp McCoy were a training academy for the Wisconsin State Patrol in 1955, and a Job Corps Training Center (a Kennedy administration program to prepare economically disadvantaged teenage boys for the job market) that ran from 1966 to 1968.142

The CWS began to again use Camp McCoy by 1959, and this continued through the end of the Vietnam War. One of their activities was proof testing 4.2 in. mortar tubes using sand-filled projectiles that had remained at the reservation since July 1944.143

High levels of summer training continued through the 1960s, with over 42,000 Army Reserve and National Guard troops training in the summer of 1968. These troops fired approximately 16,000 rounds of 105 mm, 155 mm, and 8 in. artillery as well as over 16 million live and blank rounds of small arms ammunition on the post’s “38 artillery firing points, 11 mortar firing points, 16 observation points, 21 small arms ranges, 3 live fire attack sites, and 1 demolition range.” All the ranges allowed weapons to fire to maximum range (Figure 80, Figure 81, and Figure 82). Both the North and South post had impact areas, which were planned so that ranges did not “interfere with a large portion of the training areas that [could] be used by nonfiring troops during target practice on any range.”144

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143 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Volume I, 23.
144 “Camp McCoy: Past, Present and Future (1 October 1968),” Folder: Military: Fort McCoy Newspaper Articles, Monroe County Local History Room and Museum, Sparta, WI.
Figure 80. M-59 armored personnel carriers maneuver during summer encampment, 27 July 1961 (Image from RG111-SCA Album 402, NARA, College Park, MD. Public Domain).

Figure 81. Soldiers fire an 8 in. howitzer during summer training, 25 June 1963 (Image from RG111-SCA Album 402A, NARA, College Park, MD. Public Domain).
McCoy’s landscape continued to be “immediately adaptable to large-scale maneuvers,” with terrain (Figure 83 and Figure 84) that provides the finest of training grounds for all types of military movement. There are large open plains, large areas of dense timber; large swampy areas with creeks, rivers and lakes. There are rough hilly areas in which mountain training can be developed. There are miles of fine surfaced roads; miles of obscure trails in which all sorts of transport training can be conducted. The area is criss-crossed with suitable roads so that all portions of the huge area could readily be used by several infantry divisions in extensive maneuvers. The open plains lend themselves to infantry and aviation training.145

Figure 83. Soldiers maneuver on Camp McCoy’s open terrain, 27 November 1950 (Image from RG111-SCA album 400, NARA, College Park, MD).

Figure 84. A soldier points a .50 caliber machine gun over a ridge at Camp McCoy, 19 April 1951 (Image from RG111-SCA album 400, NARA, College Park, MD).
Changes to the ranges again occurred during the Vietnam War to accommodate changing ground combat training needs. For example, the Known Distance Ranges northeast of the cantonment became a POW training area by 1965. 

Several schools at Camp McCoy also offered training, including a communications school, an intelligence school (which was relocated from Fort Sheridan in 1967), and a food service school. Camp McCoy was also home to an Army Reserve Command and General Staff School, which also offered short courses for reserve officers of the Finance and Adjutant General’s Corps.

### 2.3 Fort McCoy, 1973–present

In September 1974, Camp McCoy was redesignated as Fort McCoy as it transitioned to a year-round military training facility. Troop training activities continued through the 1970s and 1980s. By 1981, the Army Reserve Technical Training Center and Army Reserve Readiness Training were active at Fort McCoy year-round, while summer training for National Guard and Army Reserve units was ongoing. The locations at the installation on which training occurred were consolidated by 1983, by which point all small arms ranges northeast of the cantonment were removed and the former South Post artillery impact area was transformed into the “Badger Drop Zone” (Figure 85).

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151 “Fort McCoy, Wisconsin,” *Historical Time Capsules of Monroe County*, 4.
152 Office of the Post Engineer, *Fort McCoy Military Reservation*, 1983, 1:50,000 (Fort McCoy, WI: US Army Corps of Engineers), Fort McCoy DPW, Fort McCoy, WI.
Figure 85. Fort McCoy installation map, 1983 (Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center, *Fort McCoy Military Installation Map*. Public Domain).
Fort McCoy’s role as a training center became increasingly important as active-component units began to routinely conduct winter training exercises at Fort McCoy, and following the closures of Fort Sheridan, IL, in 1993 and Fort Ben Harrison, IN, in 1996, Fort McCoy became the only major military installation in the north-central US.\textsuperscript{153}

In the early 1980s, Fort McCoy was designated as a Resettlement Center for Cuban refugees.\textsuperscript{154} Winter maneuvers were ongoing, though, and appropriations were made in October 1981 for building renovations that would accommodate these maneuvers. In 1983, the 88th Ordnance Detachment was transferred to Fort McCoy.\textsuperscript{155}

Several new training programs were instated at Fort McCoy during the 1980s, increasing the annual troop training population by approximately 20,000 by 1989. The programs included a Noncommissioned Officers Academy, a Regional Maintenance Training Site, a Regional Medical Training Center, and a Light Leaders Course (LLC). An Infantry Training Academy was organized at Fort McCoy to conduct the LLC, and the facilities to be constructed included bayonet, water confidence, obstacle, and tactical battle drill training courses as well as a rappelling tower and a hand-to-hand combat pit.\textsuperscript{156}

In the 1990s, in the first major new construction since 1942 at Fort McCoy, $208.3 million were spent to build new training and administrative facilities at the fort between 1990 and 2007.\textsuperscript{157} Such facilities included a Child Development Center, multiple military housing complexes, a bowling center, a post exchange, a commissary, and a battalion dining facility.\textsuperscript{158}

This construction supported ongoing training activities at Fort McCoy that increased in support of the First Gulf War. On 25 August 1990, Fort


\textsuperscript{155} US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Volume I, 15.

\textsuperscript{156} “New Programs to Increase Year-Round Use of McCoy,” \textit{Monroe County Democrat}, March 26, 1987, n.p.

\textsuperscript{157} Mittelstaedt and Motosicky, “The Establishment of Fort McCoy,” 39.

McCoy was notified that it would become a mobilization processing station for the first time since the Korean War. A Soldier Reception Center was established, and the Emergency Operations Center began 24-hour operations. By the end of August, 360 soldiers of the 5064th US Army Garrison of Detroit, MI; the 2361st Signal Center Detachment of Akron, OH; and the 304th and 343rd Transportation Corps Detachments from Fort McCoy reported for processing to be given active-duty status.159

Training included standard predeployment “refreshers” and information regarding the culture and customs of Saudi Arabia. In November 1990, it was announced that Fort McCoy would process and train an additional 7,050 soldiers. Ultimately, nearly 9,000 soldiers were processed at Fort McCoy—8% of the total reserve-component force called to active duty during the Gulf War. When hostilities in the Persian Gulf ceased, Fort McCoy’s Soldier Reception Center became a Soldier Transition Center for the out-processing of soldiers from active duty to reserve status.160

The amount of land available for this training increased in 1991, as a five-year agreement between the Wisconsin National Guard, Army Corps of Engineers, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources allowed Fort McCoy to use seven parcels (between 5,000 to 10,000 acres each) of the Black River State Forest’s 65,000 acres for light infantry training.161 This agreement has been renewed several times and, as of publication, will be ongoing until 2025.162 Examples of allowed training include land navigation, cross-country skiing, survival training, and map and compass reading courses; however, the use of pyrotechnics and vehicles is restricted.163 This area has only been used infrequently for training to date due to the restrictions placed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.164 In 1994, 41 Army Reservists used the forest in preparation for temporary tours of active duty to the Multinational Force and Observers’ Sinai peacekeeping operations in Sinai, Egypt.165 Similar land agreements permitted limited training on 62,000 acres of public land in addition to the 60,000

159 “Fort McCoy and Operation Desert Storm (Information from Special Edition TRIAD, May 18, 1991),” Folder: Military: Fort McCoy General, Monroe County Local History Room and Museum, Sparta, WI.
160 “Fort McCoy and Operation Desert Storm."
162 Ryan Howell, in conversation with the author, January 2022.
165 Diane Hanson, “Reservists Train at Fort McCoy for Sinai Mission,” Sparta Herald, June 20, 1994, 1, 4.
acres of Fort McCoy proper as of 1997. In 1997, it was reported that Fort McCoy trained 130,000 personnel a year.166

Training levels at Fort McCoy continued to increase through the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st, with 149,432 participating in training activities at the fort in 2000.167 In 2003, approximately 6,000 combat support soldiers and engineers trained at Fort McCoy in April in preparation for deployment to Iraq.168 Construction continued as well, and all existing latrines on the ranges were replaced in 2003 (Figure 86 and Figure 87).169 These were later replaced in 2021.170 The Range Complex also underwent a $14 million upgrade in 2010.171

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167 Burt, “General.”


169 [Elevations and floor plan of range latrines], 2003, Fort McCoy DPW, Fort McCoy, WI; [Elevations, floor plan, and vault plan of range latrines], 2003, Fort McCoy DPW, Fort McCoy, WI.


171 Army Technology, “Fort McCoy.”
Figure 87. Elevations and floor plan of latrines placed on the ranges, 2003 (Image from Fort McCoy DPW. Public Domain).
3 Training Ranges Historical Data

Fort McCoy serves as a “Total Force Training Center,” and 46,000 of its approximately 60,000 acres are contiguous live-fire and maneuver areas. Live-fire areas at Fort McCoy currently include “31 live-fire ranges, 17 of which are automated or instrumented; 21 artillery firing points; 12 mortar firing points; and an 8,000-acre impact area” as well as “two multipurpose training ranges, a convoy live-fire range, an infantry platoon and squad battle course, three multipurpose machine-gun ranges, two live-fire shoot houses, and a live-fire breach facility,” which support collective live-fire training.\(^{172}\) The installation also has qualification ranges, including “facilities for modified record-fire, automated record-fire, and 10-meter/25-meter rifle zero range for open and optic sights as well as a qualification training facility with modified record-fire and combat pistol and military police qualification-course capability.”\(^ {173}\)

Fort McCoy also has numerous nonrange training facilities, including “two fully instrumented urban training sites, a 25-building Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF), a 20-building Collective Training Facility, and three wireless instrumented Combat in the Cities facilities with a total of 309 buildings.”\(^ {174}\) Additional urban training facilities include an urban assault course (UAC) and two live-fire shoot houses. Seven walled farm villages with planted crops, one instrumented with wireless technology, provide rural training capability.\(^ {175}\)

Finally, Fort McCoy has numerous specialized training sites, including

an Unmanned Aerial Systems strip; a semi-improved airstrip with a Seizure-Forced-Entry training site; a Search/Site Exploitation Facility; two tunnel systems; an engineer water-bridging site; and two wireless, instrumented Home Station Training Lanes (HSTL). Each 8-kilometer HSTL includes overpasses, bridges,


\(^{173}\) Fort McCoy, “Overview.”

\(^{174}\) Fort McCoy, “Overview.”

\(^{175}\) Fort McCoy, “Overview.”
canals, six urban villages, traffic circles, guard rails, culverts, and divided roadways.¹⁷⁶

A combination of historical maps, Real Property Office records, and archival research provided data on Fort McCoy’s training range history. These sources contain information about the location of the ranges, construction dates, changes in uses, types of associated facilities, and changes in identification. Table 1 provides a timeline summary of range construction and improvement activities. The sections following provide details for live-fire ranges and other training sites and facilities located on Fort McCoy.

Table 1. Timeline of known Fort McCoy range construction and improvement activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Staked-out ranges for artillery practice used by 169 men during a 16-day encampment</td>
<td>Approx. 4 miles southwest of current cantonment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>14,206.65-acre tract of land purchased as Sparta Maneuver Tract 14,100 acres purchased to expand the rifle range</td>
<td>Approx. 3.5 miles northeast of Sparta, WI South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>$84,000 appropriated for a shooting gallery and ranges, including the construction of target butts, a storehouse, and a railway for moving targets</td>
<td>South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Ranges reforested with Norway Pine and Scotch Pine seedlings</td>
<td>South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1915</td>
<td>Rifle range construction</td>
<td>South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919–c. 1925</td>
<td>All ranges and training areas closed</td>
<td>South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>9,500 acres transferred from Dept. of Agriculture to Camp McCoy</td>
<td>South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930s or 1940s</td>
<td>Six underground concrete shelters constructed for temporary ammunition storage</td>
<td>South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>40,000 acres purchased and range support facilities constructed</td>
<td>South Small Arms Area and South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>37,437 acres purchased</td>
<td>Cantonment, North Artillery Area, North Small Arms Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. 1944</td>
<td>Training areas constructed in accordance with plan for new camp</td>
<td>North Artillery Area, North Small Arms Area, Cantonment, South Small Arms Area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹⁷⁶ Fort McCoy, “Overview.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Area/Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c. 1950</td>
<td>North Artillery Range and RCAT and AA areas transformed into five impact areas</td>
<td>North Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953–1955</td>
<td>North impact areas transformed into ranges</td>
<td>North Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Installation of M31A1 targets</td>
<td>South Small Arms Area and South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Artillery ranges and impact areas north of cantonment consolidated into a single area</td>
<td>North Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. 1972</td>
<td>South artillery impact area transformed into a drop zone</td>
<td>South Artillery Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. 1983</td>
<td>North small arms ranges largely closed</td>
<td>North Small Arms Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late 1980s</td>
<td>Bayonet, water confidence, obstacle, and tactical drill training courses as well as rappelling tower and hand-to-hand combat pit constructed</td>
<td>Cantonment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>All range latrines replaced</td>
<td>All training areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Range Complex upgraded</td>
<td>All training areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>All range latrines replaced</td>
<td>All training areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this chapter, information is organized geographically. The reservation is first divided into general regions that have been used for training throughout its history, and then by training areas, which are identified by a letter and number designation ranging from “A01” to “M07” (Figure 88). For all ranges, historical information, including prior range designations and uses where known, is listed along with information provided by the Real Property Office and historic context.
Figure 88. Training areas highlighted on 2021 *Fort McCoy Military Installation Map* (Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, & Security. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
Table 2 below lists each of the current training ranges and their construction dates.

Table 2. List of ranges with construction dates (McCoy Real Property).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Number</th>
<th>Unique Identifier</th>
<th>Main usage type</th>
<th>Acquisition Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td>610234</td>
<td>CONFINEMENT FACILITY</td>
<td>8/24/1942</td>
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<tr>
<td>22203</td>
<td>191864</td>
<td>PRISONER-OF-WAR TRAINING AREA</td>
<td>11/11/1971</td>
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<td>22204</td>
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<td>PRISONER-OF-WAR TRAINING AREA</td>
<td>6/30/1973</td>
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<td>095DC</td>
<td>1073260</td>
<td>WHEELED-VEHICLE DRIVERS COURSE</td>
<td>6/1/1993</td>
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<tr>
<td>BTS01</td>
<td>190323</td>
<td>FLOATING BRIDGE SITE</td>
<td>4/28/2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>CACTF</td>
<td>1112375</td>
<td>COMBINED ARMS COLLECTIVE TRAINING FACILITY (CACTF)</td>
<td>4/27/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHUTE</td>
<td>299549</td>
<td>PARACHUTE LANDING FALL PLATFORM</td>
<td>12/12/1985</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRIFT</td>
<td>299255</td>
<td>SUSPENDED HARNESS MOCKUP</td>
<td>12/12/1985</td>
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<td>DRIVW</td>
<td>299552</td>
<td>WHEELED-VEHICLE DRIVERS COURSE</td>
<td>12/10/1979</td>
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<td>DROP1</td>
<td>190110</td>
<td>PERSONNEL/EQUIPMENT DROP ZONE</td>
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<td>DROP2</td>
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<td>DROP4</td>
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<td>PERSONNEL/EQUIPMENT DROP ZONE</td>
<td>7/1/1998</td>
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<td>4/13/2009</td>
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<td>FOB1</td>
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<td>TACTICAL TRAINING BASE (TTB)</td>
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<td>FIELD TRAINING AREA</td>
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<td>1373035</td>
<td>FIELD TRAINING AREA</td>
<td>5/10/2019</td>
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<td>FTMD2</td>
<td>1161406</td>
<td>FIELD TRAINING AREA</td>
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<td>HGQCS</td>
<td>192030</td>
<td>HAND GRENADE QUALIFICATION COURSE (NONFIRING)</td>
<td>9/24/1998</td>
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<tr>
<td>HHDTL</td>
<td>1390672</td>
<td>MINE WARFARE AREA</td>
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<td>HSTL1</td>
<td>1008171</td>
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<td>IMP0N</td>
<td>190802</td>
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<td>LFBR1</td>
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<td>LFS36</td>
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<td>LEADERSHIP REACTION COURSE</td>
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<td>MFT01</td>
<td>609534</td>
<td>MANEUVER/TRAINING LAND, HEAVY FORCES</td>
<td>6/6/2002</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFT02</td>
<td>191196</td>
<td>MANEUVER/TRAINING LAND, HEAVY FORCES</td>
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<tr>
<td>MNHVY</td>
<td>190600</td>
<td>MANEUVER/TRAINING LAND, HEAVY FORCES</td>
<td>9/29/1997</td>
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<td>OBCRS</td>
<td>190709</td>
<td>CONFIDENCE COURSE</td>
<td>5/17/1984</td>
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<td>R0001</td>
<td>596424</td>
<td>AUTO PISTOL RG</td>
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<tr>
<td>R0003</td>
<td>191431</td>
<td>MACHINE GUN FIELD FIRE RANGE</td>
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<td>R0004</td>
<td>191432</td>
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<td>7/1/1958</td>
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<td>INFANTRY BATTLE COURSE AUTOMATED (IN SQ BTL AUTO)</td>
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<td>R0007</td>
<td>620097</td>
<td>GRENADE LAUNCHER RANGE</td>
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<td>R0008</td>
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<td>R0009</td>
<td>620098</td>
<td>BASIC 10 M–25 M FIRING RANGE (ZERO)</td>
<td>7/1/1942</td>
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<td>R0010</td>
<td>572649</td>
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<td>R0011</td>
<td>572650</td>
<td>LIGHT DEMOLITION RANGE</td>
<td>7/1/1965</td>
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<td>LIGHT ANTIARMOR WEAPONS (LAW/AT-4) RANGE SUBCALIBER</td>
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<td>R0017</td>
<td>612681</td>
<td>SQUAD DEFENSE RANGE</td>
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<td>R0018</td>
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<td>KNOWN DISTANCE (KD) RANGE</td>
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<td>R0019</td>
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<tr>
<td>R0025</td>
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<td>573270</td>
<td>AUTO MPMG RANGE</td>
<td>1/26/1981</td>
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<td>R0029</td>
<td>620099</td>
<td>IN PLT BTL AUTO</td>
<td>9/23/1993</td>
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<td>R0030</td>
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<td>R0031</td>
<td>596430</td>
<td>RECORD FIRE RANGE NONAUTOMATED</td>
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<td>R0032</td>
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<td>MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE</td>
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<td>R0035</td>
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<td>GRENADE LAUNCHER RANGE</td>
<td>2/15/1980</td>
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<tr>
<td>R0036</td>
<td>583257</td>
<td>ANTIARMOR TRACKING AND LIVE-FIRE RANGE (NONAUTOMATED)</td>
<td>9/10/1981</td>
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<tr>
<td>R0037</td>
<td>190378</td>
<td>FIELD ARTILLERY SCALED RANGE</td>
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<td>R0038</td>
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<td>LIGHT DEMOLITION RANGE</td>
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<td>579315</td>
<td>URBAN ASSAULT COURSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>R0044</td>
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<td>FIELD ARTILLERY SCALED RANGE</td>
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<td>MACHINE GUN TRANSITION RANGE</td>
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<td>9/24/1998</td>
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<tr>
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<td>LIGHT DEMOLITION RANGE</td>
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<td>R019A</td>
<td>1246245</td>
<td>LAW RANGE</td>
<td>7/29/2015</td>
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### Table 3. Current Training Areas and Ranges in the North Artillery Area.

<table>
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<th>Facility Number</th>
<th>Unique Identifier</th>
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<th>Acquisition Date</th>
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<td>R029A</td>
<td>579318</td>
<td>URBAN ASSAULT COURSE</td>
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<td>R031A</td>
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<td>MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE</td>
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<tr>
<td>R036H</td>
<td>1053581</td>
<td>LIVE-FIRE EXERCISE SHOOTHOUSE</td>
<td>6/23/2010</td>
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<td>R0402</td>
<td>1132332</td>
<td>LIGHT DEMOLITION RANGE</td>
<td>12/15/2011</td>
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<td>R1LSE</td>
<td>585093</td>
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<tr>
<td>R1PMT</td>
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<td>MANEUVER/TRAINING LAND, LIGHT FORCES</td>
<td>11/7/1990</td>
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<td>191822</td>
<td>MANEUVER/TRAINING LAND, LIGHT FORCES</td>
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<td>190318</td>
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<td>OBSTACLE COURSE</td>
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<td>STV01</td>
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<td>7/1/2005</td>
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<td>OBSTACLE COURSE</td>
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<td>BAYONET ASSAULT COURSE</td>
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<td>12/16/1987</td>
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<td>T0009</td>
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<td>RAPPELLING TRAINING AREA</td>
<td>10/17/1989</td>
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<td>TOWER</td>
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<td>MOCK-UP JUMP TOWER</td>
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### 3.1 North Artillery Area (c. 1944–Present)

The North Artillery Area occupies the majority of the land north of the cantonment (Figure 89). Table 3 shows current training areas and ranges in the North Artillery Area. It has been active as a defined training area since at least 1944, though it was likely constructed immediately following the 1942 expansion of Camp McCoy.  

177 Office of the Post Engineer, Reservation Boundary Map, Sept. 12, 1944.
Figure 89. North Artillery Area, outlined in red, on the 2021 Fort McCoy Military Installation Map (Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, & Security. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
Table 3. Training areas and facilities in the North Artillery Area as of 2021.

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<th>Training Area</th>
<th>Training Facility</th>
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<tr>
<td>North Impact Area</td>
<td>(Range [R] 2) Multipurpose Training Range (MPTR)/Multipurpose Machine Gun (MPMG)/Heavy Sniper Range</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(R 4) Convoy Live Fire (CLF)</td>
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<td>(R 8) Hand Grenade Live Throw</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(R 12) Light Anti-Armor/Anti-Tank Range (Subcaliber)/Fire and Movement Range</td>
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<td>(R 17) Squad Defense Range</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(R 19A) Light Anti-Armor/Anti-Tank Range</td>
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<td>(R 26) MPMG Range</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(R 29) MPTR/Infantry Platoon Battle Course (IPBC) (Automated)</td>
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<td>(R 29A) Urban Assault Course (UAC)</td>
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<td>(R 29B) Subterranean Live Fire Complex</td>
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<td>(R 34) MPMG Range</td>
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<td>(R 35) Grenade Launcher Range</td>
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<td>(R 33) Basic 25 m Firing Range (Zero)</td>
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<td>C15</td>
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<td>C16</td>
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<td>C17</td>
<td>Tank Ditching Site</td>
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<td>Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Landing Strip</td>
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<tr>
<td>C20</td>
<td>Drop Zone (DZ)—Warrens</td>
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<td>C22</td>
<td>HUGHES Collective Training Facility</td>
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<td>(R 36) Live Fire Shoot House (LFSH)</td>
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<td>(R 36H) LFSH</td>
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<td>(R 41) UAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>D05</td>
<td>(R 17A)—Light Demolition Range</td>
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<td>(R 18) Known Distance (KD) Range</td>
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<td>Hand Grenade Qualification Course (HGQC)</td>
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<td>Live-Fire Exercise Breach Facility (LFE BF)</td>
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<td>(R 6) Infantry Squad Battle Course (ISBC)</td>
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<td>(R 9) Basic 25 m Pistol Range</td>
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<td>(R 10) Basic 25 m Firing Range (Zero)/Short Range Marksmanship (SRM)</td>
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<td>Rough Terrain Driving Course</td>
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### Training Area

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Training Area</th>
<th>Training Facility</th>
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| D09N          | Recreational Range (REC)  
(R 1) Automated Combat Pistol/Military Police Qualification Course (CP/MPQC) |
| D09S          | No named facilities |
| M03           | No named facilities |
| M04           | No named facilities |
| M05N          | (R 30A) Basic 25 m Firing Range (Zero)  
(R 30B) Nonstandard Multipurpose Range  
(R 31A) Modified Record Fire (MRF) Range  
(R 32) MRF Range |
| M05S          | No named facilities |
| M06           | No named facilities |
| M07           | (R 16) Basic 25 m Firing Range (Zero) |

### 3.1.1 Activity from 1942 to 1957

The North Artillery Area (Figure 90) first appears on a 1944 *Reservation Boundary Map* (Figure 91), which shows the North Artillery Range and associated two impact areas as well as two radio-controlled aerial target (RCAT) and antiaircraft (AA) areas (RCAT and AA no. 1 and RCAT and AA no. 2).

The North Artillery Range was located approximately in what is now the northeast section of the current North Impact Area as well as current training areas C14, C15, and C17, and M06. The two impact areas were located approximately in current training areas C14, C15, C16, C17, C19, C20, and the North Impact Area, and current areas C10, C11, C13, C14, and M06, respectively. RCAT and AA no. 1 was located in approximately the current North Impact Area and training areas C10, C11, C13, C14, D05, D06, and M06. RCAT and AA no. 2 was located in approximately the current North Impact Area.

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Figure 90. Proposed location and layout of the North Artillery Area located north of the cantonment, 1941 (Mead, Ward, and Hunt, *Reservation Boundary and Land Use Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
By 1946, the impact areas were given the names North Artillery Impact Area no. 1 and North Artillery Impact Area no. 2. By 1950, the North Artillery Range and RCAT and AA areas were no longer labeled on maps. Instead, the North Artillery Area contained five impact areas (Impact Area nos. 3–7; Impact Area nos. 1 and 2 were located elsewhere on the reservation).

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179 Office of the Post Engineer, Reservation Boundary Map, Sept. 12, 1944.
The purposes of these impact areas were as follows:

- No. 3—Unspecified use
- No. 4—Air ground gunnery practice range
- No. 5—Direct firing with 90 mm, 76 mm, and 105 mm weapons; also suitable for 57 mm and 75 mm recoilless rifle
- No. 6—Direct firing with 90 mm, 76 mm, and 105 mm weapons; also suitable for 57 mm and 75 mm recoilless rifle
- No. 7—Demonstrations requiring the use of live ammunition

Impact Areas nos. 5, 6, and 7 were in approximately the current North Impact Area. Impact Area no. 3 was in approximately the current North Impact Area and current training areas C10, C11, C13, C14, C22, and M06. Impact Area no. 4 was in what is now approximately C15, C16, C17, C19, and C20.180

This arrangement was short-lived. By 1953, what is now the North Artillery Area contained a tank or recoilless rifle range (Range 45), a rifle field firing range (Range 49), and two impact areas (Impact Areas 102 and 103). The number of ranges expanded to three in 1954 with the addition of Range 50, whose purpose is unknown. In 1955, the ranges were renumbered or revamped, and the area now had a moving tank range, a .30 caliber and .50 caliber range (Range 5); a tank range (Range 45), and a recoilless rifle range (Range 46). The impact areas did not change (Figure 92), and, throughout this period, they were in approximately the current North Impact Area and training areas C10, C11, C13, C14, C15, C22, D05, D06, and M06. This arrangement continued through 1957.181

180 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
181 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G; Engineer, 5th Army, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, March 1955, 1:50,000 (Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, 48th Engineer Battalion [Topographic] [Army]), Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
3.1.2 Activity from 1958 to 1970

By 1959, the outline of the North Artillery Area had been reconfigured to resemble its current layout and location. This type of layout, with overlapping fans, is common for large arms training areas and allows for evolution based on training needs, terrain considerations, and changing weapons technology. These changes occurred in accordance with a 1958 Master Range and Training Facilities Improvement Plan map (Figure 93 and Figure 94), which showed existing Ranges 45 and 46 as well as a reduced fan for Range 43. From 1959 to 1963, the North Artillery Area consisted of a landscape firing range, a .30 caliber range (Range 1); a

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182 Army Map Service (AM), Camp McCoy, 1959, 1:50,000 (Washington, DC: Corps of Engineers, US Army), Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.


184 Office of the Post Engineer, Master Range and Training Facilities Improvement Plan.
3.5 in. rocket launcher range (Range 2); two recoilless rifle ranges, 57, 75, and 40 mm AA (Ranges 3 and 4); a .50 caliber machine gun range (Range 5); a 105 mm and 106 mm recoilless rifle range (Range 6); two 60 and 81 mm mortar ranges (Ranges 7 and 8); two pistol ranges (Ranges 9 and 10); a submachine gun range (Range 15); two 500 in. and 1,000 in. .30 caliber machine gun ranges (Ranges 16 and 17); two tank moving target ranges (Ranges 19 and 21); and two tank subcaliber ranges (Ranges 20 and 22). It also contained Impact Areas 102, 103, and 104, though these were no longer included in range information by 1963 (Figure 95).  

Figure 93. Planned improvements to Camp McCoy’s ranges for 1958, December 1957 (Office of the Post Engineer, Master Range and Training Facilities Improvement Plan. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

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185 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G; Camp McCoy, Range Regulations (Wisconsin: Camp McCoy, 1963), Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
Figure 94. Alterations made to the North Artillery Area in accordance with 1958 *Master Range and Training Facilities Improvement Plan* (Army Map Service [AM], *Camp McCoy*, North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
By 1965, the ranges were again reconfigured, and the North Artillery Area contained a 3.5 in. rocket launcher range (Range 2); three machine gun ranges (Ranges 3, 16, and 17); a recoilless rifle range (Range 5); two pistol ranges (Ranges 9 and 10); a submachine gun range (Range 15); and a tank, subcaliber moving target range (Range 23). Other ranges were also present (Ranges 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 19), but their purposes are unknown. This arrangement continued until 1970, though by that time, Range 1 was labeled as a landscape firing, .30 caliber range; Range 19 was labeled as 106 mm
recoilless rifle table I (subcaliber); and Range 20 had changed to become a 106 mm recoilless rifle table II (subcaliber).186

3.1.3 Activity from 1971–Present

By 1971, the ranges of the North Artillery Area consisted of a machine gun, Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR), pistol, 12.5 and 25 meter .30 caliber machine gun range (Range 1); a 3.5 in. rocket launcher and rifle grenade (high energy [HE] only) range (Range 2); a machine gun field firing range (Range 3); a .50 caliber machine gun and 90 mm tank gun range (Range 4); a 106 mm recoilless rifle range (Range 5); a machine gun range (Range 6); a 40 mm grenade launcher range (Range 7); two pistol and known distance, 12.5 and 25 meter ranges (Ranges 9 and 10); a demolition field training area (Range 11); a 3.5 in. rocket launcher (practice) range (Range 10a); a .45 caliber and submachine gun range (Range 15); two machine gun, 12.5 and 25 meter ranges (Ranges 16 and 17); a moving tank, stationary target, .30 caliber range (Range 18); 106 mm recoilless rifle tables I and II (subcaliber) (Ranges 19 and 20, respectively); a tank, subcaliber moving target range (Range 23); a flamethrower range (Range 31); and a machine gun, transit firing range (Range 34). It also had a Rock Island Experimental and Test Fire Site (Site 1) (Figure 96).187
By 1980, the number of ranges in the North Artillery Area increased. By that time, there was a machine gun, pistol, and rifle range (Range 1); a M72, M67, and M202 range (Range 2); a test range (Range 2a) for the still-extant Rock Island Experimental and Test Fire Site; a machine gun, .50 caliber, and M60 range (Range 3); a direct fire tank range, 106 mm and combat engineer vehicle (CEV), with gunnery tables VI and VII (Range 4); a .50 caliber machine gun range (Range 6); a live 40 mm M79
launcher site (Range 7); two pistol and revolver .22, .38, and .45 caliber ranges (Ranges 9 and 10); a demolition field training area (Range 11); a practice-only 40 mm projectile range (Range 12); a .45 caliber submachine gun range; a machine gun range, 7.62 mm or .50 caliber (Range 16); an M60 machine gun range (Range 17); a moving and stationary target .50 caliber qualification, ground or vehicle, range (Range 18); two 106 mm recoilless rifle, subcaliber ranges (Ranges 19 and 20); two infantry squad defense courses (Ranges 21 and 22); a tank subcaliber range with tables I through III (Range 23); an antiair course (Range 25); an artillery defense course (Range 29); a heavy demolition range (250 pounds or less) (Range 30); a TRAINFIRE qualification range (Range 31); a TRAINFIRE field firing range (Range 32); a known distance, rifle zero/night fire, and pistol TRAINFIRE range (Range 33); a 7.62 mm machine gun or .50 caliber pistol range (Range 34); and a 40 mm grenade launcher range (Range 35). There were also a numberless “Scout Range” and two inactive ranges (Ranges 5 and 10a).  

This general combination of ranges continued through the 1980s (Figure 97 and Figure 98). By 1985, Range 2a was no longer extant; Range 4 had changed to include, in addition to its purpose in 1980, service practice, M47 (Dragon), and M220 (TOW) live firing; the Scout Range had expanded to become a rifle squad/scout crew, M2, M60 MTD, M203, and M72 (LAW) subcaliber range; Range 25 had expanded to be an antiair course with tank tables I, II, III, IV, and VI; Ranges 31 to 33 ceased serving as TRAINFIRE ranges (though their other purposes—rifle qualification, field fire, and known distance—continued); and Ranges 6, 10a, and 23 were inactivated. Newly active ranges in 1988 included a hand grenade range (Range 8); a TOW/Dragon tracking, dry-fire-only range (Range 36); a 14.5 mm artillery indirect fire range (Range 37); and a light demolition range (Range 38). Additional changes made by 1988 included the reactivation of Range 5 as a tank range; the transformation of Range 23 into a small arms for air defense (SAFAD) 5.56 mm and 7.62 mm range; and the creation of a tank table VIIc range (Range 26).
Figure 97. List of firing ranges in the North Artillery Area in 1984 (Image from Fort McCoy DPW. Public Domain).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>M5, Rifle and Pistol Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>M67(90mmR) M72(Law) and M702(Flash)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Rock Island Arsenal and Honeywell Corp Test Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Machine Gun, .50 cal. and M60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tank Tables VI, VII, 105mm RR, GEV Service Practice, M47(Dragon) and M220(Tow) Live Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tank Range (Inactive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Inactive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>Rifle Squad/Scout Crew, M2, M60 Mtd, M103 and M72(Law) Subcaliber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Live M201(40mm Grenade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Hand Grenade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>KD Pistol and Revolver, .38 cal., .22 cal. and .45 cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>KD Pistol and Revolver, .38 cal., .22 cal. and .45 cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10A</td>
<td>Inactive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Demolition (50 lbs. or less)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>M203(40mm Grenade) Practice Only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sub Machine Gun (.45 cal.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Machine Gun, .50 cal. and M60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Machine Gun, M60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Moving Target, .50 cal. and M60, Ring or Ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>M10, 105mm RR Sub Caliber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>105mm RR and 90mm RR Sub Caliber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>105mm RR and 90mm RR Sub Caliber, M16 and M60 Machine Gun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Inf. Squad Defense Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Inf. Squad Defense Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>SAFAD, 5.56mm and 7.62 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>KD Pistol and Revolver, .38 cal., .22 cal. and .45 cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Anti Armor Complex (Law)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Tank Tables I, II, III, IV and VP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Tank Table V-VI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Artillery Defense Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Heavy Demolition (250 lbs. or less)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Rifle Qualification (M16A1 Only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Rifle Field Fire (M16A1 Only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Multi-Purpose for Zero/Night Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Machine Gun, .50 cal. and M60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>M203(40mm Grenade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Tow Tracking, Dry Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Artillery Indirect Fire (14.5mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Light Demolition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Tank Tables VI and VIII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>14.5 Artillery Trainer Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Pistol Range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The ranges in the North Artillery Area were again reconfigured by 1996 (Figure 99). By that year, there was an M16 rifle (zero), pistol, and shotgun range for use by the Wisconsin State Patrol (Range 1); three squad ambush ranges (1 Ambush, 2 Ambush, and Range 3); an artillery direct lay range (Range 4); an armored personnel carrier mounted machine gun range (Range 6); a tank gunnery and multipurpose 40 mm grenade launcher range (Range 7); a grenade launcher and LAW subcaliber (target practice [TP] only) range (Range 12); a laser/TOW crew laser (CL) range (Range 13); a machine gun range (Range 18); a calibration and screening, tank kit (TK) range (Range 26); a multipurpose training range (Range 29); an antiarmor range (Range 29a); a rifle record fire range (Range 31); and a small arms range for military police (Range 33). Ranges 8, 9, 10, 32, 35,
36, and 38 retained their previous purposes; Ranges 5, 16, 17, 25, and 37 were inactivated.

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3.2 North Small Arms Area (c. 1944–1963)

The North Small Arms Area was located northeast of the cantonment, occupying approximately the area covered by current training areas C02, C03, C04, C05, M01, and M02 (Figure 100). Today, it only contains firing points and a land navigation course. Other uses in this area were

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191 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
dramatically reduced in the 1970s. Table 4 shows current training areas and ranges in the North Small Arms Area.\textsuperscript{192}

Figure 100. North Small Arms Area, outlined in red, on the 2021 \textit{Fort McCoy Military Installation Map} (Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, & Security. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

\textsuperscript{192} US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, \textit{Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy}, Appendix G.
Table 4. Training areas and facilities in the North Small Arms Area as of 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Area</th>
<th>Training Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C02</td>
<td>Land Navigation Course 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C03</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C04</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M01</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M02</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2.1 Activity from 1942 to 1957

The North Small Arms Area (Figure 101) first appears on a 1944 Reservation Boundary Map (Figure 102), which shows a bazooka, mortar, and rifle grenade range (Range 1); a mini antiaircraft range (Range 2); a submachine gun range (Range 3); two antitank ranges (ATR nos. 1 and 2); a 1,000 in. antitank range (Range 4); a .30 caliber machine gun field firing range (Range 5); a 1,000 in. landscape range (Range 6); a 1,000 in., .30 caliber machine gun range (Range 7); a pistol range (Range 8); a 1,000 in., vehicle-mounted machine gun, .50 caliber range (Range 11); a 1,000 in., ground machine gun, .50 caliber range (Range 12); a transition range, which housed a .30 caliber machine gun transition range (Range 13) and a .30 caliber rifle transition range (Range 14); an antitank moving target range, .30 caliber and .50 caliber (Range 16); and a combined woods and village fighting area.¹⁹³

¹⁹³ Office of the Post Engineer, Reservation Boundary Map, Sept. 12, 1944; US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
Figure 101. Proposed location and layout of the Small Arms Ranges northeast of the cantonment including the Known Distance Range, 1941 (Mead, Ward, and Hunt, *Reservation Boundary and Land Use Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
As of 1946, Ranges 1–17 were in the North Small Arms Area (Figure 103). Targets used included horizontal, overhead, climb, and dive targets on Range 2; pistol targets on Range 6; stationary and bobbing targets on Range 8; unspecified target types on Ranges 10, 13, and 14 (the targets on Range 13 were staggered); and a moving target that moved parallel, perpendicular, and at a 45-degree angle both up- and downhill on Range 16. There was “carriage and truck construction” on Ranges 7, 11, and 12; and “concrete pit construction” on Ranges 9 and 10. Range 10 also had “adequate latrine facilities.”

194 Post Engineer Office.
By 1950, the antitank ranges (antitank range [ATR] nos. 1 and 2) were inactivated; Range 11 had become a 1,000 in. ground machine gun range; Range 12 became a .50 caliber machine gun transition range; Range 13 became a .30 caliber rifle and carbine transition range; and Range 14 had become a .30 and .50 caliber machine gun open field firing range.\(^{195}\) That year, small arms firing by ROTC cadets occurred on North Ranges 9, 10, 13, and 14 (Figure 104).\(^{196}\)

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\(^{195}\) US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.

By 1953, the ranges were reconfigured. Several remained, though were renumbered: the live grenade court (Range 2); the 1,000 in. antitank range (Range 14); the .30 caliber machine gun field firing range (Range 16); and the pistol range (Range 24). There were now separate .30 caliber (Range 16) and .50 caliber (Range 42) machine gun field firing ranges. New or changed ranges included a rocket launcher and rifle grenade range (Range 1); two submachine gun ranges (Ranges 3 and 4); two automatic rifle (AR) and rifle transition ranges (Ranges 9 and 40); a .30 caliber landscape target range (Range 10); a 1,000 in. moving target range (Range 13); a close combat course (Range 20); two 500 in. and 1,000 in., .30 caliber machine gun ranges (Ranges 21 and 22); a chemical grenade court (Range 25); two practice grenade courts (Ranges 27 and 28); a rifle or carbine assault...
course (Range 38); and a .50 caliber machine gun moving target range (Range 44).¹⁹⁷

Ranges 3, 4, 10, 16, 21, 24, 27, and 28 remained the same through 1956. From 1955 to 1956, Range 1 was a 3.5 in. rocket launcher range, moving target; Range 9 was a BAR and rifle transition range; Ranges 13, 14, and 22 were tank subcaliber ranges; Range 23 was a 500 in. and 1,000 in., .30 caliber machine gun range; Range 40 was a rifle transition range; and Range 42 was a rocket launcher and rifle grenade range. Ranges 2, 20, 25, 38, and 44 were no longer listed on maps (Figure 105).¹⁹⁸

**Figure 105. North Small Arms Range, 1955 (Engineer, 5th Army, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).**


As of 1957, Ranges 1, 3, 13, 14, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 40, and 42 retained their 1955–1956 uses. Ranges 2 and 4 were no longer listed on maps from the period. New or changed ranges included Range 3, which had become a submachine gun range; Range 10, a landscape target range, .30 caliber; Ranges 11 and 12, tank subcaliber ranges; and Range 17, a pistol range.199

3.2.2 Activity from 1958 to 1970

By 1959, the number of training areas within the North Small Arms Area was dramatically reduced. That year, only a .30 caliber moving target range (Range 18) remained. Range 18 remained and retained this use through at least 1963, though it is no longer noted in maps by 1970 (Figure 106).200

Figure 106. North Small Arms Area, 1970 (US Army Topographic Command [KC], Camp McCoy. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

3.2.3 Activity from 1971–Present

By 1972, the North Small Arms Area retained only one range: Range 24. Initially a pistol range, it became a pistol and revolver range by 1980 and was labeled as a known distance pistol and revolver range by 1985, though it does not show up on maps from the mid-1980s (Figure 107 and Figure


By 1996, the only training area was a multipurpose training range (Range 29).

Figure 107. The small arms ranges northeast of the cantonment have been removed by 1983 (Image from Fort McCoy DPW. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).


202 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
3.2.4 The Known Distance Ranges (KDRs)

The Known Distance Ranges (KDRs) are located at the southwest edge of the North Small Arms Area. The firing line partially extends south into the cantonment.
3.2.4.1 The KDRs from 1942–1957

The KDRs first appear on a 1941 map (Figure 109). The West KDR (Range 9) had 100, 200, 300, and 500 yd lines, while the East KDR (Range 10) had 100, 200, and 300 yd lines (Figure 110).203

Figure 109. Detail of Known Distance Range, 1941 (Office of the Post Engineer, Reservation Boundary Map. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

203 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
By 1950, the KDRs (relabeled as Ranges 32 and 33) were both changed to be used for rifles and carbines and to have 100, 200, and 300 yd firing lines. This arrangement continued through 1957.204

3.2.4.2 The KDRs from 1958–1970

The two KDRs retained their 1950s uses and numbers through at least 1963.205 As of 1965, they had been transformed into a POW training area (Figure 111).206

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204 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
205 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
206 [Detail of Known Distance Range], 1965, Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
3.2.4.3 The KDRs from 1971–Present

By 1991, the former Known Distance Range and POW training site had been transformed into a training site with an unspecified purpose (Figure 112).\textsuperscript{207}

\textsuperscript{207} [Detail of Known Distance Range], 1991, Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
3.3 Cantonment and Close-in Training Areas

The cantonment (Figure 113), while not typically considered a training area, has housed numerous training facilities since its construction in the 1940s. It, as well as the surrounding areas, has therefore been active as a training area since c. 1942. Table 5 shows current training areas and ranges in the cantonment.\footnote{US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.}
3.3.1 Activity from 1942 to 1957

The cantonment (Figure 114) first appears on a 1942 battle map, which shows three drill fields, two bayonet courts, a grenade court, an obstacle course, and the divisional parade field (Figure 115).\(^\text{209}\) By 1944, an artillery landing field, additional obstacle courses, two additional bayonet courts, a vehicle driving course (Range 2), two artillery landing fields, three hand grenade courts, a live grenade court (Range 17), an ordnance area, an ASP (labeled as an ordnance magazine area ["ord. mag. Area"]), and a train yard and warehouse area are also present (Figure 116, Figure 117, and Figure 118).\(^\text{210}\)

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\(^\text{209}\) US Army Corps of Engineers, *Battle Map*.

Figure 114. Proposed location and layout of the cantonment and surrounding training areas, 1941 (Mead, Ward, and Hunt, *Reservation Boundary and Land Use Map.* North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 115. Cantonment and surrounding areas, 1942 (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Battle Map.* North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
Figure 116. Cantonment and surrounding areas, 1944 (Office of the Post Engineer, Reservation Boundary Map, 12 September 1944. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 117. Soldier undergoing training using obstacle course at Fort McCoy, June 1944 (Image from RG111-SCA Album 400, NARA, College Park, MD. Public Domain).
As of 1956, the cantonment had numerous training areas (Figure 119). These included three cover and movement by day sites (NRs. 1–3); three cover and movement by night sites (NRs. 1–3); four individual proficiency sites (NRs. 1–4); three machine gun squares (NRs. 1–3); five preliminary rifle instruction (PRI) circles (NRs. 1–4 and 6) and one PRI site (NR. 5); three mine and booby traps sites (NRs. 1–3); three hasty fortification sites (NRs. 1–3); three camouflages sites (NRs. 1–3); three hasty fortification sites (NRs. 1–3); two bayonet courses (NRs. 1–2); two gas chambers (NRs. 1–2); five drill fields (NRs. 1–5); three field sanitation sites (NRs. 1–3); a miniature mortar range; a confidence course; a pole orchard; a precision driving course; a rigging area; and a skeet range. There were also helicopter pads, an emergency airstrip, and Testing Site ATT 21-2,\(^{211}\) whose purpose is unknown.\(^{212}\)

\(^{211}\) “ATT” is an unknown acronym.

\(^{212}\) Cantonment & Close In Training Areas, 1956, scale not given (Wisconsin: Camp McCoy), Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
3.3.2 Activity from 1958 to 1970

Maps from this period show minimal training areas in and around the cantonment.213 As of 1970, though, the ASP and emergency airstrip were still extant (Figure 120).214

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3.3.3 Activity from 1971–Present

As of 1985, the ASP is still extant (Figure 121).\textsuperscript{215}

Figure 121. Cantonment and surrounding areas, 1985 (Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center, *Fort McCoy Military Installation Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

3.4 South Artillery Area

The South Artillery Area occupies most of the area south of the cantonment at Fort McCoy (Figure 122). Today it consists of current training areas A03, A04, A05, A06, B01, B02, B03, B04, B05, B06, B07, B08, B09, B10, B11, B12, B13, B14, B15, B16, B17, B18, B19, B20, B21, B22, B23E, B23W, B24, B25, B26, B27, B28, B29, B30, B31, B32, and B33. Table 6 shows current training areas and ranges in the South Artillery Area.\textsuperscript{216} It has been active as a defined training area since c. 1909, though training


\textsuperscript{216} US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, *Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy*, Appendix G.
did not occur in this area from 1919 to c. 1925 while the installation was used as an ordnance depot.217

Figure 122. South Artillery Area, outlined in red, on the 2021 Fort McCoy Military Installation Map (Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, & Security. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL, Public Domain).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Area</th>
<th>Training Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A03</td>
<td>Compass Course 2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A04</td>
<td>Compass Course 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A05</td>
<td>Compass Course 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A06</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B01</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B02</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B03</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B04</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B05</td>
<td>YOUNGSTOWN (Combat in the Cities Facility) Big Sandy Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B06</td>
<td>DZ— Young Assault Airstrip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Area</th>
<th>Training Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B07</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| B08          | Home Station Training Complex (HSTC) Lane 1  
|              | Compass Course 1B |
| B09          | No named facilities |
| B10          | No named facilities |
| B11          | CRAIG (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | Enemy Prisoner-of-War (POW) Compound 2  
|              | Rock Crusher |
| B12          | No named facilities |
| B13          | No named facilities |
| B14          | No named facilities |
| B15          | TTB— Courage |
| B16          | No named facilities |
| B17          | Tunnel B17 |
| B18          | MORGAN (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | SCOTTS JUNCTION (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | DOTY (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | Combat Outpost Lashgar |
| B19          | BADGERTOWN (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | HSTC Lane 2  
|              | DZ— Badger |
| B20          | No named facilities |
| B21          | HEIN (Combat in the Cities Facility) |
| B22          | Tunnel B22 |
| B23E         | No named facilities |
| B23W         | No named facilities |
| B24          | Search/Tactical Site Exploitation Training Facility (STSE)  
|              | RICE (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | HARRISON (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | BUSH (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | CONNOLLY (Combat in the Cities Facility) |
| B25          | BUTLER (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
|              | Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF)  
<p>|              | Line of Communication (LOC) Bridge Site 1 |
| B26          | COTTS (Combat in the Cities Facility) |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Area</th>
<th>Training Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| B27           | DYER (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
DAWSON (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
THOMAS (Combat in the Cities Facility)  
LOC Bridge Site 2 |
| B28           | No named facilities |
| B29           | No named facilities |
| B30           | No named facilities |
| B31           | Training Ammunition Supply Point (ASP) |
| B32           | GINDER (Combat in the Cities Facility) |
| B33           | TTB—Independence  
Compass Course 1A  
ITTB—Freedom |

### 3.4.1 Activity from 1909 to 1920

Maps of the South Artillery Area from 1909 to 1915 show this area as open terrain labeled as a “range area,” with some individual ranges marked. These included 300, 600, and 1,000 yd rifle ranges (Figure 123).218 Approximately $20,000 was spent on target butts for these ranges c. 1910. Twenty 15 ft long target butts each were placed on 200 and 300 yd ranges; twenty 20 ft long target butts each were placed on 500 and 600 yd ranges; and ten 25 ft long butts each were placed on 800 and 1,000 yd ranges.219 In 1910, a new range was constructed in the southwest corner of the reservation with a 5,500 ft long firing line. The targets were “arranged in eche- lons” with 960 ft long butts with 60 targets each. Bluffs were used as backstops.220

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219 War Department, Office of the Quartermaster General, Washington, DC, Memorandum for the Quartermaster General, Jan. 10, 1910.

220 “An Ideal Rifle Range.”
Further range construction occurred in 1915. A new range would be constructed “near the site of the old one, just east of ‘Camel’s Hump.” 221 This new range featured a concrete butt large enough for three targets with a central pit house and sand frontage to eliminate ricocheting artillery. The natural bluff on the eastern edge of the range was increased in height using sand from the former range pit as well as a 15-foot backstop made of “planking with sand filler.” The range would feature a nearly level ground slope, allowing views of over 200 yd. As of June 1916, the ground had been excavated and cleared, and concrete work for the target butts had begun. 222 Based on accounts of artillery practice from 1917 to 1919, though, training continued to occur throughout the reservation, not just on defined ranges. 223

223 Waldo, 357.
3.4.2 Activity from 1921 to 1942

Training did not occur on the ranges during the early and mid-1920s, as the installation was used as an ordnance depot. On restarting, though, training likely used the numerous range facilities on the reservation at the time, including rifle butts, battery positions, and range towers (Figure 124). Some range towers on a 1931 map are labeled as “old range tower[s]” with an accompanying number, though it is unclear when the “old” and newer towers were built. By 1940, additional training areas, such as musketry and engineer training areas, were located within the South Artillery Area (Figure 125).

Figure 124. Range facilities shown on 1931 topographic map (US Army Corps of Engineers, Terrain Map: Camp McCoy, Wis. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

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225 US Army Corps of Engineers, Terrain Map: Camp McCoy, Wis., 1931, 1:20,000 (Fort Humphreys, Washington, DC: Engineer Reproduction Plan, US Army), Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
Figure 125. 1940 Second Army Maneuvers map of bivouacs and training areas (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Bivouacs & Training Areas 2D Army Maneuvers 1940*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

3.4.3 Activity from 1942 to 1957

By 1942, the South Artillery Area (Figure 126 and Figure 127) featured a pill box fortified area, musketry range, moving target range, two mortar ranges, and a pistol range (Figure 128).\(^\text{227}\) By 1944, there was a defined impact area along with a village fighting area, a fortified area, an antitank ditch, and a “South Artillery Range” (Figure 129).\(^\text{228}\)

\(^{227}\) US Army Corps of Engineers, *Battle Map*.

\(^{228}\) Office of the Post Engineer, *Reservation Boundary Map*, Sept. 12, 1944.
Figure 126. Proposed location and layout of the South Artillery Area located south of the CMSTP&P, 1941 (Mead, Ward, and Hunt, *Reservation Boundary and Land Use Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 127. Detail of proposed location and layout of the South Artillery Range Impact Area from 1941 map (Mead, Ward, and Hunt, *Reservation Boundary and Land Use Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
Figure 128. South Artillery Area, 1942 (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Battle Map*, North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 129. South Artillery Area, 1944 (Office of the Post Engineer, *Reservation Boundary Map*, 12 September 1944. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
In 1946, there was a defined mortar range in this area, which housed numerous training facilities, including, but not limited to, two village fighting courses; a wood fighting course; two gas chambers; an obstacle course (Figure 130); an infiltration course with three wire barriers; and a “fortified area” with tank traps, road blocks, barbed wire, trenches, and 11 concrete pill boxes.\textsuperscript{229}

Figure 130. South Ranges and associated features, 1946 (Post Engineer Office, n.p. Public Domain).

By 1950, the woods fighting area was labeled as Range 35. The same year, the impact area also became known as Impact Area 101. By 1954, some of the ranges had changed, and all had been given numbers (Figure 131). The infiltration course became Range 57, and the impact area became Impact Area 101. There was a defined mortar impact area (Range 59) along with a rifle transition range (Range 51), a combat in cities course (Range 55), and a demolition area (Range 61). The following year, the infiltration course was no longer a labeled training area. By 1956, the combat in cities course was no longer a labeled training area, and there was a new 3.5 in. rocket launcher range (Range 53). Only this range and the Impact Area 101 remained by 1957.\textsuperscript{230}

\textsuperscript{229} Post Engineer Office.

\textsuperscript{230} US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
3.4.4 Activity from 1958 to 1970

By 1959, the South Artillery Area was revamped. While Impact Area 101 remained, the ranges now included an automatic rifle or rifle transition range (Range 101), a .30 caliber machine gun field firing range (Range 102), a rifle transition range (Range 103), and a demolition range (Range 104).\(^\text{231}\) Range 103 disappeared between 1956 and 1970, and there were five platoon and squad combat attack courses likely located within the South Artillery Area as of 1963 (Figure 132 and Figure 133).\(^\text{232}\) This combination of ranges existed until 1970 (Figure 134).\(^\text{233}\)

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231 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.

232 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G; Camp McCoy, Range Regulations.

233 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
Figure 132. South Artillery Area, 1959 (Army Map Service [AM], Camp McCoy. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 133. Table of information on the South Ranges from 1963 Range Regulations (Camp McCoy, Range Regulations, Wisconsin. Camp McCoy, 1963).
3.4.5 Activity from 1971–Present

From 1980 to at least 1985, there was a 14.5 in. artillery training range (Range 51) in the area. As of 1972, the impact area was transformed into a drop zone for the nearby airfield (Figure 135 and Figure 136). This arrangement was still extant as of 1992 (Figure 137).

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236 [1992 military installation map], Fort McCoy CRM Office, Fort McCoy, WI.
Figure 135. The artillery impact area has been transformed into a drop zone by 1983 (Image from Fort McCoy DPW. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 136. South Artillery Area, 1985 (Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center, Fort McCoy Military Installation Map. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
3.5 South Small Arms Area (c. 1942–Present)

The South Small Arms Area is located in the southwest corner of the reservation (Figure 138) consisting of current training areas A01 and A02. Table 7 shows current training areas and ranges in the South Small Arms Area. The ranges are located south of Interstate 90. It has been active as a defined training area since 1942.237

237 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
Figure 138. South Small Arms Area, outlined in red, on the 2021 *Fort McCoy Military Installation Map* (Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, & Security. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Table 7. Training areas and facilities in the South Small Arms Area as of 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Area</th>
<th>Training Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A01</td>
<td>R101 Automated Record Fire (ARF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R102 Basic 25 m Firing Range (Zero)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A02</td>
<td>R100 Modified Record Fire (MRF)/CP/MPQC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R105 Basic 25 m Firing Range (Zero)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.5.1 Activity form 1942–1957

The South Small Arms Area (Figure 139) first appears on a 1942 *Battle Map* (Figure 140), which shows combat, 1,000 in. machine gun, known distance, mortar, 1,000 in. landscape, musketry, and pistol ranges as well as 13 latrines, three target houses, and one tower. This same combination of ranges was present in 1944 (Figure 141).238

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Figure 140. Small Arms Area, 1942 (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Battle Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
By 1946, though, the ranges included four KDRs—pistols and carbines (Range 19), 500 yd (Range 22), 300 yd (Range 23), and 200 yd (Range 24); a 1,000 in. landscape and pistol range (Range 20); a 1,000 in. machine gun range (Range 25); and a rifle and carbine transition range (Range 26) (Figure 142 and Figure 143). The south known distance ranges did not have a target house, and the construction of one was recommended by the post engineer. 

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239 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
240 Post Engineer Office.
Also in 1946, Ranges 18–26 were in the South Small Arms Area. Target types used on these ranges included towed moving targets on Range 27 and targets of an unspecified type on Range 26. The musketry targets on Range 19 were “concrete pits operating 4 sets of targets each.” Ranges 22–24 also had “concrete constructed pits” as well as “adequate latrine facilities” in “close proximity” to the ranges.241

By 1950, the ranges had been consolidated into a single 100–200 yd carbine and 15–25 yd pistol range (Range 25); a 1,000 in. landscape range (Range 27); a 500 yd KDR (Range 29); a 300, 200, and 100 yd KDR

241 Post Engineer Office.
(Range 30); and a 200 and 100 yd KDR (Range 31). That year, small arms firing by ROTC cadets occurred on the south range.

The ranges changed again by the end of 1950 (Figure 144). At that point, the South Small Arms Area consisted of three known distance rifle and carbine ranges, 100, 200, 300, and 500 yd (Ranges 63, 67, and 68); a squad tactical area (Range 64); a known distance carbine range, 100 and 200 yd (Range 69), and a carbine transition range (Range 72) (Figure 145). A “Mound Prairie Area” is also shown on a 1955 map. This combination of ranges, albeit with changing numbers, existed until at least 1957.

---

242 Post Engineer Office.
3.5.2 Activity from 1958 to 1970

From 1958 to 1963, the South Small Arms area consisted of a known distance carbine range, 100, 200, and 300 yd (Range 105); two known distance and carbine ranges, 100, 200, and 300 yd (Ranges 106 and 107); a known distance carbine range, 100 and 200 yd (Range 108); and a carbine transition range (Range 109). In 1958, 124 M31A1 targets were installed on Ranges 105 to 107 (Figure 146).

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244 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.


By 1963, all preexisting ranges, as well as an additional range (Range 105A), in the South Small Arms area were labeled as known distance ranges for rifles, carbines, or both (Figure 147).²⁴⁶

²⁴⁶ Camp McCoy, *Range Regulations*. 
3.5.3 Activity from 1971–Present

In 1970, ranges labeled in the Small Arms Area consisted of four known distance rifle ranges (Ranges 105–108) (Figure 148). These ranges continued to serve as known distance rifle ranges, with varying allowed weapons, until at least 1996.247 In 1971, they were known distance rifle and M16 ranges (Ranges 105–108). There was also a known distance pistol range (Range 100). Ranges 105–108 remained the same through at least 1975, by which point Range 100 had changed to a known distance night firing rifle and carbine range (Range 100) (Figure 149 and Figure 150).248

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247 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.

248 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G; (Ranges in South Artillery Area), 1971, Fort McCoy DPW, Fort McCoy, WI; [South Small Arms Ranges Map], 1971, Fort McCoy DPW, Fort McCoy, WI.
Figure 148. South Small Arms Area, 1970 (Image from McCoy DPW. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 149. List of ranges on the South Artillery Area, 1971 ([Ranges in South Artillery Area], 1971. Public Domain).
Figure 150. South Arms Ranges, 1971 ([South Small Arms Ranges map], 1971, Fort McCoy DPW, Fort McCoy, WI. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
From 1980 to 1988, there were one known distance rifle range, 100, 200, 300 yds, and 25 meters (inactive) (Range 105); two known distance rifle ranges, 100, 200, 300 yds, and 25 meters (active) (Ranges 106 and 107); and a pistol range (Range 100) (Figure 151, Figure 152, and Figure 153). By 1996, there were four known distance/25-meter ranges (Ranges 100, 106, 107, and 108) (Figure 154).\(^{249}\)

Figure 151. The small arms ranges south of SR16 have been removed by 1983 (Image from Fort McCoy DPW. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

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\(^{249}\) US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
Figure 152. Firing ranges in 1984. Ranges 100–108 were in the South Small Arms Area (Image from Fort McCoy DPW. Public Domain).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANGE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>M6, RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>M67(90mm) AND M72(LAW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL AND HONEYWELL CXPRT TEST RANGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MACHINE GUN, 50 cal. AND M60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>TANK TABLES VI, VII, 106mm RR, 606 SERVICE PRACTICE, M41(DRAGON) AND M220(TOW) LIVE FIRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>TANK RAGE (INACTIVE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>INACTIVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>RIFLE SQUAD/SCOUT CREW, M2, M60 M72, M103 AND M72 (LAW) SUBCALIBER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>LIVE M201(40mm GRENADE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>HAND GRENADE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>KD PISTOL AND REVOLVER, .38 cal., .22 cal. AND 45 cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>KD PISTOL AND REVOLVER, .38 cal., .22 cal. AND 45 cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10A</td>
<td>INACTIVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>DEMOLITION (50 LBS. OR LESS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>M203(40mm GRENADE) PRACTICE ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>SUB MACHINE GUN, .45 cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>MACHINE GUN, 50 cal. AND M60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>MACHINE GUN, M60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>MOVING TARGET, .50 cal. AND M60, RING OR GROUND M10, 106mm RR SUB CALIBER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>106mm RR AND 90 mm RR SUB CALIBER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>106mm RR AND 90 mm RR SUB CALIBER, M6 AND M60 MACHINE GUN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>INF. SQUAD DEFENSE COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>INF. SQUAD DEFENSE COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>INF. SQUAD DEFENSE COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>SAFAD, 5.56 mm AND 7.62 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>KD PISTOL AND REVOLVER, .38 cal., .22 cal. AND 45 cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>KD PISTOL AND REVOLVER, .38 cal., .22 cal. AND 45 cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>ANTI ARMOR COMPLEX (LAW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>TANK TABLES I, II, III, IV AND V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>TANK TABLE VI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>ARTILLERY DEFENSE COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>HEAVY DEMOLITION (250 LBS. OR LESS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>RIFLE QUALIFICATION (M60AI ONLY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>RIFLE FIELD FIRE (M60AI ONLY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>MULTI-PURPOSE FOR ZERO/NIGHT FIRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>MACHINE GUN, 50 cal. AND M60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>M203(40mm GRENADE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>TOW TRACKING, DRY FIRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>ARTILLERY INDIRECT FIRE (14.5mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>LIGHT DEMOLITION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>TANK TABLES VI AND VIII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>14.5 ARTILLERY TRAINER RANGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>PISTOL RANGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>KD RIFLE, 100, 200, 300 yds., 25 meters, PISTOL RANGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>KD RIFLE, 100, 200, 300 yds., 25 meters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>KD RIFLE, 100, 200, 300 yds., 25 meters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>KD RIFLE, 100, 200, 300 yds., 25 meters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 153. South Small Arms Area, 1985 (Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center, *Fort McCoy Military Installation Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).
3.6 Other training areas (c. 1942–Present)

Within the context of this report, “other” training areas are those within the boundaries of Fort McCoy that are not within one of the regions listed above (Figure 155). Thus, “other” training areas consist of current areas C01, C06, C07, C08, C09, C12, C21, D01, D02, D03, D10E, D10W, and D11, which are located noncontiguously throughout the reservation near and north of the cantonment.
Table 8 lists training facilities currently in these areas. These training areas lack known or confirmed defined uses prior to 1971; however, uses prior to 1980 are not well understood.\textsuperscript{250}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{figure155.png}
\caption{Other training areas at Fort McCoy, outlined in red, on the 2021 \textit{Fort McCoy Military Installation Map} (Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, & Security. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{250} US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.
Table 8. Other training areas and facilities at Fort McCoy as of 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Area</th>
<th>Training Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C01</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C06</td>
<td>BULLARD (Combat in the Cities Facility)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C07</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C08</td>
<td>TTB—Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C09</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C12</td>
<td>GERHARDT (Combat in the Cities Facility)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C21</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D01</td>
<td>No named facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D02</td>
<td>DZ—Cranberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D03</td>
<td>(R 402) Light Demolition Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D10E</td>
<td>Bayonet Training Course (BTC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bayonet Assault Course (BAC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Field Leadership Reaction Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conditioning Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Confidence Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Precision Driving Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rappel Towers (12 ft, 34 ft, 55 ft)</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Rope Bridge Training Site</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Handheld Detector Lane</td>
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<tr>
<td>D10W</td>
<td>Expert Field Medical Badge Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>D11</td>
<td>Engineer Site D11</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>TTB—Patriot</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3.6.1 Activity from 1971–Present

By 1972, what is now area D11 contained a Rock Island Experimental and Test Fire site (Site 2), which fired into the North Artillery Area. This was gone by 1980. By 1980, what is now training area C21 contained a combined tank gunnery range and tables VI and VIII (Range 44). This remained extant until at least 1988 (Figure 156). Many of these areas housed firing points as of 1984 (Figure 157).

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251 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District and Defense Ammunition Center, Archive Search Report Findings (Volume II) for Fort McCoy, Appendix G.


Figure 156. Training facilities in area C21, 1985 (Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center, *Fort McCoy Military Installation Map*. North arrow added by ERDC-CERL. Public Domain).

Figure 157. Map of firing points in 1984 (Image from Fort McCoy DPW. Public Domain).
4 Conclusions and Recommendations

The intention of this document is to provide a broad overview of activities and construction that took place on Fort McCoy to support its various training missions through the years. This report lays out the history of training activity and provides the detail necessary to enable researchers to tie the various training sites throughout the installation to a specific historic context.

4.1 Categories of historic properties

The identification of historically significant properties is achieved through evaluation of their position within a larger historic context. According to the NRHP, historic contexts are defined as “the patterns, themes, or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within prehistory or history is made clear.”254 A historic property is determined significant or not significant by applying standardized National Register Criteria for Evaluation to property within its historical context. The NRHP categorizes significant properties as buildings, sites, districts, structures, or objects.255 Definitions of these five property types are summarized below:

**Building:** A building is created principally to shelter any form of human activity. Examples of buildings include administration building, house, barn, stable, train station, church, or shed.

**Structure:** Structures are distinguished from buildings by being functional constructions made for purposes other than creating human shelter. Examples of structures include aircraft hangars, bandstands, bridges, canals, fences, kilns, or windmills.

**Object:** The term object is used to distinguish from buildings and structures those constructions that are primarily artistic in nature or are relatively small in

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scale and simply constructed. Although it may be, by nature or design, movable, an object is associated with a specific setting or environment. Examples of objects include boundary markers, fountains, monuments, sculptures, or statues.

**Site:** A site is the location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure. Examples of sites include battlefield, campsite, ceremonial site, designed landscape, rock shelter, or village site.

**District:** A district possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district can comprise both features that lack individual distinction and individually distinctive features that serve as focal points. A group of features lacking in individual distinction may even be considered eligible if the grouping achieves significance as a whole within its historic context. While a district derives its importance from being a unified entity, it can contain buildings, structures, sites, objects, or open spaces that do not contribute to the significance of the district if these properties do not adversely affect the district’s integrity.256

### 4.2 NRHP definitions and criteria

The identification of historically significant properties is achieved only through the evaluation of their position within the larger historic context. According to the NRHP, historic contexts are defined as “the patterns, themes, or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood, and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within

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256 NPS, National Register Bulletin #15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, 7.
prehistory or history is made clear.”\textsuperscript{257} A historic property is determined significant or not significant based on the application of standardized NRHP criteria within the property’s historical context. To qualify as historic, a property must have an association with a relevant historic context as well as have retained its physical integrity through which its historic significance is conveyed.\textsuperscript{258}

The NRHP Criteria for Evaluation define how historic properties are significant for their association with important events (Criterion A), association with important persons (Criterion B), importance in design and construction (Criterion C), and information potential (Criterion D). A property may be significant under one or more criteria. The following is a brief description of each of the four NRHP Criteria for Evaluation:

A. Event—-associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

B. Person—associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

C. Design/Construction—embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; or that represents the work of a master; or that possesses high artistic values; or that represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;

D. Information Potential—yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history; or

Criteria Consideration G—a property achieving significance within the past fifty years is eligible if it is of exceptional importance.

\textsuperscript{257} NPS, National Register Bulletin #15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, 7.

\textsuperscript{258} NPS, National Register Bulletin #15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, 7, 44–45.
A property that has achieved significance within the past fifty years can be evaluated only when sufficient historical perspective exists to determine that the property is exceptionally important. The necessary perspective can be provided by scholarly research and evaluation and must consider both the historic context and the specific property’s role in that context.259

4.3 Aspects of historic integrity

In addition to possessing historical significance, properties must also retain sufficient physical integrity of features to convey their significance and be eligible for the NRHP.260 Historic properties both retain their integrity and convey their significance, or they do not. The NRHP recognizes seven aspects or qualities of a property that define the concept of integrity:

1. *Location* is the place where the historic property was constructed, or the place where the historic event occurred.

2. *Design* is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. It results from conscious decisions made during the original conception and planning of a property (or its significant alteration) and applies to activities as diverse as community planning, engineering, architecture, and landscape architecture. Design includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials.

3. *Setting* is the physical environment of a historic property. Setting refers to the character of the place in which the property played its historical role. It involves how, not just where, the

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property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space.

4. *Materials* are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.

5. *Workmanship* is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.

6. *Feeling* is a property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time period.

7. *Association* is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.\(^ {261}\)

To retain historic integrity, a property must possess several, if not most, of the seven aspects. The retention of specific aspects of historic integrity is paramount for a property to convey its significance. Determining which of these aspects are most important to a particular property requires knowing why, where, and when the property is significant.\(^ {262}\)

Properties in a historic district are classified as either “contributing” or “noncontributing” resources. Contributing resources date from the historic period of significance established for the district. They contribute to the significance and character of the district through their historical associations and/or architectural values. Noncontributing resources are those that, due to date of construction, alterations, or other factors, do not contribute to the district’s historic significance or character.\(^ {263}\)

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4.4 Themes under which Fort McCoy training facilities possess significance

Through conducting archival research and developing the overall historic context for training at Fort McCoy, the authors determined that there are three periods of significance related to training under Criterion A: from 1909 to 1919, covering the installation’s initial development as a training ground for large-scale maneuvers; from 1939 to 1945, covering the post’s expansion and WWII; and from 1958 to 1970, covering the large-scale re-designation of range numbers and nomenclature, the opening of numerous training schools, and the Vietnam War. Although Fort McCoy was used for troop training during the Korean War, this was a short-lived operation and does not serve as a defining era in Fort McCoy’s history.

With the periods of significance outlined above, the key to a property’s significance is the following question: What properties on Fort McCoy were constructed or adapted to directly support the United States’ efforts in initially developing Fort McCoy as a training ground, WWII, or the Vietnam War-era redesignation of Fort McCoy’s training lands?

In addition to Criterion A, individual facilities might be significant under Criterion C for their architectural or engineering design, but Criterion C significance would need to be determined by Fort McCoy on a case-by-case basis by locating additional architectural or engineering information. While “is it significant under Criterion C?” must be asked, the historic record has not shown that any of the range facilities or properties were designed by a noted architect or engineer and that the ranges are typical Army range training properties.

4.4.1 Specific themes

Synthesizing the information in the chronology of training activities has led to several historic themes per period of significance. These are outlined below. Property types related to specific themes may be significant under NRHP Criterion A during a particular period, though their integrity must also be evaluated. Additionally, the exclusion of a property type from the following list does not automatically exclude it from potentially having significance under one of the thematic areas.
• Facility was constructed during 1909–1919 and was directly related to large-scale maneuvers:
  o Maneuver areas, and
  o Target practice.

• Facility was constructed, underwent a major expansion, or was adapted and heavily used during 1939–1945 and was directly related to providing WWII specialized warfare training:
  o Infantry training,
  o Weapons training,
  o Artillery ranges,
  o Maneuver areas,
  o Target practice,
  o Combat training, and
  o Specialized training (e.g., Demolition, Bridge Building, Urban Warfare, etc.).

• Facility was constructed, underwent a major expansion, or was adapted and heavily used from 1958 to 1970 and was directly related to providing early Vietnam War specialized warfare training:
  o Infantry training,
  o Weapons training,
  o Artillery ranges,
  o Maneuver areas,
  o Target practice,
  o Combat training, and
  o Specialized training (e.g., Demolition, Bridge Building, Urban Warfare, etc.).

Notably, the theme of construction, expansion, or adaption and use from 1958 to 1970 is associated with the early Vietnam War and ends in 1970 due to a reduction in training facilities beginning circa 1970 and proceeding through the 1980s. While training at then Camp McCoy continued through the early 1970s, the training facilities on the installation underwent minimal changes in the 1970s before ultimately being reduced in number by the mid-1980s (see Section 2.2.3).
4.4.2 Example of identification and evaluation process

In order for a property at Fort McCoy to meet NRHP Criterion A, it must be important under one or more of the themes established in this report. The property’s importance must also have been achieved during the theme’s period of significance. If the property cannot be tied to one of the themes, then the building, structure, site, district, or object does not have significance under Criterion A.

For example, in evaluating the North Artillery Area, it must be shown to have been important under the theme of WWII specialized warfare training during the period of 1939–1945. In this case, the property falls under the artillery range property type determined to be significant under this theme. As the property is significant, then the aspects of integrity should be examined. The property should retain the aspects that are most important to conveying its significance, in this case targets, lanes, distance indicators, berms, etc. There would need to be enough era-specific elements left to make it clear the property was a firing range. A scatter of era-specific bullets may not be enough to provide the sense of a firing range. These elements would be analyzed in terms of the NRHP aspects of integrity to see if they retain sufficient integrity to convey the story of WWII artillery training. If the site is determined to have integrity, it is eligible as a landscape under Criterion A or as an archaeological site under Criteria A and D.

4.5 Breakdown of typical evaluation process

The cultural resources staff and its contractors should use this report during construction efforts to recognize the major trends in training at Fort McCoy to identify facilities that potentially correlate with any of the three periods of significance (1909–1919, 1939–1945, and 1958–1970).

The following steps will take future researchers through the process of determining NRHP eligibility for particular properties:

1. Determine if the property had an important role in one or more of the context thematic areas for training at Fort McCoy.
2. If the property had no important role under these themes, then the property does not possess significance for training at Fort McCoy.
3. If “yes” to the theme(s), then determine if the specific property or properties under review were important under that theme(s). Sometimes there may be multiple properties in the same area of Fort McCoy that may address different themes over different periods of time, but all could be brought together as one historic district. Is there a spatial link to the properties? Or are they dispersed but all mission-related?

4. If “yes” for individual groups of properties, then determine the importance of the property or properties to the training outlined in the Fort McCoy historic context.

5. Identify the specific period(s) of significance (which may be more than one for multiple properties under one theme, may have multiple properties relating to more than one theme, or may have one property with multiple themes and multiple periods of significance). A period of significance is the time span that the property had its most important uses for training at Fort McCoy.

6. Determine if the property retains sufficient integrity to tell the story of its importance to its themes and if it also retains character-defining features. Character-defining features are those elements of the property that are visual representations of historic significance. This determination is made by visual inspection, comparison with historical documents or photographs, and evaluation to measure individual aspects of integrity. The property, although originally a building or structure, might now qualify as an archaeological site, and significance under Criterion D will have to be evaluated.

7. SIGNIFICANCE + INTEGRITY = ELIGIBILITY.

4.6 Recommendations

Without geographical data regarding extant training facilities, it will be difficult to evaluate the historic significance of training facilities as they reach 50 years of age. Therefore, it is the recommendation of this report that Fort McCoy Real Property data for extant training facilities be spatialized with reference to this historic context.

Additionally, all facilities in this report that have reached 50 years of age and have not yet been evaluated for the NRHP—for example, the six concrete artillery shelters on the South Artillery Range—should undergo evaluation.

The Rock Island Experimentation and Test Fire Sites Nos. 1 and 2 should also undergo further research. Given that these facilities were likely
primarily associated with weapons manufacturing and experimentation under the direction of Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois, researchers found little information about the construction and use of these sites. As such, a historic context regarding Rock Island Arsenal’s activities at Fort McCoy should be produced.

Finally, should Fort McCoy’s agreement with the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) that ranges on the installation are categorically exempt from Section 106 evaluation, then the training lands at Fort McCoy that have reached 50 years of age should also undergo a landscape inventory per the four-volume Military Training Lands Historic Context (ERDC/CERL TR-10-08, TR-10-09, TR-10-10, and TR-10-11) by Dan Archibald, Adam Smith, Sunny Adams, and Manroop Chawla.264

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# Abbreviations

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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Anti-Aircraft</td>
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<td>AM</td>
<td>Army Map Service</td>
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<td>Automated Record Fire</td>
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<td>ASP</td>
<td>Ammunition Supply Point</td>
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<td>ATR</td>
<td>Anti-tank Range</td>
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<td>Bayonette Assault Course</td>
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<td>Browning Automatic Rifle</td>
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<td>Combined Arms Collective Training Facility</td>
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<td>Crew Laser</td>
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<td>Convoy Live Fire</td>
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<td>CMTC</td>
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<td>Prisoner of War</td>
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<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRI</td>
<td>Preliminary Rifle Instruction</td>
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<td>Range</td>
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<td>Radio Controlled Aerial Target</td>
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The US Congress codified the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the nation’s most effective cultural resources legislation to date, mostly through establishing the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NHPA requires Federal agencies to address their cultural resources, which are defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object. Section 110 of the NHPA requires Federal agencies to inventory and evaluate their cultural resources, and Section 106 requires them to determine the effect of Federal undertakings on those potentially eligible for the NRHP.

Fort McCoy is entirely within Monroe County in west-central Wisconsin. It was first established as the Sparta Maneuver Tract in 1909. The post was renamed Camp McCoy in 1926. Since 1974, it has been known as Fort McCoy. This report provides a historic context for ranges, features, and buildings associated with the post’s training lands in support of Section 110 of the NHPA.