

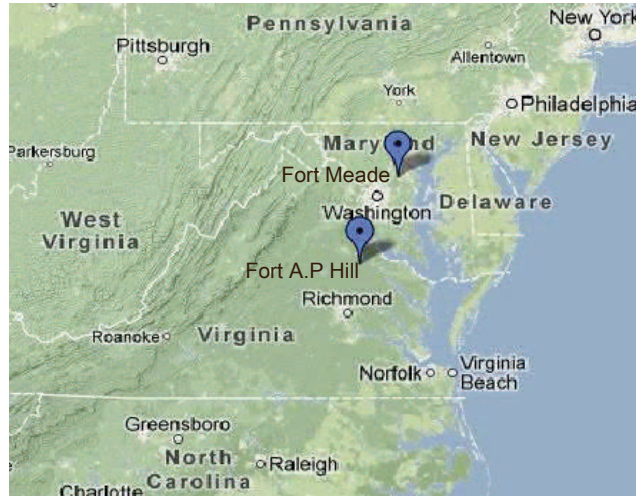
ABOUT FORT A.P. HILL

Located in Caroline County, Virginia, Fort A.P. Hill is situated roughly mid-way between Richmond and Washington DC. Fort A.P. Hill is one of the largest East Coast installations and continues to be a premier Army training Center since its establishment in 1941.

Today Fort A.P. Hill spans nearly 76,000 acres and includes a 28,000 acre live fire range complex. Fort A.P. Hill is Caroline County's second largest employer and continues its mission to deliver "The Best Training and Support—Anywhere!"



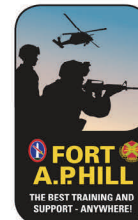
Map of Virginia area showing locations of Fort A.P. Hill and Fort Meade



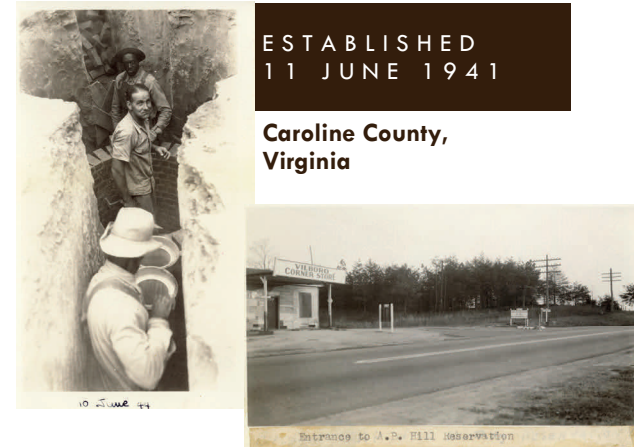
Courtesy: Google Maps

Photos on front cover clockwise from top: 1. Construction in the town of Bowling Green 2. Vilboro Corner Store— Entrance to Fort A.P. Hill Reservation 3. Finance office on Fort A.P. Hill Reservation 4. Major Kyle on Fort A.P. Hill Reservation.

Contact:
 Directorate of Public Works
 Environmental & Natural Resources Division
 (804)633-8255
 For more information



History of Fort A.P. Hill



A brief glimpse into the history surrounding the origin of Fort A.P. Hill...



Creation of Fort A.P. Hill

Selection

Fort A.P. Hill was established as an Army training installation on 11 June 1941. While it is unknown how the site for Fort A.P. Hill was originally discovered, it is known that it was selected because of proximity to Washington DC and Fort Meade. There was enough land for a large artillery range which Fort Meade lacked at the time.



An old homestead located on the property that would become Fort A.P. Hill

Acquisition

In early January of 1941, the War Department requested funding for the acquisition of a Fredericksburg site of 109,440 acres. The news of Caroline County being the location of the new training installation was initially met with fierce opposition from the local residents. For this reason, the original boundaries were redrawn to exclude historic homes and the most valuable properties, which included Conway, Gaymont, and Moss Neck.



Lt. General Ambrose Powell Hill

A.P. Hill Designation

Originally three names were considered for the official designation of Fort A.P. Hill. They were: Major General James McAndrew, Lt. General A.P. Hill, and Captain John Hunt Morgan. The decision to memorialize Lt. General A.P. Hill was in part to acknowledge the patriotic history of the location since he was the only General from Virginia.

Establishment

In April of 1941, Lt. General Hugh Drum identified an immediate military need for the establishment of 70,000 of the original 109,440 acres for Fort A.P. Hill. However, only 430 acres of land was acquired by June 1941 for the arrival of the Fifth Engineer Regiment from Fort Belvoir.

Continued...

Then on 3 June 1941 the 1336th Service Unit was activated by the first post commander Lt. Colonel John McLaurine as the station complement for the new reservation. Eventually, Fort A.P. Hill would span just over 76,000 acres and be established as one of the premier training installations of the east coast.



*Logging on Fort A.P. Hill, VA 1943
Beulah Sommer Collection*

WWII Training

The 29th Infantry Division and II Corps were among the first units to arrive for training in December 1941 on Fort A.P. Hill. Both groups would go on to serve a significant role in the outcome of World War II. The 29th Infantry Division would be assigned a pivotal role in the events surrounding D-Day. The II Corps was eventually assigned to General George Patton and had a successful campaign in Tunisia and Sicily.
