Making a Difference...

IN MILITARY FACILITIES

The Military Programs mission area of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for the design and construction of an extremely wide range of facility types throughout the world amounting to more than $5 billion a year. Each military installation is, in and of itself, like a city, which requires the peacetime military construction mission — a $1.3 billion program to reshape Fort Drum.

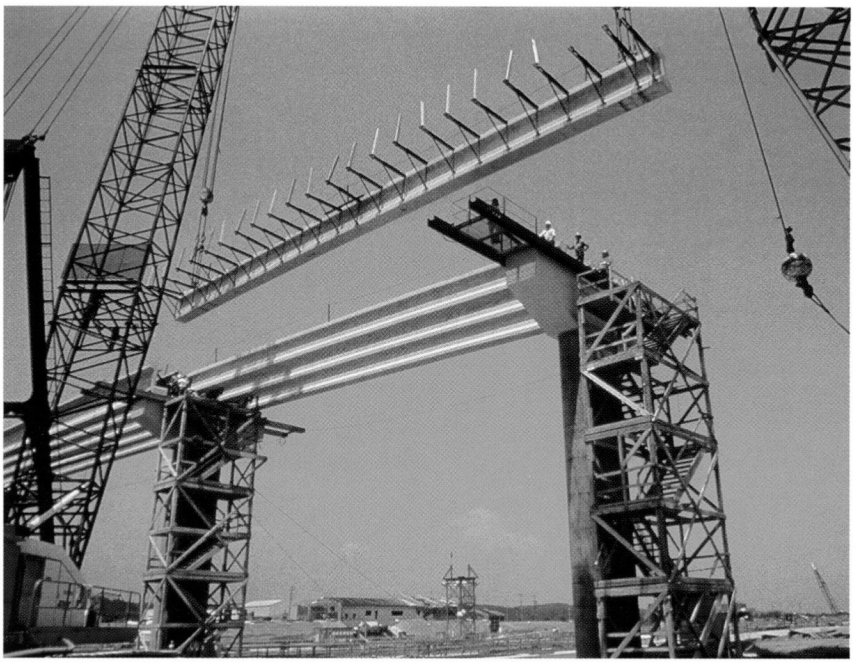
The Rebirth of Fort Drum

Originally known as Pine Camp, Fort Drum in New York state has been an Army installation since the turn of the century. The post was laid out by President Grant's son, Gen. Frederick D. Grant, and first used by troops in 1906.

Fort Drum reached its first peak of prominence as a post during World War II, when it served as a major northern training installation. From the end of the war to the present, Fort Drum has served as a summer training site for tens of thousands of Army Reservists and National Guardsmen. Active Army and Marine units use the post for realistic winter training.

Aside from a series of facilities built in the late seventies and early eighties, little new construction had taken place at the post until 1986. It was then that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers broke ground on its largest

Acting on an Army decision two years earlier, and the results of an intensive two-year design effort, the Corps transformed the old North country camp into a modern home station for the Army's new 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry). This encompassed the redesign of 130 buildings (totaling 1,735 acres), including 29 barracks, 6 dining facilities, 7 aviation hangers and a shopping center. Other project parameters included the resurfacing of 35.4 miles of roads, the installation of nearly 105 miles of water, electrical and sewer lines, and new fencing totaling 36.9 miles.



Each military installation is, in and of itself, like a city, which requires the Corps to plan, design, and construct everything related to supporting the needs of a community.

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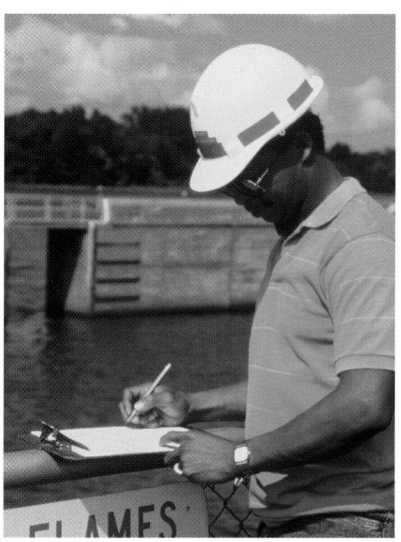
These needs include utility systems; roadways and bridges; railroads; housing; elementary and high schools; universities; shopping centers; religious, medical and recreation facilities; parks and swimming pools; fast-food and full-service restaurants; day-care centers; theaters; grocery stores; jails and prisons; police stations; and museums and memorials.

The Corps also provides all training and working facilities for what has become a high-tech military such as administration facilities; vocational training schools (from cooks to mechanics to electronic specialists); higher level professional schools (from military professionals to doctors and lawyers); training ranges (from pistols to tanks and aircraft); high-tech computer simulator facilities; pilot training; dog training kennels; and band training.

In addition to planning, designing and constructing complete cities and communities, the Military Programs mission area provides necessary support to maintain the existing inventory of military facilities which range in age from historical revolutionary war facilities to medical centers constructed within the year.

The Military Facilities multi-disciplinary workforce includes architects, archaeologists, biologists, chemists, civil engineers, electrical engineers, geologists, interior designers, landscape architects, mechanical engineers, nuclear engineers and urban planners.