



Military Corner

The United States Army

Army Camps

A military ‘camp’ is a semi-permanent lodging for an army, or any part thereof. When would you need camps, rather than the more permanent installations, such as bases, forts, etc.? During wartime. Thus, we see a proliferation of army camps during World War II, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and so forth. With the end of the conflict, the camps tend to disappear rapidly, except for the relatively few that become elevated to bigger, permanent sites.

Since so many of our Military covers stem from the World War II era (which was also before the anti-smoking campaigns!), Army Camp covers abound! And, since almost none still survive today as ‘camps’, they’re gems of U. S. history. “See that shopping center over there, Bobby? That’s where Camp Crowley used to be 65 years ago. That’s where Grandpa did his basic training before going to fight in Germany.”

There are at least 409 covers from Army camps currently listed, and those are just the ones with “camp” in the installation name. So there are probably more that are listed individual unit designations, etc. All sizes, mostly front-strike, of course—which makes them even more desirable! If you’re interested in the Military or U.S. History, the Military category of collecting is a rich and wonderful area to get into.

