

Naval Weapons Station

Supply, amphibious, and combat ships pass Yorktown on their way to and from the Naval Weapons Station Yorktown. The military installation's pier is located three miles upstream.

When the 20-square-mile site was acquired by the Navy on August 7, 1918, it was the largest naval installation in the world. Commissioned as the U.S. Navy Mine Depot, operations supported the World War I North Sea Mine Barrage. During World War II, the Depot continued to produce a wide range of ordnance materials such as underwater mines, depth charges, and torpedoes. Activities were reduced after World War II, but were soon increased again to meet the needs of the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam.

In 1958, the Depot was renamed Naval Weapons Station Yorktown. Today, the installation and its tenant commands provide technical, logistical, and supply-related services to the Atlantic Fleet.



*Administration Building (above) and Front Gate (below), circa 1920.
Photos courtesy of Naval Weapons Station Yorktown.*

