Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, SS 3A, AMS-MAA Special Session on History of Mathematics, I

V. Frederick Rickey* (fred-rickey@usma.edu), Department of Mathematical Sciences, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY 10996-1786. Mathematics at West Point in the Early Twentieth Century. Preliminary report.

In 1902 the United States Military Academy celebrated its centennial, but was it a vibrant intellectual center or a school with a hundred years of tradition unimpeded by progress? Since the study of mathematics occupied a substantial portion of the education of every graduate, we are motivated to look at all aspects of the department of mathematics: Who were the faculty? What was their education and experience? What was the curriculum? Which textbooks were used? How were the classes conducted? How did the department interact with the national mathematical community? How did USMA differ from the national community? How did world events impact the department? (Received October 04, 2004)