

Hamilton Field, Sanitary Latrine
(Facility No. 844)
Skeet Range Road adjacent to west side of
Facility No. 847
Novato
Marin County
California

HABS No. CA-2398-BZ

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HAMILTON FIELD
Sanitary Latrine
(Facility No. 844)

HABS
CAL
21-NOVA,
IBZ -

HABS No. CA-2398-BZ

Location: Hamilton Army Air Field
Novato, Marin County, California
Sanitary Latrine
Facility No. 844 (Skeet Range Road adjacent to west side Facility No. 847)

U.S.G.S.: Novato, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1954 (revised 1980)
Petaluma Point, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1959 (revised 1980)
UTM Coordinates: Zone 10; A: 542100/4213620; 8: 544720/4212220;
C: 542760/4210650; D: 541040/4212600

Significance:

Building 844 is considered significant for its association with Air Force history in northern California, and with World War II actions in the Pacific Theater. The latrine, built during World War II, was a support facility within the Civil Engineering division, a group responsible for maintaining the base facilities.

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) for a comprehensive Statement of Significance and individual report HABS No. CA-2398-A for a condensed Statement of Significance.

Description:

This one-story frame building has a low-pitched composition gable roof with louvers in the gable ends. It measures 12 feet by 20 feet. The siding is horizontal board covered with asbestos shingles. Fenestration consists of six- over six-light double hung wood sash. The building is set on a concrete foundation.

Facility 844, a sanitary latrine, has two Standard urinals, four enclosed toilets, three wall sinks, a gas heater, and a suspended industrial type florescent lighting fixture with two tubes. The ceiling is open to the exposed rafters and the interior walls are clad in horizontal boards.

Historical Context:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

This latrine was completed in January, 1945 for \$1,842.50. Situated in the center of the base civil engineering compound, it remained in use until base closure in 1974.

Sources:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-239B-F.

See the project Field Record, roll 43, exposures 1-2; and roll 93, exposures 1-4.

The line drawn sketches were drafted on site in 1994 by Keith Syda, scanned into a computer and drawn by Christopher MacDonald in 1995, and corrected and finalized by Claire Warshaw in 1996 (all PAR Environmental Services, Inc. staff).

Project Information:

Hamilton Army Air Field is owned by various federal entities including the Department of the Navy, Department of the Army, United States Coast Guard, and General Services Administration. The Army/GSA parcels are being excessed and sold to private developers. The Navy housing is included in Base Closure and Realignment actions.

As part of the Army's undertaking, it has been determined in consultation with the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) that the excess sale will have an affect on properties at the airfield, and that these properties are components of a district that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on consultation with the OHP and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was entered into by the interested parties in March 1994. The agreement stipulated that prior to excess sale the Army must contact the HABS/HAER division at the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service, San Francisco, California, to determine the appropriate level and kind of recordation for the subject properties. The MOA further stipulated that copies of the documentation be made available to the OHP and appropriate local archives designated by the OHP. This recordation has been prepared in order to meet those stipulations.

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Date: May 1993 and November 1994

