

NAVAL TRAINING STATION, SENIOR OFFICERS' QUARTERS  
DISTRICT, BUILDING NO. 205  
(Naval Station Treasure Island, Building No. 205)  
Naval Station Treasure Island, Yerba Buena Island  
San Francisco  
San Francisco County  
California

HABS CA-1793-J  
CA-1793-J

HABS  
CA 1793-J

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
PACIFIC WEST REGIONAL OFFICE  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700  
Oakland, CA 94607

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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Location: Naval Station Treasure Island  
Yerba Buena Island  
San Francisco  
San Francisco County  
California  
UTM: 10. 555800.4184916, USGS Quad Oakland West, 1959 (rev. 1980)

Significance: Building 205 is located within the Senior Officers' Quarters District on Yerba Buena Island. Although short-lived as a training station (1898-1923), Yerba Buena Island was essential in the establishment of a modern American naval presence on the West Coast. One of four such facilities, Yerba Buena Island quickly became a key naval training station while it operated, and continued to play an important role in the military presence on the island after being decommissioned in 1923, when it served as a receiving ship until World War II, and a housing complex for Naval Station Treasure Island. The Senior Officers' Quarters District represents the major nexus of the island's historic building stock and is significant for its association with the establishment of the Navy Training Station. The district is significant as a representative example of residential military architecture.

Description: Building 205 is located adjacent to Building 83 and was constructed in 1936 to serve as a five car garage. The building measures approximately 20' by 60', is rectangular in shape, set on a concrete foundation, and is covered with a side-gable roof. The exterior walls are clad in lapped wood siding, and five pull-up doors are set on the southern side. The three other sides are blind.

Historic

Context:

Note: Please refer to **HABS No. CA 1793-A** for a detailed historical context of the Senior Officers' Quarters District. Additional documentation for Yerba Buena Island can be found in **HAER No. CA-233-A, Torpedo Assembly Building**, and for the Naval Training Station on Treasure Island in **HABS No. CA-2785, Golden Gate Exposition**.

NAVAL TRAINING STATION, SENIOR OFFICERS'  
QUARTERS DISTRICT, BUILDING NO. 205  
(Naval Station Treasure Island, Building No. 205)  
HABS No. CA-1793-J (Page 2)

The permanent military presence began in 1866 when the Army established a post on the island and was continued when the Navy was granted a portion of the island in 1898 for use as a training station. The Yerba Buena Island Naval Training Station became one of four Navy training facilities in the United States, and the only one on the West Coast.<sup>1</sup> An ambitious project from the outset, the 300 acre island had limited usable land, only approximately one hundred and fifty acres with no room for expansion, and remained ill-suited for use as a training station. Even so, the island remained a key facility from 1900 to 1923 before Navy operations were moved to San Diego. Soon after the war the Navy elected to expand the San Diego facility and closed the training station at Yerba Buena Island.

After the island was decommissioned as a training station, it still remained a Navy facility for a more limited "Receiving Ship" function. During this period, the Navy constructed Building 205, a garage, bringing the total of the buildings in the district to nine.

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<sup>1</sup> E. Hice and D. Schierling, "Historical Study of Yerba Buena Island, Treasure Island, and Their Buildings," Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Base Realignment and Closure, Revision 1, prepared for Environmental Department, Naval Station, March 1996, 1-14.

NAVAL TRAINING STATION, SENIOR OFFICERS'  
QUARTERS DISTRICT, BUILDING NO. 205  
(Naval Station Treasure Island, Building No. 205)  
HABS No. CA-1793-J (Page 3)

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Project

Information: This project was undertaken to fulfill the requirements of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Navy and the California State Historic Preservation Officer for the layaway, caretaker maintenance, interim leasing, sale, transfer, and disposal of historic properties on Naval Station Treasure Island.

Amanda Blosser and Toni Webb of JRP Historical Consulting prepared this document for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) and the Navy. Both Amanda Blosser and Toni Webb conducted the fieldwork, wrote architectural descriptions, and the historic context. Both Ms. Blosser and Ms. Webb conducted research for this project at the California State Library, Treasure Island Museum, County and City of San Francisco, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering. William B. Dewey produced the photography.

NAVAL TRAINING STATION, SENIOR OFFICERS'  
QUARTERS DISTRICT, BUILDING NO. 205  
(Naval Station Treasure Island, Building No. 205)  
HABS No. CA-1793-J (Page 4)

**LOCATION MAP**

