

HICKAM FIELD, OFFICERS' HOUSING TYPE B
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building Nos. 529, 549, 551, 630 & 632)
704 Julian Avenue
Honolulu
Honolulu County
Hawaii

HABS HI-164-Q

HI-164-Q

HABS

HI-164-Q

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street NW

Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HICKAM FIELD, OFFICERS' HOUSING TYPE B (Hickam Air Force Base, Building No. 632)

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- Location:** 704 Julian Avenue
City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii
U.S.G.S. Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Quadrangle 1999 (7.5 minute series)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates 04.607550.2360370.
- Significance:** Building 632 is a part of the early development of Hickam Air Force Base as the Army Air Corps expanded its operations in Hawaii before World War II. It was built during the first phase of housing construction, which began in 1937, and has decorative and functional features of Spanish Eclectic and Hawaiian Regional design that adapt it well to the Hawaiian climate.
- Description:** Building 632 is a single-story building with a double pitch hip roof with open vented eaves and clipped rafter tails that is covered with asphalt shingles. The building is constructed of concrete hollow tile with a painted stucco finish and rests on a concrete wall foundation. At the front of the building the foundation is vented with decorative tile vents, at the rear and sides are square screened openings with concrete curbs. At the rear of the building is a section of low-slope shed roof which covers the added family room. The attached garage, at the southwest corner, has two openings with concrete grilles in a paired "x" pattern.
- The front, rear, and side (maid's) entries have concrete steps up from grade. At the rear entry is a patio of irregular shaped concrete paving blocks with rounded corners that are set in concrete. An iron railing of 2" x 5/8" flat stock is at the front steps, a pipe railing at the side, and an added iron railing of 1 1/2" flat and 3/8" square stock is at the rear steps. The front entry has a three-panel screen door and a main door with eleven molded panels. Both doors are natural finished wood. The rear entry has double flush doors with jalousie panels, jalousie transom, and a single jalousie sidelight. The side door is a single flush door with jalousie panel. Typical windows have cast stone sills and are one-over-one light double-hung sash, with jalousie windows at the family room.
- The interior of Building 632 is typically carpeted, with sections of original tongue-and groove oak flooring at the entry and dining room. Ceilings are v-joint canec panels in a centered pattern and walls are plaster with a picture rail about 1/4" from the ceiling. The windows at the entry, living room, and dining room have painted wood valances that are 10" high and project 6 3/4" from the wall. The kitchen, pantry, service porch, and maid's areas have vinyl tile flooring, with plaster ceilings in the kitchen, pantry and bathrooms. Typical doors are single-panel wood with nickel plated doorknobs and escutcheon plates.
- The enclosed lanai has a coved plaster ceiling and walls of painted vertical knotty pine paneling with molded joints. At the top of the paneling

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is a wide flat molding about 5" high that is topped with a picture rail about 6" below the ceiling. Above the picture rail the wall is plaster. Separating the enclosed lanai from the living room and from the dining room are pairs of painted wood surface-sliding doors with a single panel on the living room/ dining room side and painted knotty pine paneling with molded joints on the lanai side. The hall door (hinged) from the enclosed lanai is also painted knotty pine paneling on the lanai side. The hall has a telephone niche with a phone recess about 12" wide and 1'-10" high above a 2¾" high shelf for a phone book and a 9" high recessed shelf.

The hall bathroom has the original ceramic tile floor in a mosaic pattern and ceramic tile wainscot with bull nose top edge and cove base. This bathroom also has original built-in ceramic accessories; soap dish, toilet paper holder, and toothbrush holder, and an original exposed-corner bathtub. Also in this bathroom is an original built-in linen cabinet with flush double wood doors and flush wood drawers with bin pulls. The master bathroom has a seamless floor coating over mosaic pattern tile. Both bathrooms have marble thresholds.

The pantry has original cabinets with flush wood doors at the upper and lower cabinets and flush wood drawers. The kitchen has had its original cabinets with flush wood doors and drawers replaced (ca. 1950s) with flush metal cabinets (J.M. Waller 2003, B-2). Both the pantry and the kitchen have added laminate countertops.

Historical Context: Building 632 was built in 1938. An aerial photo dated September 6, 1938 shows the building appearing complete (U.S Army Museum Hawaii 1938). A survey of the quarters dated January 20, 1939 lists the Type B officers' quarters as "completed" (Hickam Air Force Base History Office 1939). Building 632 was part of the first phase of housing construction at Hickam Field which began in late 1937 (*Honolulu Star Bulletin* 1937, 1). This building was one of thirty-nine officers' quarters built under the first phase of housing construction, and one of five Type B buildings constructed at Hickam. Construction was to begin after December 1, 1937. The project, which totaled eighty-one quarters for officers and non-commissioned officers was billed as "one of the most extensive housing projects ever undertaken in the territory" (*Honolulu Star Bulletin* 1937, 1).

Building 632 was part of the development of Hickam Air Base in the late 1930s and early 1940s as the Army Air Corps shifted its operations from Ford Island and utilized the larger area available to them in the new location. The housing planned for the new Air Base was designed "in keeping with the Hawaiian atmosphere and traditions" with some buildings placed on curving streets and amidst extensive landscaping plants, all planned to give a leisurely feeling to the community (Nurse 1938, 10).

The initial housing construction was done by Robert McKee Construction Company of Los Angeles CA. and was finished by July 1939 (*Honolulu Star Bulletin* 1936, 1; and Hunt ca. 1940, 6).

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Building 632 has undergone several alterations over the years. A family room addition of concrete hollow tile has been built at the rear of the building, off the lanai. Original stained concrete and tongue and groove flooring in Building 631 has been covered with carpet and vinyl tile. The double-acting door between the dining room and the pantry has been removed. The original wood kitchen cabinets have been replaced with metal. The screen door at the service porch has been replaced with a flush door with jalousie panel, and the house has been re-roofed with asphalt shingles.

For additional information, see HABS HI-164-AP Hickam Field, Hickam Historic Housing.

Sources:

Hickam Air Force Base History Office. 1939. "Completion Report, Company Officers' Quarters. (Type "B")." Completion report of unit type on file in the Real Estate records. 20 January.

Honolulu Star Bulletin. 1936. "\$802,000 Low Bid For New Hickam Units." 28 April.

_____. 1937. "\$793,00 Housing Project At Hickam Field, With 76 Buildings, To Start Soon." 18 October.

Hunt, John A. 1940. "Construction of Hickam Field." *The Quartermaster Review*, November-December.

_____. Ca. 1940. *Hickam Field, T.H.* Pamphlet at Hawaii State Library.

J.M. Waller Associates and Mason Architects, Inc. 2003. *Building Preservation Plan of Selected Historic Homes for Hickam Air Force Base*. Honolulu: Hickam Air Force Base.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. 1996. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: A. Knopf.

Nurse, Captain H. B. 1938. "Hickam Field, The Army's Newest and Largest Airdrome." *Air Corps Newsletter*, 15th ABW History Office, Hickam Air Force Base. 1 July.

U.S. Army Museum Hawaii. 1938. Aerial photo # 1445. Ft. DeRussy Archives, Hawaii. 6 September.

Project Information: This report was prepared as part of a project to privatize all military housing under the control of the 15 Airlift Wing. Approximately 656 of the 1332 base housing units to be privatized are within the Hickam Historic District. Because the units within the historic district will be altered, a representative unit of each type was selected for preservation; to be

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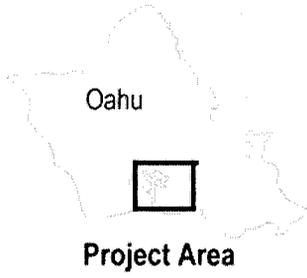
restored as part of the Programmatic Agreement (August 2000) for Hickam's Historic District. This report documents the buildings before their restoration. The photographic documentation was undertaken by David Franzen, photographer. Dee Ruzicka, Architectural Historian at Mason Architects, Inc., wrote the written documentation and conducted field work (November 2005 – February 2006) and research for this report.

Prepared by: Dee Ruzicka, Architectural Historian
Mason Architects, Inc.
119 Merchant Street, Suite 501
Honolulu, HI 96813

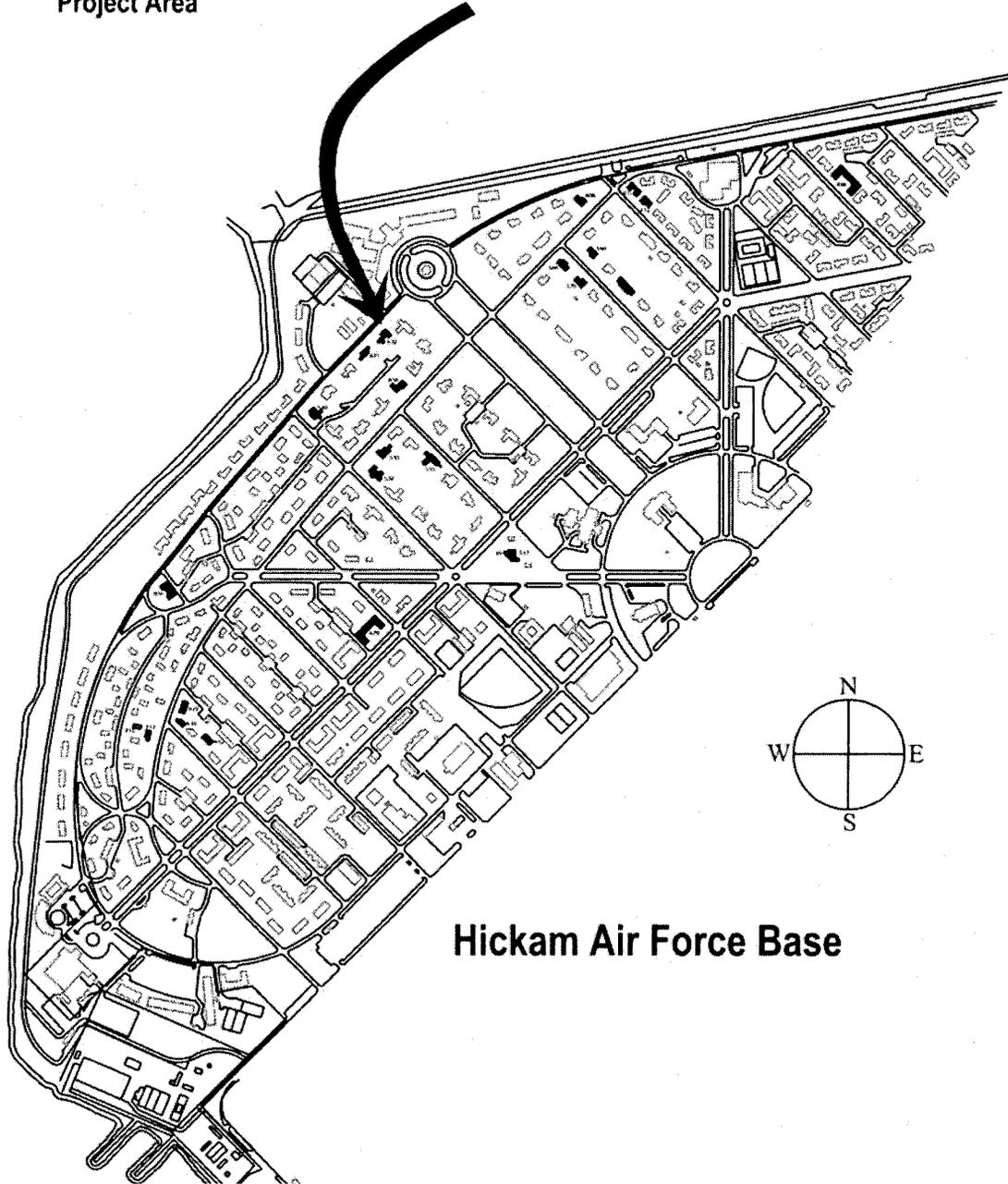
Date of Report: April 2007

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Building 632 location map (not to scale)

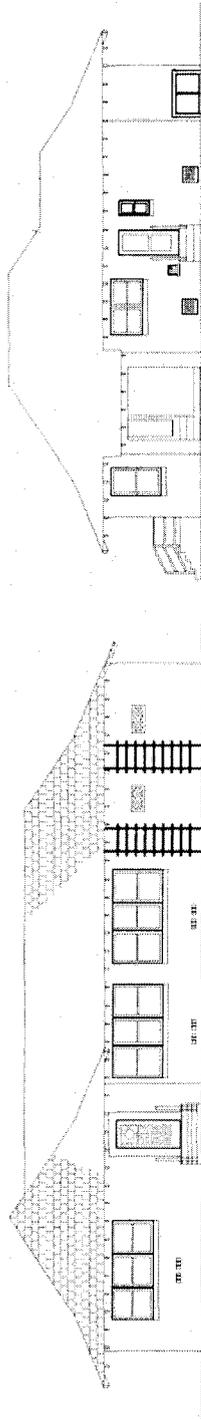


Building No. 632



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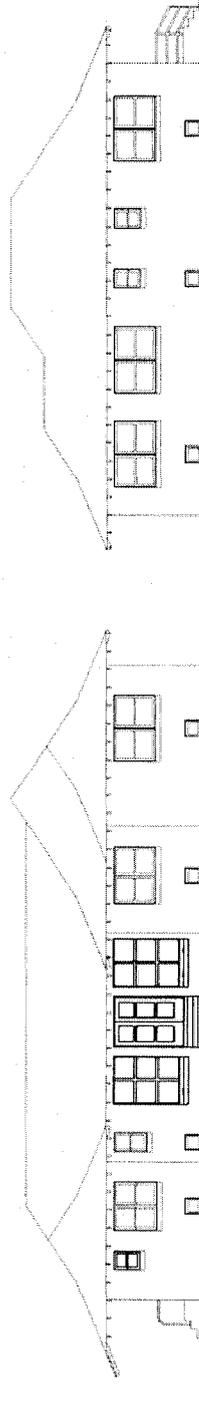
Elevation of Building 632, Type B. (not to scale)



SOUTH ELEVATION

WEST ELEVATION

Bldg 632 704 Julian Av

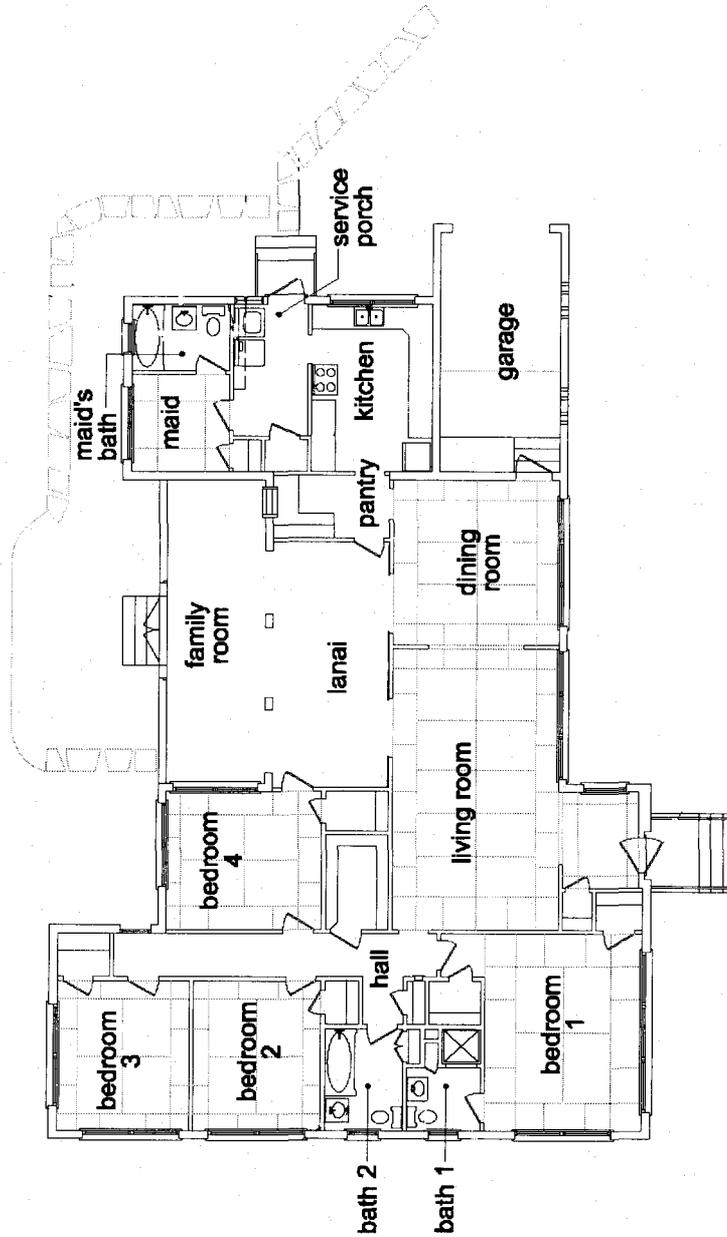


NORTH ELEVATION

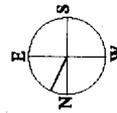
EAST ELEVATION

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Floor plan of Building 632, Type B. (not to scale)



Bldg 632 704 Julian Av



FLOOR PLAN