

HICKAM FIELD, OFFICERS' HOUSING TYPE C
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building Nos. 707, 708, 731, 732, 733, 806,
810, 820, 821 & 858)
208 Second Street
Honolulu
Honolulu County
Hawaii

HABS HI-164-R
HI-164-R

HABS
HI-164-R

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 C (Hickam Air Force Base, Building 810)

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- Location:** 208 Second Street
City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii
U.S.G.S. Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Quadrangle 1999 (7.5 minute series)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates 04.607220.2359710.
- Significance:** Building 810 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 second phase of housing construction, which began in 1939, and was designed with features that adapt it well to the Hawaiian climate.
- Description:** Building 810 is a two-story building with a rectangular footprint. It is built on a concrete slab on grade, with concrete hollow tile walls with a painted finish, and a hip roof covered with asphalt shingles. The building has a single-story section with a hip roof at the enclosed lanai and an open, concrete slab patio at the northwest corner which is covered by a low-slope shed roof supported by masonry posts. The enclosed lanai roof extends partially across the front façade to cover the front entry. At the second story, the eaves are open with clipped rafter tails and screened vents, and at the first story the eaves are closed with decorative vents in the soffit.
- The front entry is surrounded by a wide cast concrete frame in a stepped pattern with incised horizontal lines. The front entry has a wood door of six vertical boards with v-joints and an aluminum screen door. The service porch entry has a jalousie-over-single-panel door, and the enclosed lanai entry door is flush wood. A belt course of three flared bands circles the building between the floors. The window openings of the building have concrete brick sills at the exterior.
- The interior of Building 810 typically has canec ceilings with v-joints in a centered pattern, and plaster walls with a picture molding set high on the wall (about ¼" from the ceiling). Typically the first floor has carpeting, with vinyl sheet flooring in the kitchen, service porch and bath. At the entry is an area of original acid-stained concrete floor rendered in two shades of brown. This has decorative incised lines near its border and also in the center in the form of an eight-pointed star, approximately 40" across. Typical interior doors are single-panel wood with brass knobs and escutcheon plates. There are double sliding doors between the living room and the enclosed lanai which have four lights over a solid panel, and three-panel doors at the service porch storage area. The windows are two-over-two-light double-hung sash at the front façade and at the sides of the building. There are one-over-one-light double-hung sash at the rear of the building, and jalousie windows at the enclosed lanai.

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The straight run stairway has natural finish oak treads and painted wood risers with a decorative iron railing of 2" x 5/8" stock at the upstairs hall. The hallway and bedrooms on the second floor have natural finish oak tongue-and groove flooring. The upstairs bathrooms have original mosaic-pattern ceramic tile floors with ceramic tile baseboards and a wainscot (approximately 6'-8" high) of painted asbestos cement board scored in a grid pattern and topped by a horizontally scored molding. The upstairs doorways typically have no thresholds. There are three linen closets in the upstairs hallway. One has a single panel door with typical brass doorknobs and escutcheon plate, one has single-panel double doors with a cupboard latch, and one has flush double doors with a cupboard latch.

Historical Context: Building 810 was built in 1940 or 1941. Original plans are dated March 4, 1940 and were prepared under the direction of John A. Hunt, the Captain of the Quartermaster Corps at Hickam Field. Building 810 was part of a second phase (*Honolulu Star Bulletin* 10 August 1939, 1) of housing construction at Hickam Field which began in late 1939 (*Honolulu Star Bulletin* 6 November 1939, 1). This building was one of nine Type C quarters of the same plan which were built at Hickam. It was intended for occupation by commissioned officers and their families. The appropriation for the phase of housing construction which included the Type C buildings was approved on June 14, 1939 (*Honolulu Star Bulletin* 14 June 1939, 1) and the building was completed by August 7, 1941, the date noted on the completion report for the type C quarters (Hickam Air Force Base History Office 1941).

The Type C housing units were 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 (Hunt ca. 1940, 6). Much of the housing construction of the second phase, which began in 1939 and was finished during 1941, was done by E.E. Black, Ltd., of Honolulu.

Building 810 has undergone several alterations over the years. The screened lanai has been enclosed with jalousie windows. Original stained concrete floors have been covered with carpet and sheet vinyl. The screen door at the service porch has been altered by the addition of a 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.

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Sources:

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- Hickam Air Force Base Plan Files. 1940. Historic plans of unit type C plan # 6812-397-3088-A. 4 March.
- Honolulu Star Bulletin*. 1939. "Big Program for Air Field Building Here." 14 June.
- _____. 1939. "10 Million To Be Spent at Hickam." 10 August.
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- 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 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.

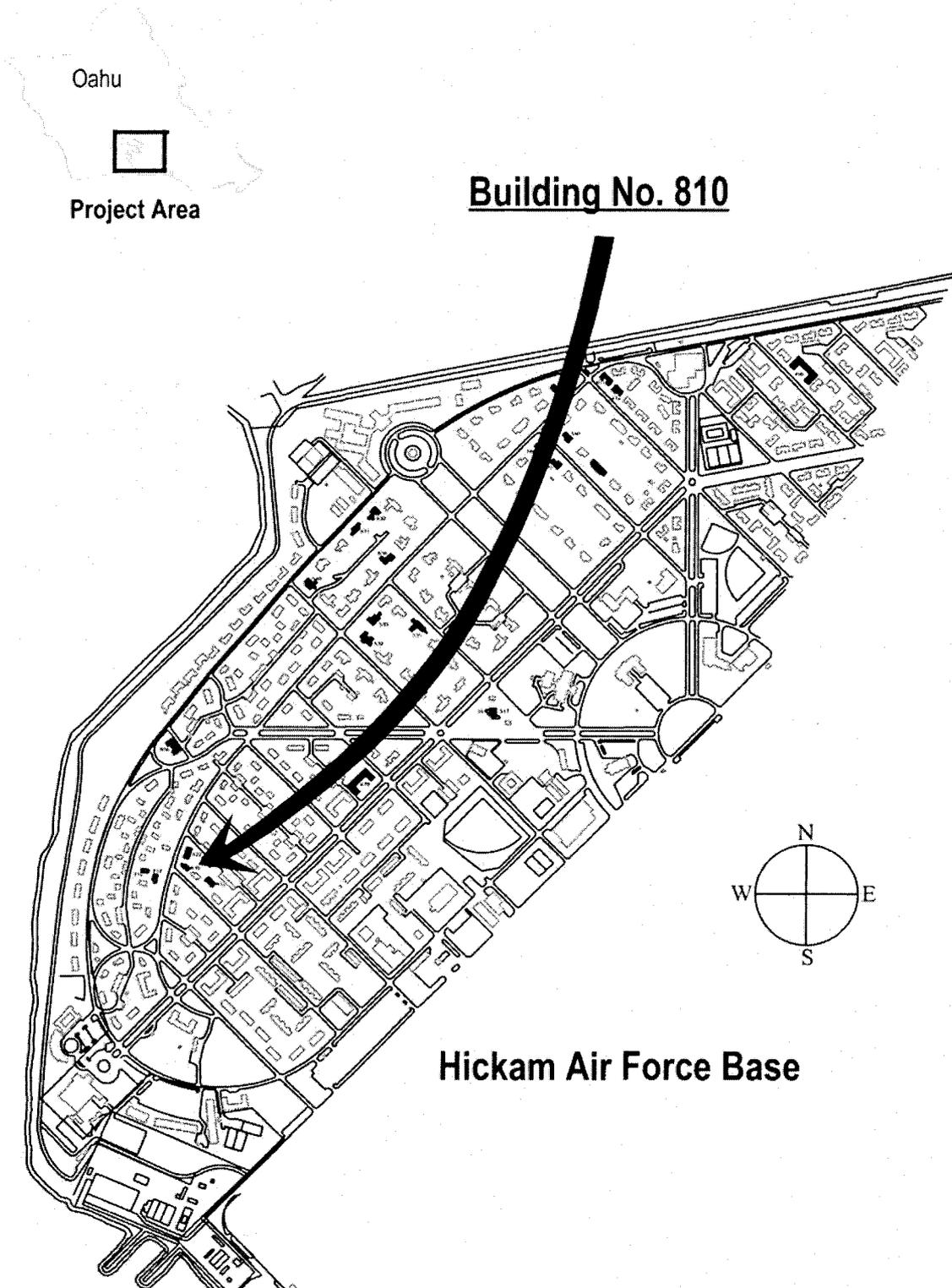
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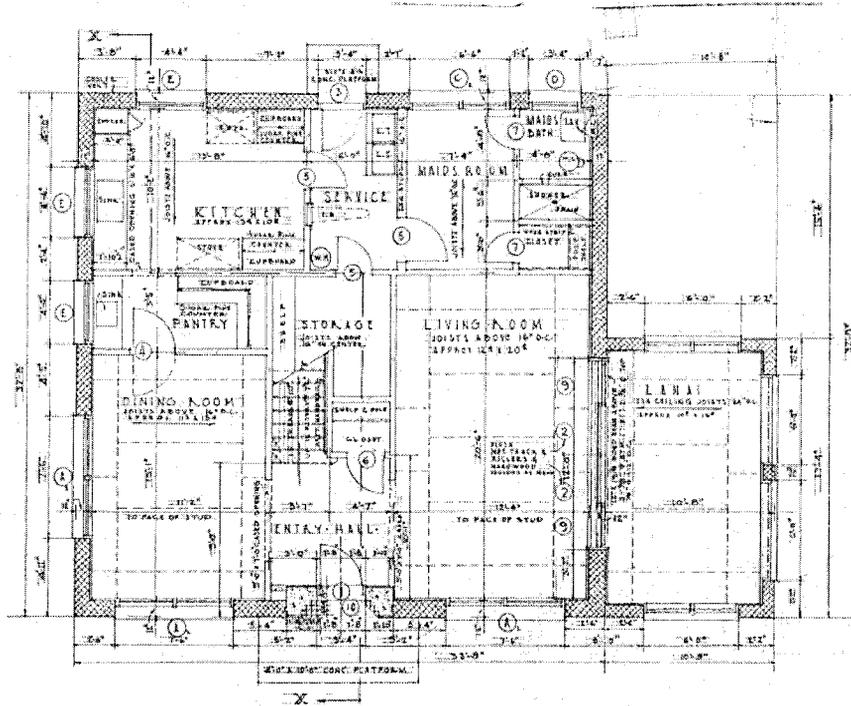
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Building 810 location map (not to scale)

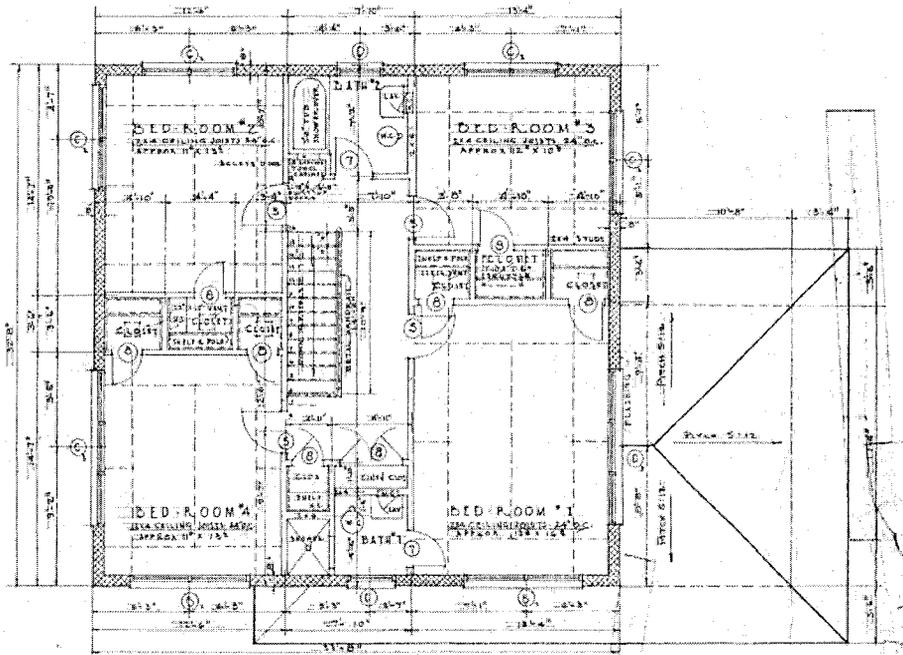


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Portion of original drawing of Building 810, Type C, dated March 4, 1940. Hickam Air Force Base Plan Files 1940.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"