

HICKAM FIELD, NCO HOUSING TYPE 1  
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building Nos. 562, 563, 565, 570, 573 &  
575)

211 Tenth Street  
Honolulu  
Honolulu County  
Hawaii

HABS HI-164-AE  
HI-164-AE

HABS  
HI-164-AE

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, NCO HOUSING TYPE 1 (Hickam Air Force Base, Building No. 570)

HABS  
HI-164-AE  
HABS No. HI-164-AE

(Page 1)

- Location:** 211 Tenth Street  
City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii  
U.S.G.S. Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Quadrangle 1999 (7.5 minute series)  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates 04.607850.2360440.
- Significance:** Building 570 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 was designed with features that adapt it well to the Hawaiian climate.
- Description:** Building 570 is single story with an irregular rectangular footprint. The building is constructed of concrete hollow tiles with a painted stucco coating. It has a double-pitch hip roof with open eaves and clipped rafter tails that is covered with asphalt composition shingles. At the rear of the building an added family has a low-slope shed roof. The building has a concrete wall foundation with decorative tile vents along the front (north) side and large square screened vents on the rear side. On the east side, the foundation of the added master bathroom is vented with small screen vents. The front door is made of five vertical planks of wood, and at the family room entrance is a flush wood door with a jalousie panel. The attached garage has two large openings with cast concrete sills which face the rear yard. From the large garage doorway, a concrete walkway with inset polygonal pavers of red and green stained concrete extends around the rear of the building to the family room entrance.
- The interior of Building 570 is carpeted, with vinyl flooring in the bathrooms, kitchen, and service porch. Walls are painted plaster, and ceilings are v-joint canec panels in the bedrooms and living areas, with painted plaster ceilings in the bathrooms, kitchen, and service porch. Living areas and bedrooms have picture rails set high on the walls, with the narrow gap (approximately 1/4") between them and the ceilings filled in. Typical ceilings in the building are v-joint canec panels in a centered pattern. Interior doors are typically five-panel wood, with brass doorknobs and escutcheon plates. Typical windows are one-over-one-light double-hung sash with recessed pulls. There are jalousie windows in the family room and the master bathroom.
- In the kitchen is an original built-in spice rack with shelves, an original ironing board built into a wall cabinet, and a narrow closet (approximately 1'-4" wide) with a flush wood door and metal latch which originally was a vented cooler for the storage of semi-perishable food items (Hickam Air Force Base Plan Files 1937, 397-2930). Between the kitchen and the service porch is a single-light over three panel wood door. In the dining room an original telephone niche is built into the wall. This has a phone

**HICKAM FIELD, NCO HOUSING TYPE 1**  
**(Hickam Air Force Base, Building No. 570)**  
**HABS No. HI-164-AE (Page 2)**

recess about 12" wide and 1'-10" high above a 2¾" high shelf for a phone book and a panel with a perforated design.

**Historical Context:** Building 570 was built in 1938. An aerial photo dated September 6, 1938 shows the building (U.S Army Museum Hawaii 1938). A survey of the quarters dated February 13, 1939 lists the Type 1 non-commissioned officers' quarters as "completed" (Hickam Air Force Base History Office 1939). Original plans for Building 570 are dated August 2, 1937 and were prepared under the direction of Howard B. Nurse, the Captain of the Quartermaster Corps at Hickam Field. Building 570 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 forty-two non-commissioned officers' quarters built under the first phase of housing construction, and one of six Type 1 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 570 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).

Building 570 has undergone a number of alterations; two of the most noticeable are additions of a family room off the rear of the house and a master bathroom off east side of the building. The family room is accessed from the main building via the service porch doorway, the former rear entrance to the building. Original tongue and groove flooring has been covered with carpet and sheet vinyl and the roof covered with asphalt shingles, the original roofing was clay tiles.

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

**Sources:**

Hickam Air Force Base History Office. 1939. "Completion Report, NCO. Qtrs. (Type #1)." Completion report of unit type on file in the Real Estate records. 13 February.

Hickam Air Force Base Plan Files. 1937. Historic plans of unit type 1, plan # 397-2930 and 397-2931. 2 August.

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

**HICKAM FIELD, NCO HOUSING TYPE 1  
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building No. 570)  
HABS No. HI-164-AE (Page 3)**

\_\_\_\_\_. 1937. "\$793,000 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*, 15<sup>th</sup> ABW History Office, Hickam Air Force Base. 1 July.

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

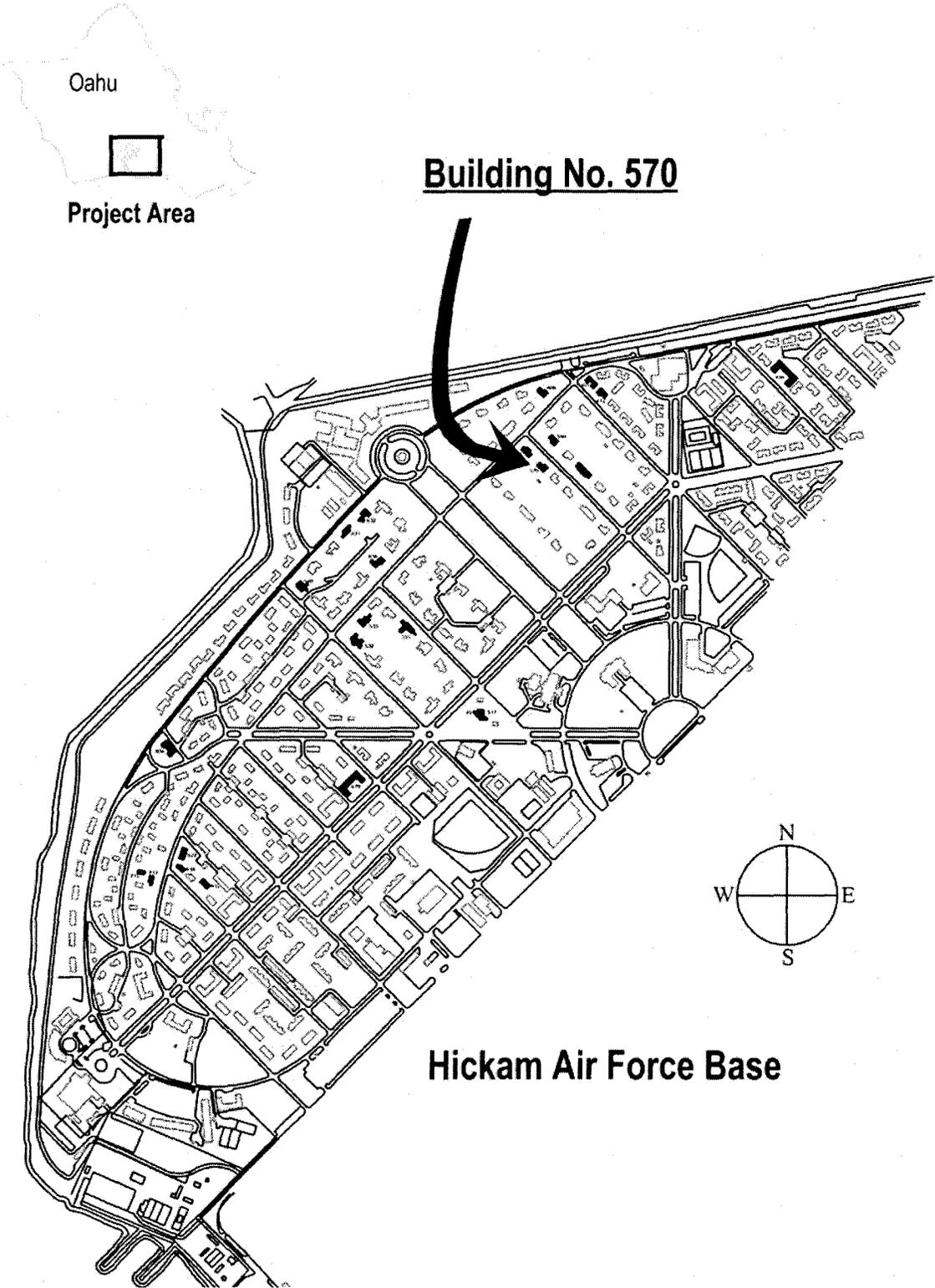
**Project Information:** This report was prepared as part of a project to privatize all military housing under the control of the 15 Airlift Wing. Approximately 656 of the 1332 base housing units to be privatized are within the Hickam Historic District. Because the units within the historic district 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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Date of Report: April 2007

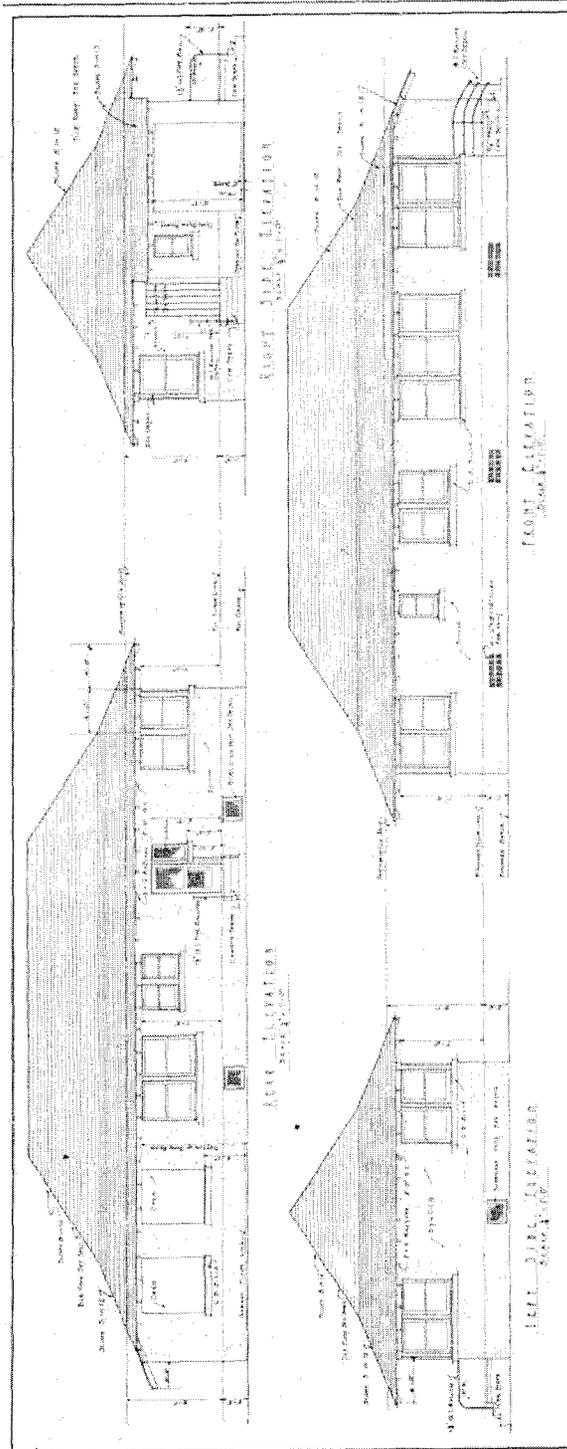
HICKAM FIELD, NCO HOUSING TYPE 1  
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building No. 570)  
HABS No. HI-164-AE (Page 4)

Building 570 location map (not to scale)



HICKAM FIELD, NCO HOUSING TYPE 1  
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building No. 570)  
HABS No. HI-164-AE (Page 5)

Portion of original drawing of Building 570, Type 1, dated August 2, 1937. Hickam Air Force Base Plan Files 1937, 397-2931.



HICKAM FIELD, NCO HOUSING TYPE 1  
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building No. 570)  
HABS No. HI-164-AE (Page 6)

Portion of original drawing of Building 570, Type 1, dated August 2, 1937. Note the original cooler in the kitchen. Hickam Air Force Base Plan Files 1937, 397-2930.

