

HICKAM FIELD, NCO HOUSING TYPE 2
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building Nos. 579, 581, 582, 586, 604, 607,
608, 610 & 611)

301 Eleventh Street

Honolulu
Honolulu County
Hawaii

HABS HI-164-AF

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HICKAM FIELD, NCO HOUSING TYPE 2
(Hickam Air Force Base, Building No. 608)

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- Location:** 301 Eleventh Street
City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii
U.S.G.S. Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Quadrangle 1999 (7.5 minute series)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates 04.607870.2360560.
- Significance:** Building 608 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 608 is a single-story building with an irregular rectangular footprint. It has a concrete wall foundation, concrete hollow tile walls with a painted finish, and a double-pitch hip roof covered with asphalt shingles. The attached garage has a single-pitch hip roof and the attached screen room at the rear (built on a concrete slab and accessed only from the exterior of the building) has a low-slope shed roof. The building has open eaves with clipped rafter tails and screen vents, and windows have cast stone sills at the exterior. The foundation has decorative tile vents at the front façade and large screened vents with concrete curbs at the sides and rear. The foundation of the added bath at the southeast side is vented with small screen vents.
- The front porch is accessed by cast concrete steps and has a painted iron railing of 2" x 5/8" stock. At the corner of the porch is an 8" square concrete post with chamfered corners and three circumferential incised lines near its top. The front entry has a wood door of five vertical boards with v-joints and an aluminum screen door. The rear door from the kitchen to the garage is a single-light over three-panel door.
- The interior of Building 608 typically has canec panel ceilings with v-joints in a centered pattern, plaster walls with a picture molding about 1/4" from the ceiling, and natural finished pine tongue-and groove flooring. The kitchen, service porch, and bathrooms have sheet vinyl flooring and plaster ceilings. Typical interior doors are five-panel wood with brass knobs and escutcheon plates, and windows are one-over-one light double-hung with jalousies in the added bathroom at the southwest side.
- Historical Context:** Building 608 was built in late 1938 and early 1939. An aerial photo dated September 6, 1938 shows the building appearing under construction without a roof (U.S Army Museum Hawaii 1938). A survey of the quarters dated March 3, 1939 lists the Type 2 non-commissioned officers' quarters as "completed" (Hickam Air Force Base History Office 1939). Original plans for Building 608 are dated August 2, 1937 and were prepared under

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the direction of Howard B. Nurse, the Captain of the Quartermaster Corps at Hickam Field. Building 608 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 nine Type 2 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 608 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 608 has undergone several alterations since it was built. Two of the most noticeable are the concrete hollow tile addition off the east side of the house for a second bathroom, and the screen room along the rear of the house. Other alterations include the removal of a double acting door between the dining room and the kitchen, and the reconfiguration of the bedroom closets. The roof has been covered with asphalt shingles, originally the building was roofed with clay tiles. Original wood screen doors have been replaced with aluminum doors.

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 #2)." Completion report of unit type on file in the Real Estate Records. 3 March.

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

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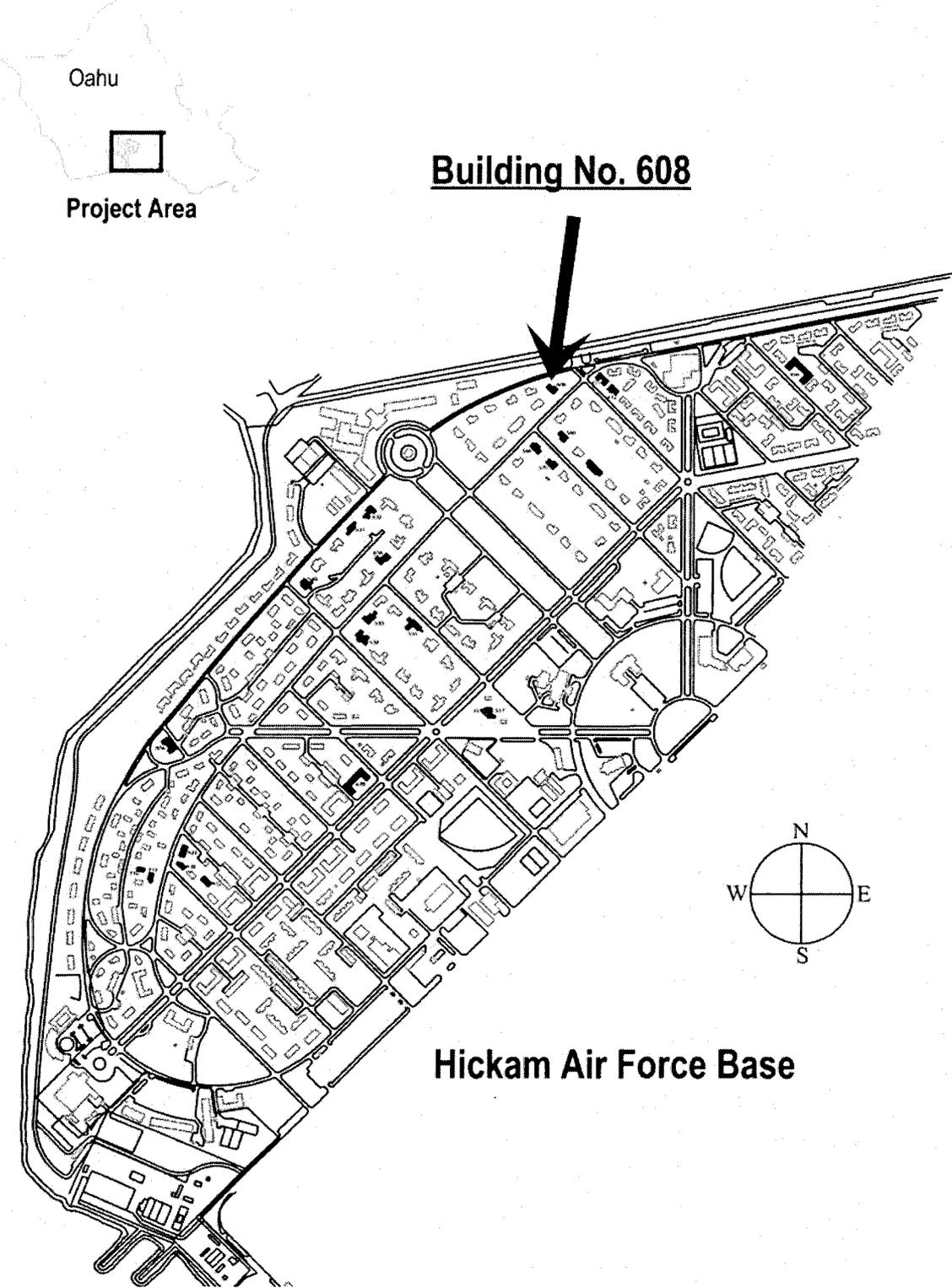
Project Information: This report was prepared as part of a project to privatize all military housing under the control of the 15 Airlift Wing. Approximately 656 of the 1332 base housing units to be privatized are within the Hickam Historic District. Because the units within the historic district will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

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

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Building 608 location map (not to scale)



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Portion of original drawing of Building 608, Type 2, dated August 2, 1937. Hickam Air Force Base Plan Files 1937, 397-2934.

