

NAVAL AIR STATION CHASE FIELD  
BUILDING 1040 (AUDITORIUM/GYM/CHAPEL)  
Enterprise Street, 0.37 miles south-southeast  
of the intersection of Texas State Highway  
202 and Independence Street  
Beeville Vicinity  
Bee County  
Texas

HABS No. 3397-D

HABS  
TEX  
13-BEEVILY  
ID-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
National Park Service  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HABS  
TEX  
13-BEEVILLE  
ID-

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

NAVAL AIR STATION CHASE FIELD, BUILDING 1040  
(AUDITORIUM/GYM/CHAPEL) HABS No. TX-3397-D

Location: Enterprise Street, 0.37 miles south-southeast of the intersection of Texas State Highway 202 and Independence Street, approximately 5 miles east of Beeville, Beeville Vicinity, Bee County, Texas

USGS Skidmore, Texas Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates  
14/631120/3139300

Significance: Building 1040 (the Auditorium/Gym/Chapel) stands out among the buildings of the base due to the combination of various functions. All other buildings at the base were used for a single, specified purpose. As a socially oriented structure, the Auditorium/Gym/Chapel symbolizes the importance of support facilities in the successful operation of Naval Air Station (NAS) Chase Field.

Description: Building 1040 originally housed an auditorium, gym and chapel within a single edifice. Located in the northwest quadrant of the original grouping of buildings, the structure stands near the intersection of Enterprise and Independence streets. The grounds have grass lawns with the exception of a small parking lot on the northeastern edge of the building. Galbestos siding covers the exterior of the one-story building, which utilizes wood-frame construction. The building footprint is irregular but is roughly L-shaped in form. The front faces southeast towards Enterprise Street. The most distinctive feature of the front is the three-part composition, with the barrel-vaulted roof over the gym to the northeast, a one-story auditorium in the middle, and the two-story chapel to the southwest. A 16-bay, shed-roof porch with square posts extends across the front. Both casement and fixed windows are used, and double-door entrances open from the chapel and gym sections of the building. The interior of the gym contains wood-arched trusses and hardwood floors.

History: Designed by Roberts & Company and built by Brown Bellows & Columbia, Building 1040 was not vital to the actual training of Navy cadets; instead, it played a more supportive, recreational role. Realizing the rigors and seriousness of flight training, the Navy erected the building to serve as a place for personnel to socialize and relax. Banking facilities were incorporated into the building in 1973, and additional rooms for Jewish and Catholic worshipers were completed in 1975 and 1976, respectively. Building 1040 continued as a recreational, social and religious center at NAS Chase Field until 1993 when the Navy closed the entire base.

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Sources:

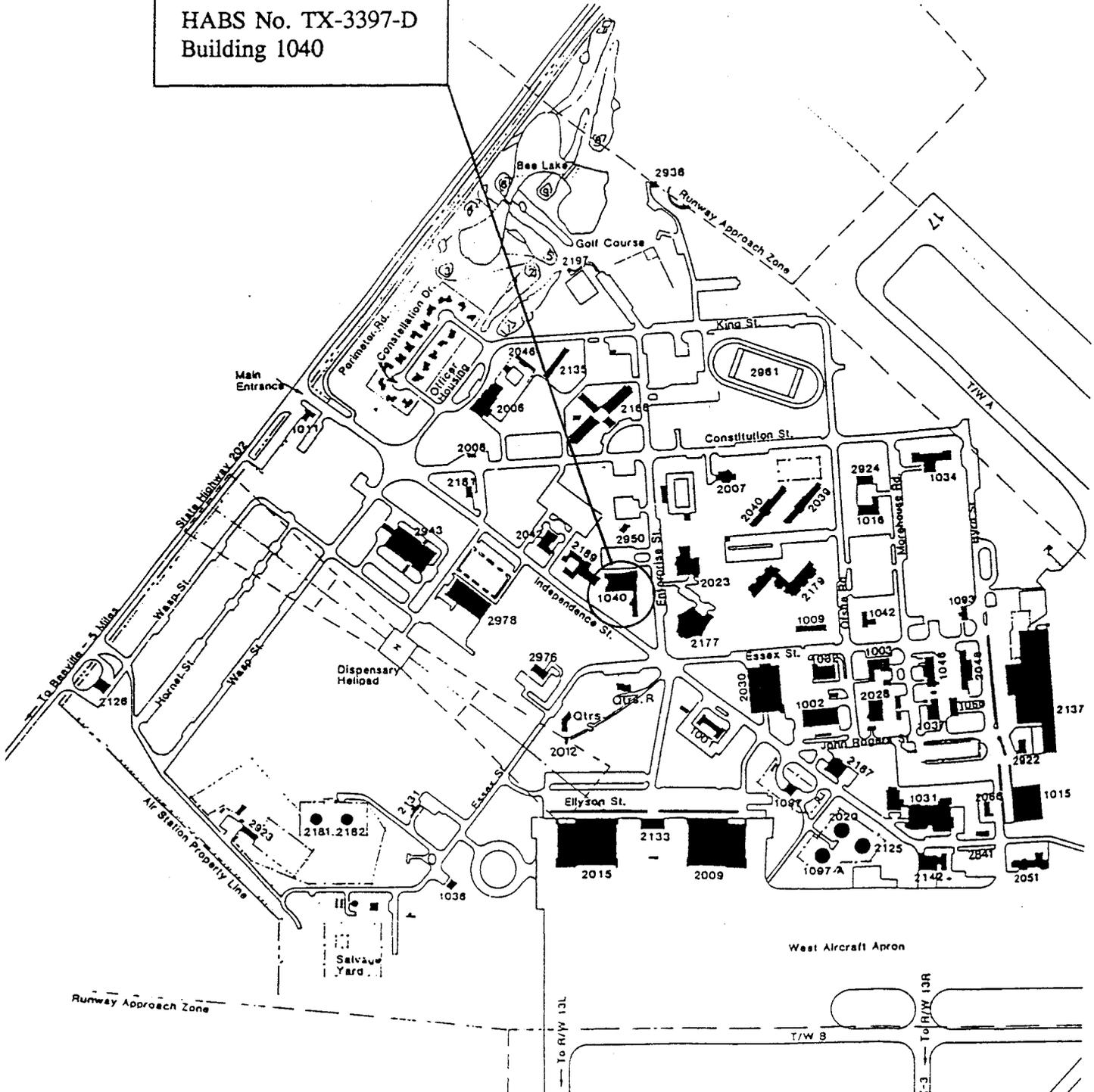
Moore, David; Myers, Terri; and Goebel, Matt. *Historic Resources Survey & Assessments: NAS Chase Field, Beeville, Texas*. Austin, Texas: Hardy-Heck-Moore, [1992]. The building was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and a nomination is being prepared for submission to the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

U.S. Department of the Navy, Bureau of Yards and Docks. *Building the Navy's Bases in World War II: History of the Bureau of Yards and Docks and the Civil Engineer Corps, 1940-1946, Volume 1*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1947.

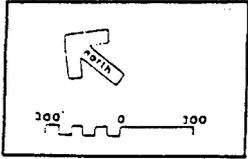
Historians: David Moore and Terri Myers, Hardy-Heck-Moore & Associates, June 1993.

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HABS No. TX-3397-D  
 Building 1040



Source: NAS Chase Field  
 Public Works Office



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