

TORPEDO STOREHOUSE
(Building 38)
Pacific Coast Torpedo Station, Keyport Industrial District
Second Street & Dedrick Drive
Keyport
Kitsap
Washington

HABS WA-258
WA-258

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WA-258

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
PACIFIC WEST REGIONAL OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700
Oakland, CA 94607

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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HABS
WA-258
HABS WA-258
(Page 1)

Location: The Torpedo Storehouse, or Building 38, is located at the southeast corner of Second Street and Dedrick Drive at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Kitsap County, Washington.

USGS Suquamish, Washington, Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 10.528780.5282835.

Present Owner: United States Department of the Navy

Present Use: Special weapons plant and industrial shop.

Significance: Building 38 is associated with the earliest development at the Pacific Coast Torpedo Station during expansion of the base after the United States entered World War I. Constructed originally as a storehouse to accommodate torpedo storage, the building is currently used as a special weapons plant. Although now attached to Building 233, the integrity of the original plan, details, windows, and cladding has been retained. A unique two-story monitor roof shape incorporates metal-frame windows along the upper sides of the roof.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. **Date of erection:** The Torpedo Storehouse, Building 38, was constructed in 1918.
2. **Architect:** No architect is known, but standard plans for a torpedo storehouse are filed in the Building 38 plans folder at Keyport. These plans were drawn by the United States Department of the Navy, Bureau of Yards and Docks.
3. **Original and subsequent owners:** The United States Department of the Navy has always owned Building 38.
4. **Builder, contractor, suppliers:** Charles H. Schaar, contractor.

5. Original plans and construction: Building plans are on file at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Washington. Drawings used in this study include Nos. 42-34-38-7, 42-34-38-8 and 42-34-38-46.
6. Alterations and additions: Building 38 was expanded in 1923 by constructing a similarly designed building several feet east of the original building with a connecting breezeway. This addition was later designated Building 233. The 1925 eight-bay addition to Building 38 extended southward, continuing the rectangular, monitor-roof design. Although, the “courtyard” space between Buildings 38 and 233 is currently enclosed for office and work space, the original windows are intact.

B. Historic Context:

1. For additional written historical context and descriptive information, please see the main entry for the Pacific Coast Torpedo Station, Keyport Industrial District, HABS WA-255.
2. Building History: The northern half of the Building 38 was built in 1918, and its nearly identical extension was added in 1925. It was constructed as a storehouse to accommodate the need for torpedo storage and was quickly expanded. Although the use of the building has changed over time, much of the exterior has remained unchanged. Currently, most of the east side of Building 38 is connected to Building 233. In 1966, the buildings were only connected by a breezeway near the north end of the structures.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement and condition of fabric:

Building 38 has a typical industrial vernacular design, with a double-leaf, single-panel warehouse-style door on the north façade, large, multi-light pivot windows, and a distinctive monitor roof. The building is in good condition.

B. Description:

1. Overall Dimensions: Building 38 is 236'-0" x 66'-6" and is oriented north to south.
2. Foundations: The building has a concrete foundation and 6" concrete floors.
3. Walls and structural systems: The walls are steel and hollow-brick tile; the brick is covered with stucco and painted.

4. Openings: Steel-frame, multi-light windows extend along west side of the building, but are no longer visible on the east side where the building joins Building 233. A row of awning windows extend along both sides of the clerestory.
5. Roof: Building 38 has a monitor roof which has very little slope.

B. Site:

Building 38 is surrounded by other industrial buildings and concrete and asphalt paving with very little vegetation.

PART III SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- A. Architectural drawings: Plans of Building 38 are on file at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Washington.

B. Bibliography:

Harvey, David W. Torpedo Storehouse, Field No. 18-38 Historic Property Inventory Form. Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia. Completed in 1991.

Kipp Associates. Naval Undersea Warfare Engineering Station, Keyport, Washington, Historic-Architectural Survey of Buildings and Structures. Tacoma, Wa: Kipp Associates, 1991.

Poole, Lisa. Torpedo Town, U.S.A. Keyport, Wa: Diamond Anniversary Publishing, 1989.

C. Supplemental Material:

Historical photographs on file at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Washington

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This documentation was prepared as part of the mitigation for the redevelopment of the Pacific Coast Torpedo Station, Keyport Industrial District, which is located at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport. It was funded by the United States Department of the Navy. Historian Sharon A. Boswell prepared the historic context and Lorelea Hudson, historic preservation specialist, and Eileen Heideman, architectural historian, compiled the individual building narratives. All three are on the staff of Northwest Archaeological Associates, Inc., Seattle. Building descriptions relied primarily on previous work by historian David W.

TORPEDO STOREHOUSE

(Building 38)

HABS WA-258

(Page 4)

Harvey. Maps, plans, and historical and large-format photographs were provided by the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport.



Figure 1. South end of Building 38 in July 1923; view to the northeast. Original image located at Command Staff Code OOTMA, Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, WA.



Figure 2. Southern extension to Building 38 on June 15, 1925; view to the northwest. Original image located at Command Staff Code OOTMA, Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, WA.

TORPEDO STOREHOUSE

(Building 38)

HABS WA-258

(Page 6)



Figure 3. Southern extension to Building 38 nearing end of construction, September 2, 1925; view to the northwest. Original image located at Command Staff Code OOTMA, Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, WA.