

SELFRIIDGE FIELD, BUILDING NO. 573  
(Area Search Radar)  
(ASR-4)  
(Warehouse Support and Equipment)  
W. of Taxiway C, south of E. Joy Blvd.  
Mt. Clemens vicinity  
Macomb County  
Michigan

HAER No. MI-116-GG

HAER  
MICH  
50-MTCLE, V  
1GG-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Great Lakes Systems Office  
1709 Jackson Street  
Omaha, NE 68102-2571

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HAER  
MICH  
50-MTCLE.V,  
1GG

SELFRIDGE FIELD HAER No. MI-116-GG  
BUILDING #573, (AREA SEARCH RADAR) (ASR-4)  
(Warehouse Support and Equipment)

Location: South of East Joy Boulevard adjacent to Taxiway C  
Selfridge Air National Guard Base  
Mt Clemens Mich, Macomb Co. Mich.  
U.S.G.S. Mount Clemens East Quadrangle, Universal Transverse  
Mercator Coordinates: 17.348300.4718830

Significance: This functional building supported daily base runway operations during the Cold War period and is therefore related to Selfridge's national defense mission, although its integrity has been impacted by removal of its radar superstructure and electronic components.

Description: This building is a steel frame, rectangular plan, 64 foot x 24 foot side-gabled structure sheathed in vertically seamed insulated metal panels. It rests on a concrete slab whose periphery is raised to from a concrete curb that rises to the sill of the structure above. This building is shielded by a vertically seamed metal roof whose ridge is broken by a linear vent hood.

The principal (southeast) elevation consist of five bays, a central steel pedestrian entry door flanked to the south by two small boarded window voids and to the north by a double steel pedestrian entry doors and a large motorized damper hood. The gabled northeast elevation is pierced by a motorized damper hood, while the four functional bays of the rear (northwest) elevation are defined by a motorized damper hood at the north corner, a pedestrian entry door and damper hood voids (now wood sealed), and the southwest elevation displays a central steel louvered vent.

The floor plan from north to south consists of a 14 foot 6 inch by 24 foot engine generator room that is divided from the remainder of the building by a concrete wall and is accessible only through exterior double doors, adjacent 7 foot 4 inch wide Mechanical Equipment Room (13 feet 7" deep) and Storage Room (9 feet 4 inches deep), and a large 40 foot 5 inch x 24 foot Equipment Room that consumes over half of the building's floor area. The equipment room today reveals walls and ceiling composed of seamed metal panels and still displays vestiges of original apparatus on the walls, including a "Transmitter Building Cable Junction Box" manufactured by Texas Instruments Company of Dallas Texas and a circuit panel board by Westinghouse. Its floor

are still partially covered in original asbestos tiles. Eastward, the Engine Generator Room reveals an open steel truss roof and steel paneled walls. Its floor is bare concrete.

History:

Building #573 was designed by Stan J. Davis and Associates of Dearborn for the Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District and constructed in 1964.<sup>1</sup> A 27-foot high ASR 4 tower anchored into four concrete footings on 24 foot centers was situated along a sidewalk northwest of the building, but the superstructure has been removed and only the footings remain. A portion of the building now serves as a storage building and is used by law enforcement agencies in support of high speed driving maneuvers training now held on Taxiway C.

Sources:

Anonymous, Brief History of Selfridge Air Force Base, 1917-1960, unpublished ms., Air Force Historical Research Agency, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, 1960.

\_\_\_\_\_, Guide and Directory, Selfridge Air Force Base, Selfridge Air Force Base, Michigan, 1960.

Nigro, Louis, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, An Unofficial History, unpublished ms., Public Information Office, Selfridge ANG Base, Michigan, 1977.

Copy of construction drawing, dated February 1, 1964, Stan J. Davis and Associates Architects-Engineers, Detroit, in possession of Selfridge Base Museum, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Plan and Schedules, Sheet 5 of 16, Drawing No. 60-02-04, File SF 5/2026.

Copy of construction drawing, dated February 1, 1964, Stan J. Davis and Associates Architects-Engineers, Detroit, in possession of Selfridge Base Museum, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Elevation, Sections and Details, Sheet 6 of 16, Drawing No. 60-02-04, File SF 5/2027.

---

<sup>1</sup>Original construction plans on file, Base Museum and Civil Engineers Office

Interview, Colonel Robert Stone (Ret.), Curator, Selfridge Base  
Museum, October 13, 1995.

Interview, Eric Reeve, Selfridge Environmental Management,  
October 12, 1995.

Historian:

William E. Rutter  
Midwest Environmental Consultants, Inc.  
May, 1996