

TORPEDO STOREHOUSE

(Building 1)

Pacific Coast Torpedo Station, Keyport Industrial District

Second & Dowell Streets

Keyport

Kitsap

Washington

HABS WA-256

WA-256

HABS

WA-256

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

FIELD RECORDS

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

TORPEDO STOREHOUSE
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Building 1

- Location: The Torpedo Storehouse, or Building 1, is located at the southeast corner of Second Street and Dowell Street at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Kitsap County, Washington
- USGS Suquamish, Washington, Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 10.528871.5282836.
- Present Owner: United States Department of the Navy
- Present Use: Torpedo shop and administrative offices.
- Significance: Building 1 is significant as the first permanent structure at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, and is associated with the station's historic, torpedo-related role prior to American entry into World War I. The building originally housed nearly all of the early station operations and has been continuously used as a torpedo shop along with various other administrative and torpedo-repair functions. Building 1 is a good example of an industrial vernacular adaptation of the monitor-roof style. Significant modifications have occurred, including several shed additions and changes to the windows and cladding on the second story.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: The Torpedo Storehouse, Building 1, was constructed in 1915.
2. Architect: Bureau of Yards and Docks, United States Department of the Navy.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The United States Department of the Navy has always owned Building 1.
4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Martin and Dugan, contractors.

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. 42-34-1-44, 42-34-1-49, 42-34-1-50 and 42-34-1-51.
6. Alterations and additions: The original plan and design as well as the windows and cladding of Building 1 have been significantly modified. In 1938, part of the torpedo storage area was converted into offices and an addition was made to the second story extending the monitor roof (Plan No. 42-34-1-5). This addition was continued along the second story nearly obscuring the monitor roof. In 1939, the windows and southeast corner of the second floor were removed and replaced with steel awning windows. By the early 1980s, the original window opening was re-established and the corner rebuilt with brick. Windows in this end of the building were replaced during the same time period. Other additions include walkway railings on the second floor and an exterior stairway from the second floor to the ground. Building 234 was constructed along the east side of Building 1 in more recent years.

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: Building 1 was constructed in 1915 as the Pacific Coast Torpedo Station's first permanent building. It originally housed almost the entire operations of the station, including administrative offices, torpedo overhaul shop and storage, carpenter shop, machine shop, electric and pipe shops, and power plant. Sixteen Navy men and eight civilians initially worked in Building 1. An industrial railroad track entered the workshop through a pair of sliding doors. This track extended from Building 1 to Pier 1 and later to Pier 2.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement and condition of fabric:

1. Building 1 is a fine example of an industrial vernacular adaptation of the monitor-roof style, although its original design/plan, windows and cladding have been significantly modified. It still maintains one of its original functions as a torpedo shop, and several of the large industrial-style, multi-light (fixed-sash and pivot) windows remain intact.

B. Description:

1. Overall Dimensions: The original building was a T plan, oriented north to south. The stem of the T was 255'-0" x 61'-9" with two 12'-9" x 21'-0" rooms on either side of the north façade, forming the T shape. These rooms contained the latrine and tool storage. A 26'-5" x 93'-0" room extended from the east side of building for the power house, which included a boiler room and engine room. A 100'-0" high, 3' diameter stack was located just north of the power house. The original plan and design have been significantly altered by shed-roof additions.
2. Foundations: The building has 6" concrete floors and a concrete foundation.
3. Walls and structural systems: Building 1 is brick with steel framing.
4. Openings: Building 1 is representative of the industrial vernacular style of the period, with repetitive, multi-light (fixed-sash and pivot), steel-frame windows. Contemporary sliding aluminum and mirrored-glass windows have been installed, and a shed-roof addition on the east side has double-hung sash and horizontal sliding windows. Most of the window modifications have occurred on the second story.

Pairs of metal-clad sliding doors with six-light metal sash windows provided access to the building on all sides, including two pairs of doors on the east side of the power house. A small pedestrian door provides access on the east side of building where the latrine was located.
5. Roof: A modified monitor roof spanned all but the administrative section of the building, but many of windows have since been covered by additions. The one-story sections of the building are covered with shed roofs. The two-story powerhouse, as illustrated in the 1915 plans, was built with a nearly flat roof.

C. Site:

Building 1 is surrounded by other industrial buildings and concrete and asphalt pavement with very little vegetation.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural drawings:

Plans of Building 1 are on file at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Washington.

B. Bibliography:

Harvey, David W. Torpedo Storehouse, Field No. 18-1. 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 are 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 within the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport. The project 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. Harvey. Maps, plans, and historical and large-format photographs were provided by the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Washington.

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Figure 1. Building 1 on January 5, 1916; view to the southwest. Original image located at Command Staff Code OOTMA, Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Washington.



Figure 2. Construction of extension on north side of Building 1 on July 5, 1918; view to the northwest. Original image located at Command Staff Code OOTMA, Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Washington.

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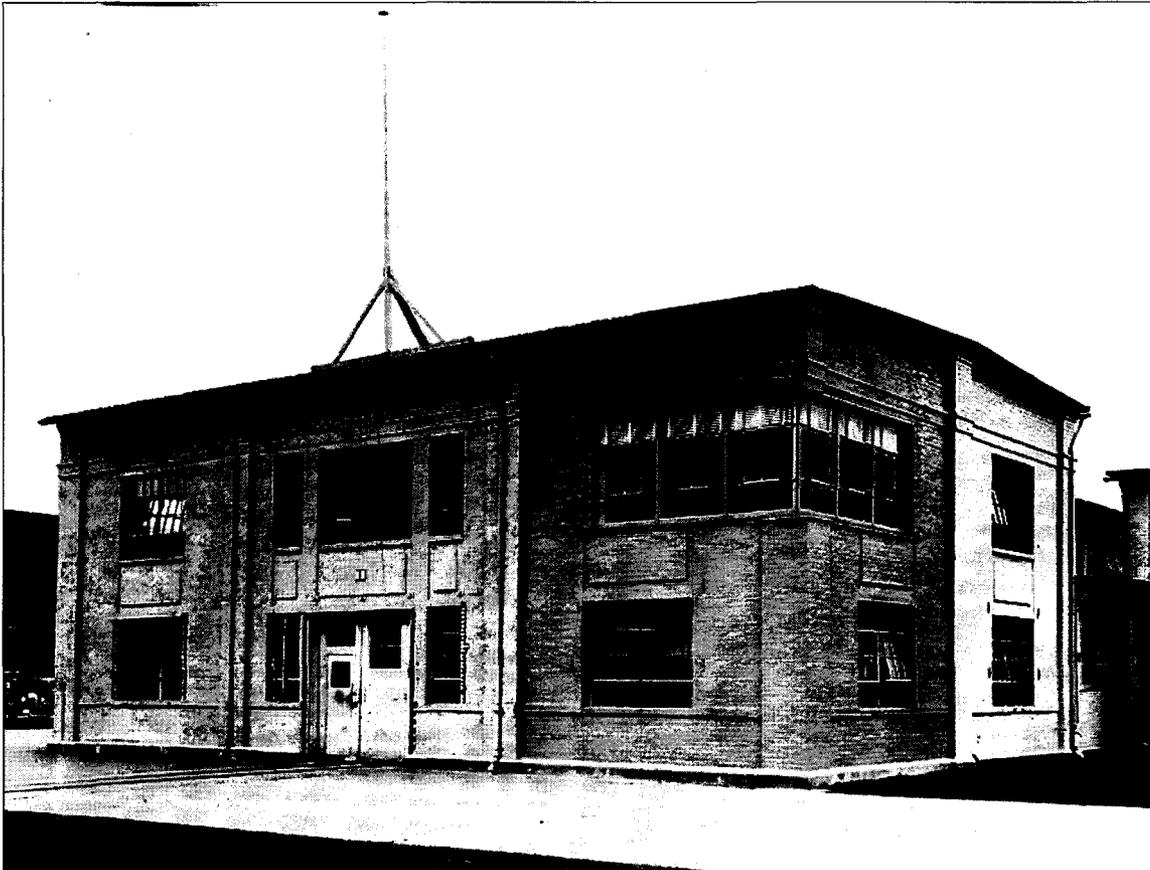


Figure 3. Building 1 in 1940, showing modifications to windows on southeast corner; view to the northwest. Original image located at Command Staff Code OOTMA, Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Keyport, Washington.