

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

RECEIVED

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 13 1994

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: NAS Chase Field, Building 1009

Other name/site number: Enlisted WAVES Barracks

2. Location

Street & Number: Essex Street, 0.68 miles south-southeast of the intersection of
Texas State Highway 202 and Independence Street

City/Town: Beeville

Not for Publication: N/A

State: TX Code: 041 County: Bee

Code: 025 Zip Code: 78102

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public: federal

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property: 1

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural
Resources of NAS Chase Field,
Beeville, Texas.

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Carly Murrell 15 Dec. 1993
Signature of certifying official Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
See continuation sheet.

J. R. Mumf January 6, 1994
Signature of commenting or other official Date

Department of the Navy Federal Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

Linda M. Clifton

Signature of Keeper 2/23/94
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Defense Sub: Naval Facility
Current : Vacant/Not in Use Sub:

7. Description

Architectural Classification: No Style

Materials: foundation: Concrete
walls: Synthetics
roof: Other
other:

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Applicable National Register Criteria: A
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): Not Applicable
Areas of Significance: Military
Period(s) of Significance: 1943-1945
Significant Dates: 1943
Significant Person(s): Not Applicable
Cultural Affiliation: Not Applicable
Architect/Builder: Robert & Company/Brown Bellows & Columbia

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section numbers 7 and 8

Description

Building 1009 is a 2-story building that originally was known as the Enlisted WAVES Barracks but has since been converted into offices. The building is at the north corner of the intersection of Essex Street and Ofstie Road and stands on relatively level ground. The building, which faces southwest onto Essex Street, features a rectangular plan, a concrete foundation, and galbestos siding that covers the wood-frame walls. Like most of the other nearby military-related buildings, the old Enlisted WAVES Barracks is a functional and utilitarian "temporary" building and does not have any noteworthy stylistic detailing. However, the property is in good condition and has been changed minimally since its construction in 1943.

Situated at the north corner of the intersection of Essex and Ofstie Road, Building 1009 stands near the geographic center of the naval air station. The grounds include a well-kept grass lawn with a variety of trees on the northeast, southeast and southwest sides. A small paved parking lot and an electrical transformer rack are southeast of the building. With an elongated, rectangular plan, Building 1009 is a two-story, wood-frame structure with galbestos siding. The building rests on a pier-and-beam foundation and features a flat roof that is covered by built-up layers of tar and gravel.

The front faces southwest toward Essex Street. Concrete steps lead to the main entrance, which is near the south corner of the southwest elevation. The primary entrance has a single metal door within a small, one-story, enclosed porch. The facade is composed of two floors, each with eight sets of paired, double-hung windows with metal sashes. At the north end of the front, narrow horizontal windows pierce the ground floor; an elongated horizontal panel extends along the second story. The northwest and southeast elevations have wooden exterior staircases leading to second-floor fire escape exits. Although the only opening on the northwest elevation is a door, the southeast elevation has double-hung windows on both floors. The northeast elevation has an irregular fenestration that includes single and paired, double-hung, windows with metal sashes; a single door; and a small, one-story, shed extension.

The exterior of the building has essentially remained unchanged since its completion; however, in 1954 the Navy converted the building into a supply storage facility following the construction of a new women's barracks. Seven years later, the building was converted into office space, for which it was used until the base's closure in 1993.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section numbers 7 and 8

Statement of Significance

Building 1009 (The Enlisted WAVES [Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service] Barracks Building), was constructed in 1944 to house women naval enlistees, is the only surviving barracks building dating from the initial period of construction at NAS Chase Field. Since the WAVES were an essential component in the World War II-era training mission of the base, the barracks building relates to the historic context, *Chase Field: A World War II Naval Auxiliary Air Station, 1943-1946*, and to the statewide context, *U.S. Military: 1919-1945*. One of five enlisted barracks constructed during the war, the 2-story, wood-frame building is a typical example of an enlistee barracks. Like nearly all military construction projects initiated after the United States entered the war in 1941, the barracks is one of hundreds of simple, temporary buildings intended to serve only for the duration of the emergency and, as such, lacks unique architectural distinction. However, the Enlisted WAVES Barracks Building closely represents the contributions of its personnel to the mission of the base and the outcome of the war. Further, as a building specifically associated with women's contributions to the war effort during a period of national crisis, the WAVES barracks building is a rare tangible link to that association and conveys a sense of the all-encompassing nature of the emergency that required the sacrifices of all its citizens, men and women alike, to the successful prosecution of the war. The Enlisted WAVES Barracks Building is noteworthy primarily for its historical associations and is therefore nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance.

The WAVES Barracks represented a new era and new opportunities for women in military service. Prior to World War II, women's roles in the military were typically limited to the area of nursing and auxiliary functions; however the enormous labor demands of World War II forced the military services to reconsider women for their potential contribution to the war effort. During the National Defense period, neither the Navy nor the Army were enthusiastic about admitting women to full military status. The Bureau of Aeronautics, on the other hand, was less steeped in military tradition than the military services and its leadership urged the full utilization of women in the years immediately preceding the war (Holm 1982: 25). In the months following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, when the Navy lost thousands of sailors and marines in Pacific Island battles, it faced a critical labor shortage. By the spring of 1942, Navy officials concluded that using women in support positions and to operate the forward bases, would release men for combat duty. In accepting women for full reserve service, the Navy went beyond the Army policy of allowing women

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section numbers 7 and 8

to serve in auxiliary functions. On July 30, 1942, a few months after NAS Corpus Christi was commissioned, President Roosevelt signed Navy bill P.L. 689 authorizing the establishment of the Navy Women's Reserve, shortly afterward identified as WAVES - Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (Holm 1982:26-27).

By the end of World War II, nearly 350,000 women had served their country in the various services. In only three years since its creation in 1942, the WAVES comprised over half of the naval personnel of the Navy Department headquarters in Washington D.C., 70 percent of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, and two-thirds of the enlisted personnel in the office of the chief of Naval Operations. In addition, 18 percent of the total naval personnel of the stateside shore establishments - including naval air stations - were women (Holm 1982: 101). More than one in four WAVES - more than 23,000 women - served in naval aviation during World War II. Although none were pilots, some WAVES served as noncombat crew members. One thousand women taught aircraft gunnery and celestial navigation and one hundred female officers were trained as navigation instructors (Holm 1982: 65). At NAS Chase Field, WAVES assisted the training mission by operating flight simulators. Typically, however, WAVES occupied clerical, administrative and fiscal positions thus releasing enlisted men and male officers for technical and advanced base duties (U.S. Department of the Navy, 1947: 67).

A major challenge that confronted the Navy when it opened the service to women, occurred because nearly all base facilities were built solely for men. Faced with a severe manpower shortage, commanders and supervisors found creative ways to accommodate WAVES. At one naval air station, the chief petty officer in charge of a hangar with only one "head," solved the facilities problem by putting a peg on the outside of the door below a sign that read, "Before entering hang up your hat here" (Holm 1982: 100). The WAVES Barracks at NAS Chase was a rare early example of World War II-era group housing unit created especially for women. At many other bases, the most expedient method for accommodating service women was to convert a men's barracks or other buildings for women's use. At a Naval base on Oahu, Hawaii, for instance, a Quonset-style warehouse was adapted for use as a WAVES barracks (U.S. Department of the Navy, 1947: 160). Base commanders quickly learned that women had greater privacy needs than men when women objected to gang showers and open toilet areas. When assigned to a barracks previously occupied by men, they immediately hung curtains and built partitions in the latrines and heads to achieve greater privacy. At NAS Chase Field, which was constructed after women were accepted for full service (post-1942), the barracks building was designed specifically for women and contained partitions in the latrines (Robert & Company, 1944). Standard features

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section numbers 7 and 8

in barracks built for women included additional electrical outlets, built-in ironing boards, laundry rooms and comfortable lounges (U.S. Department of the Navy, 1947: 289).

The WAVES Barracks was the only barracks building at NAS Chase Field constructed for enlisted women by Robert & Company, an Atlanta-based architectural engineering firm with offices in Corpus Christi. Robert & Company designed this and four similar barracks buildings, along with most other World War II-era construction at NAS Chase Field. While the simple wood-frame barracks was typical of the type of temporary personnel quarters built in response to the national emergency, it is the only remaining example of a barracks from the World War II period of construction at Chase Field. As such, it is a significant resource that contributes to our understanding of military housing during a national crisis. The WAVES Barracks building retains its original, relatively unadorned, utilitarian architectural features to a large degree, although it has been altered by the application of galbestos shingles over the original wood siding and a new front entrance. These alterations and the deteriorating condition of the building detract somewhat from the building's historic character and diminish its overall integrity. Because the Enlisted WAVES Barracks Building lacks distinction as a unique example of military architecture, its significance lies primarily in its historic associations with World War II and specifically with women's contributions to the war effort.

The presence of WAVES at Chase Field was indicative of the need for full-scale deployment of military personnel during World War II when both men and women responded to the call for military enlistment. It is also representative of an era of gender-specific military service when men were trained for combat or technical duties and women primarily supported the war effort in clerical, repair and maintenance fields. Although women were not trained as cadets and were seldom assigned highly technical duties, their support of the base mission, by assisting with the Link (flight simulator) Trainer and by filling clerical positions, was crucial to the flight training program and operation of the base. At a time of national emergency when nearly all able-bodied men were needed for combat service, the contributions made by WAVES in support of training facilities such as those at Chase Field, cannot be understated. The Enlisted WAVES Barracks is a tangible reminder of their presence and service at Chase Field.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Historic Context List of References.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # HABS No. TX-3397-B
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: 14/631250/3139000

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of NAS Chase Field, Building 1009 is shown as the dashed line on the accompanying map entitled "NAS Chase Field, Site Plan of Building 1009"

Boundary Justification:

The boundary encompasses Building 1009 and the grounds immediately surrounding it that distinguish the historic resource from adjoining property.

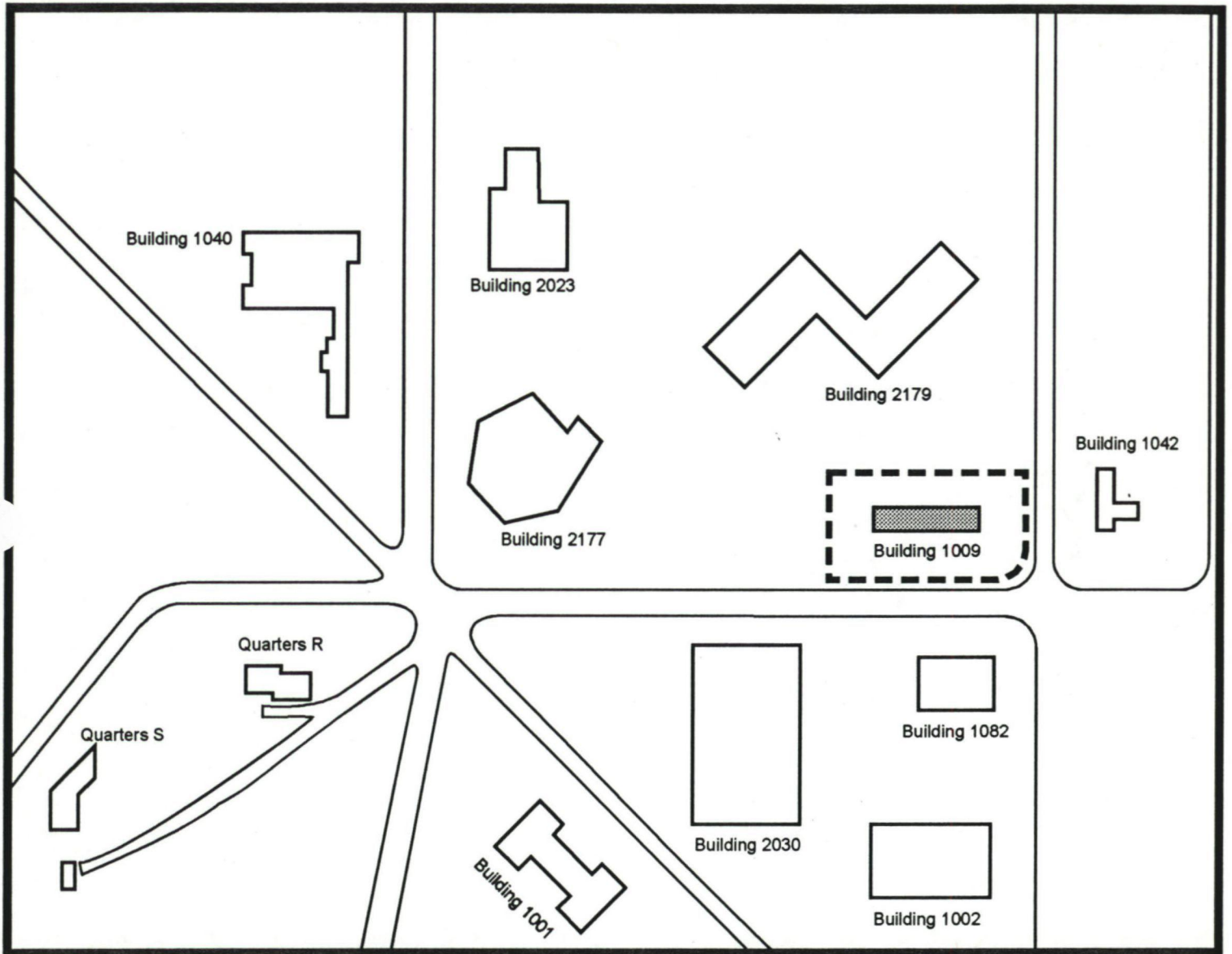
11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: David Moore/Project Director, Historian
 Terri Myers/Historian
 Diana Nicklaus/Research Assistant

Organization: Hardy-Heck-Moore & Associates Date: June 1993
Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande Telephone: 512-478-8014
City or Town: Austin State: TX Zip: 78705

NAS Chase Field, Site Plan of Building 1009

----- Boundaries



HMM & Associates, June 1993



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: NAS Chase Field--Building 1009

MULTIPLE NAME: NAS Chase Field MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Bee

DATE RECEIVED: 1/13/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/26/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/11/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/27/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000051

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: Y SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/23/94 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Barracks constructed in 1944 to house women (WAVES)
naval enlisted ^{listees} is only surviving barracks
dating from initial period of construction
at NAS Chase Field and represents role
of women volunteers in WWII defense
effort. Although it has been converted
to other uses since the 1950s, the exterior
remains essentially unchanged in form, and
reflects the "temporary" nature of WWII
military architecture; the current siding,
however, is a replacement
material called galbestos.*

RECOM. / CRITERIA Accept
REVIEWER LM Clifton
DISCIPLINE N. Historical
DATE 2/23/94

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



NAS CHASE FIELD

NAME OF PROPERTY: BUILDING 1009

LOCATION: ESSEX STREET

NAS CHASE FIELD, BEEVILLE, TEXAS

PHOTO BY: DANIEL HARDY

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: JUNE 1992

LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: TEXAS HIST. COMMISSION
AUSTIN, TEXAS

CAMERA LOOKING: SOUTH

PHOTOGRAPH: 3 OF 14



NAME OF PROPERTY: BUILDING 1009

LOCATION: ESSEX STREET

NAS CHASE FIELD, BEEVILLE, TEXAS

PHOTO BY: DANIEL HARDY

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: JUNE 1992

LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: TEXAS HIST. COMMISSION
AUSTIN, TEXAS

CAMERA LOOKING: NORTH

PHOTOGRAPH: 4 OF 14