

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

JAN 13 1994

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: NAS Chase Field, Building 1001

Other name/site number: Administration Building

2. Location

Street & Number: Independence Street, 0.45 miles south 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Not for Publication: N/A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 607. In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] Signature of certifying official 15 Dec. 1993 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.

[Signature] Signature of commenting or other official January 6, 1994 ^{OK} Date

Department of the Navy Federal Preservation Officer
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):

[Signature]

Entered in the
National Register

[Signature] 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 (tar and gravel)
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.

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 and 8

Description

Building 1001 is a 2-story building with a 4-story tower, and has served as the administrative headquarters for the naval facility since its completion in 1943. Fronting south onto Independence Street, which serves as the primary entrance into the base, Building 1001 has an H-shaped plan and wood-frame construction sheathed with galbestos siding. The terrain is flat and there are only minor plantings on the property. Most nearby buildings are of a similar vintage, though they are not as grandly sited or retain their historic character and ambiance to such a noteworthy degree. Building 1001 exhibits no distinctive stylistic embellishment, but the most prominent physical feature is the central tower that affords a sweeping view of NAS Chase Field. The property is in good condition and has had very little alteration since its construction. The only noticeable change to the exterior is the galbestos siding which covers the original lapped wood siding.

The Administration Building, which stands on level terrain, is an imposing physical landmark at the naval air station and its importance is immediately discernible upon entering the base. The building occupies a highly visible location near the western edge of the most intensely developed section of NAS Chase Field and has a mostly unobscured view of the surrounding area. A paved parking lot extends around the south, west and north sides of the building, and a narrow, curved driveway cuts across property in front of the building. Plantings on the surrounding grounds include the grass lawn and a row of low and well-trimmed hedges to the front, and a grouping of small oak trees just beyond the east, north and west sides of the building. A metal flag pole is near the street, directly in front of the building's main entrance.

The Administration Building rests on a pier-and-beam foundation and has wood-frame construction that is sheathed with galbestos siding. The flat roof is covered with tar and gravel that is built up in layers. The building's massing is the most distinctive physical feature and includes a 2-story H-shaped plan and a 4-story tower above the central portion of the hyphen. With window openings on all sides, the third and fourth floors provide a panoramic view of the entire military installation.

The front faces east onto Independence Street. Two-story wings extend from the north and south sides, and the main entrance is set within the recessed (hyphen) section of the front. A small open porch with metal posts provides covered access to and from the front semi-circular driveway. The double windows with 6/6 lights have wood sashes on the ground floor and metal sashes on the other floors. Secondary entrances on the south, west

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 and 8

and north elevations include single doors with metal frames. The interior contains small offices with balloon-frame partitioned walls. Few changes affect the building's historic character. The original 1943 plans note that architect specified lapped wood siding. Supplemental building information on file at NAS Chase Field reveals the application of the existing galbestos siding took place in 1964. Interior alterations include the repositioning of some walls and the installation of cabinets, central air conditioning and other improvements; however they do not adversely affect the overall historic character of the building.

Statement of Significance

Built in 1943 as the center for military management and supervisory activities at NAS Chase Field, Building 1001 (the Administration Building) remained the symbolic heart of the naval air station until it closed in 1993. The Administration Building was one of the first buildings completed at the auxiliary naval air station, and all commanding officers who have overseen the operation of the base have maintained their offices in the 2- and 4-story frame building. The Administration Building is strongly associated with domestic U.S. military activity of World War II, specifically of the increased significance of naval aviation since the 1940s. Contextually, NAS Chase Field is a product of the phenomenal military base construction program conducted throughout the country immediately before and during World War II. It was one of nearly one hundred naval air stations and auxiliary flying fields built to meet the critical demand for trained combat pilots during the war. As base headquarters, the Administration Building was a tangible link to the Navy's presence in the Beeville area and illustrates the important role NAS Chase Field played in local history. The Administration Building relates closely to the historic context established for the base, *Chase Field: A World War II Naval Auxiliary Air Station, 1943-1946* and to the statewide context, *U.S. Military 1919-1945*. Since its importance lies primarily in its historic associations, the Administration Building is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance.

The Administration Building was completed in 1943 as an integral part of the original auxiliary air station attached to NAS Corpus Christi. Known in Navy parlance as "the Skipper's office," the building served as headquarters throughout the base's history, first as a temporary, then a permanent, and finally, a primary, naval air station. The Administration Building is a good, though slightly altered, illustration of "temporary" military architecture of the World War II era. The building was designed by Robert & Company, an architectural

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Section number 7 and 8

firm based in Atlanta, Georgia, that opened a branch office in Corpus Christi, Texas, following the Navy's decision to establish a naval air station there in 1938. The Administration Building is nearly identical to another extant Robert & Company-designed Administration Building at NAS Kingsville, a Navy installation of similar (1942) vintage, about 55 miles south of Beeville. In turn, the administration buildings at NAS Chase Field and NAS Kingsville resemble somewhat smaller versions of the original administration building at NAS Corpus Christi, the main station they both served (U.S. Bureau of Yards and Docks, 1947: 76). The Houston-based consortium of Brown Bellows & Columbia served as general contractors for all the projects.

The Administration Building retains its historic integrity to a high degree, although numerous minor interior alterations, such as the construction of new walls and repartitioning of offices, have been completed over the years. The exterior building has changed only minimally since 1943. The wood siding that originally covered the building, as noted in original architectural plans, has now been covered with galbestos siding. Nevertheless, the building retains its historic form and most important physical attributes and is indicative of the type of emergency building projects undertaken by the Navy during the World War II.

Although its inherent role was to serve as the center for administrative duties at the naval air station, the building is but one of many such examples throughout the country. Its significance, therefore, stems from its role in local history.

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-A
- 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: 14/630980/3139040

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of NAS Chase Field, Building 1001 is shown as the dashed line on the accompanying map entitled "NAS Chase Field, Site Plan of Building 1001"

Boundary Justification:

The boundary encompasses Building 1001 and the grounds immediately surrounding it, including the front driveway and the parking lots that distinguish the historic resource from adjoining property.

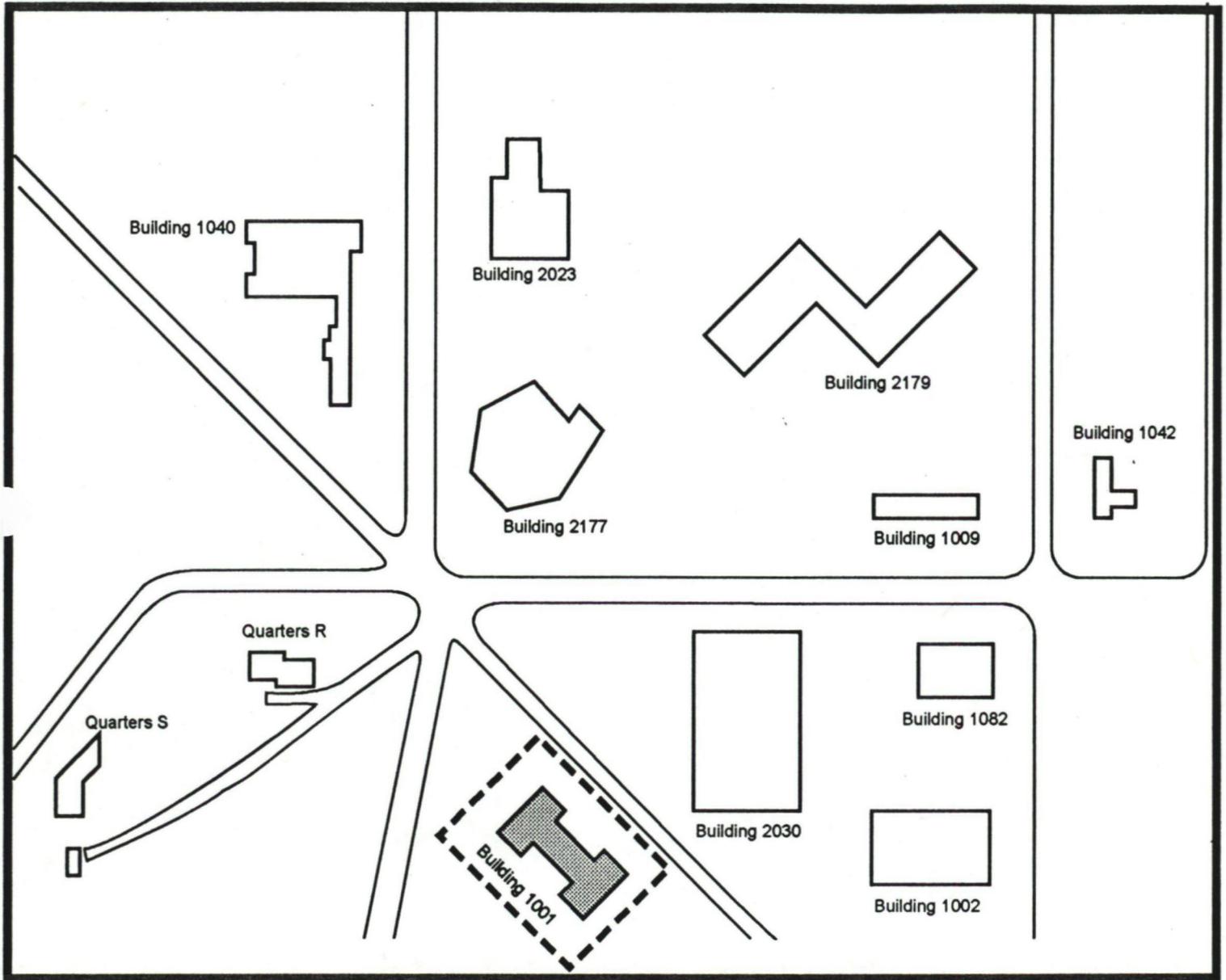
11. Form Prepared By

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

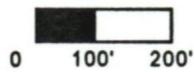
Organization: Hardy·Heck·Moore & Associates Date: June 1993
Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande Telephone: 512-478-8014
City or Town: Austin State: TX Zip: 78705

NAS Chase Field, Site Plan of Building 1001

----- Boundaries



HHM & 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 1001

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: 94000050

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: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/23/94 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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 _____



NAME OF PROPERTY: BUILDING 1001

LOCATION: INDEPENDENCE 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: NORTHWEST

PHOTOGRAPH: 1 OF 14



NAME OF PROPERTY: BUILDING 1001
LOCATION: INDEPENDENCE 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: NORTHEAST
PHOTOGRAPH: 2 OF 14