

Naval Operating Base Dutch Harbor & Fort Mears
Powerhouse
Unalaska (Island) Aleutian Islands Division
Alaska

HABS No. AK-34-H

HABS
AK,
1-UNAK,
2-H-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20013-7127

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2-H-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE ALASKA	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY UNALASKA (ISLAND)
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Naval Operating Base Dutch Harbor & Fort Mears (NHL)		HABS NO. AK-34 H
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Powerhouse; Building #409		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Unalaska Island; Amaknak Island		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1942 (Thompson)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) U.S. Navy (USN, BY&D, Contracts)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The Powerhouse generated electricity for the Base through oil-fired steam powered engines. Designed to withstand the impact of a direct hit from a 500-pound bomb, the building is an outstanding example of such structures erected on American bases adjacent to combat zones during World War II. See HABS No. AK-34.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) standard military		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) reinforced concrete		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) see drawings		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Exterior walls are five feet thick. The convex roof is six feet thick and fortified with four machine gun emplacements.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Inertial pads on the first floor supported the generator, isolating it from vibrations occurring outside its own mechanical system. A running crane in working order extends from wall supports at the second story.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The space between the roof and the burster slab was converted into offices in 1943.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE In good condition, it is being restored to its original function.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Within Naval Operating Base Dutch Harbor & Fort Mears National Historic Landmark. Defense Environmental Restoration Account, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) NHL; See Bibliography HABS No. AK-34.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Sandra M. Faulkner, Historian, National Park Service	DATE July 8, 1986	