

Hamilton Field, Radio Signal Tower
(Facility No. 349)
Water Tower Road
Novato
Marin County
California

HABS No. CA-2398-CD

HABS
CAL
21-NOVA,
ICD-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HAMILTON FIELD
Radio Signal Tower
(Facility No. 349)

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HABS No. CA-2398-CD

Location: Hamilton Army Air Field
Novato, Marin County, California
Radio Signal Tower
Facility No. 349 (near terminus of Water Tower Road)

U.S.G.S.: Novato, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1954 (revised 1980)
Petaluma Point, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1959 (revised 1980)
UTM Coordinates: Zone 10; A: 542100/4213620; B: 544720/4212220;
C: 542760/4210650; D: 541040/4212600

Significance:

The radio signal tower is essential to the operation of an aviation facility, and is considered a contributing structure to the Hamilton Army Air Field Historic District. A small permanent station directly south of the hospital building contained the base's radio equipment. This building is no longer extant but the radio tower remains.

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) for a comprehensive Statement of Significance and individual report HABS No. CA-2398-A for a condensed Statement of Significance.

Description:

The base radio tower collects and transmits signals. It is constructed of two-inch, three-inch, and four-inch angle iron and is approximately 100 feet high. The base is set on a concrete slab which measures 18 feet square. A concrete block, measuring 19 inches by 19 inches by 17 inches tall, is located in the center of the concrete slab. The block has 4.5-inch diameter bolts protruding from the top and may be associated with a previous tower.

Historical Context:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

The radio tower was built in 1933 during initial base construction. It was crucial to the base for many years. Today it is used by a ham radio club based in Marin County.

**HAMILTON FIELD
Radio Signal Tower
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Sources:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

Project Information:

Hamilton Army Air Field is owned by various federal entities including the Department of the Navy, Department of the Army, United States Coast Guard, and General Services Administration (GSA). The Army/GSA parcels are being excessed and sold to private developers. The Navy property is included in Base Closure and Realignment actions.

As part of the Army's undertaking, it has been determined in consultation with the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) that the excess sale will have an affect on properties at the air field, and that these properties are components of a district that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on consultation with the OHP and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was entered into by the interested parties in March 1994. The agreement stipulated that prior to excess sale the Army must contact the HABS/HAER division at the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service, San Francisco, California, to determine the appropriate level and kind of recordation for the subject properties. The MOA further stipulated that copies of the documentation be made available to the OHP and appropriate local archives designated by the OHP. This recordation has been prepared in order to meet those stipulations.

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