

HABS NO. HI 145

U.S. NAVAL BASE, PEARL HARBOR, OPERATIONS BUILDING
(U.S. Navy, Dept. "Pearl Harbor, Naval Station")
(Building No. 804)
Ford Island, Antennas Street near Intrepid Blvd.
Pearl Harbor
Honolulu County
Hawaii

HABS
HI
2-PEHA,
18-

PHOTOGRAPH

WITH HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94107

HABS
HI
2-PEHA,
18-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

U. S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Operations Building
(U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Naval Station)
(Building No. SB4)

HABS No. HI-145

Location:

Ford Island, southeast side of the main aircraft taxiway on
Enterprise Street near Intrepid Boulevard
Pearl Harbor, City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii

USGS Pearl Harbor Quadrangle, Hawaii
7.5 minute series (orthophotoquad)
Universal Transverse Mercator coordinates
4.607400.2362B20 (Scale - 1:24,000)

Significance:

The military presence on Ford Island began when the United States entered World War I in 1917. At that time the U. S. Army assumed control of Ford Island and established Luke Airfield. This airfield was located on the west side of the island and named for Lieutenant Frank Luke, a World War I flying ace.

To support the increased naval activity in the Pacific, the Navy created the Ford Island Naval Air Station in January 1923. However, Ford Island eventually proved to be too small for both Army and Navy activities and the Army transferred its operations to Wheeler and Hickam airfields. The Ford Island Naval Air Station served as a repair and supply base for most of the Pacific Fleet planes. Many of its steel and concrete structures were constructed in 1939 as a result of growing American concern over its defenses. Ford Island also provided mooring and wharf facilities for the Navy's battleships and destroyers.

The initial Japanese attacks on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 were intended to destroy and disable the planes at the Ford Island Naval Air Station. This then allowed the battleships moored around Ford Island to be attacked with minimal resistance from the air. The Japanese dive bombers attacked and inflicted severe damage to seaplane hangar number 6 and also to 33 Navy patrol planes parked nearby. Hangar number 38 and the Ford Island Dispensary were also substantially damaged in the attack. There were some damage (of lesser degrees) to other buildings from bomb fragments and flying debris.

The Naval Base at Pearl Harbor (which includes Ford Island) was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1964. Building S84 is registered as a Category I historic preservation facility in the Pearl Harbor Naval Base Historic Preservation Plan.

Description:

Building S84 is a T-shaped reinforced concrete and steel framed structure. The front portion (approx. 35' x 106') is a 2-story reinforced concrete building with a 16' high steel framed aerological tower situated on its rooftop. Adjoining the 2-story front structure is a 156 foot high steel water tank with a steel framed air control tower constructed above.

History:

Building S84 was originally constructed in 1941 as an airfield operations building for the Ford Island Naval Air Station. It was relatively new at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. At that time it consisted of a garage, operations/administrative offices, barracks, aerological tower, water tank, and aircraft control tower.

Circa 1970, the first floor was converted to a fire station. Presently, the fire station continues to occupy the first floor of Building S84.

The southern half of the second floor had been previously converted to a Naval Station Chapel (date unknown). Approximately 5 years ago chapel services were discontinued and its present space used for storage. The northern half of the second floor is presently utilized for a training classroom and offices for the Naval Station Police Department. Motorcycle training is presently held in the classrooms.

An aircraft control deck currently occupies the former aerological tower platform. This control deck is operated by the State Department of Transportation for practice "touch and go" landings at the airfield.

The steel water tank and upper control tower above are in a state of disrepair and have been abandoned.

A Naval Station Special Project R62-88 proposes to primarily repair deteriorated components of the 2-story portion of the building.

Sources:

NAVFACENCOM, Pacific Division Drawing Nos. 02582 to 02609, 1941.

Navy Public Works Center Drawing Nos. 1259083 to 1259084, 1970.

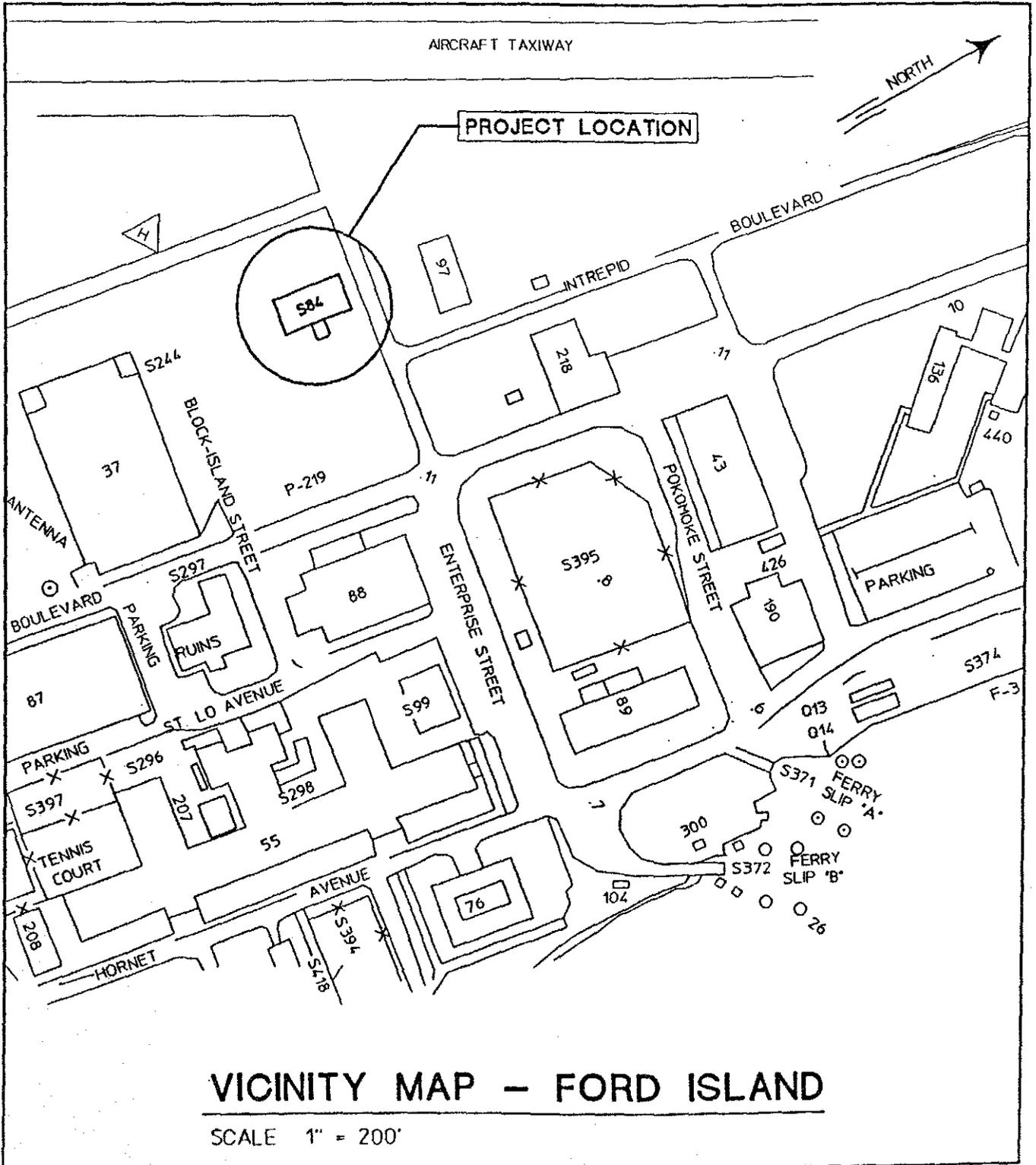
Cohen, Stan, March 1992, East Wind Rain, Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, Missoula, Montana.

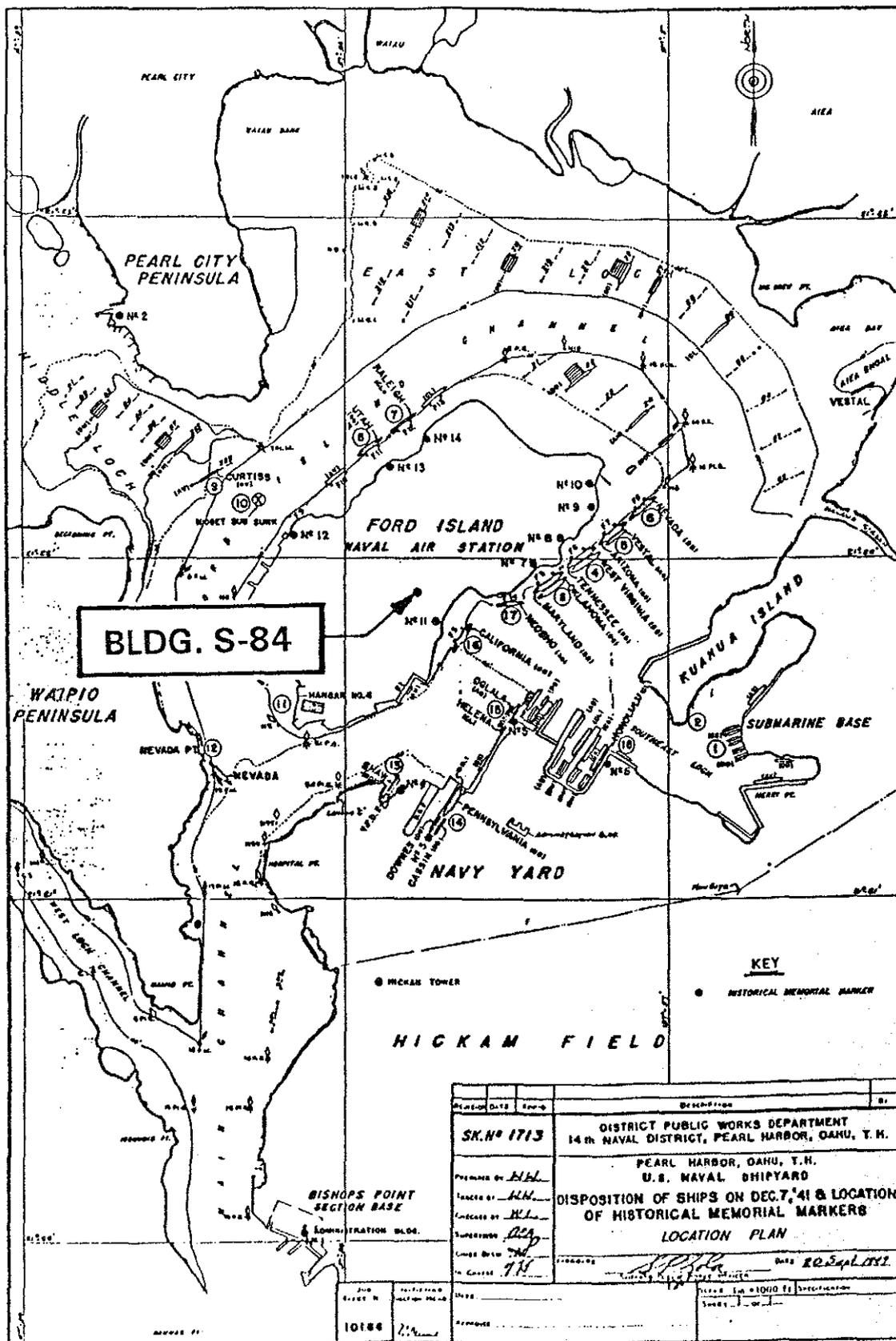
La Forte, Robert S. and Marcello, Ronald E., 1991, Remembering Pearl Harbor, SR Books, Wilmington, Delaware.

Travers, Paul Joseph, 1991, Eyewitness to Infamy, Madison Books, Lanham, Maryland.

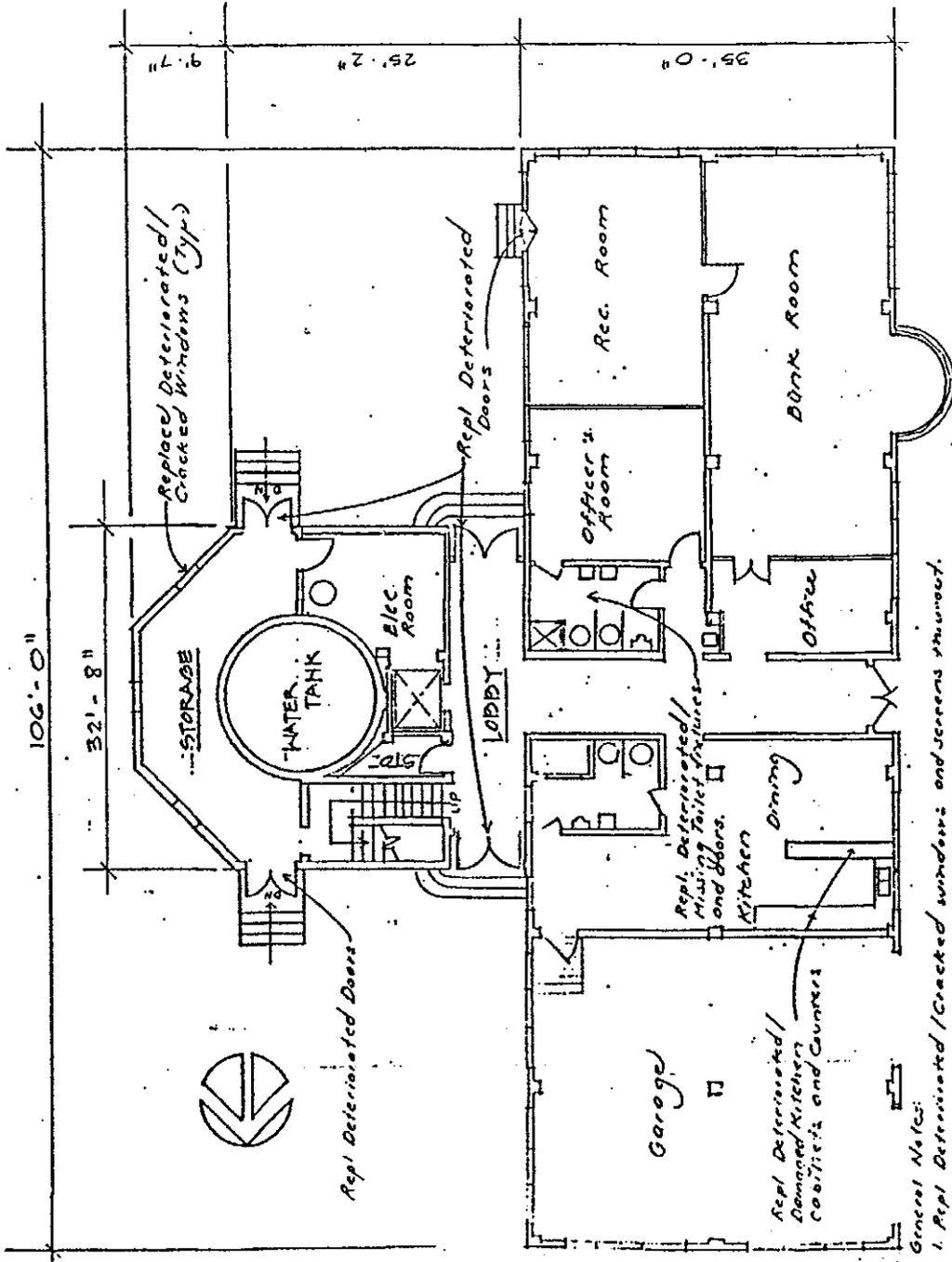
Historian:

Dennis Hanatani, P. E.
Dennis K. Hanatani, Inc.
3149-C Waiialae Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
October 1993



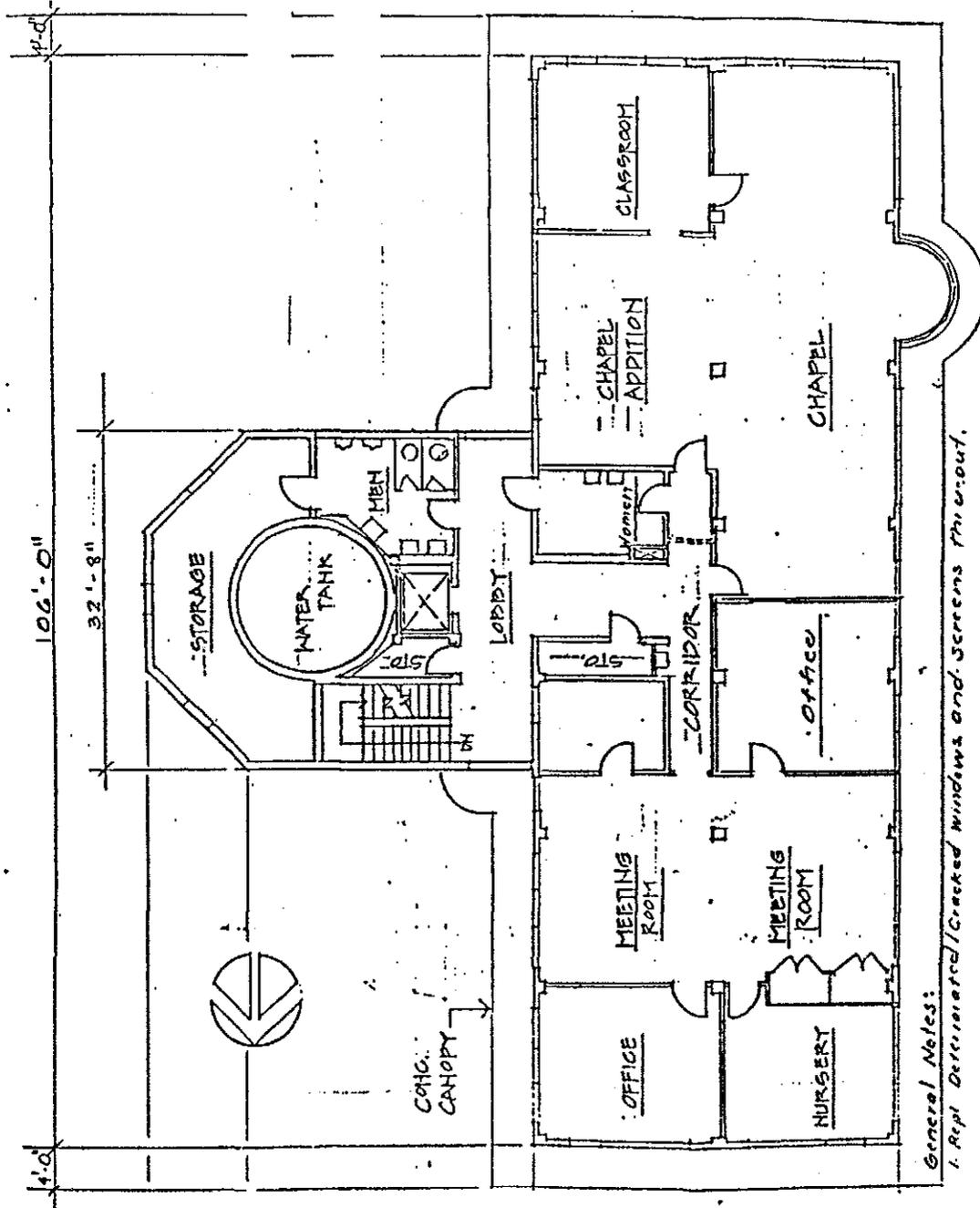


NO. 1713	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY
SK. N° 1713		DISTRICT PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 14th NAVAL DISTRICT, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T. H.	
PREPARED BY <i>HLH</i>		PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T. H. U. S. NAVAL SHIPYARD	
TRACE BY <i>HLH</i>		DISPOSITION OF SHIPS ON DEC. 7, '41 & LOCATION OF HISTORICAL MEMORIAL MARKERS	
APPROVED BY <i>HLH</i>		LOCATION PLAN	
DATE DRAWN <i>7/11</i>		<i>[Signature]</i>	DATE REEVALUATED
NO. 10186		SCALE 1 in = 1000 ft	

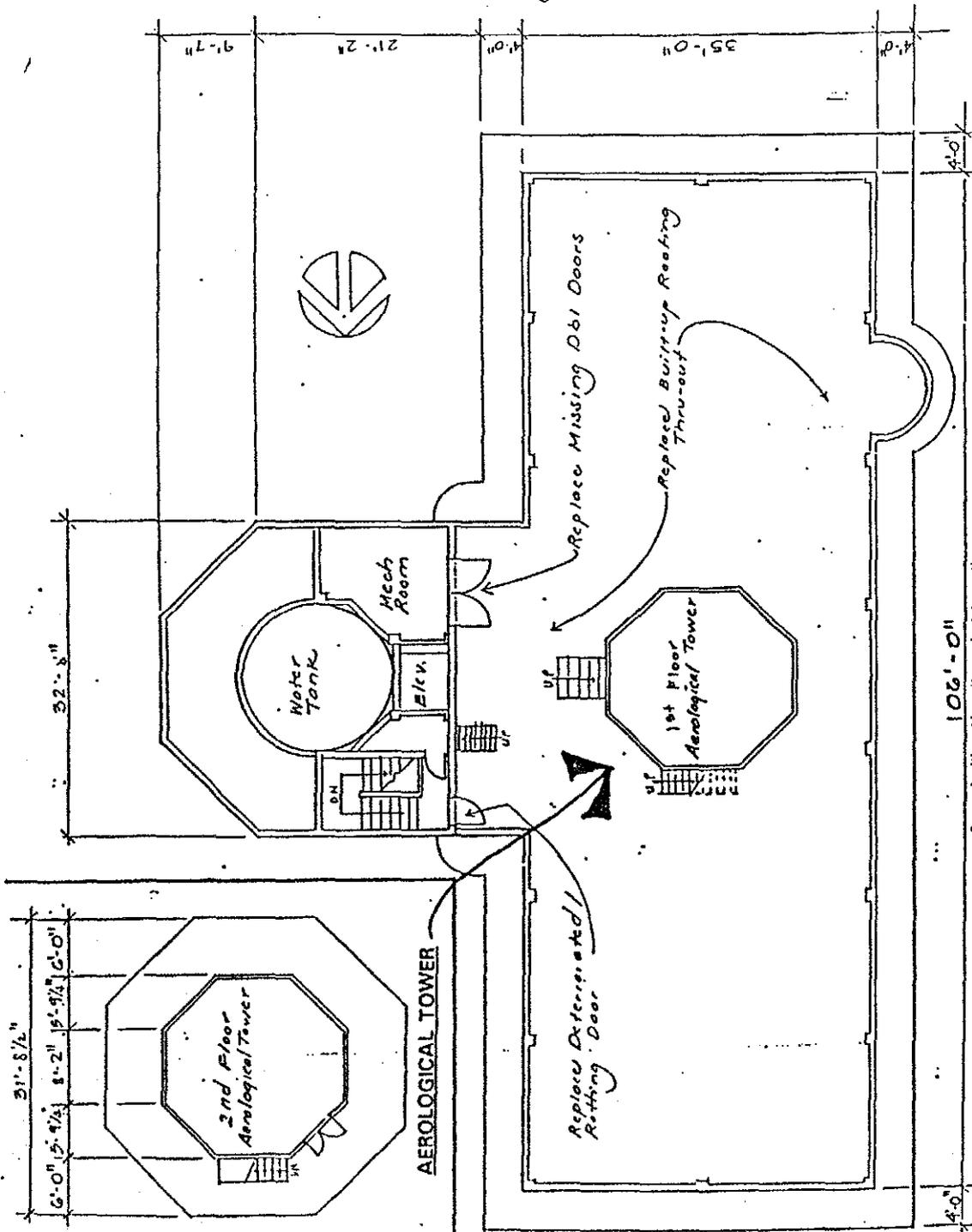


- General Notes:
1. Repl Deteriorated/ Cracked windows and screens throughout.
 2. Repl Old/ Deteriorated/ Missing Light Fixtures throughout.
 3. Paint interior.

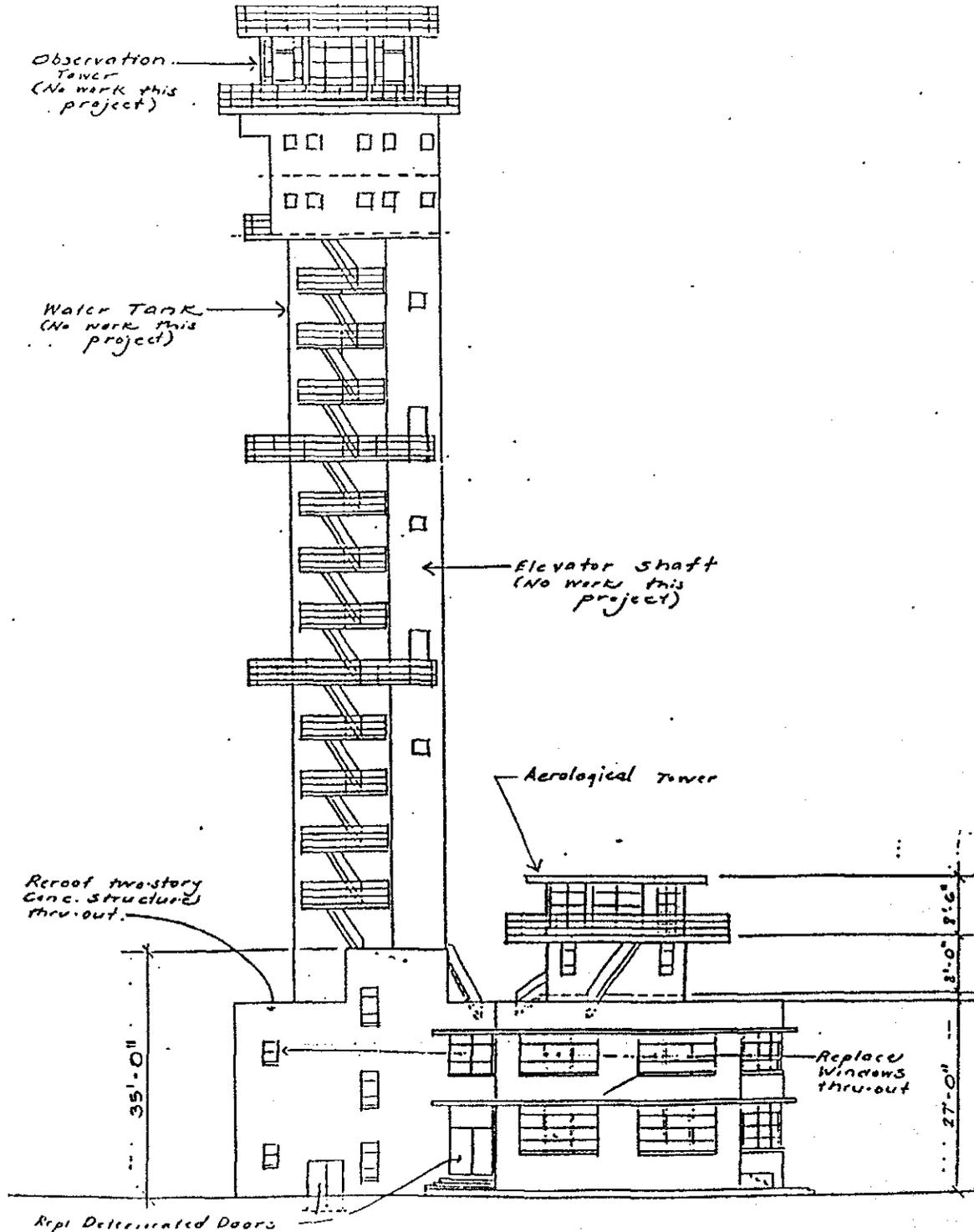
EXST 1ST FLR PLAN & PROPOSED REPAIRS



EXST 2ND FLR PLAN



EXIST. ROOF PLAN



NORTH ELEVATION