

HABS
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125-

U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Boat Repair Shop
(U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Naval Station Ford Island)
(Building Q13)
Hornet Avenue northeast of Ferry Slip S371
Pearl Harbor
Honolulu County
Hawaii

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Boat Repair Shop
(Naval Station Ford Island, Building Q13)

HABS No. HI-319

Location: Building Q13 is located on Hornet Avenue, northeast of Ferry Slip S371 on Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii.

USGS Puuloa Quadrangle, Hawaii
7.5 Minutes Series (Orthophotoquad)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates
4.607700.2362840 (Scale 1:24,000)

Significance: The Naval Base at Pearl Harbor including Ford Island was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1964, due to the crucial role it played in the Nation's defense during the twentieth century and the calamitous events which occurred on December 7, 1941. As a Category 3 facility, Building Q13 is determined to be of minor importance to the historic character of the National Historic Landmark.
Hundreds of thousands of quonset huts were erected as temporary buildings all over the globe during World War II and became "the archetypal military building type of the war" (Albrecht 1995: 25). These buildings embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction. It is a simple and utilitarian design, that meets stringent engineering and client requirements. The quonset hut is one of the forerunners of the trend to mass-produced building products and standardized erection techniques that has had a significant effect on the broad patterns of our history.

Description: Building Q13 is a quonset hut which is a trademark of a prefabricated shelter. The building is a semicylinder-shaped structure consisting of corrugated sheet metal and steel structural frame resting on concrete slab. The front end wall is corrugated sheet metal, and the rear end wall is expanded metal with metal frame. The rear end wall and the door have been covered with plywood paneling recently. The building is 21 feet wide by 58 feet long and 11 feet high, with a total area of 1,218 square feet. The interior and exterior architectural elements of Building Q13 are not significant in terms of historical and architectural characteristics.

History: The first quonset huts were developed by a team of architects and engineers working with the Navy. The task was to produce a

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design that could be mass produced, minimized shipping space and weight, and could be easily erected by military personnel untrained in construction. The solution was based on the British World War I Nissen hut, and the American version was named after the Quonset Point Naval Air Station. The first quonset huts were manufactured in mid 1941.

Building Q13 was erected in 1943 as a boat repair shop at the cost of \$3,500. The building has been routinely repaired and upgraded since its construction. Currently, the building is used as a carpenter shop. There are no construction plans or record drawings for this structure.

Sources:

NAVFAC P-164, Detailed Inventory of Naval Shore Facilities. U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, National Historical Landmark, Historic Preservation Plan, 1978.
World War II and the American Dream: How wartime Building changed a Nation. Albrecht, Donald, ed. 1995.

Prepared by:

Warren Yap, Architect
Navy Public Works Center
Project Development Branch
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860-5470
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