

U.S. NAVAL BASE, PEARL HARBOR, LATRINE
(U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Naval Shipyard, Facility No. 179)
End of Avenue A, between Facility No. 68 & Repair Wharf B22
Pearl Harbor
Honolulu County
Hawaii

HABS HI-455
HI-455

HABS
HI-455

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
PACIFIC GREAT BASIN SUPPORT OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1111 Jackson Street
Oakland, CA 94607

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

U.S. NAVAL BASE, PEARL HARBOR, LATRINE
(U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Naval Shipyard)
(Facility No. 179)

HABS
HI-455

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- Location:** At the end of Avenue A between Facility 68 and Repair Wharf B22
Pearl Harbor Naval Base
City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii
- This building falls within the UTM coordinates of the Pearl Harbor, Naval Shipyard as defined in the location section of the overview report HABS No. HI-483.
- Significance:** Facility 179 is located in the Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark. It is associated with the expansion of facilities at the Navy Yard in the 1930s, in particular with the repair basins Facilities B-11 through B-22. This latrine's direct proximity to the repair basins and these facilities allowed it to serve the growing number of personnel in that area of the Shipyard. Facility 179 is of a distinctive type and period of construction that is synonymous with two other latrines, Facilities 134 and 136. All three are a simplified Art Moderne style common to the architecture produced during the New Deal era under the F. D. Roosevelt administration.
- Description:** Building 179 is a permanent, one-story structure with a simple rectangular floor plan. It measures 28' in length by 21' in width and rises to a maximum height of 12'. The 588 square foot space was erected on a 34'-3" x 23'-10" concrete slab-on-grade foundation. Constructed of concrete, this facility has four walls that are typically 6" thick with a 9" thick x 30" high, thickened base wall that extends around the perimeter of the building. At the top of the base the concrete slopes at a very slight angle until it intersects with the 6" thick concrete walls. There are 2' wide pilaster strips spaced at equal intervals along the longitudinal walls and at every corner of the building that accentuate structural bays with vertical elements sitting on an articulated base and a stepped back parapet edge.
- From the exterior the building conveys the image of a flat roof construction with a stepped parapet. It is in fact a flat, 6½" concrete roof slab but with a gentle slope from the north wall down to the south wall, just above the utility passage, to accommodate more efficient roof drainage. Originally it was sheathed with a 3-ply felt roofing and slag, copper flashing, and ¾" stucco on the top and sides of the parapet. There is no record of if or when these materials may have changed or been covered over with subsequent reproofing projects.
- There are no fixed window openings in the building, only rectangular, wood framed openings with galvanized wire screens. There are three

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of these wood framed openings 8' above the ground level along each of the four exterior walls. At the north and south walls of the building they measure 4'-8" x 1'- 4½" and are spaced at equal intervals between each of the pilasters. The screened openings along the shorter, east and west walls have a smaller 3' wide screened opening (above the entry doors) that is flanked by two larger 4'-5½" x 1'-4½" screened openings.

This smaller public toilet only has two entry doors; each centered about the east and west elevations. These doors are constructed of expanded metal mesh with wood frame, wood stile and rails; looking more like visible barriers than a typical door. Originally there were no doors at either entrance, only open doorways. When the doors were installed the rectangular screened openings above each door were also created.

The interior of the facility is a relatively open floor plan with L-shaped metal partitions that were installed as privacy baffles just inside the entry doors. Eight toilets are affixed along the south wall and 6 wall mounted sinks are centered on the opposite north wall. The toilets are separated by door-less metal partitions with designation from a 1942 drawing for a larger enclosed Forman's water closet at the southeast corner and an enclosed utility closet at the southwest corner of the space. Behind the row of toilets is a narrow plumbing chase. Access to this space is through the utility closet. In the center of the room is an island with 10 back-to-back wall-mounted urinals atop a 6" concrete platform. The wall separating the urinals is a partial height wall constructed of a 12"-high solid concrete base topped with a 6' wall of 8" concrete tiles that are finished with ¾" plaster. At each end is a 4'-9½" x 7' intersecting wall that in plan creates what looks like the letter I.

A combination of time, limited maintenance, and exposure to the elements are all contributing factors to the poor condition of the interior. Through the paint and dirt the warping and general weathering of the plaster is visible. Since the completion of the facility in the early 1940s the interior floor plan does not appear to have changed. It is uncertain if any changes have been incorporated in the bathroom, especially with regard to the plumbing fixtures. Some or all of the elements appear to be original.

Historical Context:

The Navy Data Base states that Facility 179 was constructed in 1943; however it is documented on the 1947 Property Record Card for this building, on file at the Naval Shipyard Facilities, that the date of construction was 1936. The drawings for this facility were produced by the Public Works Department of the Fourteenth Naval District. It clearly shows on a 1941 drawing the proposed location for latrine Facility 179. A foundation plan for this "new latrine" adjacent to Facility 68 was approved on April 22, 1942. Based on these two documented drawings the later 1943 completion date is probably

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more accurate. The discrepancy in dates is probably due to the fact that the design style and floor plan for Facility 179 parallels that of Facilities 134 and 136 all of which are latrines built in the same area of the Shipyard between the years 1934 and 1936.

This facility was constructed during World War II when the construction boom at Pearl Harbor was near its climax. Located in direct proximity to the repair basins and Facilities 68 and 72 in particular, Facility 179 was utilized as a latrine to serve the growing number of personnel in that particular area of the Shipyard. Over the years as the Navy has downsized the use of this latrine facility has decreased. However, since its completion nearly 60 years ago, the original floor plan and historic fabric have remained intact. The earliest drawing on file for Facility 179 dates back to March 9, 1942.

For an overview of the Naval Shipyard see HABS No. HI-483.

Sources:

The original location plan and subsequent drawings for Facility 179 are on digitally scanned images or microfilm at Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC-EFD Pacific) Plan Files. A copy of the 1947 Property Record Card for Facility 179 was obtained from the Naval Shipyard Facilities files.

Bureau of Yards and Docks

1946 "Building the Navy's Bases in World War II, Vol. I and II,"
U.S. Government Printing Office.

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii

2000 Pearl Harbor Naval Complex, Cultural Resources
Management Plan, Pearl Harbor, HI.

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii

2002 Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, Pearl
Harbor Naval Complex, Pearl Harbor, HI.

HABS/HAER Documents

var. dates For those resources on the Navy database at the time the
CRMP (Contract No. NB62742-93-D-0502) was prepared,
the HABS/HAER numbers assigned have been included in
the electronic database as an additional field, as noted in
Appendices: Pearl Harbor Naval Complex Cultural
Resources Management Plan, 1998, p. A-6.

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

1992 Historic Preservation Documentation Program,
photocopied document dated 15DEC92 including
Appendix B Historic Inventory.

Project Information:

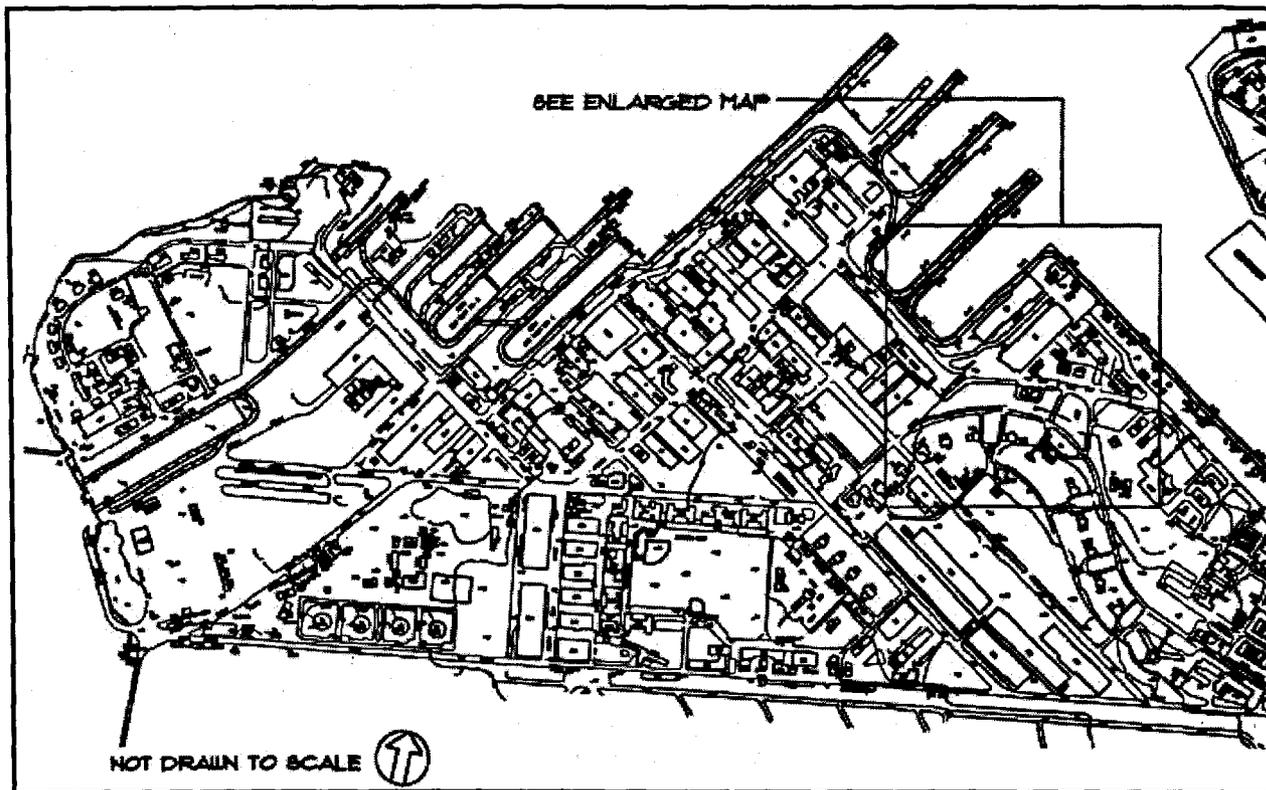
Photo documentation and recordation of this facility by the Navy has been done in anticipation of future alterations or potential demolition

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of the structure. Photo documentation of historic facilities by the Navy assists in expediting planned undertakings by having the documentation prepared prior to taking actions. Also, photo documentation assists the Navy in gaining more information about its historic facilities to assist in making proactive management decisions. This project is being supervised by Jeffrey Dodge A.I.A., Historic Preservation Specialist at the Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC EFD Pacific). The photographic documentation was undertaken by David Franzen, photographer. Joanmarie N. Orłowski, Architectural Historian, of Mason Architects, Inc. prepared the written documentation. The field work and research was conducted for this report between July 2001 and December 2001.

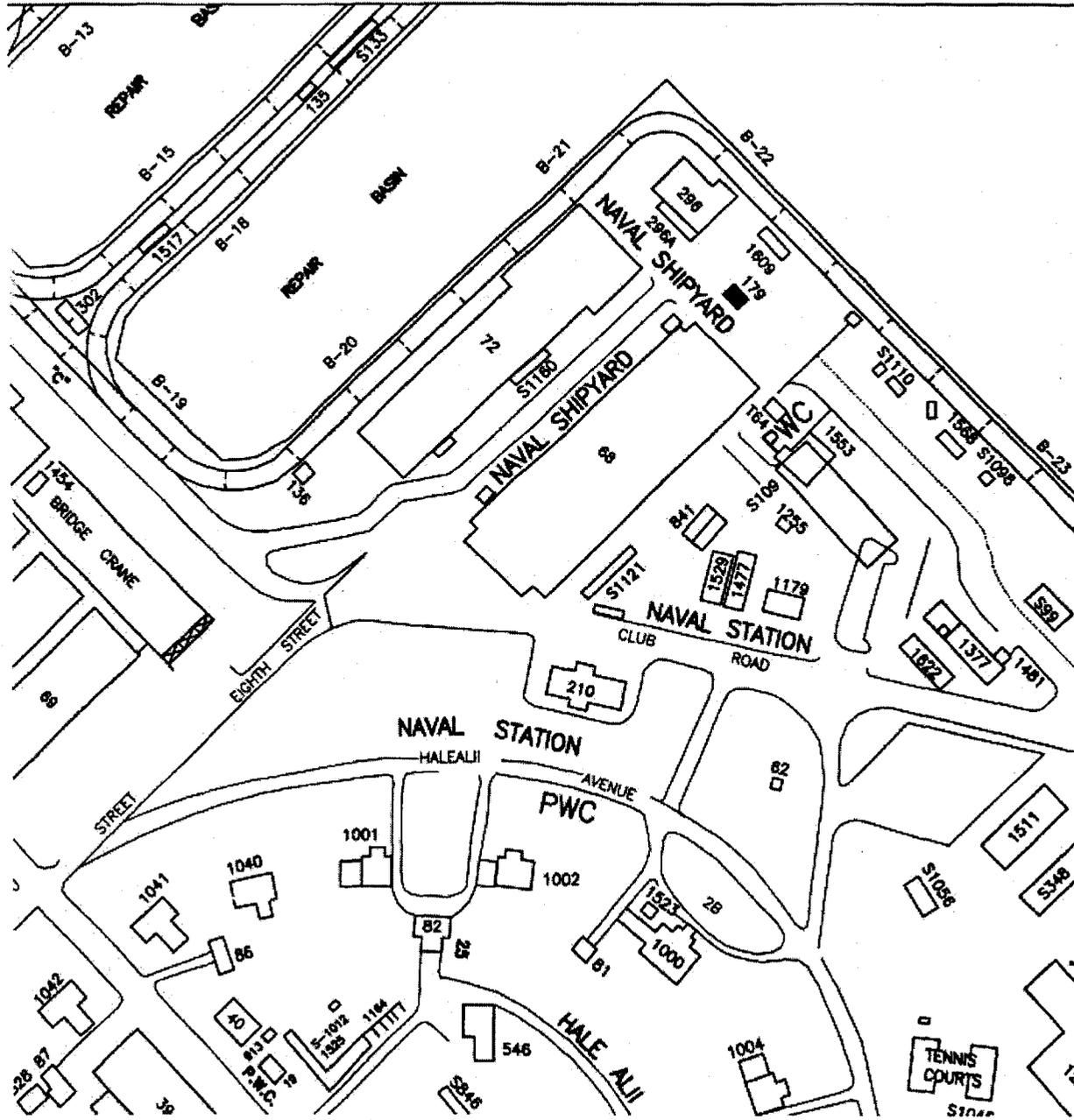
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Shipyard Map



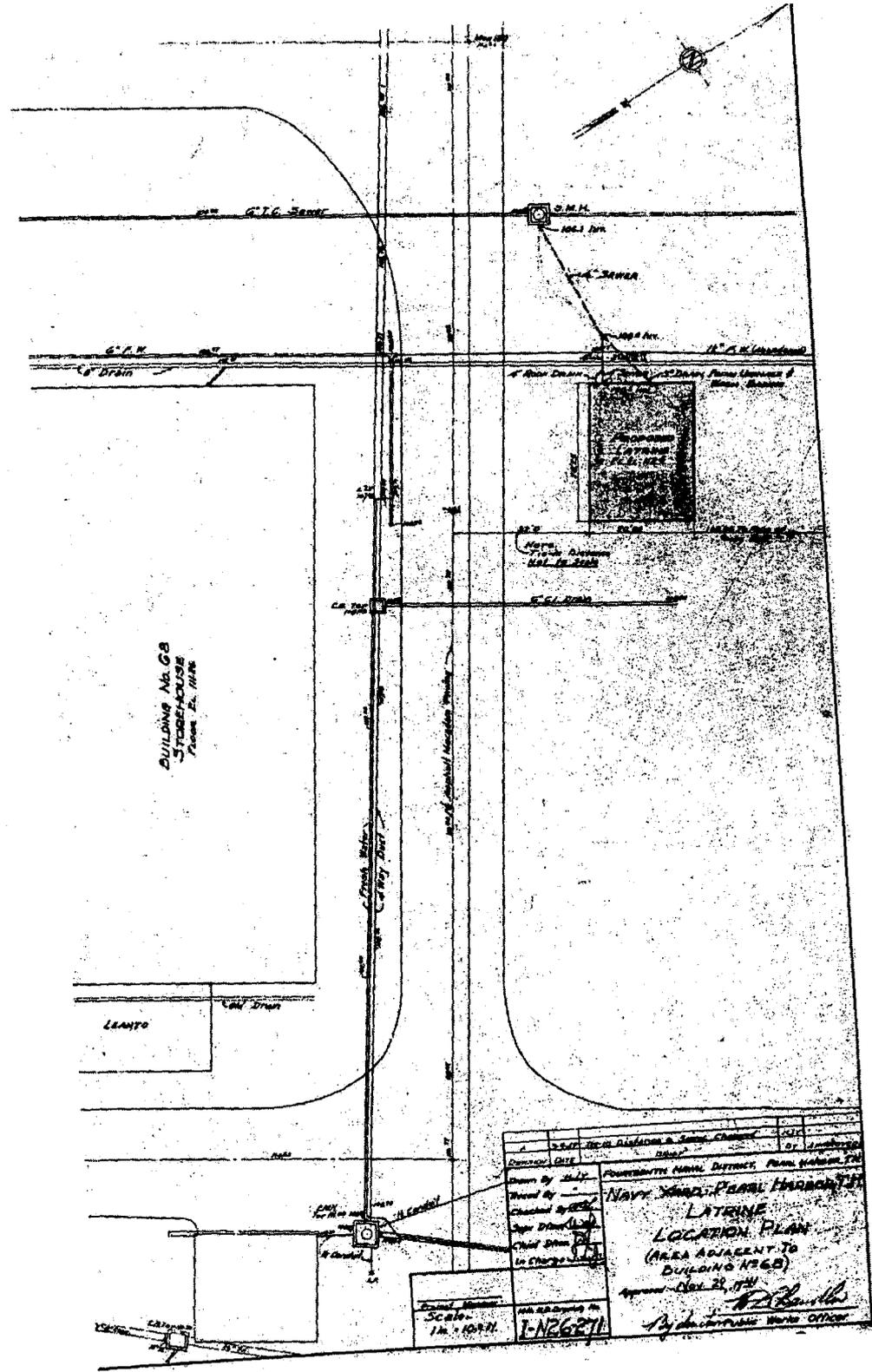
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Enlarged Area Map (reduced, not to scale)



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Latrine Location Plan (Drawing No. I-N26-271, dated 3/9/1942) (reduced, not to scale)

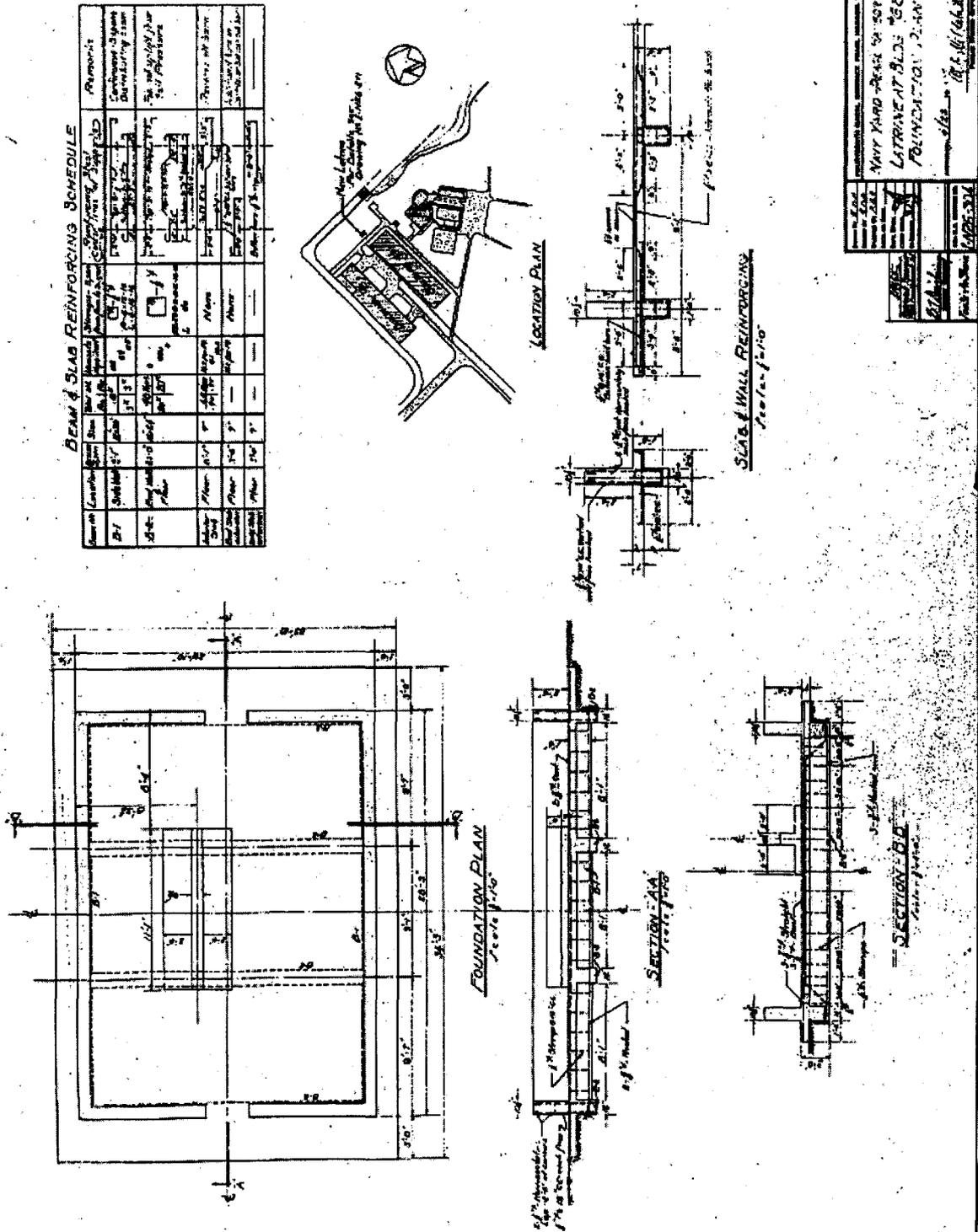


Project No.	1-N26-271
Date	3/9/42
Drawn by	J. J. [Signature]
Checked by	[Signature]
Scale	1" = 100'
Approved	[Signature]
Approved Date	Oct 23, 1941
Approved By	[Signature]
Approved Title	Hydrographic Work Office

**LATRINE
 LOCATION PLAN
 (AREA ADJACENT TO
 BUILDING 176B)**

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Latrine Bldg. #68 - Foundation Plan and Sections (Drawing No. I-N26-304,
 dated 4/22/1942) (reduced, not to scale)



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Architectural, Mechanical and Electrical Plans, Elevations, and Sections
(portion of Drawing No. I-N15-277, dated 6/29/1942) (reduced, not to scale)

