

**U. S. AIR FORCE**  
**INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**March Air Reserve Base**  
**Volume II**



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**APPENDIX**

**Appendix A. DPR 523 Series Forms Prepared for ICRMP Update, 2019**

*Appendix A. DPR 523 Series Forms Prepared for ICRMP Update, 2019*



State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
HRI #  
Trinomial  
NRHP Status Code 1D

Other  
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)

**P1. Other Identifier:** March Air Force Base

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East Date 1980 (PR) T 3S; R 4W;  of  of Sec 23 and 24; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address: Various City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Zone 11, 476213.7591 mE/ 3751042.3246 mN (note: this UTM corresponds to the center point of the district within March ARB boundaries)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

**\*P3a. Description:**

The March Field Historic District (MFHD) was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC (JRP) in April 1992. SHPO concurrence with the determination was received in a letter dated March 11, 1993 and the district was listed by the Keeper on December 6, 1994. (See Continuation Sheet.)

**\*P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP2 – Single Family Property; HP3 – Multiple Family Property; HP4 – Ancillary Building; HP5 – Hotel/Motel; HP9 – Public Utility Building; HP10 – Theater; HP11 – Engineering Structure; HP16 – Religious Building; HP20 – Canal/Aqueduct; HP26 – Monument/Mural/Gravestone; HP29 – Landscape Architecture; HP30 – Trees/Vegetation; HP31 – Urban Open Space; HP34 – Military Property; HP37 – Highways/Trail; HP39 – Other; HP41 – Hospital

**\*P4. Resources Present:**  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



**P5b. Description of Photo:** (view, date, accession#) Building 470, view looking northwest, November 2018.

**\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:**  Historic  Prehistoric  Both

1918 - 1993 for the previously evaluated MFHD per base records, previous reports, NRHP nomination, and visual survey – refer to Section P3a (see Continuation Sheet).

**\*P7. Owner and Address:** March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

**\*P8. Recorded by:** Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

**\*P9. Date Recorded:** November 26-28, 2018

**\*P10. Survey Type:** Reconnaissance

**\*P11. Report Citation:** Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019

**\*Attachments:**  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

D1. Historic Name: March Field/March Air Force Base    D2. Common Name: March Field Historic District

**\*D3. Detailed Description**

The MFHD is located southeast of the City of Riverside and east of Interstate 215 in Riverside County, California. This area is situated in the flatlands of Moreno Valley and, as such, features a flat topography. The district was sparsely developed outside of the base boundaries for most of its history; however, it is now surrounded by residential, industrial/warehouse, and commercial development. The MFHD displays a triangular shape that reflects the 1928 plan for March Field. Streets within the district extend in cardinal and intercardinal directions to intersect at 45- and 90-degree angles. Graeber Street and Baucom Avenue/Baucom Avenue SE are arterial roads that form two important axes within this arrangement and extend in a northwest-southeast and southwest-northeast direction, respectively. The airfield's runways and aprons are located on the west of Graeber Street, outside the district's historic boundaries.

As mentioned in Section P3a (see Continuation Sheet), resources within the district are grouped into several functional clusters. This includes barracks for enlisted personnel between Dekay Avenue and Graeber Street in the central portion of the district; hangars lining the airfield south of Graeber Street; the hospital complex on Baucom Avenue SE between Dekay and Plummer avenues in the central portion of the district; industrial buildings on Graeber Street in the central and northwest portions of the district; recreational and social buildings for enlisted personnel on Dekay Avenue and Baucom Avenue in the central portion of the district; recreational buildings for officers between B and M streets in the northern part of the district; and officers' quarters with associated garages on Baucom Avenue/Baucom Avenue SE, Adams and Plummer avenues, and A, B, E, F, Gilley, Graeber, K, L, M, N, O, U, and X streets in the northeastern and eastern portions of the district. Resources in the MFHD include single-family residences, multi-family properties, ancillary buildings, hotels, public utility buildings, a theater, engineered structures, a religious building, a drainage ditch, a monument, industrial buildings, a hospital, trees/vegetation, and a park. A plaster-covered concrete-block perimeter wall and stone drainage ditch extends along Meyer Drive and Riverside Drive to the east.

Resources within the MFHD generally feature manicured grass lawns and landscaping, including bushes and ornamental plantings. The exception are the hangars and industrial buildings on Graeber Street, which are characterized by their minimal landscaping, particularly along the flightline. Mature trees are scattered throughout the district and line some streets. The MFHD's hardscape features include paved roads and surface parking lots as well as poured-concrete sidewalks. Many of the landscape elements are not original; however, historic photographs, aerial images, and research indicates most landscaping features were visible and extant by the 1930s (March Field, 1938; March AFB, 1941; Butler 2009).

Major visual characteristics of the MFHD include manicured grass lawns, mature tree cover, and the axial arrangement of its roads. Many resources also exhibit the same materials and stylistic elements, and their uniform appearance represents another major visual characteristic of the district. Generally speaking, character-defining features of resources comprising the district include masonry construction and concrete exterior walls, including board-formed concrete walls and walls covered in plaster. Resources commonly reflect elements of the Mission Revival style (excluding the hangars) and most employ Mission tile as roof sheathing. Many roofs also feature exposed rafter tails tucked under overhanging eaves. The resources vary in size. Hangars in particular are characterized by their large footprints, interior truss systems, gabled roof forms, board-formed concrete exterior walls, industrial steel sash windows, and hangar doors and bays with steel rollers and tracks. Character-defining landscape features for the buildings include mature tree cover, including palm and deciduous species, manicured grass lawns, and poured-concrete sidewalks.

**Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources**

There presently are 68 contributing resources and 12 non-contributing resources in the MFHD within the boundaries of March ARB. In addition, there are a series of streetscape and landscape elements that are related to the contributing resources that have not been identified individually but that contribute to the district's sense of place, visual appearance, character, and feeling. Streetscape and landscape elements are described in more detail in Section P3a on the DPR 523L series form.

The following table lists the previously evaluated contributing resources to the MFHD within the boundaries of the MFHD. It also includes Building 410, which previously was evaluated as a non-contributing element to the MFHD based on a 1947 construction date that post-dates the district's 1928-1943 period of significance; however, the Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup>

MSG/Civil Engineers provides 1927 as the resource's construction date. Because the resource achieved significance during the district's period of significance and because it conveys the MFHD's sense of place, feeling, character, historic context, and visual appearance, the current study evaluates the resource as a contributing element to the historic district, and is therefore included in the table.

Building 2304, a gatehouse that is previously unrecorded and unevaluated, also is included in the table. The gatehouse is located outside but immediately west of current MFHD boundaries on the west side of Graeber Street. The 2011 ICRMP suggests that the gatehouse likely was moved to its current location and assigned its current building number during the 1950s or 1960s; however, review of historic photographs and aerials indicates that the building was at its present location by 1933. Based on 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers records, the gatehouse was built in 1929, and a placard outside the building identifies that it was built in 1927. The gatehouse is not visible in aerials from 1929 or 1932, but is shown in a 1933 aerial image. Therefore, based on primary source evidence, the building existed by 1933. No other primary source documentation was uncovered indicating that the gatehouse was built prior to 1933. Building 2304 was built during the MFHD's period of significance and is associated with the base's interwar period development, historic themes, and architectural character. Therefore, the historic district boundaries should be expanded to encompass the gatehouse, which should be added as a contributing resource to the district. Refer to the district record map included at the end of the DPR 523L series form for the proposed boundary expansion area, and to Sections D4 and D5 of this form for a description of the boundary expansion and a boundary justification. If Building 2304 is added to the MFHD, the district would include 69 contributing resources within the boundaries of the base.

Construction date, alterations since their last recordation, and aspects of historic integrity retained by each contributing resource to the MFHD are presented in the table below. Notably, two previously evaluated contributing buildings, Buildings 385 and 441, were demolished in 2017, after the 2012 MFHD NRHP nomination amendment; therefore, they are excluded from the table. Refer to Section P3a (in Continuation Sheet) for descriptions of the contributing resources, including Building 2304.

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
100	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials, the installation of a canopy at the main entry on the west elevation, and infill of doors with windows on the east elevation
102	1932	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, materials, and workmanship; diminished integrity of design, materials, feeling, and association due to replacement materials, the installation of a canopy and awning on the primary elevation, and the removal of original adjoining garage units
108	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
115	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
			materials due to replacement materials
176	1930	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design due to enclosure of the rear patio and infill of openings
177	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
238	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
239	1930	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
240	1930	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
241	1930	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
242	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
243	1930	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
244	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
245	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
246	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
247	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
248	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
249	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
250	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
251	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
300	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and infill of openings
301	1932	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials, infilled openings, addition of an emergency stairwell and canopy at entry on north elevation

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
311	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of setting due to paving over of former parade ground in front of resource
315	1936	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design, materials, and workmanship due to physical deterioration, replacement materials, and changes to the size and placement of openings
317	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and infill of loggia
323	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
355	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and infill of openings
362	1932	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design, workmanship, and materials due to replacement materials
364	1932	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design, workmanship, and materials due to replacement materials
373	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials, infill of openings, and construction of additions
381	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
			materials due to replacement materials
382	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
383	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
386	1931	Windows removed from north, east, and west elevations	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and removed windows
400	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of setting due to paving over of former parade ground in front of resource
405	1938	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials
406	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
407	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
408	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
409	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
410	1927	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
411	1927	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association; diminished

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
			integrity of design, materials, and workmanship due to replacement materials, infill of openings, physical deterioration, and construction of an addition
412	1943	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
413	1917	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to physical deterioration
417	1937	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and infill of openings
418	1934	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials, infill of openings, and construction of an addition
420	1931	Installation of replacement windows, doors, and transoms	Retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design, materials, and workmanship due to replacement materials and changes to size and placement of openings
429	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and infill of openings
430	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design, materials, and workmanship due to replacement materials and changes to size and placement of openings
431	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
432	1941	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, workmanship, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to infill of openings and installation of replacement doors
433	1931	None	Retains integrity of location and setting; diminished integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association due to replacement materials, construction of an addition, and infill of openings
435	1931	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design, materials, and workmanship due to replacement materials, boarding over of the main entry, and infill of openings
439	1932	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to physical deterioration
440	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials, addition of stairs on southwest elevation, and infill of openings, including a hangar bay
452	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and infill of openings
453	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials diminished due to replacement materials, construction of additions, and infill of overhead bay opening
456	1939	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
457	1929	Doors boarded on northeast elevation	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and infill of openings, including a hangar bay
458	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design, materials, and setting due to paving over of the parade ground adjacent to the resource, replacement materials, infill of openings, and construction of additions
465	1933	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and construction of additions
466	1933	None	Retains integrity of location and setting; diminished integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association due to replacement materials, construction of additions including rear porch, infilled openings, and installation of HVAC unit on roof
467	1933	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
470	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials and construction of an addition
472	1929	None	Retains integrity of location, design, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials, workmanship, and setting due to replacement materials and paving over of former parade ground in front of resource
479	1938	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished

Resource Number	Construction Date	Major Alterations Since Last Recorded	Aspects of Historic Integrity
			integrity of design and materials due to replacement materials, construction of an addition, and removal of original elements, including stairs and a mezzanine
497	1931	Window removed from east elevation	Retains integrity of location and setting; diminished integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association due to construction of an addition, physical deterioration, and removal of the window from east elevation
2304	1933	N/A (previously unrecorded)	Retains integrity of location, design, workmanship, and association; diminished integrity of setting, materials, and feeling due to the installation of a replacement door as well as the construction of Building 2271 to the south, the addition of a parking lot to the north, and the addition of surrounding hardscaping in 1983.
Stone Drainage Canal	1942	None	Retains integrity of location, design, workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of setting and materials due to replacement materials and construction of non-historic-era bridges over the structure

Note: As mentioned, some discrepancies exist in construction dates provided by the Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers, which populate the above table, and construction dates presented in the 2011 ICRMP, 1995 Maintenance Manual, 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination, and a historic ledger at the base. These discrepancies are detailed in the resource descriptions presented in Section P3a (in Continuation Sheet). Furthermore, although Buildings 410, 411, and 413 predate the MFHD's 1928-1943 period of significance, these resources have achieved significance during the period of significance and are therefore still considered contributing elements to the district.

As mentioned, several of the main landscape and streetscape elements within the historic district have not been previously identified or evaluated as contributing resources to the historic district; however, they are important elements that contribute to the significance of the resources they are associated with, and are linked to the MFHD's sense of place, feeling, character, historic context, and visual appearance.

The following are the previously evaluated non-contributing resources to the MFHD. The table also includes Structure 488, which was previously recorded as a flagpole built in the 1930s and was evaluated as a contributing resource; however, the flagpole has been removed, and all that remains of Structure 488 is a ca. 1970s memorial that was previously evaluated in the MFHD NRHP nomination as a non-contributing element. In addition, Structure 450, a previously unrecorded and unevaluated beacon light located within the MFHD, is also included in the table. Because its 1949 construction post-dates the MFHD's 1928-1943 period of significance, Structure 450 is recommended as a non-contributing resource to the district. If Structure 450 is added to the MFHD, the district would include 13 non-contributing resources within the boundaries of the base.

The table presents the construction date, alterations since last recorded, and aspects of historic integrity retained by each non-contributing resource. Refer to Section P3a (in Continuation Sheet) for descriptions of the non-contributing resources, including Structure 450.

Resource Number	Construction Date	Alterations Since Last Records	Retained Aspects of Historic Integrity
110	1934	None	Retains integrity of location and setting; compromised integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association due to construction of multiple additions and replacement materials
356	1929	None	Retains integrity of location and setting; compromised integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association due to construction of additions, replacement materials, and infill of openings
365	1993	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
415	ca. 1987	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
434	1933	None	Retains integrity of location setting, workmanship, and feeling; diminished integrity of design, and materials association due to replacement materials, infill of openings, and installation of an awning at the main entry
442	1974	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
449	1941	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting workmanship, feeling, and association; diminished integrity of materials due to replacement materials
450	1949	N/A (previously unrecorded)	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
454	1980	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
468	1942	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, and association; diminished integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and

Resource Number	Construction Date	Alterations Since Last Records	Retained Aspects of Historic Integrity
			feeling due to replacement materials, construction of an addition, and removal of the steeple
488	ca. 1970s	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
6604	1965	None	Retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
20004	1941	None	Retains integrity of location, setting, and association; diminished integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling due to repaving and installation of new nets, chain-link perimeter fence, and new lighting

These 13 non-contributing resources are located throughout the district. Buildings 365, 415, and 442 and Structures 450, 454, 488, and 6604 were constructed outside the period of significance (1928-1943); Buildings 110, 356, and 434 and Structure 20004 were constructed within the period of significance but lack integrity due to alterations; and Buildings 449 and 468 were constructed within the period of significance but do not convey the character defining features of that period.

**\*D4. Boundary Description** (Describe limits of district and attach map showing boundary and district elements.):  
 The MFHD reflects its original boundaries from the 1992 NRHP nomination. The boundary description provided in the nomination is presented below:

The point of origin is the southwest corner of the intersection of Meyer Drive and Riverside Drive in March AFB [now March ARB]. The boundary continues east along the southern curb line of Meyer Drive to Graber Street. It proceeds southeasterly along Graeber Street to the northeasterly plane of Building 436. The boundary follows that plane in a southwesterly direction, to the southwestern corner of the building. From that point, the boundary follows a plane defined by the rear (southwesterly elevation) of the 8 original hangars (Buildings 436, 440, 452, 457, 300, 355, 373, and 385). The boundary then follows northeasterly along the southeastern plane of Building 385, to a point of intersection with the southeastern curb of Graeber Street. The boundary follows that curb line to its intersection with the southern curb of X Street. The boundary proceeds easterly along that curb line to its intersection with the western curb of Riverside Drive. The boundary follows that curb line north to the point of origin. (JRP, 1992)

Building 2304 is recommended as a new contributing resource to the MFHD. It is located outside but immediately west of the northern end of the existing district boundaries, on the west side of Graeber Street. Because the gatehouse is located outside the MFHD, adding it as a new resource would require a boundary expansion. The boundary expansion area should encompass the gatehouse as well as the gate attached to its west elevation, which was built contemporaneously with the gatehouse. The boundaries should extend northwest from the northern boundary of the MFHD on Graeber Street, then turn to the southwest to parallel the northwest side of the sidewalk that leads to the northwest elevation of Building 2271. To the south of the gatehouse, the boundary should then turn northwest to parallel the northeast side of the sidewalk. At the western pillar of the gate attached to the gatehouse, the boundary should turn northeast until it meets with Graeber Street, then continue to the southeast along Meyer Drive to rejoin with the existing district boundaries (refer to district record map included in the DPR 523L series form for existing and proposed district boundaries).

**\*D5. Boundary Justification:**

The 1992 NRHP nomination provides the following boundary justification for the MFHD:

The above described boundaries conform with the area of March Field that was built up during the period of significance, while excluding major intrusions at the northwestern and southeastern corners of the triangle, as defined by Meyer and Riverside Drives and Graeber Street. No extant buildings that were built or occupied during the period of significance are excluded from these boundaries. The boundaries do, however, exclude the 1928 flightline (runway). The 1928 flightline has changed dramatically since 1943, now serving as a staging area rather than a runway; the operating runway is located far to the southwest. (JRP, 2000)

As mentioned within the DPR, when the nomination was written in 1992, the MFHD was contained entirely within the boundaries of March ARB (at that time known as March AFB). The base was realigned in 1996, however, and ownership of the northeast portion of March ARB was transferred to March Joint Powers Authority (MJPA). As a result, some resources within the MFHD are located outside the current boundaries of March ARB. Only those resources within the MFHD located on base property are recorded in this form.

Based on primary source evidence, Building 2304 is a gatehouse built by 1933. The building was built during the MFHD's period of significance and is associated with the base's interwar period development, historic themes, and architectural character. Therefore, the gatehouse, including the gate attached to its west elevation (built contemporaneously with the gatehouse), should be added as a contributing resource to the MFHD. The proposed boundaries described in Section D4 encompass the gatehouse as well as the gate. The boundaries exclude non-historic-era resources and features, including the adjacent Building 2271 which was built in 1983, and the parking lot to the north of Building 2304, also added in 1983. Refer to the district record map that details the current historic district boundaries within the boundaries of March ARB along with the contributing and non-contributing resources of the district.

**D6. Significance: Theme Military Area Architecture and Military  
Period of Significance 1928-1943 Applicable Criteria A and C**

The MFHD is listed in the NRHP at the state level as a historic district under Criterion A for its association with the development of the U.S. Air Corps and under Criterion C for its distinctive architecture. As described in the MFHD NRHP nomination:

Under architecture, the district is significant in three respects. First, it is a distinguished example of a military base laid out according to city planning principles of the 1920s (type, period of construction), illustrating dramatically how those principles took form when applied to a large military installation. March Field exhibits this type of planning better than any other military installation in California. Second, it is an important example of the work of architect, Myron Hunt (work of a master), being the only known military base designed by him. Finally, it is an extraordinarily large assemblage of buildings built using hollow wall concrete construction methods (method of construction), illustrating the range of applications for that technology better than any other known property in California. Under military history, it is significant at the State level for its association with the development of the Air Corps (Air Force) on the West coast, serving as the key training and bombardment facility on the West Coast during most of the period of significance. The period of significance extends from 1928 to 1943, the period during which buildings were constructed according to the master plan for the base, developed in 1928. (Allen, 1992)

While several contributing resources were in fact constructed prior to the initiation of the period of significance, these properties have achieved architectural and historical importance during the period of significance, and contribute to the base's importance, character, and distinction.

The following historical context is primarily extracted from the 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). The base reflected a standard design utilized at other airfields throughout the country. Notable features included a west-east-oriented main boulevard (Graeber Avenue) bordered by hangars and residential buildings, a hospital, warehouses, and support buildings to the north. Additional resources including barracks, residences, and service and industrial buildings were north of the boulevard (Allen, 1992). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March Field was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. The Quartermaster General was responsible for implementing the building program, and the redesign of March Field represented "the first complete aviation post laid out and built by the Quartermaster Corps and the Army Air Corps during peacetime" (Allen, 1992: 8-35). As was typical during peacetime, in oppose to adopting a standard military design, the Quartermaster Corps redesigned March in collaboration with architects and planners. This chiefly included Myron Hunt, a prominent California architect and the Director of the American Institute of Architects, who advised the Quartermaster Corps and reviewed plans for the layout and design of new buildings at the installation (Allen, 1992). As described in the NRHP nomination, "far more than any individual, [Hunt] is responsible for the architectural unity of [March]" (Allen, 1992: 8-68). Columbia University professor George B. Ford also collaborated on the project as a planner.

March Field was redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992). (Functional sectors are described in more detail in Section D3 of this form). They were expressed in the Mission Revival style, and as such, displayed a sensitivity to local architectural styles. The resources commonly were constructed of hollow-wall concrete, a technology most popularly employed during the 1920s. Hunt was among the primary proponents of the hollow-wall concrete construction, which was valued for its thermal and fire safety qualities (Allen, 1992). Notably, the MFHD NRHP nomination states that the district may represent the largest collection of hollow-wall concrete buildings in the world (Allen, 1992: 8-71).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). Buildup of enlistees prior to the onset of World War II (WWII) prompted the construction of a new barracks building (Building 356) during the late 1930s.

March Field provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during WWII, when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was enlarged through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at the base expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation

engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Deactivated bomber units were stationed at March Field at the close of WWII. Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March Air Force Base (AFB) the following year.

## **MFHD**

### **Evaluation and Significance**

As mentioned, the MFHD was nominated to the NRHP in 1992 and was listed by the Keeper in 1994. The 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination identified 199 contributing resources (including 193 buildings, five structures, and one object), and 39 non-contributing resources (including 15 buildings and 14 structures), for a total of 228 resources. The NRHP nomination form was amended in 2012, and two contributing buildings and 15 non-contributing buildings and structures were removed from the district. One non-contributing building constructed in 1993 (Building 365) also was added to the district. In addition, the 2012 amendment recorded a change in the ownership of the northeast portion of the district from March ARB to MJPA following base realignment in 1996. As a result of the realignment, only 68 of the 195 total contributors to the MFHD are located on property owned by March ARB. (Note: the 2012 amendment records 212 total resources, of which 197 are contributing; however, two contributing buildings located on March ARB property, Buildings 385 and 441, were demolished in 2017. Thus, the district presently contains 210 resources, of which 195 are contributing. This ICRMP Update recommends Structure 450 [located within the MFHD] as a new non-contributing resource to the district, and Building 2304 as a new contributing resource [because Building 2304 is located outside the MFHD, adding it to the district would require a boundary expansion]. If these two resources are added, the MFHD would include 212 resources, of which 196 would be contributing. This would include 69 contributing resources and 13 non-contributing resources within the boundaries of the base.) Boundaries of the MFHD were not altered in the 2012 amendment, and the district still reflects its original boundaries from the 1992 NRHP nomination. The purpose of this site form and recordation effort is to revalidate the findings of the 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination and 2012 amendment; consider resources within the MFHD that may also be individually eligible for inclusion in the NRHP; and identify and evaluate previously unevaluated resources constructed more than 45 years ago or resources. Notably, only those resources presently located on March ARB property are recorded in this form.

The MFHD is listed in the NRHP at the state level as a historic district under Criterion A for its association with the development of the U.S. Air Corps and under Criterion C for its distinctive architecture. Its period of significance is 1928-1943. See earlier significance statement information.

The portion of the district recorded in this form (the portion located on March ARB property) remains intact, and no major alterations or additions have occurred since the 2012 NRHP amendment.

Resources previously evaluated as contributing to the MFHD are revalidated in this form, except for Structure 488. Structure 488 is evaluated in the current study as a non-contributing resource, but was previously evaluated as a contributing resource and was recorded as a flagpole built in the 1930s; however, the flagpole has been removed, and all that remains of Structure 488 is a ca. 1970s memorial that was previously evaluated in the MFHD NRHP nomination as a non-contributing element. Therefore, although previously evaluated as a contributing resource, the current study evaluates the resource as non-contributing to the historic district. In addition, one previously unrecorded and unevaluated resource is included as a contributing resource to the MFHD in this form: Building 2304, a gatehouse built by 1933 based on primary source evidence. The 2011 ICRMP indicates that the gatehouse likely was moved to its current location and assigned its current building number during the 1950s or 1960s; however, review of historic photographs and aerials indicates that the building was at its present location by 1933. The gatehouse does not appear in the preceding 1932 or 1929 aerials (refer to the photographs at the end of the DPR 523L series form for historic documentation of Building 2304). The building was built during the MFHD's period of significance and is associated with the base's interwar period development, historic themes, and architectural character. Therefore, the historic district boundaries should be expanded to encompass the gatehouse, which should be added as a contributing resource to the MFHD.

Contributing resources retain their character-defining features and association to the district's architectural and military history significance. A total of 69 contributing resources to the MFHD located on March ARB property, including Building

2304, were recorded and evaluated in the current study. As mentioned, several of the main landscape and streetscape elements within the historic district have not been previously identified or evaluated as contributing resources to the historic district; however, they are important elements that contribute to the significance of the resources they are associated with, and are linked to the MFHD's sense of place, feeling, character, historic context, and visual appearance.

Resources previously evaluated as non-contributing to the MFHD are revalidated in this form, except for Building 410. Building 410 is evaluated as a contributing resource in the current study, but was previously evaluated as a non-contributing resource based on a 1947 construction date that post-dates the district's period of significance; however, the Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers provides 1927 as the resource's construction date. Because the resource achieved significance during the district's period of significance and because it conveys the MFHD's sense of place, feeling, character, historic context, and visual appearance, the current study evaluates the resource as contributing to the historic district.

In addition, Structure 450, a beacon light built in 1949, is included as a non-contributing resource in this form. The structure is located within the MFHD but is previously unrecorded and unevaluated. Because its 1949 construction post-dates the MFHD's 1928-1943 period of significance, Structure 450 should be added to the district as a non-contributing resource. Non-contributing resources either were constructed outside the district's period of significance; were constructed within the period of significance but lack integrity due to alterations; or were constructed within the period of significance but do not convey the character of that period. A total of 13 non-contributing resources to the MFHD located on March ARB property were recorded and evaluated in the current study, including Structure 450.

Six of the seven total non-contributing resources that post-date the MFHD's 1928-1943 period of significance date from the Cold War era. This includes Buildings 415 (Garage; built ca. 1987) and 442 (Support Building for 452<sup>nd</sup> Air Mobility Wing; built 1974), and Structures 450 (Beacon Light; built 1949), 454 (Loading Platform; built 1980), 488 (Memorial; built ca. the 1970s), and 6604 (Hospital Drains; built 1965). None of these resources possess Cold War-era significance, and therefore none are recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. According to JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). As general operational support and infrastructural facilities, Buildings 415 and 442 and Structures 450, 454, 488, and 6604 are not significant within this framework. They are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War (Criterion A). In addition, no significant military leader or group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region are directly associated with the resources. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were Strategic Air Command commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB (Criterion B). Buildings 415 and 442 and Structures 450, 454, 488, and 6604 are utilitarian-style operational support and infrastructural facilities that are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. The resources are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master (Criterion C). They also do not have the potential to yield information about history or prehistory (Criterion D). Therefore, they do not meet any of the NRHP criteria for evaluation.

Notably, Structure 488 is a commemorative property, and therefore must also be evaluated applying Criterion Consideration F. As resources constructed less than 50 years ago, Buildings 365, 415, 442, and 454 and Structure 488 also must be evaluated applying Criterion G. These evaluations are provided below.

#### *Criterion Consideration F*

As mentioned, Structure 488 has a commemorative use and therefore must also comply with the requirements of Criterion Consideration F to qualify for listing in the NRHP. These requirements specify that a commemorative property may only be found eligible for listing if it possesses significance for its design or age, tradition, or symbolic value; the resource

cannot be listed for the significance of the event or person it commemorates. Structure 488 is a simple metal flagpole that is undistinguished in its design and engineering and does not possess age, tradition, or symbolic value. Therefore, it does not meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration F.

*Criterion Consideration G*

Buildings 365, 415, 442, and 454 and Structure 488 were constructed less than 50 years ago, and therefore would also need to meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration G to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. These five resources would not be considered exceptionally important since they are not associated with an extraordinary or important event or are rare survivors of a resource type that is no longer common. They also are undistinguished in their design and engineering. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration G.

**Integrity Analysis: MFHD**

In addition to meeting the NRHP criteria, a property must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship.

*Location*

Resources within the MFHD have not been moved since they were constructed, or during the district's period of significance (1928-1943). The district therefore retains a high level of integrity of location.

*Design*

Despite some alterations and additions, the MFHD has retained its integrity of design. The most substantial alterations to individual resources within the district (such as Building 110 and 356, both non-contributing) have been from the installation of non-historic-era replacement materials, such as windows and doors; the construction of additions; the infill or original window or door openings; and alterations to the size and placement of original openings. Despite these losses, the MFHD overall has retained its original design elements, forms, plans, and styles, including buildings expressed in the Mission Revival style of architecture. Contributing resources retain a high to moderate level of integrity of design.

*Setting*

Review of historical aerial imagery and topographic quadrangles indicates that the area surrounding the portion of the MFHD recorded in this form (that portion located within the present boundaries of March ARB) has changed some in the years following the district's period of significance. This includes through the new construction of military resources to the immediate north and south of the district during the Cold War period. Despite this new construction, the MFHD has retained its original physical environment, such as the adjacent airfield. As such, the district retains its integrity of setting.

*Materials*

Although resources within the MFHD have been altered through the installation of non-historic-era replacement materials, the district as a whole has maintained its original materials including stucco, concrete, Mission tiles, and concrete sidewalks and roads. As a result, the district retains a moderate level of integrity of materials.

*Workmanship*

In spite of alterations, resources within the MFHD display their original method of construction and provide physical evidence of crafts in their form, function, and appearance. Notably, many of the resources evidence hollow-wall concrete construction and board-formed concrete exterior walls, characteristics reflective of building technologies and traditions popular during the early twentieth century.

*Feeling*

Because it retains its overall historic integrity, the MFHD conveys its historic character and appearance as an Aviation Corps base dating from the first half of the twentieth century. The base is evocative of this period, and therefore retains its integrity of feeling.

*Association*

As discussed, the MFHD retains its integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling. These aspects of integrity combine to convey the historic appearance, design, and character of the district and its association as Air Corps base from the first half of the twentieth century. Therefore, the MFHD also retains its integrity of association.

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the MFHD retains its historic integrity and meets NRHP criteria A and C.

The following provides an integrity assessment of the two resources that have been added as newly identified contributing resources to the MFHD (Buildings 410 and 2304).

#### **Integrity Analysis: Building 410 (Built 1927; Previously Non-Contributing but Presently Contributing)**

##### *Location*

Building 410 has not been moved or relocated since it was constructed in 1927. It therefore retains its integrity of location.

##### *Design*

No alterations or additions have been made to Building 410, and the building continues to exhibit the essential features of its original design, including the gabled half-story segment attached to the building's east elevation. Therefore, Building 2304 retains its integrity of design.

##### *Setting*

Based on review of historical imagery, the physical surroundings of Building 410 has remained largely unchanged since the period of significance. Notably, the building remains characterized by its proximity to the cluster of water-related resources that line M Street, including the water towers and reservoirs. Therefore, the building retains its integrity of setting.

##### *Materials*

Although they are deteriorated, Building 410 retains its original, historic-era materials, including Mission tiles, stucco, flush metal door, and wood-frame windows. The building has not been altered through the installation of non-historic-era materials. Therefore, Building 410 retains its integrity of materials.

##### *Workmanship*

Building 410 displays physical evidence of craftsmanship including through its hollow-clay block walls, stucco exterior, and curved rafter tails. Therefore, it retains its integrity of workmanship.

##### *Feeling*

Building 410 conveys its historic character and appearance as a well house from the early twentieth century. Therefore, it retains its integrity of feeling.

##### *Association*

Building 410's integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling combine to convey the historic appearance, design, and character of the resource and its association as a well house dating from the early twentieth century. Therefore, the Building 410 retains its integrity of association.

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, Building 410 retains sufficient historic integrity to convey its significance as a contributing resource to the MFHD.

#### **Integrity Analysis: Building 2304, Gatehouse (Built 1933; Previously Unevaluated but Presently Contributing)**

##### *Location*

Although the 2011 ICRMP identified that Building 2304 was likely moved to its present location in the 1950s or 1960s, based on review of historic photographs and aerial imagery, the resource retains its original location, and has not been

moved or relocated since it is first evident in historic imagery in 1933. Therefore, it retains its integrity of location.

#### *Design*

Building 2304 retains its original massing, size, shape, and form, including its compact rectangular footprint and the gate attached to its west elevation. No additions have been made to the building since it was built. In addition, the building continues to reflect the Mission Revival style through its Mission tiles and stucco exterior. Therefore, it retains its integrity of design.

#### *Setting*

Review of historical aerial imagery indicates that Building 2304's integrity of setting has been compromised by development of its immediate surroundings in 1983. This includes the construction of Building 2271, a large-scale, multi-story building, built immediately south of the gatehouse; the addition of a large asphalt-top parking lot immediately north of the gatehouse; and the addition of hardscaping and landscaping elements including sidewalks, gravel, and palm trees surrounding the gatehouse on all sides.

#### *Materials*

Installation of a non-historic-era replacement door on Building 2304's west elevation has slightly diminished the building's integrity of materials, however, it retains its other original materials, such as Mission tiles, concrete chimney, steel sash windows, and stucco exterior.

#### *Workmanship*

Building 2304 displays its original method of construction and provides physical evidence of crafts in its construction, form, and appearance. Therefore, it retains its integrity of workmanship.

#### *Feeling*

Although Building 2304 conveys its historic appearance and character, changes to its immediate setting within the past 36 years have diminished its integrity of feeling somewhat as an early twentieth century gatehouse. The building is no longer located along a roadway or at an entrance, and is presently unstaffed and not used as a gatehouse.

#### *Association*

Despite changes, most notably including changes to the its immediate setting, Building 2304 still conveys its historic appearance, design, character, and association as a gatehouse from the early twentieth century. Therefore, Building 2304 retains its integrity of association.

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, Building 2304 retains sufficient historic integrity to convey its significance as a contributing resource to the MFHD.

#### **Individually Eligible: Building 413, Operations Supervisor Assistant & Training Section (Built 1917)**

Building 413 was identified during the current study as individually eligible for listing in the NRHP and is evaluated below. Remaining resources recorded in this form are not individually eligible.

#### **Criterion A**

Building 413 was built in 1917 on land encompassing Alessandro Flying Training Field (later designated March Field by the Army Air Service on March 20, 1918). As a rare surviving example of pre-1919 development at an early Air Corps airfield in California, Building 413 is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Building 413 was constructed during a period of modernization within the military between 1903 and 1918, when adoption of new technologies such as the airplane prompted the construction of new resources at military installations nationwide. March Field was one of four Army Air Corps fields established in California during this time (the other three being Rockwell Field,

Mather Field, and Benton Field), and, as was typical of most early airfields constructed during WWI, was comprised of temporary wood-frame buildings and structures. Due to this impermanent construction, extant resources such as Building 413 that predate 1919 are very rare in California and therefore are highly likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. For this reason, the 2000 JRP document identifies Building 413 as an NRHP-eligible resource that achieves significance as a rare surviving example of a non-hangar building from an early Air Corps airfield; per the document, Building 413 “appears to be the only remnant of World War I-era temporary construction at an Air Corps facility” and “the only building left from the World War I-era base at March Field” (Mikesell, 2000:5-4, 5-5). Therefore, the building is recommended eligible under Criterion A.

#### **Criterion B**

Building 413 does not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB, or Alessandro Flying Training Field. Furthermore, it is not directly associated with any individuals who personified the WWI, interwar, or WWII history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resource, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. Military leaders like Captain William Carruthers, who served as the first base commander at March ARB, do not have a direct association with this resource, and their contributions are not illustrated by this resource at March ARB. Building 413 also is not associated with any important military figures at March ARB during WWII, like Col. C.L. Melin and Col. J.W. Warren, who served as base commanders during the WWII-era, or any major military leader that lead the Army Air Corps during the war years, such as Gen. Henry “Hap” Arnold. Therefore, Building 413 is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

#### **Criterion C**

During WWI, the Army Air Corps typically erected temporary wood-frame buildings and structures which were of lesser quality of construction than those that characterized the pre-war period (Mikesell, 2000). Building 413 is a wood-frame building that was constructed during this period (built 1917) and is undistinguished in its design. The building, which was originally constructed as a bakery, does not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make it significant for its design or function. The resource also does not reflect the work of a master and lacks architectural distinction. Therefore, Building 413 is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

#### **Criterion D**

Building 413 does not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

#### **Integrity Analysis: Building 413**

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Building 413 retains a moderate level of integrity. The resource has retained its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, its integrity of materials has been diminished due to some physical deterioration. However, JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* states that “While it is realistic to expect that a moderate degree of integrity be present [in WWI-era Army Air Service buildings], the integrity expectations can be lowered to account for the rarity of the property types” (Mikesell, 2000:5-5).

**\*D7. References** (Give full citations including the names and addresses of any informants, where possible.):

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, 2012.

Butler, William. *Image of America: March Air Force Base*. Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing. 1993.

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JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

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William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

\*D8. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan and Jeremy Hollins Date: February 2019

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)

### P3a. Description (continued)

The 1992 NRHP nomination form was amended by Polly Allen of JRP in 2012, and two contributing buildings and 15 non-contributing buildings and structures were removed from the district. One non-contributing building constructed in 1993 (Building 365) also was added to the district. In addition, the 2012 amendment recorded a change in the ownership of the northeast portion of the district from March Air Reserve Base (ARB) to March Joint Powers Authority (MJPA) following base realignment in 1996. When the MFHD was nominated to the NRHP in 1992, it was contained entirely within the boundaries of March ARB (at that time March AFB), which comprised approximately 6,500 acres. Ownership of approximately 4,400 acres of the base, including the northeast portion of the MFHD, transferred to MJPA when March AFB was realigned as an ARB in 1996 (MJPA, n.d.). As a result of the realignment, only 68 of the 195 total contributors to the MFHD are located on property owned by March ARB. (Note: the 2012 amendment records 212 total resources, of which 197 are contributing; however, two contributing buildings, Buildings 385 and 441, were demolished in 2017. Thus, the district presently contains 210 resources, of which 195 are contributing. Based on the results of research and the field survey conducted as part of the ICRMP Update, Structure 450 is recommended as a new non-contributing resource to the historic district, and Building 2304 is recommended as a new contributing resource [because Building 2304 is located outside the current MFHD boundaries, a boundary expansion would be necessary to include this resource in the district]. If these two resources are added to the district, the MFHD would include 212 resources, of which 196 would be contributing. This would include 69 contributing resources and 13 non-contributing resources within the boundaries of the base. Structure 450 and Building 2304 are discussed in more detail later in this section, and in the DPR 523D series form.) Importantly, only those resources presently located on March ARB property are recorded in this form.

Boundaries of the MFHD were not altered in the 2012 amendment, and the district still reflects the original boundaries identified in 1992. It encompasses approximately 158 acres. The boundary description provided in the nomination is presented in Section D4 of the DPR 523D series form. Section D4 and D5 of that form also provide a boundary expansion description and justification of the proposed boundary expansion to include Building 2304 as a new contributing resource to the MFHD. The MFHD is significant at the state level under Criterion A for its association with the development of the U.S. Army Air Corps and under Criterion C for architecture. The period of significance is 1928-1943.

The purpose of this site form and recordation effort is to revalidate the findings of the 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination and 2012 amendment; consider resources within the MFHD that may also be individually eligible for inclusion in the NRHP; and identify and evaluate previously unevaluated resources constructed more than 45 years ago or resources. These resources were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. The following provides a discussion and synopsis of the contributing and non-contributing resources' condition and design, materials, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries. Construction dates for all resources recorded in this form except Buildings 110, 176, 439, and 472 were provided by U.S. Air Force (USAF) Reserve Command's 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers. Notably, some discrepancies exist in construction dates provided by the Reserve Command and in the 1992 *NRHP of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, the 1995 *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California* (Maintenance Manual) prepared by JRP, the 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* (ICRMP) prepared by JRP, and historic research completed for this current assessment. Due to these discrepancies, some contributing resources' construction dates provided in this form fall outside the MFHD's 1928-1943 period of significance; however, the resources achieved significance during the district's period of significance and are therefore still considered contributing elements. Discrepancies in construction dates are detailed in the resource descriptions below.

### Site/Setting/Landscape Features

Before discussing the components of the historic district (including contributing and non-contributing resources), some information should be provided regarding the district's setting, plan, and landscape features. The MFHD is located southeast of the City of Riverside and east of Interstate 215 in Moreno Valley in Riverside County, California. It features a flat topography and roughly is bounded by Meyer and Riverside drives and by hangars lining the airfield on the south side of Graeber Street. (For a more detailed boundary description, reference Section D4 of this DPR 523D series form, District Record.)

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)

The MFHD displays a triangular shape that reflects the 1928 plan for March Field. Streets within the district extend in cardinal and intercardinal directions to intersect at 45- and 90-degree angles. Graeber Street and Baucom Avenue/Baucom Avenue SE are arterial roads that form two important axes within this arrangement and extend in a northwest-southeast and southwest-northeast direction, respectively. The airfield is located on the south side of Graeber Street, outside the district. Resources within the MFHD were sited primarily on their functions, and the 1992 NRHP nomination identifies several functional sectors within the district, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and for officers, and officers' quarters. Resources generally are surrounded by manicured grass lawns landscaped with bushes and ornamental plantings. Mature trees including palms and deciduous species are scattered throughout the district and line some streets, including portions of Baucom Avenue/Baucom Avenue SE and Gilley, Graeber, and B streets. Hangars and industrial buildings on Graeber Street generally feature minimal landscaping and are typically surrounded by hardscaping. Hardscape features within the MFHD include paved roads and surface parking lots and poured-concrete sidewalks. A plaster-covered concrete-block perimeter wall borders Meyer Drive to the north and Riverside Drive to the east.

### Contributing Resources of the MFHD

The following descriptions of the contributing resources located within the boundaries of March ARB are grouped based on their historic functions or spatial relationships to one another. These resources were last recorded as part of the 1992 NRHP nomination, 1995 Maintenance Manual, or the 2012 NRHP nomination amendment.

#### **Building 100, The March Inn (Built 1929) and Building 102, The March Inn and McBride Suites (Built 1932)**

Building 100 was built in 1929 as a Bachelor Officers' Quarters. It was adapted for use as distinguished visitors' quarters in 1952 and is now used as The March Inn. The resource is in good condition and displays the Mission Revival style. It is a large, one-story hollow wall-concrete building that faces west and is bounded by B, M, and Q streets in the north-central portion of March ARB. It comprises approximately 40,000 square feet and is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn with scattered mature tree cover and ornamental plantings at the main entry on the west elevation. Asphalt parking lots are located north and west of the building, and poured-concrete sidewalks lead to entrances on all elevations. The building occupies a roughly rectangular footprint that encloses a large, rectangular courtyard surrounded by an arcaded corridor. Building 100 features rough form-board exterior walls and a Mission tile-covered hip roof with exposed rafter tails tucked under its eaves. Concrete chimneys pierce the roof. A side-gabled segment that is slightly taller than the rest of the building is centered on the primary, west elevation and projects out slightly from the main mass of the building. The building's main entry is centered on this segment and consists of replacement glazed double-leaf doors with sidelights and a fanlight transom, all set in an aluminum frame. Small fixed single-light windows covered with decorative grilles and multi-light aluminum-frame windows topped by fanlight transoms flank this entrance. A Mission Revival-style entry is centered on the building's opposite, Q Street-facing east elevation and consists of a replacement flush metal door set on a recessed porch with an arched opening and curved parapet. Arched openings covered with metal security grilles are located on the north and south side elevations. Windows on all elevations are rhythmically spaced and consist of replacement casement and fixed single-light units set in aluminum frames. Alterations to the building include the installation of replacement doors and a canopy at the main entrance on the west elevation; removal of original doors flanking the main entry and the openings' infill with windows; and the installation of replacement windows on all elevations. No major changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded.

Building 102 is located at the intersection of Adams Avenue and Q Street. It faces Adams Avenue to the south and sits opposite Q Street from Building 100. A plaster-covered masonry wall surrounds an asphalt parking lot at the building's rear, north elevation. Mature tree cover surrounds the wall, and palm trees and bushes are planted along the base of the building on its primary, south elevation. Building 102 was constructed in 1932 as a Bachelor Officers' Quarters and garages and was converted to distinguished visitors' quarters in 1954. Today, it is used as The March Inn and McBride Suites. The resource is well maintained and is two stories in height. It occupies a small rectangular footprint and terminates in a hip roof sheathed in Mission tile with exposed rafter tails tucked under its eaves. Exterior walls are covered in plaster. The main entry is centered on the south elevation, which is symmetrical. The entry consists of a door set within an vestibule with an arched opening. A balcony with a metal railing is centered above this entry on the second story. Windows are located on all elevations and consist of replacement aluminum sliding units. Alterations to Building 102 include the removal of original adjoining garage units, installation of replacement windows (some replacement windows do not fit the original opening; in these instances, plaster has been used to infill the gap between the window and the

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opening), the addition of a canopy at the main entrance, and an awning added over the balcony. The building has not been altered since it was last recorded.

**Building 108, Storage (Built 1934); Structure 406, Water Reservoir (Built 1934); Structure 407, Water Tower (Built 1934); Structure 408, Water Reservoir (Built 1934); Structure 409, Water Reservoir (Built 1934); Building 411, Water Pump House (Built 1927) Building 412, Water Pump House (Built 1943); Building 439, Water Pump House (Built 1932); and Building 497, Water Treatment Plant (Built 1931)**

These 10 water-related utility buildings are grouped together in the north-central portion of the base.

Structure 108 faces the intersection of M and O streets to the south. Poured-concrete sidewalks are located south and east of the structure, and a plaster-covered masonry wall borders Meyer Drive to the north. Structure 108 was constructed as a pump house in 1934 and is presently used for storage. The resource occupies a small square footprint and terminates in a Mission tile-covered hip roof with deep overhanging eaves and exposed curved rafter tails. The resource features reinforced-concrete construction, board-formed concrete exterior walls, and a stepped water table. Stamped lettering reading "Water Well No. 4" is located on the east end of the primary, south elevation, and a door covered by a metal security grille and topped by a painted, multi-light steel transom is centered on this elevation. Steel casement windows are centered on the structure's north, east, and west elevations. Alterations include the addition of the metal security door at the entry, and the painted transom. Structure 108 has not been modified since it was last recorded. It is in fair condition.

Structures 406, 408, and 409 are water reservoirs grouped together on the south side of M Street. They were constructed in 1934, based on base property records, and are well maintained. (Note: the 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination lists 1932 as the construction date for Structure 406. The NRHP nomination as well as the 2011 ICRMP provide 1932 as the construction date for Structure 408, and the same sources provide 1940 as the construction date for Structure 409.) Structure 409 was not included in the 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination; however, it is listed as a contributing resource in the 2011 ICRMP. These reinforced-concrete reservoirs are nearly identical and display a cylindrical form and board-formed concrete exterior walls. Patch repairs have been made to cracks in the resources as needed; otherwise, they are largely unaltered. They are surrounded by concrete pavement and a chain-link fence. Structures 406 and 409 have a capacity of 400,000 gallons, and Structure 408 has a 200,000-gallon capacity.

Structure 407 is a 200,000-gallon water tower built in 1934. The resource is grouped with the water reservoirs on the south side of M Street; it is located between Structure 406 and 408. surrounded by concrete pavement and a chain-link fence that also surrounds the reservoirs. The resource displays steel storage tank panel construction and a 110' foot tower with steel supports, cross members, conical top, and an access ladder. It is in good condition and has not been altered, except for the addition of a beacon light (Structure 450; non-contributing) to its top in 1949.

Building 411 is a hollow-clay tile building constructed as a pump house in 1927, a use it retains to this day. It is located south of the water reservoirs that line M Street and occupies a roughly rectangular footprint. The building is surrounded by asphalt pavement on its south and west sides. Buildings 406 and 412 are located to the north, Building 410 is to the northwest, and Building 415 is to the south. Building 411 displays a narrow, roughly rectangular footprint and a Mission tile-covered hip roof that is pierced by a chimney on its northern eave (which is not original). Exterior walls are finished in plaster. Windows are located on all elevations and include original six-over-six, one-over-one, and two-over-two double-hung wood units. A replacement fixed single-light window also is found on the building's rear, north elevation. Doors consist of original partially-glazed wood panel units on the north elevation and flush metal units on the primary, south elevation. The building has been altered through the construction of additions completed through ca. the 1930s and 1940s and after World War II. A wood-frame shed-roof addition is located on the eastern end of the building's rear, south elevation. Other changes to the resource include the infill of window openings on the north and east elevations, the installation of a replacement fixed-single windows on the north elevation, and the installation of replacement flush metal doors on the façade. Some original doors on the north elevation also have been altered through general repairs and display painted lights and altered light patterns. No major changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded. The resource is in fair to poor physical condition.

Building 412 was constructed in 1943 as a pump house. It presently is vacant. The resource is located south of the water reservoirs that line M Street. Structure 408 (a reservoir) is located immediately north of the building, Building 408 (a water

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tower) is to the northeast, and Building 410 is to the southwest. Building 412 features a small rectangular footprint, hollow-clay tile construction, and plaster-covered exterior walls. It terminates in a hipped-roof covered in Mission tile with exposed rafter tails tucked under its overhanging eaves. A poured-concrete sidewalk leads to the building's primary, south elevation, which is symmetrically arranged with two replacement flush doors. Eight-over-eight double-hung wood windows are on the building's north and east elevations; they are painted over. The resource has not been modified since it was last recorded, and is in fair to poor overall condition.

Building 439 was constructed as a Pump House in 1932 based on property records from the base, a use it retains to this day (Note: although the 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers and 1995 Maintenance Manual provide 1927 as the resource's construction date, the 2011 ICRMP and a historic ledger at the base provide 1932 as the construction date for Building 439, which appears to be the correct date based on research). The building is located southwest of the intersection of B Street and Dekay Avenue in the middle of a grass field. It is nearly identical to Building 108 with its Mission tile-covered hip roof and exposed rafter tails, hollow clay-tile construction, plaster-covered exterior walls, and small square footprint. The resource features steel casement windows centered on its north, south, and west elevations and a boarded door opening centered on the east elevation. The building is in poor overall condition, and some windows are missing lights. Alterations include the boarded door opening. No major changes have occurred since the resource was last recorded.

Building 497 is a small, one-story hollow clay-tile building constructed in 1931. It has been continuously used as a Water Treatment Plant. The resource is located between B and M Streets and east of Buildings 415 and 496. An asphalt parking lot is to the west. The building is surrounded by hardscaping and bordered by a chain-link fence on its north and east sides. Building 497 terminates in a front-gable roof that is covered in Mission tile with exposed rafter tails tucked under its eaves. The resource has plaster-covered exterior walls. An original one-light four-panel wood door is centered on the west elevation, and a window opening is centered on the east elevation. Alterations to the building include the construction of a shed-roof concrete-block addition on the south elevation. In addition, the window was removed from the east elevation sometime after the resource's last recordation, leaving an open bay. Building 497 is in fair physical condition.

### **Building 115, 610<sup>th</sup> Air Operations Group (Built 1931)**

Building 115 was constructed in 1931 as Senior Grade Officer Family Housing; today, it is used by the 610<sup>th</sup> Air Operations Group. The resource is in good condition and is bounded by Adams Avenue and B and O streets in the north-central portion of the base. An asphalt parking lot is west of the building, which is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn with scattered mature tree cover. Shrubs and ornamental plantings are located at the base of the building, and poured-concrete sidewalks lead to entries on the east, west, and south elevations. Building 115 is a small one-story building exhibiting a smooth plaster exterior and hollow clay-tile construction. It terminates in a Mission tile-covered gable roof with carved, curved rafter tails tucked under its eaves. A stucco chimney pierces the roof mid-slope on the east elevation. The main entry on the primary, west elevation consists of a nine-light, two-panel wood door set on a tiled porch. Windows are located on all elevations and consist of replacement metal casement units. A plaster-covered masonry wall topped by wood lattice encloses a courtyard on the east elevation. Alterations to the resource include replacement windows and the wood lattice added to the wall around the courtyard. No major changes have occurred to the building since its last recordation.

### **Building 176, 452<sup>nd</sup> Air Mobility Wing Headquarters (Built 1930) and Building 177, Commanding Officer's Garage (Built 1929)**

Building 176 and 177 are located in the central portion of March ARB and face Plummer Avenue and the parade ground to the southwest. Baucom Avenue/Baucom Avenue SE divide and curve around the rear, northeast elevations of the buildings, which are surrounded by a manicured grass lawn with scattered mature trees and trees lining Plummer Avenue. Shrubs are planted along the base of the Building 176. Poured-concrete sidewalks lead to entries on the primary, southwest elevation and rear, northeast elevation of Building 176, and a poured-concrete driveway leads from Plummer Avenue to the primary, southwest elevation of Building 177. The resources are well maintained.

Building 176 was constructed in 1930 as the Commanding Officer's Residence, and now is the 452<sup>nd</sup> Air Mobility Wing Headquarters (Note: although the 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers and MFHD NRHP nomination provide 1932 and 1933, respectively, as the resource's construction date, the 2011 ICRMP and a historic ledger at the base identifies the resource's construction date as 1930.) It is a one-story hollow-wall concrete building that terminates in a Mission tile-covered gable

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roof with vigas tucked under the rake overhang. A concrete chimney pierces the roof mid-slope on the northeast elevation, and an extension of the primary roof covers a small porch on the southern end of the primary, southwest elevation. An original two-light two-panel wood door is centered on this porch, which features metal handrails. Windows are located on all elevations and consist of original, double-hung, four-over-four wood sash units. The building has rough board-formed exterior walls and occupies a roughly U-shaped footprint that surrounds three sides of a courtyard on its rear, northeast elevation. The fourth side of the courtyard is enclosed with a concrete wall that features an original steel gate. Wood gates are located southeast of the building, near the garage. Changes to Building 176 include the enclosure of a rear patio that faces the courtyard with windows and doors all set in an aluminum frame; the infill of a window on the southeast elevation with masonry; and the addition of a metal ventilator turbine on the chimney. It appears that the original screen door at the main entry also has been removed. No major changes have occurred to the resource since it was last recorded.

Building 177 is situated southeast of Building 176. It is a small two-car garage constructed as the Commanding Officer's Garage in 1929 (Note: the 2011 ICRMP and a historic ledger at the base provides 1931 as the construction date, while the 1992 NRHP nomination form and 1995 Maintenance Manual list 1932). Building 177 also was used as a temporary firehouse during the early years of the base. It is one story in height with a small rectangular footprint, board-formed concrete walls, and a Mission tile-covered front-gable roof with vigas and exposed rafter tails tucked under its rake/eaves. It is of hollow-wall concrete construction. The double-hung one-over-one-light wood sash window centered on the building's rear, northeast elevation is original. The metal garage door on the building's primary, southwest elevation is a replacement. Other than the installation of replacement garage, no major changes have occurred to the building, and has not been altered since it was last recorded.

**Building 238 (Built 1931); Building 239 (Built 1930); Building 240 (Built 1930); Building 241 (Built 1930); Building 242 (Built 1931); Building 243 (Built 1930); Building 244 (Built 1931); Building 245 (Built 1931); Building 246 (Built 1931); Building 247 (Built 1931); Building 248 (Built 1931); Building 249 (Built 1931); Building 250 (Built 1931); Building 251 (Built 1931); Building 381 (Built 1934); Building 382 (Built 1934); and Building 383 (Built 1934); all Visiting Airmen's Quarters**

These 17 buildings are grouped together in the south-central portion of March ARB. They were constructed between 1930 and 1934 as Non-Commissioned Officer family housing and today are used as Visiting Airmen's Quarters. (Note: the 2011 ICRMP, a historic ledger at the base, and 1995 Maintenance Manual provides 1931 as the construction date for Building 240. The same sources list 1930 as the construction date for Building 245. The 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination gives 1930 as the construction date for Buildings 247, 249, and 251.) The buildings are well maintained. They are surrounded by manicured grass lawns that generally feature scattered mature tree cover, including palm trees that line Gilley Street. Most buildings are landscaped with bushes. Poured-concrete sidewalks lead to main entries on all buildings.

These small, one-story hollow wall-concrete buildings share many of the same characteristics, including rough form-board exterior walls and gable roofs covered in Mission tile. Rounded clay attic vents are located in the buildings' gable ends, and each building features a concrete chimney. Windows are located on all elevations and consist of replacement aluminum casement units. The 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination form indicates these buildings are representative of three basic subtypes of non-commissioned officer housing built at the MFHD: Type A (Buildings 240, 241, 248, 249, and 382), Type B (Buildings 244 and 245), and Type C (Buildings 238, 239, 242, 243, 246, 247, 250, 251, 381, and 383). Type A buildings are distinguished by a porch centered on the façade that terminates in a roof formed by a continuation of the eave of the building's primary, side-gable roof. Doors on Type A buildings are multi-light units and French doors. Type B buildings are identifiable by their side-gable roofs and gabled side porches that feature arched openings on three sides. Doors on these buildings are vertical-grooved wood units. Type C buildings feature front-gable roofs and a front-gable porch on their primary elevation. Doors on these buildings are vertical-grooved and single-light two-panel units. With few exceptions, two Type C buildings and one Type A and Type B building are clustered together around a central courtyard, with a concrete wall with arched openings connecting the Type A building to each Type C building. A small laundry room is attached to the wall adjacent to each building. Following this arrangement, Buildings 238, 240, and 242/ Buildings 244, 246, 248, and 250 are clustered together on the eastern side of Gilley Street, and Buildings 239, 241 and 243/ Buildings 245, 247, 249, and 251 are clustered together on western side of Gilley Street. Buildings 381, 382, and 383 are clustered together on the northern side of Graeber Street, at that thoroughfare's intersection with A Street. All 17 buildings have been modified through the installation of replacement windows. Doors to laundry rooms also have been replaced. Exterior air-conditioning units also have been added to provide for the thermal comfort of occupants. No major alterations have occurred to the buildings since they were last recorded.

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**Building 300, Boeing C-17 Field Services, Custodial, Aero Club Maintenance Shop (Built 1929); Building 355, 452<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Shop (Built 1929); Building 373, Department of Homeland Security Maintenance Shop, Customs and Border Protection Riverside Air Unit (Built 1929); Building 429, 752<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Maintenance (Built 1929); Building 440, 452<sup>nd</sup> Aerospace Ground Equipment (Built 1929); Building 452, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Shop (Built 1929); and Building 457, Unnamed Maintenance Shop (Built 1929)**

These seven large-scale buildings were constructed as aircraft hangars in 1929 and are located along the flight line within the airfield west of Graeber Street. They all are surrounded by hardscaping. A stamped-concrete sidewalk extends in front of the buildings' Graeber Street-facing, northeast elevations, which feature personnel entrances. The buildings are well maintained and are nearly identical. They feature roughly rectangular footprints, reinforced-concrete construction, board-formed concrete walls, and side-gable roofs with large steel trusses supported by steel columns. Windows on all resources except Building 373 primarily consist of original industrial steel sash units; most windows are painted over. Large sliding hangar doors are located on the ends of the buildings and are guided into place by steel rollers and tracks. Other doors include original and replacement metal units and large overhead units. Building 300 in particular retains some of its original interior doors, which are character-defining features of the building. This includes one single door and two sets of double doors with original doorknobs, all located inside the building. Refer to the end of this Continuation Sheet for photographs of the original interior doors in Building 300.

The 1995 Maintenance Manual describes historic-era alterations to the hangars, stating that:

All [...] hangars were originally fitted with one or two 20' square ancillary spaced next to the door support [an exterior frame in each corner of the building to support the sliding doors]. These were routinely roofed with poured-in-place concrete, sloped to drain, and concealed by a parapet. By 1941, the entire space between the door supports, along both sides of the building had been incrementally filled with a 20' wide service space. These spaces were also constructed of board-formed concrete, with poured-in-place concrete roofs. (JRP, 1995)

More recently, all seven buildings have been altered by the painting over of windows, as well as infill of window openings with masonry. All buildings also feature replacement doors. Interior hangar space in Buildings 300, 373 and 452 has been infilled with smaller rooms. Notably, Building 373 has been altered through the replacement of all original windows with fixed single-light smoked-glass windows and the addition of a shed-roof entrance canopy and concrete breeze-block walls along Graeber Street. The hangar bay on the southeast elevation of Building 440 has been infilled, and many windows on the building have been replaced with fixed two-light windows or infilled with masonry. Stairs also have been added on the building's Graeber Street elevation. Alterations to Building 457 include the construction of a small addition on its Graeber Street elevation likely built during the Great Depression, as well as the infill of the hangar bay on the southeast elevation (JRP, 1995). Building 457's doors along Graeber Street were boarded at the time of survey. No major changes have occurred to the buildings since they were last recorded.

**Building 301, 922<sup>nd</sup> Civil Engineering Flight S-Team (Built 1932) and Building 386, Building 301 Storage (Built 1931)**

Building 301 is a hollow-clay tile, Mission Revival-style building that was constructed as a Firehouse in 1932. Today, it is used by the 922<sup>nd</sup> Civil Engineering Flight S-Team. The building is in good physical condition and is oriented at a 45-degree angle to the intersection of Graeber Street and Baucom Avenue SE in the central portion of March ARB. Building 386 is immediately east of the resource, and asphalt parking lots are to the east and west. Building 301 is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn. Low-lying shrubs are planted along the base of the building, and mature trees are scattered on the lawn. Poured-concrete sidewalks extending from the parking lot to the east and from the sidewalk that parallels Graeber Street to the south lead to entries on the building's north and south elevations, respectively. Building 301 is two stories in height with a one-story hip-roof segment on its rear, east elevation. It terminates in a Mission tile-covered hip roof with exposed decorative rafter tails tucked under its overhanging eaves. The resource displays plaster-covered exterior walls and a stepped water table. A beltcourse extends between the first and second stories. Original steel casement windows are located in the first story on the north and south elevations and in the second story on all elevations. The main entry on the building's north elevation consists of replacement double-leaf doors. A secondary entry consisting of a flush door in the building's second story is accessible from a metal stairwell to the west of the main entry. A replacement flush door with a door surround with pilasters and cornice is located on the south elevation. Two large apparatus doors with three

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square lights in their upper portions are centered on the west elevation. Protective bollards are located at the apparatus doors, which are topped by a cast stone cornice. Alterations to the resource include the addition of an emergency stairwell on the north elevation, an awning over the entry on the north elevation, infill panels at the apparatus doors, infilled windows on the east elevation, and the installation of replacement doors. No major alterations have occurred since the building was last recorded.

Building 386 is a one-story hollow clay-tile building constructed in 1931. It was originally used as a tool shed and presently is used for storage for Building 301 to the west. Building 386 is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn with shrubs planted on its side elevations. An asphalt parking lot is to the east. The building occupies a small rectangular footprint and terminates in a Mission tile-covered hip roof with exposed rafter tails tucked under its eaves. Exterior walls are covered in plaster. Poured-concrete sidewalks provide access to a replacement flush metal door centered on the building's primary, south elevation. Vacant window openings are centered on all other elevations. Alterations to the building include the removal of windows and the installation of a replacement door. The windows were removed from the building sometime after the resource was last recorded.

### **Building 311, Clay Hall (Enlisted Dorm) (Built 1929); Building 400, Kisling Hall (Enlisted Dorm) (Built 1929); and Building 456, Mathies Hall (Enlisted Dorm) (Built 1933)**

These three large Mission Revival-style buildings were constructed as Enlisted Personnel Barracks between 1929 and 1933. (Note: the MFHD NRHP nomination gives 1928 as the construction date for Buildings 311 and 400.) They presently are used as Enlisted Personnel Dorms and are located in the central portion of March ARB. Building 311 faces Baucom Avenue SE to the northwest and is bounded by Baucom Avenue SE, Dekay Avenue, and U and Graeber streets. An asphalt parking lot is located at the building's rear, southeast elevation. Building 400 is northwest of Building 311. It faces Baucom Avenue to the southwest and is bound by Baucom and Dekay avenues and T and Graeber streets. An asphalt parking lot is located between Buildings 311 and 400. Building 456 is located northwest of Building 400. It faces a parking lot to the northwest and is bounded by Dekay Avenue and T and Graeber streets. Two parking lots are located between Buildings 400 and 456. The buildings all are surrounded by manicured grass lawns with scattered mature tree cover. Bushes and trees are planted along the buildings' bases, and poured-concrete sidewalks lead to entrances on the buildings' primary elevations.

The three two-story buildings are almost identical. Buildings 311 and 400 are of hollow-wall concrete construction, while Building 456 is of reinforced-concrete construction. All three buildings terminate in a gable roof that is covered in Mission tile and display board-formed concrete exterior walls. They each occupy a C-shaped footprint that surrounds three sides of a large, central courtyard. A two-story arched loggia with arched openings and exterior stairwells spans all elevations that face the courtyard. A main entrance is set on the loggia on each side of the courtyard and consists of a segmented opening framed by a terracotta and cast stone surround. A second-story balconette with a segmented arched opening and wrought-iron railing is located above the entrance on each side of the courtyard. Windows are rhythmically spaced on all elevations and consist of replacement aluminum units. A porch with arched openings is centered on each buildings' rear elevation; this porch is one story in height on Buildings 311 and 400, and two stories on Building 456. Alterations to the buildings include the installation of replacement windows and the addition heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning units at rear elevations. Replacement doors and transoms have also been installed on Building 456, and the top halves of some windows on the rear elevation of Buildings 311 and 400 have been infilled with vents. No alterations have occurred to the buildings since they were last recorded, and remain in good overall condition.

Notably, Building 311 features a series of murals on its basement walls. They appear to have been painted between WWII and the 1960s (JRP, 1995).

### **Building 315, Storage (Built 1936)**

Building 315 was constructed in 1936 as carpools for enlisted personnel; the resource appeared vacant at the time of survey. It is in fair to poor physical condition. The resource is located in the central portion of the base at the intersection of U Street and Dekay Avenue, immediately behind Building 311. The resource is surrounded by a grass lawn. A poured-concrete driveway extending from U Street leads to the building's southeast elevation. Building 315 consists of two identical rectangular, one-story, hollow clay-tile buildings that face one another on either side of an asphalt-paved courtyard. The courtyard is enclosed with masonry walls that are formed by a continuation of the buildings' southeast and

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northwest exterior walls. The buildings each terminate in a shed roof that features a deep overhang on the courtyard-facing elevation. Exterior walls are covered in plaster, with those walls facing the courtyard being covered in painted plywood. Some of the exterior wall cladding has been removed from the easternmost building. Modifications to Building 315 include changes to the cladding and size and placement of openings on courtyard-facing elevations. The resource does not appear to have been altered since it was last recorded.

### **Building 317, Medical Administrative Offices (Built 1934)**

Building 317 was constructed in 1934 as the Hospital Barracks; today, it is used as Medical Administrative Offices. The building is in good physical condition and is located in the central portion of March ARB. It faces K Street to the southwest. The building features a small grass lawn that is surrounded by an asphalt driveway and parking lot. Palm trees, bushes, and ornamental plantings including cacti, agave, and flowering shrubbery are planted in front of Building 317. This small, two-story, hollow-wall concrete building features a side-gable roof covered in Mission tile and board-formed concrete exterior walls. A concrete chimney pierces the roof mid-slope on the rear, northeast elevation. A two-story loggia with arched openings is centered on the building's primary, southwest elevation and projects out slightly from the main mass of the building. The loggia terminates in a roof formed by an extension of the eave of the primary side-gable roof and features arched second-story openings enclosed with windows. Main entrance doors on the first story of the loggia are replacement double-leaf flush metal units. A secondary entry consisting of a partially-glazed door topped by a shed-roof door hood covered in Mission tile is centered on the northwest elevation. Windows are evenly spaced on each elevation and consist of replacement aluminum casement units. Alterations to the building include the enclosure of loggia second-story loggia openings with windows and the installation of replacement windows and doors. No major changes have taken place since the resource was last recorded.

### **Building 323, 4<sup>th</sup> Air Force Headquarters (Built 1931)**

Building 323 is a large, two-story hollow-wall concrete building that is well maintained. It was constructed in 1931 as a Hospital but presently is used as the 4<sup>th</sup> Air Force Headquarters. Building 323 faces Baucom Avenue SE and the parade ground to the northwest and is located in the central portion of March ARB. A large asphalt parking lot is at the building's rear (southeast elevation). The building is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn with scattered mature tree cover. Landscaping including trees and bushes are planted at the base of the building. Poured-concrete sidewalks lead to entrances on the building's primary, northwest elevation and side (southwest and northeast) elevations. Building 323 features a large, irregular-shaped footprint, a Mission tile-covered gable roof, and board-formed concrete exterior walls. A main entry with a Georgian-style terracotta door surround with a decorative pediment and pilasters is centered on the building's northwest elevation, which is symmetrical. Doors at the entry are original partially-glazed double-leaf wood-panel units topped by a fanlight transom. Windows are evenly spaced on all elevations and consist of steel casement units. The building has been altered through the construction of additions in 1933 and 1941, including the construction a two-story annex that connects to the building's rear, southeast elevation, as well as the elongation of the building on its northeast and southwest ends. Enclosure of rear porches and installation of replacement doors comprise other alterations. No major alterations have occurred to the building since it was last recorded.

### **Building 362, Garage (Built 1932) and Building 364, Garage (Built 1932)**

These two six-car garages are identical and were constructed in 1932 as garages for Non-Commissioned Officers. They face K Street to the northeast and are located in the central portion of March ARB. The buildings are surrounded by a grass lawn. Trees are located west of both buildings, and an asphalt parking lot is to the southwest. These one-story utilitarian-style buildings feature shed roofs sheathed in corrugated metal and exterior walls finished in plaster. Openings consist of six replacement metal garage doors that are evenly spaced on the buildings' primary, northeast elevations. A poured-concrete driveway leads off K Street to the garage doors. In addition to replacement garage doors, the buildings have been modified through the addition of a wood fascia. Buildings 362 and 364 have not been altered since they were last recorded. They are in good overall condition.

### **Building 405, Sabor Contractor Exbon (Built 1938) and Building 479, Storage & Minor Maintenance (Built 1938)**

Buildings 405 and 479 are collocated at the intersection of B and M street. They face south and are surrounded by hardscaping. A strip of grass with mature trees is located west of Building 405, and a concrete wall encloses a poured-concrete parking lot at the rear (north) of the buildings. The parking lot is accessible through a chain-link gate set between concrete piers, which are placed between the two buildings; the west pier is attached to the east elevation of Building 405,

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and the east pier is attached to the west elevation of Building 479. Bushes are planted along the western side of the wall and at the base of Building 405. The buildings are in good physical condition.

Building 405 is a one-story reinforced-concrete building constructed as Salvage Warehouse and Lumberyard in 1938; today, it is used by Sabor Contractor Exbon. It occupies a small rectangular footprint and terminates in a hip roof that is covered in Mission tile with exposed rafter tails tucked under its eaves. Its exterior walls are board-formed concrete and windows are original four-light pivoting steel sash units. Alterations to the resource include the installation of a replacement main entry centered on the building's primary, south elevation. It consists of a glazed door flanked by fixed windows, all set in aluminum frame. No major modifications have occurred to the building since it was last recorded

Building 479 is a reinforced-concrete building constructed in 1938 as a Lumber Shed. (Note: the 2011 ICRMP lists the resource's construction date as 1943.) Originally used as a lumber shed, the building today is used as Storage & Minor Maintenance building. It is in fair physical condition. Building 479 has board-formed concrete exterior walls and occupies a roughly rectangular footprint. The resource features a central two-story segment that is open on its primary, south elevation. This segment terminates in a flat roof that is covered in Mission tile with exposed rafter tails tucked under its eaves. One-story shed-roof wings are attached to the east and west walls of this two-story segment. The wings feature a combination of pivoting steel sash windows and replacement fixed single-light windows. Alterations to the resource include the installation of replacement windows on wings, the removal of stairs from the western wing, removal of a wall at the western end of the central segment, removal of the second-story storage mezzanine from the central segment, and the construction of a shed roof addition on the eastern wing. The building has not been altered since it was last recorded.

### **Building 410, Water Tower Storage (Built 1927)**

Building 410 is located south of the water reservoirs that line M Street in the north-central portion of March ARB. It was constructed in 1927, based on base records and a historic ledger at the base. (Note: the 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination provides 1947 as the resource's construction date, which post-dates the district's 1928-1943 period of significance. Therefore, Building 410 was previously evaluated as a non-contributing element to the district. However, the Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers provides 1927 as the resource's construction date. Because the resource achieved significance during the district's period of significance and because it conveys the MFHD's sense of place, feeling, character, historic context, and visual appearance, the current study evaluates the resource as a contributing element to the MFHD.) The building was originally used as a Well House, and today is used as Water Tower Storage. Hardscaping surrounds the resource on all sides. This small building is in fair condition and terminates in a hip roof that is covered in Mission tile with curved rafter tails tucked under its eaves. It features hollow clay-block construction and plaster-covered exterior walls. Original four-light wood windows are centered on the north, east, and west elevations, and an original flush metal door is centered on the south elevation. A gabled half-story segment with single-light wood windows is attached to the building's east elevation. No major changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded; however, it is in very poor condition.

### **Building 413, Operations Supervisor Assistant & Training Section (Built 1917)**

This one-story wood-frame building is located on M Street in the north portion of March ARB. The resource was originally constructed in 1917 as a Bakery (Note: the 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination lists 1918 as the construction date of the resource). It was adapted for use as a servants' quarters in 1933 and later converted to a bath house for the swimming pool. Today it is the Operations Supervisor & Training Section building. An asphalt parking lot is to the east of the resource and Building 406 (a water reservoir) is to the west. Landscaping is minimal and the building features a grass lawn and scattered mature tree cover. Building 413 occupies a T-shaped footprint and terminates in a composition shingle-sheathed hip roof (previously it had a composition roll roof). Exterior walls are covered in plaster. The resource retains the majority of its original double-hung six-over-six wood sash windows, although all but the bottom sashes of some windows on the rear, south elevation have been painted over. Doors appear to be wood panel units and are located on the north and east elevations. A porte-cochere (previously used as a partially covered patio) is integrated under the roofline on the building's west elevation, and openings off the porte-cochere are boarded. Building 413 is in fair physical condition and has been altered through the painting over of its windows and the infill of a window opening on the south elevation with masonry and plaster. No major changes have occurred to the resource since it was last recorded.

### **Building 417, 452<sup>nd</sup> AMW/IP (Built 1937)**

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Building 417 is a small, one-story hollow clay-tile building located north of B Street in the north-central portion of March ARB. It was constructed in 1937 as a Radio Hut and today is used by the 452<sup>nd</sup> AMW/IP. (Note: the 2011 ICRMP lists 1934 as the resource's construction date.) An asphalt driveway extending off B street is located east of the building, and a parking lot is to the south. A chain-link fence encloses the rear (north) of the resource, which is surrounded by a small grass lawn and scattered mature trees. Building 417 terminates in a hip roof that is covered in Mission tile. Exterior walls are covered in plaster. A front-gabled segment projects out slightly from the main mass of the building and is centered on the resource's symmetrical, primary, south elevation. The segment features quoins at its corners and a Neoclassical-style pediment with a horizontal and raking cornice. A replacement, one-light flush metal door topped by a Neoclassical-style cornice is centered on the segment and is flanked by three-light steel windows. Other openings on the building consist of original steel casement windows on all elevations and a flush metal door on the rear, north elevation. The building has been altered through the infill of a window opening with a door and plaster panel on the rear elevation and the installation of a replacement door at the main entry. Building 417 is in good overall condition and has not been altered since it was last recorded.

### **Building 418, Motor Pool Building (Built 1934)**

Building 418 is a small, one-story hollow-clay tile building located on B Street in the north-central portion of March ARB. It was constructed in 1934 as a Motor Pool Building, a use it still retains. (Note: the 2011 ICRMP and 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination provide 1943 as the resource's construction date. A historic ledger at the base indicates the building was constructed in 1937 as a Motor Pool Building) The resource is surrounded by hardscaping, including an asphalt parking lot at its rear (northeast) and side (northwest and southeast) elevations. Palm trees line B Street in front (southwest) of the building. Building 418 occupies a roughly L-shaped footprint and terminates in a Mission tile-covered hip roof with exposed rafter tails tucked under its eaves. Exterior walls are covered in plaster. Original steel sash windows are located on all elevations, and a replacement glazed aluminum-frame door and a metal flush door are located on the building's façade. Two flush metal doors are located on the rear elevation. In addition to the installation of replacement doors, the building has been altered through the infill of openings on all elevations and through the construction of a shed-roof addition on the southeast elevation. Building 418 is in fair physical condition and has not been altered since it was last recorded.

### **Building 420, 452<sup>nd</sup> Aviation Flight Support (Built 1931) and Building 430, 452<sup>nd</sup> Prime Ribs (Built 1931)**

Buildings 420 and 430 are nearly identical one-story hollow clay-tile buildings collocated on Graeber Street in the north-central portion of March ARB. They face Graeber Street to the southwest, and are located to the east of the roadway. They were constructed in 1931 and are in good overall condition. The resources display rectangular footprints and exterior walls covered in plaster. Pilasters are located at the buildings' corners.

Building 420 was originally constructed as a Quartermaster Warehouse and today is used by the 452<sup>nd</sup> Aviation Flight Support. It is surrounded by hardscaping with small patches of grass and palm trees on the northern and southern ends of its Graeber Street-facing, southwest elevation. Parking lots are northwest and northeast of the building. The resource consists of four identical conjoined buildings each terminating in gambrel roofs concealed behind stepped parapets with coping. Roofs are covered in roll asphalt. The buildings are arranged eave-to-eave in a northwest-southeast arrangement. Openings are rhythmically spaced on the building's southwest elevation and consist of a centrally-placed entry flanked by multi-light windows on each building; the easternmost building features a metal overhead door, not windows, to the east of the entry. Entry doors on this elevation consist of replacement glazed units with transoms and flanking fixed windows all set in an aluminum frame, and double-leaf flush metal doors topped by a multi-light transom, although a metal overhead door occupies the central bay on the westernmost building. Additional overhead doors and glazed doors with transoms are located on the rear, northeast elevation, and continuous ribbons of windows are on side elevations. An entrance consisting of a flush metal door with a multi-light transom and decorative surround with a peaked parapet interrupts the ribbon windows on the southeast elevation. Windows on the building are replacement multi-light aluminum units, and doors also are replacements. Alterations to the resource include changes to the size of openings on the building's rear elevation. Building 420 also has been altered through the installation of replacement windows, transoms, and doors since it was last recorded.

Building 430 was also constructed in 1931 as a Quartermaster Warehouse and is presently used by the 452<sup>nd</sup> Prime Ribs. It is located southeast of Building 420 and is surrounded by concrete paving on its northwest and northeast elevations.

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Grass is located southwest and southeast of the building, and a concrete sidewalk provides access to entries on the building's southeast elevation. The building terminates in a steel truss-supported gambrel roof covered in roll asphalt. The roof is concealed behind a stepped parapet with metal fascia and coping on the gambrel ends. Windows are located on all elevations and are grouped together to form continuous ribbons on the building's side elevations. Windows consist of steel sash units, most of which have been painted over. Double- and single-leaf flush metal doors are located on the building's northwest and southeast elevations, and a single-leaf flush metal door and metal overhead door are located on the rear, northeast elevation. Alterations to Building 430 include the replacement overhead door on the northwest elevation, the infill of a bay with a flush metal door and masonry on the same elevation, and the painting over of windows. The building has not been altered since it was last recorded.

### **Building 431, Electrical Switch House (Built 1929)**

Buildings 431 was built as an Electrical Switch House in 1929, a use it retains to this day. It is in good condition. The resource is located on B Street in the north-central porch of March ARB. Building 430 is located immediately west of the building and Building 432 is immediately east. Building 431 is surrounded by concrete paving to the northeast and southeast, a concrete sidewalk to the northwest, and a small grass lawn to the southwest. The building is one story in height with board-formed concrete walls and a small rectangular footprint. It terminates in a hip roof that is covered in Mission tile with exposed rafter tails tucked under the eaves. Windows are located on the northwest and southeast elevations and consist of original six-over-six double-hung wood sash units that have been painted over. Doors are flush metal units on all elevations. In addition to painted-over windows, other modifications to Building 431 include an addition constructed on the southwest elevation sometime after 1941. A window-mounted air-conditioning unit also has been installed on the southeast elevation. The building has not been altered since its last recordation.

### **Building 432, Air Force Inn Linen Exchange (Built 1941)**

This two-story reinforced-concrete building was constructed in 1941 as a Boiler Room; it presently is used as the Air Force Inn Linen Exchange. The building faces B Street to the northeast and is located in the north-central portion of March ARB. It is surrounded by hardscaping. Building 431 is northwest of the resource and Building 433 is to the southwest. Building 432 occupies a roughly rectangular footprint and terminates in a flat roof that is concealed behind a stepped parapet. A monitor roof covered in Mission tile is centered on the flat roof. The resource displays board-formed concrete exterior walls with original steel hopper windows in the first and second stories on all elevations. An original metal sliding double door hung on a door rack is located on the southeast elevation. The majority of windows have been painted over, and an entryway bay centered on the building's symmetrical, primary, northeast elevation has been infilled with masonry. A window in the first story of the northwest elevation also appears to have been infilled, and a window on the northwest elevation displays an altered light pattern. Other alterations include replacement doors. The building has not been modified since it was last recorded.

### **Building 433, March Field Total Force Honor Guard (Built 1931)**

Building 433 was constructed in 1931. (Note: the 2011 ICRMP, a historic ledger at the base, and 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination list the resource's construction date as 1933.) It faces Graeber Street to the southwest and is located in the north-central portion of March ARB. Concrete paving is located southeast and northeast of the building, and a grass lawn is located to the southwest and northwest. Building 432 is immediately northeast of the resource. Building 433 was originally used as a Bakery, but now is used as March Field Total Force Honor Guard. The resource is a one-story hollow clay-tile building with a Mission tile-covered gable roof concealed behind a peaked parapet with coping. Exterior walls are covered in plaster and are inset with original multi-light steel windows on the primary and rear elevations. A shed-roof addition on the building's northwest elevation features metal sliding windows and vertical board exterior cladding. Openings on the building's southeast elevation have been altered, including through the installation of an overhead delivery door and the infill of a large bay with masonry. Other modifications include the construction of an addition on the northwest elevation, the painting over of windows, and re-cladding of the roof in tile. No major alterations have occurred to the building since it was last recorded and it is in fair condition.

### **Building 435, Lodging Supply (Built 1931)**

Building 435 is a one-story hollow clay-block building located on Graeber Street in the central portion of the March ARB. It was constructed as an Ordnance Warehouse in 1931 and presently is used as a Lodging Supply building. (Note: the 2011 ICRMP, a historic ledger at the base, and 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination list the resource's construction date as 1934.) A

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grass lawn is located southwest and northeast of the building, and poured-concrete driveways extend alongside the northwest and southeast elevations. A concrete sidewalk leads to a boarded entry on the building's symmetrical, primary, southwest elevation along Graeber Street. The building terminates in a steel truss-supported gable roof that is sheathed in roll asphalt. The roof is concealed behind peaked parapets on the gable ends. An interior chimney is placed on the building's northwest wall, and exterior walls are covered in plaster. Windows are located on all elevations and consist of original industrial steel sash units, most of which are covered with bars. All windows on the building's southwest and northwest elevations have been painted over. Some windows on the southeast elevation also have been painted. Other alterations to the resource include the boarding over of the main entry with plywood; a metal overhead door installed on the northwest elevation; and the infilling of a large bay on the southeast elevation with a flush metal door and plaster over masonry. Doors on the northwest and southeast elevations are original and consist of flush metal units topped by painted transoms. The building has not been altered since it was last recorded.

### **Building 453, 452<sup>nd</sup> Mobility Bag Storage Unit (Built 1929) and Building 458, Headquarters, 452<sup>nd</sup> Medical (Built 1929)**

Buildings 453 and 458 are large-scale buildings built as Aircraft Repair Shops in 1929; today, they are used as the 452<sup>nd</sup> Mobility Bag Storage Unit and Headquarters, 452<sup>nd</sup> Medical, respectively. The resources are nearly identical and are collocated on the east side of Graeber Street in the central portion of March ARB. They are in a good condition. The buildings occupy a roughly rectangular footprint and terminate in gable roofs that are sheathed in composition shingles. They feature board-formed concrete exterior walls and steel sash windows, most of which have been painted over. Windows are grouped together to form continuous ribbons on the dominant sides of the buildings' rectangular forms. Metal overhead doors are located on the buildings' ends. Other doors consist of glazed and unglazed single- and double-flush metal units.

Building 453 features a manicured grass lawn to the northwest, southwest, and southeast. A concrete parking area spans the northeast side and wraps around to the southeast. Concrete sidewalks provide access to entries on the building's Graeber Street-facing southwest elevation and the southeast elevation. The resource has been altered through the construction of one-story flat-roof additions on the northeast and southwest elevations. A small, metal-frame shed roof shade structure also has been added to the northeast elevation. Other alterations include the installation of replacement doors and the painting over of most windows. An overhead door opening centered on the northwest elevation also appears to have been infilled with wood cladding and a flush metal door. No major alterations have taken place since the resource was last recorded.

Building 458 is located southeast of Building 453 and is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn on its southwest, southeast, and northeast sides. A concrete parking lot is northwest of the building, and concrete driveways lead to overhead doors on its southwest and southeast elevations. Building 458 has been modified through the construction of a concrete-block addition on its northwest elevation in 1956 and construction of a small shed-roof addition on the southeast elevation. Other changes include the infill of a window on the southeast elevation, the installation of replacement doors, and the painting over of some windows on the northeast elevation. An overhead door opening on the northwest elevation also appears to have been infilled with concrete blocks, wood cladding, and flush double-leaf doors. No major alterations have occurred to the building since it was last recorded.

### **Building 465, March Field Sports & Fitness Center (Built 1933)**

Building 465 faces Dekay Avenue in the central portion of March ARB. It was constructed as a Gymnasium in 1933 and presently is used as the March Field Sports & Fitness Center. An asphalt parking lot is at the building's rear (north and northeast of the building) and a concrete paved alley is to the southeast. A manicured grass lawn with scattered trees is to the southwest and northwest. Concrete sidewalks lead to entrances on the building's primary southwest and northwest elevations. The sidewalk in front of the building is lined with low-lying bushes that also are located at the base of the building on the same elevation. This large two-story Mission Revival-style building is in good physical condition. It terminates in a front-gable roof that is covered in Mission tile and features exterior walls that are covered in plaster. Quoins are located at the building's corners. The primary, southwest elevation is symmetrical with a centrally-placed entry sheltered by a Mission tile-covered cantilevered roof. Replacement glazed double-leaf doors with sidelights and a large transom are located at the entry and set in aluminum frames. An arch with voussoir and keystone incising surrounds the entrance and extends up into the second story. Secondary entries consist of glazed and flush metal doors on the northeast and northwest elevations. Steel casement windows are evenly spaced in the first and second stories of the façade, and

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steel sash windows are grouped to form continuous ribbons on side elevations. The windows have been painted over. Other alterations to the building include the installation of replacement doors at the entrance and construction of a gabled rear addition on the northeast elevation and a flat-roof addition on the northwest elevation. No major alterations have occurred to the buildings since it was last recorded.

### **Building 466, 452<sup>nd</sup> Comptroller (Built 1933)**

Building 466 was constructed in 1933 as the Base Exchange and is now used by the 452<sup>nd</sup> Comptroller. (Note: the 2011 ICRMP, 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination, and a historic ledger at the base provide 1931 as the construction date of the resource.) This one-story building is located at the intersection of Baucom and Dekay avenues in the central portion of March ARB. It faces the parade ground and Baucom Avenue to the southeast and features a concrete alley along its rear, northwest elevation and a concrete driveway extending off Baucom Avenue on its northeast elevation. A small manicured grass lawn is in front of the primary, southeast elevation and features scattered mature trees and bushes planted at the base of the resource. Building 466 features board-formed concrete exterior walls and terminates in a gambrel roof that is covered in Mission tiles. Hollow clay-tile additions were constructed on the northeast and southwest elevations in 1941. The building's southeast elevation features a flat-roof front porch centered between two Mission tile-covered hip-roof segments that extend out from the primary gambrel roof. The porch once featured five intercolumnar bays, but the central three bays were enclosed in 1941. Main entries accessed from concrete sidewalks are set on the first and fifth bays of the porch (not enclosed) and consist of replacement glazed double-leaf aluminum-frame doors. Windows with decorative surrounds are centered on the hip-roof segments adjacent to the entries, and windows covered with bars are located on the additions on the north and south ends of the façade. Windows on the building are original steel casement and replacement aluminum casement units. Secondary entries, consisting of partially-glazed and unglazed flush metal doors, are located on the rear, northwest elevation. Replacement glazed double-leaf doors set in an aluminum frame also are in the southern end of the southwest elevation. As mentioned, the building has been modified through the construction of additions on the side elevations and partial enclosure of the front porch in 1941. In addition, a flat-roof addition was added to the rear of the building in ca. 1956. A metal-frame shed-roof back porch also has been added to the building, and a Mission-tile gable roof supported by metal poles has been added over a rear entry. Other modifications include the installation of replacement windows and doors and the addition a large heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning unit mounted on slope of the gambrel roof on the building's rear. Window openings at the building's rear have been infilled with masonry, and windows on the northeast and southwest elevations appear to have been covered with painted plywood. No alterations have occurred to the building since it was last recorded.

### **Building 467, Base Theater (Built 1933)**

Building 467 was constructed as the Base Theater in 1933, a use it still retains. The building is in the central portion of March ARB and faces Baucom Avenue and the parade ground to the southeast. Building 467 is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn, and the side elevations (northeast and southwest) are lined with tall mature trees. Palm trees flank the building on its primary, southeast elevation. An asphalt parking lot is located northwest of the building and concrete sidewalks lead to entries on all elevations. Building 467 is a large, two-story Mission Revival-style building with reinforced-concrete construction and a front-gable roof covered in Mission tile. A smaller one-story segment of the building on the façade features a front-gable roof concealed behind a curved parapet. The building has plaster-covered exterior walls and displays decorative elements including quoins and a Palladian window centered on the façade. An entry loggia with arched openings is located under the Palladian window in the first story of the façade. Doors off the loggia are original glazed wood units; this includes doors with rounded heads in the outer bays of the loggia. A ticket booth is centered on the loggia. Secondary entries are evenly spaced on side elevations and consist of replacement panel units. Windows are steel casement units with replacement aluminum casement units at the building's rear. The building is well maintained and alterations are limited to replacement windows and doors. It has not been altered since it was last recorded.

### **Building 470, Base Headquarters (Built 1929)**

Building 470 was constructed as the Second Post Headquarters in 1929 and presently is used as the Base Headquarters. It is located on the airfield in the central portion of March ARB and with access to Graeber Street to the northeast. A manicured grass lawn surrounds all sides of the building, and a concrete-paved driveway with a parking lot loops off Graber Street in front of the resource. Another parking lot is to the west. Concrete sidewalks lead from the parking lots to entries on the building's northwest and northeast elevations. Trees flank the main entrance on the primary, northeast elevation, and small bushes and ornamental grasses are planted along the base of the building on this elevation. Shrubs

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also line the sidewalk that leads to the entry on the northeast elevation. A concrete-block wall borders the building to the east and west and restricts access to the airfield. Building 470 is a large, two-story reinforced-concrete building that is well maintained. It is designed in the Mission Revival style and features a Mission tile-covered side-gable roof with a glass-enclosed observation deck terminating in a Mission-tile covered pyramidal roof centered on its ridgeline. Exterior walls are of board-formed concrete. The northeast elevation is symmetrical with front-gable segments at either end. A main entryway consisting of double-leaf doors topped by a multi-light transom is centered on this elevation and is set within a decorative cast stone surround that also surrounds a window in the second story. A bay with a flat roof that serves as a balcony is centered on the first story of the airfield-facing southwest elevation. Windows on the building are evenly spaced on all elevations and consist of replacement steel casement units. A glazed door with sidelights set in an aluminum frame has been added to the southern end of the northeast elevation; all other doors on the northeast, southwest, and northwest elevations are replacement four-light two-panel units. Other alterations to Building 470 include the enclosure of the observation deck in 1940, the construction of a one-story, flat-roof concrete-block addition on the southeast elevation, and the installation of replacement windows. The original entryway stairs were re-cast with new stairs on top of them (and the old stairs are still visible). No major alterations have occurred to the building since it was last recorded.

### **Building 472, Utility Vault (Built 1929)**

Building 472 is located at the intersection of Graeber Street and Baucom Avenue SE in the central portion of March ARB. It was constructed in 1929 as a Utility Vault, and it retains this use to this day. (Note: although the 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers provides 1925 as this resource's construction date, because it was not depicted in the 1927 proposed plan for MFHD and due to its proximity to Building 470 and the parade ground [both built 1929], Building 472 likely dates from ca. 1929. This is corroborated by the 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination, which states that the "construction chronology for this base suggests [... that Building 472] was more likely constructed in the 1928-1932 period, along with the bulk of the other concrete Mission Revival structures" [Allen, 1992].) The resource is surrounded by mature trees on its southeast and southwest elevations and features an asphalt parking lot to its northwest and northeast. A concrete sidewalk leads to entries on the building's Graeber Street-facing southwest elevation. Building 472 is in good overall condition and occupies a small rectangular footprint. This one-story reinforced-concrete building features a side-gable roof that is covered in Mission tile with rafters tucked under its eaves and vents in the gable ends. Exterior walls are board-formed concrete. Access to the building is through replacement double- and single-leaf flush metal doors on the primary, southwest elevation. There are no windows. The building has not been modified since it was last recorded.

### **Building 2304 (Built 1933)**

Building 2304 was built as a gatehouse on the west side of Graeber Street towards the northern end (but outside) of the airfield. It is located outside but immediately west of MFHD boundaries. The 2011 ICRMP suggests that the gatehouse likely was moved to its current location and assigned its current building number during the 1950s or 1960s; however, review of historic photographs and aerials indicates that the building was at its present location by 1933. Based on 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers records, the gatehouse was built in 1929, and a placard outside the building identifies that it was built in 1927. The gatehouse is not visible in aerials from 1929 or 1932, but is present in a 1933 aerial image. Therefore, based on primary source evidence, the building existed by 1933. No other primary source documentation was uncovered indicating that the gatehouse was built prior to 1933. Presently, it is not used as a functional gatehouse, and instead is unstaffed.

Building 2304 is reflective of the base's Mission Revival-style architecture. This well-maintained one-story building features a small, rectangular footprint, plaster-covered exterior walls, and a Mission tile-covered side-gable roof with exposed rafter tails. A concrete chimney is placed mid-slope on the east elevation. A replacement flush metal door is centered on the west elevation, a four-over-one steel sash window is centered on the south elevation, and a one-over-one steel window is centered on the north elevation. A gate set between concrete-block piers is attached to the building's west elevation. The building is surrounded by hardscaping, including walkways and gravel. The walkways have a radial pattern extending from the property, accentuated with mature palms. The building is located immediately northwest of Building 2271, which was built in 1983. A marker placed in front of the building reads "HISTORIC MARCH FIELD GATE HOUSE 1927 - 1952". Based on correspondence with knowledgeable March ARB staff, the building was renovated in 2012.

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Alterations include painted-over windows and the installation of a replacement door and metal replacement grilles over windows.

Building 2304 was recorded during a field survey for the ICRMP Update in November 2018. It has not been previously recorded or evaluated. The building was built during the MFHD's period of significance since it is first present in an aerial from 1933 and is associated with the base's interwar period development, historic themes, and architectural character. Therefore, the historic district boundaries should be expanded to encompass the gatehouse (including its attached gate), which should be added as a contributing resource to the district. Refer to the district record map included at the end of this Continuation Sheet for the proposed boundary expansion area, and to Sections D4 and D5 of the DPR 523D series form for a boundary expansion description and justification.

### **Stone Drainage Canal (Built 1942)**

This done drainage ditch was constructed in 1942. It is lined with split-granite stones set in a concrete mortar and features a deep U-shaped form. The canal extends along Meyer and Riverside drives in the north-central portion of March ARB. Non-historic-era concrete drives span the canal on Meyer Drive. Notably, a portion of the canal extends outside the boundaries of the MFHD.

### ***Streetscapes and Landscapes***

There are a series of streetscape and landscape elements that are related to the contributing resources that have not been previously recorded or evaluated, but contribute as character-defining features to the historic district's sense of place, character, feeling, and visual appearance. Based on historic photographs and context information, most of the landscape and streetscape features were added to the district by the 1930s, including the large manicured grass lawns and mature palm trees lining major arterial roadways or building envelopes. Historic manholes and light standards also are included as streetscape elements. The landscape and streetscape elements are described below. Refer to the end of this Continuation Sheet for photographs of historic manholes and light standards that are streetscape elements.

### **A Street Streetscape; Adams Avenue Streetscape; B Street Streetscape; Baucom Avenue Streetscape; Dekay Avenue Streetscape; Gilley, X, and L Streets Streetscape; Graeber Street Streetscape; M Street Streetscape; and Plummer Avenue Streetscape**

These streetscapes are previously unrecorded; however, they are located within the boundaries of the MFHD and contribute to its historic character, feeling, sense of place, and overall appearance. The thoroughfares are located east of the airfield in the central portion of the March ARB and intersect at 45-degree and 90-degree angles to create a right triangle. Graeber Street and Baucom Avenue/Baucom Avenue SE are arterial roads that form two important axes within this arrangement and extend in a northwest-southeast and southwest-northeast direction, respectively. The airfield's runway and aprons are located west of Graeber Street, outside the historic district's boundaries.

Graeber Street is a two-lane road built-up asphalt roadway with poured-concrete curbs. Concrete sidewalks line both sides of the street between M Street to the northwest and A Street to the southeast. Large hangars are evenly spaced along the airfield on the south side of Graeber Street. This side of the street is paved with concrete and asphalt and features some patches of grass and scattered mature tree coverage. Buildings on the north side of Graeber Street are more varied in size but typically are large one- to two-story buildings. The north side of the street features landscaped grass lawns and scattered mature tree cover, as well as some asphalt parking lots. Buildings lining Graeber Street generally feature a uniform setback and are characterized as large, hangar or hangar-like buildings, or as support buildings with Mission tile-covered roofs and plaster-covered exterior walls.

Baucom Avenue/Baucom Avenue SE are placed at orthogonally to Graeber Street in the middle of the base. The thoroughfares terminate against Graeber Street on their southwest end and at the entrance gate at the intersection of Riverside and Meyer Drives on their northwest end. They are two-lane concrete with concrete curbs. A concrete sidewalk lines the western wide of Baucom Avenue and the eastern side of Baucom Avenue SE. Baucom Avenue and Baucom Avenue SE are separated by a manicured grass median between the entrance gate and Building 176. Palm trees line the median and both sides of the street here, and small one-story residences with plaster exteriors, Mission tile-covered roofs,

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)

and grass lawns are evenly spaced on both sides of the street. Baucom Avenue and Baucom Avenue SE split and curve around the northeast elevation of Building 176 and continue to the southwest to eventually terminate at Graeber Street. Between Building 176 and Graeber Street the roads flank either side of a manicured grass parade ground and asphalt parking lot. Buildings lining Baucom Avenue and Baucom Avenue SE between Building 176 and Graeber Street typically are large and one to two stories in height with grass lawns landscaped with mature trees and shrubbery. Buildings lining Baucom Avenue/Baucom Avenue SE generally feature a uniform setback and display a similar appearance.

Dekay and Plummer avenues extend parallel to Graeber Street in a northwest-southeast direction and intersect Baucom Avenue and Baucom Avenue SE at a 90-degree angle. They terminate at B Street on their northwest end and at A Street on their southeast end. (Note: Dekay Avenue becomes K Street southeast of its intersection with U Street.) They are two-lane local roads with poured-concrete curbs. Dekay Avenue is paved in asphalt with concrete sidewalks on both sides of the street. Manicured grass lawns, asphalt parking lots, and mature trees also are found on both sides of the street. Buildings front Dekay Avenue on the north side of the street and include one- to two-story support, administrative, and recreational buildings. Small one-story residences are evenly spaced on the north side of Plummer Avenue. Buildings along Dekay and Plummer avenues display many of the same characteristics, including Mission tile-covered roofs and exterior walls finished in plaster. Most feature a uniform setback.

A Street, Adams Avenue, B Street, Gilley Street, L Street, M Street, and X Street are two-lane local roads that extend in cardinal directions. Except for X Street which is paved in asphalt, they are concrete-paved streets with poured-concrete curbs. Adams Avenue and B and M streets extend parallel to one other in a west-east direction and terminate on their eastern ends at Baucom Avenue. Towards its western end, B Street veers to the northwest before turning west to intersect with Graeber Street. M Street turns to the south to terminate at B Street on its western end, and Adams Avenue terminates at Q Street on its western end. Between O Street and Baucom Avenue, Adams Avenue and B and M streets are lined with small, one-story residences with manicured grass lawns. The western ends of the streets typically feature larger buildings with landscaped grass lawns and large asphalt parking lots. LeMay Park is bounded by Adams Avenue and B and Q streets. Water-related utility buildings, including water reservoirs, pump houses, and a water tower, are located at the western end of M Street. Concrete sidewalks line both sides of Adams Avenue as well as the north side of B Street. Portions of Adams Avenue and B Street are lined with trees.

A, Gilley, and L streets extend parallel to one another in a north-south direction and terminate on their northern ends at Baucom Avenue SE. A and Gilley streets terminate on their southern ends at Graeber Street while L Street terminates at X Street. The streets all are lined with small one-story residences with manicured grass lawns and scattered tree cover. The buildings are evenly spaced and share a similar appearance. Concrete sidewalks line both sides of Gilley Street as well as the eastern side of A Street between Baucom Avenue SE and N Street. Gilley Street also is lined with trees.

X Street is a small, two-block street located at the southern end of Gilley and L streets. It extends in a west-east direction between Graeber Street and Riverside Drive. Manicured grass lawns are located on both sides of the street.

### **LeMay Park (1928)**

LeMay Park is bounded by Dekay Avenue and Adams and B streets in the north-central portion of March ARB. The park is rectangular in shape and features a manicured grass lawn and five evenly-spaced rows of mature trees. Poured-concrete sidewalks traverse the park in a north-south direction. An asphalt-top parking lot is on the eastern end of the park. The resource is well maintained and has not been previously recorded.

### **Parade Ground (1928)**

The parade ground is bounded by Plummer Avenue, Baucom Avenue SE, Dekay Avenue, and Baucom Avenue in the central portion of March ARB. It is a large grass field with a flat topography and rectangular form. A memorial (Structure 488) is located in the southwest corner of the field. Palm trees line Dekay Avenue on the southern end of the parade ground, and mature deciduous trees line Plummer Avenue on the northern end. Notably, the parade ground historically extended south of Dekay Avenue to terminate at Graeber Street. This portion of the parade ground between Dekay Avenue and Graeber Street has been paved with asphalt to form a parking lot, and deciduous trees and palm trees have been planted along its perimeter and in a line through its center. The parking lot is a non-contributing/non-character-defining feature of the parade ground.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)

### Non-Contributing Resources of the MFHD

The following descriptions of the contributing resources located within the boundaries of March ARB are grouped based on their historic functions or spatial relationships to one another. These resources were last recorded as part of the 1992 MFHD NRHP nomination, 1995 Maintenance Manual, or the 2012 NRHP nomination amendment. The resources were identified as non-contributing resources due to their construction outside of the period significance, alterations, or lack of association with the historic district (refer to Section D6 of the DPR 523D series form for additional information).

#### **Building 110, The Hap Arnold Club (Built 1934)**

Building 110 was constructed in 1934 as an Officer's Club and Mess and presently is used as The Hap Arnold Club. (Note: although the 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers provides 1941 as the resource's construction date, a historic ledger at the base provides 1934 as the construction date for Building 110). The resource is bounded by M, O, and Q streets and Adams Avenue in the north portion of March ARB. An asphalt parking lot is immediately west of the resource and a manicured grass lawn and trees are to the east and south. Bushes are planted along the base of the building on the north and south elevations. An asphalt driveway loops off Adams Avenue to the south of the building. Concrete sidewalks lead to entries on the north, south, and west elevations. A small detached structure that terminates in a Mission tile-covered gable roof is located on a concrete patio centered on the north elevation along M Street. Building 110 occupies a large, sprawling footprint and terminates in a complex roof that is covered in Mission tile and roll asphalt. The resource is well maintained and features hollow-clay block construction and plaster-covered exterior walls. The main entries on the west end of the Adams Avenue-facing, primary, south elevation consist of two sets of replacement double-leaf wood panel doors. Other openings on this elevation include wood casement windows and a replacement glazed aluminum-frame door on the west end of the building. Openings on the east end of the south elevation include what appear to be aluminum-frame windows as well as two sets of glazed double-leaf doors set on a gabled porch. Flush metal doors comprise openings on the building's rear, north elevation along M Street. Building 110 has been heavily altered within through the construction of additions on its east, west, and south elevations. According to Johnson, these historic- and non-historic-era changes include the addition of a new dining room and kitchen in 1941; alterations and repairs in 1965; modifications to the "Cirros Room: in 1965; and a conference center addition in 1983 (Johnson, 1991). Other changes include the installation of canopies and replacement doors at the entries on the west end of the south elevation. No major modifications have occurred to the building since it was last recorded.

#### **Building 356, 452<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Group (Built 1929)**

Present-day Building 356 was formed when two early buildings, Buildings 356 and 357, were joined together in 1967 through the construction of a side-gabled addition along Graeber Street. The buildings were originally used as the Parachute Building and the Photographic Laboratory; today, Building 356 is used by the 452<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Group. It is located on the southeast side of Graeber Street in the south-central portion of March ARB. The building is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn with scattered mature tree cover and bushes planted along the building's base. An asphalt parking lot is located north and east of the building and concrete sidewalks lead to entries on the resource's northeast, northwest, and southeast elevations. Building 356 occupies a U-shaped footprint and terminates in a gable roof that is covered in Mission tile. The older portions of the building display hollow-wall concrete construction and board-formed concrete exterior walls. The main entry is set on the building's southeast elevation, which faces an adjacent parking lot, and consists of a flush metal door with a decorative surround. The door is flanked by three-light steel-framed windows. Other windows on the building are multi-light steel awning and wood casement units, many of which have been painted over. Doors on the southeast, northeast, and northwest elevations are flush metal units. The Graeber Street-facing southwest elevation is blind. Building 356 is one story in height, except for a one-and-a-half-story front-gabled segment on the east end of the southeast elevation. This resource has been heavily altered, largely through the construction of the addition along Graeber Street, the installation of replacement doors, the painting over of windows, and the infill of windows on the one-and-a-half-story segment on the southeast elevation with concrete blocks and a door. The building has not been altered since it was last recorded.

#### **Building 365, Garage (Built 1993)**

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)

This seven-bay garage front Graber Street to the north of Graeber Street. It features a stucco exterior and terminates in a shed roof. Garage doors are metal roll-up units. According to the 2012 MFHD NRHP nomination amendment, the building appears to provide storage for neighboring residences.

### **Building 415, Garage (Built ca. 1987)**

Building 415 was constructed in ca. 1987. According to the MFHD NRHP nomination, it was originally used as a pump house; today, it is used as a garage. The resource is located south of the water reservoirs that line M Street in the north-central portion of March ARB. It faces an asphalt parking lot to the west and is surrounded by hardscaping. Building 415 is a rectangular, one-story masonry building with plaster-covered exterior walls and a hip roof that is covered in Mission tile. The roof displays a deep overhang. The resource features a large overhead door and double- and single-leaf flush metal doors on its primary, west elevation. A single flush metal door also is centered on the north elevation. A metal sliding window is located on the building's south elevation, and a wood staircase, deck, and Building 496 abut the rear, east elevation, which lacks openings. Building 415 is well maintained and appears to be unaltered, but is unoccupied presently.

### **Building 434, Ticket & Tours, Outdoor Recreation Office (Built 1933)**

Building 434 was constructed in 1933 as a Laundry, but presently is used as the Ticket & Tours, Outdoor Recreation Office. The building is located between B and Graeber streets in the north-central portion of March ARB. It is surrounded by hardscaping with a small patch of grass and two palm trees at its Graber Street-facing southwest elevation. This hollow-clay tile building has plaster-covered exterior walls and terminates in a side-gable roof that is covered in composition shingles. The building is one-story in height with a two-story projection on the rear, northeast elevation. A peaked parapet with coping conceals the roof on southwest elevation. Doors on the primary, northwest elevation consist of double- and single-leaf metal flush units as well as replacement, double-leaf glazed units set in an aluminum frame at the main entry on the east end of the elevation. Double-leaf glazed doors also are located on the southeast elevation. Windows on the building are multi-light steel awning units, the majority of which have been painted over. Windows on the northwest, southeast, and northeast elevations of the rear, eastern end of the building have been infilled with vertical board. Other alterations include the installation of replacement doors and an awning at the main entry on the northwest elevation. The rear portion of the building is not consistent with the MFHD's Mission Revival elements. No changes have occurred to the resource since it was last recorded.

### **Building 442, 452<sup>nd</sup> Air Mobility Wing (Built 1974)**

This resource was constructed in 1974. It consists of two metal-clad support buildings located on the airfield between Buildings 440 and 436. The easternmost building terminates in a metal-clad gable roof and features an aluminum-frame sliding window on its northeast elevation and a blind southwest elevation. A roll-up metal garage door is located on the building's primary, airfield-facing southwest elevation. The westernmost building features a flat roof and a double metal bay door on its primary, airfield-facing southwest elevation. Building 442 is surrounded by a concrete parking lot and is located immediately southeast of Building 429.

### **Building 449, 452<sup>nd</sup> Operational Contracting Office (Built 1941)**

Building 449 is a rectangular, one-story reinforced-concrete building constructed as an Armament Instrument Building in 1941. It presently is used by the 452<sup>nd</sup> Operational Contracting Office. The resource is located on Graeber Street in the north-central portion of March ARB. It is surrounded by hardscaping with a patch of rocks at the Graber Street-facing, primary southwest elevation. A concrete sidewalk leads to the main entry on this elevation. Building 449 features a flat roof, board-formed concrete walls, and minimal fenestration. The façade is symmetrical with a centrally-placed main entry consisting of replacement, double-leaf glazed aluminum-frame doors flanked by flush metal doors. The doors are covered by a cantilevered hood and are framed by incised bands. Single flush metal doors are located on side elevations, and double-leaf flush metal doors are set on the rear, northeast elevation. Alterations are limited to replacement doors at the main entry and awnings installed over doors on side elevations. The building has not been modified since it was last recorded. It displays elements of the Streamlined Moderne style through its massing, flat roof, and smooth exterior walls, and minimal applied ornamentation. Therefore, the building is not consistent with the MFHD's Mission Revival elements.

### **Structure 450, Beacon Light (Built 1949)**

Structure 450 is a beacon light constructed in 1949. It is mounted to the top of Structure 407 (a water tower) in the north-central portion of the base. Although it is located within the MFHD, Structure 450 was not recorded in the 1992 NRHP

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)

nomination form for the district or the 2012 NRHP amendment. The structure was identified in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC; however, it was not recorded or evaluated. Because Structure 450 is located within the MFHD and its 1949 construction date post-dates the district's 1928-1943 period of significance, it is included in the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* as a non-contributing resource to the district.

### **Structure 454, Loading Platform (Built 1980)**

This resource is a concrete loading and unloading platform constructed in 1980. It is located on the airfield between Buildings 452 and 457 and is surrounded by concrete paving.

### **Building 468, Law Center (Built 1942)**

Building 468 was constructed in 1942 as the Base Chapel but presently is used as the Law Center. (Note: The 1992 NRHP nomination for MFHD lists the construction date as 1941.) This one-story wood-frame building is located in the central portion of March ARB. It faces the parade ground and Baucom Avenue to the southeast and is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn. Large trees flank the main entry on the primary, southeast elevation, and trees and shrubs are planted along the base of the building on all elevations. A concrete sidewalk leads to entries on the southeast, northwest, and southwest elevations. The resource features a metal-clad front-gable roof and a gabled porch centered on its primary, southeast elevation, which is symmetrical. Double-leaf doors topped by a broken pediment door are centered on the porch. Secondary entries are located on the northeast and southwest elevations of a shed-roof addition on the rear, northwest elevation. The building has an asbestos shingle exterior. Replacement sliding aluminum windows flank the main entry and are rhythmically spaced on side elevations. In addition to altered siding and windows, the building has also been modified through the construction of the addition on its rear and the removal of its original steeple. No changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded.

### **Structure 488, Memorial (Built ca. 1970s)**

Per the MFHD NRHP nomination, this memorial was built ca. the 1970s. It is located in the southwest corner of the parade ground on Dekay Avenue and is surrounded by manicured bushes. A concrete sidewalk that extends off the sidewalk that parallels Dekay Avenue provides access to the resource, which occupies a rectangular form and features a tile floor and metal markers mounted to painted low-rise concrete walls. Palm trees line Dekay Avenue to the east and west of the flagpole. A flagpole that dated from 1935 and which was identified as a contributing resource to the MFHD in the MFHD NRHP nomination was centered on the memorial; however, it has been removed. The flagpole was moved to the location after the Vietnam War (JRP, 1992). The memorial was identified as a non-contributing resource in the MFHD NRHP nomination. Structure 488 has not been altered through the removal of the flagpole since it was last recorded.

### **Building 6604, Hospital Drains (Built 1965)**

Structure 6604 was last recorded in the 2013. It consists of hospital drains constructed in 1965. The drains are primarily underground and located behind the original hospital (Building 323) added thirty years after the hospital was built to accommodate improved plumbing systems.

### **Structure 20004, Tennis Court (Built 1941)**

This resource consists of two tennis courts built in 1941. It is located north of B Street and west of Building 100 and is enclosed by a chain-link fence. An asphalt parking lot is to the east and a manicured grass lawn is to the west and south. The courts are paved and are in good overall condition. A poured-concrete sidewalk leads to an entry to the courts on their western side. The courts have been resurfaced, and the nets have been replaced. Lighting and the chain-link fence also have been added around the court's perimeter. The resource has not been altered since its last recordation.

P5a.            **Photographs** (continued)

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 100, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 100, view looking southwest, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 100, view looking west, ca. 1929, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 102, view looking north, November 2018

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 102, view looking northeast, November 2018



Building 108, view looking northeast, November 2018

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 108, view looking southwest, November 2018



Building 108, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 110, view looking north, November 2018



Building 110, view looking north, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 110, view looking southwest, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 115, view looking north, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 115, view looking east, November 2018



Building 176, view looking east, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 176, view looking northeast, November 2018



Building 176, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 177, view looking north, November 2018



Building 177, view looking west, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 177, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 238 (left) Building 240 (center), and Building 242 (right), view looking east, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 238, view looking northeast, November 2018



Representative historic photograph of property type constructed at the base, ca. 1930. Source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 239, view looking northwest, November 2018



Building 240, view looking east, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Representative historic photograph of residential property type constructed at the base, ca. 1930. Source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 241 (left) and Building 243 (right), view looking northwest, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 242, view looking southeast, November 2018



Building 242: representative historic photograph of property type constructed at the base, ca. 1930. Source: March ARB historic ledger.

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Building 239 (left), Building 241 (center), and Building 243 (right), view looking west, November 2018



Building 243, view looking northwest, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 244, view looking east, November 2018



Building 244, view looking southeast, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 244, view looking southeast, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 245, view looking west, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 245, view looking southwest, November 2018



Building 245, view looking southwest, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 246 (left), Building 248 (center), Building 250 (right), view looking east, November 2018



Building 246, view looking ENE, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 247, view looking NNE, November 2018



Building 247, view looking northwest, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 248 (center), Building 246 (left) and Building 250 (right) view looking east, November 2018



Building 248, view looking east, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 248: representative historic photograph of property type constructed at the base ca. 1930, view looking west. Source: March ARB historic ledger



Building 249, view looking west, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 250, view looking northeast, November 2018



Building 250, view looking north, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 251, view looking southeast, November 2018



Building 251, view looking southwest, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 300, view looking southeast, November 2018



Building 300, view looking WSW, November 2018

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 300, view looking north, November 2018



Building 300, view looking northeast (top) and view looking west (bottom),  
ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 300, view looking ENE, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 300 showing original interior double door, June 2019.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 300 showing original interior double door, June 2019.



Building 300 showing original doorknobs on interior double door, June 2019.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 301, view looking ENE, November 2018



Building 301, view looking north, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 301, view looking northeast, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 311, view looking north, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 311, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 311, view looking northwest, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 311 indoor mural. Likely completed in the last 40-70 years. November 2018.



Building 311 indoor mural. Likely completed in the last 40-70 years. November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 315, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Building 315, view looking west, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 315, view looking west, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 317, view looking east, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 317, view looking southeast, November 2018.



Building 317, view looking northwest, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

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Building 323, view looking southeast, November 2018.



Building 323, view looking west, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 323, view looking southeast, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 323, view looking east, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 355, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 355, view looking west, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 355 example of property type, view looking northeast (top) and view looking west (bottom), ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 356, view looking NNW, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 356, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 356, view looking NNW, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 362, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 362, view looking west, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 362, view looking west ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 365, view looking SSW, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 365, view looking NNW, November 2018.



Building 373, view looking northwest, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 373, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 373, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 373, view looking northeast (top) and view looking west (bottom) ,  
ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 373, view looking west, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 381, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 381, view looking NNW, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 381, view looking north ca. 1930 source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 382, view looking north, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 382, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 382, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 383, view looking NNE, November 2018.



Building 383, view looking southeast, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 383, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 386, view looking southwest, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 386, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 386, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 400, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 400, view looking north, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 400, view looking northwest, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 405, view looking NNW, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 405, view looking east, November 2018.



Building 405 (left) and Building 479 (right) view looking north, ca. 1930.  
Source: March ARB historic ledger.

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Structure 406, view looking southwest, November 2018.

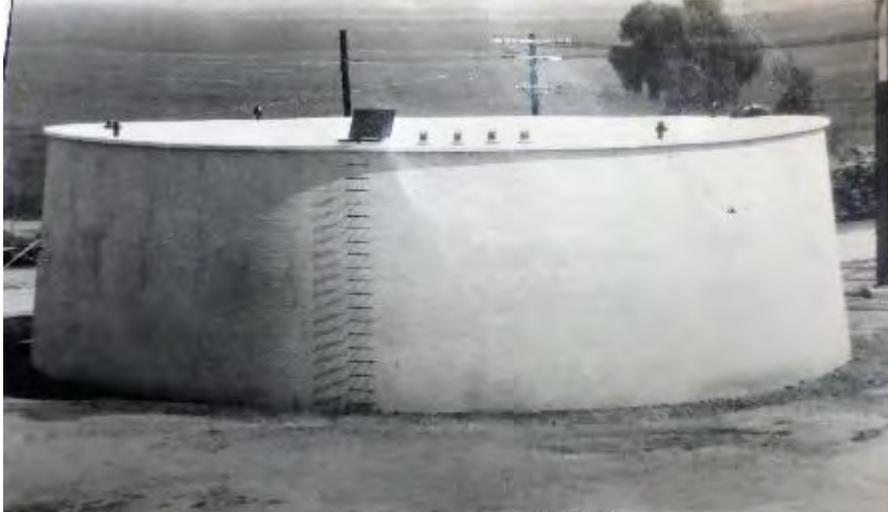


Structure 406, view looking south, November 2018.

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Structure 406, view most likely looking south, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Structure 407, view looking southeast, November 2018.

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Structure 407, view looking southeast, November 2018.

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Structure 407, view most likely looking east, ca. 1950, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Structure 408, view looking south-southwest, November 2018.



Structure 408, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Structure 408, view looking southeast, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Structure 409, view looking south, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Structure 409, view looking north, November 2018.



Structure 409, view most likely looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 410, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 410, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 410, view looking south, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 411, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 411, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 411, view looking northwest, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 412, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 412, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 412, view looking southeast, November 2018.



Building 413, view looking west, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 413, view looking southwest, November 2018.



Building 413, view looking southwest, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 415, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 415, view looking northeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 417, view looking southeast, November 2018.



Building 417, view looking northwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 417, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 418, view looking NNE, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 418, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 418, view most likely looking west, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 420, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 420, view looking NNW, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 420, view looking NNW, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 429, view looking south, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 429, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 429, view looking northeast (top) and view looking west (bottom) ,  
ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 429, view looking west, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 430, view looking NNE, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 430, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 430, view looking northeast, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 431, view looking southwest, November 2018.



Building 431, view looking south, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 119 of 158

\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 431, view looking south, ca. 1934, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 432, view looking southwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 120 of 158

\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 432, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 432, view looking northwest, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 433, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 433, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 433, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 433, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 434, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 434, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 434, view looking south, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 435, view looking NNE, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 435, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 435, view looking NNE, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 439, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 439, view looking northwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 439, view looking south, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 440, view looking south, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 440, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 440, view looking northeast (top) and southwest (bottom),  
ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 442, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 442, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 449, view looking east, November 2018.



Building 449, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Structure 450, view looking southeast, July 2018.



Building 452, view looking south, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 452, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Building 452, view looking northeast (top) and southwest (bottom),  
ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 453, view looking northwest, November 2018.

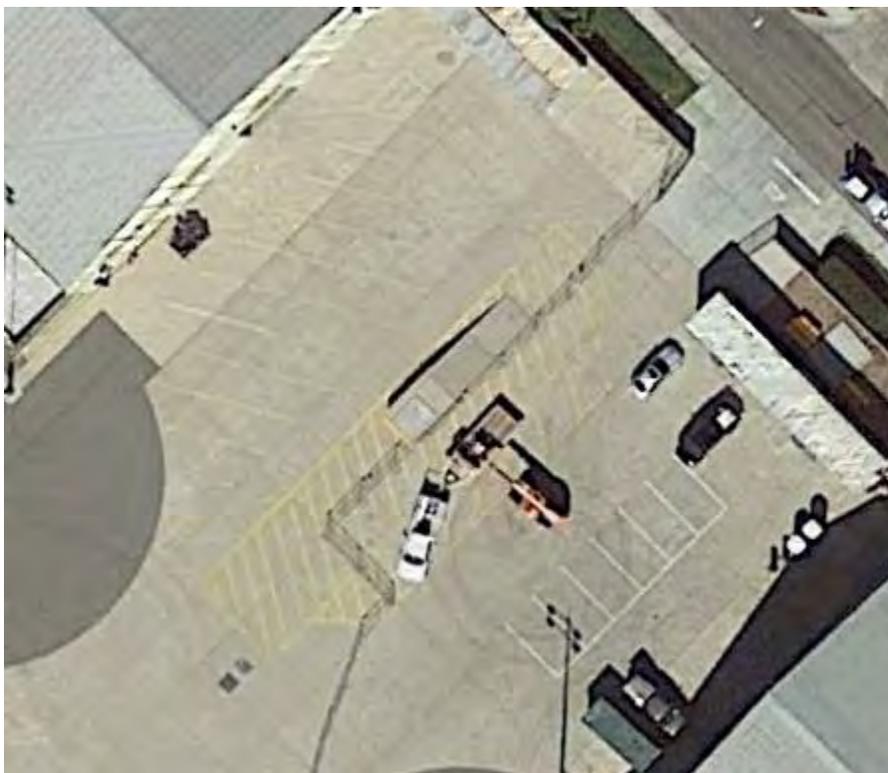


Building 453, view looking east, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 453, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Structure 454, plan view, source Google Earth Aerial November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Structure 454, view looking east, source Google Earth Aerial November 2018.



Building 456, view looking WSW, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 456, view looking southeast, November 2018.

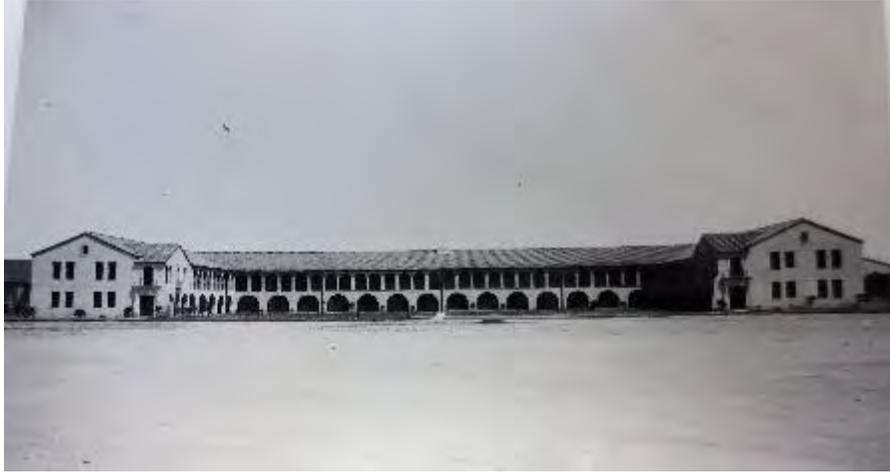


Building 456, view looking east, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 456, view looking southeast, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

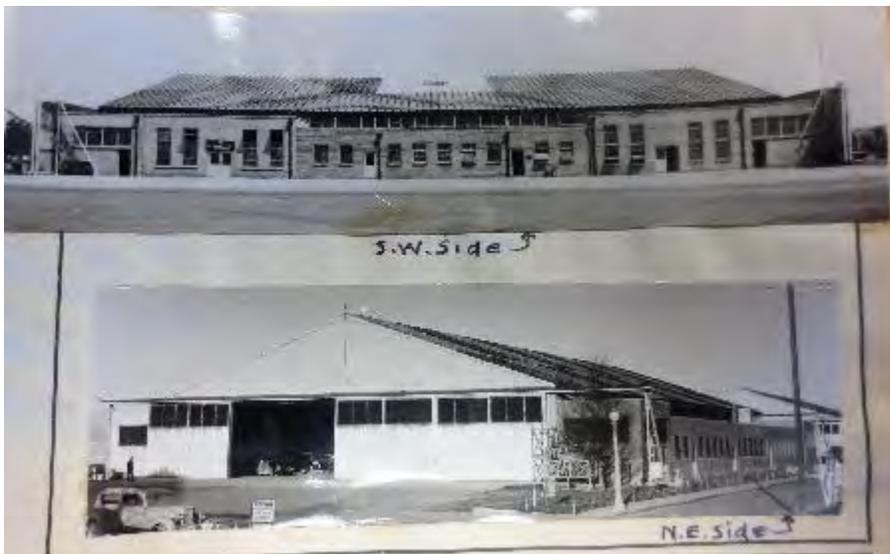


Building 457, view looking southeast, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 457, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Building 457, view looking northeast (top) and southwest (bottom),  
ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 457, view looking west, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 458, view looking south, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 458, view looking NNW, November 2018.



Building 458, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 465, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 465, view looking NNE, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 465, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 466, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 466, view looking east, November 2018.



Building 466, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 467, view looking NNE, November 2018.



Building 467, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 467, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 467, view looking north, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 470, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 470, view looking southwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 470, view looking southwest, 1934, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 470, view looking southwest, ca. 1970-1980, source: March ARB historic ledger.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 470, view looking west, ca. 1930, source: March ARB historic ledger.



Building 472, view looking NNE, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 472, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 479, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Building 479, view looking west, November 2018.



Structure 488, view looking northeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Structure 488, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 497, view looking northeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 497, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Building 2304, view looking east, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2304, view looking southwest, November 2018.



Building 2304, view looking northeast, ca. 1933, source: March ARB.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2304, view looking southeast, ca. 1933, source: March ARB.



Building 2304 (see red arrow), aerial view, 1933, source: March ARB.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Structure 20004, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Structure 20004, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Structure 20004, view looking west, November 2018.



Manhole cover (manholes covers are a streetscape element, and streetscapes are a character-defining feature of the MFHD), view looking down, June 2019.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: March Field Historic District (update)



Manhole cover (manholes covers are a streetscape element, and streetscapes are a character-defining feature of the MFHD), view looking down, June 2019.



Light standard (light standards are a streetscape element, and streetscapes are a character-defining feature of the MFHD), view looking up, June 2019.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 13

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 181, Sally's Alley Casual Bar (Club Operations Building) and Building 426, March Inn Business Center

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East Date 1967 T 3S ; R 4W ;  of  of Sec 24 ; SB B.M.

c. Building 181: Address M Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Building 426: Address Dekay Avenue City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Building 181: Zone 11, 476162 mE/ 3751383 mN

Building 426: Zone 11, 476132 mE/ 3751182 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Buildings 181 and 426 were built in 1950 and 1964, respectively, and were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. These buildings are grouped together due to their function as personnel entertainment, recreational, and service facilities from the mid-twentieth century (post-World War II). (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP6 – 1-3 Story Commercial Building; HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  
 Structure  Object  Site  District   
 Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) Building 181, View looking northeast, November 2018

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  
 Prehistoric  
 Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

P5a. Photograph or Drawing



\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update, March Air Reserve Base (ARB), Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

B1. Historic Name: Building 181 - Storehouse for Officer's Club; Building 426 - Laundry & Dry-Cleaning Building

B2. Common Name: Buildings 181 and 426

B3. Original Use: Building 181 - Storehouse for Officer's Club; Building 426 - Laundry & Dry-Cleaning Building

B4. Present Use: Building 181 - Club Operations, Bar; Building 426 - Reception, Business Center, and Accounting for March Inn

\*B5. Architectural Style: Building 181 - Utilitarian; Building 426 - Utilitarian with minor Modern detailing

\*B6. Construction History: Building 181 - Built in 1950. Modern Spanish tile gable roof and new entry door added sometime after 1970. Sheltered patio constructed in 1986. Building 426 - Constructed in 1964. Subsequent alterations unknown.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A

Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 181 and 426 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of their use as modest support buildings at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance and integrity. They also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. In addition, Buildings 181 and 426 also were inventoried in the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District* and were recommended as non-contributing elements to the historic district. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance or integrity for listing in the NRHP. They also are recommended as non-contributing elements to the district. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Continuation Sheet

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

### **P3a. Description** (continued)

Building 181 faces M Street to the south in the north-central portion of March ARB. The building was constructed in 1950 and was originally used as an Officer's Club Storehouse and has been used since the 1980s as a bar and restaurant. The small one-story concrete-block building occupies a rectangular footprint, has a moderately pitched Spanish tile-covered side-gable roof, and features a plaster exterior. A replacement glazed door with sidelights, all set in an aluminum frame, is centered on the façade. The building lacks windows. Alterations include a new tile-covered gable roof and new entrance doors added after 1970 (JRP, 2013). A wood-frame patio was also added to the building's east elevation in 1986 (JRP, 2013). No major changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded. The building is surrounded by hardscape and a concrete-block wall separates it from Meyer Drive to the north. It is utilitarian in design.

Building 426 is located off Dekay Avenue in the north-central portion of the base. It was originally constructed in 1964 as a laundry and dry-cleaning facility. In 2002, it was converted for use as a frame shop and later as business center for the March Inn, which is its current use. It is a one-story concrete-block building with a rectangular footprint, low-pitch side-gable roof, flush metal doors, and fixed and sliding aluminum windows. The side-gabled roof overhangs past the exterior walls and features a partially exposed central ridge beam at each end. An extension of the eave supported by two steel posts shelters double-leaf glazed metal doors on the building's primary, northwest elevation. The building appears to be relatively unaltered and is in good condition. It is utilitarian in style with minor Modern detailing.

### **B10. Significance** (continued)

Buildings 181 and 426 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed in 1950 and 1964 as an Officer's Club Storehouse building and laundry and dry-cleaning facility, respectively. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

As mentioned, Building 181 was constructed in 1950 and was originally used as a storage building for the nearby Officer's Club. It has been used since the 1980s as a bar and restaurant. Alterations include a new tile-covered gable roof and new entrance doors added after 1970. A wood-frame patio was also added to the building's east elevation in 1986.

Building 426 was originally constructed in 1964 as a laundry and dry-cleaning facility. In 2002, it was converted for use as a frame shop and later as a business center for the March Inn, which is its current use. The building appears to be relatively unaltered.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Buildings 181 and 426 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

As a result, Buildings 181 and 426, which were constructed in 1950 and 1964 as an Officer's Club Storehouse building and a laundry and dry-cleaning facility, respectively, ultimately were used as a morale facility and as a minor personnel support facility. As such, the resources are not significant within this framework. They are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The buildings are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 181 and 426 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style morale/social and minor personnel support facilities, Buildings 181 and 426 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Although they are located within the boundaries of the district, Buildings 181 and 426 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, Buildings 181 and 426 are recommended non-contributing elements to the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

Furthermore, Building 181's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association have been compromised by alterations completed within the past 40 years. Building 181 was converted to a bar in the 1980s, and has been altered through the addition of a tile-covered gable roof and new main entry doors added sometime after 1970. A wood-frame

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

patio was also added in 1986. Due to its diminished historic integrity and alterations, Building 181 is no longer able to convey association with significant styles or engineering achievements associated with a Cold War-era resources at March ARB. Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C. Building 426 has not been heavily altered but is not eligible under Criterion C.

### Criterion D

Buildings 181 and 426 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Building 181 has retained its integrity of location and setting, however, its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association of have been impacted by alterations to the resource completed within the past 40 years. This includes the addition of a tile-covered gable roof and new main entry doors added sometime after 1970. A wood-frame patio was also added to the resource in 1986.

Building 426 retains its overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It does not appear to be altered.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 181 and 426 are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 181 and 426 (update)

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

### P5a. Photographs (continued)



Building 181, view looking northwest, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 181, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 181, view looking southeast, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 426, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 426, view looking west, November 2018.



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 258, Transient Alert (Storage); Building 260, Night Lighting Vault; Building 378, 4<sup>th</sup> Air Force Storage Building; Building 496, Storage; and Structure 11010, Security Alert System

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 24; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address: Building 258: Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518 (See Continuation Sheet)

d. UTM: Building 258: Zone 11, 476519.2601 mE/ 3750466.7252 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Buildings 258, 260, and 378 were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. Building 496 has not been previously recorded. Structure 11010 was identified in the 2013 study as a minor infrastructure element but was not recorded or evaluated. The resources are grouped together due to their function as small support facilities located near the airfield areas from the mid-twentieth century (post-World War II). (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP4 – Ancillary Building; HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 258, view looking east. November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic

Prehistoric

Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers; Visual survey; Review of historic aerial imagery

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:

Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record

Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record

Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

B1. Historic Name: Building 258 - Switch House; Building 260 - Night Lighting Vault; Building 378 - Medical Storage; Building 496 - Unknown; Structure 11010 - Security Alert System

B2. Common Name: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

B3. Original Use: Building 258 - Switch House; Building 260 - Night Lighting Vault; Building 378 - Bottled Gas Storage; Building 496 - Unknown; Structure 11010 - Security Alert System

B4. Present Use: Building 258 - Transient Alert (Storage); Building 260 - Night Lighting Vault; Building 378 - 4<sup>th</sup> Air Force Storage Building; Building 496 - Storage; Structure 11010 - Security Alert System

\*B5. **Architectural Style:** Building 258 - Utilitarian with Mission Revival details; Buildings 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010 - Utilitarian

\*B6. **Construction History:** Building 258 - Built in 1951. Replacement door at main entry and painted fanlights in gable ends. Building 260 - Originally built in 1952, however, this portion of the building was demolished sometime after 2013. A 440 and 604 square-foot addition were added in 1956 and 1965, respectively. The Spanish tile roof was added at an unknown date. Building 378 - Built in 1954. Its flat roof was converted to a Spanish tile-covered gable roof at an unknown date. Building 496 - Appears to date from circa 1987 based on visual survey and inspection of historic aerial imagery. Exterior wood stairs and wood deck on the resource's roof were likely replaced at an unknown date. Structure 11010 - Built in 1952.

\*B7. **Moved?**  No  Yes  Unknown **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Original Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. **Related Features:** None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. **Significance:** Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update, March Air Reserve Base (ARB), Riverside County, California* in November 2018.

Buildings 258, 260, and 378 were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. The resources were found not eligible because of their use as modest support buildings at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. Buildings 258, 260, and 378 also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because they were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. Structure 11010 was identified in the 2013 study as a minor infrastructure element but was not recorded or evaluated. Building 378 additionally was inventoried in the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District* and was recommended as a non-contributing element to the historic district. Building 496 has not been previously recorded or evaluated. (See Continuation Sheet.)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. **References:**

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. **Evaluator:** Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Continuation Sheet

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

### P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad (continued)

Building 260: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4West;  of  of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M  
Building 378: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4West;  of  of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M  
Building 496: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4West;  of  of Sec 23; \_\_\_ B.M  
Building 11010: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Perris 1967 Date (PR) 1979 T 3 South; R 4West;  of  of Sec 36; \_\_\_ B.M

### P2c. Address (continued)

Building 260: Address Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Building 378: Address U Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Building 496: Address M Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Structure 11010: Address Airfield Runway City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

### P2d. UTM (continued)

Building 260: UTM Zone 11, 476614.0000 mE/ 3750409.0000 mN  
Building 378: UTM Zone 11, 476425.7971 mE/ 3751011.4560 mN  
Building 496: UTM Zone 11, 475884.0000 mE/ 3751314.0000 mN  
Building 11010: UTM Zone 11, 477077.410 mE/ 3746879.760 mN

### P3a. Description (continued)

This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. Buildings 260 and 378 also lack integrity. Furthermore, Building 378, which is located within the boundaries of the March Field Historic District but post-dates the period of significance (1928-1943), is recommended as a non-contributing element to the district.

Building 258 was constructed in 1951 as an electrical switch house, and by 1954, it was used as a paint storage building. The building has also been used as a general-purpose shop and storage area for the United States Customs and Border Protection. Currently, it serves as a Transient Alert building and provides services to arriving aircraft. The building is a small one-story wood-frame building located on the airfield in the south-central portion of the base. Graeber Street is north of the building. A concrete-block wall abuts the northwest and southwest elevations of the resource, which faces northeast. The building terminates in a side-gable roof with three-light fanlights in the gable ends. It displays Mission Revival details through its Spanish-tile covered roof. The eaves are covered with a wood fascia. The building's façade is symmetrical and consists of a centrally-placed replacement flush metal door with a small bracketed pent roof over the door that also is covered in Spanish tile. Windows are original double-hung six-over-one wood sash units. Alterations include the replacement door on the façade and the painting over of the fanlights. The building is well maintained and has not been altered since it was last recorded in 2013.

Building 260 was originally constructed in 1952 for use as a night lighting utility vault with a side-gabled form oriented towards Graeber Street; however, this portion of the building has been demolished since the resource's last recordation in 2013. The earliest extant portion of the building is from 1956 (side-gabled north portion) and then was expanded again in 1965 (front-gabled south portion) to accommodate additional utility areas. The building is located on the east side of Graeber Street in the south-central portion of March ARB. It is currently a two-story concrete-block building terminating in a Spanish tile-covered gable roof with exposed rafter tails. The building has a smooth plaster exterior with vertical boards in the gable ends. A wood belt course is located beneath the gable ends and rooflines. Doors are original flush metal units. Other openings consist of vents with one of the vents featuring a thick wood surround. Building 260 is in fair to good condition. Major alterations include conversion of its original flat roof to a gable roof at an unknown date. Building 260 is utilitarian in style.

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

Building 378 is a utilitarian-style building originally used as a bottled gas storage facility when it was constructed in 1954. It was later converted for use as a general storage building in 1956, and in 1958 became used as a general storage building for Building 323. The resource is located to the rear of Building 323 in the central portion of March ARB, southwest of the Plummer Avenue and Baucom Avenue SE intersection. It is located within the boundaries of the March Field Historic District. The south portion of the building faces an asphalt concrete parking lot and the north, west, and east portions are surrounded by landscaped grass lawns with a large parade ground located past Baucom Avenue SE. This one-story concrete-block building terminates in a Spanish tile-covered front-gable roof and has replacement six-panel metal doors on its northeast and southwest elevations. The roof has a wood fascia and soffit, and slightly overhangs past the exterior walls. It is in good condition and appears unaltered except for the replacement doors. Other openings include louvered and screened vents. The resource is primarily a support building to Building 323 due to their proximity to each other. Alterations include conversion of the original flat roof to a gable roof at an unknown date. No major changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded in 2013.

Building 496 is a small, one-story utilitarian-style building that likely was originally used for storage. Presently, it is used for storage. Based on visual inspection and review of historic aerial imagery, the building appears to date from ca.ca. 1987. The building is located south of M Street in the north portion of March ARB. Building 415 is immediately west of the building, and a chain-link fence borders the building to the east. Hardscaping is east and south of the building and a grass lawn is to the east. Building 496 occupies a rectangular footprint and features board-formed concrete walls and a flat roof. A wood platform surrounded by a wood railing is set on the roof and is accessible from wooden stairs abutting the building's west elevation; the stairs have partially collapsed. Fenestration on Building 496 is limited to a flush door on its primary, south elevation. The resource is in fair overall condition. Alterations include replacement wood stairs and deck on the building's exterior.

Structure 11010 is a security alert system that consists of a radio and telecommunication structure intended to support the safety of the airfield and intrusion detection. It is located at the south end of the airfield and consists of a utilitarian structure that provides information and detection to the base's security systems and control center operations. The structure appears to be unaltered and was built in 1952

### **B10. Significance** (continued)

Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed between 1951 and ca. 1987 as a switch house, night lighting vault, medical storage building, a storage building, and a security alert system, respectively. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the

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period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Building 258 was constructed in 1951 as an electrical switch house, and by 1954, it was used as paint storage building. The building has also been used as a general-purpose shop and storage area for the United States Customs and Border Protection. Currently, it serves as a Transient Alert building and provides services to arriving aircraft. Alterations include a replacement door on the façade and the painting over of the fanlights in the gable ends.

Building 260 was originally constructed in 1952 for use as a night lighting utility vault with a side-gabled form oriented towards Graeber Street; however, this portion of the building has been demolished since the resource's last recordation in 2013. The earliest extant portion of the building is from 1956 (side-gabled north portion) and then was expanded again in 1965 (front-gabled south portion) to accommodate additional utility areas. In addition to these additions, other major alterations include conversion of its original flat roof to a gable roof at an unknown date.

Building 378 was originally used as a bottled gas storage facility when it was constructed in 1954. It was later converted for use as a general storage building in 1956, and in 1958 became used as a general storage building for Building 323. Alterations include conversion of the original flat roof to a gable roof at an unknown date.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

Building 496 is presently used for storage. It was built ca. 1987. Its original use is unknown. Alterations consist of replacement wood stairs and deck on the building's exterior.

Structure 11010 is a security alert system that appears to be unaltered.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010 were constructed between 1951 and ca. 1987 as minor infrastructural support and storage facilities. As such, the resources are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

**P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad** (continued)

Building 260: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4West;    of    of **Sec 24**;    **B.M**  
Building 378: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4West;    of    of **Sec 24**;    **B.M**  
Building 496: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4West;    of    of **Sec 23**;    **B.M**  
Building 11010: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Perris 1967 Date (PR) 1979 T 3 South; R 4West;    of    of **Sec 36**;    **B.M**

**P2c. Address** (continued)

Building 260: Address Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Building 378: Address U Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Building 496: Address M Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Structure 11010: Address Airfield Runway City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

**P2d. UTM** (continued)

Building 260: UTM Zone 11, 476614.0000 mE/ 3750409.0000 mN  
Building 378: UTM Zone 11, 476425.7971 mE/ 3751011.4560 mN  
Building 496: UTM Zone 11, 475884.0000 mE/ 3751314.0000 mN  
Building 11010: UTM Zone 11, 477077.410 mE/ 3746879.760 mN

**P3a. Description** (continued)

This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. Buildings 260 and 378 also lack integrity. Furthermore, Building 378, which is located within the boundaries of the March Field Historic District but post-dates the period of significance (1928-1943), is recommended as a non-contributing element to the district.

Building 258 was constructed in 1951 as an electrical switch house, and by 1954, it was used as a paint storage building. The building has also been used as a general-purpose shop and storage area for the United States Customs and Border Protection. Currently, it serves as a Transient Alert building and provides services to arriving aircraft. The building is a small one-story wood-frame building located on the airfield in the south-central portion of the base. Graeber Street is north of the building. A concrete-block wall abuts the northwest and southwest elevations of the resource, which faces northeast. The building terminates in a side-gable roof with three-light fanlights in the gable ends. It displays Mission Revival details through its Spanish-tile covered roof. The eaves are covered with a wood fascia. The building's façade is symmetrical and consists of a centrally-placed replacement flush metal door with a small bracketed pent roof over the door that also is covered in Spanish tile. Windows are original double-hung six-over-one wood sash units. Alterations include the replacement door on the façade and the painting over of the fanlights. The building is well maintained and has not been altered since it was last recorded in 2013.

Building 260 was originally constructed in 1952 for use as a night lighting utility vault with a side-gabled form oriented towards Graeber Street; however, this portion of the building has been demolished since the resource's last recordation in 2013. The earliest extant portion of the building is from 1956 (side-gabled north portion) and then was expanded again in 1965 (front-gabled south portion) to accommodate additional utility areas. The building is located on the east side of Graeber Street in the south-central portion of March ARB. It is currently a two-story concrete-block building terminating in a Spanish tile-covered gable roof with exposed rafter tails. The building has a smooth plaster exterior with vertical boards in the gable ends. A wood belt course is located beneath the gable ends and rooflines. Doors are original flush metal units. Other openings consist of vents with one of the vents featuring a thick wood surround. Building 260 is in fair to good condition. Major alterations include conversion of its original flat roof to a gable roof at an unknown date. Building 260 is utilitarian in style.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

Building 258 has retained its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, its integrity of materials has been diminished by the installation of a replacement door.

Building 260 has been heavily altered through the construction of additions to the original, 1952-era portion of the building, including a side-gabled addition in 1956 and a front-gabled portion in 1965. Further, the original 1952-era portion of the building was demolished sometime after 2013. Other alterations include the conversion of its original flat roof to a gable roof at an unknown date. These changes have compromised the resource's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Building 378 retains its integrity of location, setting, materials, and association; however, its integrity of design, workmanship, and feeling have been impacted by the conversion of the original flat roof to a gable roof at an unknown date.

Building 496 retains its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. Its integrity of design and materials have been diminished through the replacement of its exterior wood stairs and deck on its roof.

Structure 11010 appears to be unaltered. It retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 258, 260, 378, and 496 and Structure 11010

**P5a. Photographs (continued)**



Building 258, view looking south, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 258, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Building 260, view looking east, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 260, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Building 260, view looking southwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 378, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 378, view looking northwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 496, view looking northeast, November 2018.

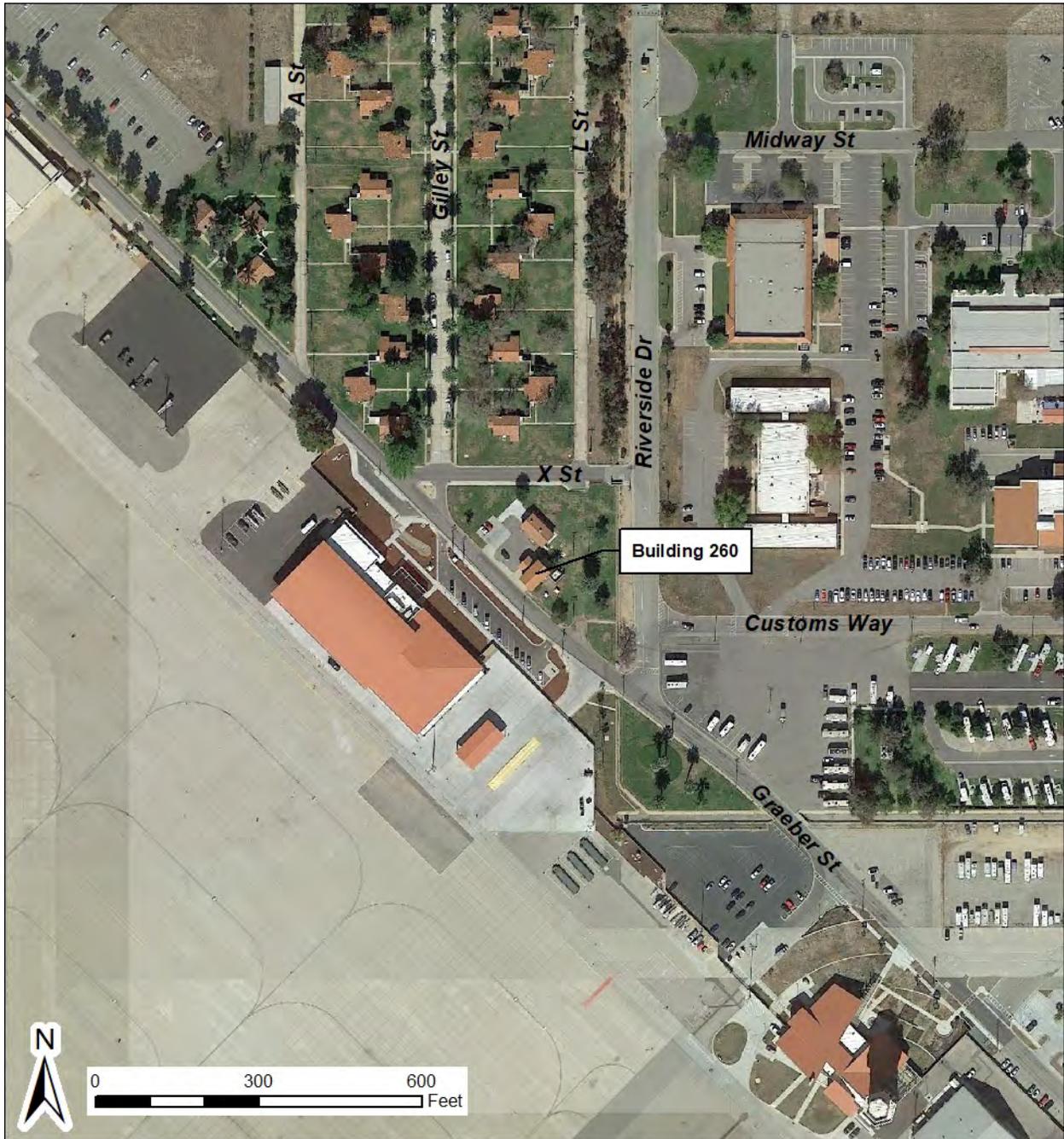


Structure 11010, aerial, source: Google Earth, 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



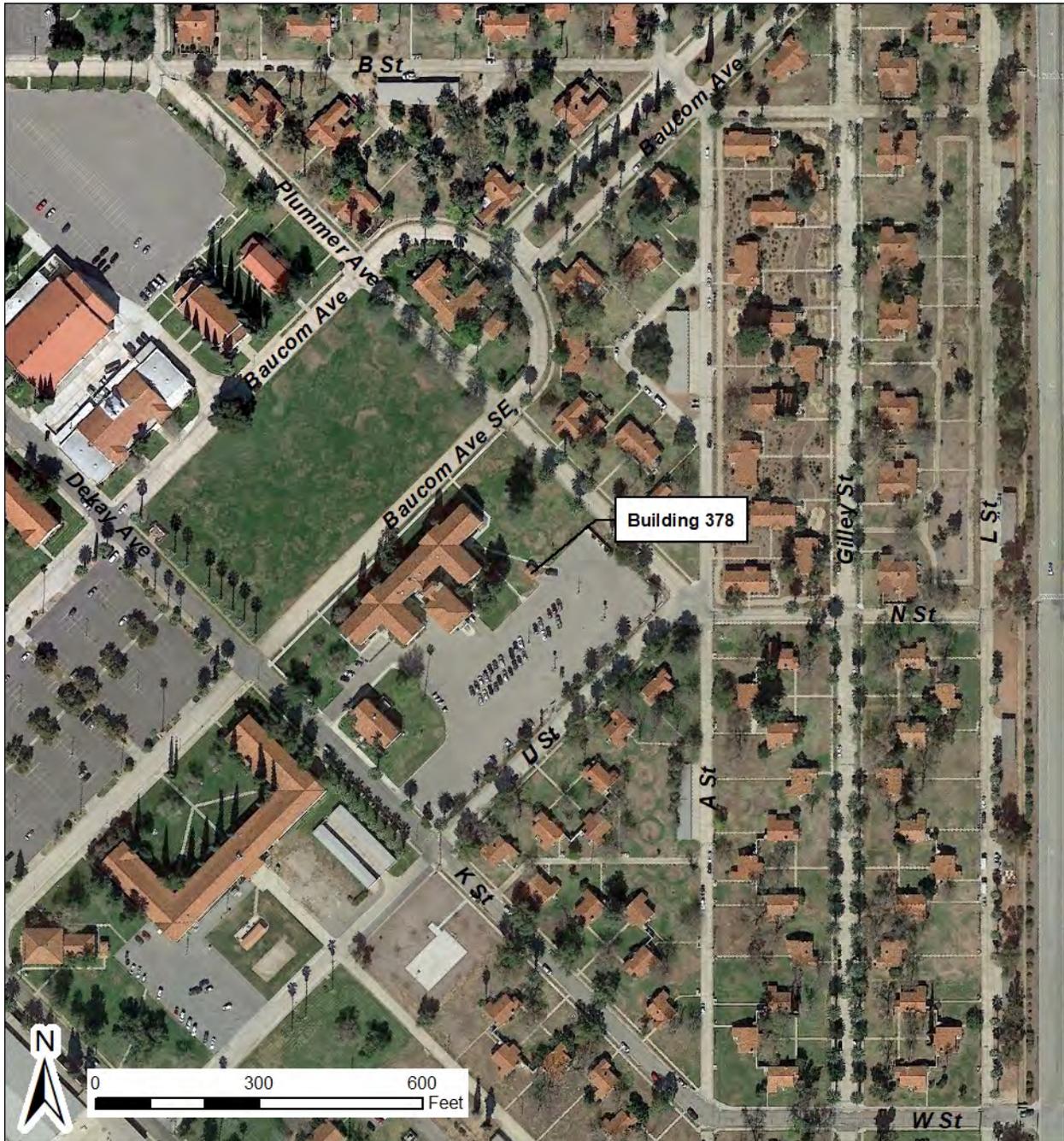
\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

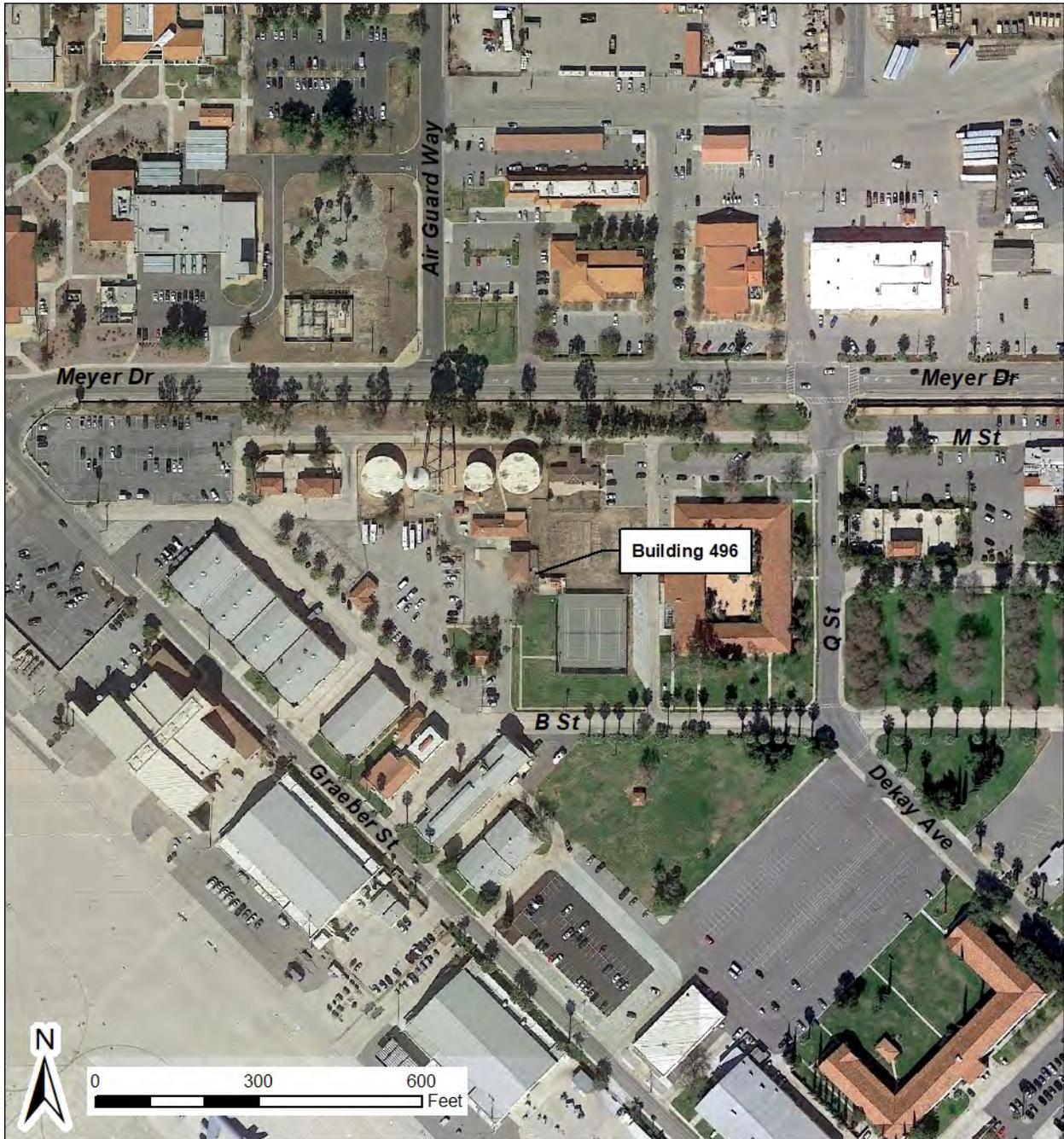
\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 34

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 394, 452<sup>nd</sup> Air Mobility Wing Safety Education Building; Building 1201, General Purpose Aircraft Shop; Building 1203, Reserve Civil Engineering Facility; Building 1211, 452<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (C-17); Building 1212, Communications Squadron Administration; Building 1213, Environmental Health; Building 1214, 452<sup>nd</sup> Emergency Management Flight; and Building 2300, Medical Squadron Training

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East, 1957 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of Sec 24;  B.M.

c. Address: Building 394: 2285 Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518 (See Continuation Sheet)

d. UTM: Building 394 Zone 11, 476233.6785 mE/ 3750756.2101 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Buildings 394, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. Buildings 1201 and 1203 are previously unrecorded. The resources are characterized as large, one-story, steel-frame and concrete-block, utilitarian-style buildings built to support aircraft readiness and various squadrons. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP34 – Military Property; HP39 - Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 394, view looking south, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  Prehistoric  Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address: March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by: Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded: November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

P5a. Photograph



\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300

B1. Historic Name: Building 394 – Air Refueling Squadron Operations Building; Building 1201 – Battery Shop; Building 1203 – Jet Engine and Battery Maintenance; Building 1211 – Armament & Electronics Shop; Building 1212 – Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 3; Building 1213 – Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 2; Building 1214 – Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 1; Building 2300 – Armament & Electronics Shop

B2. Common Name: Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300

B3. Original Use: Building 394 – Air Refueling Squadron Operations; Building 1201 – Battery Shop; Building 1203 – Jet Engine and Battery Maintenance; Building 1211 – Armament & Electronics Shop; Buildings 1212, 1213, and 1214 – Organizational Maintenance Shop; Building 2300 – Armament & Electronics Shop

B4. Present Use: Building 394 – 452<sup>nd</sup> Air Mobility Wing Safety Education Building; Building 1201 – General Purpose Aircraft Shop (Vacant); Building 1203 – Reserve Civil Engineering Facility; Building 1211 – 452<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (C-17); Building 1212 – Communications Squadron Administration; Building 1213 – Environmental Health; Building 1214 – 452<sup>nd</sup> Emergency Management Flight; Building 2300 – Medical Squadron Training

\*B5. Architectural Style: Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1214, and 2300 – Utilitarian; Building 1213 – Utilitarian with Mission Revival-themed roof addition

\*B6. Construction History: See Continuation Sheet

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Buildings 394, 1201, and 1203 – Unknown; Buildings 1211, 1212, 1213, and 1214 – William Allen, A.I.A.; Building 2300 – J.E. Stanton, A.I.A. and William F. Stockwell b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018.

Buildings 394, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of their use as modest support buildings at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. The resources also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. Building 394 additionally was inventoried in the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District* and was recommended as a non-contributing element to the historic district. Buildings 1201 and 1203 are previously unrecorded and unevaluated. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Continuation Sheet

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300

P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad (continued)

USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1201: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.  
USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1203: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.  
USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1211: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.  
USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1212: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.  
USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1213: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 25; \_\_\_ B.M.  
USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1214: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 25; \_\_\_ B.M.  
USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 2300: Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.

P2c. Address (continued)

Address: Building 1201: 8th Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Address: Building 1203: Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Address: Building 1211: Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Address: Building 1212: 2867 Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Address: Building 1213: 2991 Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Address: Building 1214: 2991 Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Address: Building 2300: 1485 Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

P2d. UTM (continued)

UTM: Building 1201: Zone 11, 477308.6629 mE/ 3750071.1124 mN  
UTM: Building 1203: Zone 11, 477216.5589 mE/ 3749865.1069 mN  
UTM: Building 1211: Zone 11, 476932.7691 mE/ 3750153.1961 mN  
UTM: Building 1212: Zone 11, 476973.3224 mE/ 3749985.7314 mN  
UTM: Building 1213: Zone 11, 477254.1863 mE/ 3749665.7238 mN  
UTM: Building 1214: Zone 11, 477223.0251 mE/ 3749633.7993 mN  
UTM: Building 2300: Zone 11, 475442.1264 mE/ 3751514.3461 mN

P3a. Description (continued)

This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP.

Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 were constructed between 1952 and 1970 as general airfield maintenance offices and shops within or near to the airfield. Buildings 394, 1211, 1212, 1213, and 1214 are located in the south portion of March ARB. Building 1211 faces Graeber Street to the southwest. Buildings 1213 and 1214 are accessible from 8<sup>th</sup> Street on the southern end of the airfield. Buildings 394 and 1212 are located on the airfield and face Graeber Street to the northeast. Building 2300 is located south of Airlift Way on the northern end of the airfield and Building 394 is adjacent to the flight line between Buildings 300 and 355, west of Graeber Street.

Building 394 was constructed in 1952. The building was built as a general support facility for air operations and used as an air refueling squadron air operations building. In 1963, it was converted to use as a warehouse for the Base Supply & Equipment Group. Presently, it serves as a Safety and Education Building for the base. The building terminates in a low-pitch side-gable roof covered in composition shingles with a wide fascia. Windows consist of metal hopper units with replacement aluminum sliding units on the rear, northwest elevation. The windows are slightly recessed and sit on small wood sills. The east part of the building has a minimal set back from Graeber Street with a small hedge running along the elevation. A security concrete-block wall extends from the south part of the building. Doors are one-light flush metal units. A small shed-roof addition is located on the building's rear and was added before the 1980s (JRP, 2013). Alterations include this addition and the replacement windows on the rear elevation. The building has not been modified since its last recordation in 2013.

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Building 1201 was built as a battery shop in 1970. It presently is used as a General Purpose Aircraft Shop. It is located west of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and is accessible from a driveway that leads from the parking lot surrounding Building 1202, which fronts Graeber Street. The resource is one story in height and of concrete-block construction. The building is in fair physical condition and features a shed roof and large overhead doors on its northwest and southeast elevations. Other doors consist of single- and double-leaf flush metal units on all elevations. A one-story concrete-block segment with a shed roof is located on the building's southwest elevation, and a one-story addition with corrugated metal-covered exterior walls is attached to the northwest corner of this segment. The addition features sliding aluminum windows on its northwest elevation, some of which are boarded. Alterations include the addition and the boarded windows.

Building 1203 was originally constructed as the Jet Engine and Battery Maintenance building in 1970; today, the building is used as the Reserve Engineering Facility. This large, one-story steel-frame building features metal exterior walls and a gable roof that is covered in roll asphalt. Two large overhead doors and a flush metal door are located on the building's Graeber Street-facing southwest elevation, and an overhead door is centered on a front-gable segment that projects out from the main mass of the building on the rear, northeast elevation. The northeast elevation also features partially-glazed metal flush doors and sliding aluminum windows on its eastern end. Openings on the building's side elevations consist of glazed and unglazed flush metal doors and sliding aluminum windows. The resource has been altered through the installation of window-mounted air-conditioning units on the northwest and southeast elevations.

Building 1211 was constructed in 1957 as a utilitarian-designed Armament and Electronic Shop. In 1960, it was adapted to a Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricant Operations & Administration building. Presently, it serves as a shop for the 452<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, which primarily works on C-17 aircrafts. The building is located east of Graeber Street surrounded by asphalt parking lots. The building features a large, irregular-shaped footprint and composition flat roof. Although the resource is one story in height, a small two-story projection extends above the roofline on the building's rear, northeast elevation. Doors on the primary, southwest elevation are replacement glazed double-leaf units with sidelights, all set in an aluminum frame. A metal overhead door sheltered by an extension of the roof is centered on this elevation. Other doors consist of glazed and partially-glazed and unglazed flush metal units. Windows are sliding metal units. The building has minimal landscape elements, except for a mature palm tree at its northwest corner. The building is in good overall condition. Alterations include the replacement doors. No major changes have occurred to the buildings since its recordation in 2013.

Building 1212 was constructed in 1957 as the Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 3. Located along the flight line west of Graeber Street, the building is currently used as an administrative and maintenance building for the Communications Squadron and Air Traffic Control and Landing System. The building has a moderate set back from Graeber Street with concrete pathways leading to its entryway along the east elevation and a small landscaped grass lawn. Extending from the building along the north and south parts are concrete-block security walls. South of the building is an asphalt parking lot. The building has a square form with a low-pitch, composition shingle-covered front-gable roof and wood fascia, flush metal doors, and fixed and awning steel frame windows. The windows are slightly recessed with thick wood sills. A metal overhead door is located on the southeast elevation. Other openings include a louvered vent. Alterations to the resource include the painting over of windows. No changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded in 2013, and it is good condition. Steel lattice communications towers are located at the northwest, northeast, and southwest corners of Building 1212.

Building 1213 was constructed in 1957 as the Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 2 and then was used as a general administration beginning in 1960. Currently, it is used as the Environmental Health Building. The building is located at the south end of the airfield on Graeber Street, southwest of the Iris Street and Eighth Street intersection. The building is accessed from a driveway and an asphalt parking lot from Iris Street and another driveway from Eighth Street. The south part of the building has a concrete walkway leading from the Eighth Street driveway and the building is surrounded by decorative trees and shrubs. The building is heavily altered from its original construction with a low-pitch gable-on-hip Spanish tile roof added in 1983. The roof deeply overhangs past the exterior walls and has a wood fascia and soffit. An entry porch with a tile-covered hip roof supported by concrete posts is centered on the primary, southwest elevation. The porch covers glazed double-leaf doors with sidelights and transom, all set in an aluminum frame. Other doors on the building are flush metal units. Windows consist of replacement fixed aluminum units, recessed and sitting

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above large sills. The resource is in good condition. Alterations include the installation of replacement windows and a hipped roof entryway at an unknown date, and the addition of Mission Revival-style gable-on-hip roof in 1983 (JRP, 2013). Landscaping also has been added around the building. The building has not been modified since the date of its last recordation in 2013.

Building 1214 was constructed in 1957 as the Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 1. A portion of the building was used as the Security Central Control building in the early 1960s, and the resource was eventually converted to its present use as the Emergency Management Building for the 452<sup>nd</sup> Squadron sometime within the past 40 years. The building is located immediately southwest to Building 1213 on Graeber Street at the south end of the airfield. It is accessed from driveways connecting from Iris and Eighth streets. The building has a small landscaped grass lawn and a mature palm tree along its north side. The roof has a slight overhang, soffit, and fascia. Building 1214 a low-pitch side-gable roof covered in composition shingles and gravel. Windows consist of original hopper windows on the west elevation and replacement aluminum units, divided into one-over-one, six-light, and nine-lights units. The windows are recessed and sit on large sills. Doors are flush metal units, except for the main entry doors on the north elevation, which consist of replacement glazed double-leaf units with sidelights and transom, all set in an aluminum frame. Alterations to the building include replacement front entry doors, replacement windows, and the installation of a metal-framed shade shelter on the resource's southwest elevation. Several windows on the west and south elevation were infilled with concrete blocks in 1963, and additional window and door openings were infilled with concrete blocks in 1988. The placement of some window and door openings also were changed sometime after 1988. Building 1214 is in good overall condition and has not been altered since it was last recorded in 2013.

Building 2300 is a 29,113 square-foot concrete-block building built as an Armament & Electronics Shop in 1955. In 1963, the building was divided for use between the Group Air Base Headquarters, Mission Operations, Wing Headquarters, and a NAV/Aids Shop, and in 1969, its use was changed to Operations, Mission Training. It presently is used as Medical Squadron Training. Building 2300 is located south of Airlift Way on the northern end of the airfield. Its northeast elevation faces Graeber Street, and an asphalt parking lot is to the north and west. The resource is in good condition and features an irregular-shaped plan and flat roof with a low-pitch Spanish tile-covered overhanging parapet (intended to resemble a mansard roof). Building 2300 is one story in height except for a rectangular, two-story hip-roof projection centered on the primary, northeast elevation. This elevation is symmetrical with a centrally-placed main entry consisting of glazed double-leaf doors with sidelights, all set in an aluminum frame. The entry is covered by a Spanish tile-covered hip roof supported by concrete-block walls. A secondary entry is located on the northwest elevation and consists of a recessed glazed door with sidelights. Other doors on the building are metal flush units, and windows on are eight-light steel hopper units. Alterations to the resource include the addition of awnings over windows and the installation of replacement windows on the southeast elevation. The mansard roof was added in 1989, and an antenna roof enclosure was removed from the building at an unknown date (JRP, 2013). No major modifications have occurred since the building was last recorded in 2013.

### B6. Construction History (continued)

Building 394 – Built in 1952. An addition was added on the rear elevation prior to the 1980s, and replacement windows were installed at an unknown date.

Building 1201 – Built in 1970. An addition was built on the northwest elevation at an unknown date, and windows on this addition have been boarded over.

Building 1203 – Built in 1970. Window-mounted air-conditioning units were installed on the northwest and southeast elevations at an unknown date.

Building 1211 – Built in 1957. Replacement adonized aluminum doors were installed at an unknown date.

Building 1212 – Built in 1957. Windows painted at an unknown date.

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Building 1213 – Built in 1957. Spanish tile-covered gable-on-hip roof added in 1983, and replacement windows and a hipped roof entry added at an unknown date. Landscaping also added at unknown date.

Building 1214 – Built in 1957. Replacement front entry doors, replacement windows, and a metal-framed shade shelter on the southwest elevation added at an unknown date. Several windows on the west and south elevation were infilled with concrete blocks in 1963, and additional window and door openings were infilled with concrete blocks in 1988. The placement of some window and door openings also were changed sometime after 1988.

Building 2300 – Built in 1955. Antenna roof enclosure removed at an unknown date. Tile mansard roof added in 1989.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed between 1952 and 1970 as general airfield maintenance offices and shops. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII

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and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000

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feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

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By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Building 394 was constructed in 1952 as a general support facility for air operations and used as an air refueling squadron air operations building. In 1963, it was converted to use as a warehouse for the Base Supply & Equipment Group. Presently, it serves as a Safety and Education Building for the base.

Building 1201 was built as a battery shop in 1970. It presently is used as a General Purpose Aircraft Shop.

Building 1203 was originally constructed as the Jet Engine and Battery Maintenance building in 1970; today, the building is used as the Reserve Engineering Facility.

Building 1211 was constructed in 1957 as a utilitarian-designed Armament and Electronic Shop. In 1960, it was adapted to a Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricant Operations & Administration building. Presently, it serves as a shop for the 452<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, which primarily works on C-17 aircrafts.

Building 1212 was constructed in 1957 as the Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 3. The building is currently used as an administrative and maintenance building for the Communications Squadron and Air Traffic Controls and Landing System.

Building 1213 was constructed in 1957 as the Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 2 and then was used for general administration beginning in 1960. Currently, it is used as the Environmental Health Building.

Building 1214 was constructed in 1957 as the Organizational Maintenance Shop Building No. 1. A portion of the building was used as the Security Central Control building in the early 1960s and was eventually converted to its present use as the Emergency Management Building for the 452<sup>nd</sup> Squadron.

Building 2300 was built as an Armament & Electronics Shop in 1955. In 1963, the building was divided for use between the Group Air Base Headquarters, Mission Operations, Wing Headquarters, and a NAV/Aids Shop, and in 1969, its use was changed to Operations, Mission Training. It presently is used as Medical Squadron Training.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George,

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Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

As a result, Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300, which were constructed between 1952 and 1957 as general airfield maintenance offices and shops within or near to the airfield, and ultimately were used as general administrative and operational support facilities. As such, the resources are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The buildings are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300

exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style administrative and operational support facilities, Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Additionally, while some the buildings were designed by architects William Allen (Buildings 1211- 1214) and J.E. Stanton and William Stockwell (Building 2300), the buildings are not considered works of a master architect. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, the resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Criterion Consideration G

As resources constructed less than 50 years ago, Buildings 1201 and 1203 would also need to meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration G in order to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. Buildings 1201 and 1203 would not be considered exceptionally important since they are not associated with an extraordinary or important event or are rare survivors of a resource type that is no longer common. Instead, they are modest operational support facilities, and are similar in function to numerous other buildings at March ARB as well as to buildings at other California bases.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Building 394 has retained its integrity of location, setting, feeling, workmanship, and association; however, its integrity of design and materials have been diminished slightly by alterations to the rear, northwest elevation of the resource. This includes the installation of replacement windows as well as a small shed-roof addition added before 1980.

Building 1201 has been altered through the construction of a one-story corrugated metal-clad addition on its southwest elevation. The addition features sliding aluminum windows on its northwest elevation, some of which are boarded. These changes have diminished the resource's integrity of design and workmanship. Building 1201 retains its overall integrity of location, setting, materials, feeling, and association.

Building 1203 has retained its integrity of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Alterations include the installation of window-mounted air-conditioning units on the northwest and southeast elevations.

Building 1211 retains its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling and association; however, its integrity of materials has been diminished slightly through the installation of replacement doors.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300

Building 1212 retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Windows are original, and some have been painted over.

Building 1213 has been altered through the installation of replacement windows and the construction of a hipped roof entryway at an unknown date. A Mission Revival-style gable-on-hip roof also was added in 1983, and landscaping has been added around the building. These changes have impacted the resource's integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Building 1213 retains its integrity of location.

Building 1214 has retained its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, its integrity of design and materials have been diminished by alterations. This includes the installation of replacement front entry doors and windows and the construction of a metal-framed shade shelter on the resource's southwest elevation. Several windows on the west and south elevation were infilled with concrete blocks in 1963, and additional window and door openings were infilled with concrete blocks in 1988. The placement of some window and door openings also were changed sometime after 1988.

Building 2300 has been altered through the addition of awnings over windows and the installation of replacement windows on the southeast elevation. The mansard roof was added in 1989, and an antenna roof enclosure was removed from the building at an unknown date. These changes have impacted the resource's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, it retains its integrity of location and setting.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

P5a. Photographs (continued)



Building 394, view looking southwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 394, 1201, 1203, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, and 2300



Building 394, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 1201, view looking southeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1201, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 1203, view looking northeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1203, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 1203, view looking northwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1203, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 1211, view looking south, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1211, view looking southwest, November 2018.



Building 1211, view looking east, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1212, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 1212, view looking southeast, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1212, view looking west, November 2018.



Building 1212, view looking northwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1213, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 1213, view looking northeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1213, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 1213, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1214, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 1214, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1214, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Building 2300, view looking south, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2300, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 2300, view looking northwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2300, view looking northeast, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

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State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page  1  of  17

\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

**P1. Other Identifier:** Structure 1900, High Intensity Runway Lighting; Structure 1901, Taxiway Lighting; Structure 1902, Approach Lighting; Structure 1903, Airfield Special Lighting; Structure 8005, Obstruction Lights; Structure 9015, Exterior Area Lighting; and Structure 9017, Traffic Lights

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. Structure 1900: USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 23; B.M.  
 (See Continuation Sheet)

c. Address: Airfield and Vicinity Airfield City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. Structure 1900: Zone 11, 475112.3067 mE/ 3750383.6027 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

These seven airfield and traffic lighting resources were identified in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC; however, they were not recorded or evaluated. They are support structures for airway operations and are located throughout the airfield area or are traffic lights used to control traffic. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  
 Structure  Object  Site  District  
 Element of District  Other  
 (Isolates, etc.)

\*P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Structure 1900, view looking north, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  
 Prehistoric  
 Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers; Visual survey

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

P5a. Photograph



\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

B1. Historic Name: Structure 1900 – High Intensity Runway Lighting; Structure 1901 – Taxiway Lighting; Structure 1902 – Approach Lighting; Structure 1903 – Airfield Special Lighting; Structure 8005 – Obstruction Lights; Structure 9015 – Exterior Area Lighting; Structure 9017 – Traffic Light

B2. Common Name: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

B3. Original Use: Structure 1900 – High Intensity Runway Lighting; Structure 1901 – Taxiway Lighting; Structure 1902 – Approach Lighting; Structure 1903 – Airfield Special Lighting; Structure 8005 – Obstruction Lights; Structure 9015 – Exterior Area Lighting; Structure 9017 – Traffic Light

B4. Present Use: Structure 1900 – High Intensity Runway Lighting; Structure 1901 – Taxiway Lighting; Structure 1902 – Approach Lighting; Structure 1903 – Airfield Special Lighting; Structure 8005 – Obstruction Lights; Structure 9015 – Exterior Area Lighting; Structure 9017 – Traffic Light

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Several of the elements have been replaced or upgraded to accommodate more efficient lighting systems or larger, more sophisticated aircraft. Structure 9017 – Built ca. 1960s, though replaced within the past 20 years, per visual survey. Structures 1900 and 1901 - Built in 1952. Structure 1902 – Built in 1956. Structures 1903 and 8005 – Built in 1963. Structure 9015 – Built in 1953.

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously identified in 2013 but were not recorded or evaluated. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

### P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad (continued)

USGS 7.5' Quad: Structure 1901: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 25; \_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Structure 1902: Perris 1967 Date (PR) 1979 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 36; \_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Structure 1903: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 24; \_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Structure 8005: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 24; \_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Structure 9015: Sunnymead 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 25; \_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Structure 9017: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14; \_ B.M.

### P2d. UTM (continued)

UTM: Structure 1901: Zone 11, 476714.2983 mE/ 3749483.578 mN

UTM: Structure 1902: Zone 11, 476983.6807 mE/ 3747178.5823 mN

UTM: Structure 1903: Zone 11, 476316.1192 mE/ 3750605.3554 mN

UTM: Structure 8005: Zone 11, 476056.0278 mE/ 3750143.0684 mN

UTM: Structure 9015: Zone 11, 477172.6866 mE/ 3749641.673 mN

UTM: Structure 9017: Zone 11, 475017.4859 mE/ 3752205.1874 mN

### P3a. Description (continued)

These seven resources consist of ground-placed or elevated lighting components that are used for guidance and direction of aircraft and vehicles using the airfield. The elevated components are fastened to metal pole structures. They are common utilitarian features found at most airfields world-wide. Several of the elements have been replaced or upgraded to accommodate more efficient lighting systems or larger, more sophisticated aircraft. Structures 1900 and 1901 were built in 1952; Structure 1902 was built in 1956; Structures 1903 and 8005 were built in 1963; and Structure 9015 was built in 1953. Structure 9017 ca. the 1960s, respectively.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed between 1952 and ca. the 1960s as runway lighting. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct. (Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 were constructed between 1949 and ca. the 1960s as runway and traffic lighting. They presently retain this use.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC. JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 were constructed between 1952 and ca. the 1960s as runway lighting and traffic lighting. As light features, these resources are not significant within the JRP framework. Although they assisted in large SAC bombers accessing the base, the resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. The resources are not associated with any significant military individual or with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As light features, Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Further, many of the resources have been replaced or upgraded over time to accommodate more efficient lighting systems or larger, more sophisticated aircraft. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of resources from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, the structures would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

As mentioned, several of the runway lighting features recorded in this form have been replaced or upgraded. These changes have affected the resources' integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017 are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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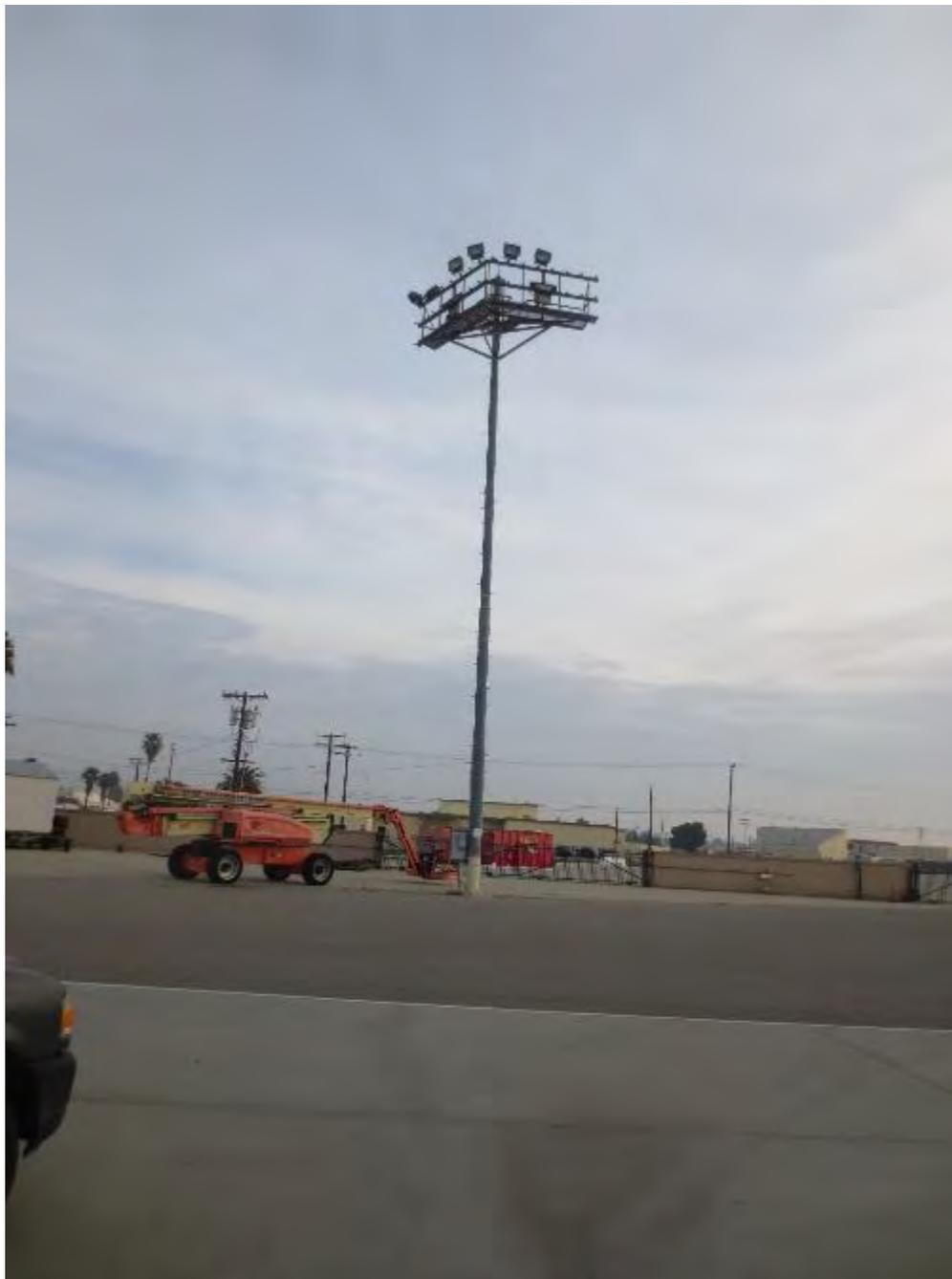
\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 8005, 9015, and 9017

P5a. Photographs (continued)



Structure 1901, view looking east, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Structure 9015, view looking northeast, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

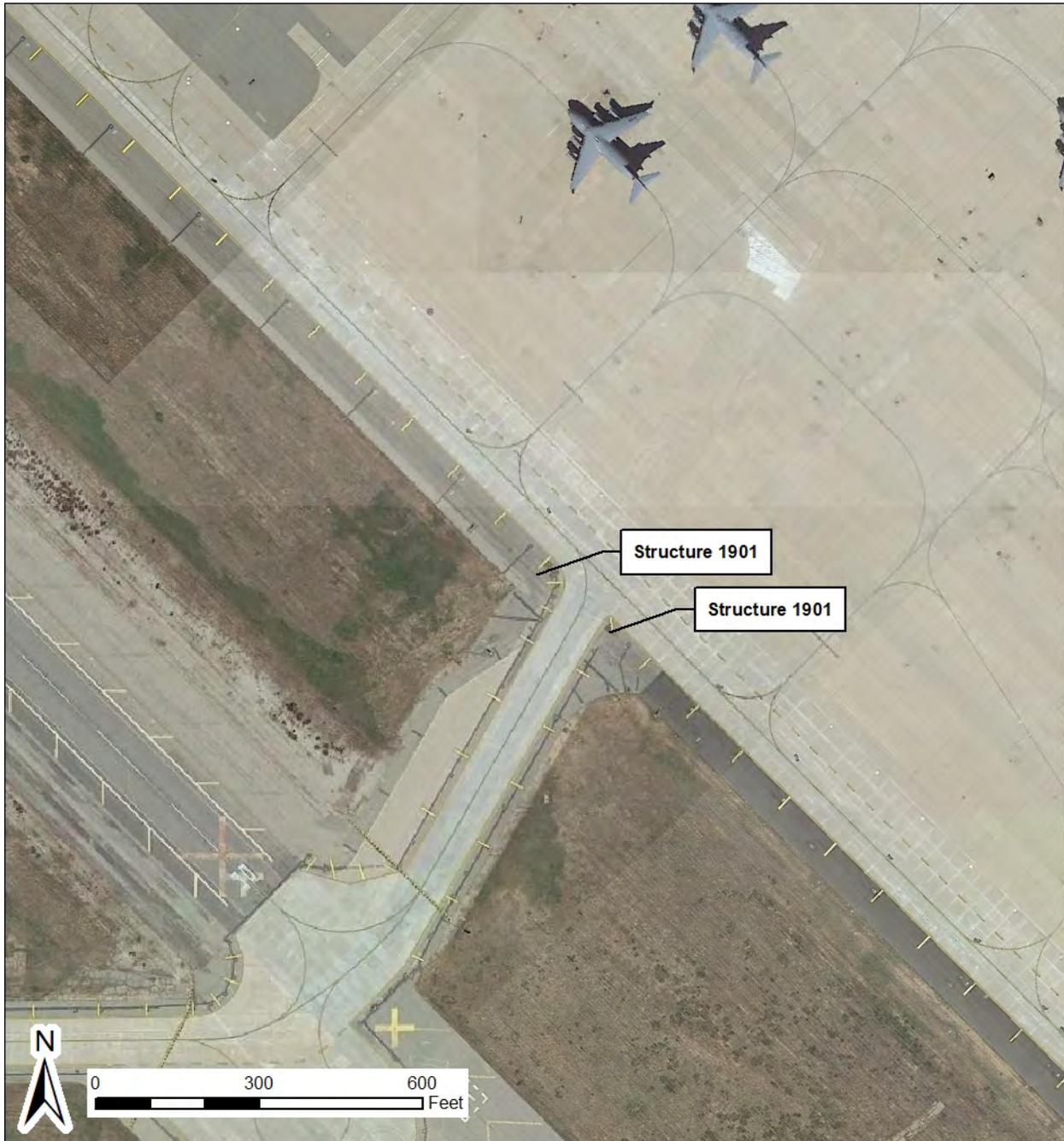
\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



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\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 14

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 601 and 625 (update)

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 601, 452<sup>nd</sup> Aero Medical Staging Squadron and Building 625, Reserve Component Medical Training Building

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address: Building 601: Riverside Drive City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Address: Building 625: Riverside Drive City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Building 601: Zone 11, 476733.3227 mE/ 3750456.1302 mN

UTM: Building 625: Zone 11, 476727.8641 mE/ 3750545.0014 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Buildings 601 and 625 were constructed in 1967 and 1968, respectively. They were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. These buildings are grouped together due to their functions in originally supporting crew logistics and operational readiness. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 601, view looking east, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic

Prehistoric

Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:

Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record

Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record

Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 601 and 625 (update)

- B1. Historic Name: Building 601 – Readiness Crew Facility; Building 625 – Squadron Operations  
B2. Common Name: Buildings 601 and 625  
B3. Original Use: Building 601 – Readiness Crew Facility; Building 625 – Squadron Operations  
B4. Present Use: Building 601 – 452<sup>nd</sup> Aero Medical Staging Squadron; Building 625 – Reserve Component Medical Training  
\*B5. Architectural Style: Building 601 – Modern; Building 625 – Modern with Neo-Mission Revival-style alternations  
\*B6. Construction History: Building 601 – Built in 1967. Infill of main entry on west elevation at unknown date. Building 625 – Built in 1968. Addition to north elevation in 1983, tile roof added in 1989.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

- B9a. Architect: Building 601 - Davidson & Maurer; Building 625 - John Kewell and Associates, Architects & Engineers  
b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 601 and 625 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of their use as modest support buildings at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. The resources also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 601 and 625 (update)

### P3a. Description (continued)

Building 601 was constructed in 1967 as a Crew Readiness Facility. It displays Modern style architectural characteristics. The building was previously converted for use as a Data Processing Facility & Base Supply Administration Office in 1974, then transferred for use as a Reserves Forces General Training Building at an unknown date. It is now used by the 452<sup>nd</sup> Aero Medical Staging Squadron. The resource consists of three rectangular freestanding buildings grouped together in an H-shaped arrangement at the intersection of Riverside Drive and Y Street within the south-central part of the base. The buildings are one story in height and of tilt-up concrete construction with smooth plaster exteriors and a flat roof set behind a shallow parapet. The largest of the three buildings is in the middle of the arrangement; it is the hyphen of the H. It connects to the outer buildings, located to the north and south, by a covered walkway with a plaster exterior, flat top, and segmented underside. All buildings feature partially-glazed and unglazed flush metal doors. Doors on the east and west elevations of the outer buildings are set in recessed, narrow round-arched openings with large transoms. Windows on these buildings consist of rhythmically-spaced, paired fixed-single units with round-arch heads that are set in round-arch niches. The middle building lacks windows. Building 601 is well maintained. Surrounding the building are mature trees, landscaped grass lawns, and a circular drive. Along the west and east sides are asphalt parking areas. Alterations include the infill of the arched main entry on the west elevation of the middle building with a replacement flush metal door and concrete blocks at an unknown date. The building has not been modified since its last recordation in 2013.

Building 625 is a large one-story concrete-block building that occupies a rectangular footprint with Modern style and Neo-Mission Revival elements. The building was constructed in 1968 as a Squadron Operations building and was converted for use by the Air Refueling Wing in the 1980s. It presently functions as a Reserve Component Medical Training Building. A large, 8,600 square-foot addition was added along the north side of the building in 1983, and a Spanish tile was added in 1989 over the building's flat roof (JRP, 2013). The building is located immediately north of Building 601, southeast of the Midway Street and Riverside Drive intersection. Asphalt parking areas are located north, west, and east of the building, along with landscaped grass lawns and mature trees. The building has a flat roof with a tile-covered overhanging parapet (resembling a mansard roof) extending from the roofline. Decorative rafter tails are tucked under the roof overhang. The building's primary, west elevation is symmetrical with entrances sheltered by hip-roof porches at each end of the building. The entrances consist of double-leaf glazed doors and transoms all set in an aluminum frame and recessed in an opening with a round-arch head. The entryway porch is supported by a pair of full-length thick concrete columns. Windows on the building are single and tripartite fixed aluminum-frame units that also display round-arch heads, similar to Building 601. Windows are flanked by concrete pilasters. The building has pre-cast concrete exterior walls. Building 625 has been altered through the construction of a large addition to its north elevation and the installation of Spanish tile-covered on the roof. No modifications have taken place to the building since it was last recorded.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Buildings 601 and 625 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed in 1967 and 1968 as a Readiness Crew Facility and Squadron Operations building, respectively. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted

## CONTINUATION SHEET

to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 601 and 625 (update)

facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Building 601 was constructed in 1967 as a Crew Readiness Facility. It was converted for use as a Data Processing Facility & Base Supply Administration Office in 1974, then transferred for use as a Reserve Forces General Training Building at an unknown date. It is now used by the 452<sup>nd</sup> Aero Medical Staging Squadron. Alterations include the infill of the arched main entry on the west elevation of the middle building with a replacement flush metal door and concrete blocks at an unknown date.

Building 625 was constructed in 1968 as a Squadron Operations building and was converted for use by the Air Refueling Wing in the 1980s. It presently functions as a Reserve Component Medical Training Building. A large, 8,600 square-foot addition was added along the north side of the building in 1983, and a Spanish tile was added in 1989 over the building's flat roof.

### Criterion A

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 601 and 625 (update)

As mentioned, Buildings 601 and 625 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

As a result, Buildings 601 and 625, which were constructed in 1967 and 1968 as a Readiness Crew Facility and Squadron Operations building, respectively, ultimately were used for day-to-day operational support. As general support facilities, Buildings 601 and 625 are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The buildings are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 601 and 625 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 601 and 625 (update)

designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style operational support facilities, Buildings 601 and 625 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Additionally, while Building 601 was designed by architects Davidson & Maurer and Building 625 was designed by John Kewell and Associates, the building would not be considered the work of a master or representative examples that illustrate their significance. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 601 and 625 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, Buildings 601 and 625 would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

Furthermore, Building 625's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association have been compromised through the construction of a large addition and the addition of a Spanish-tile roof within the past 36 years. Due to its diminished integrity, Building 625 is no longer able to convey association with significant styles or engineering achievements associated with Cold War-era resources at March ARB. Building 601 retains its overall integrity (discussed further below).

### Criterion D

Buildings 601 and 625 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Building 601 retains a high degree of overall integrity, however, its integrity of design and materials has been diminished slightly by the infill of the arched main entry on the west elevation with a replacement flush metal door and concrete blocks at an unknown date. No other alterations have occurred to the building.

Building 625 has had its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association compromised through the construction of a large addition on the north side of the resource in 1983, and the installation of a Spanish tile roof over the building's flat roof in 1989. It retains its integrity of location and setting.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 601 and 625 generally are associated with March ARB's Cold War history and retain some historic integrity, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 601 and 625 (update)

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

### P5a. Photographs (continued)



Building 601, view looking east, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 601, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 601, view looking southeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 601, view looking east, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 625, view looking southeast, November 2018.



Building 625, view looking northeast, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 758, March Air Reserve Base Exchange and Building 2406, Post Office

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. Building 758: **USGS 7.5' Quad Sunnymead 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.**

Building 2406: **USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside E. 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.**

c. Address: Building 758: 3<sup>rd</sup> Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Address: Building 2406: Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Building 758: Zone 11, 476910.8652 mE/ 3751163.2537 mN

UTM: Building 2406: Zone 11, 475434.8732 mE/ 3751630.6518 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Buildings 758 and 2406 are grouped together due to their historic function as commercial-related buildings. They have not been previously recorded. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP6 – 1-3 Story Commercial Building; HP14 – Government Building; HP34 – Military Property

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 758, view looking north, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic

Prehistoric

Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:

Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record

Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record

Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 758 and 2406

B1. Historic Name: Building 758 – Exchange; Building 2406 – Gas Station

B2. Common Name: Buildings 758 and 2406

B3. Original Use: Building 758 – Exchange; Building 2406 – Gas Station

B4. Present Use: Building 758 – Exchange; Building 2406 – Post Office

\*B5. Architectural Style: Building 758 – Contemporary; Building 2406 - Modern

\*B6. Construction History: Building 758 – Built in 1974. Replacement windows and doors installed at an unknown date. Wall of windows at main entry on south elevation bumped out slightly, presumably when windows were replaced. Building 2406 – Built in 1971. Main entry doors replaced and gas pumps removed at an unknown date.

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 758 and 2406 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They have not been previously recorded or evaluated. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 3 of 14

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 758 and 2406

### P3a. Description (continued)

Building 758 is a one-story Contemporary style building that occupies a large, sprawling footprint at the intersection of 3<sup>rd</sup> and F streets, outside of the main boundaries of the base in the east-central portion of March ARB. Parking lots are west and south of the building. The resource was constructed in 1974 as an exchange building, a use it retains to this day. Building 758 features a flat roof and concrete-block exterior walls. The main entry faces the parking lot on the building's primary, south elevation, which is slightly shorter than the rear, northern portion of the building. A wide fascia clad in concrete panels extends the length of this elevation. The main entry is placed slightly off-center and consists of glazed electric sliding doors embedded in a wall of fixed transom and sidelight windows. Masonry oversized flat columns are located between the fixed windows and doors. The doors and windows all are set in an aluminum frame. Additional storefronts comprised of fixed windows and glazed doors set in aluminum frames are east and west of this main entry. A loading dock with two metal overhead doors covered by a metal canopy is located on the west elevation. Other fenestration on the north, east, and west elevations is minimal and is limited to flush metal doors. Building 758 is in good condition. It has been altered through the installation of replacement windows and doors at an unknown date. The wall of windows at the main entry on the south elevation also has been bumped out slightly, presumably when the replacement windows and doors were installed.

Building 2406 is a small one-story Modern style building that occupies a rectangular footprint southeast of intersection of Graeber Street and Minuteman Way in the north portion of March ARB. An asphalt parking lot is located southeast of the building, and a manicured grass lawn and mature tree cover is to the northwest. Building 2406 was originally constructed in 1971 as a gas station and presently is used as a post office. It has not been previously recorded. The resource terminates in a flat roof with a wide metal fascia and deep overhang. Three glazed doors topped by transoms, all set in an aluminum frame, are centered on the building's primary, southeast elevation. Two flush metal doors are located on north end of the southwest elevation. The building has concrete panel exterior walls. Alterations include replacement windows and doors at the main entry on the southeast elevation, and removal of the external gas pumps by the early 1990s per inspection of historic aerial imagery.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Buildings 758 and 2406 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed in 1974 and 1971 as an exchange building and gas station, respectively. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new,

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 758 and 2406

permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 758 and 2406

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 758 and 2406

and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B-52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Building 758 was constructed in 1974 as an exchange building, a use it retains to this day. It has been altered through the installation of replacement windows and doors. The wall of windows at the main entry on the south elevation also has been bumped out slightly.

Building 2406 was originally constructed in 1971 as a gas station and presently is used as a post office. Alterations include a replacement main entry on the southeast elevation.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Buildings 758 and 2406 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 758 and 2406

for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

As a result, Buildings 758 and 2406, which were constructed in 1974 and 1971 as an exchange building and gas station, respectively, ultimately were used as an exchange and a post office, respectively. As general personnel support facilities, Buildings 758 and 2406 are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The buildings are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 758 and 2406 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style personnel support buildings, Buildings 758 and 2406 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 758 and 2406 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. They are also located outside the boundaries of the historic district. Therefore, Buildings 758 and 2406 would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 758 and 2406

### Criterion D

Buildings 758 and 2406 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Criterion Consideration G

As resources constructed less than 50 years ago, Buildings 758 and 2416 would also need to meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration G in order to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. Buildings 758 and 2416 would not be considered exceptionally important since they are not associated with an extraordinary or important event or are rare survivors of a resource type that is no longer common. They are modest resources that provided day-to-day personnel support and are similar in function to numerous other buildings at March ARB as well as to buildings at other California bases.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Buildings 758 and 2406 have retained their integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, their integrity of design and materials have been diminished by alterations completed within the past 40 years. This includes the installation of replacement windows and doors on Building 758, during which time the wall of windows at the main entry on the south elevation was bumped out slightly. Building 2406 has been altered through the installation of replacement windows and doors at its main entry.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 758 and 2406 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 758 and 2406

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

**P5a. Photographs** (continued)



Building 758, view looking northwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 758, view looking southwest, November 2018.



Building 758, view looking northeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 758, view looking north, ca. 1970, source: March ARB 1974 yearbook.



Building 2406, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2406, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 2406, view looking west, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 1217, Base Fuels and Building 1218, Petroleum/Oil/Lubricant Support Storage Building for Building 1217

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Sunnymead 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address: Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Building 1217 Zone 11, 477128.7575 mE/ 3750021.3970 mN

UTM: Building 1218 Zone 11, 477125.8673 mE/ 3750039.6503 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

**\*P3a. Description:**

Buildings 1217 and 1218 are collocated in the south portion of March ARB and sit recessed back from Graeber Street behind an asphalt parking lot. These utilitarian style buildings were both constructed in 1954 and were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. The buildings were originally constructed as Special Weapon Buildings and were converted to fuel storage by 1963. They presently used as office and storage buildings for the Base Fuels Complex. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

\*P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 1217, view looking south, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  Prehistoric  Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address: March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by: Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded: November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

P5a. Photograph



\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 1217 and 1218 (update)

- B1. Historic Name: Buildings 1217 and 1218 – Special Weapons Building  
B2. Common Name: Buildings 1217 and 1218  
B3. Original Use: Buildings 1217 and 1218 – Special Weapons  
B4. Present Use: Building 1217 - Base Fuels; Building 1218 – POL (Petroleum/Oil/Lubricant) Support Storage Building for Building 1217  
\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian  
\*B6. Construction History: Building 1217 – Built in 1954. Windows and doors infilled with concrete block at an unknown date. Windows painted at an unknown date. Building 1218 – Built in 1954.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Base Engineer b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 1217 and 1218 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of their use as modest support buildings at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. The resources also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite level of significance listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

B13. Remarks:

See Location Maps

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1217 and 1218 (update)

### **P3a. Description** (continued)

Building 1217, constructed in 1954, is a one-story concrete-block building displaying a rectangular footprint and low-pitch gable roof with a fascia. Flush metal doors and steel hopper and fixed windows are located along each elevation. A window on the northwest elevation has been infilled with a vent. A shed roof shade structure spans the northeast elevation and covers a small patio surrounded by a low concrete-block wall. The northwest elevation has a small pent roof with open brackets over a flush doorway. Alterations to Building 1217 include the infill of a large bay with concrete block on the northwest elevation, infill of windows, and painted-over windows. No major changes to the building have occurred since 2013, when it was last recorded. The resource is in fair overall condition.

Building 1218 is located northwest of Building 1217. It is a storage building for Building 1217 and was constructed in 1954. Building 1218 is a well-maintained one-story concrete-block building occupying a small, rectangular footprint comprising 93 square feet. The resource terminates in a flat roof featuring a deep overhang. Doors are two-light metal units, and windows are four-light steel hopper units. The building is unaltered.

### **B10. Significance** (continued)

Buildings 1217 and 1218 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed in 1954 as Special Weapons buildings. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1217 and 1218 (update)

west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1217 and 1218 (update)

facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1217 and 1218 (update)

base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Buildings 1217 and 1218 were originally constructed as Special Weapon Buildings and were converted to fuel storage by 1963. They presently are used as office and storage buildings for the Base Fuels Complex. Alterations to Building 1217 include the infill of a large bay with concrete block on the northwest elevation, infill of windows, and painted-over windows. Building 1218 appears unaltered.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Buildings 1217 and 1218 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

As a result, Buildings 1217 and 1218, which were constructed in 1954 as Special Weapons buildings, and later used as fuel storage buildings. As general support facilities, Buildings 1217 and 1218 are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1217 and 1218 (update)

associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The buildings are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 1217 and 1218 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style general support buildings, Buildings 1217 and 1218 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 1217 and 1218 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, Buildings 1217 and 1218 would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Buildings 1217 and 1218 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location,

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1217 and 1218 (update)

materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Building 1217 has retained its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association; however, its integrity of design and materials have been diminished by the infill of a large bay with concrete block on the northwest elevation, and the infill of windows.

Building 1218 appears to be unaltered and retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 1217 and 1218 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1217 and 1218 (update)

### Pa. Photographs (continued)



Building 1217, view looking south, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1217, view looking southwest, November 2018.



Building 1218, view looking southeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1218, view looking northeast, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 1221, Maintenance Shop; Building 1244, 452<sup>nd</sup> MXS Fuel System; Building 1246, Maintenance Dock; Building 2303, 542 MXS Aero Repair Shop; Building 2305, 163<sup>rd</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; and Building 2306, Maintenance Dock

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Sunnymead 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of Sec 24; B.M.

c. Address: Building 1221: 2721 Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518 (See Continuation Sheet)

d. UTM: Building 1221: Zone 11, 476817.5272 mE/ 3750143.9689 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 are large-scale, utilitarian-style maintenance hangars last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. They are well maintained and all date to the post-World War II expansion of the base and flight operations. The resources feature large, open interior spaces used for aircraft repair and storage, as well as some administrative and office space. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

**P5b. Description of Photo:**  
Building 1221, view looking north, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  
 Prehistoric  
 Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

P5a. Photograph



\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record

Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record

Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

B1. Historic Name: Building 1221 – Field Maintenance Hangar; Buildings 1244, 1246, 2305, and 2306 – Maintenance Dock, Large Aircraft; Building 2303 – Maintenance Hangar

B2. Common Name: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306

B3. Original Use: Buildings 1221, 2303, 2305, and 2306 – Maintenance Hangar; Building 1244 – Maintenance Dock; Building 1246 – Maintenance Dock

B4. Present Use: Building 1221 – Maintenance Hangar; Building 1244 – 452<sup>nd</sup> MXS Fuel System (Maintenance Hangar); Building 1246 – Maintenance Dock; Building 2300 – Maintenance Hangar; Building 2303 – 452<sup>nd</sup> MXS Aero Repair Shop (Maintenance Hangar); Building 2305 – 163<sup>rd</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (Maintenance Hangar); Building 2306 – Maintenance Dock

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: See Continuation Sheet

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Building 1221 – Unknown; Building 1244 – Hudgins, Thompson, Ball and Associates, Architects and Engineers; Building 1246 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District, Corps of Engineers; Building 2303 – The Kuljian Corporation, Architects and Engineers; Building 2305 – U.S. Air Force, Maintenance Dock Section Construction Agency; Building 2306 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District, Army Corps of Engineers (1993 addition) b. Builder: Building 1244 – Aeronautical Systems Center Construction Agency; Buildings 1221, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 – Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of their lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance and integrity. The resources also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance or integrity for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

### P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad (continued)

USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1221: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1244: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 24, 25; \_\_\_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1246: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 2303: Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14, 23; \_\_\_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 2305: Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.

USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 2306: Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14, 23; \_\_\_ B.M.

### P2c. Address (continued)

Address: Buildings 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306: Graeber Street, City: March ARB, CA Zip: 92518

### P2d. UTM (continued)

UTM: Building 1221: Zone 11, 476817.5272 mE/ 3750143.9689 mN

UTM: Building 1244: Zone 11, 477147.2885 mE/ 3749793.7307 mN

UTM: Building 1246: Zone 11, 477077.2479 mE/ 3749871.2080 mN

UTM: Building 2303: Zone 11, 475437.3809 mE/ 3751351.0134 mN

UTM: Building 2305: Zone 11, 475336.1046 mE/ 3751484.6349 mN

UTM: Building 2306: Zone 11, 475286.5450 mE/ 3751413.2129 mN

### P3a. Description (continued)

Building 1221 occupies a rectangular footprint on the airfield in the south portion of March ARB. Its northeast elevation faces Graeber Street. This steel-frame, gable-roof building was constructed in 1956 to support air readiness and for use as a field maintenance hangar. The resource's airfield-facing, southwest elevation displays two large overhead metal doors, while the northeast elevation along Graeber Street features flush metal doors. Four vents are located in the upper part of the northwest elevation. The roof and exterior walls are covered in corrugated metal. Building 1221 has been modified through the enclosure of its southwest elevation, which originally was open air. Per the *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report* (2013), this change occurred sometime after 1964. A small parking area and a landscaped median strip separate the building from Graeber Street. The building was undergoing renovation when it was last recorded in 2013; changes to the resource at that time included reconfiguration of doors and windows as well as removal of external air-conditioning equipment.

Buildings 1244 and 1246 are adjacent to each other at the south end of the flight line, west of Graeber Street in the south portion of March ARB. They were constructed in 1963 and 1967, respectively. Buildings 1244 and 1246 were constructed as maintenance dock hangars and have continued to be used in this capacity. Building 1244 occupies a large sprawling, irregular-shaped footprint and terminates in a shed roof. The roof and exterior walls are covered in corrugated metal. Fenestration is minimal and consists of flush metal and partially-glazed metal doors, placed at irregular intervals, as well as metal overhead doors. Eight sliding paneled hangar doors are located on the building's airfield-facing, southeast elevation. The doors are set in door tracks that terminate in a shed roof. The building does not display windows. Concrete masonry unit wall compositions covered with shed roofs are located on its Graeber Street-facing, northeast elevation. Mechanical equipment and vent pipes are located along the exterior. A small parking area is located along the northeast elevation; no curb or sidewalk separates the building from Graeber Street. Metal post and concrete block security fences are located northwest and southeast of the building. Building 1244 appears to be largely unchanged, except for the replacement of the metal overhead doors per visual observation.

Like neighboring Building 1244, Building 1246 also terminates in a shed roof and has a corrugated metal-clad exterior, situated at the south end of the flight line. The building occupies a rectangular footprint and features minimal fenestration,

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

including flush metal doors, partially-glazed metal doors, and metal overhead doors. Steel hopper windows are located on the building's Graeber Street-facing, northeast elevation. Eight sliding paneled hangar doors dominate the opposite, southwest elevation, which faces the airfield. The doors are set in door racks that terminate in a shed roof. Mechanical equipment and vent pipes are located along the exterior. A large mature palm tree is located at the north end of building's southwest elevation. Alterations include the infill of a large bay on the building's southeast elevation with corrugated metal cladding in 1991. Windows on the northwest elevation also were infilled in 1991 (JRP, 2013). The building has not been modified since it was last recorded in 2013.

Buildings 2303, 2305, and 2306 were constructed as maintenance hangars in 1955, 1965, and 1967, respectively, and are grouped together on the northern end of the airfield in the north portion of March ARB. Building 2303 was built in 1955 for use as an Administration and Aircraft Maintenance Shop, and still has this same use. The rectangular Building 2303 features a flat roof and steel-frame construction. Its exterior walls are clad in corrugated metal. The roof is sheathed in fiberglass panels. Hangar doors comprised of eleven overlapping sliding units are located on the building's east and west elevations. Other fenestration includes flush metal doors that provide access to the building's interior on the north and south elevations and hopper windows. The building is located west of a surface parking lot outside of the airfield boundary, separated by an access road and chain-link fence. Changes include replacement of the metal panels on the hangar doors in 2011, replacement panels installed on the east and west walls in 2011, and a new door cut into the towers in 1996 (JRP, 2013). No additional changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded in 2013.

Building 2305, constructed in 1965, is located immediately northwest of Building 2303 and south of Airlift Road. The building was constructed as a Maintenance Dock and is currently used by the California Air National Guard. Building 2305 is a rectangular steel-frame building that terminates in an irregular gable roof. The roof and exterior walls are covered in corrugated metal. Hangar doors comprised of ten overlapping sliding units are centrally located on the resource's southeast elevation, which faces the airfield. The doors are set in door racks that terminate in a skirt roof. Multi-light fixed aluminum windows, flush metal doors, and a metal overhead door are located on the building's rear, northwest elevation. A metal mechanical equipment enclosure projects from the northeast elevation of the building. The southwest elevation features an overhead door, flush metal doors, and multi-light windows. It has a large, open interior bay with steel I-beams for columns. The north side of the building has cobblestone and stamped sidewalks separating the building from Airlift Road. The building appears to be unaltered.

Building 2306, constructed in 1967, is located southwest of the Building 2305, and south of Airlift Road. The building was constructed as a Maintenance Dock and currently has this same use. The building is a steel-frame building with a roughly rectangular footprint and flat roof with various rooflines. It is covered in corrugated metal. This multicomponent building is three stories on its southeast portion on the airfield, two stories in the center portion, and one story on the northwesternmost portion that faces Airlift Road. This arrangement created a T-shaped stepped form. Hangar doors comprised of six overlapping sliding units are located on the airfield-facing, southeast elevation, while an overhead door and flush metal doors are located on the northeast and southwest elevations. The southeast elevation features ribbons of multi-light windows that wrap around to the sides of the building. Ribbons of two- and multi-light aluminum windows, flush metal doors, and a metal overhead door is located on the Airlift Way-facing, northwest elevation. Exposed structural beams connect the first- and second-story portions. Metal trim is located along the edges of the wall planes. A landscaped grass lawn is located northwest of the building adjacent to the sidewalk. This resource has been altered through the construction of the 20,090 square-foot, three-story portion in 1993 as well as through the infill of an overhead door with a double door on the southwest elevation at an unknown date. Replacement windows also were installed on the one-story portion of the building at an unknown date. No major modifications have occurred since the resource was last recorded in 2013.

### **B6. Construction History (continued)**

Building 1221 – Built in 1956. The south elevation facing the flightline was originally open air and was enclosed with a wall after 1964. Reconfiguration of doors and windows and removal of external air-conditioning equipment in 2013 renovation.

Building 1244 – Built in 1963. Replacement of metal overhead doors at an unknown date.

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Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

Building 1246 – Built in 1967. Infill of window and door openings on northwest and southeast elevations in 1991.

Building 2303 – Built in 1955. Door cut into tower in 1993, and replacement panels installed on hangar doors and the east and west walls in 2011.

Building 2305 – Built in 1965.

Building 2306 – Built in 1967. Three-story addition on southeast elevation in 1993. Replacement windows on one-story portion at unknown date. Infill of overhead door with a double door on southwest elevation at unknown date.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed between 1956 and 1967 as aircraft maintenance facilities. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during WWII, when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after World War II in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of World War II. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000

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feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the World War II Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since World War II (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 were constructed between 1955 and 1967 and were used for the repair and storage of aircraft, such as the B-52. They reflect a standardized design used at SAC bases across the United States. Buildings 1221 was constructed in 1956 for use as a field maintenance hangar. Buildings 1244, 1246, 2305, and 2306 were constructed in 1963, 1967, 1965, and 1967, respectively, as maintenance docks for large aircraft. Building 2303 was built in 1955 for use as an Administration and Aircraft Maintenance Shop. The resources retain their original uses.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306, which were constructed between 1955 and 1967 as aircraft maintenance facilities, were used for SAC's mission of air readiness and training. As standardized aircraft maintenance facilities with general operational support uses, the resources are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The buildings are not important to the overall history of

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style aircraft maintenance facilities reflecting a standardized design similar to aircraft hangars and docks at other SAC bases across the nation, Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, the resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

Furthermore, Building 2306 has been substantially altered through the construction of a 20,090 square-foot, three-story portion in 1993, the infill of an overhead door on the southwest elevation, and installation of replacement windows within the past 40 years. These changes have impacted the resource's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Due to its diminished integrity, the resource is no longer able to convey association with significant styles or engineering achievements associated with a Cold War-era resources at March ARB. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

### Criterion D

Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Building 1221 was modified through the enclosure of its southwest elevation, which originally was open air, sometime after 1964. Doors and windows were reconfigured during a renovation in 2013, and external air-conditioning equipment was removed. These changes have diminished the building's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. The resource retains its integrity of location, setting, and association.

Building 1244 appears to be largely unchanged. It has retained its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, its integrity of materials has been diminished through the installation of metal overhead doors.

Building 1246 has retained its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, its integrity of design and materials have been diminished by alterations completed in 1991, including the infill of a large bay on the building's southeast elevation with corrugated metal cladding and the infill of windows on the northwest elevation.

Building 2303 has been altered through the installation of replacement metal panels on the hangar doors in 2011, replacement panels installed on the east and west walls in 2011, and a new door cut into Tower 3 in 1996. These changes have diminished the resource's integrity of design and materials; however, it retains its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Building 2305, appears to be unaltered. It has retained its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Building 2306, originally constructed in 1967, has been altered through the construction of a 20,090 square-foot, three-story portion in 1993 as well as through the infill of an overhead door with a double door on the southwest elevation at an unknown date. Replacement windows also were installed on the one-story portion of the building at an unknown date. These changes have impacted the resource's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The resource retains its integrity of location and setting.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1221, 1244, 1246, 2303, 2305, and 2306 (update)

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

### P5a. Photographs (continued)



Building 1221, view looking northwest, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1221, view looking east, November 2018



Building 1244, view looking northeast, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1244, view looking north, November 2018



Building 1244, view looking south, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1244, view looking northwest, November 2018



Building 1246, view looking north, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1246, view looking southeast, November 2018



Building 1246, view looking south, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2303, view looking west, November 2018



Building 2303, view looking southwest, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2303, view looking southwest, November 2018



Building 2305, view looking southwest, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2305, view looking southeast, November 2018



Building 2305, view looking east, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2305, view looking southwest, November 2018



Building 2306, view looking southeast, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2306, view looking east, November 2018



Building 2306, view looking west, November 2018

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_





\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267

**P1. Other Identifier:** Structure 1242, Wash Rack Pad; Building 1247, Pump Station; Building 1241, Corrosion Control Utility Storage Building; Building 1267, BE Storage CV Facility; and Structure 2311, Sewage Pump Station

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Sunnymead 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 25; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address: Building 1241 and Structure 1242: Southern end of airfield City: March ARB, CA Zip: 92518 (See Continuation Sheet)

d. UTM: Building 1241 and Structure 1242: Zone 11, 477108.0677 mE/ 3749654.3403 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267 and Structure 2311 were constructed in 1967, 1967, 1941, and 1965 as a corrosion control utility storage building, pump station, sewage system plant, and sewage pump station, respectively. Structure 1242 was constructed in 1961 as a wash rack pad. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP4 – Ancillary Building; HP9 – Public Utility Building; HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

**P5b.** Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 1241 and Structure 1242, view looking northwest, November 2018.

P5a. Photograph



\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and

Source:  Historic

Prehistoric

Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:

Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California.*

February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267

B1. Historic Name: Structure 1242 – Wash Rack Pad; Building 1247 – Pump Station; Building 1241 – Corrosion Control Utility Storage Building; Building 1267 – Sewage System Plant; Structure 2311 – Sewage Pump Station

B2. Common Name: Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267

B3. Original Use: Structure 1242 – Wash Rack Pad; Building 1247 – Pump Station; Building 1241 – Corrosion Control Utility Storage Building; Building 1267 – Sewage System Plant; Structure 2311 – Sewage Pump Station

B4. Present Use: Structure 1242 – Wash Rack Pad; Building 1247 – Pump Station; Building 1241 – Corrosion Control Utility Storage Building; Building 1267 – BE Storage CV Facility; Structure 2311 – Sewage Pump Station

\*B5. **Architectural Style:** Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241 and 1247 - Utilitarian; Building 1267 – Utilitarian with Mission Revival details

\*B6. **Construction History:** Structure 1242 – Built in 1961. Buildings 1241 and 1247 – Built in 1967. 1267 – Built in 1941. Conversion of original flat roof to pitched Mission tile-covered roof at an unknown date. Windows on south elevation infill with a window-mounted air-conditioning unit and plywood at an unknown date. Structure 2311 – Built in 1961.

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A

Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247, and 1267 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018.

Structures 1242 and 2311 were identified in 2013 but were not recorded or evaluated. Building 1267 was previously inventoried and evaluated in 1991 and was recommended not eligible due to lack of significance and integrity. Buildings 1241 and 1247 are previously unrecorded and unevaluated. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)  
See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267

**P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad** (continued)

**USGS 7.5' Quad:** Structure 2311: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.

**USGS 7.5' Quad:** Building 1247: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.

**USGS 7.5' Quad:** Building 1267: Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 25; \_\_\_ B.M.

**P2c. Address** (continued)

Address: Structure 2311: Airlift Way City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Address: Building 1247: Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Address: Building 1267: 8th Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

**P2d. UTM** (continued)

UTM: Structure 2311: Zone 11, 475339.0856 mE/ 3751431.4264 mN

UTM: Building 1247: Zone 11, 477118.7906 mE/ 3749838.0709 mN

UTM: Building 1267: Zone 11, 477173.7737 mE/ 3749621.2080 mN

**P3a. Description** (continued)

Buildings 1241, 1247, and 1267 are previously unrecorded and Structures 1242 and 2311 were identified as minor infrastructure elements in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC; however, they were not recorded or evaluated. These five utilitarian-style resources are being grouped together due to them sharing a similar historic use. The 2013 Cold War study also erroneously stated that Building 1241 had been demolished.

Building 1241 (built 1967) is located at the southern end of the airfield, adjacent to Structure 1242. It is a one-story L-shaped utilitarian-style building in the south portion of March ARB. The building has a flat roof, concrete block exterior, and an open flat roof clad with corrugated metal covers a mechanical enclosure area. Two sets of flush metal double-leaf doors are centered on the east elevation with wide-stile window panel at the top and louvered vents at the bottom. The flat roof at the center portion of the building has a slight overhang, while the roof north portion of the building has no overhang and is a small rectangular coping running along it. Building 1241 is largely unaltered and is in good overall condition. Structure 1242 was built in 1961 and is a wash rack pad. It was constructed in 1961 and is an open pad with equipment for washing vehicles using the airfield and support facilities.

Building 1247 is a one-story utilitarian-style building that occupies a small rectangular footprint in the south portion of March ARB. It faces Graeber Street and an asphalt-top parking lot to the northeast and an asphalt-paved road to the northeast. It is situated between two aircraft maintenance hangars, Buildings 1244 and 1246. Building 1247 was originally constructed as a pump station in 1967 and it still retains this use. The building features a standing-seam metal-clad shed roof and exterior walls with flush metal double-leaf doors centered on its primary, northeast elevation. A poured-concrete ramp leads up to this entrance from the asphalt-paved road. Exposed pipes extending from the building's northeast and southwest elevations connect to reservoir tanks immediately southeast of the building. Building 1247 is unaltered and is in good overall condition.

Building 1267 is located on the south end of the airfield. It is accessed from an asphalt road that loops off 8th Street. Chain-link fencing is located to the west and south of the building. The building has minimal Mission Revival detailing and was originally constructed in 1941 as a sewage system plant; it presently is used as a storage facility. This small one-story building occupies an L-shaped footprint and terminates in a hip roof that is covered in Mission tile. It has board-formed concrete exterior walls and is in poor to fair condition. Tripled multi-light steel-frame windows are centered on the

## CONTINUATION SHEET

building's south elevation, and two small six-light steel-frame windows are in the upper portion of the north elevation. Large bays infilled with drop siding are symmetrically placed on the east elevation. Alterations to the resource include painted windows on the south elevation, and infill of the middle window on the south elevation with a window-mounted air-conditioning unit and plywood. Per the 1991 *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, the resource's original flat concrete roof also was converted to a Mission tile-covered hip roof at an unknown date. The building is located behind a chain-link fence.

Structure 2311 was constructed in 1965 as a sewage pump station, a use it still retains. It is an uncovered structure, partially buried beneath the flight line at the northern end of the airfield. It is located between Buildings 2306 and 2305, two large aircraft hangars. The resource is surrounded by concrete paving and sits recessed back from Airlift Way.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267 were constructed in 1961, 1961, 1967, 1967, and 1941 as a wash rack pad, sewage pump station, corrosion control utility storage building, pump station, and sewage system plant, respectively. They are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. Building 1267 additionally is associated with March ARB's World War II (WWII) military history. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with the WWII and Cold War periods, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP; and the 1991 *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Force Base, Riverside California*, prepared by Patti Johnson.

#### *Pre-WWII*

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992).

## CONTINUATION SHEET

### *WWII*

March Field provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during WWII, when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992).

Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII, which had reached 1,200,000 personnel by June 1940 (Johnson, 1991). Development included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). Five principles guided the mobilization construction plans: speed, simplicity, conservation of materials, flexibility, and safety. Speed was given the highest priority, and it was in the interest of achieving this speed that simplicity came into play. Wood was used in standard sizes where possible. Complex framing and interior framing were avoided or omitted. Interior electrical work, plumbing, and other mechanical facilities were kept to bare necessities, (Johnson, 1991). The Air Corps commonly employed standardized designs for new resources built during this time, and the designs were implemented nationwide.

In 1942, after completion of the major building program at March Field, the Army acquired an additional 625 acres to extend the northwest runway. Several other late additions to the mobilization construction program occurred after most construction activity had ended. Runways received attention in 1944, with additional parking and landing areas constructed under a federal grant. As the Army developed newer and heavier aircraft, more durable runways were required. In October of 1944, March Field planned a new runway which would parallel the older one. Construction began in 1945 and eventually cost 1.5 million dollars. When completed, the 7000-foot runway boasted supporting aprons, taxiways, warm-up pads, and shoulders to accommodate the new B-24 and B-29 aircraft (Johnson, 1991).

After two years of service as a tactical base, March Field's mission changed to that of pursuit and offensive operations. During WWII, March Field served many vital, if unspectacular, functions. It provided facilities for test aircraft, although none were actually developed on base. The Army Air Corps tested a prototype of the first twin-engine fighter at March Field on January 1, 1939. The XP-38 made several test flights, then departed on February 11<sup>th</sup> on a transcontinental hop. The plane crashed just short of the runway at Mitchell Field in New York but it had shown enough promise for the army to continue tests at another air field. Between August 6 and 23, 1939, tests on an Ercoupe engine proved the feasibility of jet-assisted takeoffs. In April of 1942, liquid rockets were used to assist A-20 bombers into the air from Muroc bombing range. At the opposite end of the technical spectrum, the Army designated March Field as the replacement center for glider training in May of 1942 (Johnson, 1991).

The mission of March Field then became one of support for an aviation engineer training center during the greater part of 1943, changing once again in 1944 to a B-24 training base. It remained in this capacity for the remainder of the war (Johnson, 1991).

### *Cold War*

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267

as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B-52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267

Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1247 and 1267 were constructed in 1961, 1961, 1967, and 1941 as a wash rack pad, sewage pump station, pump station, and sewage system plant, respectively. Structure 1242 and 2311 and Building 1247 retain these uses, while Building 1267 is presently used as a storage building. No major alterations have occurred to the resources.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Building 1267 was constructed in 1941, during a period of growth at March Field during WWII. The base represented one of three existing Air Corps bases in California that were expanded during this period (the other two being McClellan and Hamilton), and provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions. Notably, although the base was used for testing purposes (in addition to other functions), no aircraft were developed there (Johnson, 1991). Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241 and 1247 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California. This includes at March ARB, which is most closely associated with the theme of aviation training at Army Air Corps bases during WWII. The multi-volume JRP document states that "it appears...almost no World War II-era building or structure associated with this theme has been found to qualify for listing in the National Register" (JRP, 2000:7-9). This is because these resources were demolished during the Cold War period; were substantially altered; or were based on standardized plans and therefore were undistinguished in their design and engineering. The document identifies one resource associated with the theme of aviation training at Edwards AFB which was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP; however, the resource is significant under the theme of emerging weapons and aircraft testing. While March ARB was used as an Army Air Corps training base during WWII, Building 1267 was built as a sewage pump station, and is not important within the theme of aviation training at Army Air Corps bases or any WWII themes.

According to the same document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness during this period. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267 were constructed in 1961, 1961, 1967, 1967, and 1941 as a wash rack pad, sewage pump station, corrosion control utility storage building, pump station, and sewage system plant, respectively. Structure 1242 and 2311 and Building 1241 and 1247 retain these uses, while Building 1267 is presently used as a storage building. As minor infrastructural support and storage facilities, the resources are not significant within the JRP framework. Building 1267 is not important within the historical context of WWII at March ARB, and is not associated with any important events or themes in aviation training at the base. In addition, Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247, and 1267 are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247 and 1267

SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Building 1267 also is not associated with any important military figures at March ARB during WWII, like Col. C.L. Melin and Col. J.W. Warren, who served as base commanders during the WWII-era, or any major military leader that lead the Army Air Corps during the war years, such as Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold. Therefore, Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247, and 1267 are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247, and 1267 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time Building 1267 was built during WWII, the Air Corps commonly constructed resources according to standardized plans that were used across the country. As a simple or unadorned sewage pump station, it received the most basic design considerations. Similarly, when Structures 1242 and 2311 and Building 1247 were constructed during the Cold War, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style minor infrastructural support and storage facilities, Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1247 and 1267 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 6005 and 6006 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1247 and 1267 would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247, and 1267 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241 and 1247 appear to be largely unaltered and retain their integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Building 1267 retains its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, its integrity of design and materials have been impacted by alterations. This includes the conversion of its original flat roof to a pitched Mission-tile covered roof as well as the infill of a window on the south elevation with a window-mounted air-conditioning unit and plywood.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Structures 1242 and 2311 and Buildings 1241, 1247, and 1267 retain their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history (Building 1267 also is associated with the base's WWII military history), they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

### P5a. Photographs (continued)

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1247, view looking southeast, November 2018.



Building 1247, view looking south, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1267, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 1267, view looking southwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Structure 2311, aerial view, source: Google Earth, 2018



Building 1247, view looking northwest, September 2019.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_







State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 1250, Fire Truck and Refueling Maintenance Facility; Building 2310, Base Supply Warehouse; Building 2405, Traffic Management Facility; and Structure 2558, Platform Scale

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Buildings 1250 and 2310: Address Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518 (See Continuation Sheet)

d. Building 1250: UTM: Zone 11, 477083.012 mE/ 3750156.8402 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Buildings 1250 and 2310 were constructed in 1967 and 1968, respectively. They were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. Building 2405 was constructed in 1942 and has not been previously recorded or evaluated. Structure 2558 was identified as a minor infrastructure element in the 2013 study; however, it was not recorded or evaluated. The construction date for Structure 2558 is unknown, but it appears to date from the last 35 years based on visual survey (circa 1984). These four resources are grouped together due to their function as operational support facilities. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP4 – Ancillary Building; HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

P5a. Photograph



\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other

\*P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 1250, view looking west, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  Prehistoric  Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers; Visual survey

\*P7. Owner and Address: March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by: Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded: November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (ARB), Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

B1. Historic Name: Building 1250 – Refuel Vehicle Shop; Building 2310 – Base Supply Warehouse; Building 2405 – Warehouse; Structure 2558 – Platform Scale

B2. Common Name: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

B3. Original Use: Building 1250 – Refuel Vehicle Shop; Building 2310 – Supply Warehouse; Building 2405 – Warehouse; Structure 2558 – Platform Scale

B4. Present Use: Building 1250 - Fire Truck and Refueling Maintenance Facility; Building 2310 – Supply Warehouse; Building 2405 – Traffic Management Facility; Structure 2558 – Platform Scale

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Building 1250 – Built in 1967 using pieces salvaged from an aircraft nose dock located nearby. Overhead doors installed on east elevation at an unknown date. Building 2310 – Built in 1968. Building 2405 – Built in 1942. Exterior cladding altered, replacement overhead doors and windows installed, and tile-covered roof at main entry added at unknown dates. Structure 2558 – Unknown construction date, but appears to date from the last 35 years (ca. 1984).

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update, March Air Reserve Base (ARB), Riverside County, California* in November 2018. Buildings 1250 and 2310 were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of their use as modest support facilities at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance and integrity. Structure 2558 was identified as a minor infrastructure element in the 2013 study; however, it was not recorded or evaluated. Building 2405 was constructed in 1942 and has not been previously recorded or evaluated. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite level of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

**P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad** (continued)

**USGS 7.5' Quad** Building 2310: Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.  
**USGS 7.5' Quad** Building 2405: Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 13; \_\_\_ B.M.  
**USGS 7.5' Quad** Structure 2558: Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 13; \_\_\_ B.M.

**P2c. Address** (continued)

Address: Building 2405: Meyer Drive City March ARB, CA Zip 92518  
Address: Structure 2558: Chanute Avenue and Air Guard Way City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

**P2d. UTM** (continued)

UTM: Building 2310: Zone 11, 475191.9901 mE/ 3751527.4005 mN  
UTM: Building 2405: Zone 11, 476047.3335 mE/ 3751450.8143 mN  
UTM: Structure 2558: Zone 11, 476003.8884 mE/ 3751779.3402 mN

**P3a. Description** (continued)

Building 1250 was built in 1967 as a Vehicle Refueling Shop and is used presently as a Fire Truck and Refueling Maintenance Facility. The building is located east of Graeber Street in the south portion of March ARB. A surface parking lot is located to the east of the resource. It was constructed using pieces salvaged from an aircraft nose dock located nearby. This 4,380 square-foot steel-frame building occupies an irregular-shaped footprint and terminates in a shed roof. Turbine roof ventilators line the top of the roof. The roof and exterior walls are covered in steel panels. The main entry is set on the north elevation and consists of a flush metal door. Other doors on the northwest, east, and south elevations also are flush metal units, and four large overhead doors are on the east elevation. The building lacks windows. Alterations include the addition of overhead doors on the east elevation at an unknown date. The resource has not been altered since its last recordation in 2013.

Building 2310 is an 83,179 square-foot building with a sprawling footprint and low-pitch gable roof that is covered in corrugated metal. It was built in 1968, and is located north of the airfield, east of Tanker Way and north of Borland Way. Surface parking areas are located along the northwest, northeast, and southeast sides of the building. A concrete block wall is located on the building's east elevation, and a second concrete-block firewall extends through the middle of the building; all other exterior walls are clad in corrugated metal. The east elevation concrete block wall terminates a low-pitched gabled false-front parapet. Flush metal doors are located on all elevations, and large overhead doors are on the north east, and west elevations. The west elevation also displays two below-grade loading docks, covered with low-pitched shed roofs. Windows consist of four one-over-four metal units on the west elevation. Mature trees, shrubs, and grassy landscaped areas surround the building. Building 2310 appears to be unaltered. A storage yard is located north of the resource.

Building 2405 is a large one-story building constructed as a utilitarian-style warehouse. It was built in 1942 and today is used as the Traffic Management Facility building. It is located on the north side of Meyer Drive in the north-central portion of March ARB and is surrounded by asphalt paving, including parking lots to the north and south. Two shade structures with Mission tile-covered hip roofs cover picnic tables north of the building. The resource occupies a rectangular footprint and terminates in a low-pitch gable roof covered in roll asphalt. Exterior walls are clad in plaster-covered concrete panels. Doors on the building's primary, south elevation include two sets of replacement glazed, aluminum-frame double-leaf doors and two large overhead doors. Two overhead doors and a flush metal door are located on the rear, north elevation. The east and west elevations feature replacement sliding metal windows. Alterations to the resource include altered exterior cladding, installation of replacement overhead doors and windows, and the addition of a Mission tile-covered gable canopy roof supported by two metal poles at the main entry on the south elevation.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

Structure 2558 is a platform scale located at the intersection of Chanute Avenue and Air Guard Way in the northeast portion of March ARB. It features a metal and steel girder-type construction with rolled flanges that sits on metal and concrete abutments and footings. Based on visual inspection, the resource appears to date from ca. 1984.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 were constructed in 1967, 1968, 1942, and ca. 1984 as a Vehicle Refueling Shop, a Base Supply Warehouse, a Warehouse and a Platform Scale, respectively. They are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. Building 2405 additionally is associated with March ARB's World War II (WWII) military history. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with the WWII and Cold War periods, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP; and the 1991 *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Force Base, Riverside California*, prepared by Patti Johnson.

#### WWII

March Field provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during WWII, when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during the war, which had reached 1,200,000 personnel by June 1940 (Johnson, 1991). Development included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). Five principles guided the mobilization construction plans: speed, simplicity, conservation of materials, flexibility, and safety. Speed was given the highest priority, and it was in the interest of achieving this speed that simplicity came into play. Wood was used in standard sizes where possible. Complex framing and interior framing were avoided or omitted. Interior electrical work, plumbing, and other mechanical facilities were kept to bare necessities, (Johnson, 1991). The Air Corps commonly employed standardized designs for new resources built during this time, and the designs were implemented nationwide.

In 1942, after completion of the major building program at March Field, the Army acquired an additional 625 acres to extend the northwest runway. Several other late additions to the mobilization construction program occurred after most construction activity had ended. Runways received attention in 1944, with additional parking and landing areas constructed under a federal grant. As the Army developed newer and heavier aircraft, more durable runways were required. In October of 1944, March Field planned a new runway which would parallel the older one. Construction began in 1945 and eventually cost 1.5 million dollars. When completed, the 7,000-foot runway boasted supporting aprons, taxiways, warm-up pads, and shoulders to accommodate the new B-24 and B-29 aircraft (Johnson, 1991).

After two years of service as a tactical base, March Field's mission changed to that of pursuit and offensive operations. During WWII, March Field served many vital, if unspectacular, functions. It provided facilities for test aircraft, although none were actually developed on base. The Army Air Corps tested a prototype of the first twin-engine fighter at March Field on January 1, 1939. The XP-38 made several test flights, then departed on February 11<sup>th</sup> on a transcontinental hop. The plane crashed just short of the runway at Mitchell Field in New York but it had shown enough promise for the army to continue tests at another air field. Between August 6 and 23, 1939, tests on an Ercope engine proved the feasibility of jet-assisted takeoffs. In April of 1942, liquid rockets were used to assist A-20 bombers into the air from Muroc bombing range. At the opposite end of the technical spectrum, the Army designated March Field as the replacement center for glider training in May of 1942 (Johnson, 1991).

The mission of March Field then became one of support for an aviation engineer training center during the greater part of 1943, changing once again in 1944 to a B-24 training base. It remained in this capacity for the remainder of the war (Johnson, 1991).

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

### *Cold War*

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Building 1250 was constructed as a Vehicle Refueling Shop in 1967 using pieces salvaged from a nearby metal building. It presently is used as a Fire Truck and Refueling Maintenance Facility.

Buildings 2310 and 2405 were built as warehouses in 1968 and 1942, respectively. Structure 2558 was built ca. 1984 as a platform scale. These three resources retain their original uses.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Building 2405 was constructed in 1942, during a period of growth at March Field during WWII. The base represented one of three existing Air Corps bases in California that were expanded during this period (the other two being McClellan and Hamilton), and provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions. Notably, although the base was used for testing purposes (in addition to other functions), no aircraft were developed there (Johnson, 1991). Buildings 1250 and 2310 and Structure 2558 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California. This includes at March ARB, which is most closely associated with the theme of aviation training at Army Air Corps bases during WWII. The multi-volume JRP document states that "it appears...almost no World War II-era building or structure associated with this theme has been found to qualify for listing in the National Register" (JRP, 2000:7-9). This is because these resources were demolished during the Cold War period; were substantially altered; or were based on standardized plans and therefore were undistinguished in their design and engineering. The document identifies one resource associated with the theme of aviation training at Edwards AFB which was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP; however, the resource is significant under the theme of emerging weapons and aircraft testing. While March ARB was used as an Army Air Corps training base during WWII, Building 2405 was used as a warehouse, and is not important within the theme of aviation training at Army Air Corps bases.

According to the same document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately,

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness during this period. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558, which were constructed in 1967, 1968, 1942, and ca. 1984 as a Vehicle Refueling Shop, Base Supply Warehouse, Warehouse, and Platform Scale, respectively. Buildings 2310 and Structure 2558 retain their original uses, while Building 1250 presently is used as a Fire Truck and Refueling Maintenance Facility and Building 2405 is a Traffic Management Facility. As general support and infrastructural facilities, Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 are not significant within the JRP framework. Building 2405 is not important within the historical context of WWII at March ARB, and as a warehouse, is not directly associated with any important events or themes in aviation training at the base. In addition, Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. The resources are not directly associated with any significant military leader or with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time Building 2405 was built during WWII, the Air Corps commonly constructed resources according to standardized plans that were used across the country. As a simple or unadorned warehouse, it received the most basic design considerations. Similarly, when Buildings 1250 and 2310 and Structure 2558 were constructed during the Cold War, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style general operational support and infrastructural facilities, Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, the resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Criterion Consideration G

As a resource constructed less than 50 years ago, Structure 2558 would also need to meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration G in order to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. Structure 2558 would not be considered exceptionally important since it is not associated with an extraordinary or important event or is a rare survivor of a resource type that is no longer common. It is a modest resource used as a platform scale since it was constructed ca. 1984, and is similar in function to numerous similar resources at other California bases.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Building 1250 has retained its integrity of location, setting, materials, feeling, workmanship, and association; however, its integrity of design has been diminished through the addition of overhead doors on the east elevation at an unknown date.

Building 2310 and Structure 2558 appear to be unaltered and retain their overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Building 2405 has been altered through changes to its exterior cladding, installation of replacement overhead doors and windows, and the addition of a Mission tile-covered gable canopy roof supported by two metal poles at the main entry on the south elevation. These modifications have diminished the resource's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. It retains its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history (Building 2405 also is associated with the base's WWII military history), they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1250, 2310, and 2405 and Structure 2558

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JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

### P5a. Photographs (continued)



Building 1250, view looking east, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1250, view looking southeast. November 2018.



Building 2310, view looking north, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2310, view looking south, November 2018.



Building 2405, view looking northeast, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2405, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Structure 2558, view looking northwest, November 2018

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 21 \*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 1254, Liquid Oxygen Storage Area; Structure 1256, Liquid Oxygen Storage Area; Building 2202, Fuel Pump Station; Structure 2203, Gasoline Storage Tank; Structure 2204, Gasoline Storage Tank; Structure 2205, Jet Fuel Storage Tank; Structure 6515, Fuel Unloading Platform; and Structure 10004, Liquid Fuel Pipeline

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 1254: Sunnymead 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of Sec 24; B.M.

c. Address: Building 1254 and Structure 1256: 8<sup>th</sup> Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518 (See Continuation Sheet)

d. UTM: Building 1254: Zone 11, 477161.9573 mE/ 3750232.5442 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

**\*P3a. Description:**

Buildings 1254 and Structure 1256 are liquid oxygen storage areas; Building 2202 and Structures 2203, 2204, 2205, and 6515 form a jet fuel storage complex; and Structure 10004 is an underground liquid fuel pipeline. Building 1254 is previously unrecorded and Building 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, and 6515 were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. Structure 10004 was identified as a minor infrastructure element in the 2013 study; however, it was not recorded or evaluated. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP11 – Engineering Structure; HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  
 Structure  Object  Site  District  
 Element of District  Other  
 (Isolates, etc.)

**P5b.** Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 1254, view looking northeast, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  
 Prehistoric  
 Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address: March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by: Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded: November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

P5a. Photograph



\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

Page 2 of 21 \*Resource Name or # Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004

B1. Historic Name: Building 1254 – Unknown, likely used for storage; Building 1256 – Liquid Oxygen Storage Area; Building 2202 – Fuel Pump Station; Structures 2203, 2204, and 2205 – Fuel Storage Tank; Structure 6515 – Fuel Unloading Platform; Structure 10004 – Liquid Fuel Pipeline

B2. Common Name: Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004

B3. Original Use: Building 1254 – Unknown, likely used for storage; Building 1256 – Liquid Oxygen Storage Area; Building 2202 – Fuel Pump Station; Structures 2203, 2204, and 2205 – Fuel Storage Tank; Structure 6515 – Fuel Unloading Platform; Structure 10004 – Liquid Fuel Pipeline

B4. Present Use: Building 1254 – Liquid Oxygen Storage Area; Building 1256 – Liquid Oxygen Storage Area; Building 2202 – Fuel Pump Station; Structures 2203, 2204, and 2205 – Fuel Storage Tank; Structure 6515 – Fuel Unloading Platform; Structure 10004 – Liquid Fuel Pipeline

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Building 1254 – Built in 1971. Structure 1256 -Built in 1964. Building 2202 – Built in 1953. Structures 2203, 2204, and 2205 – Built in 1954. New roofs added at an unknown date. Structure 6515 – Built in 1947. Structure 10004 – Built in 1956.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. Building 1254 is previously unrecorded and unevaluated. Building 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, and 6515 were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of their use as modest support buildings at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. The resources also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. Structure 10004 was identified as a minor infrastructure element in the 2013 study; however, it was not recorded or evaluated. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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**P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad** (continued)

Building 2202: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14; \_ B.M.  
Structure 1256: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Sunnymead, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 24; \_ B.M.  
Structure 2203: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14; \_ B.M.  
Structure 2204: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14; \_ B.M.  
Structure 2205: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14; \_ B.M.  
Structure 6515: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14; \_ B.M.  
Structure 10004: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 14; \_ B.M.

**P2c. Address** (continued)

Address: Building 2202 and Structures 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004: Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

**P2d. UTM** (continued)

Building 2202: UTM Zone 11, 475171.3139 mE/ 3751883.7878 mN  
Structure 1256: UTM Zone 11, 477191.1923 mE/ 3750227.4926 mN  
Structure 2203: UTM Zone 11, 475095.9872 mE/ 3752086.4246 mN  
Structure 2204: UTM Zone 11, 475160.7194 mE/ 3752021.8242 mN  
Structure 2205: UTM Zone 11, 475214.2671 mE/ 3751967.8555 mN  
Structure 6515: UTM Zone 11, 475147.8247 mE/ 3751911.058 mN  
Structure 10004: UTM Zone 11, 475168.9399 mE/ 3751944.8094 mN

**P3a. Description** (continued)

Building 1254 was constructed in 1971 and was likely used as a storage building. It still has this same use today. The resource sits on a concrete pad recessed back from 8<sup>th</sup> Street in the south portion of March ARB. The resource is surrounded by bulky river stone gravel and is accessed from an asphalt-paved road that leads from 8<sup>th</sup> Street in the southeast part of the base, surrounded by a chain-link fence. This one-story building is utilitarian in style and features a small square footprint, a concrete-block exterior, and a flat roof with a shallow overhang. The only opening is limited to a flush metal door centered on the west elevation. The building is unaltered and is in good overall condition.

Structure 1256 was constructed in 1964 as a Liquid Oxygen Storage Area, a use it retains to this day. The resource sits recessed back from 8<sup>th</sup> Street in the south portion of March ARB. It is an open pavilion covered with a flat roof canopy supported by steel I-beams with circular concrete footings. The roof is sheathed in metal. The structure shelters two liquid oxygen tanks and is in good condition. The resource is immediately east of Building 1254 and sits recessed back from 8<sup>th</sup> Street in the south part of the base. It is surrounded by a chain-link fence and is unaltered.

Building 2202 and Structures 2203, 2204, 2205, and 6515 form a jet fuel storage complex on the north side of Graeber Street in the north portion of March ARB. Building 2202 was constructed in 1953 as a Fuel Pump Station, and has the same use currently. It is a 197 square-foot, one-story, concrete-block building that terminates in a tile-covered side-gable roof with plywood in the gable ends. It occupies a rectangular footprint. The resource features glazed flush metal doors and steel hopper windows on its southeast and southwest elevations. Steel hopper windows are also located on the northwest elevation. The windows are slightly recessed and sit above a concrete sill. A metal-frame fuel pump shelter is attached to the building's northwest elevation. The building appears to be unaltered and is in good condition. The building is located at the northeast corner of the base, west of Perimeter Road and east of Graeber Road, behind a chain-link fence.

Structures 2203 and 2204 are identical 2,310,000-gallon steel storage tanks with cylindrical forms and steel exterior access stairs. The tanks are 90 feet in diameter. Structure 2205 shares a similar appearance to Structures 2203 and 2204 but has a 67-foot diameter. With the exception of new roofs placed on the structures at an unknown date, the resources appear to be unaltered. They are located in the same fenced area as Building 2202 and were constructed in 1954.

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Structure 6515, constructed in 1947, is a 2,619 square-foot fuel unloading platform with poured-concrete paving and above-ground piping. It is located west of Building 2202.

Structure 10004 is an underground liquid fuel pipeline that connects from Structure 2203, 2204, and 2205 towards the airfield. It was built in 1956.

### **B10. Significance** (continued)

Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed between 1947 and 1971. Buildings 1254 and 1256 and Structures 2203, 2204, and 2205 were built as fuel storage facilities; Building 2202 as a fuel pump station; Structure 6515 as a fuel unloading platform; and Structure 10004 as a liquid fuel pipeline. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

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Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of

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projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become

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an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 were constructed between 1947 and 1971. Building 1254 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, and 2205 were built as fuel storage; Building 2202 as a fuel pump station; Structure 6515 as a fuel unloading platform; and Structure 10004 as a liquid fuel pipeline. The resources retain their original uses. Structures 2203, 2204, and 2205 have been altered through the installation of new roofs at an unknown date.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 were constructed between 1947 and 1971. Building 1254 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, and 2205 were built as fuel storage; Building 2202 as a fuel pump station; Structure 6515 as a fuel unloading platform; and Structure 10004 as a liquid fuel pipeline. The resources retain their historic uses. As unspecialized support facilities, the resources are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

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These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style support facilities, Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, the resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Criterion Consideration G

As a resource constructed less than 50 years ago, Building 1254 would also need to meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration G in order to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. Building 1254 would not be considered exceptionally important since it is not associated with an extraordinary or important event or is a rare survivor of a resource type that is no longer common. It is a modest resource that provided operational support uses and is similar in function to numerous other buildings at March ARB as well as to buildings at other California bases.

### Integrity Analysis

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In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 6515, and 10004 appear to be unaltered and retain their overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Structures 2203, 2204, and 2205 have been altered through the installation of new roofs at an unknown date. This change has diminished the resources' integrity of design. The structures retain their integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association,

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004 retain their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

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## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 10 of 21 \*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004

**P5a. Photographs (continued)**



Building 2202, view looking northeast, November 2018



Building 2202, view looking northwest, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 11 of 21 \*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004



Structure 1256, view looking east, November 2018



Structure 2203, view looking northeast, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 12 of 21 \*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004



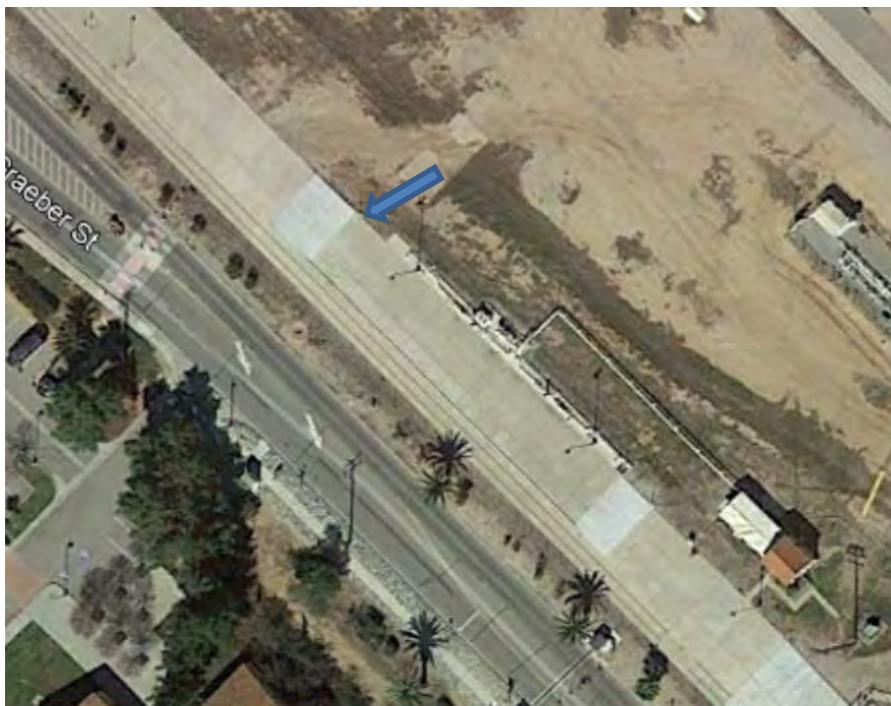
Structure 2204, view looking northeast, November 2018



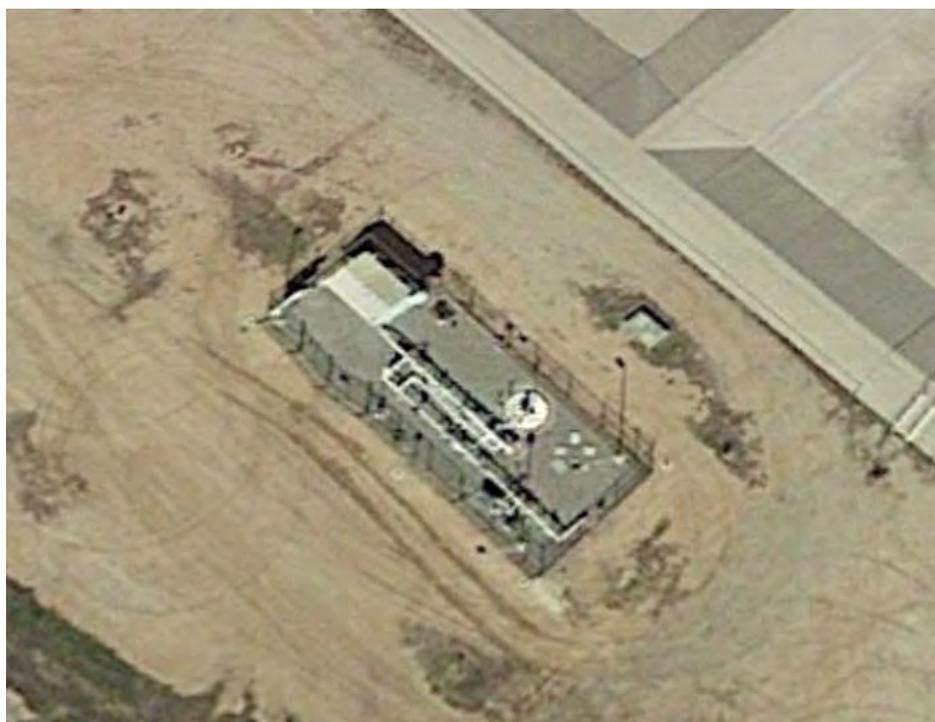
Structure 2205, view looking northeast, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 13 of 21 \*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1254 and 2202 and Structures 1256, 2203, 2204, 2205, 6515, and 10004



Structure 6515, aerial, source: Google Earth, 2018



Structure 11010, aerial, source: Google Earth, 2018

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 19

\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

**P1. Other Identifier:** Structure 1618, Vehicle Parking; Structure 13001, Vehicle Parking; Structure 13002, Open Auto Storage; Structure 16002, Roads; Structure 16006, Driveways; Structure 16020, Curbs and Gutters; Structure 18003, Sidewalks; Structure 21000, Fence; Structure 21001, Fence; and Structure 21026, Fence; and Structure 23001, Vehicle Parking

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Structure 1618 (representative location): Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 S; R 4 W;  of  of Sec 13;      B.M.

c. Address Various City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Structure 1618: Zone 11, 476035.6656 mE/ 3751497.1656 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

Resources are located throughout base. See maps for representative locations

\*P3a. Description:

These resources were identified in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC; however, they were not recorded or evaluated. The resources are minor infrastructure elements including curbs and gutters, sidewalks, roads, fences, vehicle parking, and open auto storage. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP34 – Military Property; HP37 – Highways/Trails; HP39 – Other; HP46 – Walls/Gates/Fences

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

\*P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) Structures 16002, 16020, and 18003, B Street looking southwest, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  Prehistoric  Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

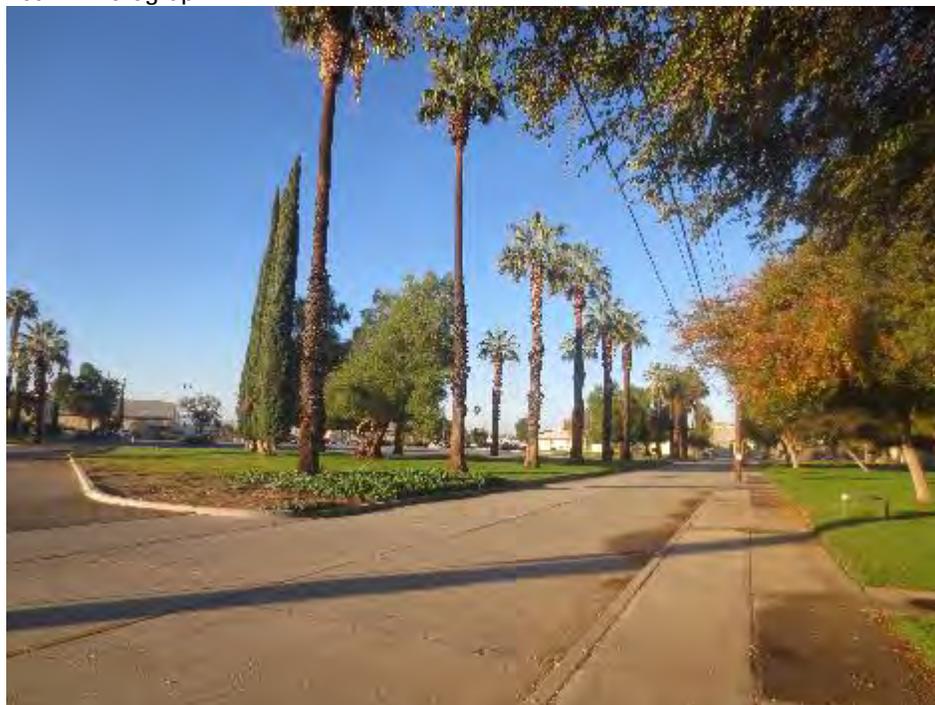
\*P7. Owner and Address: March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by: Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded: November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

P5a. Photograph



\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

B1. Historic Name: Structures 1618, 13002, and 23001 – Vehicle Parking; Structure 13001 – Open Auto Storage; Structure 16002 – Roads; Structure 16006 – Driveways; Structure 16020 – Curbs and Gutters; Structure 18003 – Sidewalks; Structures 21000, 21001, and 21026 – Fence

B2. Common Name: Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

B3. Original Use: Structures 1618, 13002, and 23001 – Vehicle Parking; Structure 13001 – Open Auto Storage; Structure 16002 – Roads; Structure 16006 – Driveways; Structure 16020 – Curbs and Gutters; Structure 18003 – Sidewalks; Structures 21000, 21001, and 21026 – Fence

B4. Present Use: Structures 1618, 13002, and 23001 – Vehicle Parking; Structure 13001 – Open Auto Storage; Structure 16002 – Roads; Structure 16006 – Driveways; Structure 16020 – Curbs and Gutters; Structure 18003 – Sidewalks; Structures 21000, 21001, and 21026 – Fence

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Structure 1618 - Built in 1967. Structures 13001, 13002, 18003, 16002, 21000, and 21001 - Built in 1949. Structure 16006 - Built in 1953. Structure 16020 - Built in 1968. Structure 21026 - Built in 1964. Structure 23001 - Built in 1965. The majority of these resources have been replaced, repaired, or repaved over time.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously identified in 2013 but were not recorded or evaluated. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)  
See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

### P3a. Description (continued)

These resources are located throughout the base. Structure 1618 was built in 1967; Structures 13001, 13002, 16002, 18003, 21000, and 21001 were built in 1949; Structure 16006 was built in 1953; Structure 16020 was built in 1968; Structure 21026 was built in 1964; and Structure 23001 was built in 1965. The driveways and parking areas consist of built-up asphalt surface. The sidewalks, curbs, and gutters are concrete and asphalt. The fences are primarily chain-link along the perimeter of the base and also used to separate facilities. The majority of these resources have been replaced, repaired, or re-paved over time. The sidewalks and other related elements do not have identifying features, such as contractor date stamps. Structure 13002 is an open storage area; its location is unknown.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed between 1949 and 1967 as hardscape and fence features, including vehicle parking, auto storage, roads, driveways, curbs and gutters, and sidewalks. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct. (Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

As mentioned, the majority of Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 have been replaced, repaired, or repaved over time.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 were constructed between 1949 and 1967 as hardscape and fence features. As such, the resources are not significant within the JRP framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. The resources are not associated with any significant military leaders or with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They also do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As hardscape and fence features, Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. In addition, many of the resources have been repaired, repaved, or upgraded since construction to maintain operability. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of resources from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, the resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 have been continuously maintained since their construction, and elements have been repaired, repaved, or upgraded as necessary in order to maintain operability. These changes have impacted the resources' integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

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JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001

P5a. Photographs (continued)



Structures 16002, 16020, and 18003, B Street looking east, November 2018

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\*Resource Name or # Structures 1618, 13001, 13002, 16002, 16006, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, 21026, and 23001



Structures 16002 and 16020, M Street looking west, November 2018. Representative photograph of property type located throughout the base.



Structures 16002, 16020, 18003, 21000, 21001, and 21026, Baucom Street at M Street, looking northwest, November 2018. Representative photograph of property type located throughout the base.

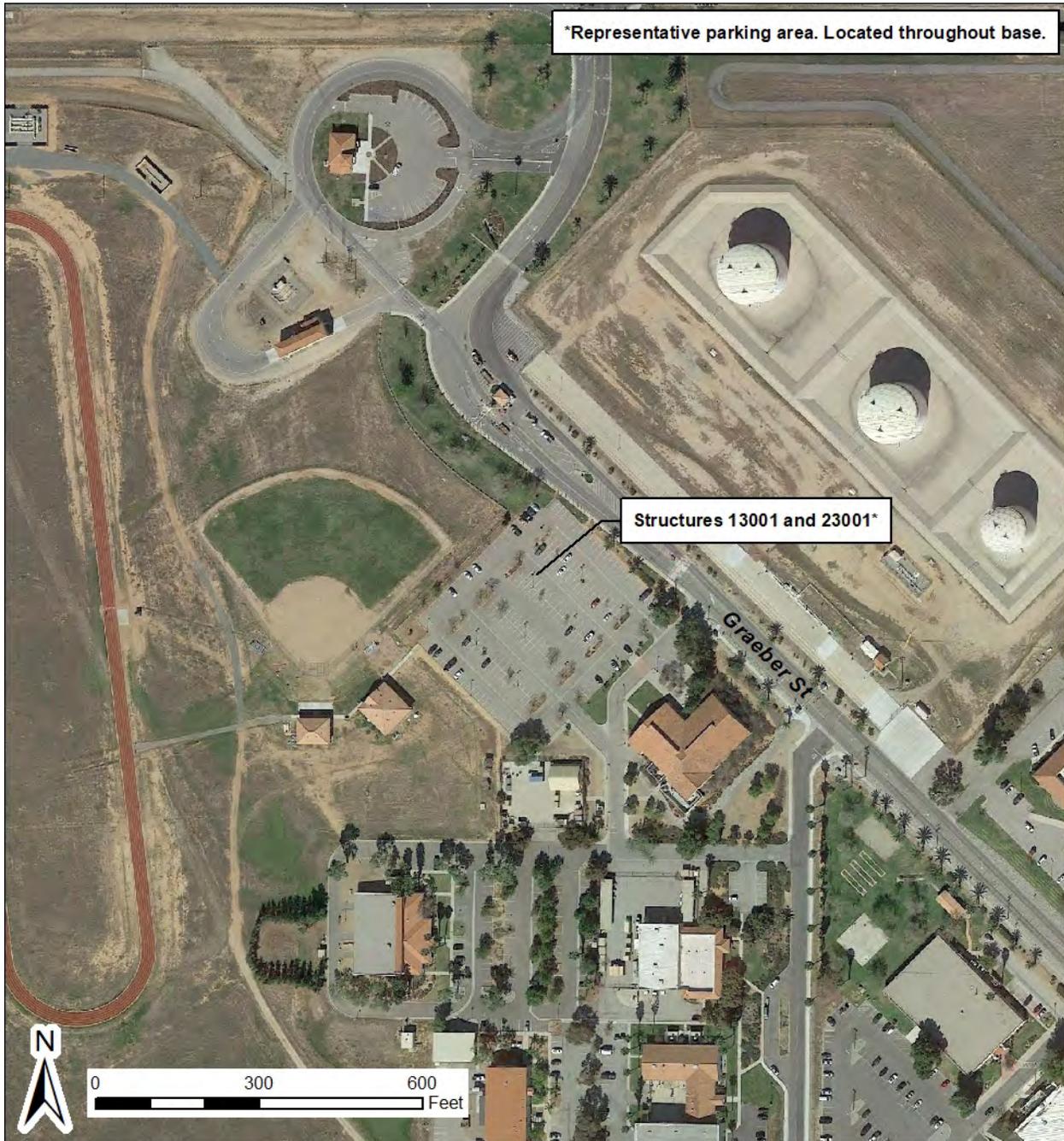
\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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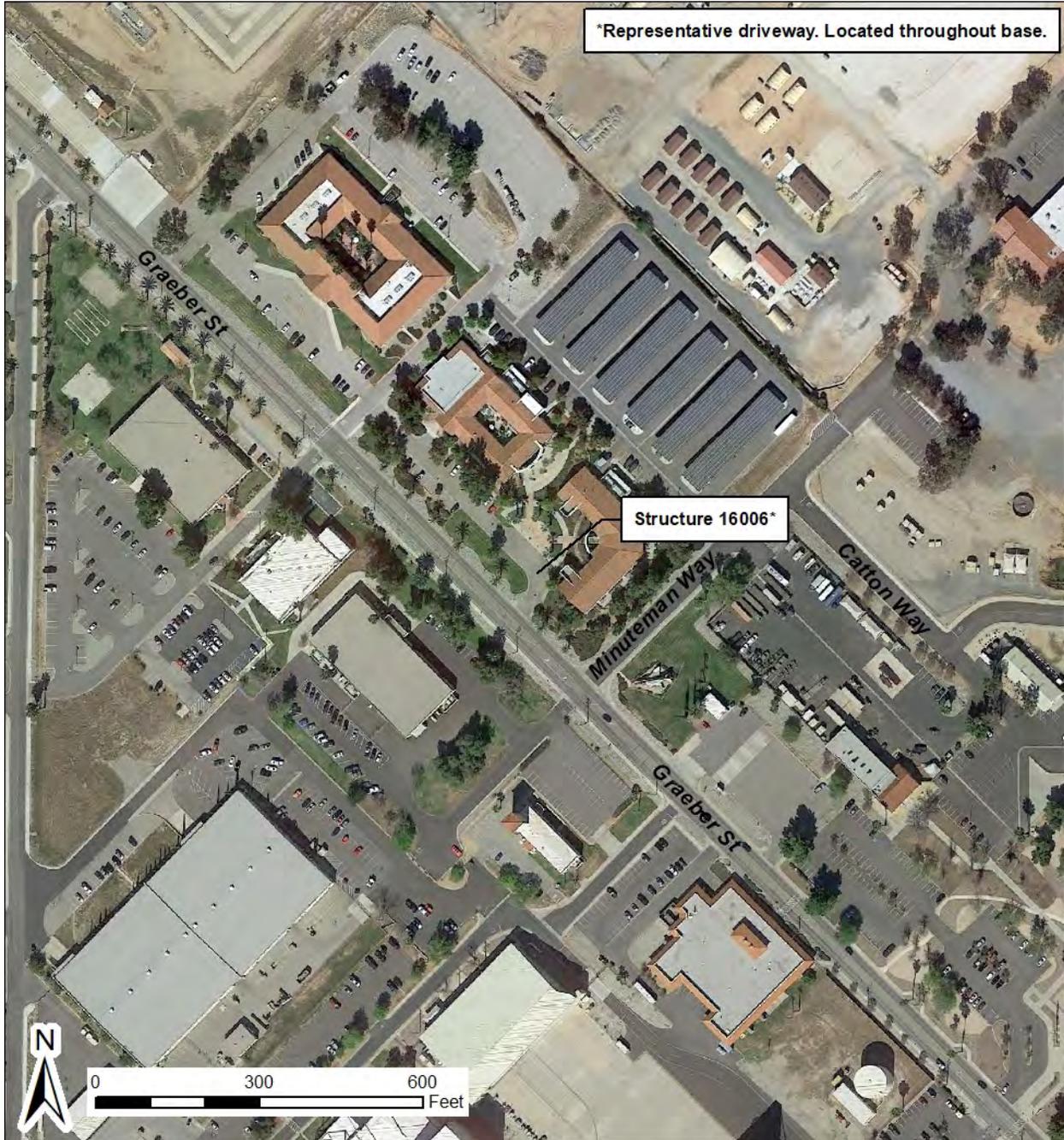
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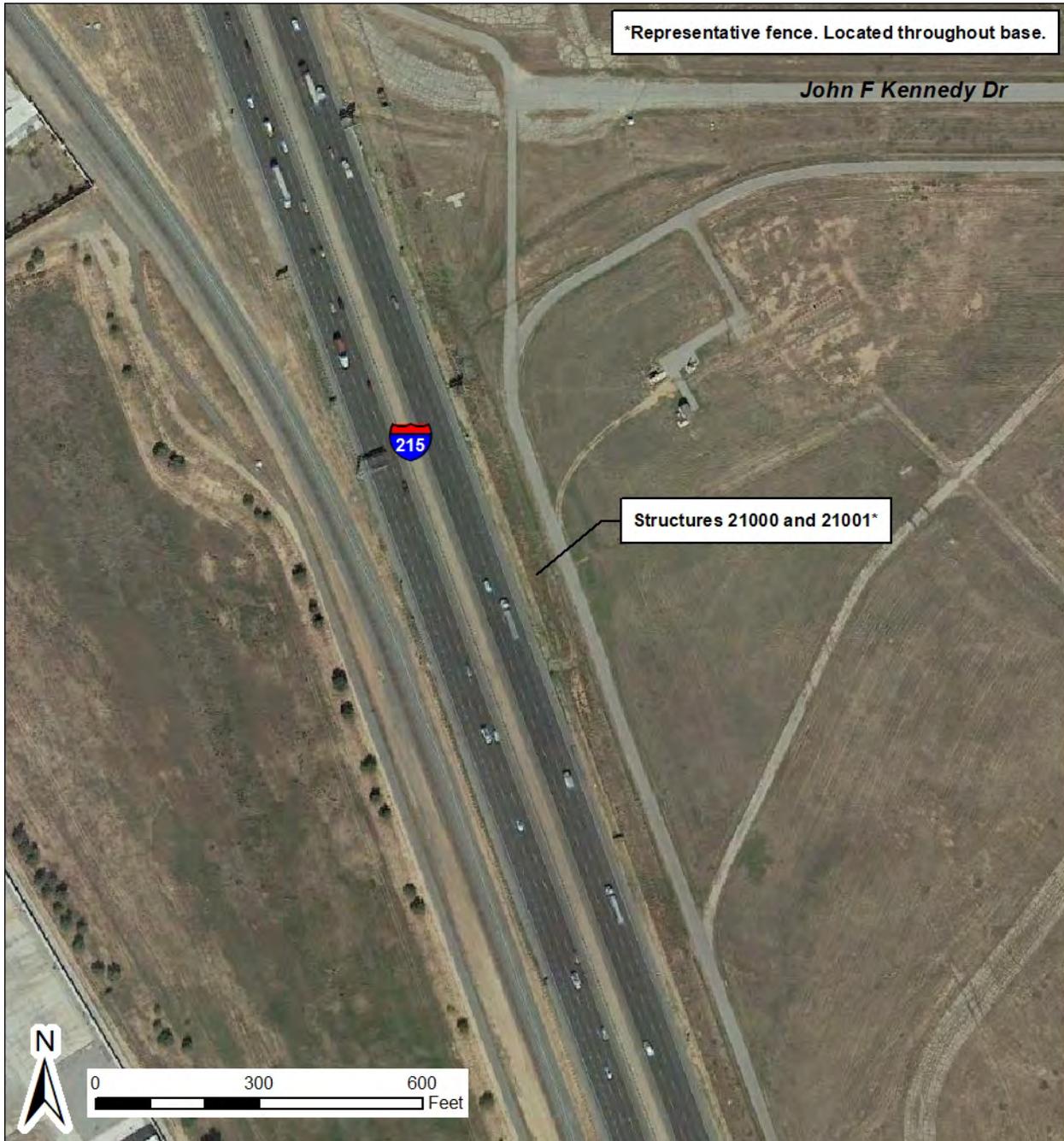
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\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



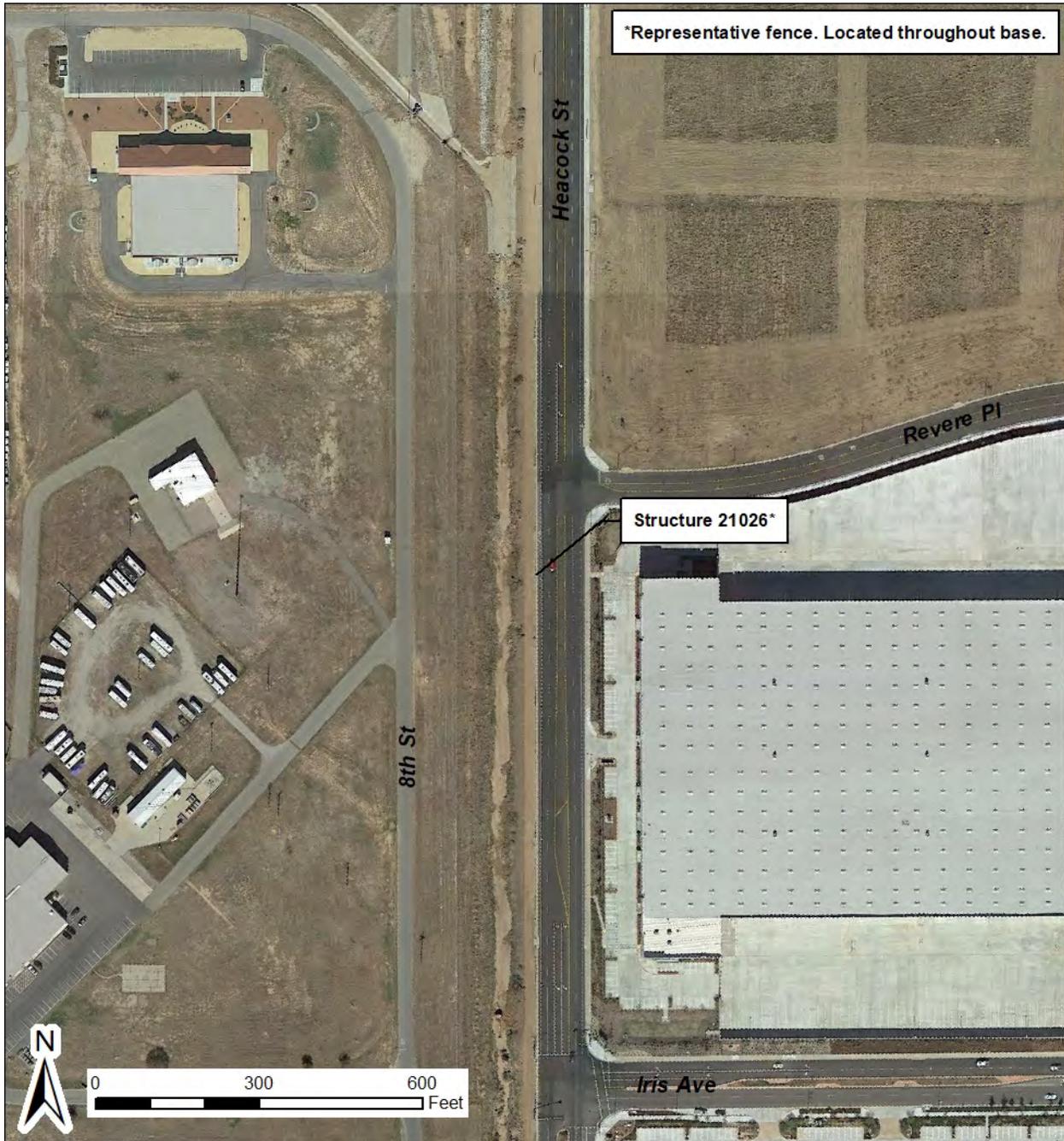
\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
HRI #  
Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 16

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 2150, TACAN; Building 1301, TACAN; Buildings 1800 and 1801A, TACAN Backup Electrical Generator; Structure 19044, Wind Measuring Set; and Structure 19048, Wind Measuring Set

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Building 2150: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of Sec 14;      B.M.

c. Address South of airfield City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Building 2150: Zone 11, 474568.1574 mE/ 3751821.7046 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Several aviation navigation components are distributed throughout the airside area of the airfield. These components consist of two historic-era and two non-historic-era TACAN (Tactical Air Navigation System) buildings, a radio tower, and two wind measuring sets. Many of these elements have been replaced since 1985. Building 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 were identified as minor infrastructure elements in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC; however, they were not recorded or evaluated. The other resources are unrecorded. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP4 – Ancillary Building; 11 – Engineering Structure; HP34 – Military Property; HP39 – Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 2150, view looking east, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic

Prehistoric

Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record

Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record

Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

B1. Historic Name: Building 1301 – TACAN; Building 1800 – Backup Electrical Power Generator; Building 1801A – TACAN; Building 2150 – Portable Storage Tank; Structures 19044 and 19048 – Wind Measuring Set

B2. Common Name: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

B3. Original Use: Building 1301 – TACAN Building; Building 1800 – Backup Electrical Power Generator; Building 1801A – TACAN; Building 2150 – Portable Storage Tank; Structures 19044 and 19048 – Wind Measuring Set

B4. Present Use: Building 1301 – TACAN Building; Building 1800 – Backup Electrical Power Generator; Building 1801A – TACAN Building; Building 2150 – Portable Storage Tank; Structures 19044 and 19048 – Wind Measuring Set

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Building 1301 – Built in circa 1957. Building 1801 and 1801A – Built between 1985 and 1991. Building 2150 – Built in 1957. Structure 19044 – Built in 1957. Structure 19048 – Built in 1963.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A

Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. Building 2150 and Structure 19044 and 19048 were identified in 2013 but were not recorded or evaluated. The remaining resources – Buildings 1301, 1800, and 1801A – have not been previously recorded or evaluated. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Locations Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 3 of 16 \*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

### P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad (continued)

Building 1301: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.  
Building 1800: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 23; \_\_\_ B.M.  
Building 1801A: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 23; \_\_\_ B.M.  
Building 2150: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.  
Structures 19044: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 23; \_\_\_ B.M.  
Structures 19048: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ □ of \_ □ of Sec 23; \_\_\_ B.M.

### P2c. Address (continued)

Address: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150, and Structures 19044, and 19048: Vicinity Airfield City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

### P2d. UTM (continued)

Building 1301: UTM Zone 11, 474568.1574 mE/ 3751821.7046 mN  
Building 1800: UTM Zone 11, 474566.8694 mE/ 3751253.2103 mN  
Building 1801A: UTM Zone 11, 474566.8694 mE/ 3751253.2103 mN  
Building 2150: UTM Zone 11, 474568.1574 mE/ 3751821.7046 mN  
Building 19044: UTM Zone 11, 474555.65 mE/ 3751282.1847 mN  
Building 19048: UTM Zone 11, 474555.65 mE/ 3751282.1847 mN

### P3a. Description (continued)

Buildings 1301 and 2150 are a utilitarian-style TACAN buildings, both constructed ca. 1957, with small, rectangular footprints and front-gable roof. They provide storage and electrical support to the air navigation systems. Exterior walls are covered in plaster, and fenestration is limited to a flush metal door. Electrical conduits are located against the side of the building. The resources are in good physical condition and are unaltered. They are located at the northwest end of the airfield, accessed from a paved and dirt road from the airfield perimeter road.

Buildings 1800 and 1801A are more recently constructed TACAN buildings, added between 1985 and 1991. They are utilitarian-style buildings with a rectangular footprint and plaster exterior walls. The resources provide storage and electrical support to the air navigation systems. Building 1800 has a flat metal roof and Building 1801A has a standing seam metal shed roof. The buildings have a flush metal door, rectangular vents, and one-over-one aluminum-sash windows. They are in good condition and are unaltered. The buildings are located at the northwest end of the airfield, approximately 1,775 feet southeast of Buildings 1301 and 2150, south of John F. Kennedy Drive.

Structures 19044 and 19048 are located at the north end of the airfield. They were constructed as Wind Measuring Sets in 1957 and 1963, respectively, and are simple structures intended to measure wind, weather, and barometric conditions. The equipment is fastened to metal pole structures.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed between ca. 1957 and ca. 1991 as navigational aid components (Buildings 1301 and 1801A), a Backup Electrical Power Generator (Building 1800), a portable storage tank (Building 2150), and wind measuring sets (Structures 19044 and 19048). As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base*,

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 4 of 16 \*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

*Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B-52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

Buildings 1301 and 1801A were constructed as navigational aid structures ca. 1957 and between 1985 and 1991, respectively. Building 1800 was built sometime between ca. 1985 and 1991 as a Backup Electrical Power Generator, and Building 2150 was built in 1957 as a portable storage tank. Structures 19044 and 19048 were built as wind measuring sets in 1957 and 1963, respectively. All resources retain their original uses and appear to be unaltered.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 were constructed between ca. 1957 and 1991 as navigational aid components (Buildings 1301 and 1801A), a Backup Electrical Power Generator (Building 1800), a portable storage tank (Building 2150), and wind measuring sets (Structures 19044 and 19048). They retain these uses. As minor infrastructural and support facilities, the resources are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style minor infrastructural and support facilities, Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, the resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Criterion Consideration G

As resources constructed less than 50 years ago, Building 1800 and 1801A would also need to meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration G in order to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. Buildings 1800 and 1801A would not be considered exceptionally important since they are not associated with an extraordinary or important event or are rare survivors of a resource type that is no longer common. They are modest resources that provided day-to-day operational support and are similar in function to numerous other buildings at March ARB as well as to buildings at other California bases.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 appear to be largely unaltered and retain their overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

P5a. Photographs (continued)



Building 2150, view looking north, November 2018



Building 1301, view looking east, November 2018

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 1301, view looking south, November 2018



Building 1801A and 1800 view looking southwest, November 2018

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 1301, 1800, 1801A, and 2150 and Structures 19044 and 19048

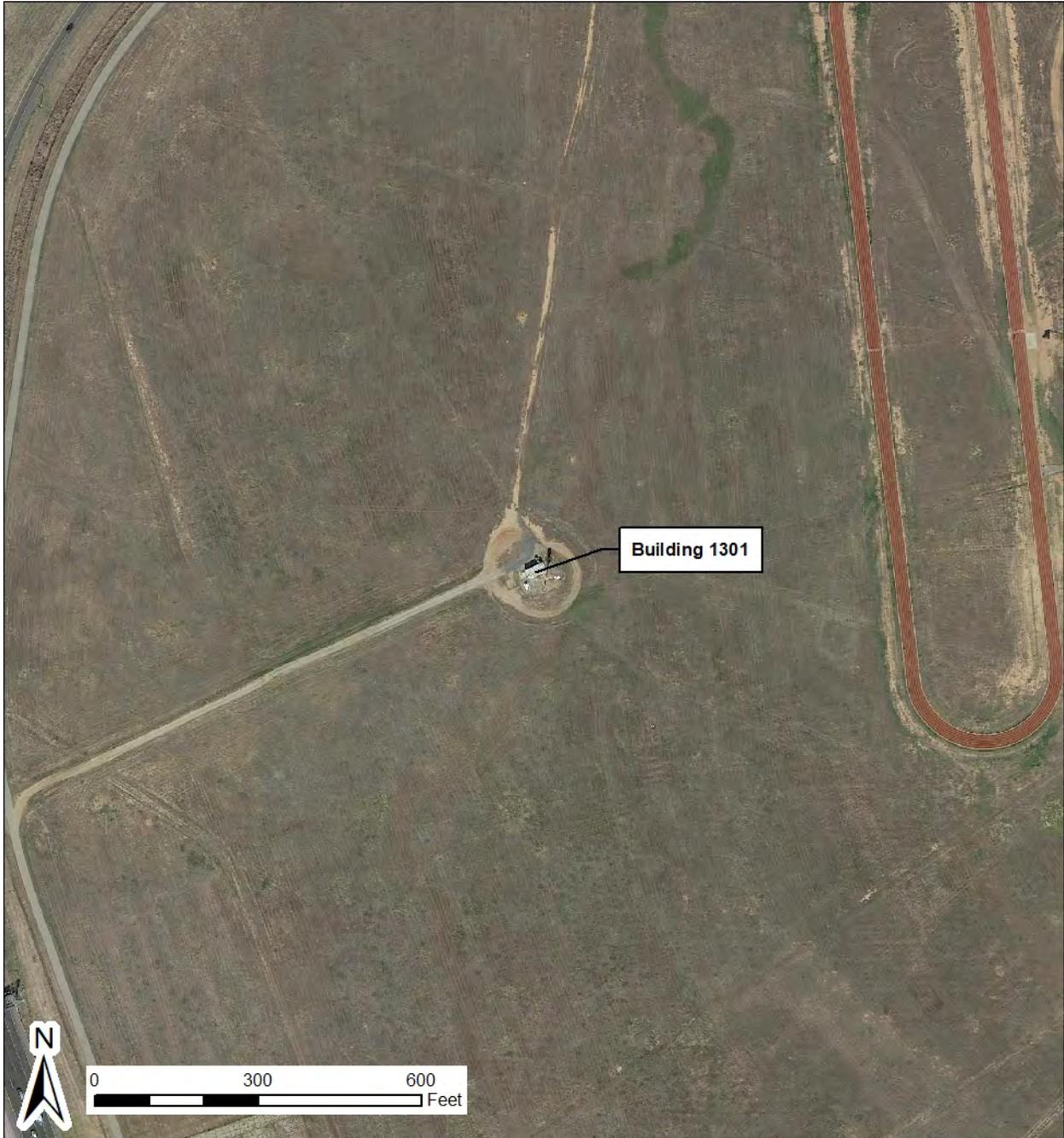


Building 1800 view looking south, November 2018

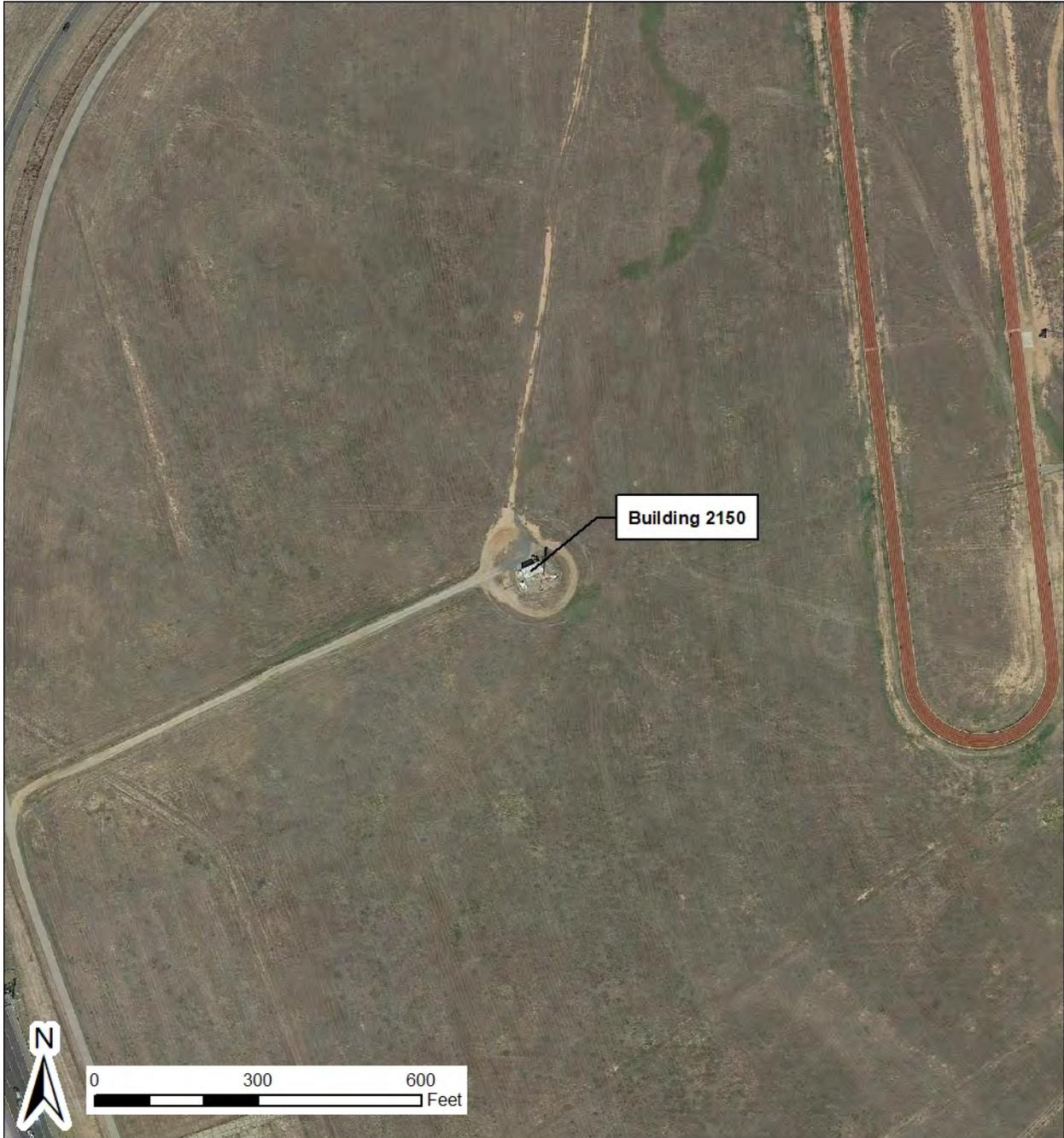


Building 1800 view looking east, November 2018

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



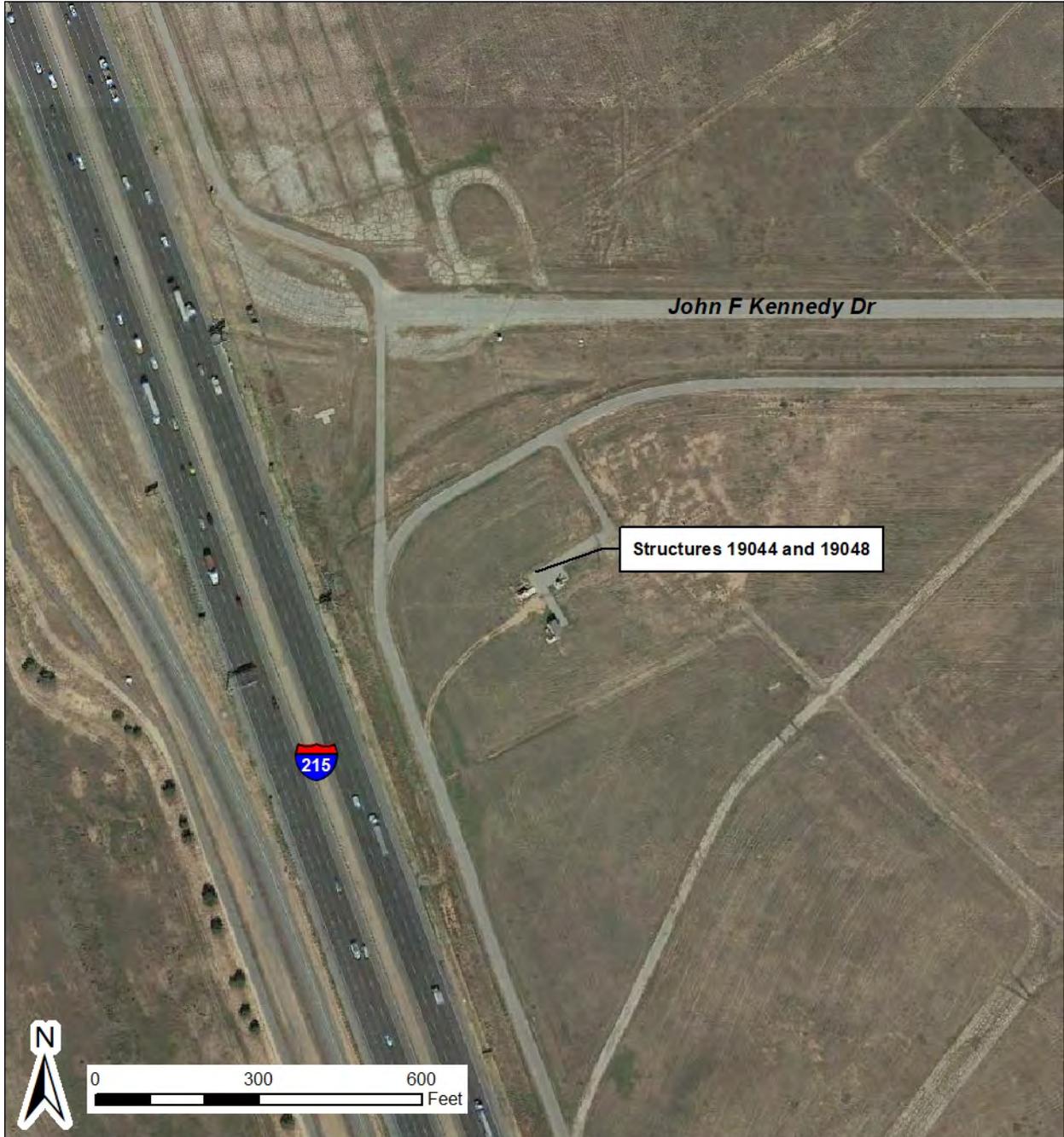
\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 12

\*Resource Name or #: Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

**P1. Other Identifier:** Structure 2301, Water Supply Storage and Building 2302, Water Fire Pump Station

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Structure 2301: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of Sec 14;      B.M.  
 USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 2302: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of Sec 14;      B.M.

c. Address Structure 2301 and Building 2302: Graeber Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Structure 2301: Zone 11, 475509.1726 mE/ 3751457.1645 mN

UTM: Building 2302: Zone 11, 475497.1075 mE/ 3751447.5314 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Structure 2301 and Building 2302 are fire protection-related resources located on the west side of Graeber Street in the north portion of March ARB. They are utilitarian in style. A parking lot is situated south of the resources, and the airfield is to the west. The resources were built in 1955 and were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP9 – Public Utility Building; HP11 – Engineering Structure; HP34 – Military Property

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other

P5a. Photograph



P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Structure 2301, view looking west, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  
 Prehistoric  
 Both

1955, Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address: March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by: Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded: November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

B1. Historic Name: Structure 2301 – Water Supply Storage; Building 2302 – Water Fire Pump Station

B2. Common Name: Structure 2301 and Building 2302

B3. Original Use: Structure 2301 – Water Supply Storage; Building 2302 – Water Fire Pump Station

B4. Present Use: Structure 2301 – Water Supply Storage; Building 2302 – Water Fire Pump Station

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Built in 1955.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A

Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Structure 2301 and Building 2302 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of their use as modest support buildings at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. The resources also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

### P3a. Description (continued)

Structure 2301 is a 500,000-gallon steel water tank with a cylindrical form. Building 2302 is immediately southwest of the water tank and is a 1,600 square-foot concrete-block building with a rectangular footprint and flat roof. Flush metal doors are located on the northwest and southeast elevations and multi-light fixed windows and louvered vents are in the upper portions of the northeast and southwest elevations. The resources are well maintained and appear to be unaltered.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Structure 2301 and Building 2302 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed in 1955 as water supply storage and a water fire pump station, respectively. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Structure 2301 and Building 2302 were constructed in 1955 as water supply storage and a water fire pump station, respectively. They retain these respective uses to this day. They appear to be unaltered.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Structure 2301 and Building 2302 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Structure 2301 and Building 2302 were constructed in 1955 as water supply storage and a water fire pump station and have retained this use. As general infrastructural support facilities, Structure 2301 and Building 2302 are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Structure 2301 and Building 2302 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style infrastructural support facilities, Structure 2301 and Building 2302 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Structure 2301 and Building 2302 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, Structure 2301 and Building 2302 would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Structure 2301 and Building 2302 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Structure 2301 and Building 2302 appear to be unaltered and retain their integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Conclusion

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

In conclusion, while Structure 2301 and Building 2302 retain most of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Structure 2301 and Building 2302 (update)

**P5a. Photographs (continued)**



Building 2302 (left) and Structure 2301 (right), view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2302 (foreground) and Structure 2301 (background), view looking northeast, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



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\*Resource Name or #: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

**P1. Other Identifier:** Static Display, SVS Family Camp RV Park, and Tyson Field

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. Static Display: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East **Date (PR)** 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of **Sec 24**; \_\_\_\_\_ **B.M.**  
(See Continuation Sheet)

c. Static Display: Address Graeber Street and Minuteman Way City March ARB, CA Zip 92518 (See Continuation Sheet)

d. Static Display: UTM Zone 11, 475407.6347 mE/ 3751640.9763 mN (See Continuation Sheet)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Three resources are recorded in this form: Static Display (installed ca. 1990); SVS Family Camp RV Park (dating from ca. 1977); and Tyson Field (ca. 1967). The resources are previously unrecorded. The static display presently serves commemorative functions. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP26 – Monument/Mural/Gravestone; HP30 – Trees/Vegetation; HP31 – Urban Open Space; HP34 – Military Property; HP39 - Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



**P5b.** Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) Static Display, view looking northeast, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  
 Prehistoric  
 Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers; Review of historic aerial photographs; Visual survey

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List): \_\_\_\_\_

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

B1. Historic Name: Static Aircraft Display; RV Park; Recreational Field

B2. Common Name: Static Display; RV Park; Tyson Field

B3. Original Use: Static Display – Commemorative Display; RV Park – RV park; Tyson Field – recreational field

B4. Present Use: Static Display – Commemorative Display; RV Park – RV park; Tyson Field – recreational field

\*B5. Architectural Style: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field – N/A

\*B6. Construction History: Static Display – Installed circa 1990. RV Park – ca. 1977. A restroom and shower area is located at the east side, which was added within the past 25 years. Tyson Field – ca. 1967. Presently, portions of the field are overgrown with foliage.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: Original Location:

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A

Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

The static display, RV park, and Tyson Field were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They have not been previously recorded or evaluated. Notably, the static display presently serves a commemorative function. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

**P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad** (continued)

RV Park: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Sunnymead, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980 **T** 3 **South**; **R** 4 **West**;    of    of **Sec 24**;    **B.M.**

Tyson Field: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Sunnymead, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980 **T** 3 **South**; **R** 4 **West**;    of    of **Sec 24**;    **B.M.**

**P2c. Address** (continued)

RV Park: Address Customs Way off Riverside Drive City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Tyson Field : Address Midway Street and Fifth Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Tyson Field is shown on base GIS records as being outside the boundaries; however, it is located within the boundaries of the base on information provided by March ARB personnel.

**P2d. UTM** (continued)

RV Park: UTM Zone 11, 476846.9868 mE/ 3750340.7592 mN

Tyson Field: UTM Zone 11, 477102.6387 mE/ 3750489.4911 mN

**P3a. Description** (continued)

The static display consists of a F-4 Phantom aircraft that was installed ca. 1990. It is located at the intersection of Graeber Street and Minuteman Way in the north portion of March ARB and is surrounded by a manicured grass lawn and low-lying shrubbery. Gravel is located under the aircraft. A marker is placed in front of the aircraft, which is in good overall condition.

The RV park is located on Customs Way northeast of Graeber Street, southeast east of Riverside Drive. It dates from ca. 1977. The resource consists of three rows of RV parking and camp sites along a horizontal axis and arranged around a loop road. The RV sits on small landscaped lawns surrounding concrete pads. A restroom and shower area are located at the east side, which were added within the past 25 years.

Tyson Field is a large recreational field located in the east part of the base, southeast of the Midway Street and Fifth Street intersection. It dates from ca. 1967. Portions of the field are overgrown with foliage. The site features scattered mature tree cover and poured-concrete sidewalks as well as a circular running track and metal bleachers. A concrete and plaster sign with brick and mortar trim situated at northwest end of the field bears lettering reading "TYSON F" – some of the letters are missing, and the sign is in poor condition. Next to the sign are two mature cacti.

**B10. Significance** (continued)

The static display, RV park, and Tyson Field were built in ca. 1990, ca. 1977, and ca. 1967, respectively. They are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

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\*Resource Name or #: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of “massive retaliation.” This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation’s efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, “the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come” (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation’s ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation’s main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command’s mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF “Definitive Designs”, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with “harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends,” acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop,

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B-52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

The static display was installed ca. 1990. It has a commemorative use.

The RV park dated from ca. 1977. A restroom and shower area are located at the east side, which were added within the past 25 years.

Tyson Field is a large recreational field that dates from ca. 1967. Presently, portions of the field are overgrown with foliage.

### Criterion A

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

The static display, RV park, and Tyson Field were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

The static display has a commemorative use, while the RV park and Tyson Field are recreational facilities. As such, the static display, the RV park, and Tyson Field are not significant within the JRP framework. They are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp, served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the static display, the RV park, and Tyson Field are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

The static display, RV park, and Tyson Field do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other resources at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. Although the static display commemorates advances in aerospace technology, the resource is a commemorative display that is not exceptional in its design or engineering. Therefore, the static display, RV park, and Tyson Field do are recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. The static display, RV park, and Tyson were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

aesthetics. Therefore, the resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

The static display, RV park, and Tyson Field do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Criterion Consideration F

The static display has a commemorative use and therefore must also meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration F in order to qualify for listing in the NRHP. These requirements specify that a commemorative property may only be found eligible for listing if it possesses significance for its design or age, tradition, or symbolic value; the resource cannot be listed for the significance of the event or person it commemorates. Although the display commemorates advances in aerospace technology, it does not possess the qualities that would make it exceptional in its design or engineering. In addition, it does not possess age, tradition, or symbolic value. Therefore, the static display does not meet the requirements of Criterion Consideration F.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

The static display and Tyson Field have retained their integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association. The RV park also retains these aspects of integrity, but its integrity of design has been diminished by the addition of a restroom and shower area on its east side within the past 25 years.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the static display, RV park, and Tyson Field are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Static Display, RV Park, and Tyson Field

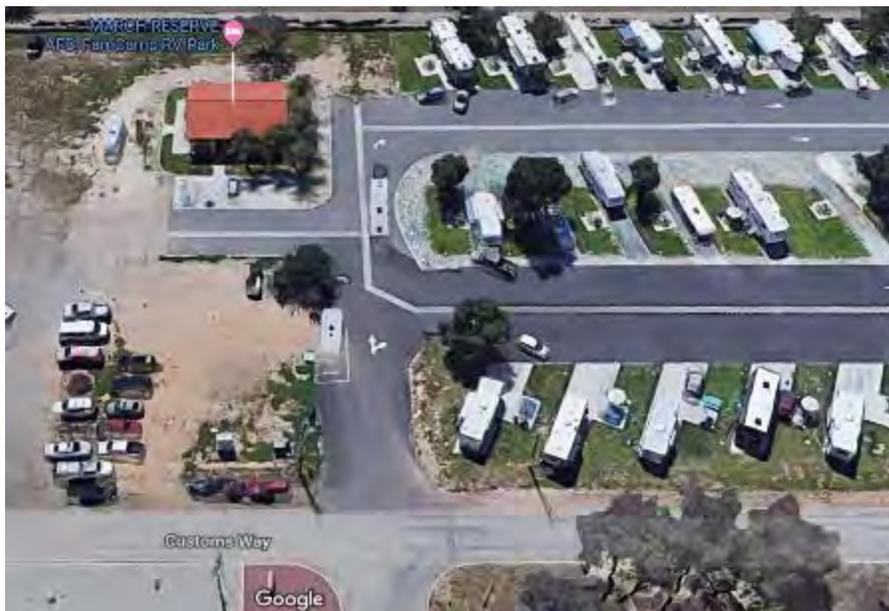
JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

### P5a. Photographs (continued)



RV Park, aerial, source: Google Earth, 2018

# CONTINUATION SHEET



Tyson Field, view looking southeast, November 2018.

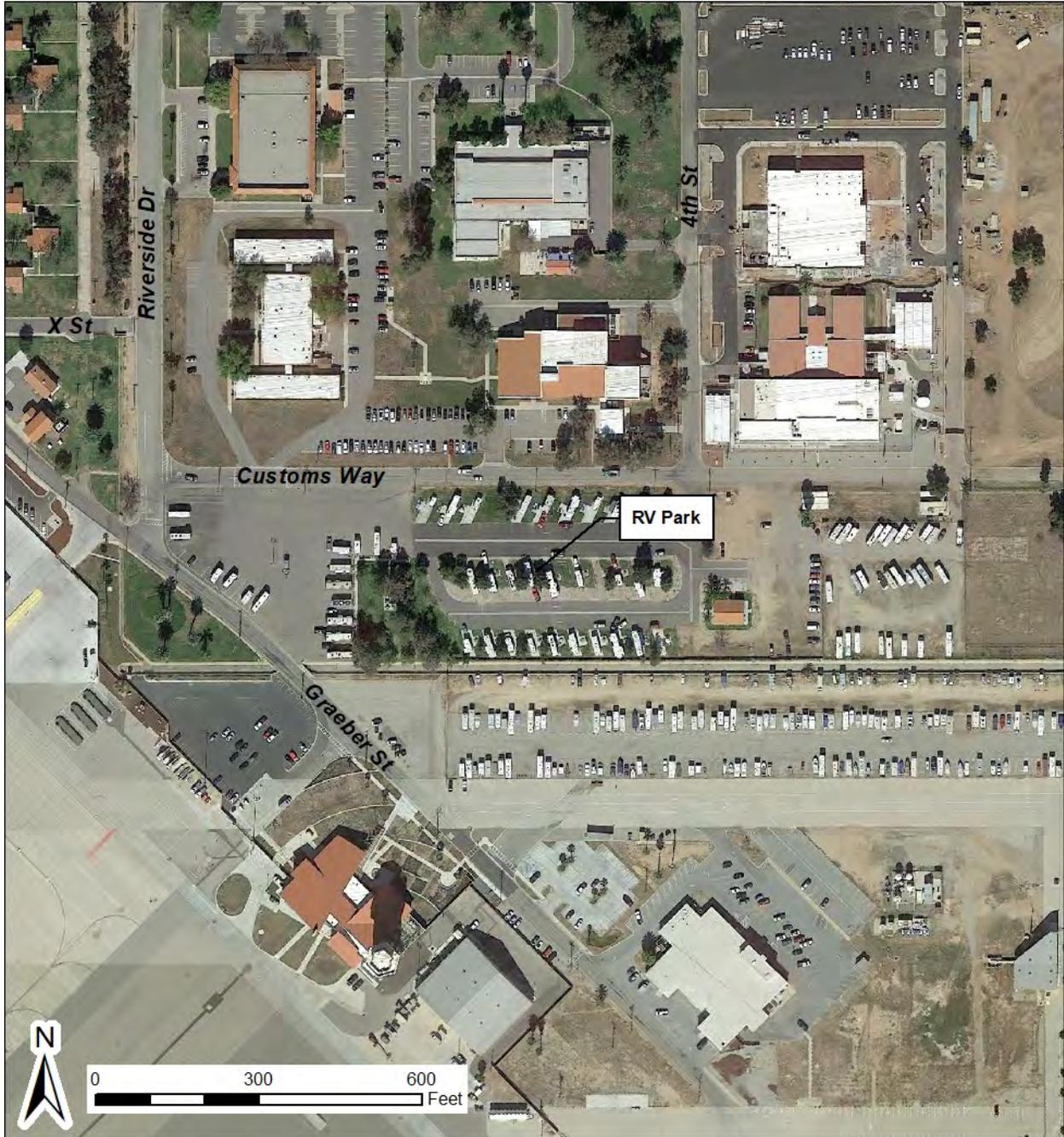


Tyson Field, view looking northeast, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 16

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 2418, The March Inn; Building 2419, The March Inn; Building 2420, The March Inn; and Building 2421, The March Inn

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

- \*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
- \*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Building 2418: Riverside East 1967 Date (PR)1980 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of Sec 13; B.M.
- c. Buildings 2419, 2420 and 2421: Address O Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518
- d. UTM: Building 2418: Zone 11, 476213.424 mE/ 3751512.388 mN (See Continuation Sheet.)
- e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

These four resources were constructed as housing facilities. Building 2419 was built in 1959 and Buildings 2418, 2420, and 2421 were constructed in 1968. The resources share a similar appearance and are characterized by their two-story height, concrete-block construction, low-pitch side-gable roofs, and long rectangular footprints. They all are well maintained and are Modern in style. They were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP5 – Hotel; HP34 – Military Property; HP39 - Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 2418, view looking north, November 2018

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  Prehistoric  Both

1959 and 1968, Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address: March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by: Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded: November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type: Reconnaissance

P5a. Photograph



\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

- B1. Historic Name: Visiting Officer's Quarters  
B2. Common Name: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421  
B3. Original Use: Visiting Officer's Quarters  
B4. Present Use: The March Inn

\*B5. Architectural Style: Modern

\*B6. Construction History: Building 2419 – Built in 1959. Buildings 2418, 2420, and 2421 – Built in 1968. Windows replaced in 1982.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Buildings 2418, 2420, 2421 - Ben Beckler & Associates, Architects and Engineers; Building 2419 – William Allen, A.I.A.

b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. They were found not eligible because of lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance and integrity. The resources also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance or integrity for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

### **P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad** (continued)

Building 2419: **USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East 1967 Date (PR)1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 13; B.M.**

Building 2420: **USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East 1967 Date (PR)1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 13; B.M.**

Building 2421: **USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East 1967 Date (PR)1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 13; B.M.**

### **P2d. UTM** (continued)

Building 2419: UTM Zone 11, 476202.0171 mE/ 3751450.5907 mN

Building 2420: UTM Zone 11, 476300.71625 mE/ 3751502.921293 mN

Building 2421: UTM Zone 11, 476303.8881 mE/ 3751448.5664 mN

### **P3a. Description** (continued)

These resources are located at the intersection of Meyer Drive and O Street in the central portion of March ARB. They were originally constructed as Visiting Officer's Quarters and are now operated as hotels and housing by the Air Force Inn. They buildings are referred to as the March Inn. The buildings are oriented at a 45-degree angle to the north-south-oriented O Street, with Buildings 2418 and 2419 on the west side of the street and Buildings 2420 and 2421 on the east side. The resources are surrounded by a manicured grass lawn with poured-concrete sidewalks leading to entries on each building. Parking lots are located on either side of O Street and to the north of Buildings 2418 and 2420.

Building 2419 is a 16,790 square-foot two-story building built in 1959. It has a one-story segment on its southeast end that displays flush metal doors. Two sets of recessed, partially-glazed flush metal entry doors are located on the two-story portion of the building and are flanked by two-light fixed windows set in an aluminum frame. Windows consist of replacement aluminum units. A stucco beltcourse extends between the resource's first and second stories. Building 2419 has been altered through the installation of replacement windows and canopies at the entrances on the two-story portion of the building. No modifications to the resource have occurred since the resource was last recorded in 2013.

Buildings 2418, 2420, and 2421 are distinguished from Building 2419 by their exterior staircases and cantilevered second-story balconies with metal railings. They occupy 10,886, 17,712, and 15,128 square feet, respectively, and were built in 1968. Building 2418 features metal panel doors and two-light aluminum windows. Buildings 2420 and 2421 are slightly larger than Building 2418 and feature central hallways, flush metal doors, and two-part aluminum windows. Buildings 2418, 2420, and 2421 have been modified through the installation of replacement windows in 1982 (JRP, 2013). They have not been altered since their last recordation in 2013.

### **B10. Significance** (continued)

Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed as Visiting Officer's Quarters; Building 2419 was built in 1959, and Buildings 2418, 2420, and 2421 were built in 1968. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B-52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Building 2419 was built in 1959, and Buildings 2418, 2420, and 2421 were built in 1968. All were constructed as Visiting Officer's Quarters. They presently are used as the March Inn.

### Criterion A

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

As mentioned, Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 were constructed as Visiting Officer's Quarters; Building 2419 was built in 1959, and Buildings 2418, 2420, and 2421 were built in 1968. The resources were used as housing facilities, and as such, are not significant within this framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The buildings are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp, served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the resources were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As utilitarian-style housing facilities, Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Additionally, while they were designed by architects Ben Beckler & Associates and William Allen, A.I.A., the building do not reflect the works of a master architect or illustrate their contributions to the field. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Buildings 2418, 2420, and 2421 retain their integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. Their integrity of materials has been diminished through the installation of replacement windows in 1982.

Building 2419 has been altered through the installation of replacement windows and canopies at the entrances on the two-story portion of the building. The replacement windows have diminished the resource's integrity of materials. The building retains its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 retain their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 9 of 16

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 2418, 2419, 2420, and 2421 (update)

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

### P5a. Photographs (continued)



Building 2418, view looking northeast, November 2018.

# CONTINUATION SHEET



5

Building 2419, view looking north, November 2018.



Building 2419, view looking northeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2420, view looking northeast, November 2018.



Building 2420, view looking southwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Building 2421, view looking northwest, November 2018.



Building 2421, view looking southwest, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 10

\*Resource Name or #: Building 2620 (update)

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 2620, Base Communication Building

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

- \*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
- \*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Riverside East 1967 Date (PR) 1980 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 14; \_\_\_ B.M.
- c. Address Riverside Drive City March ARB, CA Zip 92518
- d. UTM: Zone 11, 476712.3017 mE/ 3751831.2855 mN
- e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

Building 2620 was constructed in 1952 as a Base Communications Building, and a Security and Storage unit was added on its western end in 1953. It was re-designated a Telecommunications Center in 1971 and presently appears to be vacant. The resource is located at the intersection of Riverside Drive and Z Street, outside the present boundary of the March ARB cantonment; however, it is still owned by the base. An asphalt parking lot sits immediately east of the building. Building 2620 was last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP34 – Military Property; HP39 - Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Building 2620, view looking southeast, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic

- Prehistoric
- Both

1952, Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:

Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

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\*NRHP Status Code 6Z  
\*Resource Name or # Building 2620 (update)

B1. Historic Name: Base Communications

B2. Common Name: Building 2620

B3. Original Use: Base Communications

B4. Present Use: Base Communications

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Built in 1952. Per the 2013 JRP Cold War study, an addition to western end was completed in 1953. Other additions in 1955 and 1958. Wings added in 1959. Tile-covered hip roof added in 1989. Window openings on west elevation infilled with masonry and plaster at an unknown date. Trellis added at the main entry prior to 2013.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Donald R. Warren Co. Engineers b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Building 2620 was recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update, March Air Reserve Base (ARB), Riverside County, California* in November 2018. It was previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and was determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. It was found not eligible because of its use as a modest support building at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. The resource also was evaluated in 1995 and was determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resource was not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluation applied Criteria Consideration G. This current assessment found the resource does not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Map

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 3 of 10

\*Resource Name or #: Building 2620 (update)

### P3a. Description (continued)

This one-story, concrete-block, utilitarian-style building occupies an irregular footprint and features a Spanish tile-covered hip roof and exterior walls covered in plaster. Fenestration is minimal. The main entry door on the primary, west elevation consists of double-leaf glazed metal doors flanked by steel hopper windows. The entry is covered by a wood-frame trellis and is reached by a poured-concrete sidewalk. Other doors on the building consist of glazed and metal flush units. Windows are steel hopper units, and window openings on the south end of the west elevation were infilled with masonry and plaster at an unknown date. Per JRP's 2013 Cold War study, other alterations to the resource include the construction of a Security and Storage addition to the western end in 1953; a 2,457 square-foot addition in 1955; a 994 square-foot addition in 1958; and three wings added in 1959. The tile-covered roof also was added in 1989 (JRP, 2013). The trellis was added at the main entry at an unknown date, prior to 2013. No major changes have occurred to the building since it was last recorded in 2013. It is in fair condition.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Building 2620 is primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. It was constructed in 1952 as a base communications building. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resource. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Building 2620 (update)

in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as

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\*Resource Name or #: Building 2620 (update)

well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

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\*Resource Name or #: Building 2620 (update)

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Building 2620 was constructed in 1952 as a Base Communications Building, and a Security and Storage unit was added on its western end in 1953. It was re-designated a Telecommunications Center in 1971 and presently appears to be vacant.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Building 2620 was constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Building 2620, which was constructed in 1952 as a base communications building, retained its use as a communications building for most of its lifetime, although it currently appears vacant. As a general support facility, Building 2620 is not significant within this framework. The resource is not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and is not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. It does not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The building is not important to the overall history of the Cold War and has a similar function and purpose to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Building 2620 (update)

### Criterion B

This resource does not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, it is not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and does not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resource, and the resource is not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp, served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with this resource, and their contributions are not illustrated by the resource at March AFB. Therefore, Building 2620 is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Building 2620 does not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make it significant for its design or function. It is utilitarian in design and construction and does not reflect the work of a master. The resource is similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lacks architectural distinction. At the time the resource was constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As a utilitarian-style general support building, Building 2620 does not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Additionally, while Donald R. Warren Co. Engineers were involved with the design, it does not illustrate the work of a master architect. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Building 2620 was constructed after the period of significance and does not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, Building 2620 would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

Furthermore, the resource's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association have been impacted by alterations completed within the past 50 years. This includes infill of window openings on the west elevation with masonry and plaster; a tile-covered roof added in 1989; and the addition of a wood-frame trellis at the main entry. In addition, although owned by March ARB, as a result of the base realignment in 1996, Building 2620 is currently outside of March ARB's cantonment line. These changes have impacted Building 2620's ability to convey association with significant styles or engineering achievements associated with a Cold War-era resources at March ARB.

### Criterion D

Building 2620 does not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Building 2620 (update)

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Building 2620 has retained its integrity of location and setting; however, its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association have been diminished by alterations to the resource within the past 50 years. This includes infill of window openings on the west elevation with masonry and plaster; a tile-covered roof added in 1989; and the addition of a wood-frame trellis at the main entry. Notably, although the resource is owned by March ARB, it is located outside of the cantonment line as a result of the 1996 base realignment.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Building 2620 is generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, it does not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of WWII Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Building 2620 (update)

P5a. Photographs (continued)



Building 2620, view looking east, November 2018.



Building 2620, view looking south, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 11

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 6005 and 6006

**P1. Other Identifier:** Building 6005, Small Arms Range Support Building and Building 6006, Small Arms Range

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

- \*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
- \*b. **USGS 7.5' Quad** Steele Peak 1967 Date (PR) 1973 T 3 South; R 4 West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 34; \_\_\_ B.M.
- c. Address 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Village Drive City March ARB, CA Zip 92518
- d. UTM Building 6005: Zone 11, 473901.3 mE/ 3747739.8 mN  
 UTM Building 6006: Zone 11, 473857.6020 mE/ 3747785.7034 mN
- e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

**\*P3a. Description:**

Buildings 6005 and 6006 are located on a small arms range outside the main boundaries of March ARB, northwest of Interstate 215 and northeast of the Village Road and Nandina Avenue intersection in Morena Valley. Building 6005 was constructed in 1967 as a Small Arms Range Support building, a use it retains to this day. The range was last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. Building 6006 was constructed as a small arms range building in 1942 and has not been individually recorded or evaluated. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP34 – Military Property; HP39 - Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



**P5b. Description of Photo:** (view, date, accession#) Building 6006, view looking southwest, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic

- Prehistoric
- Both

1942 and 1967, Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:

Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Buildings 6005 and 6006

- B1. Historic Name: Building 6005 – RG SB Rifle Crib; Building 6006 – Small Arms Range  
B2. Common Name: Buildings 6005 and 6006  
B3. Original Use: Building 6005 – Small Arms Range Support Building; Building 6006 – Small Arms Range  
B4. Present Use: Building 6005 – Small Arms Range Support Building; Building 6006 – Small Arms Range  
\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian  
\*B6. Construction History: Building 6005 – Built in 1967. Building 6006 – Built in 1942.

\*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Buildings 6005 and 6006 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. Building 6005 was previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. It was found not eligible because of its use as modest support buildings at the base and lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. The resource also was evaluated in 1995 and was determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resource was not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluation applied Criteria Consideration G. Building 6006 was previously inventoried and evaluated in the 1991 *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California* and was recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 3 of 11

\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 6005 and 6006

### P3a. Description (continued)

Building 6005 is accessed from a dirt road that extends east from 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Village Drive. The resource is a 933 square-foot one-story building that displays a rectangular footprint. It is covered by a variety of flat, saw-tooth, gable and shed roofs, and features board-formed concrete walls. A small parking area is located northeast of the main building, and another rectangular building is located east of the parking area. The range includes individual open stalls for firearm training and practice with large square concrete columns. Fenestration is limited to a flush metal door centered on the north elevation. The resource is in good condition and appears to be unaltered. Due to its use as an active range facility, access within the property was limited. Building 6005 is essentially an addition constructed in 1967 to the original range (Building 6006) that was constructed in 1942.

Building 6006 is a large, one-story concrete-block building with a low-pitch side-gable roof and exterior walls covered in plaster that is connected to the southeast end of Building 6005. As mentioned, it was constructed in 1942.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Buildings 6005 and 6006 were constructed in 1967 and 1942 as a support building and small arms range, respectively. They are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. Building 6006 additionally is associated with March ARB's World War II (WWII) military history. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with the WWII and Cold War periods, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP; and the 1991 *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Force Base, Riverside California*, prepared by Patti Johnson.

#### WWII

March Field provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during WWII, when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992).

Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII, which had reached 1,200,000 personnel by June 1940 (Johnson, 1991). Development included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). Five principles guided the mobilization construction plans: speed, simplicity, conservation of materials, flexibility, and safety. Speed was given the highest priority, and it was in the interest of achieving this speed that simplicity came into play. Wood was used in standard sizes where possible. Complex framing and interior framing were avoided or omitted. Interior electrical work, plumbing, and other mechanical facilities were kept to bare necessities, (Johnson, 1991). The Air Corps commonly employed standardized designs for new resources built during this time, and the designs were implemented nationwide.

In 1942, after completion of the major building program at March Field, the Army acquired an additional 625 acres to extend the northwest runway. Several other late additions to the mobilization construction program occurred after most construction activity had ended. Runways received attention in 1944, with additional parking and landing areas constructed under a federal grant. As the Army developed newer and heavier aircraft, more durable runways were required. In October of 1944, March Field planned a new runway which would parallel the older one. Construction began in 1945 and eventually cost 1.5 million dollars. When completed, the 7,000-foot runway boasted supporting aprons, taxiways, warm-up pads, and shoulders to accommodate the new B-24 and B-29 aircraft (Johnson, 1991).

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 6005 and 6006

After two years of service as a tactical base, March Field's mission changed to that of pursuit and offensive operations. During WWII, March Field served many vital, if unspectacular, functions. It provided facilities for test aircraft, although none were actually developed on base. The Army Air Corps tested a prototype of the first twin-engine fighter at March Field on January 1, 1939. The XP-38 made several test flights, then departed on February 11<sup>th</sup> on a transcontinental hop. The plane crashed just short of the runway at Mitchell Field in New York but it had shown enough promise for the army to continue tests at another air field. Between August 6 and 23, 1939, tests on an Erco engine proved the feasibility of jet-assisted takeoffs. In April of 1942, liquid rockets were used to assist A-20 bombers into the air from Muroc bombing range. At the opposite end of the technical spectrum, the Army designated March Field as the replacement center for glider training in May of 1942 (Johnson, 1991).

The mission of March Field then became one of support for an aviation engineer training center during the greater part of 1943, changing once again in 1944 to a B-24 training base. It remained in this capacity for the remainder of the war (Johnson, 1991).

### *Cold War*

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 6005 and 6006

combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 6005 and 6006

enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a “ground alert posture” that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB’s B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC’s various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command’s largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Building 6006 was built as a small arms range building in 1942. Building 6005 was constructed in 1967 as a small arms range support building and was essentially an addition to the smaller original range (Building 6006). The resources appear to be unaltered and retain their original uses.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Building 6006 was constructed during a period of growth at March Field during WWII. The base represented one of three existing Air Corps bases in California that were expanded during this period (the other two being McClellan and Hamilton), and provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions. Notably, although the base was used for testing purposes (in addition to other functions), no aircraft were developed there (Johnson, 1991). Building 6005 was constructed during expansion of March ARB after it was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF’s MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP’s 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California. This includes at March ARB, which is most closely associated with the theme of aviation training at Army Air Corps bases during WWII. The multi-volume JRP document states that “it appears...almost no World War II-era building or structure associated with this theme has been found to qualify for listing in the National Register” (JRP, 2000:7-9). This is because these resources were demolished during the Cold War period; were

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 6005 and 6006

substantially altered; or were based on standardized plans and therefore were undistinguished in their design and engineering. The document identifies one resource at Edwards AFB associated with the theme of aviation training which was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP; however, the resource is significant under the theme of emerging weapons and aircraft testing. While March ARB was used as an Army Air Corps training base during WWII, it had a small fire arms range (Building 6006). As a small arms fire range, Building 6006 is not important within the theme of aviation training at Army Air Corps bases and was not used for testing of emerging weapons.

According to the same document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness during this period. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Buildings 6005 and 6006 were constructed in 1967 and 1942 as a support building and a small arms range building, respectively. As general support facilities and a utilitarian and modified small arms range, Buildings 6005 and 6006 are not significant within the JRP framework. Building 6006 is not important within the historical context of WWII at March ARB, and is not associated with any important events or themes in emerging aircraft or weapons testing at the base. In addition, Buildings 6005 and 6006 are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The buildings are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, Building 6005 and 6006 are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp, served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Building 6006 also is not associated with any important military figures at March ARB during WWII, like Col. C.L. Melin and Col. J.W. Warren, who served as base commanders during the WWII-era, or any major military leader that lead the Army Air Corps during the war years, such as Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold. Therefore, Buildings 6005 and 6006 are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Buildings 6005 and 6006 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other buildings at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time Building 6006 was built during WWII, the Air Corps commonly constructed resources according to standardized plans that were used across the country. As a simple or unadorned arms range, it received the most basic design considerations. Similarly, when Building 6005 was constructed during the Cold War (as a support building to Building 6006), the USAF employed Definitive Designs,

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 6005 and 6006

standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. At March AFB, buildings constructed during the 1950s and 1960s were built along the expanding periphery of the base or were infilled alongside more distinctive buildings. As a result, the buildings had modest, simplistic, and pragmatic designs that do not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievements. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC, and Cold War period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As a utilitarian-style small arms range and operational support building, Buildings 6005 and 6006 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Buildings 6005 and 6006 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, Buildings 6005 and 6006 would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Buildings 6005 and 6006 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Buildings 6005 and 6006 appear to be unaltered. They retain their integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Buildings 6005 and 6006 retain their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history (Building 6006 also is associated with the base's WWII history), they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Buildings 6005 and 6006

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

### P5a . Photographs (continued)



Building 6005 and 6006, view looking southwest, November 2018. Building 6005 is located to the right of 6006.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #  
 Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
 Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page 1 of 18

\*Resource Name or #: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Unnamed Bridge, and Structure 6603

**P1. Other Identifier:** Concrete Culvert; Bridge 15002; Unnamed Bridge Near Graeber and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets; and Structure 6603, Reservoir

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

- \*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
- \*b. **USGS 7.5' Quad** Perris 1967 Date (PR) 1979 T 3 South; R West; \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ of Sec 36; \_\_\_ B.M.
- c. Address: Concrete Culvert South of airfield City March ARB, CA Zip 92518 (See Continuation Sheet)
- d. UTM: Concrete Culvert Zone 11, 477112.0614 mE/ 3746837.296 mN (See Continuation Sheet)
- e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

The four resources recorded on this form include a concrete culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and an unnamed bridge near Graeber and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets. They are located in the south portion of March ARB. Bridge 15002 was last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. All other resources are previously unrecorded. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP11 – Engineering Structure; HP19 – Bridge; HP20 – Canal/Aqueduct; HP22 – Lake/River/Reservoir; HP34 – Military Property

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



**P5b.** Description of Photo: (view, date, accession#) Concrete culvert, view looking north, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic  
 Prehistoric  
 Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers; Review of historic aerial photographs; Visual survey

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

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\*Resource Name or # Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Unnamed Bridge

B1. Historic Name: Culvert – Culvert; Bridge 15002 – Bridge; Structure 6603 – Reservoir; Unnamed Bridge - Bridge

B2. Common Name: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Bridge

B3. Original Use: Culvert – Culvert; Bridge 15002 – Bridge; Structure 6603 – Reservoir; Unnamed Bridge - Bridge

B4. Present Use: Culvert – Culvert; Bridge 15002 – Bridge; Structure 6603 – Reservoir; Unnamed Bridge - Bridge

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Culvert – Unknown construction date, but likely dates from the construction of Bridge 15002 (ca. 1956). Bridge 15002 – Built in 1956. Structure 6603 – Built between ca. 1967 and 1997. Unnamed Bridge – Built in 1940.

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

These four resources were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. Bridge 15002 was previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. It was found not eligible because of its lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance. The resource also was evaluated in 1995 and was determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the Bridge 15002 was not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluation applied Criteria Consideration G. The other three resources, including the culvert, unnamed bridge, and Structure 6603, have not been previously recorded or evaluated. This current assessment found the four resources recorded in this form do not possess the requisite levels of significance or integrity for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Unnamed Bridge

### B2b. USGS 7.5' Quad (continued)

Bridge 15002: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Perris, 1967 **Date (PR)** 1979 **T** 3 **South**; **R** West;    of    of **Sec 36**;    **B.M.**

Unnamed bridge: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Sunnymead, 1967 **Date (PR)** 1980 **T** 3 **South**; **R** 3 **West**;    of    of **Sec 24, 25**;    **B.M.**

Structure 6603: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Sunnymead, 1967 **Date (PR)** 1980 **T** 3 **South**; **R** 4 **West**;    of    of **Sec 25**;    **B.M.**

### P2c. Address (continued)

Bridge 15002: Address: Carries East Oleander Avenue over Ditch 55-1 City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Unnamed bridge: Address: Near Graeber and 8<sup>th</sup> streets City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

Structure 6603: Address South of airfield, west of 8<sup>th</sup> Street City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

### P2d. UTM (continued)

Bridge 15002: UTM Zone 11, 477155.46 mE/ 3746774.25 mN

Unnamed bridge: UTM Zone 11, 477263 mE/ 3749786.3 mN

Structure 6603: UTM Zone 11, 477352.6339 mE/ 3749227.552 mN

### P3a. Description (continued)

The culvert is located in the vicinity of Bridge 15002 in the south portion of the airfield of March ARB. Its construction date is unknown, but it likely dates from the construction of Bridge 15002 (ca. 1956). The resource is a concrete cylindrical culvert with no visible headwalls. Only the top portion of the structure remains visible; the remainder is buried in the ground. The culvert is full of sediment and no longer carries water. Alterations are unknown. It is in fair condition.

Bridge 15002 carries East Oleander Avenue over Ditch 55-1 in the south portion of March ARB. This three-span bridge features steel girders, concrete pier, and timber guardrails. It was built in 1956 and appears to be unaltered.

Structure 6603 is a poured-concrete reservoir built between 1967 and 1997, per a review of historic aerial photos. It is located in the south of the airfield and west of 8<sup>th</sup> Street. It extends sub-surface with a concrete spillway and barrier towards the southeast part of the reservoir. The reservoir displays a rectangular form and is in good overall condition. A chain-link fence surrounds the property.

The unnamed bridge is located in the vicinity of Graeber and 8<sup>th</sup> streets in the south portion of March ARB. It is a three-span bridge that carries a paved two-track road and features poured-concrete bents, abutments, guardrails, and deck. The structure was constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1940, and the guardrail is stamped with lettering reading "WPA 1940". It is in good overall condition and does not appear to have been altered.

### B10. Significance (continued)

Bridge 15002 was built in 1956; Structure 6603 between ca. 1967 and 1997; and the unnamed bridge in 1940. The construction date for the culvert is ca. 1956. These four resources are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. In addition, the unnamed bridge is associated with March ARB's interwar and World War II (WWII) military history. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with the interwar, WWII, and Cold War periods, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP; and the 1991

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\*Resource Name or #: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Unnamed Bridge

*Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Force Base, Riverside California*, prepared by Patti Johnson.

### *Interwar Period*

The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March Field was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. The Quartermaster General was responsible for implementing the building program, and the redesign of March Field represented "the first complete aviation post laid out and built by the Quartermaster Corps and the Army Air Corps during peacetime" (Allen, 1992: 8-35). As was typical during peacetime, in oppose to adopting a standard military design, the Quartermaster Corps redesigned March in collaboration with architects and planners. This chiefly included Myron Hunt, a prominent California architect and the Director of the American Institute of Architects, who advised the Quartermaster Corps and reviewed plans for the layout and design of new buildings at the installation (Allen, 1992). As described in the NRHP nomination, "far more than any individual, [Hunt] is responsible for the architectural unity of [March]" (Allen, 1992: 8-68). Columbia University professor George B. Ford also collaborated on the project as a planner.

March Field was redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992). They were expressed in the Mission Revival style, and as such, displayed a sensitivity to local architectural styles. The resources commonly were constructed of hollow-wall concrete, a technology most popularly employed during the 1920s. Hunt was among the primary proponents of the hollow-wall concrete construction, which was valued for its thermal and fire safety qualities (Allen, 1992). Notably, the MFHD NRHP nomination states that the district may represent the largest collection of hollow-wall concrete buildings in the world (Allen, 1992: 8-71).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933 the Murdoc bombing range (later Edwards Air Force Base) in the Mojave Desert was opened as an auxiliary installation for bombing practice by March Field pilots and their crews. Expansion of this facility in 1938 established March Field as the central base for bombing and gunnery training. Recognition of the increasing significance of bombing as an attack force further enhanced the reputation of March Field. As the buildup WWII began, General Headquarters Air Force constructed a temporary tent city for 280 men in an open area at the rear of one of the barracks. On July 29, 1938 a revised layout plan for March Field was approved that authorized construction of a new permanent barracks (Building 456) (JRP, 1992 and 2011). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992).

### *WWII*

March Field provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during WWII, when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). Notably, the war prompted the construction of new resources at Army Air Corps bases across the country. Development at March Field included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). Five principles guided the mobilization construction plans: speed, simplicity, conservation of materials, flexibility, and safety. Speed was given the highest priority, and it was in the interest of achieving this speed that simplicity came into play. Wood was used in standard sizes where possible. Complex framing and interior framing were avoided or omitted. Interior electrical work, plumbing, and other mechanical facilities were kept to bare necessities,

## CONTINUATION SHEET

(Johnson, 1991). The Air Corps commonly employed standardized designs for new resources built during this time, and the designs were implemented nationwide.

In 1942, after completion of the major building program at March Field, the Army acquired an additional 625 acres to extend the northwest runway. Several other late additions to the mobilization construction program occurred after most construction activity had ended. Runways received attention in 1944, with additional parking and landing areas constructed under a federal grant. As the Army developed newer and heavier aircraft, more durable runways were required. In October of 1944, March Field planned a new runway which would parallel the older one. Construction began in 1945 and eventually cost 1.5 million dollars. When completed, the 7,000-foot runway boasted supporting aprons, taxiways, warm-up pads, and shoulders to accommodate the new B-24 and B-29 aircraft (Johnson, 1991).

After two years of service as a tactical base, March Field's mission changed to that of pursuit and offensive operations. During WWII, March Field served many vital, if unspectacular, functions. It provided facilities for test aircraft, although none were actually developed on base. The Army Air Corps tested a prototype of the first twin-engine fighter at March Field on January 1, 1939. The XP-38 made several test flights, then departed on February 11<sup>th</sup> on a transcontinental hop. The plane crashed just short of the runway at Mitchell Field in New York but it had shown enough promise for the army to continue tests at another air field. Between August 6 and 23, 1939, tests on an Erco engine proved the feasibility of jet-assisted takeoffs. In April of 1942, liquid rockets were used to assist A-20 bombers into the air from Muroc bombing range. At the opposite end of the technical spectrum, the Army designated March Field as the replacement center for glider training in May of 1942 (Johnson, 1991).

The mission of March Field then became one of support for an aviation engineer training center during the greater part of 1943, changing once again in 1944 to a B-24 training base. It remained in this capacity for the remainder of the war (Johnson, 1991).

### *Cold War*

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct.  
(Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted

## CONTINUATION SHEET

to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care

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\*Resource Name or #: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Unnamed Bridge

facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B- 52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

The culvert's construction date is unknown, but it was likely constructed ca. 1956, when the nearby Bridge 15002 was built. It is full of sediment and no longer carries water. Bridge 15002 was built ca. 1956; Structure 6603 between ca. 1967 and 1997; and the unnamed bridge in 1940. They all appear to be unaltered.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, the unnamed bridge was constructed by the WPA in 1940, when pre-war preparations during the interwar period lead to the construction of new resources at Army Air Corps bases nationwide. Expansion of March ARB continued into WWII, during which time it provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions and served as the largest aviation field on the west coast. The culvert, Bridge 15002, and Structure 6603 were constructed during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George,

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Unnamed Bridge

Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* is a multi-volume that provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California. According to the study, military resources built between 1939 and 1941 associated with pre-war preparations at existing Army Air Corps bases are eligible for listing in the NRHP as individuals if they possess sufficient significance or integrity, or are contributors to an existing historic district if they are compatible with the architecture and function of the district. The unnamed bridge does not rise to the level of significance for listing in the NRHP, either as an individual resource or as contributor to the March Field Historic District. The bridge represents a small portion of the build-up and public works improvements at March ARB leading up to World War II, and is not a significant feature from this period. Furthermore, although its 1940 construction date falls within the historic district's period of significance (1928-1943), the bridge is located outside the boundaries of the district and does not contribute to the district's sense of place, visual appearance, character, and feeling. As a utilitarian-style road bridge, it is not directly associated with March ARB's function as an aviation and bombardment training facility, or with the development of the Air Corps on the Pacific coast.

March ARB is associated with the theme of aviation training at Army Air Corps bases during WWII. According to the JRP study, "it appears...almost no World War II-era building or structure associated with this theme has been found to qualify for listing in the National Register" (JRP, 2000:7-9). This is because these resources were demolished during the Cold War period; were substantially altered; or were based on standardized plans and therefore were undistinguished in their design and engineering. The document identifies one resource associated with the theme of aviation training at Edwards AFB which was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP; however, the resource is significant under the theme of emerging weapons and aircraft testing. As a road bridge, Building 6006 is not important within the theme of aviation training at March ARB during WWII.

According to the same document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness during this period. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

The culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and the unnamed bridge are general infrastructural facilities. As such, the resources are not significant within the JRP framework. The unnamed bridge is not important within the historical context of the pre-war or WWII periods at March ARB, and is not associated with any important events or themes. In addition, the culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and the unnamed bridge are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. No significant military leader occupied the resources, and the resources are not associated with any group that

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Unnamed Bridge

has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp, served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. The unnamed bridge also is not associated with any important military figures at March ARB during WWII, like Col. C.L. Melin and Col. J.W. Warren, who served as base commanders during the WWII-era, or any major military leader that lead the Army Air Corps during the war years, such as Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

The culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and unnamed bridge do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They are utilitarian in design and construction and do not reflect the work of a master. The resources are similar in design, engineering, and appearance to other structures at March ARB and at AFBs and ARBs throughout the country, and therefore lack architectural distinction. At the time the culvert, Bridge 15002, and Structure 6603 were constructed, the USAF employed Definitive Designs, standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design, and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. As a result, the resources did not illustrate any type of architectural or engineering achievement. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As infrastructural features, the culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and unnamed bridge do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of buildings from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. The culvert, Bridge 15002, and Structure 6603 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, the resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district. The unnamed bridge was constructed within the district's period of significance but it located in a relatively undeveloped area well to the south of the district and does not contribute to the district's significance under Criterion C for its planning, association with noted architect Myron Hunt (work of a master), and hollow-wall concrete construction.

### Criterion D

The culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and unnamed bridge do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and unnamed bridge appear to be unaltered and retain their integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Because the culvert is buried and only its top portion is visible, a full analysis of the resource's integrity was not possible; however, it appears to be unaltered.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Unnamed Bridge

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while the culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and unnamed bridge retain their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history (the unnamed bridge also is associated with the base's pre-war and WWII history), they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### B12. References (continued)

Allen, Polly. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District (Amendment)*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2012.

Johnson, Patti. *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California*, 1991.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2013.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, 2011.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *Maintenance Manual for Buildings within the March Field Historic District, March AFB, Riverside, California*. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and March Air Force Base, November 1995.

JRP Historical Consulting Services. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, 1992.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume II: The History and Historic Resources of the Military in California, 1769-1989*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

Mikesell, Stephen D. *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory, Volume III: Historic Context: Themes, Property Types, and Registration Requirements*, JRP Historical Consulting Services, 2000.

William Manley Consulting. *Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation: March Air Force Base, Riverside County, California*, 1995.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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\*Resource Name or #: Culvert, Bridge 15002, Structure 6603, and Unnamed Bridge

P5a. Photographs (continued)



Bridge 15002, view looking north, November 2018.



Bridge 15002, view looking northeast, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Bridge 15002, view looking east, November 2018.



Unnamed bridge, view looking west, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Unnamed bridge, view looking southeast, November 2018.



Unnamed bridge, view looking northwest, November 2018.

## CONTINUATION SHEET



Structure 6603, view looking north, November 2018.

\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



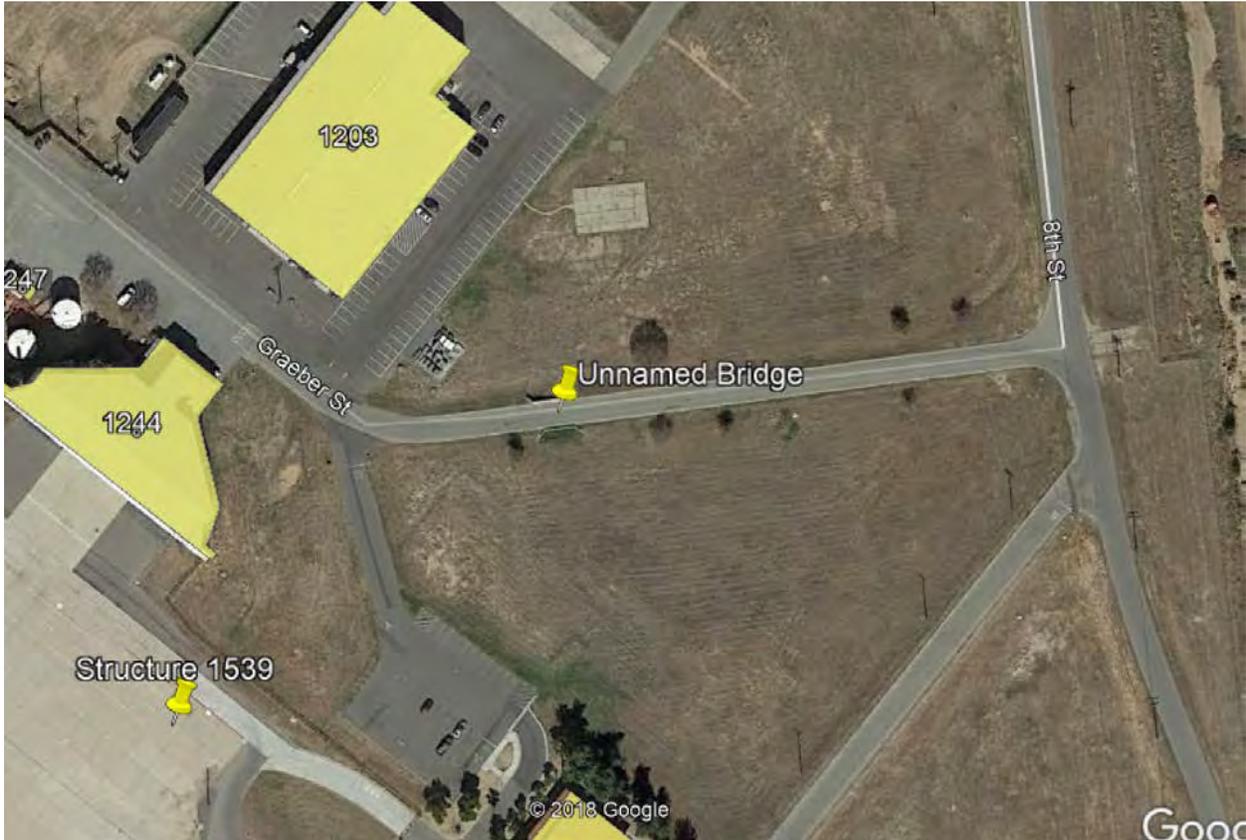
\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



\*Map Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date of map: \_\_\_\_\_



State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary #  
HRI #  
Trinomial  
**NRHP Status Code 6Z**

Other  
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Listings

Page  1  of  19  \*Resource Name or #: Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 (update)

**P1. Other Identifier:** Structure 1511, Airfield Apron; Structure 1518, Airfield Apron; Structure 1522, Airfield Runway; Structure 1523, Airfield Runway Overrun; Structure 1524, Airfield Runway; Structure 1536, Airfield Taxiway; Structure 1538, Airfield Power Check Pad; Structure 1539, Airfield Runway Shoulders; and Structure 1540, Airfield Runway Shoulder

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Riverside and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Structure 1511: Perris, 1967 Date (PR) 1979 T 3 South; R 4 West;  of  of Sec 36;  B.M

c. Address: Structure 1511: Airfield City March ARB, CA Zip 92518

d. UTM: Structure 1511: Zone  11 ,  477144.6  mE/  3747576.8  mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

\*P3a. Description:

These nine resources are runway infrastructure paving elements constructed between 1951 and 1967. They were last recorded in the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services, LLC. The resources were inaccessible during survey due to safety and security concerns resulting from their proximity to the flight line. (See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP11 – Engineering Structure; HP34 – Military Property

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph



P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) Structure 1523 (background), view looking west, November 2018.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:  Historic

Prehistoric

Both

Air Force Reserve Command, 452<sup>nd</sup> MSG/Civil Engineers

\*P7. Owner and Address:

March Air Reserve Base Air Force Reserve Command, Building 2403, Meyer Drive, March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518

\*P8. Recorded by:

Jeremy Hollins and Ben Roberts, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 10 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE #1400, Atlanta, GA 30309

\*P9. Date Recorded:

November 26-28, 2018

\*P10. Survey Type:

Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California, February 2019.

\*Attachments:  NONE  Location Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record

Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record

Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

Page 2 of 19 \*Resource Name or # Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 (update)

- B1. Historic Name: Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540  
B2. Common Name: Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540  
B3. Original Use: Runway Infrastructure  
B4. Present Use: Runway Infrastructure

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: Structure 1511 – Built in 1960. Structure 1518 – Built in 1967. Structure 1522 – Built in 1951. Runway widened and strengthened in 1965. Portland cement replaced on south end of Runway 32 in 2009. Rubber remove in 2010 and 2011. Restriping in 2011. Structure 1523 – Built in 1958. A 559-foot addition made at compass rose in 1959. Blast pads redesigned in 1965. Structure 1524 – Built in 1967. Structure 1536 – Built in 1967. Repaved with concrete in 2004. Structure 1538 – Built in 1958. Widened in 1965. Structure 1539 – Built in 1958. Pavement reconstructed in 1959. Shoulders added to alert apron, taxiways, a warm-up pad in 1965. Shoulder paved in 1968. Shoulder near Taxiway C paved for a dangerous cargo pad. Structure 1540 – Built in 1958. Shoulder paved in 1965.

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme N/A Area N/A  
Period of Significance N/A Property Type N/A Applicable Criteria N/A

Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 were recorded during a field survey for the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Update for March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California* in November 2018. They were previously recorded and evaluated in 2013 and were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP due to a lack of distinctive architectural and engineering significance and integrity. The resources also were evaluated in 1995 and were determined ineligible for listing due to lack of significance (William Manley Consulting, 1995). Because the resources were not yet 50 years of age, the 1995 evaluations applied Criteria Consideration G. In addition, the resources were inventoried and evaluated in the 1991 *Inventory and Evaluation of World War II Structures: March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, California* and were recommended not eligible for listing. This current assessment found the resources do not possess the requisite levels of significance or integrity for listing in the NRHP. See Continuation Sheet for a full evaluation.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Kelly Morgan

\*Date of Evaluation: February 7, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

See Location Maps

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page \_\_\_\_\_ of 19 \*Resource Name or #: Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 (update)

### P2b. USGS 7.5' Quad (continued)

Structure 1518: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 24; \_ B.M.**  
Structure 1522: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967; Steele Peak, 1967; Perris, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980; (PR) 1973; (PR) 1979 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 23; 26, 25; 36; \_ B.M.**  
Structure 1523 (north): **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 23; \_ B.M.**  
Structure 1523 (south): **USGS 7.5' Quad** Perris, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1979 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 36; \_ B.M.**  
Structure 1524: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 23, 24, 25; \_ B.M.**  
Structure 1536: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 23, 24, 25; \_ B.M.**  
Structure 1538: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 25; \_ B.M.**  
Structure 1539: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Perris, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1979 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 36; \_ B.M.**  
Structure 1540: **USGS 7.5' Quad** Riverside East, 1967 **Date** (PR) 1980 **T 3 South; R 4 West; \_ of \_ of Sec 23; \_ B.M.**

### P2d. UTM (continued)

Structure 1518: UTM Zone 11, 476154.8258 mE/ 3750743.7263 mN  
Structure 1522: UTM Zone 11, 475710.1111 mE/ 3749479.3507 mN  
Structure 1523 (north): UTM Zone 11, 474916.8 mE/ 3750817.5 mN  
Structure 1523 (south): UTM Zone 11, 477109.6 mE/ 3747094 mN  
Structure 1524: UTM Zone 11, 476209 mE/ 3749724.0568 mN  
Structure 1536: UTM Zone 11, 476143 mE/ 3750080 mN  
Structure 1538: UTM Zone 11, 476218.7484 mE/ 3749204.3768 mN  
Structure 1539: UTM Zone 11, 477158.9 mE/ 3747550.7 mN  
Structure 1540: UTM Zone 11, 475160.32 mE/ 3750821.8097 mN

### P3a. Description (continued)

Before describing the runway paving elements recorded in this form, a discussion of the taxiways and runways at March ARB is first useful. Two runways, Runways 14-32 and 12-30, and six taxiways, Taxiways A, B, C, D, F, and G, are located at March ARB. They all are located on the western side of the airfield. Runway 14-32 (Structure 1522) comprises the primary runway at March and extends in a northwest-southeast orientation on the western, terminal end of Taxiways C, D, and F. Runway 12-30 is the secondary runway at the base, and as such, is much smaller than Runway 14-32. It is located east of Runway 14-32 and extends between Taxiways C and D in a northwest-southeast orientation that parallels the flightline to the east.

Taxiway A features a northeast-southwest orientation on the western edge of the airfield. Taxiway B splits off from Taxiway A on the southeastern portion of Runway 14-32. Taxiways C and D extend from the western side of the airfield and feature a west-east orientation. They terminate on their western end at Runway 14-32. The southwest-northeast-oriented Taxiway F extends from the western side of the airfield on the airfield's northern end. It terminates at Runway 14 on its western end. Taxiway G is located on the southern end of the airfield and connects with Taxiway A.

Structure 1511 was constructed 1960. It is an asphalt apron for staging aircraft, vehicles, and equipment and is located at the southern end of the airfield.

Structure 1518 is an asphalt apron constructed in 1967. It historically is associated with the Aero Club.

Structure 1522 (Runway 14-32) serves as the primary runway at March ARB. The runway measures 13,300 feet long and 300 feet wide. It was constructed in 1951 and was widened and strengthened in 1965. Portland cement on the south end of Runway 32 was removed and replaced in 2009, and rubber was removed in 2009 and 2010. Restriping of the runway occurred in 2011.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 4 of 19 \*Resource Name or #: Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 (update)

Structure 1524 is a non-functioning runway that was constructed in 1967. It measures 1,844 feet long and 33 feet wide. It historically is associated with the Aero Club.

Structure 1536 is a taxiway used by the Aero Club. The resource was constructed in 1967 and it was repaved with concrete in 2004. The taxiway historically is associated with the Aero Club.

Structure 1538 is a power check pad located near Taxiway C. It was constructed in 1958 and measures 630 feet long and 308 long. In 1965, the pavement was widened.

Structure 1539 was constructed in 1958 and consists of paved runway shoulders at the southern end of the airfield. The shoulders measure 27,873.7 feet long and 225 feet wide. It was modified in 1959 when its pavement was reconstructed, and again in 1965 when shoulders were added to the alert apron, taxiways, and warm up pad. The shoulders were paved in 1968, and a shoulder near Taxiway C was paved for a dangerous cargo pad in 2006.

Structure 1540 is a paved runway shoulder that was constructed in 1958 and repaved in 1965. It is 12,279.4 feet long and 75 feet wide.

### **B10. Significance** (continued)

Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 are primarily associated with March ARB's Cold War military history. They were constructed between 1951 and 1967 as paved runway features. As a result, the following historic context focuses on the relevant themes associated with this period, in order to properly evaluate the resources. The context was primarily extracted from the following sources: the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, prepared by JRP Historical Consulting Services (JRP); 2011 *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, March Air Reserve Base (March ARB), Riverside County, California*, also prepared by JRP; 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, prepared by Stephen Mikesell of JRP; and the 1992 *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for March Field Historic District*, prepared by Polly Allen of JRP.

March ARB has been dedicated to aircraft training since it was first established as Alessandro Flying Training Field by the Army Air Service, prior to its designation as March Field on March 20, 1918. The installation originally comprised 640 acres with nine additional acres of road connecting to the San Diego-Los Angeles highway approximately one-half mile to the east (JRP, 2011). Temporary one-story wood-frame structures exhibiting board-and-batten exteriors and a standard design characterized early construction at the base, which featured little in the way of landscaping (JRP, 2011).

Aviation cadets received primary training at March Field during World War I (WWI) until March 1919, when classes were suspended. The federal government purchased land encompassing the base in May 1920 and courses resumed that fall, but the school again was shuttered the following year and March was ultimately placed on caretaker status in 1923 (Allen, 1992). Passage of legislation upgrading and expanding the military's aviation sector later led to the reopening of March Field as one of three Air Corps flight schools in the United States years later in 1927. Importantly, this was aided by the Army Air Corps Act of 1926, which officially re-designated the Army Air Service as the Army Air Corps and sanctioned a doubling in the size of the corps. That same year, Public Law No. 45 earmarked funds for the construction of new, permanent military buildings to replace earlier temporary buildings, such as those built during WWI. March Field was thereby redesigned according to a formal, axial plan with a triangular form. New, permanent resources built at the installation were expressed in the Mission Revival style and were grouped into several functional sectors, including barracks for enlisted personnel, hangars, the hospital complex, industrial buildings, recreational buildings for enlisted personnel and officers, and officers' quarters (Allen, 1992).

Tactical units were stationed at March Field in 1931, while construction of the permanent resources at the facility was still underway (Allen, 1992). This included the 17<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group and 9<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squadrons and the First Bombardment Wing, which transferred to March Field from Kelly Field in Texas in November 1931. In 1933, March Field became the primary west coast base for gunnery and bombing training after Murdoc bombing range, which is part of the present-day

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 5 of 19 \*Resource Name or #: Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 (update)

Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), was established in the Mojave Desert for bombing practice (Allen, 1992). March provided training, staging, and aircraft testing functions during World War II (WWII), when it formed the largest aviation field on the west coast (Allen, 1992). In 1940, the War Department ordered the construction of an anti-aircraft artillery camp, Camp Haan, near March Field to accommodate trainees in the National Guard anti-aircraft program. Camp Haan later was combined with March Field, and the base was augmented through the addition of 920 acres to the north, east, and south in late 1940, doubling its size (Allen, 1992). Construction at March expanded to meet an influx of enlistees during WWII and included wood-frame administrative buildings, barracks, supply buildings, and warehouses (JRP, 2011). In addition, a 7,000-foot runway was built adjacent to the original 1928 runway in 1943 in support of B-24 training and an aviation engineering training center (JRP, 2011).

Congress created the USAF as an independent military branch after WWII in 1947, and March Field was then designated March AFB the following year. Acknowledging the increasing importance of expansive air operations in both wartime and peacetime endeavors, the USAF was developed as a strong standing body responsible for both offensive and defensive air operations.

The initial years following establishment of the USAF brought continuing command changes to March AFB. Initially, the newly named March AFB was under the command of Tactical Air Command (TAC), which was developed in 1946 to balance strategic, air defense, and tactical forces in the wake of WWII. Within less than a year, however, command shifted for a short period to Continental Air Command, which had assumed jurisdiction over TAC. However, on May 1, 1949, March AFB was assigned to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), a Major Command (MAJCOM) of the USAF. SAC was developed in 1946 as the nascent USAF's strike force command. March AFB would remain under the jurisdiction of SAC for the next 44 years.

Overall, the pressures of the Cold War led to the rapid rise of an extensive defense sector, bolstered by an influx of government investment, research, and strategic support. As one of the MAJCOMs of the USAF, SAC was a key part of this overall mission. The mission of the command, as described by officials, was:

To conduct long range offensive operations in any part of the world...to conduct maximum range reconnaissance over land or sea...to provide combat units capable of intense and sustained combat operations employing the latest and most advanced weapons; to train units and personnel for the maintenance of the Strategic Forces in all parts of the world; to perform such special missions as the Commanding General, Army Air Force may direct. (Manley, 1995)

Mounting hostilities with the Soviet Union led the U.S. military to expand its defensive capabilities considerably after WWII. Prior to the development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), American nuclear capabilities were restricted to long-range bombers. Effectively, it was SAC that embodied American nuclear retaliation capabilities, commanding both bombers and later ICBMs. Throughout the Cold War, particularly in the late 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s, SAC was entrusted with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of "massive retaliation." This was seen as the foremost deterrent against nuclear attack on the United States, more so than the nation's efforts to develop defensive tools, such as the early warning system, air defense system, and, later, the antiballistic missile. As recounted by one scholar of the period, "the development of this force was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would overawe a potential aggressor (whether the Soviet Union or one of its proxies) and insure that war would not come" (JRP, 2013).

One of three numbered Air Forces under SAC jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force (AF) was assigned to March AFB in 1949 and oversaw almost all SAC bases and assets west of the Mississippi River. The 15<sup>th</sup> AF commanded approximately 80% of the nation's ICBMs at its height. Other lower-level SAC units including the 22d Bombardment Wing, the installation's main combat wing, also were stationed at March AFB during this time. While activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> AF were somewhat insular, lower units at March AFB conducted most of the day-to-day operations at the base. As at other SAC installations across the country, units stationed at March AFB reflected the command's mission of air readiness by conducting readiness training and maintaining a ground alert posture, with aircraft and personnel ready to become airborne at all times (JRP, 2013).

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SAC control of March AFB led to a program of expansion at the base during the 1950s and 1960s, a period that also witnessed a surge in the population at the base. Although new resources were constructed for use by the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, support facilities for lower squadrons and groups accounted for most new development at the base during this time. This included housing, administrative buildings, and readiness facilities. Importantly, the shift to jet-fueled aircraft such as the B-47 in 1952 prompted the construction of new hangars, aircraft maintenance and repair buildings, and other support facilities, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure, such as runways and aprons. The primary runway was lengthened to 10,000 feet, with 600 acres of land added to the south of the base to make room for expansion. In addition to runway infrastructure, a new hospital, administration buildings, maintenance buildings, housing units, and a munitions storage area were added to the base in the early 1950s. While a significant portion of this new construction took place adjacent to the flight line and in the historic core of the base (where the current March Field Historic District exists), a number of projects took place in the western area of the base, on the former lands of the WWII Camp Haan. Most notably, construction in this area included a large housing area named Arnold Heights (which is no longer extant), in honor of General Arnold. In this fashion, expansion included both modernization and infill in the existing operation core as well as substantial expansion to the new periphery of the base (JRP, 2013).

The new resources at March AFB employed USAF "Definitive Designs", standardized designs used for new construction at SAC bases nationwide. The Definitive Designs generally were utilitarian in design and were implemented at March AFB and at other bases across the country. Across all SAC bases, the Air Force Architectural Services Branch developed standardized projections for specific facilities associated with operational groups, thereby creating a uniform design language across SAC bases. Although the Air Force often employed local architectural firms, within this standardized context, almost all plans were adapted from the core set of Definitive Designs and, as such, SAC-related construction at March AFB mirrored that which was occurring at other SAC bases across the country. In general, this construction was rather pragmatic in its design and sensibility, with "harmony with the simple contemporary architectural trends," acting as the guiding principle for design. This standardization and simplicity is reflected across the construction of the period. In large, the standardization reflected the overall operational mandate of SAC, which was to eliminate all redundancies and complicating factors that stood between crews and airborne readiness (JRP, 2013).

As result, the infrastructural needs of a SAC base were relatively modest and primarily related to physical support for aircraft and readiness personnel. Very simply, they required hangars for bomber jets, areas to store advanced weapons associated with the bombers, and an array of general operational facilities for personnel support including administration, housing, readiness facilities, and other basic service requirements (JRP, 2013).

Between 1963 and 1968, \$11,000,000 were spent in the build-up for the new B-52 bombers, with a number of facilities constructed to support the B-52s, including aircraft maintenance lighting and docks, an engine inspection and repair shop, a maintenance control facility, blast deflector fences, parking aprons, and a fuel cell dock for B-52 repair. Construction also included ancillary personnel facilities for the base's expanded squadrons and groups, including dormitories, a child care facility, squadron operations buildings, the Combat Operations Center, a new hospital, water storage tanks, and various warehouses and support facilities. This array of construction supported a surge in population at the base, which by the mid-1960s was at 9,000 airmen, the highest since WWII (JRP, 2011).

During this two-decade period of SAC expansion at March AFB, operations at the base were largely dictated by the continuing evolution of the Cold War conflict. At its core, the operations of SAC Wings like the 22d Bombardment Wing were defined by two activities: readiness and training for readiness. "The ability to train and maintain a highly ready and capable combat group became the criteria for success in SAC," and it was to this end that both the resources of the base and its array of personnel were fully committed. In times of open conflict, including that of Korea and Vietnam, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups were deployed overseas, serving strategic bombardment, refueling, and other functions. In times of relative "stability", the groups were fully engaged in training activities designed to prepare for and enhance absolute readiness. During these periods, the 22d Bombardment Wing and other groups maintained a "ground alert posture" that defined day-to-day operations of the base. In 1957, for example, March AFB's B-47 and K-97 crews were ordered to have one-third of their crews on alert, ready to become airborne within 15 minutes. This readiness posture dictated all activities at the base, with personnel and base resources fully devoted to shaving seconds off the air readiness response time (JRP 2013).

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With the escalation of the Vietnam War, the development of additional facilities at March AFB slowed. Between 1967 and 1972, most units at the base were sent to Southeast Asia, leaving the base in a largely caretaker status. Additionally, the base became an important air refueling facility. From 1972 to the end of the conflict, all tankers destined for Southeast Asia were staged through March AFB (JRP, 2013).

By 1973, most units had returned to the base, resuming their established ground-alert operations. In general, the 1970s were a time of retrenchment, both across the military and at March AFB. In the early 1970s, the number of base personnel was reduced by twenty percent. The 1980s brought renewed defense spending, however, and the influx of KC-10 tankers to replace the B-52s. Also occurring during the 1980s, the 22d Bombardment Wing was renamed the 22d Air Refueling Wing (ARW), ending the era of bombardment operations at March AFB. By the late 1980s, March AFB had largely become an air refueling base, losing many of the specialized squadrons that had operated throughout the Cold War period. As an Air Refueling Wing, the 22 ARW was still central to the SAC mission, however, which relied upon in-flight refueling to maintain a global reach. In this capacity, the tankers of the 22 ARW traveled the globe, providing fuel for SAC's various bombardment and reconnaissance missions (JRP, 2013).

The SAC program ended with the close of the Cold War in 1992, and March AFB subsequently was transferred to the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended March AFB for realignment in 1993, and the installation was realigned as March ARB in April 1996. Under this realignment, the base was decreased in dimension to approximately one-third of its peak size, with the surplus property transferred to the March Joint Powers Authority. The base continues to serve an air support mission, and is the Air Force Reserve Command's largest air mobility wing, with the 452 Air Mobility Wing Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical groups. The base is also home to tenant units from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air National Guard and serves as a joint use installation (JRP, 2011).

Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 were constructed between 1951 and 1967 as paved runway features. They were built in response to an influx of new aircraft to the base, including the B-47 and B-52. The resources retain their original uses, although Structure 1534 is now non-functioning.

### Criterion A

As mentioned, Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 were constructed to accommodate jet aircraft during a period of expansion at March AFB after the base was assigned to SAC in 1949. SAC was established as one of the USAF's MAJCOMs and had facilities and tenants throughout the United States, including at eight bases in California: March, Mather, Travis, George, Castle, Vandenberg, Edwards, and Beale. SAC was developed during the Cold War with the primary responsibility of establishing the threat of massive retaliation. SAC was seen as a deterrent which, if powerful enough, would subdue a potential foreign aggressor and insure that war would not come. This was accomplished through first bombardment wings and then followed by the ICBM program with air readiness serving as the unifying theme for the SAC.

JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory* provides a useful framework for evaluating military resources across California, including at March ARB. According to this multi-volume document, Cold War-era resources directly associated with the development or application of leading-edge technology are most likely to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Cold War was defined by a rise in technology, evidenced by advancements in radar, jet aircrafts, guided missiles, and nuclear armaments. Bases that were important to carrying out these major themes and patterns were ones that chiefly focused on research and design, while bases that focused on training and education were less critical to Cold War history (Mikesell, 2000). Within this context, Edwards and Vandenberg AFBs made significant contributions to these patterns during Cold War history; alternately, March AFB made less of a contribution as it was mostly used for readiness and training for readiness. March AFB mostly provided logistical and operational support through units like the 15<sup>th</sup> AF and the 22d Bombardment Wing and served as a staging area during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 were constructed between 1951 and 1967 as paved runway features. Although they allowed large SAC bombers to access the base, as paving features, the resources are not

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significant within the JRP framework. The resources are not important within the historical context of the Cold War at March ARB and are not associated with any event marking an important moment in American history. They do not illustrate or exemplify the major themes or patterns associated with technology advancements and achievements associated with the Cold War. The resources are not important to the overall history of the Cold War and had similar functions and purposes to other resources at other SAC facilities in the United States and in California. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

### Criterion B

These resources do not have a direct association with individuals important to the history of March ARB. Furthermore, they are not directly associated with any individuals who personified the military or Cold War history of the base, state, or region, and do not illustrate significant contributions made by an individual or reflect the productive lives of a significant person. The resources are not directly associated with any significant military leader or with any group that has made documented contributions to the area or the military history of the base, state, or region. While military leaders like Col. J. Luts and Col. F. J. Knapp served as the base commanders during years of Cold War-era growth in the 1960s, they are not considered significant individuals who have made major contributions to the history of the military or USAF. Significant individuals, such as Gen. Thomas S. Power and Gen. John Dale Ryan who were SAC commanders, do not have a direct association with these resources, and their contributions are not illustrated by these resources at March AFB. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

### Criterion C

Although these paved runway features were necessary for jet aircraft to access the base, Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 do not embody a distinctive architectural or engineering achievement that would make them significant for their design or function. They do not reflect the work of a master. Compared to other resources that are eligible under Criterion C constructed during the SAC and Cold War-period in JRP's 2000 *California Historic Military Buildings and Structures Inventory*, the eligible resources tend to exemplify high-technological design principles that support unique functions from this time period, or are early and rare examples of a property type. As paved runway features, Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 do not reflect these important design trends that would be eligible under Criterion C. Furthermore, the resources have been altered since their construction to maintain operability. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Additionally, the March Field Historic District is listed in the NRHP and includes a variety of resources from its period of significance that dates from 1928 through 1943. Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 were constructed after the period of significance and do not have a direct association with the district's distinctive design, planning, visual narrative, and aesthetics. Therefore, these resources would not contribute to the architectural significance of the existing NRHP-listed historic district.

### Criterion D

Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 do not have the potential to yield important information about history or prehistory. Plans, photographs, and other archival materials exist that provide important information; additional archaeological or built environment study would not yield answers to any unknown research questions or provide data regarding customs and human activity that are not already known. Therefore, the resources are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### Integrity Analysis

In addition to meeting at least one of the criteria for evaluation, a resource must retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance under the criteria. The NRHP defines seven aspects of integrity: setting, feeling, association, location, materials, design, and workmanship. A resource must possess significance and overall historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

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As mentioned, Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 have been continuously maintained since their construction. In addition, the features have been repaired and repaved as needed to maintain operability. The resources were inaccessible during survey due safety and security concerns.

Per the 2013 *Cold War Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation, Update Report, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside County, California*, Structures 1511, 1518, 1524 are largely unaltered. They have retained their integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Structure 1522 was widened and strengthened in 1965. Portland cement on the south end of Runway 32 was removed and replaced in 2009, and rubber was removed in 2009 and 2010. Restriping of the runway also occurred in 2011. These changes have diminished the resource's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. It retains its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association.

Structure 1523 has been altered by two historic-era changes, including a 559-foot addition made 1959, and the redesigning of blast pads in 1965. It has retained its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Structure 1536 has retained its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association; however, its integrity of materials was diminished by its repaving with concrete in 2004.

Structure 1538 was widened in 1965. It retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Structure 1539 was modified in 1959 when its pavement was reconstructed, and again in 1965 when shoulders were added to the alert apron, taxiways, and warm up pad. The shoulders were paved in 1968, and a shoulder near Taxiway C was paved for a dangerous cargo pad in 2006. These changes have diminished the resource's integrity of design. It retains its integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Structure 1540 was repaved in 1965. It retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Structures 1511, 1518, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1536, 1538, 1539, and 1540 retain some of their historic integrity and are generally associated with March ARB's Cold War history, they do not meet the criteria for evaluation and therefore are recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

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