HILL FIELD, AIRCRAFT PAINT, OIL, & DOPE HOUSE
(HILL FIELD, BUILDING 11)
(HILL FIELD, BUILDING 2)
(HILL FIELD, CHEMICAL WAREHOUSE)
5923 C Avenue
Layton Vicinity
Davis County
Utah

HAER No. UT-85-D

HAER
UTAH
6-LAY.V,
2D-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Richard Dockendorf, Photographer. July 10 & 16, 1995

UT-85-D-1	SOUTH SIDE - MAIN ENTRANCE
UT-85-D-2	EAST SIDE - REAR
UT-85-D-3	INTERIOR USE - OFFICE AND ELECTRONICS
UT-85-D-4	DETAIL, SOUTH SIDE MAIN ENTRANCE
UT-85-D-5	EAST (REAR) AND NORTH SIDES
UT-85-D-6	NORTH AND WEST (STREET) SIDE
UT-85-D-7	Photographic copy of construction drawing 6912-279 (from record group of Civil Engineering, Hill Air Force Base, Utah). 1940. 8x10 negative and print. HILL FIELD, UTAH A.C. PAINT, OIL, & DOPE HOUSE ELEVATIONS AND DETAILS.
UT-85-D-8	Photographic copy of construction drawing 6912-277 (from record group of Civil Engineering, Hill Air Force Base, Utah). 1940. 8x10 negative and print. HILL FIELD, UTAH A.C. PAINT, OIL, & DOPE HOUSE TYPICAL DETAILS.

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HILL FIELD, AIRCRAFT PAINT, OIL, & DOPE HOUSE
(HILL FIELD, BUILDING 11)
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(HILL FIELD, CHEMICAL WAREHOUSE)

HAER No. UT-85-D

Location: 5923 C Avenue, Hill Air Force Base, Layton Vicinity, Davis County, Utah

UTM: 12-417850-4552100

Date of Construction: 1941

Architect: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Salt Lake City District

Builder: Unknown

Present Owner: Hill Air Force Base

Present Use: Administration Building

Significance: Building 11 stored liquid chemicals that were used on World War II aircraft, and provides particularly vivid images of the processes involved in the repair, maintenance, and storage of aircraft at the Hill Field/Air Force Base during and after World War II. In addition, it contributes to a deeper understanding of the early development of the U.S. Army Air Corps, a branch of the Army which eventually became the U.S. Air Force. Hill Field was one of only two air depots established in the United States during the tumultuous years immediately preceding World War II.

History: Building 11 stored paint, oil, and dope (a lacquer that was used to protect, waterproof, and taughten cloth surfaces). Proper surface treatment was an essential step in the repair and maintenance of aircraft. All moving parts of the planes were oiled regularly to minimize friction, and exposed metal parts were painted to prevent deadly rust damage.

Numerous aircraft were overhauled or prepared for storage on the Base, which required that all surfaces be protected from oxidation by the application of corrosion preventatives like paint and oil. The windows and blisters all planes in storage were painted with light-reflecting white paint to minimize the effect of the sun shining into the interior of the planes. Cloth tape, painted with a dope and aluminum paste, was used to seal all vent openings, thereby preventing the entrance of foreign material or water. All other outside metal surfaces of the craft were sprayed with zinc chromate.

All chemicals needed for these processes were stored in the Paint, Oil, and Dope House (Building 11). Chemicals were transferred to the Spray Pool (Building 266) and other shops as they were needed for application to aircraft engines, body parts, and other items.

General Description: Building 11, a former paint and dope house which has been converted into administrative offices, is a large square one-story structure. The building measures approximately 123' x 142'. The exterior wall is constructed of brick laid in six-course American bond. The original security steel sash windows have been replaced with modern plate windows. The building utilizes plain concrete lintels and slip sills. Building 11's tripartite massing has a north/south orientation. The central portion of the building has a continuous brick frieze, consisting of several rows of running and rowlock coursing.