

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**  
RECEIVED NOV 16 1987  
DATE ENTERED PAR - 7 1988

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Building 836 Community College of the Air Force Building

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Maxwell Boulevard

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Maxwell Air Force Base

VICINITY OF Montgomery, AL

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Alabama

01

Montgomery

001

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

U.S. Air Force

STREET & NUMBER

3800 ABW/CC Building 1

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Maxwell Air Force Base

VICINITY OF

AL 36112

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Real Property Office

STREET & NUMBER

3800 ABW/DEEP Building 78

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Maxwell Air Force Base

AL 36112

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

N/A

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

O. P. Woodstock and Company of Jacksonville, Florida, constructed Building 836 in 1927 as a barracks for enlisted men and unmarried non commissioned officers. The building was designed by architects employed by the US Army Office of the Constructing Quartermaster. The building, two stories high with a full basement, was designed to house 163 men. The structure is roughly I-shaped in plan with the wings projecting further to the rear of the building than the front. The barracks has a total length of 211' (this includes the two end wings); the end wings measure 34' x 94'. There are porches at the rear of the building, both up and downstairs, which extend the length of the building between the two wings (Photographs 1-5; Figures 1-5).

Building 836 is similar in style to the base Senior Officer's Quarters, which were described by the designing Army architects as being French Provincial. Some Italianate influences also appear to be present, i.e., the tile roof and Romanesque entryway. Originally the building was surrounded by open areas and it fit well into the park design favored for army base construction at the time.

In constructing the barracks, emphasis was put on using durable, permanent construction materials. The skeleton of the building is steel reinforced concrete and steel girders. The roof is framed with wood rafters and posts and is covered with red, straight barrel, mission tile. Seventeen dormers for ventilation extend from the roof. Floors are of poured concrete reinforced with steel. The floor of the first story is 5' above ground level. The outer walls of the structure are of poured concrete and hollow tile covered with textured concrete stucco. The building is presently painted eggshell cream.

The front entrance to Building 836 is centered and quite ornate. A poured concrete staircase with wrought iron railings leads to the entry which consists of double wooden doors surmounted by a semi-circular multipane transom. The doorway is framed by a Romanesque ornamental archway made of sculpted limestone blocks. The archway consists of two columns, the arch, a plain entablature, and two urns on pedestals. The upper window above the entry is framed by two limestone pilasters and a plain entablature.

Building 836 was extensively remodeled in about 1978 to accommodate the Air Force Community College. The former squad rooms, day room, mess hall, and kitchen have all been subdivided into classrooms and offices. Also, the showerrooms have been deleted and the restrooms have been extensively remodeled.

All original interior walls were ceramic tile with a plaster finish. Concrete block walls and a plaster finish were used in the construction of the new rooms. Ceiling heights for the first and second floors are approximately 11'. Originally the floors were covered with linoleum in all rooms except the kitchen, bathrooms, and showerrooms, where ceramic tile was used. Ceramic tiles are still used in the bathrooms, but carpet or vinyl-asbestos floor

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coverings are used in the remainder of the building. The basement was originally used as a boiler room and for storage area; it still basically serves these functions.

The windows originally installed in Building 836 were typically steel-framed and divided into three movable segments. The lower two segments were hinged at the sides and the upper segment was hinged at the top, all opened outward. There were eight panes of glass in each of the movable segments. These windows were replaced with aluminum-framed windows when the building was remodeled. During the remodeling process, when the bathrooms were redone, the third window from the left on the first floor of the western wing was filled in, stuccoed over and painted.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1927

BUILDER/ARCHITECT O. P. Woodstock & Company

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site of Maxwell Air Force Base has a long history of association with flight training and US military aviation. In March 1910 the Wright brothers established the world's first civilian aviation school here and trained a number of students before they closed the school in May of the same year. Aviation activities at this site lapsed until the establishment of the Army Air Repair Depot in April 1918. This facility assembled and repaired aircraft only, no flight training was conducted at the base. Following the end of World War I activity at the base was very low key. In 1927 Congress authorized an Air Corps Five Year Expansion Program. Under this program the size of the Air Corps was to be enlarged and permanent facilities were to be built at selected fields, Maxwell was chosen to be one of these fields. At this same time the Army was making a concentrated effort to upgrade its facilities due to the disgracefully dilapidated condition of the temporary structures erected before and during World War I.

Building 836, a barracks, was the first permanent building to be constructed at Maxwell. O. P. Woodstock and Company of Jacksonville, Florida began erection of the structure on October 4, 1927 and completed work on May 15, 1928. In December 1928 transfer of the Army Air Corps Tactical School (ACTS) to Maxwell Field was authorized. The transfer of the ACTS to Maxwell greatly expanded the scope of the planned construction work. A school building, quarters for officers, noncommissioned officers and enlisted men, and support facilities were to be constructed. Most of the World War I structures were removed at this time.

Two story barracks are unique to Army air fields where an effort was made to keep all buildings down to a minimum height; three story barracks were the rule at other Army installations. Building 836 was designed to house 163 enlisted men and unmarried noncommissioned officers. The barracks constructed under the Army's building program were to be modern showplaces of Army housing. They were built of fire proof materials, and provided with electric lighting, central heating, and indoor plumbing. Enlisted men were housed in open squad rooms and noncommissioned officers were provided semi-private rooms (generally two persons per room). Each barracks was also provided with a mess hall and a kitchen, a tailors room, barber shop, day room, and store rooms.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES** (See continuation sheet)

Chambers, John S. "Quarters for our Army," Quartermaster Review (March-April 1928): pp. 24-26.

Dubina, George. Fifty Years of Aviation History at Maxwell Air Force Base: 1910-1960. Office of Information (Historian), Headquarters, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, ca. 1960.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 1.39 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 6	5, 6, 0	9, 5, 0	3, 5, 8, 2	5, 6, 0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING	
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of this property is the lot upon which Building 836 is situated. This lot is outlined in red on the accompanying U.S.G.S. topographic map.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Neil D. Robison Archeologist

ORGANIZATION

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District

DATE

10/12/84

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 2288

TELEPHONE

205/694-4112

CITY OR TOWN

Mobile

STATE

Alabama 36628

**12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

~~NONE~~

*[Signature]*  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is  National  State  Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*[Signature]*

TITLE Deputy for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health RATE 9 Sep 87

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*[Signature]*  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 3/2/88

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Building 836 was first used to house the enlisted men attached to the ACTS. The Air Corps Tactical School was founded to teach officers strategy, tactics, and techniques of the employment of air forces. Tactical employment of the four general classes of military aviation - attack, bombardment, pursuit, and observation - were emphasized. By December 7, 1941, 916 officers had graduated from ACTS. The tactics and strategy employed by the US Army Air Forces in the European and Pacific theaters of the war were largely formulated at Maxwell during the 1930s. The Air Corps Tactical School furnished a majority of the US Army Air Force leadership during World War II.

In 1940 concern about the outbreak of war in Europe caused a cessation of ACTS classes and a severe reduction in the school staff. The US military at this time was being placed on a war footing and the Army Air Corps was beginning a rapid expansion. The Southeast Air Corps Training Center (SEACTC) (redesignated the Army Air Force Eastern Flying Training Command in 1943) was officially established at Maxwell on July 8, 1940 and took over the facilities used by the Tactical School. Building 836 was used to house noncommissioned officers of the Southeast Air Corps Training Center.

SEACTC was responsible for all pilot, navigation, and bombardier training of Air Corps cadets stationed in the southeastern portion of the US. Later a flight instructors and a specialized four engine pilot school (first for the B-24 Liberator and finally for the B-29 Superfortress) were established at Maxwell. Over 100,000 aviation cadets received instruction at Maxwell during World War II. At the end of the war Maxwell served as a separation center for Army Air Force personnel who lived within 300 miles of Montgomery. The Eastern Flying Training Command was inactivated late in 1945.

Following the end of World War II until 1978, Building 836 housed noncommissioned officers attached to the Army Air Forces School and later Air University. The Army Air Forces School was transferred from Orlando, Florida, to Maxwell Field on November 29, 1945. On March 12, 1946 the school was redesignated as Air University. Air University was established to educate Air Force officers in the study, formulation, and teaching of theories and methods of aerial warfare. Graduates of Air University are prepared for command of major Air Force units and for staff duties appropriate to such positions.

In 1978 the building received extensive interior renovation and became the home of the Community College of the Air Force. It still serves this function.

In summary, Building 836 is significant as an example of an enlistedmen's barracks built under the 1927 Army Air Corps Five Year Expansion Program. Building 836 was the first permanent structure built at Maxwell Air Force Base.

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George, Harold L., Lt Gen, USAF (Retired). September 5, 1984 letter on the establishment of the Order of Daedalians. Letter on file at Office of History, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL.

Fine, Lenore and Jesse A. Remington. United States Army in World War II, The Technical Services, The Corps of Engineers: Construction in the United States. Office of the Chief of Military History, United States Army, Washington, D.C., 1972.

Swanberg, Arnold Frederick. The Development of the Army Planning Process: A Case Study of Fort Lewis. A Masters Thesis submitted to the Department of Urban Planning, University of Washington, 1982.

Wheaton, Francis B. "The Architecture of the Army Post," Quartermaster Review (September-October 1929): pp. 10-13.