Form 10-306 (Oct. 1972)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

DATA SHEE	T PH 0038954				
THE INTERIOR	STATE:				
	California				
	COUNTY:				
IC PLACES	Orange				
FORM	FOR NPS USE ONLY				
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NAME						
COMMON:	rship	The state of the s	and the state of t	×		
Lighter-than-Ai:	r,Hangars, Mari	ine Corps A	ir Station	(Helicopter)	Santa Ar	a,
AND/OR HISTORIC:						

LOCATION						
STREET AND NUMBER:	خصل					
Valencia and Rec	dhill Avenue					
CITY OR TOWN:			CONGRESSION	NAL DISTRICT:		
Santa Ana				resent; 40th a		
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:			DDE
California			Orange		09	59
CLASSIFICATION				Т	Ι	
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP	ì	STATUS	ACCESSIE TO THE PU	
District Buildin	g Public	Public Acquisi	tion:	X Occupied	Yes:	
Site XXStructu		In Proc		Unoccupied	Restricte	a
Object	Both		Considered	Preservation work		
				in progress	□ No	
						
PRESENT USE (Check One						
		Park		Transportation	Comments	•
1 T		Private Reside	ence	Other (Specify)		
Educational 5	🔀 Military 🛛 [Religious				
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		Scientific ,				
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7.	DESCRIPTION								
		(Check One)							
	CONDITION	Excellent	👿 Good	☐ Fair		Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed	
	CONDITION	(Check One)				(Check One)			
		Alte	ored 5	Unaltered			Moved XX	Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The airship hangars at Santa Ana are two of a series of hangars built in ten different locations throughout the United States. All locations used the same plans and began construction during the early years of World War II.

The hangars stand 189 feet high to the top of the wind indicator, and 178 feet to the top of the roof. The hangars are 1088 feet long and 297 feet wide, covering a total ground area of 298,188 square feet.

The hangars are constructed in three main sections. Two of the sections are identical supporting structures of concrete located at each end of the hangar. Each structure consists of two pillars, six huge doors, and a brace connecting the two pillars at the top. The pillars are used as "pockets" to house the hangar doors (3 in each pillar) when open. The brace is also used as a guide for opening and closing the doors.

The third section of the hangar is the wood-framed, 484,932 square foot, arched roof. The roof is supported by fifty-one individual wooden braces.

The hangars are in their original appearance and location, however, they were reroofed in late 1957.



Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
ECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known) 1943-pro	esent	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	-		
Aboriginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	Industry	losophy	
Agri cul ture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military .	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

The airship hangars are among the largest wood supported structures in the world, rivaled only by the other hangars built from the same They have long been considered a landmark in Orange County.

The hangars mark a significant period of American history, when the airships were an important part of the United States anti-submarine defense. Each hangar is capable of sheltering six airships, an entire squadron.

The hangars were completed in 1943 when the air station was Santa Ana Naval Lighter-Than-Air Base. Following World War II, the base was decommissioned. During the period 1949-1951 the hangars were used by private enterprise as a museum for aircraft and a storage area.

In 1951 the base was recommissioned and the hangars were used to house helicopter squadrons during the development of the vertical assault. The hangars are still used to house helicopters in the now reclassified Marine Corps Air Station (Helicopter), Santa Ana.



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12. CERT	FICATION OF NOMINAT	ION				REGIST	ER VERIFICATIO	Ń	
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