

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 APR 5 1982
DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1982

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

CHAPEL No. 1

FDV 193

AND/OR COMMON

Eisenhower Memorial Chapel (unofficially)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bldg 27, Quince Way, on Lowry AFB, NW1/4, Sec 9, R67 W, T4S

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Denver

VICINITY OF

Number One

STATE

Colorado

CODE

80230

08

COUNTY

Denver

CODE

031

2 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

United States Air Force--Lowry Air Force Base--Chaplain's Office

STREET & NUMBER

LTTC/HC

CITY, TOWN

Denver

VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado 80230

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Denver County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

1437 Bannock St

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Real Property Record Survey

DATE

1941

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

3415th Civil Engineering Squadron

CITY, TOWN

Lowry AFB

STATE

Colorado 80230

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Chapel No. 1 is a simple, wood-frame building constructed in a traditional style for small churches. The building is also typical of standard pre-World War II U. S. Army construction.

The main structure is 81' 3" long and 37' wide with an entrance way on the front approximately 12' wide extending 3' out from the main building. On the back side the building has a subordinate section--integral and original--about 14' 4" long and 19' wide. The Chapel, as best can be determined, has never experienced any significant alterations.

The Chapel is of wood-frame construction--probably 2 x 6s--supported by concrete piers and a poured concrete stem wall. The exterior is of wood lap siding painted white. The front has one window at normal level on each side of the entrance structure and an additional window set above those windows at balcony level. Each side of the building features five double-high windows and a sixth normal-sized window set toward the rear. The back of the main building has a normal-sized window on either side of the subordinate unit. All windows are plain and undecorated. Besides the main entrance, exterior doors are located on the south side and rear of the subordinate unit.

The roof is gabled save for that of the subordinate unit which slopes down from the side of the main building. It consists of red shingles nailed over a wood roof deck, which also acts as an interior ceiling. Evidence shows the roof once leaked, but there is no sign of damage to the roof deck; it is therefore probable the roof and deck were once replaced. No record of such action has been located. If indeed it did take place, the replacement roof was still typical of World War II construction. A red brick chimney extends from the centerline of the roof at the rear. The front is surmounted by a four-sided, pointed spire--at least 20' high--decorated with an ornate lightning rod.

The entrance way features a short passage formed by a changing room to the left and a consultation room on the right. The ceiling of this section is formed by a balcony extending the width of the building.

The remainder of the main structure consists primarily of the sanctuary. The floor is of tongue and groove oak construction. These have been surfaced with vinyl asbestos tile and recently carpeted. The interior walls are finished with wood paneling below and plaster above. The high-pitched roof deck is supported by several open wooden trusses providing a somewhat different and decorative aspect to the sanctuary.

The subordinate unit houses a small restroom and a "mechanical room" (used for storage) entered only from the outside.

Lowry Chapel No. 1 is an outstanding example of the simplicity, durability, and engineering quality inherent in the pre-World War II military type construction. Built in some haste, not intended to last long, the chapel, in the opinion of Lowry's 3415th Civil Engineering Squadron, will last indefinitely.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 23 November 1941

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

U. S. Army

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chapel No. 1 is of exceptional importance for historical and architectural reasons. Historically, it was the first permanent chapel erected at Lowry Air Force Base (then Lowry Field) and is one of the last surviving examples of the many similar structures built to support the massive mobilization of American forces during World War II. Chapel No. 1 is also the last surviving building on Lowry Air Force Base associated with President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Architecturally, the building is one of the last remaining intact, cantonment-style frame buildings once so common at Lowry, and now rapidly disappearing. Indeed, it is the last surviving Air Force chapel of its type in Colorado.

Lowry Field, one of the Army Air Corps' major training centers, underwent massive expansion in 1940 and 1941 under the pressure of international events and creation of the prewar draft. The Army built hundreds of simple frame buildings at each of its training fields. Construction at Lowry included eight small chapels to serve its peoples' religious needs. The first of these, Chapel No. 1, was completed in late 1941 and dedicated on 23 November of that year--just 14 days before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. From then until now, this chapel has served the needs of thousands of students and permanent party personnel who have made Lowry their home.

Chapel No. 1 gained its greatest distinction in 1953, 1954, and 1955. During those years, President Eisenhower established his "summer White House" at Lowry Air Force Base. The President and Mrs Eisenhower worshipped at Chapel No. 1, and the building has been associated with the Eisenhower name since that date. It is now the only remaining structure on Lowry that the President used during those years.

Most of the prewar and World War II wooden buildings, once so characteristic of Lowry, were torn down or extensively renovated as the base modernized its facilities during the late 1960s and the 1970s. Among the changes, a centralized modern chapel seating 400 people eliminated the need for the eight dispersed frame chapels. All were torn down save Chapel No. 1. Thus it remains the last survivor of an era, and a distinctive landmark on a modern Air Force Base.

Chapel No. 1 remains virtually unchanged from when it was built. The only modifications have been minor additions to enhance comfort, energy conservation, and fire safety. In the interior most of the original features remain. The trusses supporting the ceiling, the pews, the oak floor, and the decorative lights are all original and well preserved. They enhance the building's charm and help maintain its original World War II appearance.

The significance of Chapel No. 1 lies in its part in the build-up of American armed forces during World War II, an event that made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history; its association with President Eisenhower, an individual significant in the American past; and its existence as an example of military, wartime,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Archives, Office of History, Lowry Technical Training Center, Lowry AFB, Colorado.
2. "Dedication of the Chapels: Buildings No. 27 and No. 481," November 23, 1941 (brochure in possession of Chaplain's office, Lowry AFB, Colorado).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/8
 UTM REFERENCES

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|-------|----------|-----|-------|------|---------|--|----------|--|--|--|
| A | 1,3 | 5,0,8 | 4,8,0 | 4,3 | 9,6 | 6,1,0 | B | | | | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | | NORTHING | | | ZONE | EASTING | | NORTHING | | | |
| C | | | | | | | D | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Chapel No. 1 is located on the western side of Lowry AFB. It sits on the northern part of about 1/8 acre of land bounded on the east (front) by Quince Way, south by Parkway, west and northwest by Quince Lane, and north by 3d Avenue.

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| NAME / TITLE Roger G. Miller/LTTC Historian | DATE 28 October 1981 |
| ORGANIZATION LTTC/HO | TELEPHONE 370-2003 |
| STREET & NUMBER | STATE Colorado 80230 |
| CITY OR TOWN Lowry Air Force Base | |

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES NO

Arthur C. Hammond 11-5-81
 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 *C. J. Clark*

TITLE *Federal Historic Preservation Officer* DATE *18 Feb 82*

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER | |
| <i>William H. Brauman</i> | DATE <i>5.6.82</i> |
| DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION | |
| ATTEST: | DATE |
| KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER | |

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church architecture, thus embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction. This significance has long been recognized by Lowry personnel. In 1973, Lowry submitted the Chapel to the National Register. It was turned down on 5 March 1974. Since that date, the destruction of the only other contemporary chapel--No. 2--and of numerous other wood-frame buildings has reemphasized the need to protect Chapel No. 1. As a last remaining building of its type from a period important to our nation's history, Chapel No. 1's significance has been increased and reemphasized since it was first turned down.

Recently civilian agencies--especially from the Denver community--have become more aware of Chapel No. 1. On 12 October 1981, the Denver Landmark Commission reported favorably on the Chapel's submission to that body. Though the process is not complete, signs are good for the listing of Chapel No. 1 as a Denver Landmark. Additionally, information on the Chapel has been included on an inventory of presidential sites being compiled by the National Park Service under the Channel Islands Bill of 1980.

Chapel No. 1 continues to play an active role in the religious and social life of Lowry Air Force Base, enhanced by its historical associations and architectural distinctiveness. It deserves to be included on the National Register of Historic Places.

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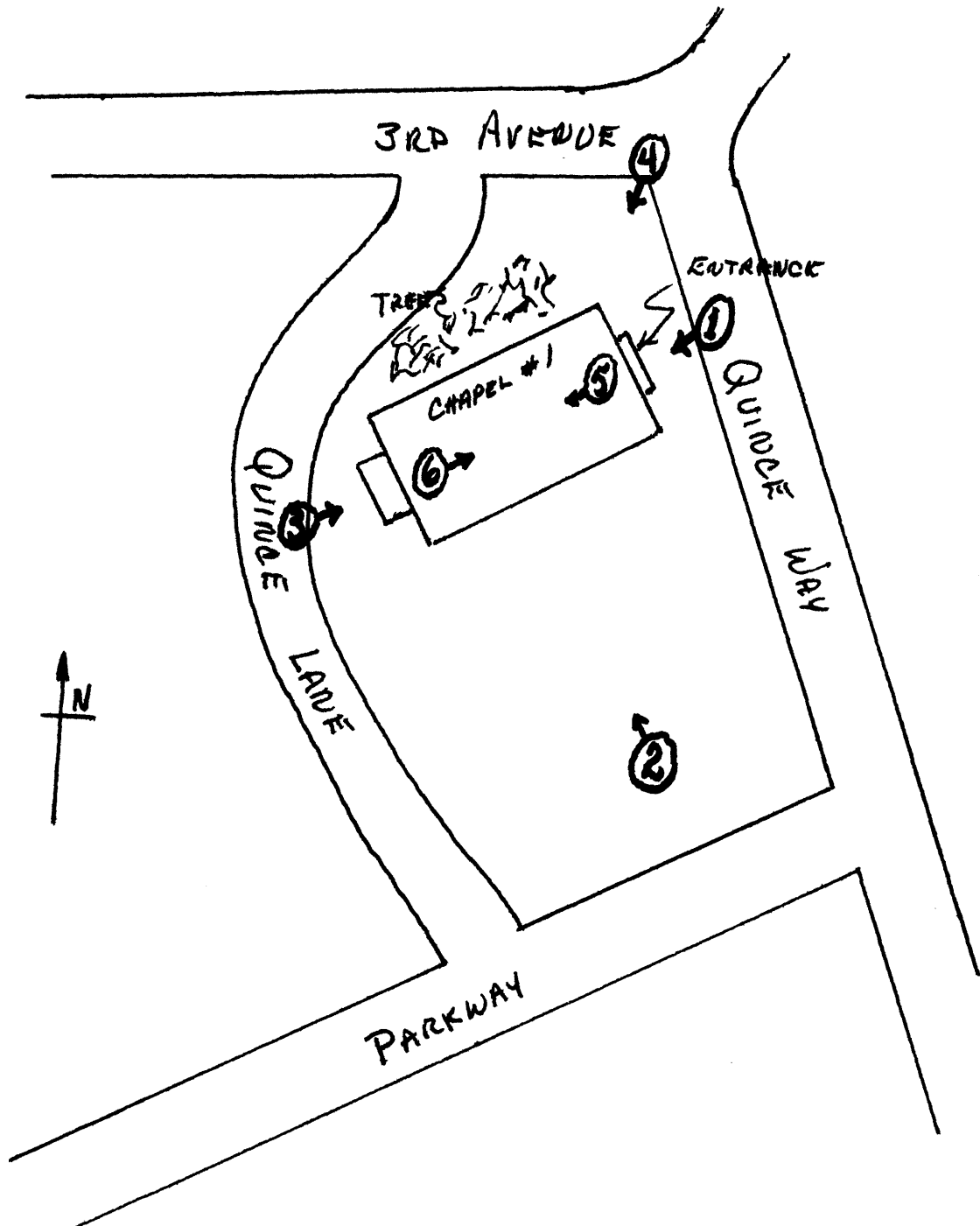
ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

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3. Porter, Melvin, "A forty year Look at Lowry Air Force Base" (Lowry Technical Training Center, Lowry AFB, Colorado, January 1978).
 4. Real Property Record Survey, 3415th Civil Engineering Squadron, Lowry AFB, Colorado.

PHOTO LAYOUT MAP

APR 5 1982



PHOTOS: 1-3 taken about
2:00 o'clock on 26 Aug 1981.

4 taken about
2:30 on 24 Aug 1981.

Negatives included as part of submission
package.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

JAMES R. JENNINGS, III
D. K. ASSOCIATES, INC.
BASE PHOTO LAB
LOWRY AFB, CO