

NAT-D

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town
NATICK

Property Address
SSC NATICK
Area(s) Form No.

D	NAT. 232- 236, 257- 260, #1-#5
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Figure 14. Building 5, Engineering Building, SSC Natick, looking northwest (Panamerican Consultants, Inc. 2001).



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Figure 15. Building 8, Hazardous Research Building, SSC Natick, looking northeast (Panamerican Consultants, Inc. 2001).



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Figure 16. Building 7, Laboratory Test Building, SSC Natick, looking northwest (Panamerican Consultants, Inc. 2001).



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Figure 17. Building 16, Radiation Laboratory, SSC Natick, looking west (Panamerican Consultants, Inc. 2001).



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Figure 18. Building 36, Engineering Laboratory, SSC Natick, looking northeast (Panamerican Consultants, Inc. 2001).



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Figure 19. Building 42, Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (ARIEM) Building, SSC Natick, looking south (Panamerican Consultants, Inc. 2001).



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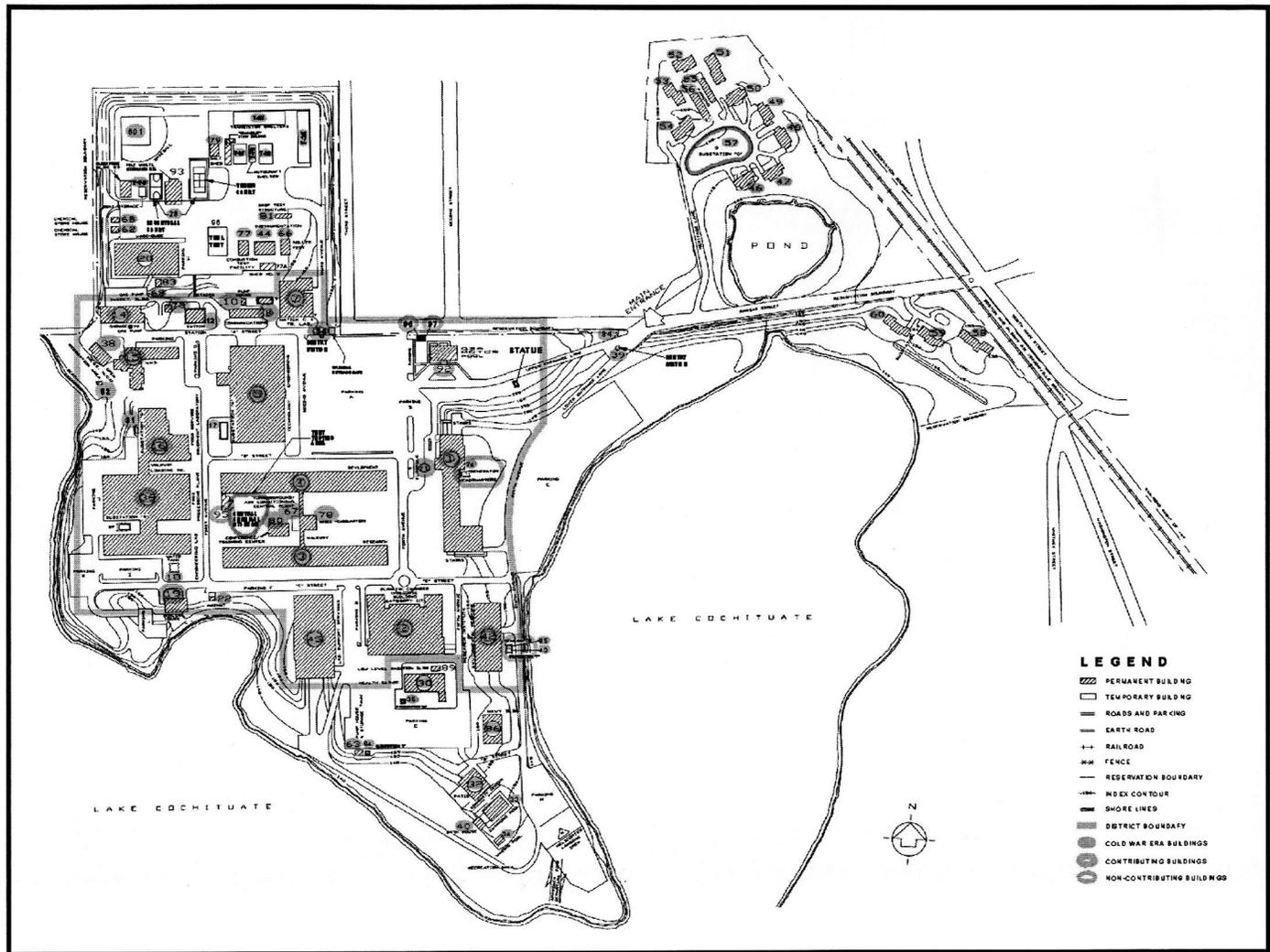
Property Address
SSC NATICK

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236, 257-
260, #1-#5

Figure 20. Boundary map of the potentially eligible Quartermaster Research and Development Center Historic District.





Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Circle and number properties for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a continuation sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.

USGS Sheets

USGS Quad

Area Letter

Form Numbers in Area

NATICK

D

232-257
257-200

Town Natick

Place (neighborhood or village) Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center

Name of Area same as above

Present Use U.S. Army government research and development laboratory

Construction Dates or Period 1952-1955

Overall Condition good

Major Intrusions and Alterations additional construction from 1956 through 1985

Acreage 78

Recorded by Kathleen A. Atwood

Organization U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England Division

Date (month/year) January 7, 1997

Attached

RECEIVED

JUL 25 1997

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

MASS. HIST. COMM.

AREA FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

The original buildings that made up the Quartermaster Research and Development Center, now the Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center (NRDEC) are Buildings 1,2,3,4,5,7,8,15,19 (Administration, Climatic Chambers, Research, Development, Engineering, Laboratory Testing, Hazardous Research, Enlisted Men's Barracks, Boiler-pump house). All of the buildings are utilitarian in form, constructed of reinforced concrete with flat tar and gravel roofs. The engineering firm for construction was the Ballinger Co. of Philadelphia. Later construction followed the same style.

NRDEC is situated on 78 acres on a peninsula on the eastern shore of the South Basin of Lake Cochituate. The facility was undeveloped woodland prior to construction, and remnants of this parkland setting are still visible on the undeveloped southern and western edges of the facility. NRDEC is surrounded on three sides by the lake and on the north by Kansas Street. The surrounding area is heavily settled and primarily residential.

None of the nine original buildings is architecturally unique. However, the Climatic Chambers (Building #2) prior to rehabilitation contained equipment that fulfilled the function of the original research and development laboratory.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.

The Quartermaster Research and Development Center, now the NRDEC, was authorized by Congress in 1949 with an \$11 million appropriation. Natick was chosen from almost 300 other sites under consideration by the Quartermaster Corps for the research laboratory. The New England area was favored due to the number of universities and its wide range of climatic variations. Construction began in 1952 and in October 1954 the Quartermaster Research and Development Center was officially named and designated a permanent installation. The facility's primary mission was the research and development of food, clothing, and personal and organizational equipment vital to the support of the individual soldier. When formally designated in 1953, the facility was unique as the first major testing facility in the country to combine research of products, equipment and materials with the study of human response under virtually all climatic conditions.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

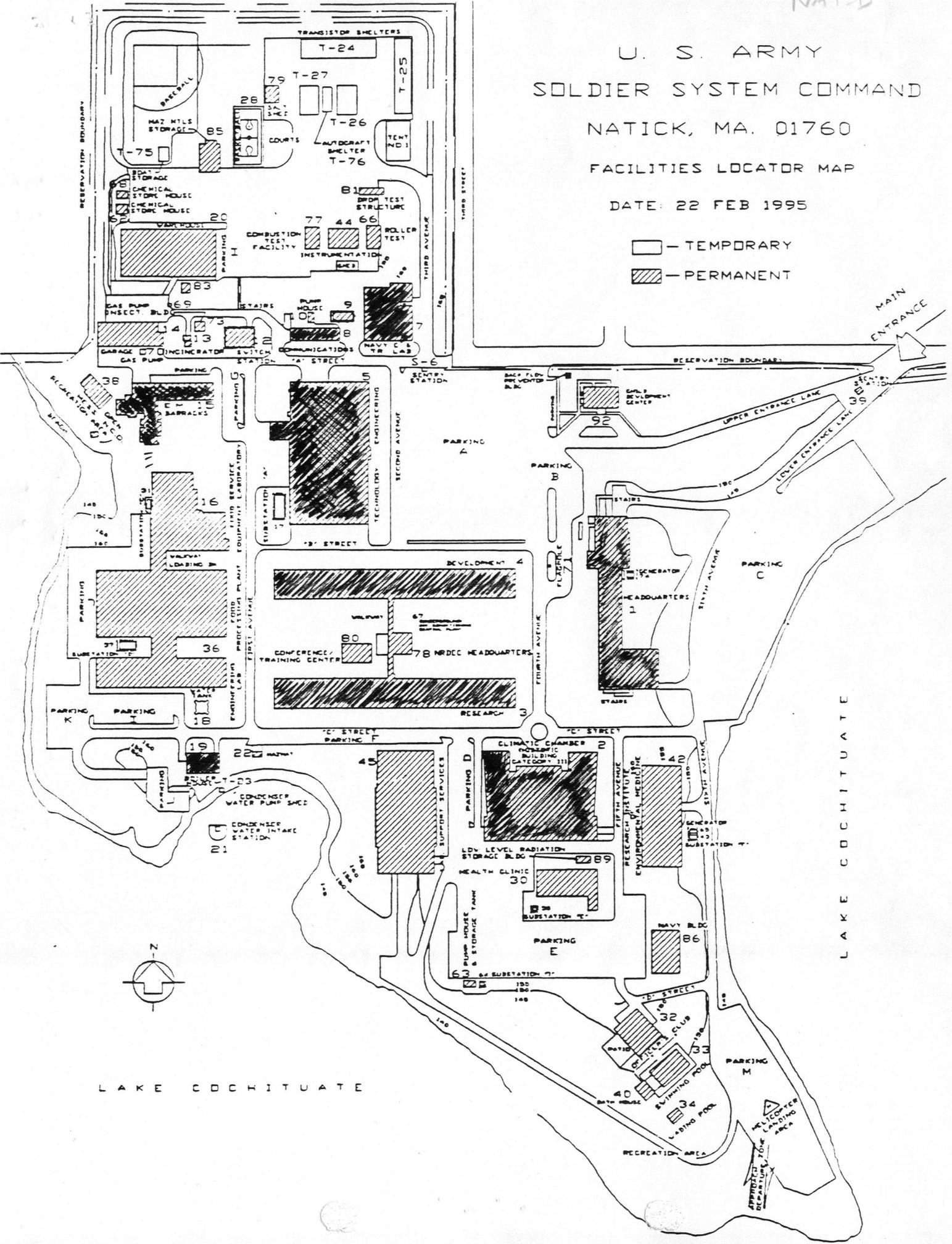
- Anonymous
1954 A Narrative Record of the Dedication, Quartermaster Research and Development Center, 14 October 1954.
- Building Technology, Inc.
1984 Historic Properties Report, Natick Research and Development Laboratories, MA.
- Fitch, Virginia Adams
1991 Historic American Engineering Record, Natick Research and Development Laboratories, Natick, Massachusetts (HAER No. MA-52) Climatic Chambers Building
- U.S. Army Headquarters, Quartermaster Research and Development Command
1954 Quartermaster Research and Development Center, Natick, MA.
- U.S. Army Soldiers Systems Command, Real Property Inventory, Facilities Engineering Office
 Recommended as a National Register District. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

NAT-D

U. S. ARMY
SOLDIER SYSTEM COMMAND
NATICK, MA. 01760
FACILITIES LOCATOR MAP

DATE: 22 FEB 1995

- - TEMPORARY
- ▨ - PERMANENT



LAKE COCHITUATE

LAKE COCHITUATE

MAIN ENTRANCE

RESERVATION BOUNDARY

UPPER ENTRANCE LAKE

LOWER ENTRANCE LAKE

LAKE COCHITUATE

HELICOPTER LANDING AREA

RECREATION AREA

