



# Cultural Resources

## NAVAL AIR STATION CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

Environmental Division

January 2014

### BRIEF HISTORY OF NAVAL AIR STATION CORPUS CHRISTI

➤ On June 13, 1940, President Roosevelt signed an appropriations bill that authorized the construction of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi (NASCC). The bill was signed in response to events taking place in Europe and the Far East.



➤ Construction began on June 30, 1940; the base was officially dedicated on March 12, 1941 (70% completed at that time).

➤ The Air Station included the Main Base at Flour Bluff and six auxiliary stations: Rodd, Cabaniss, Cuddihy, Waldron (Corpus Christi); Kingsville Naval Auxiliary Field (Kingsville); & Chase Field (Beeville).

### IMPORTANCE OF NASCC DURING WORLD WAR II

➤ During the war years (1940-1945), Corpus Christi was the premier place for the training of Naval Aviators and played a significant part in the history of this country.

➤ Over 50% of all Naval Aviators trained during WWII (30,000 airmen) were trained at NASCC.



➤ Some well-known people, including former President George H. Bush, former Senator John Glenn, and Neil Armstrong trained at NASCC.

➤ Many of the buildings constructed during the war years still stand and are being used to train today's Naval Aviators.

### SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL RESOURCES AT NASCC

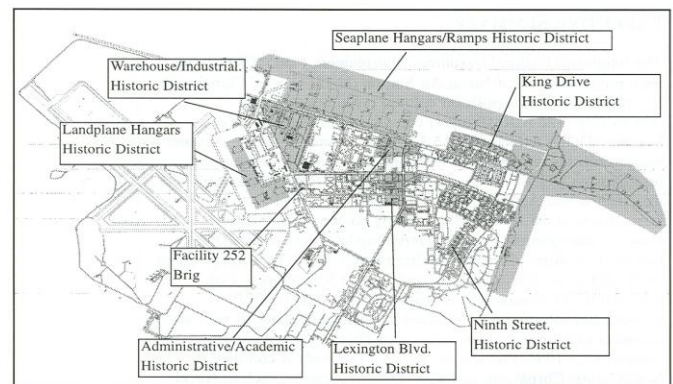
1. SEAPLANE HANGARS/RAMPS HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. LANDPLANE HANGARS HISTORIC DISTRICT
3. WAREHOUSE/INDUSTRIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
4. ADMINISTRATIVE/ACADEMIC HISTORIC DISTRICT

5. LEXINGTON BOULEVARD HISTORIC DISTRICT
6. KING DRIVE HISTORIC DISTRICT
7. NINTH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT
8. THE NAVY BRIG, FACILITY 252 \*\*

\*\*Individual property



➤ An inventory of all significant (Contributing) facilities within each district can be found in the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) (Mentioned below).



### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

➤ To be eligible for the NRHP, a property must be significant in the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture of our nation and retain sufficient integrity to convey that significance. Also, the property typically must be at least 50 years old and meet one of four NRHP Criteria.

➤ The seven historic districts and one individual property, previously mentioned, have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP.

### INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN (ICRMP)

➤ The ICRMP was prepared to assist NASCC with the management of significant cultural resources under its stewardship.

### QUESTIONS ABOUT CULTURAL RESOURCES?

Environmental Division

961-3776