

FOREWORD

The purpose of this brochure is to familiarize the armed services and other government agencies with the availability of this unusually fine facility to the government without cost.

Any request for additional information will be promptly complied with. Inspections are earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

City of Sebring, Florida.

Address communications to:

F. M. Schumacher,
President, City Council
Sebring, Florida.

April 20, 1949



SEBRING AIR TERMINAL

FORMERLY HENDRICKS ARMY AIR FIELD

This field, currently known as the Sebring Air Terminal, was known during the late war as Hendricks Army Air Field and was one of the finest developed (at a cost of eleven million dollars) to train combat crews of four engine bombers. It is one of the very few with concrete runways, taxiways and aprons and also one of the few that have had the primary facilities kept practically intact.

The ideal geographical location, the extremely favorable climate, the available facilities and the advantageous local conditions, all combine to create one of the most attractive sites in the United States for training personnel, for making scientific research, for experimentation and testing and for National Defense. This 3,300 acre site, with installations is available without cost to any branch of the services or Government for such purposes.

Sebring Air Terminal Facts

RUNWAYS

Four concrete runways each 5,000 feet long by 300 feet wide. Taxiways, aprons and runways of sufficient strength to accommodate B-29s. Sufficient land is available to double the lengths of all runways.

CONTROL

A completely equipped 70 foot control tower with radio for ground-to-plane communication is in place but is not currently in operation. Equipment for a radio beam is also on hand, ready to be put in use.

LIGHTING

All runways are equipped with contact lights and the tetrahedron is lighted. A split-beam beacon operates atop the water tower. Electric power is furnished by the Sebring municipal plant and in the past six years, there have been no interruptions in service longer than fifteen minutes even under storm conditions.

ELEVATION

Sixty-two (62) feet. Latitude 27-27-30. Longitude 81-21.

FIRE PROTECTION

Two pumpers, each with a 500 gallon per minute capacity and one crash truck constitutes the motorized fire equipment. Two thousand feet of 2½ inch fire hose is on hand and a hydrant with hose and pumper connections is within 200 feet of every building.

WATER SUPPLY

Pure, palatable water is pumped from three deep wells into a low-level reservoir of 375,000 gallons capacity. From this point, it may be pumped into the system by two 30 hp. and one 125 hp. centrifugal pumps. The elevated reservoir is 175 feet high and store 150,000 gallons. Ten miles of underground pipes, ranging from six to twelve inches, supplies the field and is perfectly gridded. A chlorinator is installed.

TELEPHONES, TELEGRAPH, ETC

Telephone service is by the Intercounty Telephone and Telegraph Company. The Western Union Company has teletype service on the field. Butane gas in underground tanks is furnished by the Sebring municipal plant. A spur with a total of 3.4 miles of track connects with the Seaboard Airline Railroad mainline which guarantees excellent freight service. The Atlantic Coast Line tracks are only two miles away and could be brought into the area again.

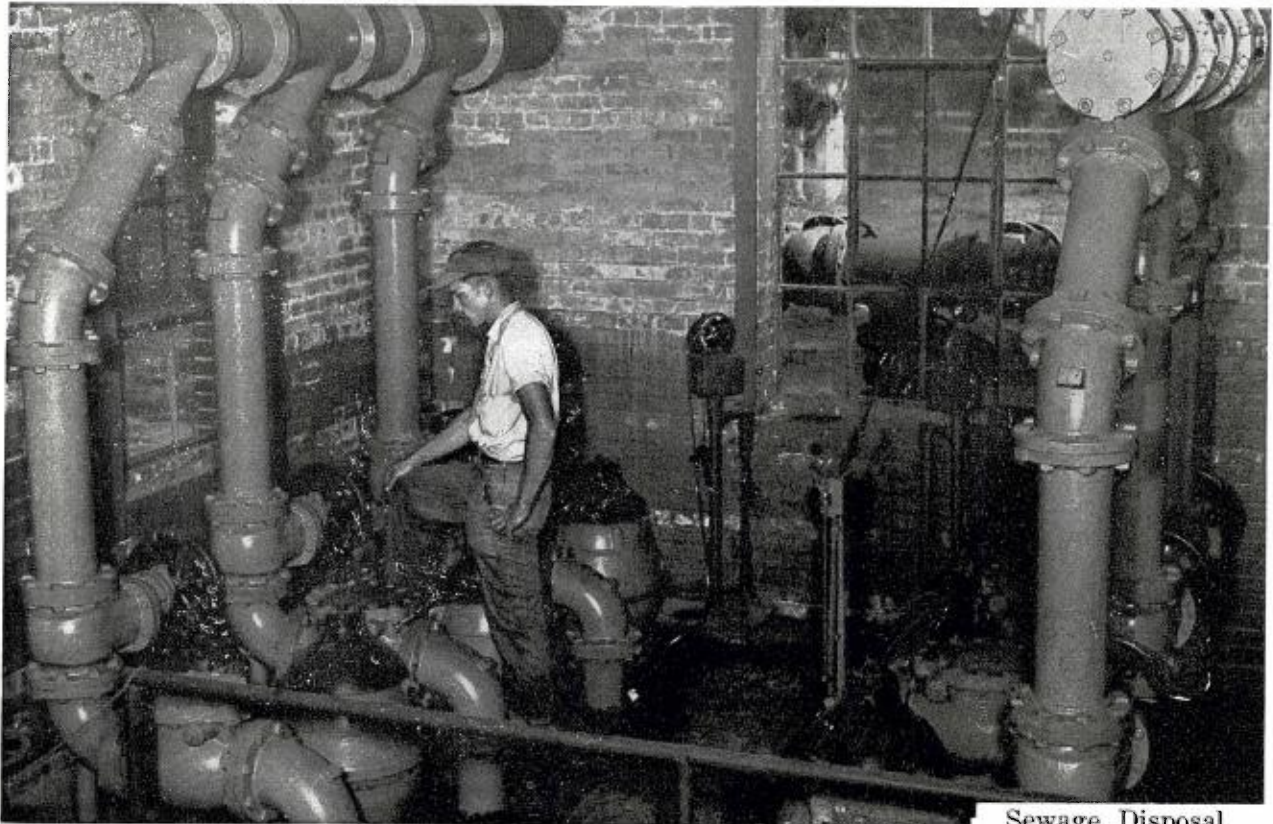
SEWAGE

Every building and every building site is served by a most complete sanitary sewer system. The disposal plant is the most modern type and capable of serving a city of 10,000 people or the equivalent of industrial waste.

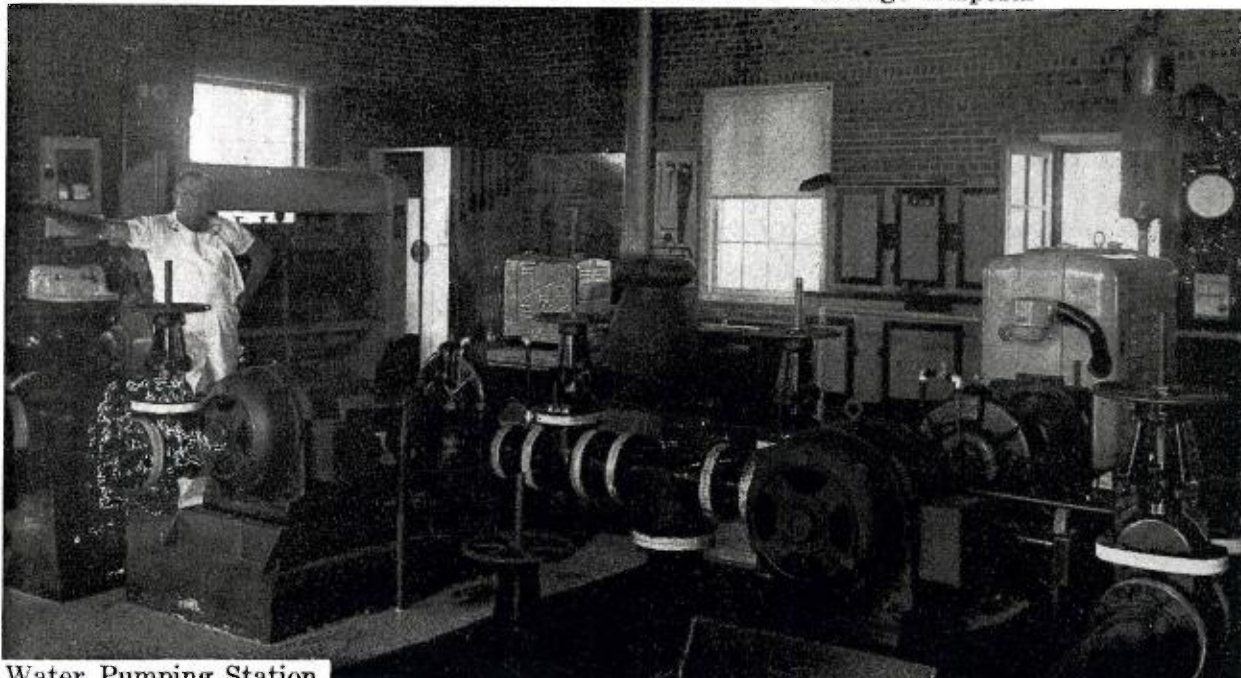
The storm sewer system is so adequate in all sections of the field that the streets, runways and aprons are cleared of rain-water immediately, even in the hardest rain storms.



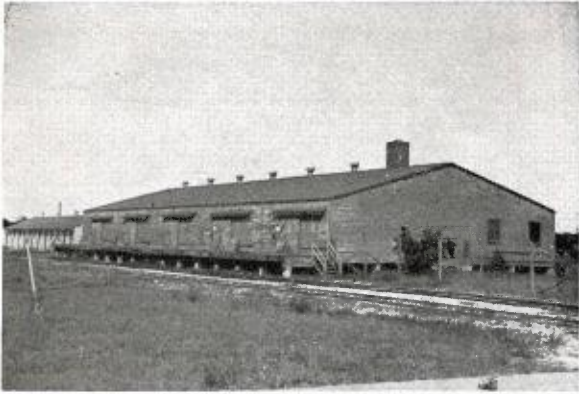
Control Tower



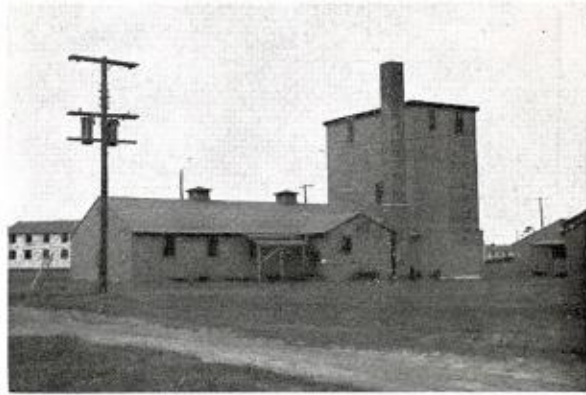
Sewage Disposal



Water Pumping Station



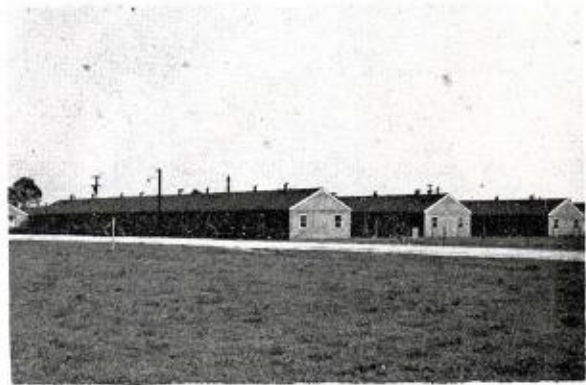
Building No. 914 Warehouse



Building No. 67 Parachute Loft



Building No. 68 Engine Repair



Apartment Houses



Building No. 910 Automotive Repair



GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Not only is the geographical location propitious in the influence of weather conditions, but it likewise offers advantages in national defense due to its protected situation and in supply, because of its centrality.

All sections of the state are readily accessible by the road system. The new Federal Highway No. 27 was advanced during the late war as a Defense Highway and transverses the center of the State from one end to the other with laterals to all important communities.



Building No. 40. Machine Shop

CLIMATE AND WEATHER

When the Army Air Forces occupied this field, they found the climate and the weather ideal, not only for flying but for other operations as well. They pointed with pride to the fact that in four years, only one day of scheduled flying was lost because of weather and that the weather also contributed signally to their marvelous safety record as shown here.

TOTAL NUMBER OF FLYING HOURS—453,000 (90,600,000 miles)

TOTAL NUMBER OF FATAL ACCIDENTS—8 (one for every 56,625 hours or 11,325,000 miles)

TOTAL NUMBER OF TAKE-OFFS—600,000

TOTAL NUMBER OF TAKE-OFF ACCIDENTS—5 (one for every 120,000 take-offs or eight-millionths of one percent of accident incidence)

TOTAL NUMBER OF LANDINGS—600,000

TOTAL NUMBER OF LANDING ACCIDENTS—46 (one for every 13,043 landings or seventy-six millionths of one percent accident incidence)

Army records also show that the incidence of common disease was less at Hendricks Field than at other military installations in the United States and that there was not one case of malaria contracted by a member of the personnel at this point.

Situated in almost the exact center of the peninsula of the state the area is comparatively free of fogs and has suffered very little from high winds. In fact, when storms threaten other sections, people from those points find safe haven in the central section and this airport has been designated by the Director of Aviation of the State, as the point of safe storage of planes during storms. Upon these occasions, there are so many planes brought here, that facilities for storing them are taxed to the extreme. Several thousand people have also been quartered here at these times.



Building No. 510 Club

Building	Army Use	Size	Sq. Ft.	Floor	Walls
1	Post Operation	108 x 126	9,229	Wood	Wood
2	Control Tower	15 x 15	225	Wood	Steel
5	Night Lighting	14 x 30	435	Concrete	Steel
10	Cadet Operation	108 x 126	11,000	Wood	Wood
11	Fire Station	44 x 96	4,224	Wood & Concrete	Wood
15	Ammunition	25 x 39	992	Concrete	Wood
16	Ammunition	25 x 27	682	Concrete	Steel
17	Chemicals	14 x 16	224	Concrete	Steel
20	Cadet Operations	108 x 126	11,000	Wood	Wood
22	Bomb Sights	24 x 41	1,000	Concrete	Concrete
38	Hangar	87 x 122	10,688	Concrete	Aluminum
40	Machine Shop	123 x 161	20,845	Concrete	Wood
42	Crew Chief	25 x 51	1,296	Concrete	Wood
43	Paint & Dope	13 x 26	366	Concrete	Concrete
44	Link Trainer	25 x 108	2,740	Concrete	Wood
60	Hanger	161 x 200	32,300	Concrete	Steel
63	Paint & Dope	25 x 54	1,372	Concrete	Asbestos
64	Instruments	65 x 136	8,908	Concrete	Wood
66	Storage	20 x 136	2,720	Concrete	Wood
67	Parachute	37 x 94	3,670	Concrete	Wood
68	Engine Repair	50 x 192	9,600	Concrete	Wood
70	Hangar	125 x 162	23,948	Concrete	Steel
83	Reclamation	25 x 50	1,000	Concrete	Wood
95	Armament	20 x 100	2,000	Concrete	Wood
118-O	Oil Storage	48,000 gals.		Concrete	Wood
119-G	Office	22 x 32	719	Wood	Wood
210	Telephone	25 x 90	2,284	Wood	Wood
300	Theatre	37 x 99	3,363	Concrete	Wood
510	Officer's Club	80 x 99	11,440	Wood	Wood
609	Mess	25 x 141	3,588	Wood	Wood
721	Automotive Rep.	37 x 84	3,108	Concrete	Wood
724-A	Lumber Storage	32 x 48	3,072	Wood	Wood
725	Paint Shop	25 x 27	688	Concrete	Wood
727	Warehouse	25 x 108	2,740	Concrete	Wood
733	Automotive Rep.	37 x 84	3,108	Concrete	Wood
901	Warehouse	60 x 153	9,190	Wood	Wood
902	Warehouse	60 x 153	9,190	Wood	Wood

Building	Army Use	Size	Sq. Ft.	Floor	Walls
903	Warehouse	60 x 153	9,190	Wood	Wood
904	Warehouse	60 x 153	9,190	Wood	Wood
905	Warehouse	100 x 200	20,500	Concrete	Wood
906	Warehouse	60 x 150	9,000	Wood	Wood
908	Warehouse	25 x 108	2,736	Concrete	Wood
910	Ordnance Rep.	37 x 84	3,108	Concrete	Wood
911	Warehouse	60 x 150	9,000	Wood	Wood
912	Warehouse	60 x 150	9,000	Wood	Wood
913	Warehouse	25 x 108	2,736	Concrete	Wood
914	Warehouse	60 x 150	9,000	Wood	Wood
999	Cold Storage	25 x 108	2,736	Concrete	Wood
1001	Radio Beacon				
105	Housing Adm.		2,758	Concrete	Concrete
A-Z	Apartments	31 Buildings		Concrete	Concrete

Water Supply Building

4	Elevated Reservoir	175 ft. high	150,000 gals.		
13	Pump House	40 x 42	1,639	Concrete	Brick
14	Reservoir	80 ft. dia.	375,000 gal.	Concrete	
14-A	Well House	9 x 12		Concrete	Wood
14-B	Well House	9 x 12		Concrete	Wood
14-C	Well House	10 x 12		Concrete	Wood

Sewage Disposal Buildings

70	Lift Station	9 x 12		Concrete	Wood
103	Lift Station	9 x 12		Concrete	Concrete
808	Lift Station	9 x 12		Concrete	Wood
1224	Lift Station	9 x 12		Concrete	Wood
111	Sewage	32 x 44	1,423	Concrete	Brick
112	Sludge Beds	51 x 82	4,157		Concrete
113	Digster	40 ft. dia.		Concrete	Concrete
114	Aero Filter	41 ft. dia.			Concrete
117	Settling Tanks	30 x 64	1,878	Concrete	Concrete

In addition to the above ninety-six buildings there are numerous miscellaneous structures including three swimming pools, a lighted tetrahedron, six concrete block buildings each 13' x 13' for paint and dope storage, grease racks, and pits, electric sub-station, etc.

HOUSING

There are 160 concrete construction apartments on the field, with an average of two bedrooms each. In the event such apartments are used as barracks, they would accommodate an average of 5 men each or a total of 800 men. A survey of housing conditions in the City of Sebring, which is only 4 miles from the field, will be furnished upon request.

RECREATION

Contrary to the general impression, summers in the Ridge section of Florida are not unbearably hot but, fanned by cool breezes, they are much more comfortable than most other states. As the winter seasons are mild, practically every day is an opportunity for out-of-doors recreation. This field is surrounded by lakes and streams of fresh water, well stocked for fine fishing. These waters are famous for their large-mouth black bass, bream, perch and crappies.

For organized recreation, there are three excellent swimming pools, six baseball and softball diamonds and two tennis courts on the property.

In Sebring there are two excellent 18 hole golf courses, shuffle board courts, tennis courts and many other attractions shown by the folder attached to the next sheet hereof.

CONCLUSION

It seems that the government should have some use for this splendid installation which cost millions of dollars to develop. In order to use its facilities, unless desired, it would not be necessary for the government to take over the entire installation, but all or any part of it is available. In the event only part is used agreeable arrangements could be made for the city to furnish utilities, fire protection and etc. at reasonable charges.