

**Department of Historic Resources
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

Accomack

DHR Id#: 001-0027-0022

Resource Identification

Property Name(s): WFF # D-012J - Sewage Treatment Plant
Chlorine Reactor Basin {Current}
Property Date: 1944
Address(s): Reeder Road {Current}
County/Independent City: Accomack
Vicinity of: Chincoteague
State, Zip: Virginia 23337
USGS Quad Name: CHINCOTEAGUE WEST
Surrounding area: Rural

<p>National Register Eligibility Status Property is Historic (50 years or older)</p>

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Public - Federal
Acreage: 0.5

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		
Structural System	Structural System - Masonry	Concrete	other
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		

Site Description: Part of the Sewage Treatment Plant complex located on the north side of Reeder Road. Property is located in a level area in the northeast quadrant of the complex at the base of a slope.

WUZIT Count:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Public Works	Historic

NR Resource Count:

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Public Works

<u>Est. Date of Construction:</u> 1944 {Owner/written data}	<u>Accessed?</u> Yes
<u>Primary Resource?</u> Yes	<u>Number of Stories:</u> 0.0
<u>Architectural Style:</u> Other	<u>Condition:</u> Good-Fair
<u>Interior Plan Type:</u> Other	<u>Threats to Resource:</u> Deterioration Neglect

Description: The two poured concrete tanks are sunken into the ground with the top edge just slightly above grade. The tanks are separated by a strip of grass in which two concrete hatch openings with double metal doors have been placed, at the north and south ends of the strip. Each tank is rectangular with two interior rectangular compartments. The compartments are covered with a metal piece divided into three equal sized sections; the outer sections contain grating while the center section contains a cylindrical metal motor housing and vent pipe that extends above the surface of the tank. The structures are surrounded by metal guardrails. The interior of the tanks each contain four concrete beams that extend the length of the interior of the tank, located approximately halfway down the tank. Two metal cross ties span across three of the beams, one at the south end covering the three outer beams and one at the north end of the tank, covering the three inner beams.

Cemetery Information

Bridge Information

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National Register Eligibility Information

Historic Context(s): Military/Defense

Historic Time Period(s):..... Q- World War I to World War II (1914-1945)

Significance Statement: This resource consists of two sunken, poured concrete tanks built in 1944. The tanks served as the chlorine reaction basins for the sewage treatment plant, one of two such complexes built on Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS) during World War II. The structure appears on a 1942 drawing entitled "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan, grouped with other buildings and structures of the "Sewage Plant." It is identified as "D-12H" on the 1950 "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" prepared by the U.S. Navy. The 1953 "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" prepared by the U.S. Navy identifies the structure as "Chlorine React. Basin – Sewage Disposal Plant." The tanks are located near the northeast corner of the sewage treatment plant, against the north edge of the fenced compound and at the base of a slope that rises to the west.

The utilitarian structure is a component of a sewage treatment plant constructed at the end of the World War I to II (1917-1945) period. The treatment plant was built to service CNAAS. Established in 1943, CNAAS was used as a training base for Navy aircraft carrier squadrons that would be serving in the Pacific theater of World War II, and to enable Civil Air Patrol to conduct antisubmarine operations off the Atlantic coast. In 1946, the U.S. Navy expanded the mission of CNAAS to include the Naval Air Ordnance Test Station (NAOTS). By 1949, the U.S. Navy discontinued aircraft carrier training and in 1951 CNAAS became a Naval Air Facility, with a primarily research-based mission that corresponded with the mission of NAOTS until the base was closed in 1959. In 1959, the ownership of CNAAS was transferred to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was renamed Wallops Station. Although it does not appear to be in use currently, the structure has essentially retained its original use throughout its history on the base.

The Sewage Treatment Plant Chlorine Reaction Basin has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

As an individual resource, it is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D as it is not associated with a significant event or individual at the local, state or national level; it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; nor does this property have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory.

The Sewage Treatment Plant Chlorine Reaction Basin retains its integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. Although remaining in its historic location, the structure's integrity of setting and association has been adversely affected by the changes made to the surrounding environment of the base of which it was a part; by 2004, the majority of buildings of this period have been demolished, changing the historic character of the physical environment of the structure's historic context.

Bibliographic Documentation

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Reference #: 1

Bibliographic RecordType: Map
Author: Giffels and Valet
Citation Abbreviation:
Notes: Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

Reference #: 2

Bibliographic RecordType: Map
Author: U.S. Navy
Citation Abbreviation:
Notes: "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1950.

Reference #: 3

Bibliographic RecordType: Map
Author: U.S. Navy
Citation Abbreviation:
Notes: "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

Ownership Information

Graphic Media Documentation

<i>Medium</i>	<i>Depository ID #</i>	<i>Photo Depository</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>File Name</i>
35mm B&W	21528	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 21-22
35mm B&W	21541	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 24-27

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

CRM Event # 1,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey
Date: 2003/08/08
Organization or Person: URS Group
VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571
CRM Event Notes or Comments: 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700
 Bethesda, MD 20814

CRM Event # 2,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey
Date: 2004/07/99
Organization or Person: URS Group
VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571
CRM Event Notes or Comments: 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
 Gaithersburg, MD 20878