MANAGEMENT PLAN
BUILDINGS PT-4, PT-5, AND PT-6
PARACHUTE TRAINING HISTORIC DISTRICT
MCB CAMP LEJEUNE

Significance of the Parachute Training Historic District

As part of the Marines' planned use of paratroop landings in offensive support of amphibious assaults, parachute training facilities were established at Camp Lejeune and at Camp Gillespie near San Diego, California, in mid-1942. Camp Lejeune's facilities included three steel training towers with associated equipment buildings (PT-4, PT-5, PT-6), a parachute storage and packing building (PT-1), a training building with airplane fuselage mock-ups (PT-2), jumping platforms, and a small heating plant (PT-3). After training four battalions of paratroop Marines at Camp Lejeune, the Marine Corps consolidated the Lejeune and Gillespie programs into one program stationed at Camp Gillespie in July 1943. The Marines discontinued their parachute training program altogether prior to the war's end because of its ineffectiveness as a weapon in the islands in the Pacific theater. Although somewhat short-lived, the Camp Lejeune parachute program served an important role in Camp Lejeune's overall mission of training and preparing personnel for combat roles.

By supplying parachute training, the three buildings contributing to the Parachute Training Historic District directly participated in and supported training critical to the survival of paratroop Marines. Associated with Camp Lejeune's primary mission during World War II, providing Marines with the skills and instruction necessary for conducting war, the Parachute Training Historic District meets significance criteria for the National Register as a "Training Facility" under the historic context "Marine Mobilization and Training." Built by the Marines expressly to instruct its personnel in parachute jumping and landing skills, the Parachute Training buildings also reflect the military's development of distinctive specialized structures utilized solely for training personnel in specific skills necessary for conducting war. As a result, the three Parachute Training buildings are also eligible for the National Register within the historic context "Marine Mobilization and Training" as specialized buildings developed by the military for the instruction of its personnel in parachute skills.

Treatment of Built Environment Category

The Parachute Training Historic District *as a whole* is a Category 2 resource since the district and its contributing resources possess sufficient significance, continuing or adaptive use potential, or other value to merit consideration for long-term preservation, and because they (a) have architectural value which is not central to defining or maintaining the character of the installation; (b) are good but not outstanding examples of the specialized architecture developed by the Marines to assist in the instruction of personnel; (c) can contribute to the interpretation of Camp Lejeune's history but are not central to that interpretation; (d) represent a significant investment of resources but not such a great investment that their destruction would constitute a major waste of such resources; and (e) have potential for continuing or adaptive use.

The properties should be subject to long-term preservation as long as their preservation does not impede the installation's or activity's mission, or require an unreasonably high expenditure of funds. Adaptive uses for the property should be actively sought.

The following table lists the buildings contributing to the historic district by building number, and provides the Treatment of Built Environment Category for each building.

PARACHUTE TRAINING HISTORIC DISTRICT
TREATMENT OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT CATEGORIES
FOR CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

Building No.	Original Use	Current Use	Treatment of Built Environment Category
PT-4	Captive Parachute Tower Building	Base Game Warden	2
PT-5	Free Parachute Tower Building	Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) Station	2
PT-6	Controlled Parachute Tower Building	Administration Building	2

The following table enumerates the contributing buildings composing Category 2 buildings, listed by building number.

PARACHUTE TRAINING HISTORIC DISTRICT
TREATMENT OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT CATEGORY 2 BUILDINGS
LISTED BY BUILDING NUMBER

Building No.	Original Use	Current Use	Treatment of Built Environment Category
PT-4	Captive Parachute Tower Building	Base Game Warden	2
PT-5	Free Parachute Tower Building	Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) Station	2
PT-6	Controlled Parachute Tower Building	Administration Building	2

Treatment Goals for the Parachute Training Buildings

- Maintain the historical integrity of the individual historic properties.
- Continue to use the historic buildings in manners consistent with their historic character and that minimize major alterations.
- Utilize modern materials, such as vinyl siding and aluminum, in ways that maintain the buildings' historic exterior appearance.
- Avoid intrusions onto the historic properties.

Design Standards for the Parachute Training Buildings

As the historic district consists of discontiguous historical properties, and the three Parachute Training buildings possess common architectural characteristics and historical significance, the following design standards apply to all three buildings.

1. Contributing Site Features

- Relative isolation of the individual buildings from one another and from other buildings
- Lack of strong orientation to nearby road networks
- Surrounding open space

Appropriate Treatments

- Retain the buildings' relative isolation with respect to one another and other buildings.
- Maintain the surrounding open space.
- Locate new construction outside the boundaries of the historic properties.
- When new construction must occur within the historic property boundaries, utilize smaller massing for the new construction.

2. Contributing Elements of Building Configuration and Orientation

- Two-and-one-half-story square block
- Square plan
- Pyramidal roof with central square pyramidal roofed cupola tower
- Entrances located on opposing elevations

Appropriate Treatments

- Maintain elements that identify the buildings' association with parachute training: common rooflines and shapes, scale, and external symmetry.
- Avoid additions or other alterations that disrupt the external symmetry of the buildings or their cupola towers.
- Maintain the building approaches and entrances.
- Maintain consistency with respect to exterior alterations of the buildings.

3. Contributing Elements of Circulation

Circulation patterns do not contribute to the National Register eligibility of the Parachute Training Buildings.

4. Contributing Elements of Landscaping

- Open space and lawns surrounding the individual buildings
- Concrete footers for former parachute towers in yards adjacent to training buildings

Appropriate Treatments

- Retain existing open space and lawns to greatest extent possible.
- Retain concrete footers of former parachute towers for interpretive value.

5. Contributing Elements of Building Exteriors

- Specialized utilitarian building form
- Symmetrical elevations
- Molded wood box cornices
- Slender metal-sheathed openings on each of PT-4's main roof slopes formerly used as cable guides
- Square metal drying vents flanking central window bays on opposing first-story elevations
- Stuccoed exterior walls painted white

Appropriate Treatments

- Maintain building heights, roof shapes, rooflines, and exterior symmetries.
- Replacement elements should visually resemble the original elements.
- New vinyl siding and aluminum elements should maintain a building's historic exterior appearance and be compatible with original in terms of visual qualities.

6. Contributing Characteristics of Wall Openings

- Metal multi-paned industrial sash with pivoting awning windows on PT-4 and PT-5
- Wooden multiple-light sliding sash window units on PT-6
- Metal doors with wire glass upper lights on PT-4 and PT-5
- Wooden doors with horizontal panels and upper lights on PT-6
- Cast stone sills

Appropriate Treatments

- Maintain traditional spacing, size, and shapes of openings.
- Maintain traditional locations of entrances.
- When blocking openings, recess the infill to maintain consistent wall relief, in a material compatible with existing exterior walls.

- New vinyl or metal windows or fiberglass or metal doors should maintain traditional appearance.

7. Contributing Characteristics of Interiors

- First-story open floor plans with enclosed machine rooms in PT-4 and PT-5
- Enclosed cupola parachute drying area in PT-4 and PT-5

Appropriate Treatments

- Retain the first-story open floor plans in PT-5 as long as feasible in the context of the military mission.
- Retain the enclosed cupola drying areas in PT-4 and PT-5 as long as feasible in the context of the military mission.
- Alter interior spaces in ways that avoid changes to building exteriors.