

Historic Quad Buildings Renovated

By Ms. Aiko Brum

During a three-year renovation project beginning in 2004, contractors restored historic C Quad at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, to its original architectural design at the turn of the century, complete with period colors and double-cased windows. Due to being included on the National Register of Historic Places, the exterior of the buildings in C Quad remains unchanged, while the interiors were renovated to meet the current Army standards. C Quad—now home to a full-size gym and basketball court, a company-level conference room, and the latest amenities for Soldiers living in the barracks—awaits the return of 2d Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, from Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Built during the 1915 to 1918 timeframe, C Quad was part of a large building campaign that focused on infantry regiments. The configuration of four buildings surrounding a central courtyard forms the concept of the “quad.” Two of the buildings were barracks and the other two housed administrative offices. Like its contemporaries, C Quad consists of some of the earliest concrete-paneled buildings constructed in Hawaii. The buildings look much as they did on 7 December 1941, when the Japanese attacked Wheeler Army Airfield, or in 1953, when they were the filming site for the movie version of “From Here to Eternity.” Because of the renovations, the history of this quad will live on.

The quad concept required preparing the design and construction of the four, three-story concrete buildings to include living quarters, community activities, company operations, battalion headquarters, and dining facilities. Demolition and renovation of these historical buildings had to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act.

In addition, the Army’s Whole Barracks Renewal Program requires transformation of facilities to comply with 21st century building codes and antiterrorism and force protection standards. The mandate greatly challenges installation commanders, because it requires that barracks designed for high-volume occupancy be converted into suites. For example, the two C Quad barracks once housed 1,500 Soldiers. Now,



Original C Quad interior

36 single-occupant and 132 one-plus-one rooms (2 private bedrooms with shared living areas) will house junior enlisted Soldiers and noncommissioned officers for a total of 300 Soldiers.

The suites feature separate bedrooms and a common bathroom with a sink, toilet, and tub-shower and a kitchen with a full-size refrigerator, range, and microwave oven. Each barracks floor also contains a dayroom, which is a common entertainment or recreational area.

In total, C Quad required renovation of 288,000 square feet of facilities. The two barracks were gutted down to their slabs, and then recreated by contractors. All exterior utilities and pavement were replaced, and the center courtyard was restored.

In spite of modifications, the project was able to maintain its heritage and historical features and stay true to historic designs. The quad provides facilities for five company



Original C Quad barracks



Newly renovated C Quad and courtyard

headquarters, to include a supply area, arms rooms, and company offices, as well as the battalion headquarters building with a state-of-the-art dining facility, battalion administrative and headquarters offices, and a consolidated Soldiers' lounge. The facilities have the most up-to-date communications, safety, and security systems.

A \$58 million, 400,000 man-hour project, C Quad is one of a series in barracks renewal projects that will provide Soldiers stationed in Hawaii with "a quality of life commensurate with

the quality of service" they provide. Three out of five historical quads at Schofield Barracks are now available for occupancy or are in progress. Next year, four more will begin renovations: two at Schofield Barracks, one at Fort Shafter, and one at Wheeler Army Airfield. 

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