

**FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT
9 HANGAR (BUILDING 112)
CFB TRENTON, QUINTE WEST, ONTARIO**

FHBRO number: 03-027
DFRP number: 09540
Resource name: 9 Hangar (Building 112)
Address: 84 North Star Drive, 8 Wing, CFB Trenton, Quinte West, Ontario
FHBRO status: "Recognized" Federal Heritage Building
Construction: 1953
Designer: Standard design by Ross Patterson Townsend and Fish, architects
Original function: Aircraft maintenance facility
Current function: Maintenance hangar for the 424 Transport & Rescue Squadron
Modifications: Addition of office space along the north side (1969), construction of a parachute drying well at Northeast end.
Custodian: Department of National Defense

Description of Historic Place

9 Hangar is a standard 160-foot span structural steel-arched design, consisting of an arched long-span hangar space, flanked by lateral offices tucked into the side of the arch. Its central entrances are equipped with large panel doors on each end elevation, which slide into two large brick-clad pocket door towers. Situated at the end of a row of hangars along the edge of the airstrip, it is bounded by highway #2 and by runway aprons. The designation is confined to the footprint of the building.

Heritage Value

9 Hangar is a "Recognized" Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values.

Historical value:

Intended to service larger planes that allowed for the transport of troops overseas, 9 Hangar illustrates the expansion of the military during the Cold War era to meet international treaty commitments, such as NATO. It was the first major building erected at CFB Trenton during the Cold War era and is a good example of the third and last phase of development of the base and of its role as a major air transport hub during this period.

Architectural value:

9 Hangar is a good example of modern industrial aesthetic and of the standard 160-foot span structural steel arched hangar design commonly built at Canadian air force bases during the 1950's. Designed by the well-known firm of Ross Patterson Townsend and Fish, it offers a rational response to the strict functional requirements of aircraft maintenance, possesses a clean and crisp modern industrial aesthetic, and has endured well thanks to its durable good quality materials and competent craftsmanship.

Environmental value:

Through its location at the end of a line of hangars and its distinctive design, 9 Hangar reinforces the present character of the central operational area of the base. The building has retained its

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operational relationship with the airfield and remains a familiar landmark to the community of the base thanks to its large size and prominent location.

Character-Defining Elements

The following character-defining elements of 9 Hangar should be respected:

Its role as an illustration of the Cold War build-up of Canada's Armed Forces to meet its commitments to international military preparedness and the deployment of personnel to international destinations for overseas operations, as reflected in:

- The standard design which is a simple and elegant engineering solution that successfully accommodates the functional requirements of a hangar by creating a large interior space suitable for housing and servicing aircraft.

Its modern industrial aesthetic, functionally progressive design and competent craftsmanship and standard good quality materials, as manifested in:

- The simplicity and clarity of its unadorned, functionally expressive and integrated large-scale composition;
- The simple, balanced symmetrical massing of the large barrel-vault flanked on both sides by two-storey office blocks;
- The tried and true structural design made up of bowstring steel trusses built on a concrete foundation which span 160 feet to a height of approximately 60 feet;
- The honest expression of the long span, three-hinged segmented steel truss arches which frame the roof and whose girders spring directly from the abutments, creating a large, austere, column-free and extremely flexible interior space suitable for storage and maintenance of aircraft;
- The end elevations with their large doors that slide into massive rectangular brick-clad pocket towers, and smaller openings at their apex intended for taller aircraft tail assemblies;
- The use of standard and effective materials, such as steel and concrete block;
- The ribbon windows of the side elevations which emphasize the building's strong horizontal expression.

The manner in which the building reinforces the character of the central operational area of the base as a military airfield, its relationship to the site and role as a familiar landmark on the base as evidenced by:

- The prominence of the 9 hangar due to its size and location at the end of a cohesive row of hangars;
- Its compatibility with the adjacent group of buildings set in the large open space of the airfield and its relationship to the adjacent runway aprons.

For guidance on interventions, please refer to the *FHBRO Code of Practice*. For further information contact FHBRO.

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