808 AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON

808 Rochester AFS, MN TPS-1D 1956 08-Sep-57 Closed due to budget cuts. Was a "slave site" ("manned gap-filler") to the 674th AC&W Sqdn. at Osceola AFS, WI.

The 808th AC&W Squadron began operations in 1956 with an AN/TPS-ID radar. Due to budget cuts, it was removed from service in 1957.

22.2 acres fee and 0.81 easement acres were acquired and the Air Force constructed and operated Rochester Air Force Station, which included 11 structures, between 1954 and 1957. The radar station was excessed by the Air Force to GSA in July 1958, which conveyed the property in 1959 to the Minnesota State Dept of Health, Education, and Welfare. It was then conveyed to Penz Farms, Inc in the late 1960s or early 1970s. The facility, as it existed at the time of the 1996 report, consisted of eight major buildings one mess hall, a large garage or shop, and two buildings possibly used for storage. Lesser buildings consist of a pump house for water supply and a small building, possibly used for sewer outfall monitoring. The large, earth-mounded water supply reservoir is still in use.

Penz Farms, the current owner at the time of the 1996 report, was using the site, buildings, and water supply, with exception of the sewer-monitoring building, which was not being used. Two of the 'old' barracks had been remodeled and are currently rental units, with the other two barracks used for farm and related activity storage, as is the mess hall and the other two storage buildings. The largest building on the complex is being used as a shop/garage. The site is generally cluttered with new, used, and 'junked' farm and other equipment.

808th AC&W Squadron: activated 20 Jun 53 at Snelling AFS, MN, as the 31st Air Division; moved to Rochester, MN on ca. Sep 55; inactivated on 8 Sep 57.

Air Force Lineage and Honors Created: 29 Jul 2020 Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.