



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District

News Release

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Release No. 04-18
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For Release: August 19, 2004
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Corps pauses Spring Valley Lot 18 work until new fiscal year

Baltimore - The dig at Lot 18 in the Spring Valley neighborhood of Washington, D.C., has temporarily stopped until the new fiscal year, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, officials announced today.

Since June 24 when the present dig began, 474 55-gallon drums of soil have been excavated and about 890 items recovered. Seven items are undergoing further analysis. Results are not yet available.

All of the other items are "scrap." Fewer than 30 of these are ordnance-related scrap, such as expended fuzes, empty projectile casings and broken pieces of munitions. Examples of the other types of items recovered are: empty or broken test tubes and bottles, other broken glassware and ceramic pieces, construction debris like pipes and bricks, battery components and horseshoes.

The work is being done with numerous safety measures including a large, airtight tent over the dig site.

"We stopped digging Aug. 10 to reposition the tent and await results of the items sent for analysis," said Craig Georg, project manager. The tent move was completed Tuesday.

"It was always the plan to pause when we were near the end of this year's funding," Georg said. "We are at a good stopping point now."

The Corps expects to re-start digging in mid-October when Fiscal Year 2005 funds should be available.

Lot 18 is located on the southeastern edge of the American University campus adjacent to homes on Rockwood Parkway. The Lot 18 investigation is part of the Corps' ongoing cleanup of the former World War I defense site in Spring Valley.

For periodic project updates, call the Spring Valley information line at 1-800-434-0988, or visit the project web site, <http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/projects/WashingtonDC/springvalley.htm>.