

Public Notice

Renovation and Rehabilitation of the Castle Gatehouse U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Washington Aqueduct Georgetown Reservoir, District of Columbia

All Interested Parties: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (NAB) is in the process of renovating and rehabilitating the Castle Gatehouse located at the Washington Aqueduct's Georgetown Reservoir. The Castle Gatehouse ('Castle') was constructed circa 1900 and is listed on the National Register for Historic Places; it is a historic property and well-known landmark within the District of Columbia. The Castle Gatehouse is also an integral functioning part of the Washington Aqueduct's water treatment system, which provides potable water and water supply for other municipal uses in the District of Columbia, and areas in Arlington and Fairfax Counties in Virginia.

In August 2024, during the repair and replacement of severely deteriorated brick on the southern two turrets of the Castle, the turrets were dismantled down to their bases as it became clear they were in poorer condition than previously known during project planning and prior National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) consultation. To stabilize the building, the turrets are being reconstructed to match their original appearance and design.

In accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA (and its implementing regulation at 36 CFR § 800.6), NAB has determined the unfortunate loss of large amounts of the original historic fabric of the two turrets and the reconstruction of major elements of the Castle have resulted in an adverse effect to the historic property. To mitigate the adverse effect to the historic property, NAB is actively working with the D.C. State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO), the National Park Service– National Historic Landmark Review Team, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to determine what mitigation will be appropriate to address this adverse effect and to determine the appropriate approach for the rest of the undertaking. The mitigative stipulations agreed to will be recorded in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the NAB Commander and the DC SHPO. NAB will continuously work with the consulting parties to review remaining repair tasks needed to fully restore this operational gatehouse. Additional project information is available upon request, and via the USACE website:

<https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Missions/Washington-Aqueduct/>

This Public Notice is intended for organizations and individuals with an interest in consulting on the undertaking and participating in drafting the MOA. Please submit statements of interest to participate as a consulting party, comments, and/or questions within 30 days of the date of this notice to: Ms. Eva Falls, Cultural Resources Program Manager, by email at nab-pao@usace.army.mil.