

Agency Official 106 Effect Report

*Installation of Storm Windows on Superintendent's House (Quarters #2)
Fredericksburg Battlefield*

**U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park
120 Chatham Lane
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405**

Description and Purpose of Undertaking

Purpose

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park (FRSP) was authorized by an act of Congress on February 14, 1927 (44 Stat. 1091). The purpose of the park, as stated in the act, is “mark and preserve historical points connected with the battles of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania Court House, Wilderness, and Chancellorsville, including Salem Church ...” By Executive Order 6166 in 1933 the park was transferred from the War Department to the Department of the Interior to be administered by the National Park Service.

The Superintendent's House was built 1938-1939 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. For forty years the building served as a residence for the park's superintendents and their families. For the past thirty years, it has been used as housing for the park's temporary and seasonal staff. Occasionally, it has also housed park offices.

Need

In 2004, the park replaced the old oil heat system with a condenser and heat pump system that serves both the building's heating and cooling system. In order to improve the system's efficiency and the overall climate control within the building, the park is now proposing to install storm windows on the interior of all the building's windows.

Property Description

A. Major Physical Components – The Superintendent's House sits along Lee Drive, the primary park tour road through the Fredericksburg Battlefield. The house and driveway is surrounded by woods on all sides.

B. Architectural Significance – The Superintendent's House was constructed over the period 1938-1939 and represents the Colonial Revival design movement of the early 20th century. In the most recent draft of the park's National Register of Historic Places documentation update, the Superintendent's House (NR # FR0131a) is considered a contributing structure under the park's subtheme: Military Park Development by the War Department, Civilian Conservation Corps, and the National Park Service – 1927 to 1956. The Superintendent's House is on the park's List of Classified Structures (LCS) – LCS#82064

C. Historical Significance – The Superintendent's House was constructed over the period 1938-1939. In the most recent draft of the park's National Register of Historic Places documentation update, the Superintendent's House (NR # FR0131a) is considered a contributing structure under

the park's subtheme: Military Park Development by the War Department, Civilian Conservation Corps, and the National Park Service – 1927 to 1956.

Description of Alternatives

Alternative A – No Action

This alternative would fail to address the need for improved climate control within the Superintendent's House.

Alternative B - Installation of Exterior Storm Windows

Under this alternative, exterior storm windows would be installed on all thirty-three (33) windows of the Superintendent's House. While this would fulfill the need of providing improved climate control within the building, the addition of a new exterior element to the building might alter the appearance of the structure. Exterior windows might also obscure features of the original wood windows. This alternative could result in an adverse effect on the historic qualities of the building.

Alternative C - Installation of Interior Storm Windows (Preferred Alternative)

Under this alternative, interior storm windows would be installed on all thirty-three (33) windows of the Superintendent's House. Each storm window would be custom made to fit the interior dimensions of the corresponding window. Twenty-eight (28) of the windows are double hung sash. These storm windows will be operable, interior mounted, aluminum framed removable storm sash panels. They will be magnetically secured and sealed at jambs, sill and head in aluminum channels. The units shall be the full height of the existing window opening, removable, with two glass panels - top panel fixed and bottom panel operable in sash frame.

The glass shall be double strength B Grade (1/8" minimum). Where the two pieces of the storm window meet for the 28 double hung sash windows, they will be separated by a sash that is of the same height as the sash of the corresponding wood window. Installation will require the drilling of 8 small holes into the wood window frame of each window for screws that will attach the metal jamb, sill and head frame to which the storm window will be magnetically attached. The aluminum frame will be painted to match the existing wood frame of the window.

Five (5) of the windows are casement. For these storm windows, the construction and installation will be the same, but the windows will not be operable. They will be a single piece of glass.

Description of Mitigation Measures

1. Park staff visited James Madison's Montpelier in Orange County and met with the site's director of facilities. Montpelier recently installed interior storm windows and this FRSP project is modeled off the scope of work that Montpelier used.

Park Consultation

The proposal is being circulated to the park's Section-106 advisor for historic architecture for his review and comments.

The proposal will go through a 30-day public comment and review period. During this time, the project will be posted on the NPS public website. The park has contacted representatives of interested local organizations, such as Mary Washington College's Department of Historic Preservation, the Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table, the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, the City of Fredericksburg and the Friends of the Fredericksburg Battlefield. No

The project will be sent for a 30-day comment and review period to the Virginia SHPO.

Effect Analysis

It is the park's opinion that, as proposed, this project adheres to the Secretary's "Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings." It is the park's belief that the project, as proposed, will result in the better long-term overall preservation and of the structure. For this reason, the park's opinion is that this undertaking will have "no adverse effect" on architectural resources.

Attached Supporting Documentation

- A. Park Map
- B. Photos
- C. Scope of Work

Conclusion

At important historic sites, the proposed undertaking would foster fulfillment of the park's General Management directives to protect cultural resources. This project will have "no adverse effect" upon historic resources.

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