



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Vancouver
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Fort Vancouver National Historic Site: McLoughlin House Unit News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Fort Vancouver Announces Release of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for McLoughlin House Unit Management Plan / Environmental Assessment



Superintendent Tracy Fortmann has announced the signing of the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the McLoughlin House Unit. "We are very excited by this critical step in taking over management of the McLoughlin House and look forward to beginning to implement the recommendations in the plan. The McLoughlin House Unit is an exceptional site of international importance and worthy of thoughtful attention and action," said Fortmann.

The purpose of the Management Plan is to implement the legislation passed by Congress to include the former McLoughlin House National Historic Site as part of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and to provide the National Park Service, the McLoughlin Memorial Association and other stakeholders with long-term guidance for the management of the McLoughlin House Unit. Implementation of the plan will preserve and protect the McLoughlin and Barclay Houses and their associated landscape and help park visitors to better understand the history and significance of the lives of Dr. John McLoughlin, Dr. Forbes Barclay, and their families.

The selected plan would use the best available strategies to preserve the historic character of the McLoughlin House and the Barclay House and the condition of the collections, to provide for on-site administrative offices, and to allow for optimum visitor use and enjoyment of the site. Some of the key features of the plan include partial restoration of the exterior of the McLoughlin House to the 1846-1867 period and partial removal of later modern additions. Interior furnishings and exhibits not related to Dr. McLoughlin would be removed. The Barclay House would continue to be adaptively used for administrative offices, visitor contact, and other public uses; however, some of the uses in the various rooms would be changed to better reflect NPS needs. Further, bathrooms accessible to persons with disabilities would be added at the back of the Barclay House. A Cultural Landscape Report would be prepared to guide site planning and restoration of cultural landscape elements.

Copies of the FONSI and corrections to the Management Plan and responses to public comments are available by accessing the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) system website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/fova> or by contacting Pacific West Region Landscape Architect Cheryl Teague at (206) 220-4112. More information can be obtained by calling the Visitor Center at Fort Vancouver at (360) 816-6230 or the Barclay House at (503) 656-5151 or accessing the park's website located at <http://www.nps.gov/fova>.

The McLoughlin House Unit Management Plan will now be incorporated into the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site General Management Plan. Release of this plan is targeted for late 2007 or early 2008.

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