

Public Notice

Proposed Demolition of Building 375, Steam Sterilization Plant U.S. Army Garrison Fort Detrick Frederick, Maryland

All Interested Parties: The U.S. Army Garrison Fort Detrick (Fort Detrick) is proposing to demolish the old Steam Sterilization Plant (SSP), Building 375 at Fort Detrick located in Frederick, Maryland, and is reviewing this action in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The SSP was constructed in 1953 and is eligible for listing on the National Register for Historic Places (NRHP). It is understood by Ft. Detrick that the demolition of the SSP is an "adverse effect" to a historic property; however, no other potential reuse of the building is viable.

The SSP was used as a secondary backup treatment system to ensure infectious research materials were not released by laboratories into the general sanitary sewer system as a safety protocol. Over the years the SSP and its mechanical equipment have deteriorated, and eventually the SSP was operating below optimal capacity. The SSP was shut down in 2018, and a new SSP was constructed elsewhere on the installation. Due to the contaminated nature of the building, it cannot be safely adaptively reused or retrofitted for another purpose by the Army. Once the building has been demolished, the area will be converted into green space to meet Maryland's Department of Environment compliance requirements for necessary storm water management and water quality credits.

To mitigate the loss of the historic property, Fort Detrick is working with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office (MDSHPO) to determine what mitigation actions would be appropriate. The mitigations agreed to will be recorded in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that the Fort Detrick Garrison Commander and the (MDSHPO) shall sign.

This Public Notice is being sent out to organizations and individuals that could have an interest in consulting on this undertaking. Please submit comments and/or questions within 30 days of the date of this notice to: Joseph Gortva by phone at 301-619-3196 or by email at joseph.j.gortva.civ@mail.mil.