



Media Release

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Public Comment Period Open on Building Disposition Report

Honolulu, Hawaii (February 21, 2024) — Army invites public comments on a Building Disposition Report for Demolition of 15 inter-War Era historic houses at Fort Shafter Military Reservation, Oahu, Hawaii.

The U.S. Army is planning to demolish a neighborhood of 15 historic houses and associated landscape features at Fort Shafter Military Reservation. The houses and the neighborhood, known as Rice Manor, were constructed between 1941 and 1943. Rice Manor has been vacant since 2010 because the houses contain lead-based paint and asbestos hazards and no longer comply with the Army or Department of Defense standards for Family Housing. After demolition, the Army intends to lease or transfer the land to the State of Hawaii Department of Education for the construction of a new elementary school.

National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 compliance for demolition of Rice Manor is governed by the Program Comment for Department of the Army Program Inter-War Era Historic Housing, Associated Buildings and Structures and Landscape Features (Program Comment). The Program Comment requires the Army to prepare a Building Disposition Report and provide it to the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Native Hawaiian organizations, and the public for a 30-day comment period.

The Building Disposition Report, along with the full text of the Program Comment, is available through the Section 106 Consultation & Public Notices tab of U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii Cultural Resources web page: <https://home.army.mil/hawaii/garrison/dpw/cultural-resources>. Additional information about the Program Comment, including the associated historic contexts, can be found at <https://www.denix.osd.mil/army-pchh>.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide comments on the Building Disposition Report no later than March 21, 2024. Comments on the Report should identify if the reviewer believes there is a major deficiency in following the demolition procedure specified in the Program Comment Section 3.2.5.1a-f. A major deficiency means that a required step in the Program Comment has been entirely omitted, not reasonably addressed, or is substantially incomplete. Please send all comments or questions about the Building Disposition Report to the U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii by email at usarmy.hawaii.crmp@mail.mil.