

Appendix A – Coordination

NEPA ID EAXX-007-21-001-1736758141



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Long Island Ecological Services Field Office
340 Smith Road
Shirley, NY 11967-2258
Phone: (631) 286-0485 Fax: (631) 286-4003



In Reply Refer To:

03/21/2025 18:17:53 UTC

Project code: 2024-0117153

Project Name: Child Development Center at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY

Federal Nexus: yes

Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Army

Subject: Federal agency coordination under the Endangered Species Act, Section 7 for 'Child Development Center at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY'

Dear Eric Pasay:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on March 21, 2025, for "Child Development Center at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY" (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2024-0117153 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number.

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into the IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project. Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northeast Determination Key (DKey), invalidates this letter. **Answers to certain questions in the DKey commit the project proponent to implementation of conservation measures that must be followed for the ESA determination to remain valid.**

To make a no effect determination, the full scope of the proposed project implementation (action) should not have any effects (either positive or negative effect(s)), to a federally listed species or designated critical habitat. Effects of the action are all consequences to listed species or critical habitat that are caused by the proposed action, including the consequences of other activities that are caused by the proposed action. A consequence is caused by the proposed action if it would not occur but for the proposed action and it is reasonably certain to occur. Effects of the action may occur later in time and may include consequences occurring outside the immediate area involved in the action. (See § 402.17). Under Section 7 of the ESA, if a federal action agency makes a no effect determination, no further consultation with, or concurrence from, the Service is

required (ESA §7). If a proposed Federal action may affect a listed species or designated critical habitat, formal consultation is required (except when the Service concurs, in writing, that a proposed action "is not likely to adversely affect" listed species or designated critical habitat [50 CFR §402.02, 50 CFR§402.13]).

The IPaC results indicated the following species is (are) potentially present in your project area and, based on your responses to the Service's Northeast DKey, you determined the proposed Project will have the following effect determinations:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Rufa Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Threatened	No effect

Conclusion If there are no updates on listed species, no further consultation/coordination for this project is required for the species identified above. However, the Service recommends that project proponents re-evaluate the Project in IPaC if: 1) the scope, timing, duration, or location of the Project changes (includes any project changes or amendments); 2) new information reveals the Project may impact (positively or negatively) federally listed species or designated critical habitat; or 3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs, additional consultation with the Service should take place before project implements any changes which are final or commits additional resources.

In addition to the species listed above, the following species and/or critical habitats may also occur in your project area and are not covered by this conclusion:

- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Proposed Threatened

Please Note: If the Action may impact bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (54 Stat. 250, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 668a-d) by the prospective permittee may be required. Please contact the Migratory Birds Permit Office, (413) 253-8643, or PermitsR5MB@fws.gov, with any questions regarding potential impacts to Eagles.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further assistance, please contact the Long Island Ecological Services Field Office and reference the Project Code associated with this Project.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Child Development Center at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Child Development Center at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY':

The U.S. Department of the Army is proposing to construct and operate a new child development center facility at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn, Kings County, NY. The new child development center would be constructed on an approximately 95,000 sq ft site bordered by the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge, Garrison Headquarters, Holiday Inn Express, and White Avenue. The site has been previously disturbed and is located within in a highly developed area of the installation. Existing site conditions include a gravel parking lot, paved walkways and streets, and turf lawn with trees and shrubs. Construction would include a new single-story building (16,632 sq ft), three outdoor playgrounds (16,667 sq ft), 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features. White Avenue and Schum Avenue would be repaved within the project footprint. Up to 14 trees would be removed during site preparation. Trees would be replaced on the installation in accordance with the installation's tree replacement guidelines. During construction, equipment would access the site using existing paved roadways within the installation. Staging and material laydown would utilize an existing paved parking lot next to the construction site, across White Avenue. Construction is dependent on the availability of funding and is anticipated to occur in 2026. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, is supporting the project design and environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA review is expected to conclude in early 2025.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.6113313,-74.02879140641775,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. As a representative of this project, do you agree that all items submitted represent the complete scope of the project details and you will answer questions truthfully?

Yes

2. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of listed species?

Note: This question could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered, or proposed species.

No

3. Is the action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

Yes

4. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) the lead agency for this project?

No

5. Are you including in this analysis all impacts to federally listed species that may result from the entirety of the project (not just the activities under federal jurisdiction)?

Note: If there are project activities that will impact listed species that are considered to be outside of the jurisdiction of the federal action agency submitting this key, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office to determine whether it is appropriate to use this key. If your Ecological Services Field Office agrees that impacts to listed species that are outside the federal action agency's jurisdiction will be addressed through a separate process, you can answer yes to this question and continue through the key.

Yes

6. Are you the lead federal action agency or designated non-federal representative requesting concurrence on behalf of the lead Federal Action Agency?

No

7. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)?

No

8. Is the lead federal action agency the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)?

No

9. Is the lead federal action agency the Natural Resources Conservation Service?

No

10. Will the proposed project involve the use of herbicide where listed species are present?

No

11. Are there any caves or anthropogenic features suitable for hibernating or roosting bats within the area expected to be impacted by the project?

Yes

12. Does any component of the project associated with this action include activities or structures that may pose a collision risk to **birds** (e.g., plane-based surveys, land-based or offshore wind turbines, communication towers, high voltage transmission lines, any type of towers with or without guy wires)?

Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

No

13. Does any component of the project associated with this action include activities or structures that may pose a collision risk to **bats** (e.g., plane-based surveys, land-based or offshore wind turbines)?

Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

No

14. Will the proposed project result in permanent changes to water quantity in a stream or temporary changes that would be sufficient to result in impacts to listed species?

For example, will the proposed project include any activities that would alter stream flow, such as water withdrawal, hydropower energy production, impoundments, intake structures, diversion structures, and/or turbines? Projects that include temporary and limited water reductions that will not displace listed species or appreciably change water availability for listed species (e.g. listed species will experience no changes to feeding, breeding or sheltering) can answer "No". Note: This question refers only to the amount of water present in a stream, other water quality factors, including sedimentation and turbidity, will be addressed in following questions.

No

15. Will the proposed project affect wetlands where listed species are present?

This includes, for example, project activities within wetlands, project activities within 300 feet of wetlands that may have impacts on wetlands, water withdrawals and/or discharge of contaminants (even with a NPDES).

No

16. Will the proposed project activities (including upland project activities) occur within 0.125 miles of the water's edge of a stream or tributary of a stream where listed species may be present?

No

17. Will the proposed project directly affect a streambed (below ordinary high water mark (OHWM)) of the stream or tributary where listed species may be present?

No

18. Will the proposed project bore underneath (directional bore or horizontal directional drill) a stream where listed species may be present?

No

19. Will the proposed project involve a new point source discharge into a stream or change an existing point source discharge (e.g., outfalls; leachate ponds) where listed species may be present?

No

20. Will the proposed project involve the removal of excess sediment or debris, dredging or in-stream gravel mining where listed species may be present?

No

21. Will the proposed project involve the creation of a new water-borne contaminant source where listed species may be present?

Note New water-borne contaminant sources occur through improper storage, usage, or creation of chemicals. For example: leachate ponds and pits containing chemicals that are not NSF/ANSI 60 compliant have contaminated waterways. Sedimentation will be addressed in a separate question.

No

22. Will the proposed project involve perennial stream loss, in a stream or tributary of a stream where listed species may be present, that would require an individual permit under 404 of the Clean Water Act?

No

23. Will the proposed project involve blasting where listed species may be present?

No

24. Will the proposed project include activities that could negatively affect fish movement temporarily or permanently (including fish stocking, harvesting, or creation of barriers to fish passage).

No

25. Will the proposed project involve earth moving that could cause erosion and sedimentation, and/or contamination along a stream or tributary of a stream where listed species may be present?

Note: Answer "Yes" to this question if erosion and sediment control measures will be used to protect the stream.

No

26. Will the proposed project impact streams or tributaries of streams where listed species may be present through activities such as, but not limited to, valley fills, large-scale vegetation removal, and/or change in site topography?

No

27. Will the proposed project involve vegetation removal within 200 feet of a perennial stream bank where aquatic listed species may be present?

No

28. Will erosion and sedimentation control Best Management Practices (BMPs) associated with applicable state and/or Federal permits, be applied to the project? If BMPs have been provided by and/or coordinated with and approved by the appropriate Ecological Services Field Office, answer "Yes" to this question.

Yes

29. Is the project being funded, lead, or managed in whole or in part by U.S Fish and Wildlife Restoration and Recovery Program (e.g., Partners, Coastal, Fisheries, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration, Refuges)?

No

30. Will the proposed project result in changes to beach dynamics that may modify formation of habitat over time?

Note: Examples of projects that result in changes to beach dynamics include 1) construction of offshore breakwaters and groins; 2) mining of sand from an updrift ebb tidal delta; 3) removing or adding beach sands; and 4) projects that stabilize dunes (including placement of sand fences or planting vegetation).

No

31. [Hidden Semantic] Is the project area located within the piping plover AOI?

Automatically answered

Yes

32. If you have determined that the piping plover is unlikely to occur within your project's action area or that your project is unlikely to have any potential effects on the piping plover, you may wish to make a "no effect" determination for the piping plover. Additional guidance on how to make this decision can be found in the project review section of your local Ecological Services Field Office's website. CBFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/chesapeake-bay-ecological-services/project-review> ; MEFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/maine-ecological-services> ; NJFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/new-jersey-ecological-services/new-jersey-field-office-project-review-guide> ; NEFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/new-england-ecological-services/endangered-species-project-review#Step5> ; WVFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/west-virginia-ecological-services/project-planning>. If you are unsure, answer "No" and continue through the key.

Would you like to make a no effect determination for the piping plover?

Yes

33. [Hidden Semantic] Is the project area located within the piping plover AOI?

Automatically answered

Yes

34. [Hidden Semantic] Is the project area located within the red knot AOI?

Automatically answered

Yes

35. If you have determined that the red knot is unlikely to occur within your project's action area or that your project is unlikely to have any potential effects on the red knot, you may wish to make a "no effect" determination for the red knot. Additional guidance on how to make this decision can be found in the project review section of your local Ecological Services Field Office's website. CBFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/chesapeake-bay-ecological-services/project-review> ; MEFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/maine-ecological-services> ; NJFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/new-jersey-ecological-services/new-jersey-field-office-project-review-guide> ; NEFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/new-england-ecological-services/endangered-species-project-review#Step5> ; WVFO: <https://www.fws.gov/office/west-virginia-ecological-services/project-planning>. If you are unsure, answer "No" and continue through the key.

Would you like to make a no effect determination for the red knot?

Yes

36. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Virginia big-eared bat critical habitat?

Automatically answered

No

37. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Indiana bat critical habitat?

Automatically answered

No

38. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the candy darter critical habitat?

Automatically answered

No

39. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the diamond darter critical habitat?

Automatically answered

No

40. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Big Sandy crayfish critical habitat?

Automatically answered

No

41. [Hidden Semantic] Does the project intersect the Guyandotte River crayfish critical habitat?

Automatically answered

No

42. Do you have any other documents that you want to include with this submission?

No

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Approximately how many acres of trees would the proposed project remove?
0
2. Approximately how many total acres of disturbance are within the disturbance/
construction limits of the proposed project?
2
3. Briefly describe the habitat within the construction/disturbance limits of the project site.
Turf lawn, gravel parking lot, and paved roadways.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Eric Pasay
Address: 26 Federal Plaza
Address Line 2: USACE Planning (Room 17-421) c/o PSC Mail Center
City: New York
State: NY
Zip: 10278-0090
Email: eric.s.pasay@usace.army.mil
Phone: 9177906205

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Army



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Long Island Ecological Services Field Office
340 Smith Road
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Phone: (631) 286-0485 Fax: (631) 286-4003



In Reply Refer To:

03/21/2025 14:54:16 UTC

Project Code: 2024-0117153

Project Name: Child Development Center at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Long Island Ecological Services Field Office
340 Smith Road
Shirley, NY 11967-2258
(631) 286-0485

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0117153

Project Name: Child Development Center at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY

Project Type: Military Development

Project Description: The U.S. Department of the Army is proposing to construct and operate a new child development center facility at U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn, Kings County, NY. The new child development center would be constructed on an approximately 95,000 sq ft site bordered by the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge, Garrison Headquarters, Holiday Inn Express, and White Avenue. The site has been previously disturbed and is located within in a highly developed area of the installation. Existing site conditions include a gravel parking lot, paved walkways and streets, and turf lawn with trees and shrubs. Construction would include a new single-story building (16,632 sq ft), three outdoor playgrounds (16,667 sq ft), 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features. White Avenue and Schum Avenue would be repaved within the project footprint. Up to 14 trees would be removed during site preparation. Trees would be replaced on the installation in accordance with the installation's tree replacement guidelines. During construction, equipment would access the site using existing paved roadways within the installation. Staging and material laydown would utilize an existing paved parking lot next to the construction site, across White Avenue. Construction is dependent on the availability of funding and is anticipated to occur in 2026. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, is supporting the project design and environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA review is expected to conclude in early 2025.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.6113313,-74.02879140641775,14z>



Counties: Kings County, New York

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Eric Pasay
Address: 26 Federal Plaza
Address Line 2: USACE Planning (Room 17-421) c/o PSC Mail Center
City: New York
State: NY
Zip: 10278-0090
Email: eric.s.pasay@usace.army.mil
Phone: 9177906205

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Army



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

May 6, 2025

Planning Division

Samantha Nyer, Ph.D.
Acting Section Supervisor
Environmental Review and Strategic Programs Section
United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 2

RE: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment
– Child Development Center Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, New York

Dear Dr. Nyer:

Thank you for commenting on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Child Development Center facility at United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (USAG-FH), Brooklyn, New York. The USAG-FH and United States Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) provide the following responses to comments:

- **Purpose and Need** – EPA suggests that the purpose and need outline the impact that the development of this larger and modernized facility will have on childcare services, safety, and other needs of the children it will serve.

The purpose and need was revised to include more information on the benefits of the proposed facility with respect to childcare services, safety, and other needs of the children it will serve.

- **Water Resources** – EPA acknowledges that a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared as part of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) stormwater permits and construction approvals. The Draft EA mentions the implementation of sediment and erosion control measures during construction. For improved transparency, EPA recommends including specific measures that will be implemented as best management practices during construction in the Final EA.

The construction contractor will be responsible for developing a SWPPP and obtaining stormwater permits. Specific sediment and erosion controls will be included in the SWPPP but are not currently unknown.

- **Noise and Vibration** – EPA acknowledges the best management practices cited by the USACE to minimize noise and vibration disturbance during construction of the Project. Due to the proposed location of the new CDC in close proximity to the Verrazzano Bridge multi-level roadway, EPA suggests

that USACE coordinate with closely with the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority and other agencies as appropriate so that future projects do not potentially exacerbate the noise or vibration levels to which users at the site may be exposed. If there are any known project forthcoming that may have a potential impact on noise or vibration, EPA suggests this be accounted for in the Final EA.

The MTA Construction and Development Company (MTA C&D) is proposing the Rehabilitation and New Construction of Brooklyn Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge (VNB) Ramps. The VNB project will improve and extend the useful life of the VNB Brooklyn approach by reconstructing several existing ramps as well as constructing two new right hand exit ramps to the Belt Parkway. The design and construction timeline for the VNB project is currently unknown. MTA C&D will be responsible for implementing measures to mitigate environmental impacts (e.g., noise and vibration) caused by the construction and operation of the VNB project. USAG-FH will coordinate with MTA C&D on proposed mitigation measures. A discussion of the VNB project was added to the cumulative effects section of the Final EA.

- **Air Quality** - EPA acknowledges the use of the NEPAAssist tool to determine non-attainment or maintenance areas for ozone, carbon monoxide and particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). Given these determinations and in accordance with E.O. 14212: Establishing the President's Make America Healthy Again Commission (February 13, 2025), E.O. 13045: Protection of Children from Environmental Health and Safety Risks (April 21, 1997), and EPA's Children's Environmental Health Program, EPA suggests that USACE incorporate best practices to minimize potential air quality impacts on children's health outcomes. This could include EPA's School Siting guidelines to ensure operational safety for the playgrounds and indoor air quality of the facility, especially given the site's close proximity to the Verrazzano Bridge multi-level roadways just beyond the perimeter of Fort Hamilton base.

Monitoring is proposed to measure air quality at the proposed Child Development site. Best practices and mitigation measures will be informed by air quality monitoring results and incorporated into the design, where appropriate.

The USAG-FH and District look forward to continued coordination with the EPA on the

proposed Child Development Center facility and future actions at the installation. Should you have any questions, please contact Eric Pasay at (917) 7906-6205 or eric.s.pasay@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

WEPPLER.PETER
.M.1228647353

Digitally signed by
WEPPLER.PETER.M.1228647353
Date: 2025.05.06 09:55:08
-04'00'

Peter M. Weppler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch

cc:

Nicholas Protopsaltis – USAG FH
Tara Guido – USAG FH
Sean Ryan – EPA Region 2
Arielle Benjamin – EPA Region 2



March 3, 2025

Eric Pasay
Project Biologist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New York District
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278

RE: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment – Child Development Center United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mr. Pasay:

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

The USACE is proposing a project that includes the development and operation of a Child Development Center (CDC) in Brooklyn, New York (Project). The Project consists of the construction of a 16,632 ft² single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 ft², 20 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features. The Project would replace the existing CDC facility, increasing enrollment from 76 to 126 children, and supporting the Fort Hamilton CDC's mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age.

EPA understands that the Draft EA assesses environmental impacts of the Project. We offer the following comments on the Draft EA:

- **Purpose and Need** – EPA suggests that the purpose and need outline the impact that the development of this larger and modernized facility will have on the childcare services, safety, and other needs of the children it will serve.
- **Water Resources** – EPA acknowledges that a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared as part of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) stormwater permits and construction approvals. The Draft EA mentions the implementation of sediment and erosion control measures during construction. For improved transparency, EPA recommends including specific measures that will be implemented as best management practices during construction in the final EA.
- **Noise and Vibration** – EPA acknowledges the best management practices cited by the USACE to minimize noise and vibration disturbance during construction of the Project. Due to the proposed

location of the new CDC in close proximity to the Verrazzano Bridge multi-level roadway, EPA suggests that USACE coordinate closely with the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority and other agencies as appropriate so that future projects do not potentially exacerbate the noise or vibration levels to which users at the site may be exposed. If there are any known projects forthcoming that may have a potential impact on noise or vibration, EPA suggests this be accounted for in the Final EA.

- **Air Quality** – EPA acknowledges the use of the NEPAAssist tool to determine non-attainment or maintenance areas for ozone, carbon monoxide and particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). Given these determinations and in accordance with E.O. 14212: Establishing the President’s Make America Healthy Again Commission (February 13, 2025), E.O. 13045: Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks (April 21, 1997), and EPA’s Children’s Environmental Health Program, EPA suggests that the USACE incorporate best practices to minimize potential air quality impacts on children’s health outcomes. This could include EPA’s School Siting guidelines to ensure operational safety for the playgrounds and indoor air quality of the facility, especially given the site’s close proximity to the Verrazzano Bridge multi-level roadways just beyond the perimeter of the Fort Hamilton base.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this Draft EA. The EPA looks forward to the receipt and review of the final EA, and we are committed to continuing to work with your team throughout the NEPA process and in the future, especially as full projects come to fruition. Should you have questions on our comments noted above or related to this project, please contact Arielle M. Benjamin at 212-637-4016 or ryan.sean@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Samantha Nyer, PhD
Acting Section Supervisor
Environmental Review and Strategic Programs Section
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 2

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Project number: 106.K (US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS)
Project: FT. HAMILTON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Address: 9275 FT HAMILTON PARKWAY BBL: 3061530001
Date Received: 1/31/2025

☒ **No architectural significance**

☐ **No archaeological significance**

☐ **Designated New York City Landmark or Within Designated Historic District**

☐ **Listed on National Register of Historic Places**

☐ **Appears to be eligible for National Register Listing and/or New York City Landmark Designation**

☒ **May be archaeologically significant; requesting additional materials**

Comments: The LPC is in receipt of the Draft EA of January, 2025. Pertaining to archaeological resources, the LPC notes that the Draft EA refers to the findings of the, "Cultural Resources Management Plan for Fort Hamilton," called "DPW 2020." The LPC continues to ask for this document so we may review its findings in relation to this project and evaluate the Draft EA conclusions.

Gina Santucci

2/20/2025

SIGNATURE
Gina Santucci, Environmental Review Coordinator

DATE

File Name: 37349_FSO_ALS_02052025.docx

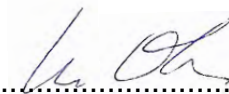
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE

State of New York
County of Kings ss
City of New York

INNA OSNOVICH, Borough of Kings, City and State of New York, being duly sworn, says that she is Principal Clerk of Brooklyn Daily Eagle, a daily newspaper published in the County of Kings, City of New York, and that the Notice, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published in said publication, Brooklyn Daily Eagle

on 1/31/2025

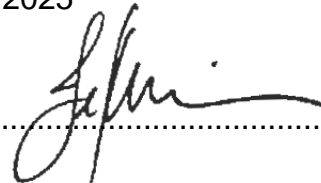
195 Montague Street, Suite 1414
Brooklyn, New York 11201



.....
Inna Osnovich
Principal Clerk

Sworn and Subscribed to Before Me This 31st

Day of January 2025



.....
Notary Public

Joseph Messina
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
No. 01ME6401055
Qualified in Kings County
My commission expires on 12/2/2027

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Child Development Center
United States Army Garrison
Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, New
York NEPA ID EAXX-007-21-
001-1736758141 The United
States Department of the
Army (Army) has prepared a
Draft Environmental Assess-
ment (EA) and Draft Finding
of No Significant Impact
(FONSI) pursuant to the provi-
sions of the National Environ-
mental Policy Act of 1969
(NEPA), the Council on Envir-
onmental Quality regulations
for implementing NEPA (40
Code of Federal Regulations
[CFR] Sec. Sec. 1500-1508),
and Army Regulations 200-2
"Environmental Analysis of
Army Actions" as promulg-
ated by 32 CFR Part 651.
The EA was prepared to
evaluate the impacts from the
construction and operation of
a new Child Development
Center facility (Proposed
Action) at United States Army
Garrison Fort Hamilton in
Brooklyn, Kings County, New
York. The mission of the
Child Development Center is
to offer a consistent, safe,
and nurturing environment for
children between six weeks
and five years of age. The
Child Development Center is
currently operated out of an
outdated building. The
purpose of the Proposed
Action is to build a newer and
larger Child Development
Center facility to better meet
the Installation's need for
childcare services. The
Proposed Action would
increase the Child Develop-
ment Center's capacity from
76 to 126 children. The EA
analyzes two alternatives
including the No Action Altern-
ative. The Draft EA and Draft
FONSI are available for
review at the Brooklyn Public
Library, Fort Hamilton
Branch, 9424 4th Ave.,
Brooklyn, NY 11209, and the
Environmental Library of the
Directorate of Public Works,
located at 129 Wainwright
Dr., Fort Hamilton, NY 11252.
The Draft EA and Draft
FONSI are also available
online at: <https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Environmental-Assessment/Fort-Hamilton-CDC/>.
Written comments on the
Draft EA and Draft FONSI are
invited and should be sent no
later than 30 calendar days
from the publication date of
this Notice of Availability.
Comments should be sent by
email to FortHamiltonCDC-
EA@usace.army.mil or by
mail to the Fort Hamilton
Public Affairs Office, Building
113, Schum Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York 11252.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: LAUNCH READY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/12/2025. Office Location: Kings County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Zachary Oberman 350 Prospect Ave, Brooklyn, NY, 11215, USA. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Qualification of CLC DAY CAMPS LLC

Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/24/24. Office location: Kings County, LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 07/16/24. Princ. office of LLC: 195 Montague St., 14th Fl., Brooklyn, NY 11201. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: c/o CSC Global, 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., #4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: Elizabeth Baking Company, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 6/29/2024. Office location: Kings County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Elizabeth Baking Company, LLC, 1812 St. Johns Pl, 1A, Brooklyn, NY, 11233. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice is hereby given that an On-Premises Food & Beverage-Business Liquor License, NYS Application ID NA-0370-24-143635 has been applied for by MJP Social LLC to sell beer, wine, cider and liquor at retail in an on-premises Food & Beverage Business-Liquor establishment. For on premise consumption under the ABC law at 134 Kingsland Ave Brooklyn NY 11222-5173.

Notice is hereby given that an On-Premise Restaurant Liquor License, NYS Application ID: NA 0340-24-113662 has been applied for by Muddy Duck LLC serving beer, wine, cider and liquor to be sold at retail for on premises consumption in a restaurant, for the premises located at 391-393 Van Brunt Street Brooklyn NY 11231.

Notice is hereby given that a license # NA-0340-24-117619 for beer, cider, liquor and/or wine, has been applied for by Cozumel Restaurant

Law at 369 Broadway, Brooklyn, NY 11211, Kings County for on premises consumption.

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS

INDEX NO. 504249/2024

Concerning real property known as 743 Liberty Avenue, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York 11208; Block 3972, Lot 57, Kings County (the Premises).

G R T LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, by GISELLE ROSEN, As Administrator of the Estate of Gustavo Rosen, Deceased, Sole Member of GRT Limited Liability Company, Plaintiff, -against- LUIS DURAN and ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS, DISTRIBUTEES, SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST, INFANTS, ABSENTEES OR INCOMPETENTS, OF SAID LUIS DURAN, Defendants.

To the above-named defendant(s):

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon plaintiff's attorney an answer to the complaint in this action within twenty (20) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York. In case of your failure to answer, judgment will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

NATURE OF ACTION & RELIEF REQUESTED:

On the First Cause of Action declaring that the defendant and all persons claiming under him be forever barred from all claim or claims to an estate in the Premises hereinbefore described, or lien or encumbrance thereupon of any kind or nature whatsoever; and that it be adjudged and decreed that the above plaintiff is the lawful owner of said Premises in fee simple and is entitled to the lawful, peaceable and uninterrupted possession thereof as against the defendant herein, and all others; and On the Second Cause of Action declaring and determining that the defendant is not and never has been a member of the plaintiff, G R T Limited Liability Company; and On the Third Cause of Action declaring and determining that the Covenant is not in recordable form, or otherwise should not have been recorded, and expunging the Covenant from the records of the Office of the City Register; and For such other and further relief as this Court

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING AN ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. Dated: Glen Cove, New York, January 8, 2025. CHIARIELLO & CHIARIELLO, ESQS., Attorneys for Plaintiff, 147 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York 11542. Tel: 516-801-8100. NOTICE: To the above-named defendants: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Francois A. Rivera, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated January 6, 2025, and filed with the Kings County Clerk together with the Amended Complaint and other papers upon which the order was granted.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS

INDEX NO. 509412/2023

Plaintiff designates KINGS as the place of trial situs of the real property

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Mortgaged Premises:

216 ETNA STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11208

District: Block: 4116, Lot: 26

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE FOR INDYMAC INDEX MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-AR25, MORTGAGE P A S S - T H R O U G H CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-AR25

Plaintiff,

vs.

GREGORY MOSES, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF MARIANELLA ZORRILLA; ELIOMARI NATERA, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF MARIANELLA ZORRILLA; JENNIFER NATERA, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF MARIANELLA ZORRILLA; LUIS RODRIGUEZ, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF MARIANELLA ZORRILLA; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE ESTATE OF MARIANELLA ZORRILLA, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of

them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.; INDYMAC BANK, F.S.B.; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; FAMINE "DOE" AS "JOHN DOE #1",

"JOHN DOE #2" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last eleven names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint, Defendants.

To the above named Defendants

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judgment against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$424, 000.00 and interest, recorded on July 28, 2006, in CRFN 2006000428651, of the Public Records of KINGS County, New York., covering premises known as 216 ETNA STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11208.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

KINGS County is designated as the place of trial because

YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.

Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: July 29th, 2024

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC

Attorney for Plaintiff

Jinghan Zhang, Esq.

900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310

Westbury, NY 11590

516-280-7675

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Child Development Center

United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, New York

NEPA ID EAXX-007-21-001-1736758141

The United States Department of the Army (Army) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) pursuant to the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] §§ 1500-1508), and Army Regulations 200-2 "Environmental Analysis of Army Actions" as promulgated by 32 CFR Part 651.

The EA was prepared to evaluate the impacts from the construction and operation of a new Child Development Center facility (Proposed Action) at United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. The mission of the Child Development Center is to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The Child Development Center is currently operated out of an outdated building. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to build a newer and larger Child Development Center facility to better meet the Installation's need for childcare services. The Proposed Action would increase the Center's

The Draft EA and FONSI are available for review at the Public Library, Fort Branch, 9424 4th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208. Environmental Library, Directorate of Public Works, located at 129 Vassar Street, Fort Hamilton, NY 11208. The Draft EA and FONSI are also available online at:

<https://www.nan.us/mil/Missions/Environmental-Assessment/Fort-Hamilton-CDC>

Written comments on the Draft EA and Draft FONSI should be submitted no later than 30 calendar days from the publication of this Notice of Availability. Comments should be submitted by email to: Fort Hamilton CDC-EA@usace.army.mil or by mail to the Fort Hamilton Public Affairs Office, 113 Schumaker Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11208.

LOST TITLE APPLICATION NO.: 2321942

OFFICE OF TITLE & RECORDS

NOTICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 82 OF THE REGISTRATION OF TITLES ACT (RTA)

WHEREAS the above application declared that the duplicate Certificate of Title has been lost, I hereby give notice that I will cancel the said Certificate of Title and issue a new duplicate fourteen (14) days after the last publication of this advertisement.

Volume: 1348

Folio: 769

Lot: 493

Place: Cockburn Creek

Parish: St. Andrew

Registered by: J. Dorrett Collins-Jo

The following 14 applications were lodged

application and registered pursuant to Section 81 of the RTA

Transfer 232194

L. Dunbar

Deputy Registrar

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT OF KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK, Plaintiff vs. BULLDOG FORT ET AL., Defendant

Pursuant to the Confirming Referee's Judgment of Sale on June 12, 2024, undersigned sell at public auction, Kings County Court, Courtroom 2, 11201 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 11208, at 2:30 p.m., the premises known as 222 Manhattan Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208, certain plot of land, with improvements erected, situated in the City of Brooklyn, New York, and



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

January 6, 2025

Environmental Analysis Branch
Planning Division

Dr. Jeffrey Bendremer, PhD, RPA
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians
86 Spring Street
Williamstown, MA 01267

Re: United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton Brooklyn New York, Child Development Center

Dear Dr. Bendremer,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment on behalf of the United States Army Garrison (USAG) Fort Hamilton for a proposed Child Development Center (CDC). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 USC § 306108) and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, a cultural resources survey was carried out including an assessment of effects for the proposed (CDC). This NHPA consultation is being coordinated with the proposed project's NEPA process. As a Federally Recognized Tribe with expressed interest in the area this letter report has been prepared to give your office an opportunity to review and comment on the determination of effects pursuant to 54 USC § 306108.

The Undertaking

The United States Department of the Army (Army) is planning to construct and operate a new CDC facility (Proposed Action) on United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (herein referred to as "Fort Hamilton" or the "Installation") in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (Figure 1). The Proposed Action includes the construction of a 16,632 square feet single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 square feet, 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features (Figure 2).

Two options were considered for this Proposed Action, the No Action Alternative and the Preferred Alternative. The No Action Alternative is that the CDC would remain at its current location, which is an obsolete 1960s era building with no ability to increase its capacity, and the proposed site would remain a landscaped area and gravel parking lot. The Preferred Alternative will allow for an increase enrollment capacity by building a larger facility. In addition, the modernized facility will support the Fort Hamilton CDC's

mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The new CDC facility will offer new and improved amenities such as a kitchen, changing areas, administrative support space, mothers' nursing room, staff lounge, laundry, storage, and supply rooms.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, its implementing regulations, and the specific legal requirements described in Chapter 6 of AR-200-1, the Proposed Action is considered an Undertaking having the potential to affect cultural resources. The physical Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the CDC consists of the parking lot and associated open areas between the Garrison Headquarters (Building 113) and The Holiday Inn (Building 107). Proposed activities will include construction of the CDC building itself as well as playgrounds, new parking areas and pathways (Figure 3). In addition, the APE includes a staging area directly east of the proposed project site.

History of the APE and Identification of Cultural Resources

Background research included a review of the history of the APE, a review of site files held by the Fort Hamilton, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation and the Landmarks Preservation Commission to gather information on previously documented historic properties and archaeological sites, review of cultural resource survey reports and a site visit to document current conditions at the site and to determine if there are any known cultural resources or structures within the proposed project area and vicinity with the potential for NRHP eligibility that may be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Much of the history of the project area can be found within the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton (DPW 2020). The New York City and Brooklyn itself have a long history of use and habitation. The area now occupied by Fort Hamilton was part of the Village of New Utrecht settled by the Dutch in 1657. New Utrecht was originally part of the Nayack Patent, one of two tracts of land on Long Island purchased by Augustine Herman for Cornelis Van Werckhoven in 1652 (DPW 2020). Van Werckhoven was a member of the Dutch government and a speculator in colonial lands. The Nayack Patent was named after the historic Native American village of Nayack which overlapped with present day Fort Hamilton. With the arrival of the Dutch, the forests in and around lower New York City were cleared for small farms and later, larger settlements. This only intensified with the military occupation of New York City during the Revolutionary War. Colonial forces built an earthen battery at the site in 1776. The site was later captured by British and Hessian troops until 1783 (DPW 2020). Between 1825 and 1831 the masonry casemate fort and earthen redoubt of Fort Hamilton was built.

In addition to the military and colonial history of the area there are also reports of Native American artifacts and habitations at Fort Hamilton. These reports are derived from sources nearly a century old and have not been field verified (DPW 2020). The

Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton listed these reports as:

- “(1) “A cache of stone and flint blades found at the Narrows in 1837. Furman says that the quantity was a wagonload” (Parker 1922:582). This is site number 1 in Arthur C. Parker's inventory of Kings County archaeological sites. The reference is to Gabriel Furman, *Antiquities of Long Island* (1874). This site is also referenced in Bailey (1840:6), who refers to the artifacts as "arrowheads" and "axes."
- (2) Parker (1922:Plate 179) illustrates "traces of occupation" at Fort Hamilton.
- (3) Bolton's site number 68, Fort Hamilton (see Letter B on Figure 3.18): "Shell beds indicated occupation, probably as a fishing camp" (Bolton 1934:147; see also Bergen 1884:255).
- (4) Bolton's site number 68, Nayack, The Narrows. Bolton (1934:147) states: "This is supposed to have been the place to which the natives of Werpoes removed after the sale of Manhattan." Bolton also notes Furman's (1874) report of a large cache of flint blades found here.” (DPW 2020) (Figure 4)

A review of the New York State Historic Preservation Office (CRIS) database confirmed there are no precontact-period archaeological sites within the Fort Hamilton reservation. However, the area is labeled as archaeologically sensitive as a result of the reported Parker sites, which were subsumed under the number New York State Museum (NYSM) 3611.

There are four potential historic period archaeological sites that have been noted at Fort Hamilton (DPW 2020) (Figure 5). These are:

- (1) A filled stone well or cistern beneath an asphalt road between Buildings 230 and 207. Reported by Mr. Russell Gilmore, then curator of the Harbor Defense Museum, this feature of unknown age was exposed during road work in 1980. This site does not have an official site number. This site is located approximately 1,260 feet from the APE.
- (2) Nineteenth-century deposits and possible building remains surrounding Building 117, possibly associated with a complex of four buildings of which only Building 117 is still standing (site A047-01-0423 [renumbered A04701.000423]). This area was subjected to archaeological investigations and architectural evaluations, which have concluded that the site does not meet the eligibility criteria for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 600 feet from the APE.
- (3) Late nineteenth-century/early twentieth-century artifact deposits and possible displaced foundation stones associated with two former buildings (site A047-01-0424 [renumbered A04701.000424]). This site

is in the northern section of the former parade ground, 150 feet east of the reviewing stand and 100 feet south of Building 302. This site was investigated through a Phase II archaeological survey conducted in August 2003, which determined the site not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 1500 feet from the APE.

- (4) A possible filled-in cellar hole south of Building 312; the feature is near the approximate location of Simon Cortelyou's house. This site does not have a formal site number." (DPW 2020). This site is located approximately 2100 feet away from the APE.

No historic period archaeological sites have been identified within the project APE.

Three buildings on the installation are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): (1) Building 207, the Casemate Fortification; (2) Building 220, the Sentry Station; and (3) Building 230, the Caponier. All these listed buildings are located approximately 1,300 feet from the APE. In addition, there are three structures that have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, Building 113, Building 201, and the Denyse Wharf. Of those three eligible buildings only Building 113 is located in proximity to the project area, being directly adjacent to it. Building 201 and Denyse Warf are 900 and 2,000 feet away, respectively (Figure 5 and 6)

The APE has had various uses throughout the history of Fort Hamilton. Most recently it was used as a gravel parking lot with a grassy area and trees. However, the parking lot fell into disuse due to sinkholes developing across the lot. Prior to that the site was home to a set of barracks (designated Building 110). This building was evaluated in 1999 and deemed not eligible for the NRHP. It, along with two other buildings, 109 and 111 were demolished in 2010-2011 to make way for the current parking lot and Holiday Inn. The 1935 map in Figure 7 depicts the former location of Building 110 and APE for the CDC.

The neighboring building to the south of the APE is the current Garrison Headquarters (Building 113). This building has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. Building 113 was built in 1925 as the YMCA building. The building is considered eligible under Criteria C, as it "embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. It is an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. It is also one of the Installation's best examples of non-defensive architecture associated with an era of development between the two world wars." (NRHP Evaluation form 1999) (Figure 8).

In 1986, a cultural sensitivity survey was done for Fort Hamilton and revised in 2020. The 1986 survey determined that almost all areas of the Installation have high potential for the presence of cultural resources (Klein et al. 1986, DPW 2020) (Figure 9). Klein et al. (1986) established a system for classifying areas within Fort Hamilton on the basis of general archaeological sensitivity. Their classification was based on the

assumption that, “prior to the late nineteenth century, all areas in the installation had high degrees of sensitivity for precontact period and early historic archaeological resources. Since the late nineteenth century, portions of the fort have been modified to varying degrees during episodes of construction and demolition.” (DPW 2020). In the years since the 1986 survey many areas on Fort Hamilton have changed with new buildings being built and other structures demolished.

The APE (former location of Building 110) is included in Sensitivity Area 7. Sensitivity Area 7 includes the area around and between buildings 107 and 113. This area is described as containing two feet of fill covering the entire area as well as distinct areas of disturbance due to construction, demolition, and utilities. Based off this analysis, Area 7, and therefore the APE, is believed to have a moderate potential for both European and Native American resources at depths below 2 feet.

The staging area for the project consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site (Figure 11). This area is within Sensitivity Area 17. Sensitivity Area 17 has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17 that are currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction and/or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020).

Determination of Effects

There are no known archaeological sites or historic properties located within the direct APE for the Preferred Alternative. The APE has been affected by episodes of construction, demolition, and utilities-related disturbances. Building 110, previously located on the site was determined not eligible for the NRHP and demolished in 2011 (Figure 10). Another building that was located northwest of Building 113 in the western portion of the APE was demolished before 1951. Although it is anticipated that the APE is affected by disturbances, limited areas around the demolished building footprint, located at depths below two feet are believed to have a moderate potential for archaeological resources that may be affected by the project.

The direct APE also includes the staging area to the east (Figure 11). The staging area consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site, which has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment prepared in 2020. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17, currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020). However, the use of the lot as a staging area will have no effect on buried resources. The area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits.

In addition to the direct effects of the construction of the CDC the District has also considered indirect effects to the surrounding buildings and areas. The District considered potential effects to the viewsheds of NRHP-listed and eligible buildings and from vibrations from construction to listed and eligible buildings. There is one NRHP-eligible building within the indirect/visual APE, Building 113. As described above, Building 113 is eligible under criterion C and is a former YMCA building built in 1925. Today this building is serving as the Garrison Headquarters. The setting of Building 113 has changed drastically since it was constructed. The elevated highway that leads to the Verrazzano Bridge, built in 1959, is situated 276 feet from the front of the building. The neighboring buildings, Building 109, 111 and 110, were also demolished in 2012 and other buildings have been constructed within the viewshed since the construction of Building 113. While its integrity of setting would be impacted by the proposed action, the historic property has been previously impacted to a greater extent by the loss of other early 20th Century buildings. In addition, the setting is not an essential factor to the Criteria C significance, as the building was determined eligible in 1999. The building was deemed eligible due to its distinctive characteristics of a type, as an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. The CDC building itself will be situated approximately 45 feet from Building 113, providing an appropriate offset from the historic structure. The buildings integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association would remain unchanged as a result of the proposed action. Therefore, the construction of the CDC is not expected to adversely affect the historic viewshed of the building.

Recommendations

A review of existing information and the archaeological sensitivity analysis prepared for the installation indicated that limited areas around the demolished Building 110 footprint, located at depths below two feet, have a moderate potential for archaeological resources. Currently, more than fifty percent of the direct APE is covered by gravel fill and utility lines traverse the property, making archaeological investigations impractical in advance of construction. Therefore, no further archaeological investigations are recommended at this time within the APE but archaeological monitoring will be employed for all construction below the two feet of documented fill in previously undisturbed areas to ensure any undocumented historic or precontact archaeological remains are properly handled. In the event that archaeological deposits are discovered during construction all work will be suspended, the site will be secured, and the NYSHPO, NYCLPC, and federally recognized tribes as applicable, will be contacted so that procedures for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of effects can be implemented prior to resumption of construction activities that have the potential to affect cultural resources. The staging area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits; therefore, no further work is recommended for the staging area.

The District has determined that while there is no visual impact anticipated there is the potential for adverse effects to Building 113 from vibration during construction due

to the proximity of the proposed CDC to the existing Building 113. There is about 45 feet between Building 113 and the proposed CDC. To ensure that thresholds are not exceeded, a vibration impact assessment will be performed in advance of construction and if threshold exceedances are anticipated modifications will be made to reduce vibrations where possible and if necessary additional mitigation measures will be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC. Additionally, a vibration monitor will be placed at Building 113 to identify any inadvertent exceedances and if thresholds are exceeded all work will stop until protective measures can be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC.

The District, on behalf of the Fort Hamilton Garrison, invites you to review the information presented here and provide any comments in accordance with 54 USC § 306108 within thirty days of receipt of this letter. Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you or your staff require additional information or have any questions, please contact Arianna Stimpfl, Project Archaeologist, at (917) 790-8605 or by email at Arianna.M.Stimpfl@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

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Peter M. Wepler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch

References:

Klein, Terry H., Amy Friedlander, and Martha Bowers. 1986. *A Cultural Resource Overview and Management Plan for the U.S. Army Property, Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, New York, Fort Totten, Queens, New York*. Prepared for the National Park Service, Mid-Atlantic Region, Philadelphia, by the Cultural Resources Group, Louis Berger and Associates, Inc., East Orange, New Jersey.

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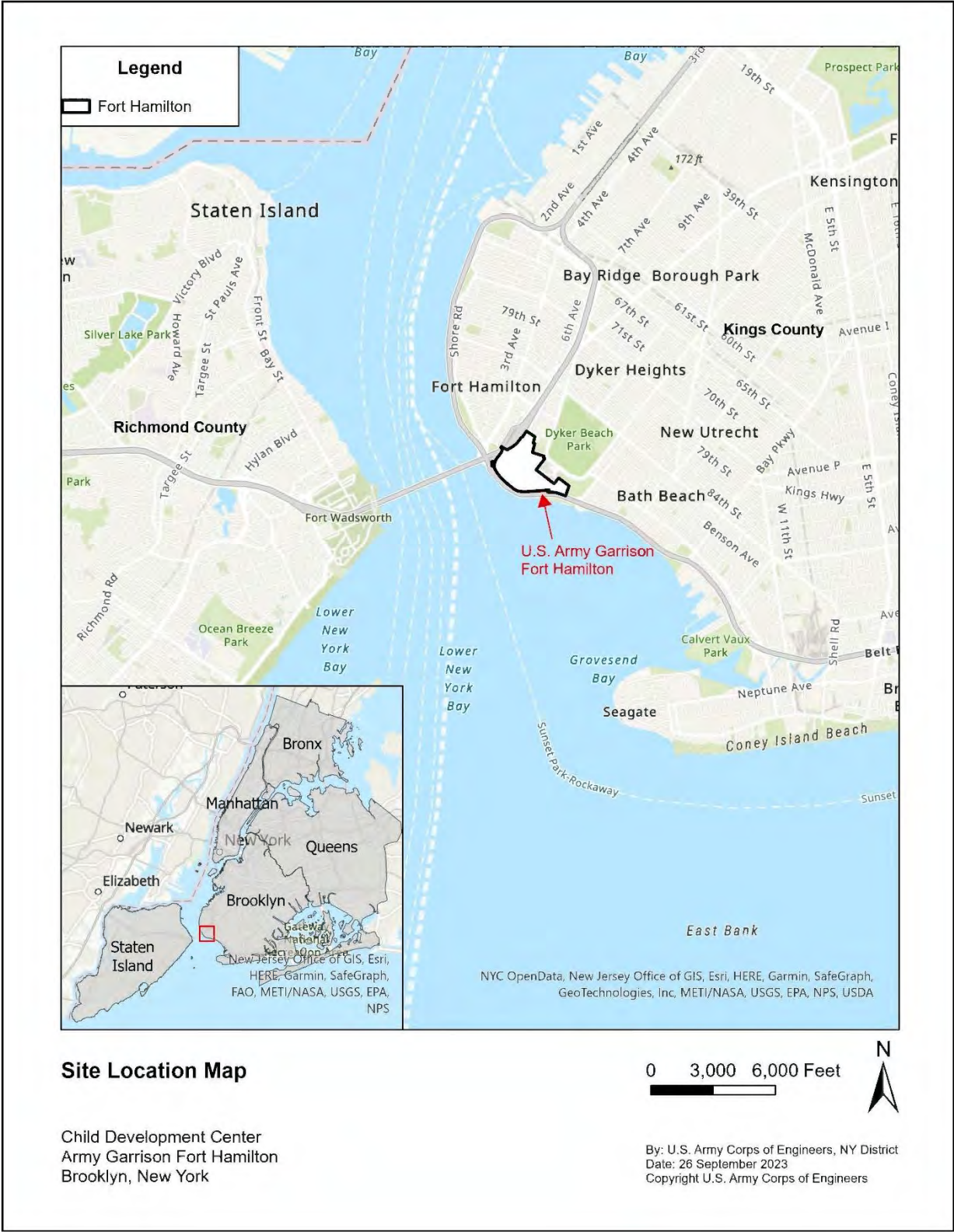
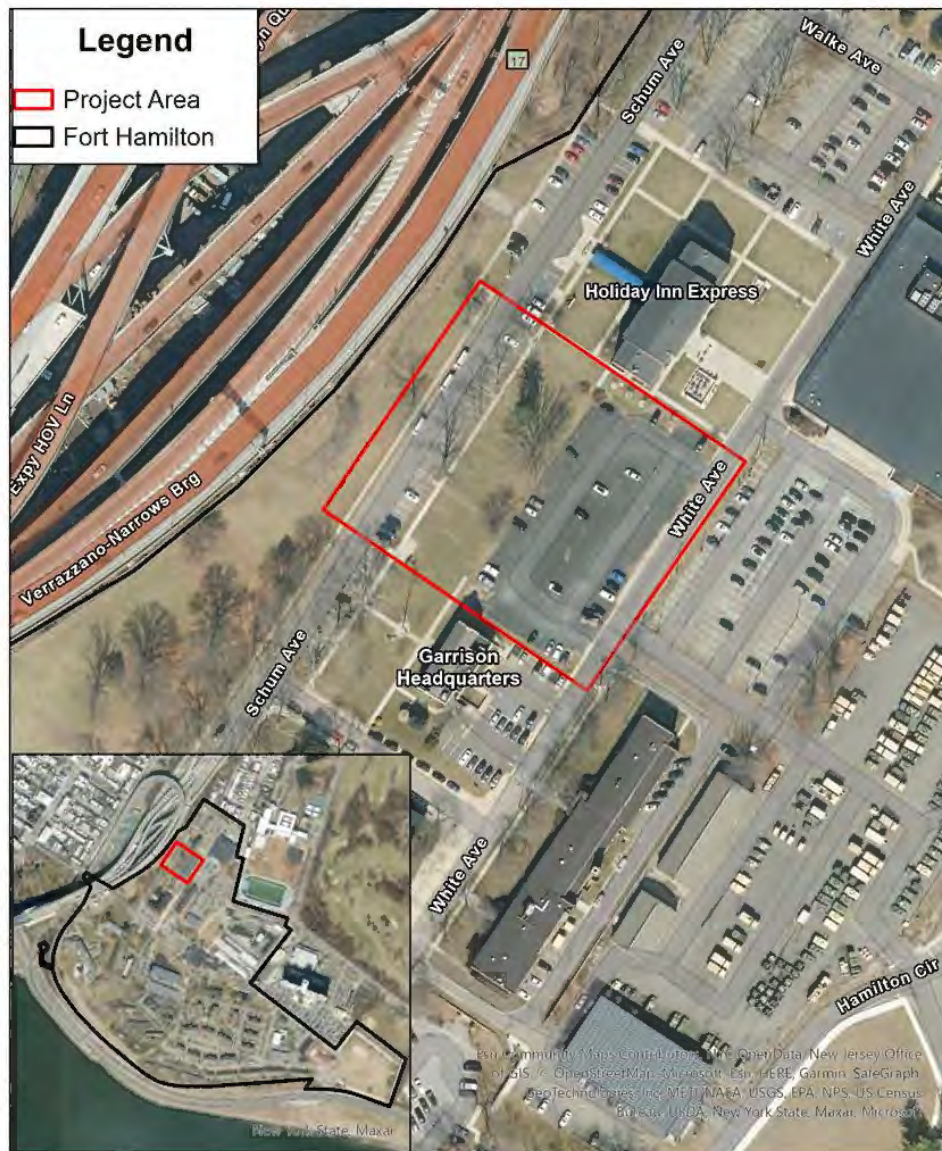
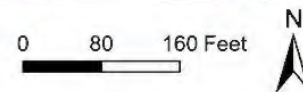


Figure 1: Fort Hamilton Site Location Map (USACE)



Project Area Map

Child Development Center
Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
Brooklyn, New York



By: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NY District
Date: 28 September 2023
Copyright U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Figure 2: Proposed Child Development Center Location Map (USACE)



Figure 4: Location of precontact and contact period sites in the Borough of Brooklyn. Fort Hamilton ICRMP, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (*Bolton 1934*).

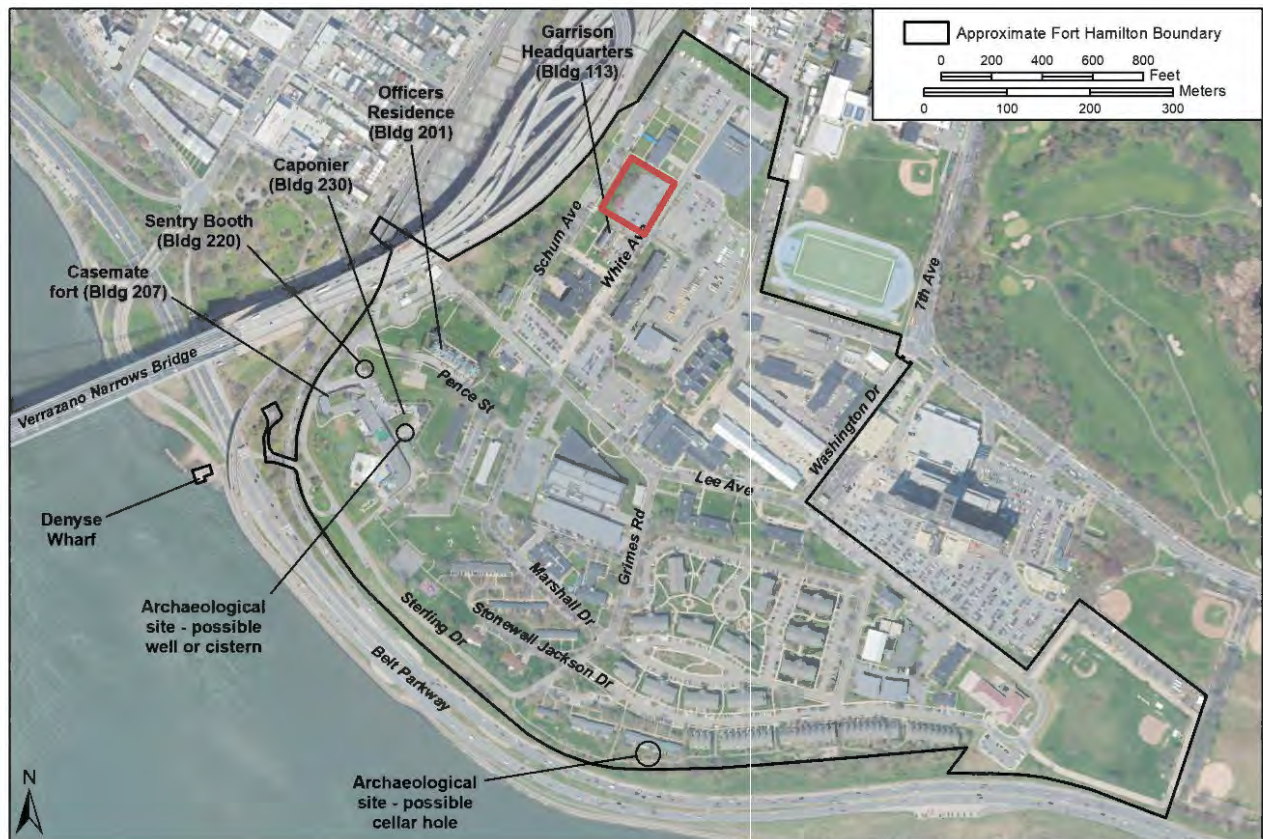


Figure 5: Location of NRHP-listed and eligible structures and possible archaeological sites on the US Army Garrison Fort Hamilton Fort Hamilton ICRMP, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York with APE drawn in red (Panamerican 2020).

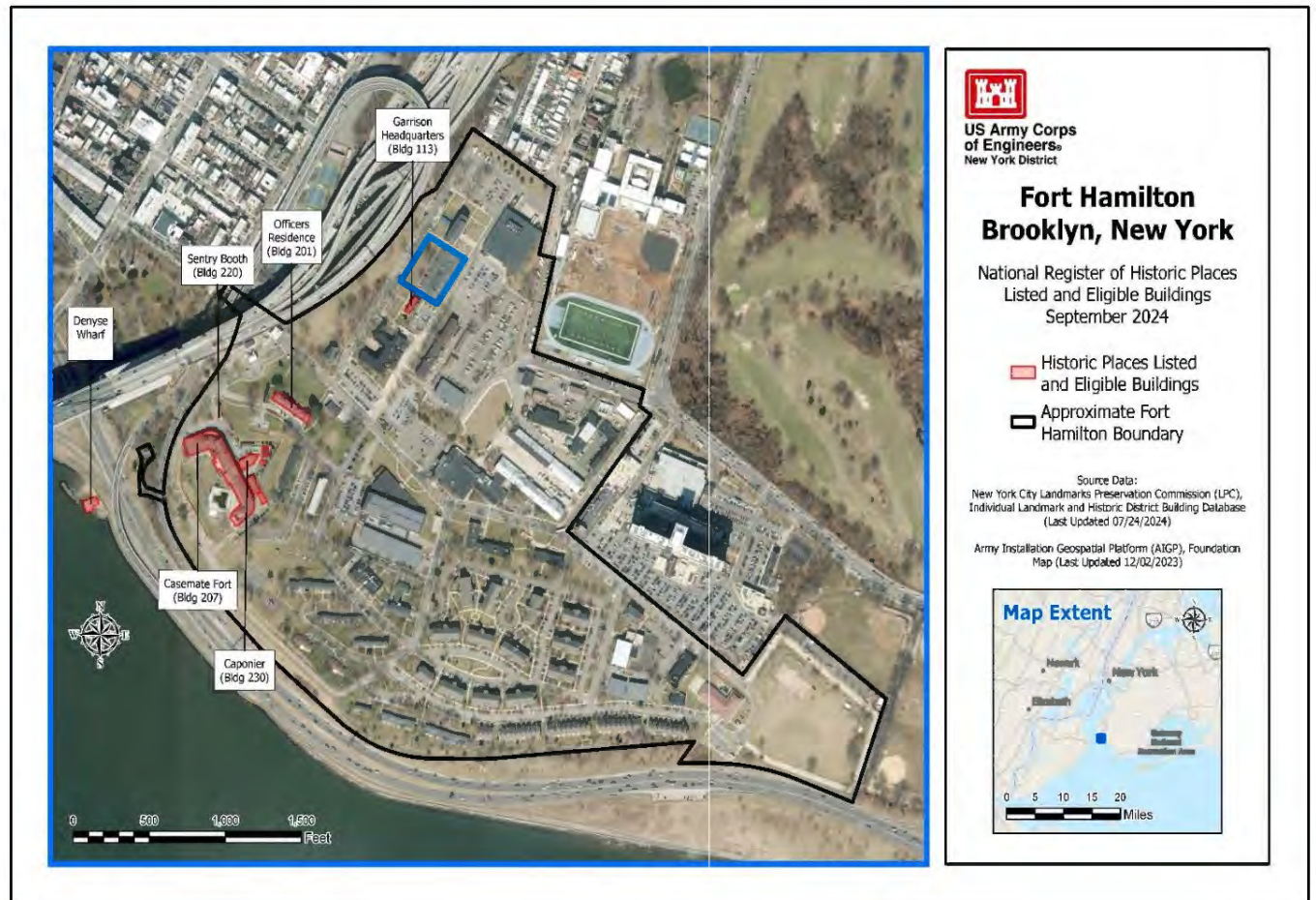


Figure 6: Locations of the NRHP Listed and Eligible Buildings with APE drawn in blue (USACE)

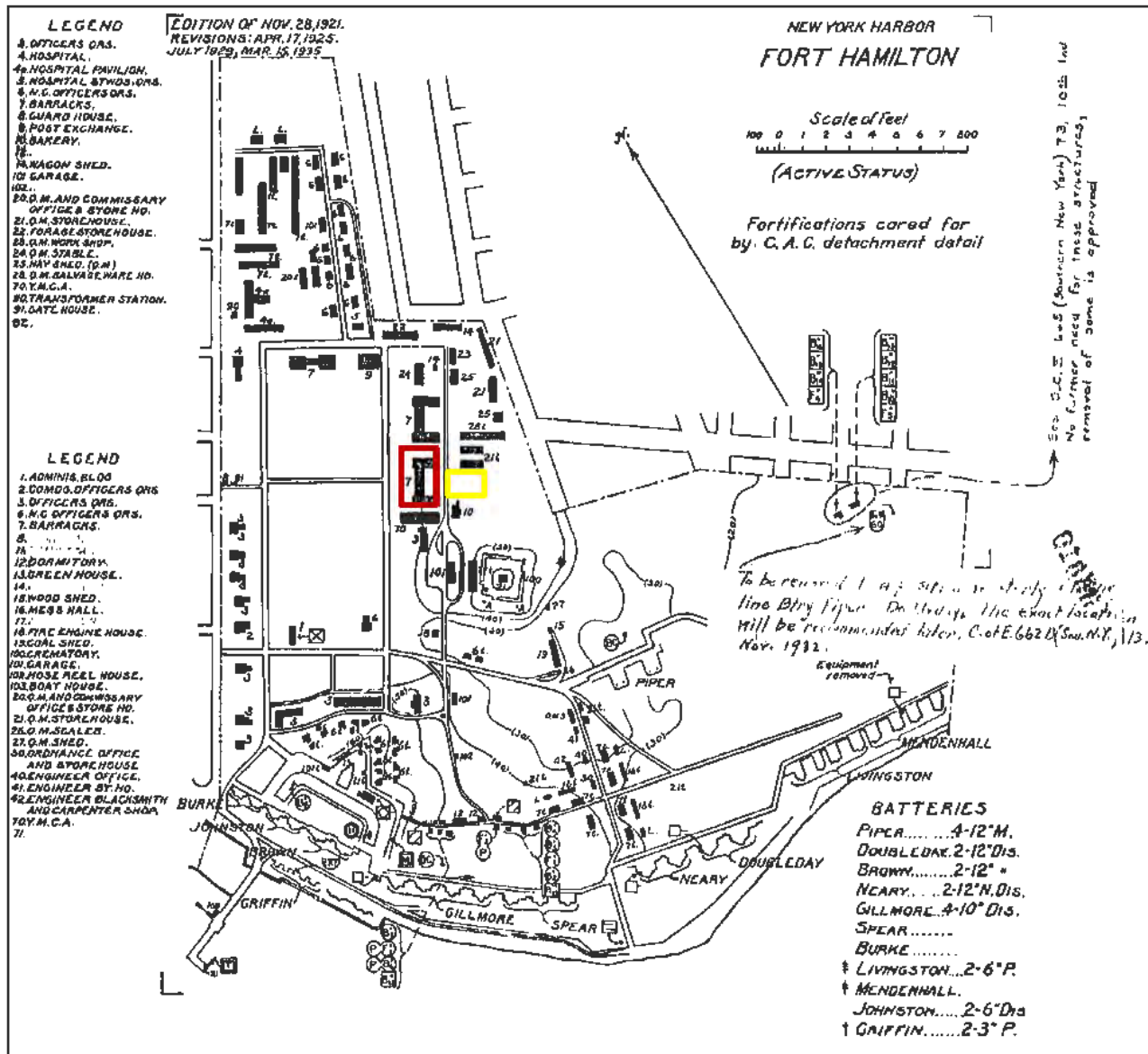


Figure 7: Map of Fort Hamilton in 1935 showing the location of former barracks, Building 110 (labelled 7 on the map). Fort Hamilton ICRMP, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (Harbor Defense Museum Archives).



Figure 8: Building 113 from Schum Avenue, view northeast. Fort Hamilton ICRMP, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (Panamerican 2020).



Figure 9: Map of Archaeological Sensitivity Areas (modified from Klein et al. 1986). Fort Hamilton ICRMP, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. (Panamerican 2020)

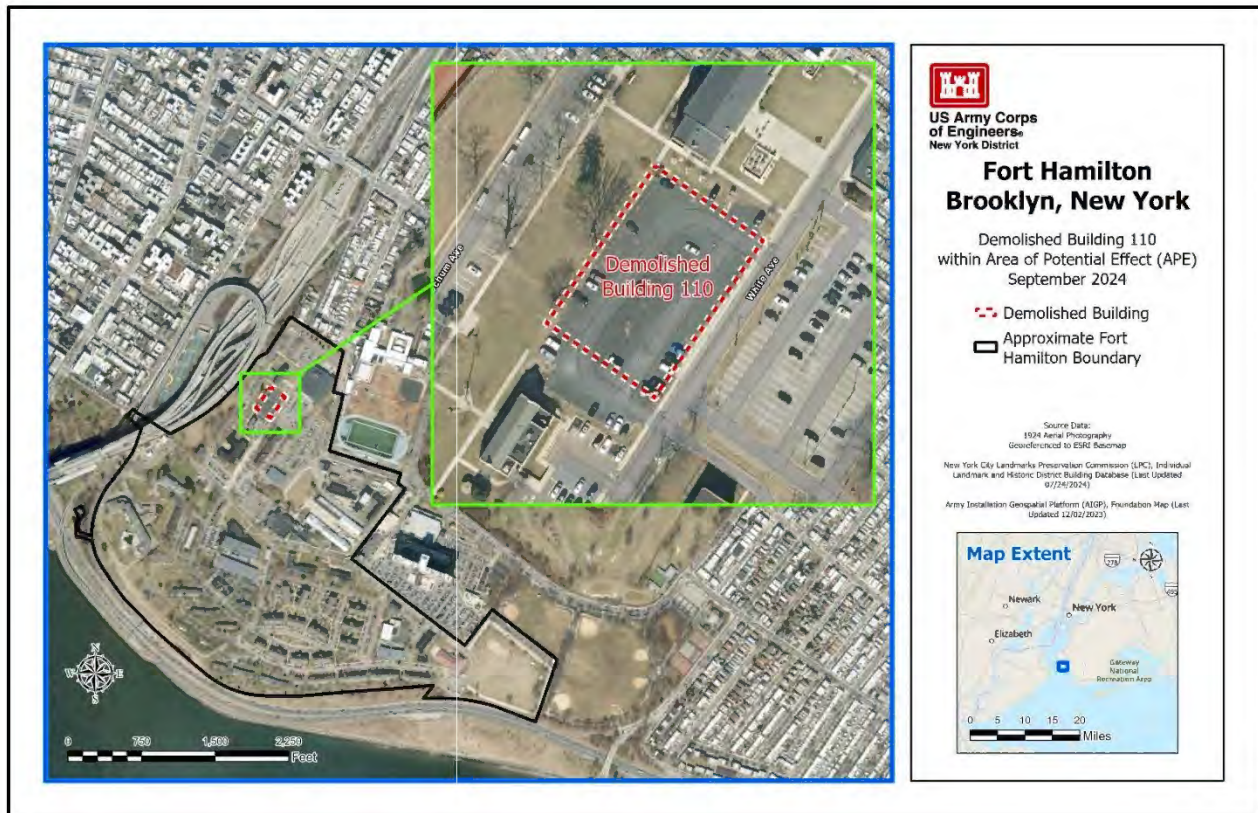


Figure 10: Footprint of Demolished Building 110 on current APE (USACE)

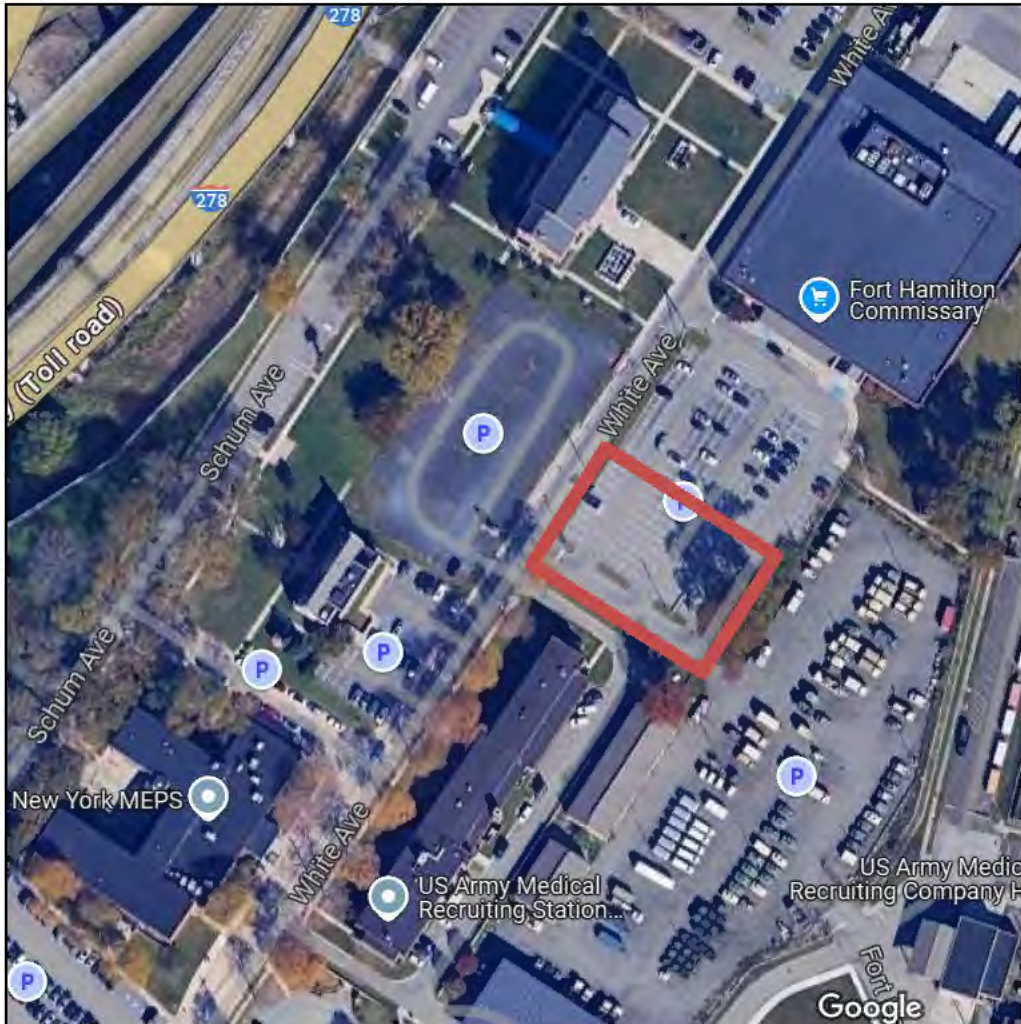


Figure 11: Outline of staging area (USACE)



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

January 6, 2025

Environmental Analysis Branch
Planning Division

Nancy Herter, PhD
Director, Technical Preservation Services Bureau
New York State Division for Historic Preservation
Peebles Island State Park
P.O. Box 189
Waterford, New York 12188-0189

Re: United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton Brooklyn New York, Child Development Center

Dear Dr. Herter,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment on behalf of the United States Army Garrison (USAG) Fort Hamilton for a proposed Child Development Center (CDC). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 USC § 306108) and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, a cultural resources survey was carried out including an assessment of effects for the proposed (CDC). This NHPA consultation is being coordinated with the proposed project's NEPA process. The purpose of the attached letter report is to give the Technical Preservation Bureau an opportunity to review and comment on the District's determination of effects pursuant to 54 USC § 306108.

The Undertaking

The United States Department of the Army (Army) is planning to construct and operate a new CDC facility (Proposed Action) on United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (herein referred to as "Fort Hamilton" or the "Installation") in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (Figure 1). The Proposed Action includes the construction of a 16,632 square foot single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 square feet, 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features (Figure 2).

Two options were considered for this Proposed Action, the No Action Alternative and the Preferred Alternative. The No Action Alternative is that the CDC would remain at its current location, which is an obsolete 1960s era building with no ability to increase its capacity, and the proposed site would remain a landscaped area and gravel parking lot. The Preferred Alternative will allow for an increase enrollment capacity by building a

larger facility. In addition, the modernized facility will support the Fort Hamilton CDC's mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The new CDC facility will offer new and improved amenities such as a kitchen, changing areas, administrative support space, mothers' nursing room, staff lounge, laundry, storage, and supply rooms.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, its implementing regulations, and the specific legal requirements described in Chapter 6 of AR-200-1, the Proposed Action is considered an Undertaking having the potential to affect cultural resources. The physical Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the CDC consists of the parking lot and associated open areas between the Garrison Headquarters (Building 113) and The Holiday Inn (Building 107). Proposed activities will include construction of the CDC building itself as well as playgrounds, new parking areas and pathways (Figure 3). In addition, the APE includes a staging area directly east of the proposed project site.

History of the APE and Identification of Cultural Resources

Background research included a review of the history of the APE, a review of site files held by the Fort Hamilton, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation and the Landmarks Preservation Commission to gather information on previously documented historic properties and archaeological sites, review of cultural resource survey reports and a site visit to document current conditions at the site and to determine if there are any known cultural resources or structures within the proposed project area and vicinity with the potential for NRHP eligibility that may be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Much of the history of the project area can be found within the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton (DPW 2020). The New York City and Brooklyn itself have a long history of use and habitation. The area now occupied by Fort Hamilton was part of the Village of New Utrecht settled by the Dutch in 1657. New Utrecht was originally part of the Nayack Patent, one of two tracts of land on Long Island purchased by Augustine Herman for Cornelis Van Werckhoven in 1652 (DPW 2020). Van Werckhoven was a member of the Dutch government and a speculator in colonial lands. The Nayack Patent was named after the historic Native American village of Nayack which overlapped with present day Fort Hamilton. With the arrival of the Dutch, the forests in and around lower New York City were cleared for small farms and later, larger settlements. This only intensified with the military occupation of New York City during the Revolutionary War. Colonial forces built an earthen battery at the site in 1776. The site was later captured by British and Hessian troops until 1783 (DPW 2020). Between 1825 and 1831 the masonry casemate fort and earthen redoubt of Fort Hamilton was built.

In addition to the military and colonial history of the area there are also reports of Native American artifacts and habitations at Fort Hamilton. These reports are derived from sources nearly a century old and have not been field verified (DPW 2020). The

Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton listed these reports as:

- “(1) “A cache of stone and flint blades found at the Narrows in 1837. Furman says that the quantity was a wagonload” (Parker 1922:582). This is site number 1 in Arthur C. Parker's inventory of Kings County archaeological sites. The reference is to Gabriel Furman, *Antiquities of Long Island* (1874). This site is also referenced in Bailey (1840:6), who refers to the artifacts as "arrowheads" and "axes."
- (2) Parker (1922:Plate 179) illustrates "traces of occupation" at Fort Hamilton.
- (3) Bolton's site number 68, Fort Hamilton (see Letter B on Figure 3.18): "Shell beds indicated occupation, probably as a fishing camp" (Bolton 1934:147; see also Bergen 1884:255).
- (4) Bolton's site number 68, Nayack, The Narrows. Bolton (1934:147) states: "This is supposed to have been the place to which the natives of Werpoes removed after the sale of Manhattan." Bolton also notes Furman's (1874) report of a large cache of flint blades found here." (DPW 2020) (Figure 4)

A review of the New York State Historic Preservation Office (CRIS) database confirmed there are no precontact-period archaeological sites within the Fort Hamilton reservation. However, the area is labeled as archaeologically sensitive as a result of the reported Parker sites, which were subsumed under the number New York State Museum (NYSM) 3611.

There are four potential historic period archaeological sites that have been noted at Fort Hamilton (DPW 2020) (Figure 5). These are:

- (1) A filled stone well or cistern beneath an asphalt road between Buildings 230 and 207. Reported by Mr. Russell Gilmore, then curator of the Harbor Defense Museum, this feature of unknown age was exposed during road work in 1980. This site does not have an official site number. This site is located approximately 1,260 feet from the APE.
- (2) Nineteenth-century deposits and possible building remains surrounding Building 117, possibly associated with a complex of four buildings of which only Building 117 is still standing (site A047-01-0423 [renumbered A04701.000423]). This area was subjected to archaeological investigations and architectural evaluations, which have concluded that the site does not meet the eligibility criteria for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 600 feet from the APE.
- (3) Late nineteenth-century/early twentieth-century artifact deposits and possible displaced foundation stones associated with two former buildings (site A047-01-0424 [renumbered A04701.000424]). This site

is in the northern section of the former parade ground, 150 feet east of the reviewing stand and 100 feet south of Building 302. This site was investigated through a Phase II archaeological survey conducted in August 2003, which determined the site not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 1500 feet from the APE.

- (4) A possible filled-in cellar hole south of Building 312; the feature is near the approximate location of Simon Cortelyou's house. This site does not have a formal site number." (DPW 2020). This site is located approximately 2100 feet away from the APE.

No historic period archaeological sites have been identified within the project APE.

Three buildings on the installation are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): (1) Building 207, the Casemate Fortification; (2) Building 220, the Sentry Station; and (3) Building 230, the Caponier. All these listed buildings are located approximately 1,300 feet from the APE. In addition, there are three structures that have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, Building 113, Building 201, and the Denyse Wharf. Of those three eligible buildings only Building 113 is located in proximity to the project area, being directly adjacent to it. Building 201 and Denyse Warf are 900 and 2,000 feet away, respectively (Figure 5 and 6)

The APE has had various uses throughout the history of Fort Hamilton. Most recently it was used as a gravel parking lot with a grassy area and trees. However, the parking lot fell into disuse due to sinkholes developing across the lot. Prior to that the site was home to a set of barracks (designated Building 110). This building was evaluated in 1999 and deemed not eligible for the NRHP. It, along with two other buildings, 109 and 111 were demolished in 2010-2011 to make way for the current parking lot and Holiday Inn. The 1935 map in Figure 7 depicts the former location of Building 110 and APE for the CDC.

The neighboring building to the south of the APE is the current Garrison Headquarters (Building 113). This building has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. Building 113 was built in 1925 as the YMCA building. The building is considered eligible under Criteria C, as it "embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. It is an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. It is also one of the Installation's best examples of non-defensive architecture associated with an era of development between the two world wars." (NRHP Evaluation form 1999) (Figure 8).

In 1986, a cultural sensitivity survey was done for Fort Hamilton and revised in 2020. The 1986 survey determined that almost all areas of the Installation have high potential for the presence of cultural resources (Klein et al. 1986, DPW 2020) (Figure 9). Klein et al. (1986) established a system for classifying areas within Fort Hamilton on the basis of general archaeological sensitivity. Their classification was based on the

assumption that, “prior to the late nineteenth century, all areas in the installation had high degrees of sensitivity for precontact period and early historic archaeological resources. Since the late nineteenth century, portions of the fort have been modified to varying degrees during episodes of construction and demolition.” (DPW 2020). In the years since the 1986 survey many areas on Fort Hamilton have changed with new buildings being built and other structures demolished.

The APE (former location of Building 110) is included in Sensitivity Area 7. Sensitivity Area 7 includes the area around and between buildings 107 and 113. This area is described as containing two feet of fill covering the entire area as well as distinct areas of disturbance due to construction, demolition, and utilities. Based off this analysis, Area 7, and therefore the APE, is believed to have a moderate potential for both European and Native American resources at depths below 2 feet.

The staging area for the project consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site (Figure 11). This area is within Sensitivity Area 17. Sensitivity Area 17 has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17 that are currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction and/or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020).

Determination of Effects

There are no known archaeological sites or historic properties located within the direct APE for the Preferred Alternative. The APE has been affected by episodes of construction, demolition, and utilities-related disturbances. Building 110, previously located on the site was determined not eligible for the NRHP and demolished in 2011 (Figure 10). Another building that was located northwest of Building 113 in the western portion of the APE was demolished before 1951. Although it is anticipated that the APE is affected by disturbances, limited areas around the demolished building footprint, located at depths below two feet are believed to have a moderate potential for archaeological resources that may be affected by the project.

The direct APE also includes the staging area to the east (Figure 11). The staging area consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site, which has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment prepared in 2020. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17, currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020). However, the use of the lot as a staging area will have no effect on buried resources. The area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits.

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Recommendations

A review of existing information and the archaeological sensitivity analysis prepared for the installation indicated that limited areas around the demolished Building 110 footprint, located at depths below two feet, have a moderate potential for archaeological resources. Currently, more than fifty percent of the direct APE is covered by gravel fill and utility lines traverse the property, making archaeological investigations impractical in advance of construction. Therefore, no further archaeological investigations are recommended at this time within the APE but archaeological monitoring will be employed for all construction below the two feet of documented fill in previously undisturbed areas to ensure any undocumented historic or precontact archaeological remains are properly handled. In the event that archaeological deposits are discovered during construction all work will be suspended, the site will be secured, and the NYSHPO, NYCLPC, and federally recognized tribes as applicable, will be contacted so that procedures for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of effects can be implemented prior to resumption of construction activities that have the potential to affect cultural resources. The staging area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits; therefore, no further work is recommended for the staging area.

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to the proximity of the proposed CDC to the existing Building 113. There is about 45 feet between Building 113 and the proposed CDC. To ensure that thresholds are not exceeded, a vibration impact assessment will be performed in advance of construction and if threshold exceedances are anticipated modifications will be made to reduce vibrations where possible and if necessary additional mitigation measures will be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC. Additionally, a vibration monitor will be placed at Building 113 to identify any inadvertent exceedances and if thresholds are exceeded all work will stop until protective measures can be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC.

The District, on behalf of the Fort Hamilton Garrison, invites you to review the information presented here and provide any comments in accordance with 54 USC § 306108 within thirty days of receipt of this letter. Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you or your staff require additional information or have any questions, please contact Arianna Stimpfl, Project Archaeologist, at (917) 790-8605 or by email at Arianna.M.Stimpfl@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

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Peter M. Weppler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch

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REPLY TO
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JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

January 6, 2025

Environmental Analysis Branch
Planning Division

Rainbow Chavis
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Shinnecock Indian Nation
P.O. Box 5006
Southampton, NY 11969

Re: United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton Brooklyn New York, Child Development Center

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- (4) Bolton's site number 68, Nayack, The Narrows. Bolton (1934:147) states: "This is supposed to have been the place to which the natives of Werpoes removed after the sale of Manhattan." Bolton also notes Furman's (1874) report of a large cache of flint blades found here.” (DPW 2020) (Figure 4)

A review of the New York State Historic Preservation Office (CRIS) database confirmed there are no precontact-period archaeological sites within the Fort Hamilton reservation. However, the area is labeled as archaeologically sensitive as a result of the reported Parker sites, which were subsumed under the number New York State Museum (NYSM) 3611.

There are four potential historic period archaeological sites that have been noted at Fort Hamilton (DPW 2020) (Figure 5). These are:

- (1) A filled stone well or cistern beneath an asphalt road between Buildings 230 and 207. Reported by Mr. Russell Gilmore, then curator of the Harbor Defense Museum, this feature of unknown age was exposed during road work in 1980. This site does not have an official site number. This site is located approximately 1,260 feet from the APE.
- (2) Nineteenth-century deposits and possible building remains surrounding Building 117, possibly associated with a complex of four buildings of which only Building 117 is still standing (site A047-01-0423 [renumbered A04701.000423]). This area was subjected to archaeological investigations and architectural evaluations, which have concluded that the site does not meet the eligibility criteria for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 600 feet from the APE.
- (3) Late nineteenth-century/early twentieth-century artifact deposits and possible displaced foundation stones associated with two former buildings (site A047-01-0424 [renumbered A04701.000424]). This site

is in the northern section of the former parade ground, 150 feet east of the reviewing stand and 100 feet south of Building 302. This site was investigated through a Phase II archaeological survey conducted in August 2003, which determined the site not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 1500 feet from the APE.

- (4) A possible filled-in cellar hole south of Building 312; the feature is near the approximate location of Simon Cortelyou's house. This site does not have a formal site number." (DPW 2020). This site is located approximately 2100 feet away from the APE.

No historic period archaeological sites have been identified within the project APE.

Three buildings on the installation are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): (1) Building 207, the Casemate Fortification; (2) Building 220, the Sentry Station; and (3) Building 230, the Caponier. All these listed buildings are located approximately 1,300 feet from the APE. In addition, there are three structures that have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, Building 113, Building 201, and the Denyse Wharf. Of those three eligible buildings only Building 113 is located in proximity to the project area, being directly adjacent to it. Building 201 and Denyse Warf are 900 and 2,000 feet away, respectively (Figure 5 and 6)

The APE has had various uses throughout the history of Fort Hamilton. Most recently it was used as a gravel parking lot with a grassy area and trees. However, the parking lot fell into disuse due to sinkholes developing across the lot. Prior to that the site was home to a set of barracks (designated Building 110). This building was evaluated in 1999 and deemed not eligible for the NRHP. It, along with two other buildings, 109 and 111 were demolished in 2010-2011 to make way for the current parking lot and Holiday Inn. The 1935 map in Figure 7 depicts the former location of Building 110 and APE for the CDC.

The neighboring building to the south of the APE is the current Garrison Headquarters (Building 113). This building has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. Building 113 was built in 1925 as the YMCA building. The building is considered eligible under Criteria C, as it "embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. It is an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. It is also one of the Installation's best examples of non-defensive architecture associated with an era of development between the two world wars." (NRHP Evaluation form 1999) (Figure 8).

In 1986, a cultural sensitivity survey was done for Fort Hamilton and revised in 2020. The 1986 survey determined that almost all areas of the Installation have high potential for the presence of cultural resources (Klein et al. 1986, DPW 2020) (Figure 9). Klein et al. (1986) established a system for classifying areas within Fort Hamilton on the basis of general archaeological sensitivity. Their classification was based on the

assumption that, “prior to the late nineteenth century, all areas in the installation had high degrees of sensitivity for precontact period and early historic archaeological resources. Since the late nineteenth century, portions of the fort have been modified to varying degrees during episodes of construction and demolition.” (DPW 2020). In the years since the 1986 survey many areas on Fort Hamilton have changed with new buildings being built and other structures demolished.

The APE (former location of Building 110) is included in Sensitivity Area 7. Sensitivity Area 7 includes the area around and between buildings 107 and 113. This area is described as containing two feet of fill covering the entire area as well as distinct areas of disturbance due to construction, demolition, and utilities. Based off this analysis, Area 7, and therefore the APE, is believed to have a moderate potential for both European and Native American resources at depths below 2 feet.

The staging area for the project consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site (Figure 11). This area is within Sensitivity Area 17. Sensitivity Area 17 has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17 that are currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction and/or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020).

Determination of Effects

There are no known archaeological sites or historic properties located within the direct APE for the Preferred Alternative. The APE has been affected by episodes of construction, demolition, and utilities-related disturbances. Building 110, previously located on the site was determined not eligible for the NRHP and demolished in 2011 (Figure 10). Another building that was located northwest of Building 113 in the western portion of the APE was demolished before 1951. Although it is anticipated that the APE is affected by disturbances, limited areas around the demolished building footprint, located at depths below two feet are believed to have a moderate potential for archaeological resources that may be affected by the project.

The direct APE also includes the staging area to the east (Figure 11). The staging area consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site, which has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment prepared in 2020. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17, currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020). However, the use of the lot as a staging area will have no effect on buried resources. The area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits.

In addition to the direct effects of the construction of the CDC the District has also considered indirect effects to the surrounding buildings and areas. The District considered potential effects to the viewsheds of NRHP-listed and eligible buildings and from vibrations from construction to listed and eligible buildings. There is one NRHP-eligible building within the indirect/visual APE, Building 113. As described above, Building 113 is eligible under criterion C and is a former YMCA building built in 1925. Today this building is serving as the Garrison Headquarters. The setting of Building 113 has changed drastically since it was constructed. The elevated highway that leads to the Verrazzano Bridge, built in 1959, is situated 276 feet from the front of the building. The neighboring buildings, Building 109, 111 and 110, were also demolished in 2012 and other buildings have been constructed within the viewshed since the construction of Building 113. While its integrity of setting would be impacted by the proposed action, the historic property has been previously impacted to a greater extent by the loss of other early 20th Century buildings. In addition, the setting is not an essential factor to the Criteria C significance, as the building was determined eligible in 1999. The building was deemed eligible due to its distinctive characteristics of a type, as an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. The CDC building itself will be situated approximately 45 feet from Building 113, providing an appropriate offset from the historic structure. The buildings integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association would remain unchanged as a result of the proposed action. Therefore, the construction of the CDC is not expected to adversely affect the historic viewshed of the building.

Recommendations

A review of existing information and the archaeological sensitivity analysis prepared for the installation indicated that limited areas around the demolished Building 110 footprint, located at depths below two feet, have a moderate potential for archaeological resources. Currently, more than fifty percent of the direct APE is covered by gravel fill and utility lines traverse the property, making archaeological investigations impractical in advance of construction. Therefore, no further archaeological investigations are recommended at this time within the APE but archaeological monitoring will be employed for all construction below the two feet of documented fill in previously undisturbed areas to ensure any undocumented historic or precontact archaeological remains are properly handled. In the event that archaeological deposits are discovered during construction all work will be suspended, the site will be secured, and the NYSHPO, NYCLPC, and federally recognized tribes as applicable, will be contacted so that procedures for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of effects can be implemented prior to resumption of construction activities that have the potential to affect cultural resources. The staging area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits; therefore, no further work is recommended for the staging area.

The District has determined that while there is no visual impact anticipated there is the potential for adverse effects to Building 113 from vibration during construction due

to the proximity of the proposed CDC to the existing Building 113. There is about 45 feet between Building 113 and the proposed CDC. To ensure that thresholds are not exceeded, a vibration impact assessment will be performed in advance of construction and if threshold exceedances are anticipated modifications will be made to reduce vibrations where possible and if necessary additional mitigation measures will be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC. Additionally, a vibration monitor will be placed at Building 113 to identify any inadvertent exceedances and if thresholds are exceeded all work will stop until protective measures can be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC.

The District, on behalf of the Fort Hamilton Garrison, invites you to review the information presented here and provide any comments in accordance with 54 USC § 306108 within thirty days of receipt of this letter. Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you or your staff require additional information or have any questions, please contact Arianna Stimpfl, Project Archaeologist, at (917) 790-8605 or by email at Arianna.M.Stimpfl@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

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Peter M. Weppler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch

References:

Klein, Terry H., Amy Friedlander, and Martha Bowers. 1986. *A Cultural Resource Overview and Management Plan for the U.S. Army Property, Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, New York, Fort Totten, Queens, New York*. Prepared for the National Park Service, Mid-Atlantic Region, Philadelphia, by the Cultural Resources Group, Louis Berger and Associates, Inc., East Orange, New Jersey.

Directorate of Public Works (DPW). 2020. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan for Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York*. Prepared by Panamerican Consultants, Inc., Buffalo, New York



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

January 6, 2025

Environmental Analysis Branch
Planning Division

Amanda Sutphin
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building
One Center Street, 9th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10007

Ref: United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton Brooklyn New York, Child Development Center; Project Number 106.K (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

Dear Ms. Sutphin,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment on behalf of the United States Army Garrison (USAG) Fort Hamilton for a proposed Child Development Center (CDC). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 USC § 306108) and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, a cultural resources assessment was carried out including an assessment of effects for the proposed CDC. This NHPA consultation is being coordinated with the NEPA process and a draft Environmental Assessment has been prepared incorporating the results of this assessment. That document will be made available to the public in the coming weeks. The purpose of the attached letter report is to give your office an opportunity to review and comment on the District's determination of effects pursuant to 54 USC § 306108.

The Undertaking

The United States Department of the Army (Army) is planning to construct and operate a new CDC facility (Proposed Action) on United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (herein referred to as "Fort Hamilton" or the "Installation") in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (Figure 1). The Proposed Action includes the construction of a 16,632 square feet single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 square feet, 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features (Figure 2).

Two options were considered for this Proposed Action, the No Action Alternative and the Preferred Alternative. The No Action Alternative is that the CDC would remain at its current location, which is an obsolete 1960s era building with no ability to increase its capacity, and the proposed site would remain a landscaped area and gravel parking

lot. The Preferred Alternative will allow for an increase enrollment capacity by building a larger facility. In addition, the modernized facility will support the Fort Hamilton CDC's mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The new CDC facility will offer new and improved amenities such as a kitchen, changing areas, administrative support space, mothers' nursing room, staff lounge, laundry, storage, and supply rooms.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, its implementing regulations, and the specific legal requirements described in Chapter 6 of AR-200-1, the Proposed Action is considered an Undertaking having the potential to affect cultural resources. The physical Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the CDC consists of the parking lot and associated open areas between the Garrison Headquarters (Building 113) and The Holiday Inn (Building 107). Proposed activities will include construction of the CDC building itself as well as playgrounds, new parking areas and pathways (Figure 3). In addition, the APE includes a staging area directly east of the proposed project site.

History of the APE and Identification of Cultural Resources

Background research included a review of the history of the APE, a review of site files held by the Fort Hamilton, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation and the Landmarks Preservation Commission to gather information on previously documented historic properties and archaeological sites, review of cultural resource survey reports and a site visit to document current conditions at the site and to determine if there are any known cultural resources or structures within the proposed project area and vicinity with the potential for NRHP eligibility that may be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Much of the history of the project area can be found within the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton (DPW 2020). The New York City and Brooklyn itself have a long history of use and habitation. The area now occupied by Fort Hamilton was part of the Village of New Utrecht settled by the Dutch in 1657. New Utrecht was originally part of the Nayack Patent, one of two tracts of land on Long Island purchased by Augustine Herman for Cornelis Van Werckhoven in 1652 (DPW 2020). Van Werckhoven was a member of the Dutch government and a speculator in colonial lands. The Nayack Patent was named after the historic Native American village of Nayack which overlapped with present day Fort Hamilton. With the arrival of the Dutch, the forests in and around lower New York City were cleared for small farms and later, larger settlements. This only intensified with the military occupation of New York City during the Revolutionary War. Colonial forces built an earthen battery at the site in 1776. The site was later captured by British and Hessian troops until 1783 (DPW 2020). Between 1825 and 1831 the masonry casemate fort and earthen redoubt of Fort Hamilton was built.

In addition to the military and colonial history of the area there are also reports of Native American artifacts and habitations at Fort Hamilton. These reports are derived

from sources nearly a century old and have not been field verified (DPW 2020). The Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton listed these reports as:

- “(1) “A cache of stone and flint blades found at the Narrows in 1837. Furman says that the quantity was a wagonload” (Parker 1922:582). This is site number 1 in Arthur C. Parker's inventory of Kings County archaeological sites. The reference is to Gabriel Furman, *Antiquities of Long Island* (1874). This site is also referenced in Bailey (1840:6), who refers to the artifacts as "arrowheads" and "axes."
- (2) Parker (1922:Plate 179) illustrates "traces of occupation" at Fort Hamilton.
- (3) Bolton's site number 68, Fort Hamilton (see Letter B on Figure 3.18): "Shell beds indicated occupation, probably as a fishing camp" (Bolton 1934:147; see also Bergen 1884:255).
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buildings (site A047-01-0424 [renumbered A04701.000424]). This site is in the northern section of the former parade ground, 150 feet east of the reviewing stand and 100 feet south of Building 302. This site was investigated through a Phase II archaeological survey conducted in August 2003, which determined the site not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 1500 feet from the APE.

- (4) A possible filled-in cellar hole south of Building 312; the feature is near the approximate location of Simon Cortelyou's house. This site does not have a formal site number." (DPW 2020). This site is located approximately 2100 feet away from the APE.

No historic period archaeological sites have been identified within the project APE.

Three buildings on the installation are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): (1) Building 207, the Casemate Fortification; (2) Building 220, the Sentry Station; and (3) Building 230, the Caponier. All these listed buildings are located approximately 1,300 feet from the APE. In addition, there are three structures that have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, Building 113, Building 201, and the Denyse Wharf. Of those three eligible buildings only Building 113 is located in proximity to the project area, being directly adjacent to it. Building 201 and Denyse Warf are 900 and 2,000 feet away, respectively (Figure 5 and 6)

The APE has had various uses throughout the history of Fort Hamilton. Most recently it was used as a gravel parking lot with a grassy area and trees. However, the parking lot fell into disuse due to sinkholes developing across the lot. Prior to that the site was home to a set of barracks (designated Building 110). This building was evaluated in 1999 and deemed not eligible for the NRHP. It, along with two other buildings, 109 and 111 were demolished in 2010-2011 to make way for the current parking lot and Holiday Inn. The 1935 map in Figure 7 depicts the former location of Building 110 and APE for the CDC.

The neighboring building to the south of the APE is the current Garrison Headquarters (Building 113). This building has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. Building 113 was built in 1925 as the YMCA building. The building is considered eligible under Criteria C, as it "embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. It is an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. It is also one of the Installation's best examples of non-defensive architecture associated with an era of development between the two world wars." (NRHP Evaluation form 1999) (Figure 8).

In 1986, a cultural sensitivity survey was done for Fort Hamilton and revised in 2020. The 1986 survey determined that almost all areas of the Installation have high potential for the presence of cultural resources (Klein et al. 1986, DPW 2020) (Figure 9). Klein et al. (1986) established a system for classifying areas within Fort Hamilton on the

basis of general archaeological sensitivity. Their classification was based on the assumption that, “prior to the late nineteenth century, all areas in the installation had high degrees of sensitivity for precontact period and early historic archaeological resources. Since the late nineteenth century, portions of the fort have been modified to varying degrees during episodes of construction and demolition.” (DPW 2020). In the years since the 1986 survey many areas on Fort Hamilton have changed with new buildings being built and other structures demolished.

The APE (former location of Building 110) is included in Sensitivity Area 7. Sensitivity Area 7 includes the area around and between buildings 107 and 113. This area is described as containing two feet of fill covering the entire area as well as distinct areas of disturbance due to construction, demolition, and utilities. Based off this analysis, Area 7, and therefore the APE, is believed to have a moderate potential for both European and Native American resources at depths below 2 feet.

The staging area for the project consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site (Figure 11). This area is within Sensitivity Area 17. Sensitivity Area 17 has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17 that are currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction and/or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020).

Determination of Effects

There are no known archaeological sites or historic properties located within the direct APE for the Preferred Alternative. The APE has been affected by episodes of construction, demolition, and utilities-related disturbances. Building 110, previously located on the site was determined not eligible for the NRHP and demolished in 2011 (Figure 10). Another building that was located northwest of Building 113 in the western portion of the APE was demolished before 1951. Although it is anticipated that the APE is affected by disturbances, limited areas around the demolished building footprint, located at depths below two feet are believed to have a moderate potential for archaeological resources that may be affected by the project.

The direct APE also includes the staging area to the east (Figure 11). The staging area consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site, which has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment prepared in 2020. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17, currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020). However, the use of the lot as a staging area will have no effect on buried resources. The area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits.

In addition to the direct effects of the construction of the CDC the District has also considered indirect effects to the surrounding buildings and areas. The District considered potential effects to the viewsheds of NRHP-listed and eligible buildings and from vibrations from construction to listed and eligible buildings. There is one NRHP-eligible building within the indirect/visual APE, Building 113. As described above, Building 113 is eligible under criterion C and is a former YMCA building built in 1925. Today this building is serving as the Garrison Headquarters. The setting of Building 113 has changed drastically since it was constructed. The elevated highway that leads to the Verrazzano Bridge, built in 1959, is situated 276 feet from the front of the building. The neighboring buildings, Building 109, 111 and 110, were also demolished in 2012 and other buildings have been constructed within the viewshed since the construction of Building 113. While its integrity of setting would be impacted by the proposed action, the historic property has been previously impacted to a greater extent by the loss of other early 20th Century buildings. In addition, the setting is not an essential factor to the Criteria C significance, as the building was determined eligible in 1999. The building was deemed eligible due to its distinctive characteristics of a type, as an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. The CDC building itself will be situated approximately 45 feet from Building 113, providing an appropriate offset from the historic structure. The buildings integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association would remain unchanged as a result of the proposed action. Therefore, the construction of the CDC is not expected to adversely affect the historic viewshed of the building.

Recommendations

A review of existing information and the archaeological sensitivity analysis prepared for the installation indicated that limited areas around the demolished Building 110 footprint, located at depths below two feet, have a moderate potential for archaeological resources. Currently, more than fifty percent of the direct APE is covered by gravel fill and utility lines traverse the property, making archaeological investigations impractical in advance of construction. Therefore, no further archaeological investigations are recommended at this time within the APE but archaeological monitoring will be employed for all construction below the two feet of documented fill in previously undisturbed areas to ensure any undocumented historic or precontact archaeological remains are properly handled. In the event that archaeological deposits are discovered during construction all work will be suspended, the site will be secured, and the NYSHPO, NYCLPC, and federally recognized tribes as applicable, will be contacted so that procedures for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of effects can be implemented prior to resumption of construction activities that have the potential to affect cultural resources. The staging area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits; therefore, no further work is recommended for the staging area.

The District has determined that while there is no visual impact anticipated there is the potential for adverse effects to Building 113 from vibration during construction due to the proximity of the proposed CDC to the existing Building 113. There is about 45 feet between Building 113 and the proposed CDC. To ensure that thresholds are not exceeded, a vibration impact assessment will be performed in advance of construction and if threshold exceedances are anticipated modifications will be made to reduce vibrations where possible and if necessary additional mitigation measures will be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC. Additionally, a vibration monitor will be placed at Building 113 to identify any inadvertent exceedances and if thresholds are exceeded all work will stop until protective measures can be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC.

The District, on behalf of the Fort Hamilton Garrison, invites you to review the information presented here and provide any comments in accordance with 54 USC § 306108 within thirty days of receipt of this letter. Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you or your staff require additional information or have any questions, please contact Arianna Stimpfl, Project Archaeologist, at (917) 790-8605 or by email at Arianna.M.Stimpfl@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

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Peter M. Wepler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch

References:

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REPLY TO
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

January 6, 2025

Environmental Analysis Branch
Planning Division

Susan Bachor
Delaware Tribe Historic Preservation
Delaware Tribe of Indians
126 University Circle
Stroud Hall, Rm. 437
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

Re: United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton Brooklyn New York, Child Development Center

Dear Ms. Bachor,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment on behalf of the United States Army Garrison (USAG) Fort Hamilton for a proposed Child Development Center (CDC). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 USC § 306108) and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, a cultural resources survey was carried out including an assessment of effects for the proposed (CDC). This NHPA consultation is being coordinated with the proposed project's NEPA process. As a Federally Recognized Tribe with expressed interest in the area this letter report has been prepared to give your office an opportunity to review and comment on the determination of effects pursuant to 54 USC § 306108.

The Undertaking

The United States Department of the Army (Army) is planning to construct and operate a new CDC facility (Proposed Action) on United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (herein referred to as "Fort Hamilton" or the "Installation") in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (Figure 1). The Proposed Action includes the construction of a 16,632 square foot single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 square feet, 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features (Figure 2).

Two options were considered for this Proposed Action, the No Action Alternative and the Preferred Alternative. The No Action Alternative is that the CDC would remain at its current location, which is an obsolete 1960s era building with no ability to increase its capacity, and the proposed site would remain a landscaped area and gravel parking lot. The Preferred Alternative will allow for an increase enrollment capacity by building a

larger facility. In addition, the modernized facility will support the Fort Hamilton CDC's mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The new CDC facility will offer new and improved amenities such as a kitchen, changing areas, administrative support space, mothers' nursing room, staff lounge, laundry, storage, and supply rooms.

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In addition to the military and colonial history of the area there are also reports of Native American artifacts and habitations at Fort Hamilton. These reports are derived from sources nearly a century old and have not been field verified (DPW 2020). The

Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton listed these reports as:

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A review of the New York State Historic Preservation Office (CRIS) database confirmed there are no precontact-period archaeological sites within the Fort Hamilton reservation. However, the area is labeled as archaeologically sensitive as a result of the reported Parker sites, which were subsumed under the number New York State Museum (NYSM) 3611.

There are four potential historic period archaeological sites that have been noted at Fort Hamilton (DPW 2020) (Figure 5). These are:

- (1) A filled stone well or cistern beneath an asphalt road between Buildings 230 and 207. Reported by Mr. Russell Gilmore, then curator of the Harbor Defense Museum, this feature of unknown age was exposed during road work in 1980. This site does not have an official site number. This site is located approximately 1,260 feet from the APE.
- (2) Nineteenth-century deposits and possible building remains surrounding Building 117, possibly associated with a complex of four buildings of which only Building 117 is still standing (site A047-01-0423 [renumbered A04701.000423]). This area was subjected to archaeological investigations and architectural evaluations, which have concluded that the site does not meet the eligibility criteria for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 600 feet from the APE.
- (3) Late nineteenth-century/early twentieth-century artifact deposits and possible displaced foundation stones associated with two former buildings (site A047-01-0424 [renumbered A04701.000424]). This site

is in the northern section of the former parade ground, 150 feet east of the reviewing stand and 100 feet south of Building 302. This site was investigated through a Phase II archaeological survey conducted in August 2003, which determined the site not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. This site is located approximately 1500 feet from the APE.

- (4) A possible filled-in cellar hole south of Building 312; the feature is near the approximate location of Simon Cortelyou's house. This site does not have a formal site number." (DPW 2020). This site is located approximately 2100 feet away from the APE.

No historic period archaeological sites have been identified within the project APE.

Three buildings on the installation are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): (1) Building 207, the Casemate Fortification; (2) Building 220, the Sentry Station; and (3) Building 230, the Caponier. All these listed buildings are located approximately 1,300 feet from the APE. In addition, there are three structures that have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, Building 113, Building 201, and the Denyse Wharf. Of those three eligible buildings only Building 113 is located in proximity to the project area, being directly adjacent to it. Building 201 and Denyse Warf are 900 and 2,000 feet away, respectively (Figure 5 and 6)

The APE has had various uses throughout the history of Fort Hamilton. Most recently it was used as a gravel parking lot with a grassy area and trees. However, the parking lot fell into disuse due to sinkholes developing across the lot. Prior to that the site was home to a set of barracks (designated Building 110). This building was evaluated in 1999 and deemed not eligible for the NRHP. It, along with two other buildings, 109 and 111 were demolished in 2010-2011 to make way for the current parking lot and Holiday Inn. The 1935 map in Figure 7 depicts the former location of Building 110 and APE for the CDC.

The neighboring building to the south of the APE is the current Garrison Headquarters (Building 113). This building has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. Building 113 was built in 1925 as the YMCA building. The building is considered eligible under Criteria C, as it "embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. It is an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. It is also one of the Installation's best examples of non-defensive architecture associated with an era of development between the two world wars." (NRHP Evaluation form 1999) (Figure 8).

In 1986, a cultural sensitivity survey was done for Fort Hamilton and revised in 2020. The 1986 survey determined that almost all areas of the Installation have high potential for the presence of cultural resources (Klein et al. 1986, DPW 2020) (Figure 9). Klein et al. (1986) established a system for classifying areas within Fort Hamilton on the basis of general archaeological sensitivity. Their classification was based on the

assumption that, “prior to the late nineteenth century, all areas in the installation had high degrees of sensitivity for precontact period and early historic archaeological resources. Since the late nineteenth century, portions of the fort have been modified to varying degrees during episodes of construction and demolition.” (DPW 2020). In the years since the 1986 survey many areas on Fort Hamilton have changed with new buildings being built and other structures demolished.

The APE (former location of Building 110) is included in Sensitivity Area 7. Sensitivity Area 7 includes the area around and between buildings 107 and 113. This area is described as containing two feet of fill covering the entire area as well as distinct areas of disturbance due to construction, demolition, and utilities. Based off this analysis, Area 7, and therefore the APE, is believed to have a moderate potential for both European and Native American resources at depths below 2 feet.

The staging area for the project consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site (Figure 11). This area is within Sensitivity Area 17. Sensitivity Area 17 has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17 that are currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction and/or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020).

Determination of Effects

There are no known archaeological sites or historic properties located within the direct APE for the Preferred Alternative. The APE has been affected by episodes of construction, demolition, and utilities-related disturbances. Building 110, previously located on the site was determined not eligible for the NRHP and demolished in 2011 (Figure 10). Another building that was located northwest of Building 113 in the western portion of the APE was demolished before 1951. Although it is anticipated that the APE is affected by disturbances, limited areas around the demolished building footprint, located at depths below two feet are believed to have a moderate potential for archaeological resources that may be affected by the project.

The direct APE also includes the staging area to the east (Figure 11). The staging area consists of the parking lot directly across the street from the proposed project site, which has a moderate level of archaeological sensitivity based on the archaeological sensitivity assessment prepared in 2020. The sensitivity analysis performed for the installation described the areas within Sensitivity Area 17, currently beneath parking lots, as likely not having been disturbed by construction or demolition of large buildings or structures (DPW 2020). However, the use of the lot as a staging area will have no effect on buried resources. The area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits.

In addition to the direct effects of the construction of the CDC the District has also considered indirect effects to the surrounding buildings and areas. The District considered potential effects to the viewsheds of NRHP-listed and eligible buildings and from vibrations from construction to listed and eligible buildings. There is one NRHP-eligible building within the indirect/visual APE, Building 113. As described above, Building 113 is eligible under criterion C and is a former YMCA building built in 1925. Today this building is serving as the Garrison Headquarters. The setting of Building 113 has changed drastically since it was constructed. The elevated highway that leads to the Verrazzano Bridge, built in 1959, is situated 276 feet from the front of the building. The neighboring buildings, Building 109, 111 and 110, were also demolished in 2012 and other buildings have been constructed within the viewshed since the construction of Building 113. While its integrity of setting would be impacted by the proposed action, the historic property has been previously impacted to a greater extent by the loss of other early 20th Century buildings. In addition, the setting is not an essential factor to the Criteria C significance, as the building was determined eligible in 1999. The building was deemed eligible due to its distinctive characteristics of a type, as an intact example of Gregorian Revival style military architecture. The CDC building itself will be situated approximately 45 feet from Building 113, providing an appropriate offset from the historic structure. The buildings integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association would remain unchanged as a result of the proposed action. Therefore, the construction of the CDC is not expected to adversely affect the historic viewshed of the building.

Recommendations

A review of existing information and the archaeological sensitivity analysis prepared for the installation indicated that limited areas around the demolished Building 110 footprint, located at depths below two feet, have a moderate potential for archaeological resources. Currently, more than fifty percent of the direct APE is covered by gravel fill and utility lines traverse the property, making archaeological investigations impractical in advance of construction. Therefore, no further archaeological investigations are recommended at this time within the APE but archaeological monitoring will be employed for all construction below the two feet of documented fill in previously undisturbed areas to ensure any undocumented historic or precontact archaeological remains are properly handled. In the event that archaeological deposits are discovered during construction all work will be suspended, the site will be secured, and the NYSHPO, NYCLPC, and federally recognized tribes as applicable, will be contacted so that procedures for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of effects can be implemented prior to resumption of construction activities that have the potential to affect cultural resources. The staging area will not be excavated for the proposed project, nor will any construction take place on the parking lot that could disturb archaeological deposits; therefore, no further work is recommended for the staging area.

The District has determined that while there is no visual impact anticipated there is the potential for adverse effects to Building 113 from vibration during construction due

to the proximity of the proposed CDC to the existing Building 113. There is about 45 feet between Building 113 and the proposed CDC. To ensure that thresholds are not exceeded, a vibration impact assessment will be performed in advance of construction and if threshold exceedances are anticipated modifications will be made to reduce vibrations where possible and if necessary additional mitigation measures will be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC. Additionally, a vibration monitor will be placed at Building 113 to identify any inadvertent exceedances and if thresholds are exceeded all work will stop until protective measures can be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC.

The District, on behalf of the Fort Hamilton Garrison, invites you to review the information presented here and provide any comments in accordance with 54 USC § 306108 within thirty days of receipt of this letter. Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you or your staff require additional information or have any questions, please contact Arianna Stimpfl, Project Archaeologist, at (917) 790-8605 or by email at Arianna.M.Stimpfl@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

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Peter M. Wepler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch

References:

Klein, Terry H., Amy Friedlander, and Martha Bowers. 1986. *A Cultural Resource Overview and Management Plan for the U.S. Army Property, Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, New York, Fort Totten, Queens, New York*. Prepared for the National Park Service, Mid-Atlantic Region, Philadelphia, by the Cultural Resources Group, Louis Berger and Associates, Inc., East Orange, New Jersey.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

January 6, 2025

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Environmental Analysis Branch
Planning Division

Ms. Katelyn Lucas
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Delaware Nation
2825 Fish Hatchery Road
Allentown, PA 18103

Ref: United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton Brooklyn New York, Child Development Center

Dear Ms. Lucas,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) on behalf of the United States Army Garrison (USAG) Fort Hamilton for a proposed Child Development Center (CDC). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 USC § 306108) and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, a cultural resources survey was carried out including an assessment of effects for the proposed CDC. This NHPA consultation is being coordinated with the proposed project's NEPA process. As a Federally Recognized Tribe with interest in this area this letter report has been prepared to give your office an opportunity to review and comment on the determination of effects pursuant to 54 USC § 306108.

The Undertaking

The United States Department of the Army (Army) is planning to construct and operate a new CDC facility (Proposed Action) on United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (herein referred to as "Fort Hamilton" or the "Installation") in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (Figure 1). The Proposed Action includes the construction of a 16,632 square feet single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 square feet, 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features (Figure 2).

Two options were considered for this Proposed Action, the No Action Alternative and the Preferred Alternative. The No Action Alternative is that the CDC would remain at its current location, which is an obsolete 1960s era building with no ability to increase its capacity, and the proposed site would remain a landscaped area and gravel parking

lot. The Preferred Alternative will allow for an increase enrollment capacity by building a larger facility. In addition, the modernized facility will support the Fort Hamilton CDC's mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The new CDC facility will offer new and improved amenities such as a kitchen, changing areas, administrative support space, mothers' nursing room, staff lounge, laundry, storage, and supply rooms.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, its implementing regulations, and the specific legal requirements described in Chapter 6 of AR-200-1, the Proposed Action is considered an Undertaking having the potential to affect cultural resources. The physical Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the CDC consists of the parking lot and associated open areas between the Garrison Headquarters (Building 113) and The Holiday Inn (Building 107). Proposed activities will include construction of the CDC building itself as well as playgrounds, new parking areas and pathways (Figure 3). In addition, the APE includes a staging area directly east of the proposed project site.

History of the APE and Identification of Cultural Resources

Background research included a review of the history of the APE, a review of site files held by the Fort Hamilton, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation and the Landmarks Preservation Commission to gather information on previously documented historic properties and archaeological sites, review of cultural resource survey reports and a site visit to document current conditions at the site and to determine if there are any known cultural resources or structures within the proposed project area and vicinity with the potential for NRHP eligibility that may be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Much of the history of the project area can be found within the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton (DPW 2020). The New York City and Brooklyn itself have a long history of use and habitation. The area now occupied by Fort Hamilton was part of the Village of New Utrecht settled by the Dutch in 1657. New Utrecht was originally part of the Nayack Patent, one of two tracts of land on Long Island purchased by Augustine Herman for Cornelis Van Werckhoven in 1652 (DPW 2020). Van Werckhoven was a member of the Dutch government and a speculator in colonial lands. The Nayack Patent was named after the historic Native American village of Nayack which overlapped with present day Fort Hamilton. With the arrival of the Dutch, the forests in and around lower New York City were cleared for small farms and later, larger settlements. This only intensified with the military occupation of New York City during the Revolutionary War. Colonial forces built an earthen battery at the site in 1776. The site was later captured by British and Hessian troops until 1783 (DPW 2020). Between 1825 and 1831 the masonry casemate fort and earthen redoubt of Fort Hamilton was built.

In addition to the military and colonial history of the area there are also reports of Native American artifacts and habitations at Fort Hamilton. These reports are derived

from sources nearly a century old and have not been field verified (DPW 2020). The Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort Hamilton listed these reports as:

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Recommendations

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The District has determined that while there is no visual impact anticipated there is the potential for adverse effects to Building 113 from vibration during construction due to the proximity of the proposed CDC to the existing Building 113. There is about 45 feet between Building 113 and the proposed CDC. To ensure that thresholds are not exceeded, a vibration impact assessment will be performed in advance of construction and if threshold exceedances are anticipated modifications will be made to reduce vibrations where possible and if necessary additional mitigation measures will be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC. Additionally, a vibration monitor will be placed at Building 113 to identify any inadvertent exceedances and if thresholds are exceeded all work will stop until protective measures can be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the NYCLPC.

The District, on behalf of the Fort Hamilton Garrison, invites you to review the information presented here and provide any comments in accordance with 54 USC § 306108 within thirty days of receipt of this letter. Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you or your staff require additional information or have any questions, please contact Arianna Stimpfl, Project Archaeologist, at (917) 790-8605 or by email at Arianna.M.Stimpfl@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

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Peter M. Wepler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch

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Directorate of Public Works (DPW). 2020. *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan for Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York*. Prepared by Panamerican Consultants, Inc., Buffalo, New York

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Project number: 106.K (US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS)
Project: FT. HAMILTON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Address: 9275 FT HAMILTON PARKWAY BBL: 3061530001
Date Received: 5/29/2024

Comments:

Within the radius: S/NR eligible Fort Hamilton Building 113 Recreation Center, aka Garrison Headquarters, 113 Schum Avenue.

LPC review of archaeological sensitivity models and historic maps indicates that there is potential for the recovery of remains from 19th Century and Indigenous Peoples occupation on the project site. Accordingly, the Commission recommends that an archaeological documentary study be performed for this site to clarify these initial findings and provide the threshold for the next level of review if such review is necessary (see CEQR Technical Manual 2021).

Cc: NYS SHPO



6/4/2024

SIGNATURE
Gina Santucci, Environmental Review Coordinator

DATE

File Name: 37349_FSO_DNP_06042024.docx



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON FORT HAMILTON
BROOKLYN NY 11252-5300

May 21, 2024

Subject: New Child Development Center Facility at United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY

To Whom It May Concern:

The United States Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, is supporting the United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (Fort Hamilton) by preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the construction and operation of a new Child Development Center facility (Proposed Action) at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. The EA is being prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 United States Code § 4321 et seq.), Council on Environmental Quality NEPA Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] §§ 1500-1508), and Army Regulations 200-2 "Environmental Analysis of Army Actions" (32 CFR Part 651). The mission of the Fort Hamilton Child Development Center is to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to build a newer and larger Child Development Center facility to better meet the installation's need for childcare services. The Proposed Action will increase the Child Development Center's capacity from approximately 76 to 126 children.

The new Child Development Center facility is proposed in northwestern Fort Hamilton on an approximately 95,000 square feet (ft²) site bound by the Holiday Inn Express, Garrison Headquarters, White Avenue, and the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge. The proposed site currently contains a closed gravel parking lot and a landscaped lawn area with several trees and shrubs. Current designs for the Child Development Center facility include a 16,632 ft² single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 ft², and 24 new parking spaces, among other features and amenities. Additional information regarding the Proposed Action can be found in the Description of Proposed Action and Alternatives (DOPAA) available online at: <https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Environmental-Assessment/Fort-Hamilton-CDC/>.

If you have information regarding potential impacts of the Proposed Action on the human environment, which includes the natural and physical environment or other environmental aspects of which we are unaware, we would appreciate receiving such information for inclusion and consideration during the NEPA compliance process. We look forward to and welcome your participation in the process. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure that your concerns are adequately addressed in the EA.

Please send your written responses via email to FortHamiltonCDC-EA@usace.army.mil. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

Nicholas S. Protopsaltis, P.E.
Director, DPW
USAG Fort Hamilton, NY

Letters were sent to stakeholders in May 2024 inviting them to review and comment on the Description of Proposed Action and Alternatives (DOPAA). The DOPAA was made publicly available on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District website in March 2024. Letters were sent to the following stakeholders:

- Steve Sinkevich, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Mark Austin, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Daniel Mackay, New York State Historic Preservation Office
- New York Natural Heritage Program
- Region 2 Environmental Permits Division, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Gina Santucci, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
- Stormwater Permit Program, New York City Department of Environmental Protection
- Hilary Semel, New York City Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination
- Katelyn Lucas, Delaware Nation
- Deborah Dotson, Delaware Nation
- Brad KillsCrow, Delaware Tribe of Indians
- Susan Bachor, Delaware Tribe of Indians
- Jeffery Bendremer, Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians
- Shannon Holsey, Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians
- Rainbow Chavis, Shinnecock Indian Nation
- Jeremy Dennis, Shinnecock Indian Nation
- Bryan Polite, Shinnecock Indian Nation
- Michelle Osman, USAG Fort Hamilton Child and Youth Services
- Lizbeth Graziano, USAG Fort Hamilton Child Development Center
- Kresskala Stewart, USAG Fort Hamilton Child and Youth Services
- Colonel Brian A. Jacobs, USAG Fort Hamilton Garrison Commander
- Denis Sutton, Holiday Inn Express