

WASHINGTON NAVY YARD
REHABILITATION OF TINGEY HOUSE AND ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS
8th and M Streets, SE
Washington, D.C.

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

March 27, 2008

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996 and 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d), I approve the preliminary and final site and building plans for the rehabilitation of Tingey House and associated buildings at the Washington Navy Yard at 8th and M Streets, SE, Washington, D.C. as shown on NCPC Map File No. 41.11(38.00)42487.

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On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Military Family Communities LLC, the Navy has submitted preliminary and final site and building plans for the rehabilitation of Tingey House, the historic Commandant's House at the Navy Yard. The house was built in 1804, and is a designated National Historic Landmark. One of the first buildings to be constructed at the Washington Navy Yard, it was also one of the few public buildings not damaged in the British invasion of the capital in 1814. The proposed rehabilitation entails modest improvements to the house and yard, including ancillary structures. The house serves as the residence of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and many of the proposed site improvements will serve the official entertainment duties of the CNO. An open garden pavilion measuring 13'-7" by 13'-7" will be constructed at the southeast corner of the site. A greenhouse that has been altered over time will be partially demolished to open that portion of its footprint to the sky. A fence will be installed around the exposed foundation wall, which will be retained. The awning frame over a side patio will be extended. Architectural changes include re-roofing a non-historic addition, reconstructing a set of wooden stairs to meet code requirements, and altering several window and door openings on secondary elevations.

The staff finds the proposal consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of historic properties and agrees that the project will have no adverse effect on the historic character of the house and grounds. The changes are appropriate for the official use of the house and consistent with alterations made over the years for that purpose. The proposed rehabilitation plans for the National Historic Landmark have been fully reviewed by the D.C.

State Historic Preservation Office, which has concurred in the Navy's determination of no adverse effect. Section 106 review of the undertaking has been completed. The Commission of Fine Arts has also approved the proposal. The project was coordinated by all participating agencies at the March 12, 2008 Coordinating Committee meeting.

The Navy has analyzed the proposal and applied a categorical exclusion under its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing procedures under SECNAVINST 5090.6A. NCPC staff has reviewed the proposal under the Commission's Environmental and Historic Preservation Policies and Procedures and finds that it qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion under Section 8 (C) (2): Repair, replacement, and routine installation of [architectural] components and site elements.

Marcel C. Acosta
Acting Executive Director