



## Delegated Action of the Executive Director

---

<b>PROJECT</b> <b>Building 76 Museum Support Center Renovation</b> Washington Navy Yard 805 Kidder Breese Street, SE Washington, DC	<b>NCPC FILE NUMBER</b> 8775
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b> United States Department of Defense, Department of the Navy	<b>NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER</b> 41.11(64.20)46202
	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b> Approve preliminary site and building plans
	<b>REVIEW AUTHORITY</b> Approval Per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

---

The Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Washington, has submitted preliminary site and building plans for the renovation of Building 76 at the Washington Navy Yard. The building was originally constructed in 1889 as the Breech Mechanism and Gun Shop. In 1961 it was converted to the Naval Historic Display Center. From 1982 until 2025, the building acted as the National Museum of the United States Navy.

The project includes the renovation and modernization of the building, with most of the work in the interior, including constructing wall partitions for administrative and support spaces for artifact storage, processing, conservation, and museum display support. The existing building structure will remain intact, and new structure will be added to support any new loading on the roof, equipment, and mezzanine structures. On the exterior, the project scope includes repair work where necessary, including brick repointing, new windows, new skylights, new roof and flashings. An existing historic addition will be removed and rebuilt to accommodate interior needs. The building's systems will also be upgraded, including fire and life safety, as well as mechanical, electrical, plumbing and technology upgrades.

Site and landscaping improvements for the project will include new stormwater improvements. Seventeen (17) existing trees will be removed, and 63 new trees will be added in the vicinity, to conform with NCPC's tree replacement policy. No additional parking is proposed, but some parking spaces will be shifted to accommodate the new stormwater features. Overall, the project will help improve the historic building and site for continued use. As such, the proposal is generally consistent with the Federal Elements of the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*. Continued coordination regarding historic preservation and the stormwater management approach will occur prior to final review.

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the proposal at its April 15, 2026 meeting. The participating agencies were NCPC; the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO); the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT); the District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE); the District of Columbia Office of Planning (DCOP); the General Services Administration; the National Park Service; the U.S. Commission of

Fine Arts (CFA), and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. The Committee forwarded the proposed preliminary site and building plans to the Commission with the statement that the proposal was coordinated with some, but not all, participating agencies. The DC SHPO is still engaged in the project's review but determined that the undertaking will have an adverse effect on the historic building and the surrounding Washington Navy Yard National Historic Landmark District. It is coordinating, however, subject to completion of the Section 106 process. DC SHPO requested that any unavoidable adverse effects be mitigated by the complete and historically accurate restoration of Building 76's primary (southern) elevation based upon the historic image identified in previous correspondence. DOEE is not coordinated and requested that the applicant contact it to schedule a preliminary design review meeting as work will likely trigger stormwater requirements. It noted that the applicant seems to be aware of DOEE stormwater requirements and has a plan to meet the stormwater retention volume. CFA staff noted that the project is on its April 16 consent agenda. DCOP staff asked if there was any discussion about the process to remove the paint. NCPC said that SHPO, as part of the Section 106 process, recommended that the building's main façade be repainted in the original color.



Figure 1: Front façade historic photograph.

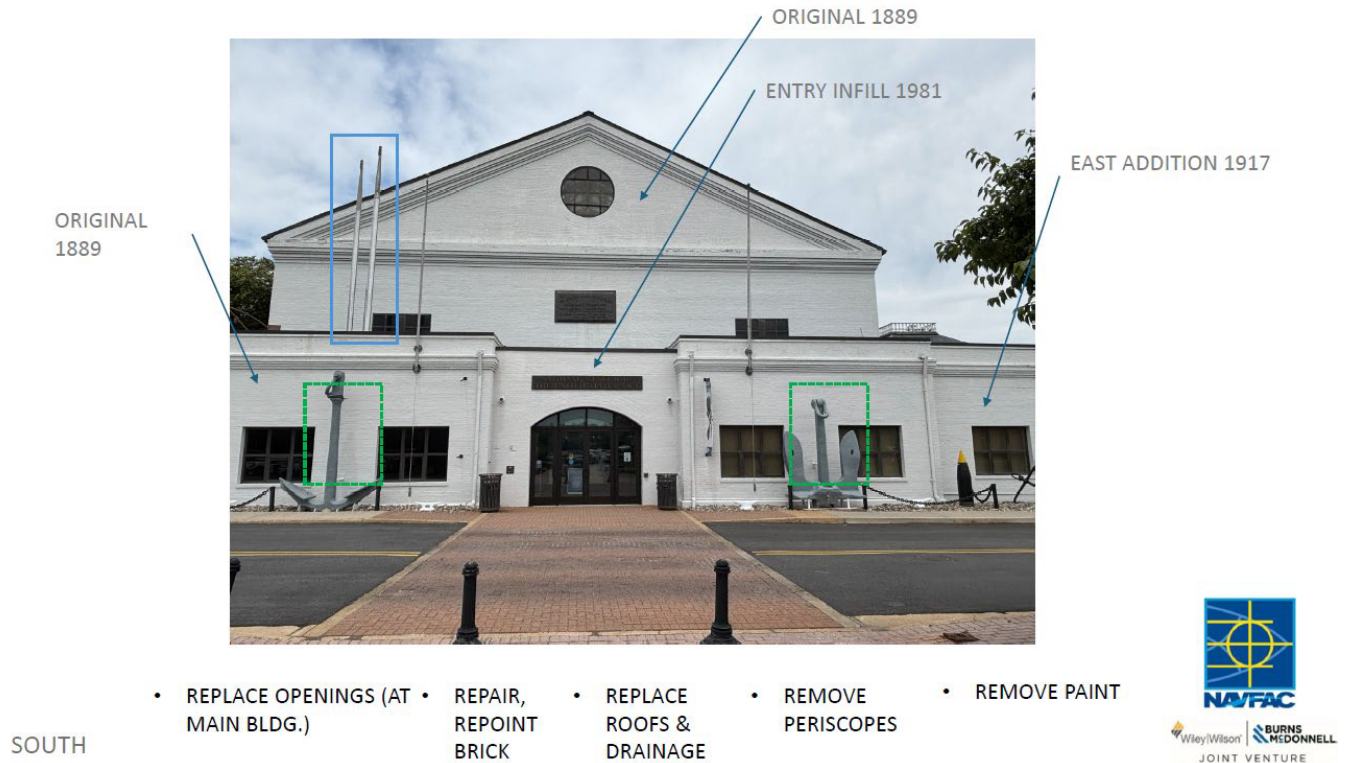


Figure 2: Front façade with proposed work.

The Navy has determined that the project is eligible for a categorical exclusion (CATEX) under its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) policies and procedures and has provided an initial determination, which will be completed prior to final review. NCPC also has an independent obligation to comply with NEPA because of this project’s location on federal land within the District. NCPC staff has determined the project qualifies for a CATEX pursuant to §601.12 (#3) of the agency’s environmental policies and procedures, which applies to “Approval of the installation or restoration of minor building elements, such as, but not limited to windows, doors, roofs, building signs, and rooftop equipment...”. Staff determined no extraordinary circumstances exist that would prevent application of the CATEX. As part of the consultation process required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO) has concurred with the Navy’s finding of “adverse effect” on historic properties for the project. NCPC is designating NPS as the lead agency for compliance with NHPA. Prior to the final review, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be executed to document mitigation.

\*

\*

\*

---

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on March 6, 2025 and per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d), I approve the preliminary site and building plans for the Washington Navy Yard Building 76 Museum Support Center Renovation located at 805 Kidder Breese Street, SE in Washington, DC.



---

Marcel Acosta  
Executive Director

April 30, 2026

---

Date