What is the Navy proposing?
The Navy intends to develop a Programmatic Agreement (PA) to address effects to historic properties as a result of the proposed demolition of Buildings 522, 705, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 719 and 721 and the placement of Buildings 317 and 405 into layaway status at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story (JEBLCFS) in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The proposed action is located on the Fort Story site of the Joint Expeditionary Base in the city of Virginia Beach, Virginia (see Figure 1). The Navy is proposing the project to promote efficient and economical use of real property assets at JEBLCFS.

Why is the Navy preparing a Programmatic Agreement?
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to consider the effects of proposed actions on historic properties. The Navy is proposing the execution of a PA to allow for continued consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and other consulting parties on Building 317 and 405 and to stipulate mitigation for demolition of Buildings 705, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 719 and 721.

The PA will include stipulations related to:
- Placement of Buildings 317 and 405 in layaway status as defined as placing the buildings in inactive status that prevents them from deteriorating and makes cost-effective reactivation possible;
- Continued use and rehabilitation of Building 591 (the former Cape Henry Community Train Station);
- Digital photographs of Buildings 317, 405, 705, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 719 and 721;
- Interpretive Signage about the former Cape Henry Community and the Coast Defense systems; and
- Intensive documentation of one cottage, Building 713.
What is the Area of Potential Effect?
Based on current information, the Navy has defined the area of potential effect for the PA as the footprints of the buildings and the Fort Story Historic District (see Figure 2).

Identification of Historic Properties
Architectural surveys at JEBFS performed in 1999, 2001 and 2012 identified the Fort Story Historic District as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Buildings 317, 405, 522, 705, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 719 and 721 were identified as contributing resources to the historic district.

Building 522 is a World War II temporary building and for purposes of Section 106 is covered under the DoD Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement executed in 1986 between DoD, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers for temporary World War II construction.

Buildings 317 and 405 are part of the Coastal Defense System history of Fort Story. Building 317 was constructed in 1943 as part of Battery #10 and Building 405 was constructed in 1922 as a powder room for the Battery Walke (Gun #6).

Buildings 705, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 719 and 721 were constructed in the 1920s as cottages associated with the Cape Henry beach community and used for military housing prior to World War II.

The Navy is accepting comments on the proposed project and Draft PA for 30 days from the date of publication. For more information on the proposed project, or to obtain a copy of the Draft PA, please contact:

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Figure 2 – Proposed Area of Potential Effect Map

Figure 3 – Top: Building 522; Middle Left: Building 317; Middle Right: Building 405; Bottom Left & Right: Representative examples of cottages