

Notice for Public Review of a Proposed Action to Demolish B150, the Essex House

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

The United States Air Force (USAF) has proposed a project to demolish Building 150, The Essex House, at Scott Air Force Base (AFB), Illinois (IL). The purpose of this project is to return this area to the base in support of the current mission of the 375th Air Mobility Wing (375 AMW) and other organizations present. The Essex House requires significant improvements to meet operational needs and Department of the Air Force standards. Efforts have been made to identify cost estimates for renovating the Essex House to a habitable level, but the costs exceeded the allowable limit by DAF regulations.

The Essex House is in the Scott Field Historic District (SFHD) within the heart of Scott AFB. Built during the 1938-1940 base expansion, funding was provided by the 1938 Work Relief and Public Works Appropriation Acts. Work at that time was performed by the MacDonald Construction Company of St. Louis. Essex House served as Bachelor Officers' Quarters and Mess until the end of World War II when it was converted into an Officers' Club. The building then served as quarters for special guests to the base from 1953 onward. In recent years, the Essex House has been a fixture of 375 AMW and hosted many ceremonies and parties. As a contributing element to the National Register of Historic Places listed SFHD, the proposed demolition is considered an adverse effect under Section 106 regulations.

This notice is required by Part 800.2(d) of 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) as codified under 54 US Code Section 300101 and has been prepared and made available to the public by the USAF in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Department of the Air Force Manual 32-7003, *Cultural Resources Management*.

The USAF requests comments on the Proposed Action described above. The public comment period is from August 28, 2025, to September 27, 2025. Submit written comments to 375 AMW Public Affairs Office at 901 South Drive, Building 700, Scott AFB, IL 62225 or by email to 375AMW.PA.org@us.af.mil. Comments may also be submitted to the 375 AMW Public Affairs Office by phone at 618 256-4241.