



FACT SHEET

White Hall Facility, Former Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois

Background

White Hall was built in 1939-1940 of concrete and masonry, and encompasses approximately 435,000 square feet. Its physical condition is very poor and poses a potential health and security hazard to the Rantoul community. White Hall is included in the Chanute Field National Historical District list of Historical Places, and various alternatives were evaluated for potential repair, renovation, restoration, and/or reuse of the structure. Regrettably the current condition of the building is well beyond repair and there are no economically feasible alternatives to preserve or rehabilitate the structure.



White Hall viewed from Commerce Drive.

Pre-Demolition Preparations

CB&I Federal Services, LLC (CB&I) will begin the abatement and demolition work in May 2015. Initially security fencing and environmental control measures (i.e, storm water controls) will be installed around the entire building. The inner courtyards and a parking lot to the east of White Hall will be used to stage debris and materials. The removal and demolition work will be phased to allow abatement and demolition activities in different sections of the building to be done simultaneously. Work along the west side of White Hall will be minimized to the extent possible to prevent disruption to residents on that side. Noise-generating equipment will be limited to operation from sun up to sun down during normal working conditions. Normal hours for on-site activities will be from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The White Hall structure does have building materials that must be removed before demolition begins, including floor tile containing asbestos, asbestos insulation, lead-based paint, and universal waste items (i.e., electric transformers, fluorescent light bulbs, lighting ballast, used tires, and batteries). The contractor will erect containment barriers during removal activities of asbestos-containing material to isolate the work space from the outside areas. As was done at the steam plant, negative air pressure and High-Efficiency Particulate Absorption filtration will be used to keep material within the containment areas. Air monitoring outside the facility will be conducted to verify ambient air standards for asbestos are maintained. Air sampling inside the containment areas after the abatement work is complete will verify the work areas are safe for demolition. The precautions taken to isolate asbestos will isolate any lead-based paint materials during removal activities. Furthermore, the asbestos material will be kept damp to further prevent dust from leaving the containment areas. All asbestos and other universal waste will be disposed of in a permitted facility.

Removal of these materials will require approximately four months. Once the building materials have been abated and testing completed to assure the materials have been properly removed, then demolition of the structure will begin.

Demolition and Debris Removal

Demolition of the structure will be accomplished by using track hoes with special hammer, crushing, and shearing attachments. The exterior brick will be removed first and taken to local recycling facilities for crushing into reusable aggregate. The concrete structure will then be demolished by shearing upper columns and beams to allow a controlled breakdown of each section of the structure. The concrete will be crushed into small sections and hauled to a local recycler for additional crushing and recycling. Approximately 2,000 truckloads of waste and debris will be hauled offsite. Based on the overall construction of White Hall, it is expected that over 90 percent of demolition debris (metals, concrete, and masonry materials) will be recycled or reused. Dust emissions will be controlled by the application of water to reduce the generation of dust. Monitoring for dust will be performed visually as well as by dust monitors.

Post-Demolition Process

Upon demolition completion, clean soil will be brought in to restore the former building footprint to the same elevation as the surrounding surfaces. Approximately 1,500 loads of soil will be needed to backfill the site. The site will be graded and then planted with grass seed to match the surrounding area. CB&I will keep the storm water controls (i.e., silt fence, hay bales) in place until the grass is re-established.

Construction Traffic Re-route

Traffic from the construction area will be routed to reduce the impact to the Village of Rantoul and directed via Commerce Drive. Road closures should be expected on Commerce Drive and Pacesetter Drive to protect public safety once demolition activities begin (see map below).

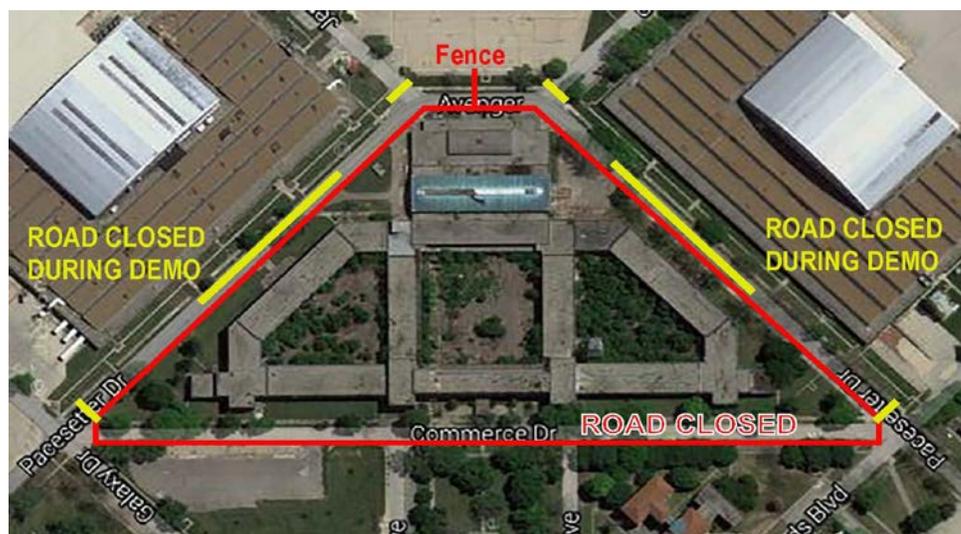
Overall Objective and Timeline

Demolition and restoration of the site will require approximately one year and is anticipated to be completed by September 2016. The overall objective is to remove and dispose of all hazardous substances, demolish and remove/recycle structural components, and restore the site to allow productive reuse by the Village of Rantoul.

For More Information

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*Current as of
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Map of White Hall showing security fencing and road closures.