

Historic Structures Report
Structural Monitoring & Testing
at the
Casemate Museum
2014-2015

As part of a the continuing partnership between the Fort Monroe Authority, the National Park Service's Fort Monroe National Monument, and the Department of Defense, the Historic Architecture, Conservation & Engineering (HACE) Center for the Northeast Region of the National Park Service will be working on the completion of a Historic Structure Report (HSR) for the Fort Monroe Authority's Casemate Museum from May 2014 through June 2015, utilizing grant funding from the Department of Defense's Office of Economic Adjustment. The HSR will provide the Fort Monroe Authority with a comprehensive understanding of the Casemate Museum and Archives section of the fortifications that will be critical to addressing ongoing structural and aesthetic issues in a manner sensitive to the historic fabric and character of the Fort Monroe National Monument and National Historic Landmark.

Key sections of the HSR will

- Describe the general history of Fort Monroe and the people and events that make the fort a National Historic Landmark, paying particular attention to the history of the casemates in the context of Fort Monroe.
- Focus on the construction of the casemates, modifications and alterations to the structures, and the historical use of the casemates, with particular attention to the Casemate Museum and Archives.
- Focus on the investigation, documentation, and description of the physical elements and characteristics of the Casemate Museum and Archives, discussing the existing conditions and historical integrity of the structures and their architectural elements
- Provide a systematic assessment of material and component deterioration and performance, structural behavior, and interior environmental issues, with classification of condition and treatment priority.
- Provide recommended remedial treatment(s) and impacts related to historic fabric and occupancy requirements in compliance with The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and National Park Service Director's Order 28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline.

In order to gather crucial structural and environmental data necessary for the systematic assessment described for the HSR, HACE staff has and will continue to install and monitor a variety of measuring and diagnostic equipment, including crack monitors mounted to walls and ceilings. HACE staff will also utilize limited materials sampling methods for laboratory analysis of material compositions and strengths, working with Casemate Museum and Archive management and staff to minimize the visual impacts of these samples and the disruption to both museum operations and visitor experience. Stay tuned for further information as the HSR investigation process unfolds over the next twelve months.