



NHL Executive Summary

Name of Property: ex-USS *Clamagore* (SS 343) NHL (withdrawal of designation)

City, State: Mount Pleasant, SC

Period of Significance: 1945-1973

NHL Criteria: 1 and 4

NHL Theme: VI. Expanding Science and Technology
VIII. Changing Role of the United States in the World Community

Previous Recognition: Designated a National Historic Landmark on June 29, 1989

National Historic Context: Political and Military Affairs after 1945

NHL Significance:



- The ex-USS *Clamagore* (SS343) was commissioned June 28, 1945, and decommissioned June 12, 1975. Built in 1945, the Balao class submarine USS *Clamagore* is one of 132 Gato, Balao, and Tench class submarines built during World War II.
- *Clamagore* was a typical World War II “fleet boat” built as part of a major submarine construction program that followed the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The submarine warfare pursued by the United States and supported by this construction program was instrumental in securing an American victory in the Pacific.
- In 1947 the US Navy modified the *Clamagore* into a Fleet Rehabilitation and Modernization (FRAM) II submarine. In 1962, it was again modified to become a GUPPY III (Greater Underwater Propulsive Project) submarine. *Clamagore* was one of only nine submarines converted to a GUPPY III and the only surviving GUPPY Type III submarine in the United States.

Integrity:

- The ex-USS *Clamagore* has ceased to meet the criteria for designation because the qualities which originally led it to be designated have been removed or destroyed [36 CFR 65.9 (b)(1)].
- The ex-USS *Clamagore* suffered from severe hull wasting which resulted to the scrapping of the vessel. The vessel is no longer extant.

Owner of Property: State of South Carolina, Patriots Point Naval and Military Museum

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

Origins of Nomination: Through media reports, the NHL Program in Interior Region 2 (legacy Southeast) became aware of plans to dispose of the vessel. NPS confirmed disposal plans with staff of Patriots Point Naval and Military Museum. On October 14, 2022, the vessel was towed to Norfolk, VA, for the final stage of the scrapping process.

Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program: By withdrawing NHL designation from a property which no longer meets the criteria for designation, the NPS is demonstrating its commitment to maintaining the standards of the NHL Program, ensuring only those properties with a high degree of integrity bear the distinction of NHL designation.

Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program: Friends of the *Clamagore* and the USS *Clamagore* SS-343 Maintenance and Restoration Association Inc. will be disappointed at the loss of the USS *Clamagore*. The withdrawal of NHL designation, however, is necessitated by the loss of the vessel.



Public Comments Favoring Designation (received as of December 21, 2023): n/a

Landmarks Committee Comments: No suggested revisions.

Landmarks Committee Recommendation: The Committee recommends that the National Park System Advisory Board recommend to the Secretary of the Interior the withdrawal of the National Historic Landmark designation for USS *Clamagore* in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, because the property has lost its historic integrity and the qualities which originally led it to be designated as an NHL.

Advisory Board Recommendation: