

FY 2013 Secretary of Defense
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

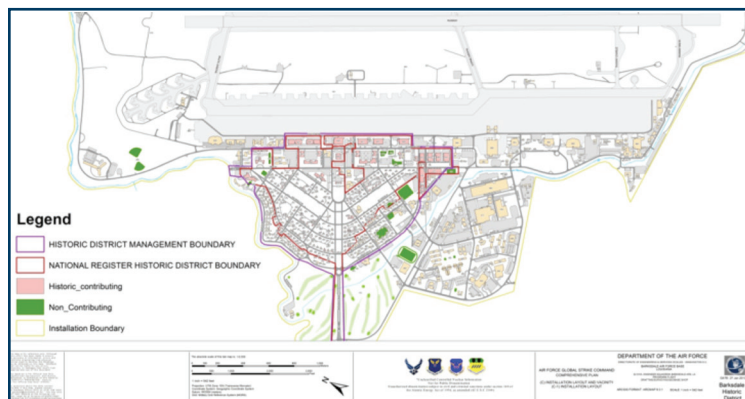
CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT – INSTALLATION:
 2D CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON, BARKSDALE AFB

INTRODUCTION

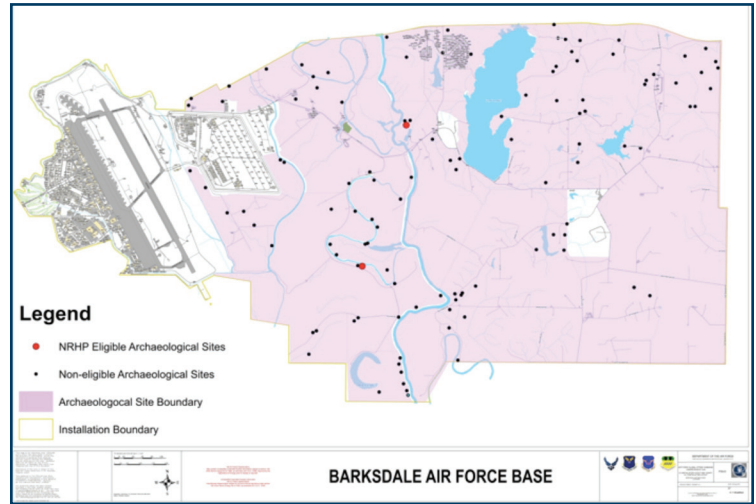
Barksdale Air Force Base (AFB), Louisiana, home of the 2d Bomb Wing, the largest and oldest bomb wing in the Air Force, continues to reflect the heritage of the Wing’s motto Libertatem Defendimus: “Liberty We Defend”. Established in 1932 as Barksdale Field it has developed into a mainstay to the Air Force by keeping to its mission: To protect our nation and its global interests by providing devastating B-52 combat capability and unmatched expeditionary combat Airmen. ANYTIME.....ANYWHERE.

The 2d Bomb Wing is the host to three major tenants at Barksdale AFB. Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) stood up at Barksdale AFB in February 2010 and is responsible for the nation’s three intercontinental ballistic missile wings, two B-52 wings, and one B-2 wing. One of AFGSC’s two active duty numbered air forces, the “Mighty Eighth” Air Force, is also headquartered at Barksdale AFB. In addition, the 307th Bomb Wing, a reserve component wing, functioning as the primary B-52H training “schoolhouse” for the Air Force while supporting the operational mission of the 2d Bomb Wing, calls Barksdale AFB its home.

Barksdale AFB encompasses 21,945 acres of developed and forested land in the Bossier City-Parish Metropolitan Statistical area of Northwest Louisiana. It is supported by 16,424 civilian, contractor, and military personnel (active and reserve). Barksdale AFB also serves as a support base to more than 40,000 military retirees living within a 100-mile radius of the base.



Barksdale Field Historic District Map. The majority of the main installation area consists of the Barksdale Field Historic District. Contained within this historic district are 229 housing units and 43 administrative and industrial facilities.



Barksdale AFB Archaeological Sites. The East Reservation of Barksdale AFB, consisting of over 19,000 acres of natural forested land is rich in archaeological value. To date, 132 historic and pre-historic sites have been evaluated for eligibility into the NRHP. Two have been deemed and confirmed by the SHPO as eligible sites.

BACKGROUND

The original base, Barksdale Field, has a rich and unique historic setting with the original facilities and housing being designed in a French Revival Style of Architecture with coarse stucco wall material, steep-pitched French clay tile roofing, raised quoin cornering, small roof dormers, and wrought iron accentuation on the entry steps, window enclosures and railings. Captain Norfleet Bone, the original architect for the Barksdale Field development, described Barksdale Field as designed to resemble a “Little French village” – fitting for a setting in Louisiana which is rich in French culture and history. There are a total of 264 buildings within the Barksdale Field Historic District laid out in an open, axial Beaux-Arts street pattern.

On 13 April 1992, the Barksdale Field Historic District was formally entered into the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A programmatic agreement between Barksdale AFB, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation was executed in 1992 to define the process and requirements for maintaining the Barksdale Field Historic District. In 2006, the historic housing area of the Barksdale Field Historic District was included in a privatization initiative with a private sector developer, conveying the buildings, streets, and all other improvements. Barksdale AFB led the development of a programmatic agreement between the new housing owner, the SHPO, and the base to ensure the new owner of the housing area would continue to maintain the historic value of this portion of the Barksdale Field Historic District.

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Historic aerial photograph of the Barksdale Field Historic District. This historic district was built between 1933 and 1935 and continues to reflect its original design today. Barksdale Field was nominated to the NRHP in 1992.

In addition to the Barksdale Field Historic District, Barksdale AFB's East Reservation, over 19,000 acres of undeveloped forest land, was surveyed for pre-historic and historic archaeological value between 1990 and 2011. As a result of the survey efforts, two Native American archaeological sites were determined to be eligible for nomination to the NRHP. These two sites are carefully protected by the base from disturbance. Throughout the process of surveying the sites and determination of eligibility for nomination, Barksdale AFB staff worked closely with the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, whose ancestors occupied the sites, and the SHPO. A Memorandum of Agreement was executed between the Caddo Nation, the SHPO, and Barksdale AFB to ensure that procedures were in place for care and disposition of any archaeological findings and/or Caddo burial artifacts. The standing 2002 Memorandum of Agreement between the Caddo Nation, the SHPO, and the installation is carefully followed in all matters related to cultural resources. The installation fully understands the importance of preserving archaeological findings with significant interest to the Caddo Nation and always includes the Caddo Nation in all endeavors associated with such cultural resources.

Barksdale AFB diligently strives to be good caretakers of both its NRHP registered Barksdale Field and its NRHP eligible archaeological sites. The primary cultural resources management tool used is the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP). Barksdale AFB's first ICRMP was created in 1997 and has been regularly updated in accordance with DoD Instruction 4715.3 and AFI 32-7065 every five years, with annual reviews and appropriate pencil changes as warranted by changes to the physical site or by development through its continuing investigations. The current ICRMP was signed and approved 19 February 2013.

Though staff is limited to just one person, Mr. Wayne Walsh fulfills the duties of Barksdale AFB Cultural Resources Manager (CRM) and Community Planner, acting as the base's single point of contact with the SHPO on all matters related to the Barksdale Field Historic District and the archaeological care within the East Reservation. Mr. Walsh has been a practicing architect/engineer since 1982 in both an active duty military capacity, private sector role, and as a Civil Servant for the 2d Civil Engineering Squadron since 2009. Acquiring his Bachelor of Architecture degree from Louisiana Tech University in 1982, he has been actively involved in preserving the rich military history and culture of Barksdale AFB from the start of his career with the initiation of efforts to have the Barksdale Field Historic District nominated to the NRHP in 1986. While at Barksdale AFB in his current capacity, Mr. Walsh authored and executed the programmatic agreement between the base, SHPO, and the privatized housing owner for the management and protection of the NRHP registered housing area in the Barksdale Field Historic District.

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Barksdale AFB CRM responsibilities contained in the 2013 ICRMP are listed below. The most outstanding accomplishments of the ICRMP program responsibilities are described in the paragraphs to follow. The CRM:

- Serves as the principal source of communication between the base and the SHPO and Native American Groups (The Caddo Nation of Oklahoma) on cultural resources issues.
- Implements the policies and procedures in the ICRMP and coordinates efforts of other base organizations affected by the policies.
- In conjunction with the installation Staff Judge Advocate, participates in National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation meetings with the SHPO, Indian tribes, and others as appropriate.
- Reviews AF Form 332's (Work Requests) and DD form 1391c's (Military Construction Project Data) on a routine basis for cultural resource impacts and tracks cultural resources mitigation commitments made in agreements with other agencies or tribal organizations.

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- Identifies funding requirements for the cultural resources program and provides this information to the Civil Engineer Commander for inclusion in funding requests.
- Oversees contracts for the inventory, evaluation, and protection of base cultural resources.
- Maintains a database of the base's cultural resources.
- Ensures cultural resources are considered in the Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) by the base EIAP Manager, in the ICRMP by the base Natural Resources Manager, and in the Base Installation Development Plan in order to minimize negative impacts on historic properties.
- Works with the base Public Affairs Officer to incorporate basic information on cultural resources into installation newcomer's orientation briefings, and promotes historic preservation awareness within the base community and the public.
- Conducts periodic review of cultural resources program at commander's calls and other installation forums.
- Educates the housing privatization owner and staff of the significance of the historic housing structures and oversee historic preservation management considerations.



The base flag pole, HQ 2d Bomb Wing and the water tower in the background are key elements of the Barksdale Field Historic District. All three buildings were constructed in the 1933 timeframe and have had minimum modifications made to them over the years. Careful consideration of the historic nature of the structures and a close relationship with the SHPO through Section 106 consultations have ensured history is preserved.

Barksdale AFB has gone through significant changes over the last several years with the stand-up of AFGSC. Preserving the Barksdale Field Historic District has been the major forefront of all construction, renovation, and demolition initiatives, and new construction has largely been confined to areas adjacent to the large historic core. Six key historic facilities in the district have undergone major renovations to facilitate the bed-down of the AFGSC. The scope of the renovations required bringing all of the buildings in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, driving a requirement to construct the additions of elevator towers on all of the buildings. It also required bringing all of the buildings up to Anti-Terrorist/Force Protection standards. Both of these requirements

involved entering into Section 106 consultations with the SHPO to ensure that the changes would have minimum to no effect on the historic image of the buildings and the district. The scope of work on the buildings was significant enough to require the SHPO to make special visits to the base to visit with the CRM and project managers to view the planned work on site. The successful collaboration between the SHPO, the CRM, and project managers ensured the historic character of the buildings were maintained while allowing the new mission of standing up AFGSC to be accomplished.

As a part of an Air Force directive to reduce the physical facility footprint and energy consumption of the installation by 20 percent by the year 2020, it became necessary to evaluate some historic buildings for consideration for demolition. The evaluation process identified five historic structures as non-mission essential facilities that could be demolished. Through Section 106 consultation with the SHPO, it was determined that the proposed demolition would be an adverse effect to the Barksdale Field Historic District. To satisfy both Air Force facility footprint and NHPA requirements, the installation entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the SHPO to establish a method of memorializing the historic attributes of the facilities and contracted out Level II Historic American Building Surveys (HABS). Environmental Assessments were prepared by the CRM and public review and comment periods were held for all demolition actions to ensure that there were no concerns from off-base entities. The CRM professionally prepared the HABS in accordance with HABS guidelines. The HABS were successfully reviewed and accepted by the National Park Service and the SHPO, and delivered to the Library of Congress and the Louisiana State Historic Preservation vault for archiving. Though buildings were demolished to meet Air Force requirements, careful recordation of these buildings preserves the historic memory of these structures.

Routine maintenance and repair and efforts to improve energy efficiency all take historic preservation into consideration. Any work with the potential to affect the exterior appearance of a historic structure is designed to minimize or prevent an adverse effect and presented to the SHPO via the Section 106 consultation process.

The only American Indian tribe with interest in Barksdale AFB land, the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, has always been invited to participate in the consultation process as well as review of the Environmental Assessments throughout the process of demolition of facilities on the main portion of the installation. During the period of surveying the East Reservation for archaeological value, the Caddo Nation has been fully involved with consultations, finding reviews, and report reviews.

Although the Historic District of Barksdale Field was fully developed back in the early 1930s, it was important for the installation to include the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma in the various consultations and Memorandum of Agreements, especially for the demolitions where there was the potential for disturbing soils below the foundation. A long standing Memorandum of Agreement between the Caddo Nation and Barksdale AFB already established procedures for the event of finding artifacts or remains of interest to the Caddo Nation, but it was important to the base to keep them informed of the planned demolition actions. Though no artifacts or remains were found during the demolition efforts, Barksdale AFB always strives to maintain the well-established relationship with the Caddo Nation.

An active, locally developed repository of all facilities within the Barksdale Field Historic District was developed and is maintained by the CRM. In this database are multiple photographs of each facility, historic narratives, and running lists of all Section 106 consultations for each facility. Additionally, archive folders are maintained for all historic facilities. Many of these folders hold the original as-built drawings for the facilities from the 1930s. The database and archive files help the CRM and design engineers/architects make better informed decisions of future proposed actions, ensuring the historic character of the facilities is maintained. Along with maintaining the database, the CRM is fully capable of developing and maintaining maps of the Barksdale Field Historic District on the base geographic information system (GIS) as well as maps of the archaeological sites. The database and the GIS maps are readily available to any customer with interest in the Barksdale Field Historic District.

The CRM actively participates in the review process of all work requests and to ensure that even the most minor proposed work takes protection of the Barksdale Field Historic District into consideration. Early involvement with the work request review process eliminates excessive man hours by 2d Civil Squadron Staff on requests that should be rejected up front due to potential adverse effect to the historic district. If the work request is important to the mission and must be accomplished, the CRM has ample notice to initiate the Section 106 Consultation process with the SHPO to ensure the required work is accomplished in a timely manner. During this nomination period, the CRM evaluated over 600 work order requests to ensure compliance with the programmatic agreement between the base and the SHPO was met.

Annual evaluations are performed by the CRM on both current NRHP registered historic facilities for maintenance and care and potentially eligible facilities as they reach the appropriate age for consideration. For this nomination period 24 structures have been evaluated for consideration; however, none have been deemed meeting the other eligibility requirements.



Chapel 1 in the Barksdale Field Historic District is a unique element with its French Village Chapel charm, has retained much of its original architecture from 1934.

Barksdale Field Historic District's Chapel 1 has retained much of its original 1934 architecture. Successful Section 106 consultations facilitated the replacement of the original clay tile roofing with new, better glazed clay tile to enhance the durability of the color and product. SHPO approved design upgrades were made for handicap accessibility with the installation of ramps to the main entrance.



Hangar 9 is an original hangar built in 1933 and is typical of the hangars in the Barksdale Field Historic District.

Several Section 106 consultations were accomplished on Hangar 9, which was built in 1933 and is now part of the Barksdale Field Historic District. These were completed to replace the old, painted windows with durable translucent panels that reflect the historic character of the old windows, reduce maintenance time and cost, and improve energy efficiency. Eighteen hangars have been transformed with the new SHPO approved translucent panels.

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Cultural resource awareness and community relations is paramount to ensure the historic beauty of the base is maintained and all personnel involved are fully aware of the importance of being good stewards to the Barksdale Field Historic District. The CRM, through both group sessions as well as individually working with project managers and maintenance supervisors, ensures that all are aware of the requirements and provisions of the existing Barksdale Field Historic District programmatic agreement.



11th Bomb Squadron HQ was originally built in 1934 and is a key building along the primary axis of the historic district.

The 11th Bomb Squadron HQ, originally built in 1934, has gone through several successful Section 106 consultations. These consultations resulted in the replacement of window and entryway details due to deterioration. Efforts were also made in the design and construction oversight to ensure that the new products reflected the original details.



121 Shreveport Rd, typical of the historic housing units now owned by the privatized housing owner, have retained their original appearance since construction from 1933 to 1935.

Typical historic housing units now owned by the privatized housing owner, such as the 121 Shreveport Rd, have retained their original appearance since construction from 1933 to 1935. Partnership between the housing owner and the base CRM have ensured that all maintenance and repair, and, if any, modifications to the exterior are compliant with the established programmatic agreement between SHPO, the base, and the owner. Training on care of the historic unit is jointly provided by the owner and the CRM to all new housing tenants.

Although the historic housing units are now part of the housing privatization owner's inventory, the CRM is still actively involved in working with the owner, leasing, and maintenance staff to ensure these historic structures are properly cared for. The privatized housing programmatic agreement between the owner, the installation, and the SHPO is carefully followed by all parties. Annual meetings are held between the owner, the CRM, and SHPO to discuss work/maintenance efforts and any potential issues that may impact the historic character of the buildings. Meetings held at alternating locations instill the value that all stakeholders have equal importance in the process. The CRM developed an informational brochure in 2011 to inform the tenants of the Barksdale Field Historic District of what activities are and are not allowed on the properties. This brochure is included with all leasing packages. The leasing staff highlights the requirements for proper care of the Barksdale Field Historic District to new tenants and performs weekly inspections of the housing area to ensure compliance. The installation maintains this close relationship with the owner as joint stakeholders in the Barksdale Field Historic District.

Barksdale AFB is rich in historic culture. As the oldest bomber base in the Air Force, its many historic structures provide a unique beauty not found elsewhere. Barksdale's Historic District is, by far, the largest twentieth century eclectic architectural complex in Louisiana. The installation will always strive to be a good steward to the Barksdale Field Historic District as well as eligible archaeological history of the East Reservation.