



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATIONS, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
110 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0110

JUL 26 2019

Mr. John Fowler
Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington, DC 20001-2637

Dear Mr. Fowler,

As you know, the Army's mission is to defend those things most prized by all nations: Our people, our land, and our resources. Resources worth defending are worth protecting, and by protecting historic resources the Army safeguards our nation's heritage and supports its national defense mission. Therefore, to further support our mission I am pleased to inform you that I am establishing a Department of the Army strategic agenda for National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) improvement.

Considering that the Army has the largest inventory of NHPA historic properties in the Department of Defense, and owns the largest inventory of historic buildings in the Federal government, the Army has a tremendous stewardship obligation and must continually improve its processes in order to achieve more efficient and effective NHPA compliance. Since the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has a leadership role in Federal agency NHPA compliance, I am providing the following strategic agenda for Department of the Army NHPA improvement for your awareness and your support:

- Appropriately align Army NHPA leadership roles and responsibilities, and assign necessary authorities for implementation;
- Enhance leadership oversight and engagement in critical NHPA and historic preservation related issues;
- Pursue programmatic Army-wide NHPA compliance solutions with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for Army historic properties; and
- Ensure effective Army-wide NHPA compliance through increased awareness and knowledge among Army Commanders

I have appropriately aligned Army NHPA leadership roles and responsibilities within the Army, and I have assigned necessary authorities to help improve our effectiveness. As the Department of the Army Senior Policy Official for historic preservation, I will lead and oversee the Army's NHPA program. As the Department of the Army Federal Preservation Officer, Dr. David Guldenzopf has Army-wide NHPA authorities, will lead

implementation of the Army NHPA process improvement strategy, and will engage in other significant Army NHPA actions.

While the Federal Preservation Officer addresses all historic properties, I have directed Dr. Guldenzopf to engage in privatized Army historic housing and to pursue programmatic Army-wide NHPA compliance solutions with the Council to achieve further efficiencies in NHPA compliance for our historic housing. Additionally, I have directed Dr. Guldenzopf to engage in early NHPA compliance planning for rehabilitation of housing at Fort McNair and Fort Myer, considering the significance of the housing on those installations.

To help ensure effective Army-wide NHPA compliance, I have tasked Army Commanders and their staffs to make certain that they have appropriate training and awareness of NHPA requirements, authorities, and other key aspects of the NHPA.

I would like to schedule a meeting with you and Council Chairman Aimee Jorjani at your earliest convenience to discuss this agenda and other Army historic preservation matters. Dr. Guldenzopf is my point of contact and may be reached at (571) 256-7822, david.b.guldenzopf.civ@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex A. Beehler".

Alex A. Beehler