



2019 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation Award

Each year since 1962, the Secretary of Defense (SecDef) has honored installations, teams, and individuals for outstanding conservation achievements, innovative environmental practices, and partnerships that improve quality of life and promote efficiencies without compromising the Department of Defense's (DoD's) mission success. The 2019 SecDef Environmental Awards cycle encompasses an achievement period from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2018 (Fiscal Years (FY) 2017-2018). A diverse panel of 58 judges with relevant expertise representing Federal and state agencies, academia, and the private sector evaluated all nominees to select one winner for each of the nine categories that cover six subject areas: natural resources conservation, environmental quality, sustainability, environmental restoration, cultural resources management, and environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition.

About the Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation Award

The Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation award recognizes efforts to promote effective cultural resources management through proactive stewardship of DoD's extensive and rich heritage assets, including archaeological sites, cultural items, the historic built environment, and cultural landscapes. Through dynamic cultural resources management programs that partner with installation stakeholders, such as master planning, public works, and range management, DoD identifies and evaluates cultural resources that impact training, testing, and operational capabilities. Awards also showcase successful partnerships with American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, Native Hawaiian Organizations, states, and other historic preservation stakeholders to protect cultural resources in a manner that sustains mission readiness as responsible stewards of our collective heritage. Small installations have less than 10,000 acres and can include leased, military-owned, or administered outlying ranges or training practice areas. The 2019 winner of the Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation award is *Washington Army National Guard*.

About Washington Army National Guard

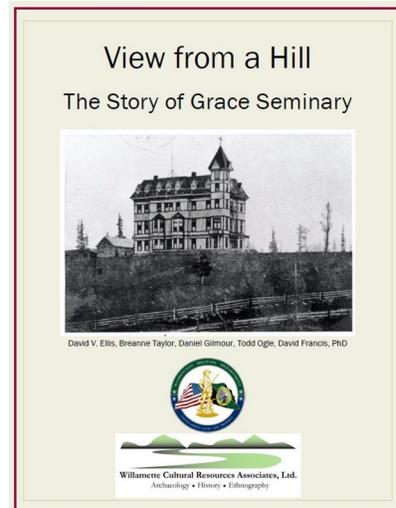
The Washington Army National Guard (WAARNG) supports 6,200 soldiers across 37 statewide facilities. Over the past two years, the installation's Cultural Resources Management (CRM) program focused on improving the management of eight historic armories and training site areas statewide, six historic buildings on Camp Murray, and two historic districts. With a holistic approach to managing these structures and historic districts, WAARNG's cultural resources are now safeguarded by new maintenance and treatment plans (MTPs). The implementation of these MTPs across the installation is a significant milestone for the WAARNG, representing the culmination of around five years of work by the CRM program. These MTPs, coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) at the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, have allowed the WAARNG to complete critical modernization projects across the installation including repairing roofs, replacing windows and doors, providing Americans with Disabilities Act accessible ramps, and upgrading building systems to make the installation's World War II (WWII)-era facilities functional for the modern mission.



The Washington Army National Guard (WAARNG) has focused on improving its management of eight historic armories including the Centralia Armory on Camp Murray. The WAARNG Cultural Resources Management program continues to work with the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribes, and the local community to protect and increase the awareness of cultural resources.

Major Accomplishments in FY 2017-2018

- The installation closely coordinated with the SHPO to implement new maintenance and treatment plans (MTPs) that dramatically streamline CRM management and SHPO consultation, helping to maintain WAARNG's excellent compliance record. The MTPs also allowed the installation to demonstrate to the Construction and Facilities Management Office how modernization and preservation can coexist. This is particularly important as WAARNG has embarked upon an approximately \$5 million armory modernization effort.
- In FY18, the CRM program contracted to complete MTPs for the Longview and Centralia armories, a post-WWII-era structure and an Art Moderne-style armory, respectively. These MTPs converge with WAARNG's current modernization projects, and incorporating Longview Armory was strategically helpful as it represents one of three Cold War-era armories in the state.
- Staff inadvertently discovered archaeological objects related to Grace Seminary while constructing a parking lot at the Centralia Armory in FY18. The CRM program immediately consulted with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and worked with the SHPO and tribes to aggressively evaluate the site, recover valuable archaeological information, preserve existing resources, and maintain the construction schedule. Personnel unearthed many historic artifacts, including one intact historic site and three Native American lithic fragments. Rapid response to these discoveries was made possible by the prior establishment of an inadvertent discovery plan as part of the WAARNG's Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan.
- The installation's CRM program enacted a capping plan at the Centralia Armory to preserve remaining cultural deposits in place, particularly the pre-contact lithic fragments, once experts determined a village site was not present. Personnel from WAARNG excavated and curated with the State of Washington repository (Burke Museum) hundreds of artifacts related to the seminary and hospital. The Centralia Armory is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) because of its noteworthy Art Moderne architectural style and as an early work representative of famous architect, D.W. Hillborn. The newly discovered archaeological site is also NRHP-eligible because of its potential to inform future research.
- The CRM program created a mitigation plan for the Centralia Armory site, negotiating a long-term loan for artifacts from the Burke Museum to the local Lewis County Historical Museum. In addition to the museum display, WAARNG will develop signage illuminating the history of Seminary Hill at two additional locations. These initiatives help to elevate public interest and increase awareness of the WAARNG's investment in the community.



Grace Seminary & Centralia General Hospital occupied the current location of WAARNG's Centralia Armory. When staff inadvertently discovered remnants of the site during construction, personnel excavated hundreds of artifacts related to the seminary and hospital. The installation is collaborating to publish a special booklet to correspond with outreach opportunities as an educational tool to reach beyond signage and lecture events.



Rapid response to discoveries at the Centralia Armory, like these ceramic fragments, was made possible by staff previously establishing an inadvertent discovery plan as part of the WAARNG's Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan. The Cultural Resources Management program immediately consulted with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and worked with the State Historic Preservation Office and tribes to aggressively evaluate the site, recover valuable archaeological information, preserve existing resources, and maintain the construction schedule.