

SECRETARY OF THE ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS 2019

WASHINGTON ARMY NATIONAL GUARD CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, SMALL INSTALLATION

The Washington Army National Guard's (WAARNG) statewide installation is small, composed of just a few thousand acres across 240-acre Camp Murray and 36 additional statewide facilities supporting the WAARNG's 6,200 soldiers. Over the past two years, the Cultural Resources Management (CRM) program for the installation has focused on enhancing management of eight historic armories and training site areas statewide, two historic districts, and six historic buildings on Camp Murray. With a holistic approach to managing these structures and historic districts, the WAARNG installation cultural resources are now safeguarded by new maintenance and treatment plans, while the WAARNG's readiness operations have been improved by modernizations to those structures that help the organization meet its mission.

-  Program Management
-  Technical Merit
-  Orientation to Mission
-  Transferability
-  Stakeholder Interaction
-  Program Impact



The implementation of maintenance and treatment plans (MTP) across the installation is a significant milestone for the WAARNG, representing the culmination of around five years of work by the CRM office. These maintenance and treatment plans, coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) at the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) since FY16-17, have allowed the WAARNG to complete some critical modernization projects, including roof repair, window and door replacement, providing ADA access, and systems upgrades to make the installation's WWII-era facilities functional for the modern mission. The CRM program was also in a position to respond proactively to an inadvertent discovery of cultural resources at the Centralia Armory, which was constructed on the former site of a landmark related to that city's founding.



Close coordination with the SHPO to establish MTP has helped the installation's CRM staff to resolve any preservation concerns that arise. This relationship is especially important to maintaining the WAARNG's impeccable compliance record, as the installation's CRM program is small, primarily staffed by a Cultural Resources Manager and Resource Specialist, with support and oversight from the Environmental Program Manager. In developing the MTP, however, the CRM program was able to embed a much greater degree of awareness and collaborative spirit within the Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO) more broadly, demonstrating for that directorate how modernization and preservation need not be at odds. The CRM program has also emphasized new training and awareness protocols for WAARNG soldiers over the past year and for any contractors that may be working on the installation. The installation's CRM compliance is also preserved by adherence to the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP), which is fully implemented and currently undergoing update.

Centralia & Snohomish Armories Historic Building Condition Assessment & Treatment and Maintenance Plan



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Maintenance and Treatment Plans significantly streamline CRM operations for the WAARNG. The support of the SHPO has helped the installation to balance preservation with mission.

The implementation of MTP has been of significant financial benefit to the WAARNG in recent years, particularly as the organization has embarked upon an approximately \$5 million armory modernization effort. The MTP for historic sites dramatically streamlines management and SHPO consultation, saving time and resources for the WAARNG.



Archaeological surveys have been completed across the installation, and for most sites, archaeological resources are not present or not an issue. There are a few sites that require further evaluation, and the CRM program has secured a contract to begin that investigation in FY19. For the FY17-18 period, however, the focus has been on historic structures.



The first effort to develop MTP for historic structures was launched in 2012, when the CRM program first issued a request for proposals to include all WAARNG historic structures that are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); funding and time constraints, however, limited how far that initiative could be taken. The project was re-launched again in FY16 to include MTP development for four NRHP-eligible structures in Camp Murray. At this time, the development of systematic preservation plans and formal MTP began in earnest, and the four historic structures on Camp Murray were encompassed by formal historic building conditions reports, treatment and maintenance plans, and a comprehensive technical resource materials that provides additional guidance to CFMO staff involved in historic structures repair and maintenance. The final report was complemented by an on-site training whereby the lead author of the MTP presented report findings to CFMO staff responsible for developing and implementing modernization projects. This delineation of treatment helped to guide a much-needed roof remodel replicating original tiles at the Camp Murray Headquarters Building 1 in 2017, the cleaning and preservation of a historic horse trough, and walls and windows replacement for Camp Murray Building 26. In FY18, the CRM program contracted to complete MTP for Longview and Centralia armories, a post-WWII-era structure and an Art Moderne-style armory, respectively. The incorporation of Longview armory into the planning was strategically helpful, as it is representative of three post-WWII-era/Cold War-era armories in the state. These MTPs dovetail with the WAARNG's current modernization projects to upgrade building envelopes with more energy-efficient windows, blast-resistant doors, longer-lasting roofs, ADA-accessible ramps, and improved insulation.



Above, Camp Murray headquarters prior to roof replacement. Below, roof has been replaced. The headquarters was among the historic structures that were included in the first attempt to develop a NHPA Maintenance and Treatment Plans for WAARNG facilities deemed eligible for NHPA listing.



The Centralia Armory has been a special case for the WAARNG, a site where local history and military presence have collided. The armory site is on a large hill overlooking the city--clearly, this location has long been desirable. In the course of parking lot construction, the CRM program discovered that the armory actually sits on a historic landmark tied to the city's founding, a Baptist seminary that was one of the first schools built in the area,



and one that had an emphasis on arts education. Centralia is also notable because it was the only city in the state founded by an African-American, and the locus of a thriving African-American community in Washington. The bicentennial of the city founder’s birth was approaching as this discovery was made and the MTP was in process.

The seminary building had been razed prior to armory construction; before that, it had been converted into a hospital for mill employees before ultimately being abandoned. When the parking lot construction for the armory began in late 2017, however, many historic artifacts were unearthed, including one intact location and three Native American lithic fragments. Initially, the CRM program addressed concerns that human remains were present; fortunately, these turned out to be animal bone 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 site represented a challenge in terms of balancing the WAARNG’s operations with the cultural value of the find. The CRM program immediately consulted with ACHP, and worked with the SHPO and THPOs to aggressively evaluate the site, recover valuable archaeological information, preserve existing resources, and put the construction back on track. Surveys were completed to delineate the true extent of deposits, and the CRM program enacted a capping plan to preserve remaining deposits in place, particularly the pre-contact lithic fragments once it was determined that there was not a village site present. Hundreds of artifacts related to the seminary and hospital, however, were excavated and curated with the State of Washington repository (Burke Museum). Through the archaeological investigation, archival research, and laboratory analysis, valuable information was uncovered and preserved for future researchers, particularly related to the operation and daily life of early Washington educational institutions and practices of 19th century hospitals, at a time intersecting with the modernization of outdated medical practices.

As part of its mitigation plan for the inadvertent discovery, the WAARNG negotiated a

long-term loan for artifacts from the Burke Museum to the local Lewis County Historical Museum. In addition to the museum display, the WAARNG has contracted the creation of signage illuminating the history of Seminary Hill at two additional, publicly visible locations. Finally, the WAARNG created a publicly-accessible version of the confidential archaeological report and coordinated a talk by the lead archaeologist on the project at a well-attended local history pub night. Several local community groups are extremely passionate about local history, with a strong interest in the discovery at Seminary Hill, including the George Washington Bicentennial Committee, the City of Centralia Historic Preservation Commission, and the Friends of Seminary Hill. The WAARNG has coordinated extensively with



Historic photo of Grace Seminary. The building opened as a seminary in 1893. From 1905-1919, it served as Centralia General Hospital.



Archaeological investigation at Centralia Armory site. Many historic artifacts, including several lithic scatters, were recovered.

them through these efforts, elevating public interest and increasing awareness of the WAARNG's investment in the community. In a sense, the inadvertent discovery posed the perfect opportunity for the CRM program to help instill cultural awareness in the wider community.

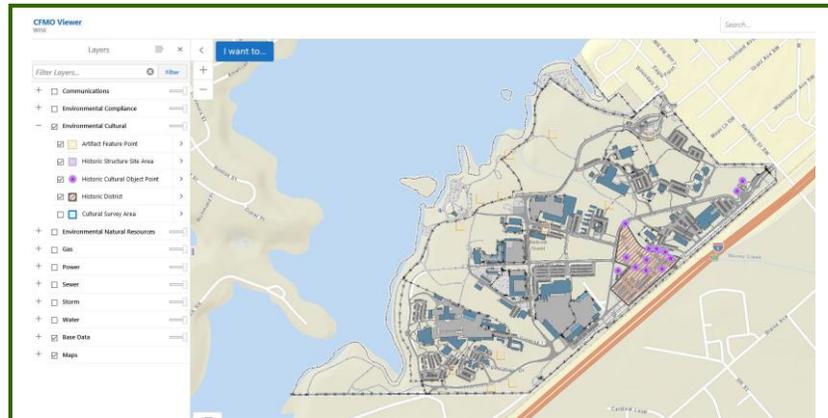
Centralia Armory is eligible for listing on the NRHP because of its noteworthy Arte Moderne architectural style and as an early work representative of famous architect, DW Hillborn. The archaeological site is also NRHP-eligible because of its potential to inform future research. The CRM program continues working with the SHPO, Tribes, and the local community to protect and increase awareness about these cultural resources.



All of the CRM program's undertakings are intended to support the WAARNG mission, to deconflict the preservation of cultural endowments with the readiness mission of today. Establishing MTP for historic structures, particularly as Cold War-era buildings continue to age into historic preservation eligibility, is essential to keeping the WAARNG's modernization plans on track. The CRM program has undertaken an update to the inadvertent discovery protocols for incorporation in the revised ICRMP, contracts language, and updated training site protocols as a mitigation response to the inadvertent discovery at Centralia Armory. It is notable that the person responsible for identifying the Centralia inadvertent discovery was not the construction contractor, but a uniformed soldier; the discovery emphasizes the need for all WAARNG soldiers and staff to be well-versed in CRM protocols. To that end, the CRM program will soon begin conducting that training in-house to achieve better oversight of the training outcomes and tailor education to particular site needs. The CRM staff is also ensuring that all WAARNG contractors receive this training, and contract language has been updated to include cultural resources responses in a more formalized way.



Education of soldiers and staff is a key element to ensuring the continuity of CRM activities. To that end, the CRM staff have worked with G3 division to provide environmental guidance related to CRM into deployment plans and incorporated cultural resources management in new employee orientation (NEO) briefings, building managers' trainings, and Unit Environmental Compliance Officers' (UECO) trainings. The CRM staff works to continually update GIS maps with information about the installation's buildings and their eligibility; this effort promotes the consistency of the CRM program and also helps to guide the WAARNG's decision-making processes. Such maps and other publicly disclosable documents associated with historic structures will be incorporated in a GIS portal intended to be accessible to all WAARNG employees.



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Such maps and other publicly disclosable documents associated with historic structures will be incorporated in a GIS portal intended to be accessible to all WAARNG employees. As an objective noted in the ICRMP, the CRM program is developing GIS capability that will provide auto-population of GIS data of all

facilities when they turn 50 with regard to their eligibility status. Working with a contractor, the installation obtained aerial imagery of all structures on Camp Murray to input as well in the process of developing MTP at the training site.



The CRM program consults with Federally recognized tribes to keep those organizations abreast of proposed actions and ongoing projects on the WAARNG installation. On a regular basis, the CRM staff consults with around 20 tribes, but they sometimes send consultation letters to up to a total of 40 tribes in managing the statewide installation. This includes outreach with tribes associated with Yakima Training Site and Joint Base Lewis McChord, two Army installations that the WAARNG trains on, but does not actually have oversight or ownership of the property. Nonetheless, the CRM program makes every effort to communicate with the tribes associated with those sites. The CRM staff take part in a summit organized each year by the Suquamish Tribe; this

event provides for cultural resources coordination among various players in cultural resources protection. Over the two-day summit each year, the CRM staff is able to connect with hundreds of attendees, including tribal representatives, private consultants, non-profit groups, and other state and federal agency colleagues.

The CRM staff work develop posters and signage at Camp Murray posted indoors and outside so that visitors and staff can learn about the cultural resources present on the training site and statewide and how they can contribute to their preservation. Brochures on CRM had also been prepared and distributed to personnel during NEO and UECO briefings. The recreation/campground area at the Camp Murray training site is outfitted with signage detailing the historic bridges and other elements still in use.



Example of signage educating visitors on Camp Murray's historic resources. Recreational areas provide excellent opportunities for outreach on all environmental activities on post.

With the inadvertent discovery at the

Centralia Armory, the WAARNG has found its relationship with local community groups strengthened by CRM outreach. The CRM staff supported a local group dedicated to celebrating the bicentennial birthday of the town's founder, George Washington, in achieving a continuing resolution with the state legislature to fund a statue honoring him. Born in 1817, George Washington was the son of a slave who traveled to Washington after the Civil War, ultimately establishing Centralia in 1875. The CRM program worked with several groups to raise awareness about the town's history and the armory site's role, including the bicentennial committee, City of Centralia, the Centralia Historic Preservation Commission, the Centralia Downtown Association, the Lewis County Historic Society Museum, and Friends of Seminary Hill. CRM staff will be giving lectures about the site's history at local history night events held in a popular brew pub. A special booklet is being published to correspond with these outreach opportunities as an educational tool that can reach beyond the lecture events.