Developing the Green Warrior Program

The Army Environmental Policy Institute (AEPI) is in the process of developing the Green Warrior Program, with Colonel Timothy Hill, US Army, as Director of the Program. The development of the Program is in response to a study by the RAND Corporation, entitled “Green Warriors: Army Environmental Considerations for Contingency Operations from Planning through Post-conflict”. The study addressed root causes of environmental issues and liabilities that arose from military operations in Iraq. The result of the study is a report that examines environmental elements, including cultural property, in the context of military operations overseas, particularly during the post-conflict and reconstruction phases. Cultural resources are an integral part of the environmental context, and are being considered more and more in the context of military operations.

Background to the study is provided in the report’s preface: “Prompted by the growing importance of environmental considerations in military operations, the AEPI asked RAND to examine how the Army approaches this issue in overseas contingency operations, particularly during the post-conflict and reconstruction phases. It also asked RAND to identify existing problems and gaps in policy, doctrine, and guidance and to propose solutions the Army could adopt to address them. This report should be of interest to the environmental community within the Army, the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), and the other Services, as well as to other military planners, operators, trainers, and policymakers.”

The report concludes that, “environmental considerations can be important for achieving overall U.S. objectives during reconstruction and post-conflict operations, including both short and long-term stability. If not properly addressed in planning or operations, environmental considerations can increase the costs of an operation and make it more difficult for the Army to sustain the mission. Yet, environmental considerations are not well incorporated into Army planning or operations in any phase of an operation. To address these shortcomings, the Army should take additional steps to ensure that environmental considerations (from strategic to tactical) are appropriately incorporated into planning, operations, training, and research.”

Throughout the report, cultural resources are defined as an important component of the environmental framework that is a vital consideration to mission operations and success. Publication of the Green Warriors Report marks a significant milestone in Army Environmental policy, one which can only increase the visibility of cultural resource protection and propel it into the future of Army military planning and execution.

The City of San Diego’s Reuse Plan for Naval Training Center

The Naval Training Center (NTC) San Diego was commissioned in 1923 as a Naval training station. The majority of the buildings were constructed in the 1930s and early 1940s. In 1993 the federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission slated NTC for eventual closure, and in 1997, NTC was officially closed.

According to the City of San Diego’s website, “Envisioning an urban village that mixes homes with places of work, education, recreation and entertainment, the City of San Diego has an ambitious plan to turn the former Navy base into a viable community that complements the surrounding area. The City NTC Reuse Plan calls for a pristine area surrounded by green landscaping and bordered by water, with a focus on NTC’s history. The area will be a gathering place where San Diegans can come together in an active, productive, and stimulating environment. New homes, parks, businesses, as well as cultural and educational facilities will transform the former Navy base into a vital waterfront community”.

For more information, please visit http://www.sandiego.gov/ntc/

(Tile detail from the chapel on the closed NTC)

Photo by Adam Smith, ERDC-CERL

Keyport’s Naval Undersea Museum

The Keyport Naval Undersea Museum is a testament to naval undersea heritage preservation efforts. One of 12 Naval museums across the country to be accredited by the American Association of Museums, the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, Washington is said to house the largest collection of historic torpedoes in the Navy. The Museum has almost 23,000 square feet of exhibit space, more than 17,000 artifacts and a research library with about 6,000 books on Naval undersea history.

Over the course of 13 years, the Naval Undersea Museum Foundation raised enough money to open the Keyport Museum. According to the Museum’s Operations Manager, Olivia Weatherly, “Our mission is to collect, preserve and interpret naval undersea history and operations for the benefit of the US Navy and the people of the US”. According to the Museum’s Director, Joyce Jensen, the Museum hosted approximately 300 scheduled events and about 60,000 visitors in 2008.

For more on this story, visit http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=49155
Visit the museum’s website at http://www.history.navy.mil/museums/keyport/index1.htm
Highlight:
Cultural Heritage and Armed Conflict

By Cecilia Brothers, Legacy’s CR Specialist

On 23 October 2009, the Lawyers’ Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation (LCCHP) and the US Committee of the Blue Shield presented the conference Culture and Conflict: The US & the 1954 Hague Convention, which took place at the National Trust for Historic Preservation headquarters in Washington D.C. The conference aimed to consider the domestic and international ramifications of the US ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and to foster dialogue among representatives from federal agencies, other government organizations and NGOs, as well as interested parties and subject matter experts. Key agencies and organizations, such as DoI, NPS and DoD, took part in the speaking panels. Department of Defense attendees and presenters included: General Counsel, International Policy for Installations and Environment, Army Judge Advocate General for Law of War Matters, US Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command, the Legacy Resource Management Program and the Army, Marine Corps and DoD Deputy Federal Preservation Officers.

Despite playing an integral role in the drafting of the 1954 Hague Convention following WWII, the US was not party to the Convention until September of 2008 when it was ratified by the US Senate. (The instrument of ratification was officially deposited with UNESCO on 13 March 2009.) The US now joins 121 other nations who officially recognize the importance of cultural heritage preservation during times of armed conflict.

Corine Wegener, President of the US Committee of the Blue Shield, highlighted that US ratification is significant to domestic and international cultural heritage policy. US overseas operations since 2003, particularly in Iraq, have led interested parties to assess the state of cultural heritage in the current wartime context, which facilitated the progression towards US ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention. Various organizations came together to draft a statement in support of ratification, which was presented to the US Senate at the time of their legislative review in the Spring of 2008. US ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention has been a goal for many in the international preservation community, as it signifies the US’s commitment to cultural property protection during armed conflict.

The American Anthropological Association (AAA) sums up the Convention perfectly as it relates to military operations. “The Convention establishes terms meant to ensure the continued preservation of archaeological sites, historical structures… and other forms of cultural property. These terms compel nations to curtail the theft and vandalism of artifacts, help preserve cultural property when occupying foreign territory, and avoid the targeting and use of cultural sites for military purposes.”

Continued on the next page...
Continued from Page 3...

According to AAA, US ratification of the Convention provides further guidance related to the responsibilities of the US military as it “reinforces our nation’s commitment to cultural preservation, encourages the identification of cultural property, and improves our foreign relations”. It was this concept that led the LCCHP and the US Committee of the Blue Shield to convene the Conference on Culture and Conflict. The Conference program included a focus on “what government organizations, particularly the US military, are doing to ensure compliance with the Hague Convention and to avert or mitigate cultural damage in future conflicts”.

Though not party to the 1954 Hague Convention until 2008, the US has incorporated themes of cultural heritage preservation and cultural property interests in military training and rules of engagement since the time of the original drafting of the Convention following WWII. Conference presenter W. Hays Parks, Senior Associate Deputy General Counsel, International Affairs, DoD stated that, “the US has been engaged in these efforts prior to ratification”. He also noted that “respect for cultural property is a Command responsibility” and it is from the Command level that cultural heritage safeguarding initiatives have been derived since post WWII. Conference presenter Richard Jackson, Special Assistant to the Army Judge Advocate General for Law of War Matters, further noted that many counterinsurgency operations (COIN) that have been in use for some time facilitate cultural heritage awareness. Wegener’s presentation underscored this by pointing out that since 2006, more than 1000 civil affairs military personnel individuals have been trained in cultural property awareness before their deployment.

Many substantive remarks and presentations were made throughout the course of the Conference. W. Hays Parks reiterated the importance of influencing the Command structure with regard to cultural property training, specifically noting that cultural heritage intelligence relies on Command awareness, collection and dissemination of information and map making. Richard Jackson noted that stability operations (which include cultural heritage awareness) are no longer an afterthought of wartime. He said that doctrinal changes have been made to further enhance “an integrated military response”. Karl Habsburg, President of the Association of the National Committees of the Blue Shield, noted that the addition of Cultural Property Protection Officers among the service personnel within the Austrian Armed Forces has been an extraordinary success. Patty Gerstenblith, President of the LCCHP, noted that more needs to be done in peacetime; the focus of cultural heritage preservation as it relates to armed conflict need not be only during wartime.

To conclude, Patty Gerstenblith posed the following questions: How has this ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention affected the work of those in the governmental agencies and the NGOs whose work deals with cultural property protection? Are we, in fact, currently in compliance with the Convention? Are we doing all we can towards compliance? What can we do better? What questions can we expect to be posed in the future regarding cultural heritage during armed conflict?

W. Hays Parks may have summed it up best when he said, “We’ve been [working toward cultural property preservation awareness] all along, but now we need to do it better”.

(Photos by Corine Wegener and Major James Ahern)
THE FACTS:
Non-Invasive Burial Determination Using Near Surface Geophysical Survey and Soil Chemical Testing at Fort Hood, Texas and Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

Background
Archaeological resources can sometimes encroach on training lands, reducing the capability to train. Effective reduction of this encroachment must be performed in a manner meeting National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation criteria in a cost- and time-effective manner. Traditional archaeological evaluation consists of resource excavation to determine if NRHP criteria are met. Geophysical/remote sensing techniques offer an opportunity to “see” what lies below the ground’s surface with minimum or no excavation. Determining the location and extent of historic cemeteries and Native American burials during an archaeological survey can be an emotional issue, especially when it is believed burials may be present. Often, resources with “possible” burials are not evaluated, continuing encroachment on training lands. Soil tests, such as humic acid and pH level readings, in conjunction with geophysical testing have provided police departments with leads to the location of burials. Successfully applying this approach at DoD installations with archaeological resources could reduce land encumbered with “possible” burial locations by determining the presence of a burial without the emotional controversy surrounding excavations.

Objective
Establish a methodology for geophysical testing and chemical sampling with sufficient accuracy to determine if a burial or other archaeological materials are not present, thus producing a NRHP eligibility assessment of “no historic properties.”

Summary of Approach
The project created a methodology utilizing non-invasive techniques to identify potential burial anomalies; sample soil from these anomalies; and define chemical signatures that would positively identify the anomaly as a burial. These goals were addressed in succession. Intensive geophysical data collection techniques were defined ensuring adequate data collection for the chemical signature development phase of the project. Resources at two military installations, Fort Hood (Texas) and Camp Lejeune (North Carolina) provided a test of differing environmental conditions (Central Plains versus Coastal) as well as different site types (rockshelters, open sites, historic cemeteries).

 Benefit
The project benefits DoD by defining a model to reduce costs for archaeological assessments and improve management of archaeological resources. Reduction of costs for assessment are achieved by pinpointing key areas within the resource for traditional excavation procedures as needed. This approach also reduces consultation costs as an amicable, non-invasive alternative for “possible” burial site assessment.

Accomplishments
The geophysical methodology provided highly accurate, useful information to direct archaeological soil sample collection at all resources tested. Based on the reliability and accuracy of the method, future work within rockshelters and sandy sites at a more intense interval is recommended for collection. Though collection time was increased by about a third over traditional archeological methodologies, it reduced subsequent investigations by at least half the time while providing better data. Resource-specific chemical tests identified a few broad trends within the data indicating potential differences between burials and the environment. Unfortunately, these trends were not consistent across differences in resource types or environmental variables. Based on these results, it appears that no overarching predictive or confidence limits can be created for burials against the environment on a broad scale using the current research path. However, the results support the recommendation to conduct additional research to refine these techniques.

For more FACTS on this project and others, visit the Defense Environmental Network & Information Exchange (DENIX) at https://www.denix.osd.mil or contact Cecilia.Brothers.ctr@osd.mil directly.

This information was taken directly off this project’s Fact Sheet.
From DoD’s DFPO...

Preservationists Gather in Music City

By Serena G. Bellew, DFPO

The National Trust for Historic Preservation’s annual conference may seem like an unlikely venue for a gathering of Department of Defense employees, but a wide variety of session topics and a chance to network with the larger preservation community continues to be a draw for DoD cultural resource professionals seeking a source of information on new historic property initiatives and trends.

“Sustaining the Future in Harmony with our Pasts,” was the theme for this year’s Nashville, Tennessee based conference. Sustainability through reuse of historic properties was the clear message throughout many of the week long conference sessions. Evaluation of recent past properties was also the topic of several sessions, including one on a comprehensive survey of 21st Century buildings, which received excellent reviews from DoD attendees.

A special session; “The Nashville Challenge” was also sponsored by the National Trust as a follow-on to last year’s Pocantico Proclamation*, that resulted in the drafting of a set of guiding principals, and stated; “The historic preservation community has a deep tradition of stewardship for our built environment, emerging as leaders in sustainable practices. Consistent with this tradition, historic preservation practitioners resolve to face head-on the global human-caused ecological crises that threaten our built and natural resources. Historic preservation must play a central role in efforts to make the built environment more sustainable.” The Nashville Challenge was an opportunity for the goals and objectives of the Pocantico Proclamation to be disseminated with the larger preservation community, and for the Trust to receive feedback from a large group of stakeholders.

Being invited to attend the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officer’s (NCSHPO) quarterly meeting, was another benefit of this year’s conference. Much of the meeting was dominated by discussion of the funding and staffing crisis facing many SHPOs, as well as the increase in Section 106 projects due to Recovery Act funding. However, it was also a great opportunity for me to make personal connections with SHPOs from states that have significant DoD portfolios, and talk briefly about DoD’s desire to continue to build and strengthen our relationships with the SHPOs, beyond the resolution of adverse effects.

While it is true that the National Preservation Conference draws many more attendees from the state and local preservation sector, there are those of us within the DoD cultural resource management community that continue to find value and benefit in this conference, as it remains the primary venue for professional development in architectural history. In past years, DoD has also sponsored many sessions and posters, and it is my goal to submit a multi-agency/multi-stakeholder panel session proposal for 2010, with involvement of my fellow cultural resource managers (hint).

*Full text of the Pocantico Proclamation can be found at: http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/sustainability/pocantico.html

-SGB

Photos by Adam Smith, ERDC-CERL

(Historic Ryman Auditorium, Nashville, TN)

(Serena G. Bellew, Deputy Federal Preservation Officer at the Department of Defense)

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A Request from the Legacy Program...

As you know, the Legacy Resource Management Program provides financial assistance to DoD efforts to preserve our cultural and natural heritage. This newsletter is also developed and edited by the Legacy Program. As a part of the DoD network of individuals devoted to cultural resource endeavors on DoD lands, you are instrumental in the cultural resource dialogue associated with protecting and enhancing resources while supporting military readiness. The Legacy Program would welcome information, news, briefs, announcements, photos, articles, suggestions, questions, etc. that would foster this dialogue via this newsletter. Please send information related to cultural resource activities on installations, within regions or information that generally pertains to DoD and military service cultural resource endeavors so that this information can potentially be included in this newsletter.

Please send Cecilia an email at Cecilia.Brothers.ctr@osd.mil

Can Anyone Help Solve this Puzzle?

The Cultural Resources UPDATE Editor received an email requesting folks to help solve a mystery. The request came from Fort Drum’s Cultural Resource Manager, Laurie Rush, who received the inquiry from one of her international colleagues, Richard Osgood, archaeologist with the United Kingdom’s Ministry of Defense.

The inquiry is as follows: During WWII, just prior to the D-day landings a number of American troops, possibly Army, were billeted in the village of Bishopsteignton in Devon in southwest England. On a wall near to the WWII American soldiers’ hut are crudely made reliefs of what is almost surely Native American faces. [One of the reliefs is in the picture to the left.] According to the local historians in Bishopsteignton, the reliefs date to the WWII time frame. As you can see the head is very detailed and would appear to be that of a Great Plains tribe. It would also appear to have been made by someone with some knowledge of his subject, even down to the notches in the head feathers which from my limited research seem to have some tribal significance. There also seems to be some symbols of the sun and stars in the background. Could it be that a Native American soldier was billeted in Bishopsteignton during WWII?

If anyone has information that can help solve this mystery, please contact the Editor.

The Legacy Resource Management Program

The Legacy program was established by Congress in 1990 to provide financial assistance to DoD to preserve our natural and cultural heritage. The program assists the DoD in protecting and enhancing resources while supporting military readiness. A Legacy project may involve regional ecosystem management initiatives, habitat restoration and enhancement efforts, invasive species control, monitoring species at risk and species of concern, economics of historical preservation, cultural resources data management, communication, partnerships and public awareness, and/or context and model development.

Visit www.dodlegacy.org for more information.

Requests to be added to or removed from the Cultural Resources UPDATE distribution list may be sent to Cecilia.Brothers.ctr@osd.mil

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