



2006 DoD Cultural Resources Workshop

Project #
06-294

Background:

The Department of Defense (DoD) manages nearly 30 million acres of land and thousands of square miles of air and sea space to conduct missions vital to the national security of the United States. Within these lands, DoD is responsible for over 150,000 archeological sites, 71 National Historic Landmarks, and more than 19,000 individual historic properties represented by over 600 entries in the National Register of Historic Places. Preserving the integrity of these resources is a significant aspect of DoD's stewardship responsibilities—a responsibility that must be balanced daily with its primary mission of training troops and testing weapons systems.

Objective:

The objectives of this workshop were to: 1) identify and prioritize the needs for cultural resources management across DoD; 2) examine the current state of practice across DoD for cultural resources management; 3) identify the current state of the art for cultural resources management relevant to DoD's requirements; and 4) identify the gaps in knowledge, technology, and management for cultural resources that limit both the transition of emerging technologies and the implementation or development of new management approaches.

Summary of Approach:

The *2006 DoD Cultural Resources Workshop*, which was cosponsored by the Legacy Resource Management Program with the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) and Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP), was structured to include a diverse set of subject matter experts, including federal and non-federal cultural resources managers, tribal representatives, academic researchers, and representatives from various private CRM firms. The workshop opened with overviews from the sponsors and each military component, as well as summaries of white papers commissioned for the event.

After the plenary, participants joined one of four themed breakout sessions: *Identification and Evaluation*, *Mitigation and Treatment*, *Management*, or *Knowledge Management*. For each topic, participants identified DoD needs, barriers, and opportunities that, if addressed, could enhance the military's CRM efforts. Attendees also participated in a field tour of Fort Lewis, Washington, so they could better understand the challenges DoD

personnel face in meeting both cultural resources stewardship and military mission responsibilities.

Benefit:

By considering workshop recommendations, Legacy, SERDP, and ESTCP can more effectively and efficiently target program resources to improve cultural resources management, while ensuring that DoD maintains and maximizes its training and testing flexibility.

Accomplishments:

Workshop outcomes included a list of high-priority cultural resource information gaps and management needs. These included creating useable and available historic contexts; developing alternative and/or creative mitigation and treatment options; and creating a centralized Web-based DoD CRM information repository and data clearinghouse on the Defense Environmental Information eXchange Network (DENIX).

For more information on the *2006 DoD Cultural Resources Workshop*, please visit <https://www.denix.osd.mil/denix/Public/Library/NCR/cr-presentations-crw-seattle-0706.html?fm-culres>.



The Historic Main Gate to Fort Lewis, built in 1917.

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