



2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation Award

Each year since 1962, the Secretary of Defense has honored installations, teams, and individuals for outstanding achievements in Department of Defense (DoD) environmental programs. These accomplishments include outstanding conservation activities, innovative environmental practices, and partnerships that improve quality of life and promote efficiencies without compromising DoD's mission success. The 2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards cycle encompasses an achievement period from October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2022 (Fiscal Years [FY] 2021-2022). A diverse panel of 54 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. These nine categories cover six subject areas including natural resources conservation, environmental quality, sustainability, environmental restoration, cultural resources management, and environmental excellence in weapon systems 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 the nation's collective heritage. Small installations have fewer than 10,000 acres, which can include leased, military-owned, or -administered outlying ranges, or training practice areas. The 2023 winner of the Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation award is *Iowa Army National Guard*.

About Iowa Army National Guard

The Iowa Army National Guard's (IAARNG) Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center is the primary training installation for Iowa, made up of around 4,500 acres of land. Camp Dodge boasts numerous training resources including, but not limited to, healthcare training, vehicle training, a regional training institute, and officer candidate school training. Camp Dodge's mission also encompasses providing its Level III Training Area to other Federal and state agencies, National Guards, and military branches. The Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center is one of the few active training facilities that pre-dates the First World War. The installation hosts historic structures from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and Second World War eras that are still in use today. The Cultural Resources Management (CRM) program's efforts to achieve a harmony in preserving the integrity of the historic sites while also ensuring their usefulness in Camp Dodge's important mission have allowed for continued use of these historic structures.



Camp Dodge's historic stone fence is a landmark for the community. Restoration of this feature is a major milestone for the Cultural Resources Management program.

Major Accomplishments in FY 2021-2022

- The Camp Dodge CRM program restored the WPA-built limestone perimeter fence and gatehouse. The WPA constructed the fence in 1937 using locally sourced limestone. The perimeter fence includes 99 stone pillars and the original gatehouse. The Camp Dodge CRM Program reused stone pieces from the existing fence to help rebuild some of the damaged stone pillars. New grout was specially mixed to have the same look and consistency of the original materials. The CRM program replaced light fixtures on the fence with historic-looking light fixtures that imitated the appearance of gas lights.
- Camp Dodge's CRM program was able to offset part of the cost of repairing the fence by leveraging state funds. Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Funds gave the CRM program \$56,000 of the total \$373,000 project costs.
- Camp Dodge displayed innovative thinking in adapting its historic bathing pavilion into modern classroom spaces. Camp Dodge replaced leaking windows with modern windows that were weatherized with wood trim to match the structure's original historic character after consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Camp Dodge is currently replacing the roof but keeping its original, 45-degree-angle design, which will help keep the building cool.
- The Camp Dodge CRM program worked with the SHPO to repair the historic 1940s Herrold Schoolhouse, which was incorporated into the installation during the camp's expansion during the Second World War. The CRM program repaired the building's soffits and restored the crumbling façade with a wood-detailed overhang. The schoolhouse is still in use as a location for debriefing training events.
- The Camp Dodge CRM program has secured funds for an internship opportunity with Iowa State University's archaeology and architecture programs to work with CRM staff directly. Students will complete work-study projects tied to their research and the resources on post.



Camp Dodge's perimeter fence features 99 limestone pillars. Preservation of this unique feature involved meticulous handwork to restore the masonry.



Herrold Schoolhouse, in the process of restoration to restore historical features of significance.