

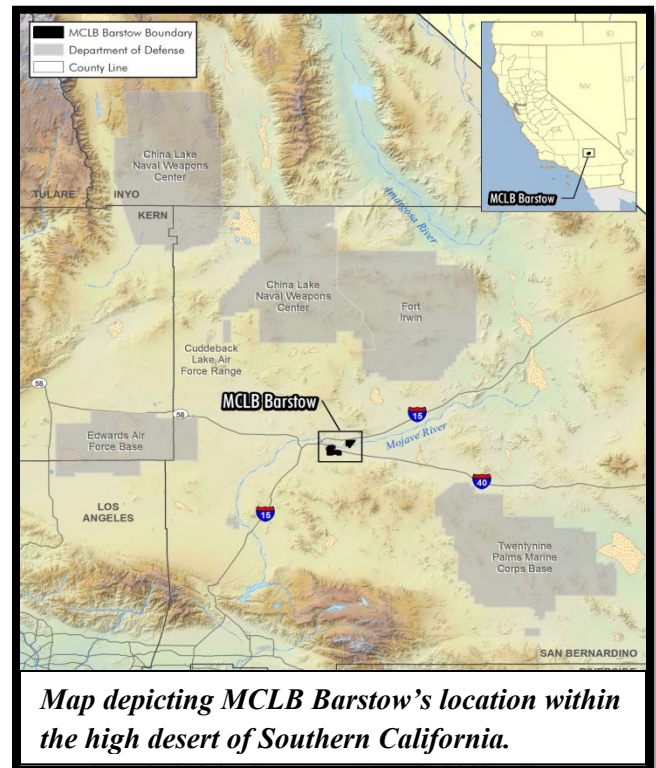


2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award Cultural Resources Program – Small Installation Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

INTRODUCTION

Marine Corps Logistics Base (MCLB) Barstow is located in the high desert of western San Bernardino County, California, 3.5 miles (6 kilometers) east of the City of Barstow. The base supports approximately 95 military personnel and their families and 1,840 civilian employees. MCLB Barstow is a diverse collection of cantonment and range areas that encompass 5,567 acres (2,253 hectares) within the Department of Defense (DoD) Southwest Range Complex. The base is positioned at a significant crossroads; two major interstate highways, I-15 and I-40, state highways 58 and 247, and historic Route 66 (National Trails Highway) converge in Barstow, and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) and Union Pacific Railways meet just west of the base.

As one of only three logistics bases operated by the Marine Corps, MCLB Barstow serves an important role as a logistics and maintenance hub supporting Marine Corps activities west of the Mississippi River and in the Pacific theater. The key functions of the base are to receive, store, and distribute supplies and equipment as needed, and to repair and rebuild US Marine Corps and other DoD equipment. Activities at MCLB Barstow directly support the Marine Corps mission worldwide. MCLB Barstow also provides a platform for the technical and sustainment training of Marines, including maintaining combat skills and on the job training. The MCLB Barstow Environmental Division supports the installation and its tenants through its comprehensive compliance, pollution prevention, conservation, planning, training, and management activities.



Map depicting MCLB Barstow's location within the high desert of Southern California.

BACKGROUND

Cultural Resources Program

The Cultural Resources Program here at MCLB Barstow serves a critical function as a key interface point for various agencies, organizations, and stakeholders as the nature of this DoD facility (logistical) enables ample opportunity for cross-functional and multi-stakeholder collaborative efforts to come to fruition. The Cultural Resources Program is managed by two staff member consisting of; a Cultural Resources Program Manager and a Cultural Resources Coordinator who helps assist in the day-to-day responsibilities. During this award period, MCLB



2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award Cultural Resources Program – Small Installation Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

Barstow’s Cultural Resources Program has received approval for the newly revised 2021 Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP). Moreover, there are 197 archaeological resources have been identified at MCLB Barstow, consisting of 81 sites and 146 isolated resources. Of the 81 sites; 52 are prehistoric, 26 are historic, and three are multi-component (contains both prehistoric and historic components). MCLB Barstow also has significant historical significance attached to it as this base has served a mission essential function; aptly since 1942 due to geographic and strategic convenience.

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

U.S. Highway-Route 66 and the Marine Corps

MCLB Barstow has the privilege of having a historical 1.71 mile long segment of the original U.S. Highway 66 (known as U.S. Route 66; commonly referred to as Route 66; renamed Joseph L. Boll Avenue on Base) running through the center of the Base. This road was open to the public until 1964 until Interstate 40 (I-40) was constructed. MCLB Barstow is the only military installation with an original segment of Route 66 running directly through it and this segment has been determined eligible to be registered under the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Route 66 was significant during World War II. Not only did Route 66 support World War II transportation efforts, but it is one of the oldest and most popular roads in America known as “The Mother Road”. Because of the American history and significance of Route 66, the entire length of the road from Chicago, Illinois to Los Angeles, California, is registered under the NRHP as a National Historic Highway; registered as a National Historic Landmark managed by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. It’s up to each state to manage and preserve those historical segments of Route 66 that run through them.

It is the responsibility of the Environmental Division, Cultural Resources program to manage and maintain eligible and registered historical landmarks on the installation. The Cultural Resources program initiated the Route 66 Project in order to bring awareness and historically preserve the installations history. The current Environmental Director, Jason P. Thompson personally designed a unique first-ever new Marine Corps Eagle, Globe, and Anchor (EGA) symbol/logo integrated with the Route 66 shield that was approved Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC).



*Trademarked by HQMC Licensing and
Trademark office*



2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award Cultural Resources Program – Small Installation Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

In 2019, MCLB Barstow contacted the Route 66 California Association and submitted the new logo for approval and to HQMC Licensing and Trademark office for their approval. The symbol/logo was approved by both organizations and trademarked by the Marine Corps. Once approval for the symbol/logo was received, the Cultural Resources Program designed and put together the project to memorialize and honor the significance of Route 66 on MCLB Barstow and formally submitted to HQMC Environmental Dept. in 2020 and the project was approved. The project consisted of developing and creating:

1. Route 66/EGA Road Stencil.
2. Route 66/EGA Historic Route road placard/sign.
3. Two marquees located at the front and back gate with description.
4. Lastly, a Route 66/EGA 3-Dimensional (3D) Statue.

Route 66/EGA Road Stencil on MCLB Base

MCLB Barstow's road stencil was due to the traditional Route 66 road stencil. This is because as you travel the nation across Route 66, you will see an accompanying Route 66 logo stenciled on the road. Many travelers and Route 66 enthusiasts often take their pictures next to these road stencils. We wanted to honor that tradition and provide the same opportunity to capture that unique experience. These Route 66/EGA road stencils were strategically placed along the 1.7 mile strip of Route 66 on Base.



Route 66/EGA Historic Route road placard/sign



In the addition to the Route 66/EGA road stencil, MCLB Barstow also developed its own Historic Route road placard/sign to line the road and mark the route.



2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award Cultural Resources Program – Small Installation Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

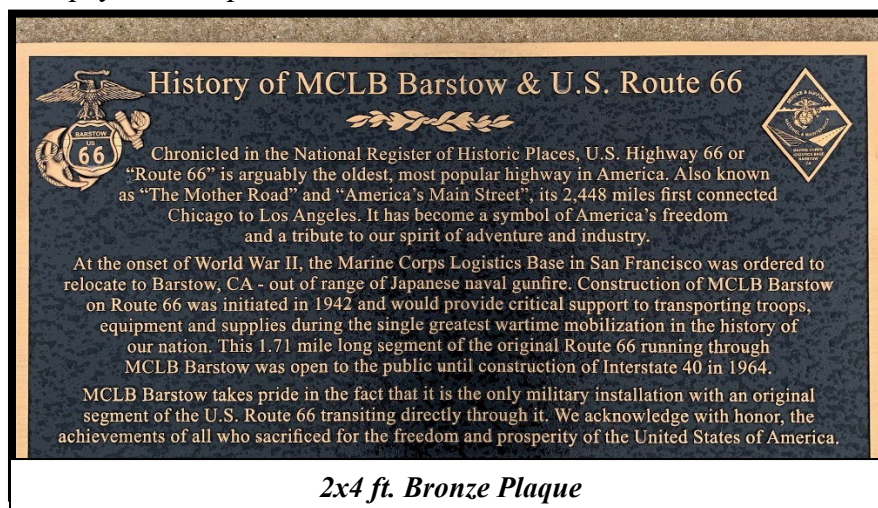
Front and Back Gate Route 66 Marquees

MCLB Barstow also installed Marquees at the front and back entrance of MCLB Barstow on Route 66. In order to achieve our community outreach goal, we placed the Route 66 marquees at the entrances so that instead of being disappointed and turned away, travelers can become familiar with Route 66 and its significance to the Base and military effort by stopping at the Marquees and reading the history of Route 66 and its significance to the military and the Base.



Marquee outside of Front Gate (Nebo side)

The front gate marquee has a Bronze Plaque that honors the military service members and the significant role that Route 66 played in World War II. This allows visitors to stop (outside the front gate entrance) and pay their respects.



2x4 ft. Bronze Plaque

Excerpt from Inscription: "Construction of MCLB Barstow on Route 66 was initiated in 1942 and would provide critical support to transporting troops, equipment and supplies during the single greatest wartime mobilization in the history of our nation".



2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award Cultural Resources Program – Small Installation Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

Marquee outside of Back Gate being installed



Marquee outside of Back Gate (Nebo side)

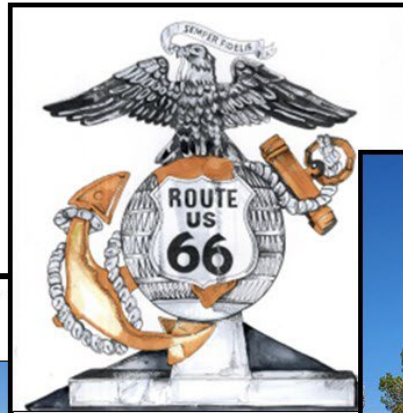
Route 66/EGA Statue

Lastly, contractors and civilians with Insight Contractors, and Metal Sculpture Studios led by Mr. Ryan Barela, the Cultural Resources program manager at the time; installed the newly designed 600 pound Route 66/EGA sculpture complete with the Route 66 shield in the center of the sculpture. The sculpture itself is made up of made of stainless steel and aluminum for the main body and the continents which sit around the globe are made up of gold tinted aluminum. The sculpture is positioned in the middle of the Base at the intersection of Joseph. L. Boll Avenue (also known as Route 66), and Wake Avenue to honor this historical highway. The Sculpture itself is an impressive 13 ft. tall including the base of it.



2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award Cultural Resources Program – Small Installation Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

*Route 66/EGA being assembled
on site*



Concept Art



*The Route 66/EGA is 7 ft. The Base from
the pole to the ground is another 6 ft.*

CONCLUSION

Despite the various environmental challenges due to budget constraints and personnel shortages MCLB Barstow continues to enhance and improve the cultural resources here on Base while supporting the Marine Corps Mission. Most importantly, the Cultural Resource Program for MCLB Barstow did “exactly” what it is intended to do, which is preserve the cultural history of the base and bring informational awareness to all involved. All the personnel who visit MCLB Barstow are now enlightened to the significance that Route 66 had during the war effort and how the Base played a part in that. This also applies to any visitors; local and from other countries, who come to the Base hoping to travel the Route 66 Historical Highway, will leave with the knowledge of how Route 66 and MCLB Barstow came to be.

Unfortunately, the biggest drawback is that the only way you can see the signs and the statue is if you have permission to access the Base. For those that can gain access, I highly encourage it because you won't see it anywhere else.



2023 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award Cultural Resources Program – Small Installation Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

This project wouldn't been possible without the vision of the Environmental Director Mr. Jason Thompson and the support from MCLB Barstow's Environmental Division. Special recognition goes out to Angelina Antonucci who served as the Cultural Resources program manager during the initial implementation of the project; as well as Jon Aunger, Cody Leslie, Arley Lessard, Michael Fernandez, Karen Donovan, and Ryan Barela for their support in this endeavor. Most importantly, this wouldn't have happen without cooperation from the California Route 66 Association and its President Lynn Miller, Headquarters Marine Corps and especially from Colonel Craig C. Clemons who served as MCLB Barstow's Commanding Officer (2018-2021) who whole heartily supported the implementation of honoring the Marines, Route 66 and the city of Barstow, California.