

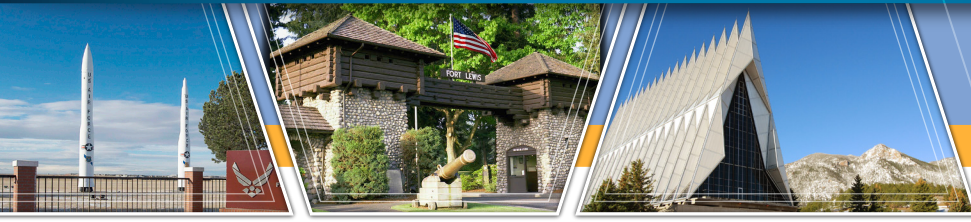


# CULTURAL RESOURCES

# Update

DOD CULTURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2024 Volume 20, Issue No. 1



## IN THIS ISSUE

- [Repatriation of Stolen Materials to USAHEC](#)..... 1
- [88th Annual Meeting for the Society of American Archaeologists](#) ..... 3
- [Photographing Architectural History](#) ..... 3
- [DoD Nationwide Approach to Section 110 Surveys](#) ..... 4
- [10th Annual Day of Archaeology Festival 2023](#) ..... 5
- [Digitizing the National Register of Historic Places](#) ..... 5
- [DoD Climate Resilience Workshop](#) ..... 6
- [CEO Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#) ..... 7
- [DoD National Public Lands Day 2022](#) ..... 8
- [Operation Footprint](#) ..... 9
- [HHS Environmental Justice Index Explorer](#) ..... 9
- [Upcoming Events, Conferences, Workshops, and Training](#) ..... 10
- [Program Updates and Announcements](#) ..... 11
- [Links, Tools, and Preservation Partner Information](#) ..... 12

## FOR MORE

For more information about the DoD Cultural Resources program visit [www.denix.osd.mil/cr](http://www.denix.osd.mil/cr)

For more information about Legacy Resource Management Program visit [www.denix.osd.mil/legacy](http://www.denix.osd.mil/legacy)

If you have an item of interest for the newsletter, please email [CRProgram@bah.com](mailto:CRProgram@bah.com).

## Repatriation of Stolen Materials –Two Pistols Stolen Four Decades Ago Finally Return Home to the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

By Greg Statler, U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center Director of Collections Management

### The Theft

In broad daylight on an exceptionally warm Thursday, May 10, 1979, two individuals casually walked into the General Omar N. Bradley Museum located in Upton Hall on Carlisle Barracks. Their intentions were not to visit the museum, marvel over the artifacts, and learn of General Bradley’s contribution to Army history. They had more sinister intentions in mind.

The two visitors passed by uniforms, medals, and various other items on display until they arrived at the case containing two pistols: Luger captured at Bizerte during World War II and a Walther engraved with the insignia of the 90th Infantry Division and the words Omar N. Bradley. Using a screwdriver they brought with them, they broke the lock on the display case containing two pistols, removed them from the case, and hurriedly concealed the weapons on their bodies. As casually as they had strolled in, they walked out of the building leaving only an empty case and a mystery.

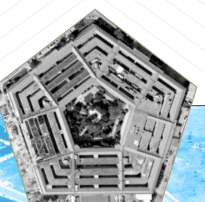


Photos of the pistols after their arrival at Carlisle Barracks in 1969. Source: U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center.

At the time of the theft, DoD found no clues related to the thieves. No fingerprints or surveillance cameras in the museum were available to offer insight. The thieves had seemingly gotten away, and the pistols disappeared. Time passed, staff changed, and the pistol theft became part of the folklore of Carlisle Barracks. Until an investigation into stolen muskets from the Valley Forge Historical Society Museum led the Upper Merion Township Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to the discovery of some long missing artifacts.

### The Discovery

In early March of 2017, staff of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC) received word from Detectives of the Upper Merion Township Police department that they had possibly discovered one of the stolen General Bradley pistols. As a part of an open investigation, a confidential informant had shown law enforcement the photo of a Walther PPK Pistol with the name Omar N. Bradley engraved on the slide. The informant also provided details of the theft from the now closed General Omar N. Bradley Museum in 1979.



It shocked USAHEC Collections Division staff members to receive the call and they quickly went to work looking through the old files related to the General Bradley collection. Within a few hours, they retrieved the file from storage and confirmed that the photos of the pistol matched the one that informant had shown the Detectives. The USAHEC team provided the officers with the historical data pertaining to the theft and the origin of the two firearms. Specifically, staff provided law enforcement with the photographs of both pistols taken at the time of their arrival at Carlisle and the findings of the Criminal Investigation Division.

Several months passed without additional communication concerning the stolen pistols. Then, in an odd twist in the fall of 2017, USAHEC staff were notified in the fall of 2017, the Luger, but not the Walther, had been recovered. Members of the Upper Merion Police, in cooperation with the FBI, served a search warrant to a suspect connected to several other museum thefts. While conducting the search, law enforcement recovered the Luger from inside a file cabinet in a hidden room of the suspect's house. Unfortunately, the search did not yield the Luger.

From 2017-2021, USAHEC staff received status updates on the Luger and information concerning a suspect under investigation. As law enforcement continued to build their case, the Luger remained in storage at the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia. The Museum of the American Revolutions staff were instrumental in the investigation and graciously provided storage space for USAHEC artifacts.

Early in May of 2022, the case began to move forward as the evidence of the thefts mounted. Prosecutors set a trial date, identified USAHEC staff members as witnesses, and gathered additional information. USAHEC staff provided all the required documentation and awaited announcement of the trial. However, a formal trial never materialized. On August 25, 2022, the suspect, Michael Corbett, plead guilty to the theft of artifacts from fourteen different museums and historical sites. He had stolen items from as far north as Massachusetts and as far south as Mississippi. Many of the pieces dated to the Revolutionary War era or were from Pennsylvania historical institutions. As a part of Corbett's plea deal, he had agreed to turn over any other artifacts not located during the 2017 search of his home. Among the artifacts was the missing Walther pistol.

### *The Repatriation*

On March 13, 2023, a small team from the USAHEC traveled to the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia. They took part in a ceremony commemorating the return of the pistols and other artifacts recovered through the diligent efforts of the law enforcement community.

It was the first time that the staff had seen the pistols in person and the artifacts had publicly appeared in four decades. The condition of the pistols was surprisingly good considering they were not stored in proper environmental conditions or received care in several years.

The ceremony for the repatriation was brief but poignant, as representatives from the institutions in attendance spoke of the importance of returning the artifacts and their history. Museum and historical site representatives spoke of how long the pieces had been missing and their gratitude for and excitement about possibly making these important historical objects available to the public once again. The USAHEC representative, Museum Technician Madison Darhower, accepted the pistols and spoke on behalf of the organization.



Museum Technician Madison Darhower at the Repatriation Ceremony. Source: U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center.



On the way home, the USAHEC team reflected on the events that led to the discovery of the pistols and wondered how the pieces remained out of site for so long. Luckily, the individual who stole them kept them and did not sell them over time.

Since the return of the pistols to the USAHEC, the Objects Conservator has reviewed the pistols and implemented preservation measures. The pistols are currently on display in an exhibit that details their theft and recovery to the U.S. Army.

To learn more about the USAHEC, please visit: <https://ahec.armywarcollege.edu/>.

Pistols at the Repatriation Ceremony. Source: U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center.

## 88th Annual Meeting for the Society of American Archaeologists

By Department of Defense Cultural Resources Program Support



Source: Society of American Archaeology

The Society of American Archaeologists (SAA) held their 88th Annual Meeting in Portland, OR from March 29–April 2, 2023. The SAA is an international organization that, since its founding in 1934, has been dedicated to research about and interpretation and protection of the archaeological heritage of the Americas. The SAA represents professional and avocational archaeologists, archaeology students, and archaeologists working at Tribal agencies, museums, government agencies, and the private sector.

The DoD Cultural Resource Program had the opportunity to connect at the SAA with archaeologists, representatives from cultural resource management (CRM) firms, and other individuals involved in cultural resources. The SAA Annual Meeting is the largest gathering of archaeologists of the Americas, providing a forum for the dissemination of knowledge and discussion. The meeting has a wide audience that ranges from anyone who has interest in archaeology to experts in the field. Attendees come from over 45 countries, including the United States.

The DoD Cultural Resources Program participated in this year's business meeting for the Military Archaeological Resources Stewardship (MARS) Interest Group. MARS is a small group within the SAA that brings together members who have interest in archaeology on US military-managed properties and conduct CRM in support of U.S. military mission. MARS provides members with a forum to meet and discuss initiatives to identify, manage, and protect cultural and historic resources that may be impacted by military operations.

Additionally, the DoD Cultural Resources Program presented at the symposium "Crucial Issues in United States Department of Defense Cultural Resources Management," sponsored by the MARS Interest Group. During the symposium, cultural resource staff from installations and DoD affiliated research facilities presented papers on national and regional concerns, focusing on climate adaptation, tribal partnerships, and the benefit of using geo-database technology.

To learn more information about the SAA, please visit: <https://www.saa.org/>.



## Photographing Architectural History

By Lys Perhay and Edited by Dana Dysart & Kimberly Lopes

In 2021, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Technical Center of Expertise for the Preservation of Buildings and Structures (TCX) staff purchased a large format film camera and trained its staff in large format photography to be able to execute Historic American Building Survey (HABS) and Historic Engineering Record (HAER) photography contracts in-house.

The Works Progress Administration started the HABS/HAER program in the 1930s in an effort to keep unemployed architects and photographers working during the Great Depression. Since its inception, the data generated by this effort has formed a substantial archive of over 40,000 properties housed at the Library of Congress (LOC). Today, the National Parks Service (NPS) reviews the data, controlling for quality and accuracy and adds regional architectural information to the library on a regular basis.

HABS/HAER documentation has long been accepted as the gold standard of documentation of our Nation's architectural history. It also serves as a standard first-line mitigation measure for adverse effects to historic properties. This mitigation is part of the Section 106 consultation process of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Section 106 applies when Federal funds are used on a project that may affect a building older than 50 years. The Department of Defense (DoD) is the Agency that owns the most historic properties.

For a typical HABS/HAER shoot on a historic building or structure slated for demolition or significant modification the TXC sends out a team of two that includes a Secretary of Interior qualified architectural historian. Photographs taken on the manual large format film camera are painstaking to capture. Sheets of 4x5 film are loaded in one at a time, with a single shot taking up to 20 minutes to focus and light. To meet archival standards, photographers follow the NPS' rules and guidelines—such as ensuring no converging lines because they may alter a structure's appearance in a way that's not true to life. Photographers can take around 25 images a day; they send film to a specialty lab for processing. Film

is preferred over digital for archival purposes since film captures high-quality images and is a physical medium. When stored properly, film can be viewed for decades. The concern with digital archiving is that file types may change and photos could become inaccessible as technology evolves. Hard drives can be corrupted and unrecoverable, so digital is not acceptable per the NPS standards for archival purposes.

When the TCX first purchased the camera, the goal was to increase the capability to execute all elements of a HABS/ HAER package in-house for DoD buildings and infrastructure. Examples of TCX project highlighting the range in scale of documentation:

- Vandenberg Space Force Base, California: 75 photos documenting numerous buildings, tunnels, and the landscape
- Mansfield Hollow, Connecticut: 8 photos of the Dam operators' house

The capability of the HABS/HAER program at the TCX will expand in 2024 with the purchase of a second camera and training of additional photography teams. Any government agency can hire the TCX on a reimbursable basis. The TCX is proud to be a contributor to our Nation's rich architectural library. For more information contact us at: <https://www.nws.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Historic-Preservation/>. For more information about the LOC HABS/HAER collection, please visit: <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2009632512/>.



Building on Vandenberg Space Force Base. Source: Photo by Matthew Punke, 2023

## DoD Nationwide Approach to National Historic Preservation Act Section 110 Surveys

By Jere Gibber and John H. Sprinkle, Jr., Ph.D., National Preservation Institute

Over the next five years (2023-2028) the Department of Defense (DoD) Legacy Resource Management Program will fund a series of projects designed to help meet DoD's responsibilities under Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Less well known than NHPA's Section 106, Section 110 has its origins in Executive Order (EO) 11593, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment, issued by President Nixon in 1971 to support Federal agencies important heritage conservation responsibilities.

DoD partnered with the National Preservation Institute (NPI) through a cooperative agreement to fund the Nationwide Approach to NHPA Section 110 Survey Project. NPI will work with the Military Departments (MILDEPs) CRM leadership to develop high-priority projects to identify and evaluate historic properties. Section 110 projects are strategic and address long-term efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties under an agency's stewardship. At present DoD has surveyed 49% of its land (approximately 10 million acres) and 71% of its real property assets over fifty years of age (approximately 95,000 assets).

This survey work represents a substantial investment by the DoD, with \$13.5M allocated to the projects by the DoD Legacy Resource Management Program over five years. Another \$10M of additional capacity is available via contributions from the individual Services.

During the FY23 cycle NPI will support \$1.25M in DoD Legacy Program-funded survey projects. NPI is working with the Military Departments to identify, refine, and implement the first round of Section 110 projects, with the goal of starting projects early in calendar 2024. Strategic advantages of the project include NPI identifying and engaging subcontractors, acting as the liaison with installation cultural resource management staff, and ensuring timely completion of the project.

For further information about this program, please visit: <https://www.npi.org/about-npi#DoD110>, or contact Jere Gibber, Executive Director ([info@npi.org](mailto:info@npi.org)) or John H. Sprinkle, Jr., Ph.D., Principal Investigator, ([jsprinkl@umd.edu](mailto:jsprinkl@umd.edu)), at NPI.



Conservation Law Enforcement Officers protect natural and cultural resources at Surprise Springs archaeological site through law enforcement. Source: Lance Cpl. Levi Schultz, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center.

## 10th Annual Day of Archaeology Festival 2023

By Department of Defense Cultural Resources Program Support

The Day of Archaeology Festival is an annual gathering of archaeology and community organizations from Washington D.C., Virginia, and Maryland. The host of the event, Archaeology in the Community, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 2009 by Dr. Alexandra Jones. Dr. Jones and her team partner with educational institutions, cultural institutions, and community organizations to increase awareness of archaeology and history, provide archaeology enrichment programs to primary school students, and offer professional development opportunities to college students interested in pursuing careers in the field. Since its founding, Archaeology in the Community has served thousands of students of all ages, customizing curricula to best suit the needs of the group and expanding into new media to ensure public engagement with archaeology.

It is Archaeology in the Community's mission to promote and facilitate the study and public understanding of archaeological heritage. Through informal educational programs, Archaeology in the Community provides hands-on learning, professional development, and community events. Popular youth programs include the Young Archaeologists' Club and Archaeologist for a Day.



DoD Cultural Resources Program Support, Morgen Liebert and Aubrey Farrell with DoD Deputy Federal Preservation Officer, Kathryn Plimpton. Source: DoD Cultural Resources Program Support

On Saturday, June 10, 2023, the DoD Cultural Resources Program staff had the pleasure of participating at the 10th Annual Day of Archaeology Festival at Dumbarton House in Washington, D.C. With over 150 attendees, the DoD Cultural Resources Program staff had the incredible opportunity to share the amazing work that DoD is doing to maintain, promote, and interpret the cultural resources it manages. The DoD Deputy Federal Preservation Officer, Kathryn Plimpton, and program support staff built connections with Washington, D.C. community members of all ages, answered questions about what it is like to have a career in cultural resources and what types of archaeology opportunities exist with the military. The DoD Cultural Resources Program staff looks forward to participating in future Archaeology in the Community events and supporting the mission of greater community awareness of archaeological heritage.

To learn more about Archaeology in the Community and the annual Day of Archaeology and DC Archaeology Month, please visit: <https://www.archaeologyincommunity.com/upcoming-events.html>.



## Digitizing the National Register of Historic Places

Adapted from National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places Website

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the Nation's official list of places—buildings, structures, objects, sites and districts—that Americans believe are worthy of preservation. In 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act established the NRHP, which is maintained by the National Park Service (NPS) in partnership with Federal, state, tribal and local historic preservation offices. As of 2019, the NRHP includes more than 95,000 listings—made up of more than 1.8 million individual buildings, sites, structures, and objects—representing a wide sweep of American history.

Since 2014, the NPS and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) have worked together to scan and upload tens of thousands of records associated with NRHP listings in all 50 states and U.S. territories. Of the over 95,000 current listings, about 88,000 records, dating up to 2012, are now available digitally in the National Archives Catalog. Database research and search tips are available on NPS.gov. More records will be added regularly.

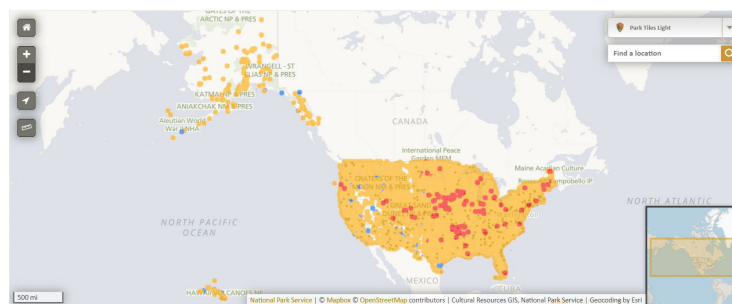
There are several ways to search the NRHP's electronic files:

- Search by state: Use the finding aids for each state and territory in the [National Archives Catalog](#). Select your state and click on "Search Within this File Unit."
- Search by property name or address: Download the [National Register spreadsheet](#) and use the property's unique National Register number (far left column) to [search for the full record](#) in the Catalog.
- Search by topic: Use keyword searches to find National Register places associated with a person, centered around a particular event or theme in history, or a particular group or type of structure or building (e.g., [Rachel Carson](#), [Trail of Tears](#), or [Bridges in Texas](#)). Enter keywords or phrases in quotes with "and" or "or" between phrases. Always include "National Register of Historic Places" as one phrase.

- Search by map: Zoom in and out or enter an address to view public, non-restricted listed properties in the National Register (updated through 2014). Click on a listed place and use the [reference number](#) or the [name to search](#) the National Archives Catalog.

For more information on searching the NRHP's digitized files, please visit: [https://www.nps.gov/articles/nr\\_digitization.htm](https://www.nps.gov/articles/nr_digitization.htm).

National Register of Historic Places

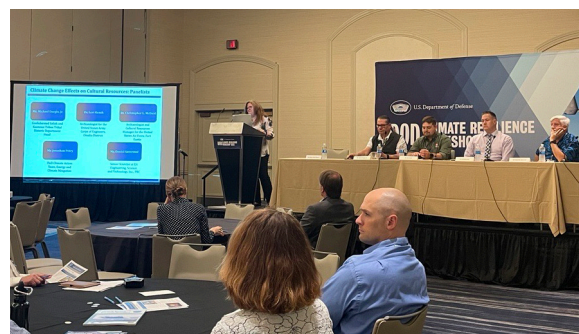


National Register of Historic Places Map.. Source: National Park Service.

## DoD Climate Resilience Workshop

By Department of Defense Cultural Resources Program Support

From July 10-13, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment hosted the 2023 Climate Resilience Workshop in St. Louis, Missouri. With over 800 attendees and 148 speakers, the Workshop brought together a diverse forum of DoD stakeholders and partners to explore the many facets of climate change, a national security threat that has tangible impacts to military readiness. Installation staff, environmental organizations, and climate change professionals participated to help Military Departments understand the data, tools, and resources available for addressing and combatting climate change threats. Workshop attendees shared lessons learned on built and natural infrastructure solutions and set the course for new and improved partnerships to connect missions, resources, and communities in support of military installation resilience.



DoD Deputy Federal Preservation Officer, Ms. Kathryn Plimpton, at the Climate Change Effects on Cultural Resources Session. Source: DoD Cultural Resources Program Support

During this workshop, attendees learned about these lines of effort supporting DoD's Climate Adaptation Plan:

- Supporting Climate-Informed Decision-Making:
  - Enhancing climate literacy across internal DoD personnel and external partners.
  - Integrating adaptation and resilience into planning processes.
- Creating Resilient Built and Natural Infrastructure:
  - Incorporating built and natural infrastructure into natural resource plans to protect land near installations and preserve or expand ecosystems services.
  - Providing DoD Climate Assessment Tool training and identifying tools to conduct risk and vulnerability assessments.
- Enhancing Adaptation and Resilience Through Collaboration:
  - Incorporating stakeholder interests and priorities into resilience activities to promote common goals and preserve shared ecosystems.
  - Highlighting the suite of DoD and other agency programs, funding, and tools available for climate adaptation and military installation resilience.

The DoD Cultural Resources Program hosted the Climate Change Effects on Cultural Resources workshop. Ms. Kathryn Plimpton, DoD's Deputy Federal Preservation Officer and Cultural Resources Program lead facilitated the workshop, and joined by panelists:

- Mr. Michael Durglo, Jr. (Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Tribal Historic Department Head),
- Dr. Levi Keach (Archaeologist for the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District)
- Dr. Christopher L. McDaid (Archaeologist and Cultural Resources Manager for the U.S. Air Force, Fort Eustis),

- Mr. Jonathan Petry (DoD Climate Action Team, Energy and Climate Mitigation), and
- Mr. Daniel Savercool (Senior Scientist at EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC).

The session, one of the most highly attended of the week with representatives from across the defense, public, private, and academic sectors, explored the varied threats to cultural resources posed by climate change, as well as potential adaptation and mitigation strategies. By analyzing unique case studies involving archaeology, engineering, natural resources, Indigenous knowledge, and Tribal governments, attendees gained insight into the wide variety of considerations DoD and other land-owning organizations must consider as cultural resources stewards.

Panelists encouraged workshop attendees to ask questions and participate in a larger discussion about cultural resources decision-making processes, partnerships, and funding challenges. Another discussion topic included how to balance mission success with management of resources impacted by climate change. Panelists shared insight on best practices in a variety of different environmental areas ranging from Alaska's North Slope to Virginia's estuarine Chesapeake Bay.

The overall success of the Climate Change Effects on Cultural Resources workshop demonstrated that cultural resources are a high priority for DoD as well as its partner organizations and stakeholders. The DoD Cultural Resources Program looks forward to continuing their commitment to identifying actionable climate solutions and participating in future climate resilience engagements!

For more information on DoD's efforts to address the climate crisis and the 2023 DoD Climate Resilience Workshop, please visit: Tackling the Climate Crisis, <https://www.defense.gov/spotlights/tackling-the-climate-crisis/> and 2023 DoD Climate Resilience Workshop, <https://www.dodclimateworkshop.org/>.



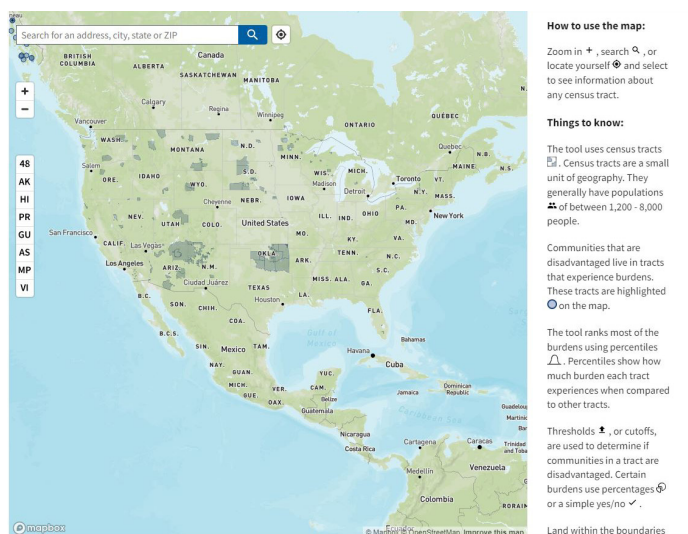
## Council on Environmental Quality Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool

Adapted from the Council on Environmental Quality's Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool Website

In January of 2021, President Biden issued EO 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, which directed the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to develop the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. The tool contains information to illustrate about the environmental and economic burdens that communities experience. Specifically, it uses datasets to identify indicators of burdens and shows these burdens in census tracts, which are small units of geography. The tool ranks most of the burdens using percentiles. Percentiles show how much burden each tract experiences compared to other tracts. Certain burdens are measured using percentages while others are indicated with a simple yes/no response. The tool has an interactive map and uses datasets that are indicators of burdens in eight categories: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development.

The tool uses this information to identify communities that are experiencing these burdens. These are the communities that are disadvantaged because they are overburdened and underserved. Federal agencies will use the tool to help identify disadvantaged communities that will benefit from programs included in the Justice40 Initiative. The Justice40 Initiative seeks to deliver 40% of the overall climate, clean energy, and related investment benefits disadvantaged communities. CEQ will update the tool each year based on public feedback, research, and the availability of new data.

To learn more, please visit: <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5>.



Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. Source: Council on Environmental Quality.

## DoD National Public Lands Day 2022

Adapted from DoD National Public Lands Day 2022 Materials

National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the Nation's largest single-day volunteer effort in support of public lands. Americans come together volunteering their time to improve parks, refuges, local waterways, recreation areas, trails, community gardens, and historic sites. The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) coordinates and organizes this event across the country with Federal, state, and private partners, including DoD. NEEF connects people to the public lands in their community and educates Americans about the need for shared stewardship of our valued, irreplaceable natural and cultural resources through NPLD. In 2022, NEEF hosted NPLD on September 24.

Through a competitive proposal process, NEEF awards DoD Legacy Program funds for Military Service NPLD projects related to natural and cultural resources at military installations each year. To be eligible for DoD NPLD funding, installations must have some publicly accessible, recreational lands. Volunteer-based projects may emphasize preservation and interpretation of historic properties and cultural sites. Installation personnel can use NPLD funding for small maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation projects; signage, benches, and other improvements for historic structures, visitor centers, cemeteries, and trails; and equipment, materials, and supplies. Participating in NPLD provides cultural resource managers with an opportunity to complete small, installation-specific projects that may not otherwise receive funding due to resource constraints.

In 2022, NPLD focused on conservation activities supporting in-person and virtual events designed to engage volunteers and connect people to public lands from their homes. Below are summaries of the 2022 NPLD projects that involved cultural resources:

- Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Hawaii at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam hosted volunteers at a culturally significant site to protect and preserve Loko Paaiau, an ancient Hawaiian fishpond. This project brought together military families and community members to clear invasive vegetation from and remove garbage in the fishpond and surrounding area. Volunteers also helped install lava pavers for the floor of the hale (houses) which was built in part by previous NPLD funding. Hawaiians built specific hale for many uses such as gathering, cooking, eating, sleeping, and storing canoes. The installation of the lava pavers, which is a traditional Hawaiian architecture style, around the fishpond will enable volunteers' safe access to the fishpond. The project supports the hale as a place for Navy families and community members to gather and learn about Hawaiian culture. Additionally, the hale will be used by both DoD veterans and local community and school groups for educational programs.
- Wright-Patterson Air Force Base continued planting trees at the Wright Brothers Memorial creating a sustainable urban canopy at this culturally and historically significant site. The tree planting activity brings the site one step closer to completing the memorial's master planting plan.
- At Hurlburt Field Air Force Base, the Grace Brown Nature Trail is an excellent outdoor recreational trail that winds over some buried cultural sites. The trail enhances natural and cultural resources protection by creating a non-development area and protecting the cultural sites. In NPLD volunteers installed birdhouses, replaced rotting boards from the boardwalks, and used gravel to create retaining walls along the trail to prevent erosion and maintain access for recreation at the trail site.
- At Camp Shelby, a diverse group of volunteers clear and flag the boundaries of a new trail, including the accessible deck and ramp. They also planted dogwoods and magnolia trees. Volunteers also received a history lesson about World War I Camp Shelby trench training. Following 2022 NPLD, in February 2023, the Mississippi National Guard began excavating the trenches and building the trail. They invited a Mississippi Department of Archives and History Archaeologist to conduct research with Southern Custom Exhibits to create four historical markers for the new trail, three small signs and one large sign. Volunteers installed these signs along the trail and trench system, and at the entrance of the accessible deck and ramp. These signs contain information about the 38th Division soldiers that constructed the original trenches



Wright Brothers Memorial. Source: Wright-Patterson AFB.



NPLD 2022 volunteers at the Grace Brown Nature Trail at Hurlburt Field AFB. Source: NEEF.



Trail at Camp Shelby. Source: NEEF.



in 1917 and document the assistance of British and French officers who instructed the U.S. soldiers. The signs also inform viewers on the types of trenches along the trail such as traverse trenches, parapet and Parados, and dugout trenches. Finally, in March and April of 2023 Camp Shelby completed the construction of the accessible deck and ramp allowing for persons with disabilities to enjoy the trail and natural recreational amenities.

A big thanks to the installations' personnel and their volunteers who participated in NPLD in 2022 and acted as good stewards of the Nation's natural and cultural resources!

To learn more about DoD involvement in NPLD, please visit: <https://www.neefusa.org/what-we-do/grants/grantees/2023-national-public-lands-day-department-defense-awards>.



## Operation Footprint

Adapted from Innovative Readiness Training Newsletter, May 2023

From March 1-April 30, 2023, the Navy Reserve led a civil-military partnership with the State of New Mexico for construction services to assist Navajo Nation families with housing challenges.

“Operation Footprint,” this civil engineering mission trained 194 Navy Reserve sailors, supported by 168 Army National Guard members in Gallup, New Mexico. The partnership between the Navajo Housing Authority and Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) has spanned decades and addresses housing challenges for local Navajo Nation residents.

Civil engineering missions train military units while delivering benefits to communities via vertical and horizontal infrastructure construction and improvements. During vertical construction, the team erects buildings, while in horizontal construction, team members install utilities, lay roadways, and perform other paving activities, such as runway improvements. Civil engineering missions also involve HVAC, plumbing, and electrical work.

For this mission, the Navajo Housing Authority provided building materials while the lead and supporting DoD Components supplied the labor and skill sets. This year's efforts focused on home and water well construction. Service members trained on floor framing, wall sheathing, and truss installation as well as preventative maintenance, construction management, and facilities operation. Heavy equipment operators and numerous other occupational specialists received valuable readiness training while constructing single- and multi-bedroom wooden structures, pouring foundation, clearing brush, grading land, and more.

Through these efforts, the military received real-world training while providing sustainable, lasting construction benefits to the Navajo Nation community. This combination of training with assistance to America's communities is unique to IRT.

Learn more about the program at: <https://irt.defense.gov/>.



## Department of Health & Human Services Environmental Justice Index Explorer

Adapted from Environmental Justice Index Explorer Website

The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Environmental Justice Index (EJI) measures cumulative environmental impacts and vulnerabilities to build a cleaner, healthier, and more equitable future for all. The EJI scores census tracts using a percentile ranking, which represents the proportion of tracts that experience cumulative impacts of environmental burden and injustice equal to or lower than a tract of interest.

The EJI can help public health officials, policy makers, and communities identify and respond to the varied environmental and social factors that affect a community's health and well-being.

Individuals; community-based organizations; public health officials at local, state, and Federal levels; scientists; and researchers can use the EJI to:

- identify and prioritize areas that may require special attention or additional action to improve health and health equity,
- educate and inform the public about their community,
- analyze the unique, local factors driving cumulative health impacts to inform policy and decision-making, and
- establish meaningful goals and measure progress toward environmental justice and health equity.

To learn more, please visit: <https://onemap.cdc.gov/portal/apps/sites/#/eji-explorer>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND TRAINING

### **Air Force Institute of Technology: Introduction to Environmental Management**

*Wright Patterson Air Force Base (AFB);*

*Wright Patterson AFB; June 24-28, 2024*

This course provides an overview of pertinent laws, regulations, and Air Force policies and guidance governing compliance activities (e.g., air, water, special pollutants, hazardous waste management), and conservation (i.e., natural and cultural resource preservation), with a brief overview of cleanup (i.e., restoration). For more information, please visit: [https://www.afit.edu/CE/course\\_desc.cfm?p=WENV%20101](https://www.afit.edu/CE/course_desc.cfm?p=WENV%20101).

### **Naval Civil Engineer Corps Officers School (CECOS): Introduction to Cultural Resources Management Laws & Regulations**

*Online; February 26-29, 2024*

*San Diego, CA; July 23-25, 2024*

This course provides an integrated overview of all pertinent laws and regulations needed to understand and fulfill cultural resource management responsibilities. This course is designed to provide cultural resource tools for Cultural Resources Managers, their staffs, and personnel having a direct or indirect impact on cultural resources in support of the military mission. For more information, please visit: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/cecos/conservation/crm/>.

### **CECOS: Advanced Historic Preservation Law and Section 106 Compliance**

*Norfolk, VA; March 18-20, 2024*

*Silverdale, WA; June 4-6, 2024*

This course is the follow on to the CECOS “Introduction to Cultural Resource Management Laws and Regulations” course, emphasizing legal compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process. It addresses legislation and the process to meet the legal requirements support the military mission. For more information, please visit: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/cecos/conservation/ahpls106/>.

### **CECOS: Environmental Negotiation Workshop**

*Jacksonville, FL; March 19-21, 2024*

*Port Hueneme, CA; June 25-27, 2024*

This course provides instruction on the negotiation, mediation, and communication skills required to achieve productive agreements with public and regulatory stakeholders regarding environmental compliance, risk management, cleanup, and restoration issues. For more information, please visit: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/cecos/management/en/>.

### **National Preservation Institute (NPI): Conservation Strategies for Archaeologists**

*Charleston, SC; April 8-9, 2024*

Review the role of conservation in the field and in the laboratory for archaeological projects. Discuss planning and preparation for the care of excavated materials. Learn about the condition of materials upon excavation and “first aid” packing and transport methods for artifacts from both dry and waterlogged contexts. Examine artifact preservation and methods to facilitate interpretation. Learn how to perform simple stabilization techniques such as dewatering waterlogged bone, removing chlorides from objects, and consolidating highly degraded glass, as well as exploring tips for mending vessels. For more information, please visit: <https://www.npi.org/seminars/curation-conservation-and-stewardship/conservation-strategies-archaeologists>.

### **NPI: Archaeological Curation and Collections Management**

*Charleston, SC; April 10-12, 2024*

Become familiar with principles and methods for curation and management of archaeological collections. Explore topics including responsibilities under Federal laws and regulations (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 79), archaeological standards, collections policies, costs of curation, evaluating repositories, proper housing of collections, archaeological laboratory procedures, computerization of collections recordkeeping, and educating the public with archaeological collections. For more information, please visit: <https://www.npi.org/seminars/curation-conservation-and-stewardship/archaeological-curation-and-collections-management>.

## PROGRAM UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DoD Cultural Resources Program StoryMap

The DoD Cultural Resources Program now has a StoryMap online that offers an introduction to DoD's cultural resources management activities. This interactive tool tells the story of the DoD Cultural Resources Program as it pertains to the DoD's historic properties, archaeology sites, and climate resilient installations. Several success stories are included under each of these topic areas to highlight accomplishments that have occurred across our military installations. To see the StoryMap, visit: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/cr/story/>.

### New National Park Service Guidance on Substitute Materials

The NPS has issued new guidance on historic buildings and the use of substitute materials, [Preservation Brief 16: The Use of Substitute Materials on Historic Building Exteriors](#). The new guidance provides additional direction and technical preservation information about when it is appropriate to use a different material than the historic one to replace a deteriorated or missing historic feature, consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The guidance also includes an expanded and updated list of various building features and potential substitute materials which may be considered for use as possible replacement materials, consistent with the Standards. The Planning Successful Rehabilitation Projects related guidance, Evaluating Substitute Materials in Historic Buildings, has been similarly updated and revised. To learn more about available NPS guidance, please visit: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1739/tps-publications.htm>.

### New Tribal Historic Preservation Office – Lovelock Paiute Tribe

The NPS has formally approved the proposal of the Lovelock Paiute Tribe of the Lovelock Indian Colony, Nevada to assume certain Historic Preservation Officer duties on tribal lands in Nevada. The Lovelock Paiute Tribe is the 221st Tribe to assume historic preservation duties that were previously the responsibility of the State Historic Preservation Officer. For a complete list of Tribes that have assumed historic preservation functions, please see the [Tribal Historic Preservation Program](#) database.

### South East Archaeological Conference's Horizon & Tradition Newsletter: Special Issue Regarding Image Policy

In August 2023, the Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC) released a special edition of its Horizon & Tradition newsletter covering the organization's Image Policy on the use and publication of images showing funerary objects and belongings. SEAC's journal, Southeastern Archaeology, will no longer publish photographs of funerary objects and belongings, expanding existing policy against publishing photographs of human remains. The newsletter features articles on the history of the SEAC's Image Policy, the Southeastern Archaeology's Image Policy, petition and referendum draft on the policy, and six essays from petitioners on the referendum. To read the newsletter, please visit: <https://www.southeasternarchaeology.org/wp-content/uploads/Horizon-Tradition-652.pdf>.

## LINKS, TOOLS, AND PRESERVATION PARTNER INFORMATION

### [DoD Cultural Resources Program](#)

The Department's cultural resources are the Nation's heritage, and DoD holds these assets in trust for all Americans. As stewards of the Nation's largest inventory of Federally managed historic properties, DoD maintains, promotes, and interprets the cultural resources it manages, both to support the defense mission and to preserve America's military heritage for future generations. The Cultural Resources Program is managed by DoD's Deputy Federal Preservation Officer, responsible for policy, governance, and oversight of DoD's CRM and stewardship.

### [DoD Native American Affairs Program](#)

DoD's Native American Affairs Program is managed by the Senior Advisor and Liaison for Native American Affairs (SALNAA). The SALNAA is responsible for developing and implementing DoD's American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian consultant policies; managing the DoD Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program (NALEMP); advising DoD on matters relating to Native Americans and Native Hawaiian organizations; managing DoD outreach activities to tribal governments on behalf of the Office of the Secretary of Defense; and facilitating Tribal Nations' contact with DoD offices on matters of concern.

### [Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program \(NALEMP\)](#)

The DoD NALEMP program addresses environmental impacts on Indian lands and Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act-conveyed properties from former DoD activities with maximum tribal participation, through government-to-government consultation.

### [Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Program](#)

The Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards celebrate Military Service members and civilians for their exceptional commitment to protecting human health and the environment while advancing the military mission. The Awards honor installations, teams, and individuals for outstanding conservation achievements, innovative environmental practices, and partnerships that improve quality of life and promote efficiencies without compromising mission success.

### [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mandatory Center of Expertise for the Curation of Management of Archaeological Collections \(USACE MCX-CMAC\)](#)

The USACE MCX-CMAC maintains state-of-the-art technical expertise in the curation of archaeological collections and collections management.

### [USACE Tribal Nations Technical Center of Expertise \(TNTCX\)](#)

The TNTCX is the USACE's technical lead and advisory center on matters of importance to fulfilling the Federal Trust responsibility to Tribal Nations. The TNTCX offers services and deliverables on a reimbursable basis to Tribal Liaisons, project managers, and cultural resources staff at USACE Districts, DoD installations, and other Federal agencies.

### [USACE Technical Center of Expertise \(TCX\) for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Structures](#)

The TCX is the USACE's technical lead and advisory center on matters of the historic built environment falling within the agency's responsibility under the NHPA. The TCX offers services and deliverables on a reimbursable basis to project managers and cultural resources staff at USACE Districts, DoD installations, and other Federal agencies.

### [Engineer Research and Development Center-Construction Engineering Research Laboratory \(ERDC-CERL\) Cultural Resources Management Team](#)

The Cultural Resources Management Team is a component of the ERDC-CERL's Land and Heritage Conservation Branch and partners with DoD organizations, individual installations, and other Federal agencies to provide both practical compliance and methodological research.

### [Veterans Curation Program \(VCP\)](#)

The VCP is a five-month program in the flagship lab locations (Alexandria, Virginia; Augusta, Georgia; St. Louis, Missouri; and San Mateo, California) that provides employment, vocational training, and technology skills to veterans seeking to improve their access to the mainstream job market. The VCP was created to process at-risk archaeological collections belonging to the USACE. Many of these collections require rehabilitation in order to meet Federal standards, and the

## LINKS, TOOLS, AND PRESERVATION PARTNER INFORMATION

VCP employs veterans as laboratory technicians to perform this work. This includes cataloging and photographing artifacts, and cleaning, scanning, and re-housing photographs and documents, providing veterans with a valuable bridging experience from the military into the public sector.

### [Advisory Council on Historic Preservation \(ACHP\)](#)

The ACHP is an independent Federal agency that promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of the Nation's historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy. The ACHP offers a variety of free and affordable web-based, on-demand courses, including What is Section 106?; Successfully Navigating Section 106 Review: An Orientation for Applicants; Coordinating National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106; Basics of NEPA and Section 106 Integration; and Early Coordination with Indian Tribes in Infrastructure Projects. E-learning courses are available at <https://www.achp.gov/training/elearning>.

### [National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers \(NCSHPO\)](#)

The NCSHPO is a nonprofit organization whose members are SHPOs. The NCSHPO supports communication among SHPOs, Federal agencies, and other organizations. It also educates the public and elected officials about the national historic preservation program, legislation, policies, and regulations.

### [National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers \(NATHPO\)](#)

The NATHPO is a national, nonprofit corporation composed of THPOs and associate member tribes. The NATHPO's overarching purpose is to support the preservation, maintenance, and revitalization of the culture and traditions of Native peoples of the United States.

### [National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act \(NAGPRA\) Program](#)

The NAGPRA Program addresses the rights of lineal descendants, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian Organizations to Native American cultural items, including human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony.

### [Department of the Interior Tribal Leaders Directory](#)

The Tribal Leaders Directory provides contact information for each Federally recognized tribe.

### [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\) Tribal Directory Assessment Tool \(TDAT\)](#)

HUD developed TDAT to help users identify tribes that may have an interest in the location of a HUD-assisted project. The tool includes tribal contact information to assist users with initiating Section 106 consultation under the NHPA.

### [National Center for Preservation Technology and Training \(NCPTT\)](#)

The NCPTT helps preservationists find better tools, materials, and approaches to conserving buildings, landscapes, sites, and collections.

### [National Register of Historic Places \(NRHP\)](#)

The NRHP is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized by the NHPA of 1966, the National Park Service's NRHP is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.

### [National Register of Historic Places Bulletins](#)

The National Register Bulletin series provides guidance on evaluating, documenting, and listing different types of historic places.

### [National Archives and Records Administration \(NARA\)](#)

NARA explores United States history through NARA documents, photos, and records.

## LINKS, TOOLS, AND PRESERVATION PARTNER INFORMATION

### [Library of Congress](#)

The Library of Congress is the Nation's oldest Federal cultural institution, and it serves as the research arm of Congress. It is also the largest library in the world, with more than 173 million items. The collections include books, sound recordings, motion pictures, photographs, maps, and manuscripts.

### [Strategies for Sustainable Historic Preservation](#)

Offered as part of the Whole Building Design Guide continuing education courses, this web-based, on-demand course introduces the historic preservation process. Specifically, it focuses on how to balance sustainability goals, and operations and maintenance practices, with preservation solutions.

### [National Preservation Institute \(NPI\)](#)

The NPI offers continuing education and professional training for those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of cultural heritage. It serves individuals and groups from the government and private sectors by providing seminars in historic preservation and cultural resource management.

### [FedCenter Training](#)

FedCenter sponsors on-demand training courses; Federally sponsored and nonprofit training course announcements; and links to various other Federal, state, local, and private training providers' websites.

### [The Digital Archaeological Record \(tDAR\)](#)

tDAR is a repository for digital archaeological investigations records. The DoD Cultural Resources Program archives files on tDAR. The DoD Cultural Resources Program Collection on tDAR is available at: <https://core.tdar.org/collection/70330/osd-cultural-resources-program-collection>.

### [American Cultural Resources Association \(ACRA\)](#)

The ACRA is the national trade association supporting and promoting the common interests of CRM firms of all sizes, types, and specialties. Member firms undertake many of the legally mandated CRM studies and investigations in the United States.

### [Society for American Archaeology \(SAA\)](#)

The SAA is an international organization dedicated to the research, interpretation, and protection of the archaeological heritage of the Americas. The society represents professional, student, and avocational archaeologists working in a variety of settings, including government agencies, colleges and universities, museums, and the private sector.

### [Society for Historical Archaeology \(SHA\)](#)

The SHA is the largest scholarly group focusing on the archaeology of the modern world. The society is concerned with the identification, excavation, interpretation, and conservation of sites and materials on land and underwater.

### [Society of Architectural Historians \(SAH\)](#)

The SAH promotes the study, interpretation, and conservation of architecture, design, landscapes, and urbanism worldwide for the benefit of all.

# DoD Cultural Resources Program

*Enhancing Mission Capabilities through Cultural Resources Stewardship*

The Department of Defense (DoD) maintains thousands of historic and cultural resources that form an integral part of mission support and readiness. The Department's cultural resources are the Nation's heritage, and the Department holds these assets in trust for all Americans. As stewards of the Nation's largest inventory of Federally owned historic properties, DoD strives to maintain and interpret those resources it manages to support the defense mission and to preserve military and cultural heritage for future generations. Cultural resources are mission-enhancing assets, connecting our fighting men and women with their proud history and traditions. The Department continues to use and maintain some of the Nation's most treasured cultural resources as an integral part of mission support and readiness.

The DoD historic property portfolio includes 49 individual National Historic Landmarks, 3,171 National Historic Landmark contributing properties, 2,396 individual and contributing historic assets listed in the National Register of Historic Places, over 15,000 historic assets determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, and over 132,000 recorded archaeological sites. Military Services and other DoD Components manage these cultural resources at the installation level and work closely with public stakeholders, including American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, Native Hawaiian Organizations, State Historic Preservation Officers, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Sound cultural resources stewardship ensures DoD's compliance with applicable historic preservation Federal laws, Executive Orders, and regulations in support of the defense mission.

Visit the Cultural Resources Program website at [www.denix.osd.mil/cr/](http://www.denix.osd.mil/cr/) for more information.



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The DoD Cultural Resources Program, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations & Environment)/Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Environment & Energy Resilience), sponsors the DoD Cultural Resources Update. All written information contained in the Cultural Resources Update is public and not copyrighted.

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