

A photograph of a large, multi-story, light-colored building with a prominent curved facade and a mansard roof. The building features several dormer windows with arched tops and a central entrance with a small porch. The scene is set against a clear blue sky with some light clouds, and bare trees are visible in the foreground and background. The text "Marine Barracks '8th & I'" is overlaid in a white, cursive font at the top of the image.

Marine Barracks "8th & I"

Culture Resources Management Award Installation Category

Marine Barracks 8th and I Cultural Resources Management Program

Introduction

The mission of Marine Barracks 8th and I is to provide a light infantry battalion to perform administrative, logistical, ceremonial, civil defense and security functions in support of National Command Authorities within the National Capital Region.

1200 Marines and 15 civilian Marines are assigned to Marine Barracks 8th and I as permanent personnel.

The installation occupies 13 acres in southeast Washington D.C. The activity's Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) covers all of the acreage.

The Commandant's House located aboard Marine Barracks 8th and I is listed in the National Register and the entire installation has been declared a National Historic Landmark.

The cultural resources managed at Marine Barracks 8th and I include historic buildings and structures, archeological finds and curated artifacts.

Background

A. Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP)

An ICRMP for Marine Barracks 8th and I was prepared in 2000 and the document is currently under review and revision.

B. National Register Listings

On May 11, 1976, the Commandant's House at Marine Barracks 8th and I was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Shortly thereafter, the entire installation was declared a National Historic Landmark, an elite designation that few other properties in the United States have attained.

C. Organization and Staffing

The Marine Barracks 8th and I Cultural Resources Management Program is jointly managed by the Barracks S-4/Logistics staff in conjunction with the Regional Safety and Environmental Office

located at Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters Marine Corps in Arlington, Virginia. The preparation of cultural resources-related documents and studies is outsourced to qualified government contractors as required.

D. Committees and Boards

The Marine Barracks 8th and I Cultural Resources Management Program is conducted and coordinated via consultations with the following committees and boards of influence.

- D.C. Historical and Preservation Office
- National Capital Planning Commission
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- District of Columbia Fine Arts Council

Program Summary

A. Outstanding Features

The Marine Barracks 8th and I Cultural Resources Management Program has made tremendous strides in the last 3 fiscal years. During FY 00, a Phase I archeological study was executed by Thunderbird Archeological Associates, Inc. (TAA) for the purpose of identifying and inventorying all cultural resources located at the Post. In FY 01 and 02, TAA returned and performed a Phase I and Phase II archeological reconnaissance survey at the site of the new Marine Barracks Annex. It was during Phase II of the operation that it was discovered that the land tract contained remnants and artifacts of a 19th Century marketplace. Enclosures (1) through (3) provide pictures of the types of items that were located during this archeological investigation. Additionally, in FY 01, the first ICRMP was developed for the activity by the engineering firm of MAAR Associates, Inc.

B. ICRMP Objectives

The objectives of the ICRMP at Marine Barracks 8th and I is to ensure the installation complies with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and to achieve cultural resource management goals within the parameters of military mission accomplishment. During this period Marine Barracks 8th and I has met and in some cases significantly exceeded its ICRMP objectives.

Accomplishments

A. Management

The staff at Marine Barracks 8th and I have managed the cultural Resources Management Program in a highly effective and efficient manner. All compliance requirements related to Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act have been satisfied. Within the last three years 3 separate archeological surveys have been initiated and completed. These surveys have identified and inventoried all the cultural resources assets at the installation. Additionally, over the past 3 fiscal years the command has spent in excess of \$5 million in O&M funding in the restoration and upkeep of the historical buildings and structures at the Barracks. Maintaining the historical and architectural quality of the buildings and structures at the installation is a high priority since it directly impacts on the Barrack's ceremonial mission execution. In summary, the proactive approach that management has taken toward cultural resources preservation and protection at the Marine Barracks is exemplary and commendable.

B. Technical Merits

The culture resources surveys and studies performed at Marine Barracks 8th and I over the past 3 years have been thorough and comprehensive. All of the surveys and studies have been performed using NHPA Section 106 and 110 protocols. Top-notch companies who have proven track records of excellence in the cultural resources management discipline have prepared these surveys and studies. For instance, in December of 2001, the Thunderbird Archeological Associates in connection with the expansion of the Marine Barracks, excavated an area based on historic records, thought to reveal the architectural remains of the Eastern Branch Market, a 19th Century marketing and mercantile establishment. After completely exposing the area encompassing approximately 55 by 115 feet to a depth of anywhere from 4-9 feet under fill, the outlines of a stone foundation measuring 33 x 90 feet with entranceways and possible areas of provision stalls was uncovered. Available artifacts were collected from the excavation for curation. Enclosures (1) through (3) provide pictures of subject project.

Oversight committees and boards review all completed studies prior to final acceptance and implementation. The installation's ICRMP is technically sufficient and serves as an

excellent guidepost for the performance of cultural resource preservation activities at the installation.

C. Military Mission

The Cultural Resources Program at Marine Barracks 8th and I is consistent and compatible with the military mission of the installation. Since one of the major aspects of the Barracks mission is to perform ceremonial functions, a proactive cultural resources program only enhances and augments the mission capability of Marine Barracks 8th and I from that perspective. The Barracks receives thousands of visitors each year from heads of state to ordinary citizens. What visitors find at the Barracks is a historic and culturally rich environment that is reflective of the installation's long and illustrious past. As a result, the Barrack's strong cultural resources program has directly supported the core military mission of the organization.

D. Lessons Learned

There have been many cultural resources management lessons learned at Marine Barracks 8th and I that are transferable to other military activities. First, an ICRMP is a must. An ICRMP is the guidance document that keeps an installation's cultural resources program in compliance with regulations. Second, prior to commencing any major military construction project, ensure that a comprehensive pre-construction archeological reconnaissance survey is performed. As in Marine Barracks 8th and I's case, during the excavation for the new Annex building, valuable 19th Century artifacts were discovered of a bygone era. Third, it pays to work with supporting entities and community bodies in the running of a viable cultural resources program. These external duty experts can provide an installation commander and staff with wise counsel to preclude the commission of cultural resources management oversights and mistakes.

E. Community Involvement

Marine Barracks 8th and I is an active participant in community affairs. The installation has partnered the District of Columbia government over the last several years on the acquisition and redevelopment of a 10-acre parcel to be converted into a multi-use military compound. Marine Barracks 8th and I representatives regularly attend civic meetings

regarding issues that impact on the Post and the local community. The installation is well respected in the surrounding community due in large part to its inclusive and progressive approach in community relations. This ongoing dialogue with the community as a whole has led to many community improvements in and around the Barracks area.

Breadth of Program

A. Historical Buildings and Structures

In 1976, the Commandant's House at Marine Barracks 8th & I was placed in the National Register of Historic Places. Soon after, all the historic buildings and parade ground were declared National Historic Landmarks. Consequently, all the support buildings and structures at the Barracks except modern buildings have been designated as contributing elements to the National Register listing. The Barracks is among an elite group of properties in the United States that are accorded the special designation of National Historic Landmark.

B. Archeological Resources

In December of 2001, during the excavation for the future Marine Barracks Annex Complex, the remnants of a 19th Century marketplace was discovered (See enclosures 1, 2 and 3). Upon the finding, the construction excavation was immediately halted and archeological experts from Thunderbird Archeological Associates, Inc., were called in to perform an archeological investigation. Thunderbird's investigation located numerous artifacts and materials associated with the old Eastern Market, an 1806 era marketing and mercantile site. Selected artifacts were retrieved and placed in temporary curation for later display.

C. Curation

Marine Barracks 8th & I curates and preserves numerous artifacts that document the Marine Corps' storied history. The Barracks has display cases throughout the installation that contain historical items of interest and significance. Additionally, the Barracks works closely with the Historic Division of HQMC which operates the Marine Corps Museum located close by at Washington, D. C. Navy Yard.

D. Awareness and Education

Since Marine Barracks 8th & I is the oldest Post in the Marine Corps it is steeped in tradition and history. All personnel who are assigned to the installation are provided information on the culture and history of the Post. Consequently, there is a command-wide awareness, appreciation and sensitivity to preserving the Post.

E. Cultural Resources Compliance

Marine Barracks 8th & I is fully compliant with all cultural resources laws, legislation, rules and regulations. The most recent Environmental Compliance Evaluation (ECE) conducted in 2001 did not find any deficiencies in the installation's cultural resources management program.



Unearthed Remnants Of The Old Eastern Market



Sign Reads:
Marine Barracks
Eastern Market
SW Corner
Intact Brick Floor



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
"CULTURE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT - INSTALLATION"
AWARD CATEGORY

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Citation: Marine Barracks 8th and I's accomplishments include the identification and inventorying of all cultural resources aboard the installation. Additionally, during this time period, the team oversaw the performance of several Phase I and Phase II archaeological investigations. One of these investigations resulted in the discovery of historically valuable artifacts and remnants of Old Eastern Market, a 19th Century marketing and mercantile area. Marine Barracks 8th and I also, in coordination with outside contractors, developed a thorough Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan and related documentation. Through the Marine Barracks team's proactive stewardship in cultural resources management, future generations of Americans will have the opportunity to visit and enjoy the historic ambiance of Marine Barracks 8th and I, a national landmark and cultural treasure.