



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3500

SUSTAINMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(ENVIRONMENT)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE)
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY
DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES

SUBJECT: Historic Preservation Training

The Department of Defense (DoD) is a proud steward of thousands of cultural resources that represent the Nation's history and diverse cultural traditions. It is essential that the Department's staff receive training to meet statutory cultural resources, historic preservation, and other related compliance requirements. Properly trained personnel support the defense mission and preserve the country's heritage for future generations.

As detailed in DoD Instruction 4715.16, *Cultural Resources Management*, Enclosure 2(6)(t), "the Heads of the DoD Components shall...ensure cultural resources personnel are properly qualified and trained appropriate to their responsibilities in accordance with... [the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards*]." It is incumbent on DoD Components to develop and disseminate training on topics related to cultural resources and historic preservation to their staff.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) reviewed DoD maintenance, planning, and management practices regarding historic properties on its military installations and published report GAO-19-335, "Defense Infrastructure: Additional Actions Could Enhance DoD's Efforts to Identify, Evaluate, and Preserve Historic Properties," dated June 2019 (Attachment 1). In this report, the GAO made recommendations for the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment to collaborate with the DoD Components to "develop and disseminate department-wide or service-wide guidance, on training related to historic preservation to installation personnel, including information on roles and responsibilities."

Regular cultural resources training for installation personnel and appropriate contract support ensures compliance requirements are met in a timely and cost-efficient manner and Service members and their families have suitable housing and work environments. Installation personnel who do not have proper training and awareness in cultural resources can result in DoD being unable to fully engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders, including Tribes. Having qualified and well-trained personnel not only enhances DoD's compliance requirements but reinforces its stewardship mission and fosters relationships with stakeholders.

The DoD Components should disseminate training on topics related to cultural resources management and historic preservation to personnel in directly related and associated fields, including:

- Cultural Resources Managers (CRMs) and Installation CRMs;
- Architects, Planners, Engineers, Counsel, Environmental Staff, and Facilities Managers including Housing Managers;
- Training and Range Managers;
- Installation Commanders and Principals, Headquarters, Regional, and Senior Leaders;
- Installation Facilities Maintenance Personnel;
- Government Contracting Personnel;
- Real Property Accountability Officers; and
- Public Affairs personnel and Tribal Liaison Officers.

The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense of Environment and Energy Resilience developed a guidebook, the *DoD Cultural Resources Training Overview* (Attachment 2), to provide guidance to DoD Components on cultural resources training needs and opportunities for their staffs. The guidebook includes the existing training resources the DoD Components have established on cultural resources, historic preservation, and Tribal communication and consultation. The guidebook also includes training opportunities developed by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, other Federal agencies, and nonprofits. Please refer to this document when implementing training, as appropriate.

This memorandum and the attached guidebook fulfill the requirements from GAO Report No. GAO-19-335.

For additional information or clarification please contact Ms. Kate Plimpton, DoD Deputy Federal Preservation Officer at (703) 969-1420 or kathryn.d.plimpton.civ@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Kidd IV
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Environment & Energy Resilience)

Attachments:
As stated