

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Cultural Resources

1. PURPOSE. To provide information to Military Components on procedures for evaluating the impact of training activities on Cultural Resources.

2. INFORMATION.

a. Federal law and Army regulations require the preservation and protection of significant cultural resources. On Fort Drum these resources include historic buildings like the LeRay Mansion, and prehistoric and historic archeological sites. The majority of historic archeological sites are late nineteenth to early twentieth century farmsteads and villages, while significant prehistoric sites on post include villages, camp sites, and stone tool production areas.

b. Fort Drum's cultural resources program has identified sites that are important to local and regional history, and physical damage to them must be avoided. These significant historic and prehistoric sites may be marked with "OFF LIMITS" or "NO DIGGING" signs and Seibert Stakes.

c. Some protected historic areas on Fort Drum have been "hardened" for use by training soldiers. These areas are marked by signs that say "Historic Area, Training Permitted, No Digging."

d. A third alternative for protecting archeological sites on Fort Drum is buried posting. These areas are open for surface use. Should digging take place, excavation will encounter a physical barrier with signage that again says "Attention, Protected Cultural Site." If a barrier of this nature is encountered, digging should cease. If excavation is required at that location, contact PW Environmental Division, Cultural Resources.

3. PROCEDURES.

a. Military operations and construction projects in the Training Areas are reviewed by the Environmental Division to determine their effect on known and potential site locations. Archeological clearance for activities is obtained through a Record of Environmental Consideration (REC). REC forms must be submitted at least 14 business days in advance of project dates. Any additional review time would be greatly appreciated.

b. Bivouacking, excavation, demolition, driving tracked or wheeled vehicles, and other training activities within marked boundaries of protected sites are strictly

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prohibited. Other restrictions are listed on the REC application form or are available at Range Control. Intentional digging for or collecting artifacts from protected cultural resources is a violation of federal law and is also prohibited. If prehistoric artifacts are discovered during an operation, the work shall cease within a 30-meter radius of the find. The unit must then contact Range Control (2-7152) and the Fort Drum Archeologist (2-4165) immediately.

4. CONCLUSION. Planning and coordination are needed to comply with the requirements of the Federal laws and Army regulations pertaining to cultural resources. Additional guidance can be obtained from the PW, Environmental Division at (315) 772-4165; DSN 772.