

The Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program

In 1990, Congress passed legislation that established the Legacy Resource Management Program. The program provides financial assistance to DoD efforts to enhance natural and cultural resource stewardship on military lands while supporting the military mission. Three principles guide the program—stewardship, leadership, and partnership. Since its creation, the program has funded several thousand projects ranging from threatened and endangered species protection to underwater archeology.

Due to legislative changes enacted in 1997, Legacy's emphasis has shifted from smaller installation-specific projects to broader, regional, national, and ecosystem-based projects. During FY1998-FY2000, Legacy funded approximately 60 cultural resource projects at military installations, totaling almost \$35 million. This article will briefly discuss the application process as well as mention some of the projects funded during the designated period.

The Legacy Program Tracker at <http://www.dodlegacy.org> provides guidance on the Legacy application process. Interested applicants can submit their proposals electronically. Those accessing the system can then track the progress of specific proposals through the system.

The web site also provides information on the program, such as points of contact and review chains of command for each service, the submission dates, and areas of emphasis that relate to specific interests of the Department of Defense. Several of these areas of emphasis that pertain to cultural resources will be discussed later in this article. Users can also access information on the various projects that have been funded by Legacy.

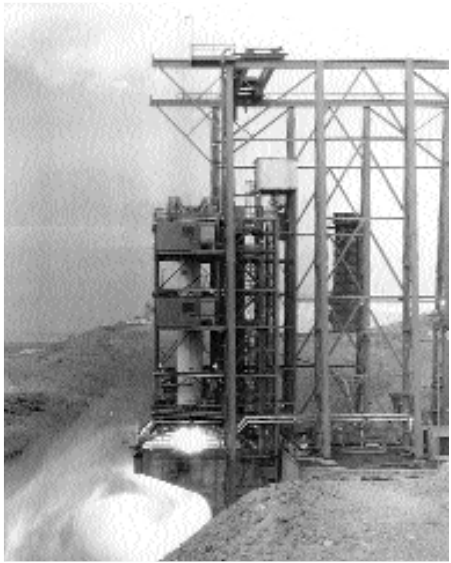
Legacy funding is not restricted to military installations or their affiliates. Non-military personnel, such as at universities and non-profit organizations, can also apply for consideration, but must coordinate proposed projects with a particular service or command to ensure that their proposal has military support and supports the military mission. However, inclusion of a proposal in the tracking system does not denote DoD approval to fund a project. A review committee, consisting of DoD and service representatives, ultimately decides on whether to approve or reject a proposal.

Cultural resource projects funded during FY1998 -FY2000 covered a wide range of interests. One of the areas of emphasis, cultural resource management, encompasses projects involving a broad spectrum of cultural resources issues. In June 2000, Legacy funded a three-day workshop, co-sponsored with DoD's Strategic Environmental Research and Development

Program (SERDP), in which the participants identified potential technologies that could be adapted to reduce costs and efforts in meeting cultural resources stewardship management at DoD installations. Other projects funded under this area of emphasis include an inventory of California historic military buildings and structures, a historic housing context study of historic family military housing in Hawaii, the conservation and recovery of submerged vessels, such as the *H.L. Hunley* (see Conlin, p. 35), and the creation of an Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan Electronic Toolbox (see Loechel and Whalley, p. 7).

A second area of emphasis, curation of DoD-owned and controlled archeological properties and documents, pertains to the conservation





A propellant static test in progress on a major propellant test stand at Edwards AFB, 1958. Many of these Cold War-era structures remaining at Edwards AFB have been determined eligible for the National Register and were included in an inventory of California historic military buildings and structures funded by the Legacy program. Photo courtesy National Archives.

of DoD-owned and controlled archeological properties and documents. Since DoD owns more archeological resources than any other agency, Legacy has been committed to ensuring that DoD collections are protected and cared for in a professional manner. Legacy-funded projects have provided for the rehabilitation of DoD collections and the development of partnerships with institutions throughout the

country that will curate collections. Other curation-related projects have funded studies that have identified the numerous DoD collections that are threatened due to poor storage conditions and relocation due to base closures and realignments (see Marino and Trimble, p. 11).

A third area of emphasis, recently added for FY2002, Native American issues, is applicable to both cultural and natural resource projects. Military installations contain sites and landscapes where American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian people lived. Therefore, we are seeking to support efforts that facilitate DoD-wide or regional efforts that protect, manage, and/or restore resources in these areas in a manner that is supportive of military activities and operations, meeting our obligations to federally-recognized tribes. Although this area of emphasis was recently added, Legacy has been funding projects relating to Native American issues. These projects include a knowledge-based system on the cultural affiliation of the Five Civilized Tribes that will be disseminated on the World Wide Web, as well as a Native American treaty research study that will define treaty obligations for DoD military installations.

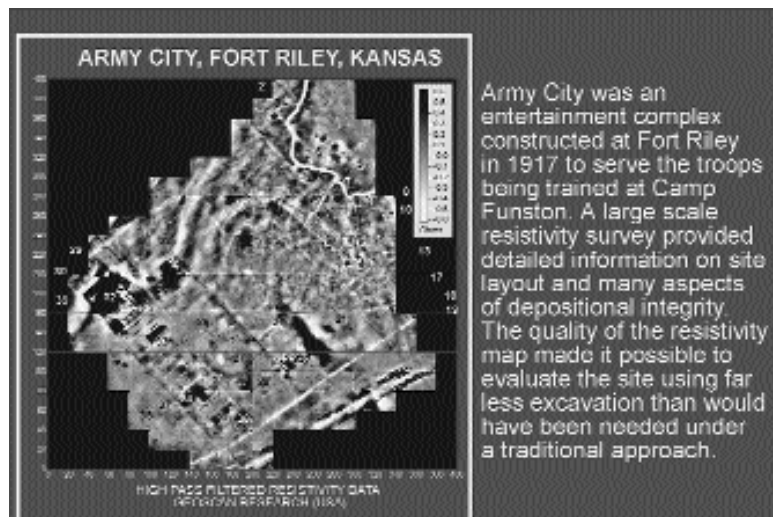
Legacy has also funded projects dealing with GIS applications and geophysical studies of archeological sites,

a historic buildings conference, cold war studies, conservation of historic books and documents, and the publication of a new cultural resources booklet. The program will continue to encourage new approaches and creative partnerships to promote cultural resources management on DoD lands.

The Legacy program also has reached out to those outside of the DoD sphere by publicizing its accomplishments through attendance at national conferences and meetings. Legacy provided a display on the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (see Loechl and Whalley, p. 7) at the Cultural Resources 2000 conference held by the National Park Service in Santa Fe, New Mexico, December 4-8, 2000. At the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, held in Long Beach, California, January 10-13, 2001, Legacy provided a display relating to the underwater archeology projects that it has funded over the past few years.

As we begin the 21st century, it is important that we conserve and defend our cultural resources that represent our national heritage. Projects such as those funded by the Legacy Resource Management Program can help the Department of Defense support its mission while also preserving the past to the benefit of future generations.

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Example of a resistivity map produced from a Legacy funded project dealing with geophysical applications. Courtesy Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL).