



# Cultural Resources Public Outreach and Interpretation Source Book

Project # 10-127

## Background:

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), various Executive Orders and agency guidelines charge federal agencies with managing historic properties under their stewardship to benefit and inspire the public and to promote community and economic development. Increasingly, the Department of Defense (DoD) has undertaken and sought creative projects that involve public interpretation and outreach of cultural resources as a means of making management and compliance efforts more meaningful. By proactively implementing these projects DoD can fulfill other public benefit mandates and foster positive relationships with the public and outside organizations.



Classroom tour of rock petroglyphs at USMC Logistics Base, Barstow, CA

## Objective:

This project was intended to collect existing standards, guidance, and best practices on cultural resources interpretation and public outreach; collect examples of interpretation and public outreach projects; develop an evaluation rubric for comparing effectiveness of diverse project types; and use that data to develop a source book of best examples and guidance to help DoD components and installations to develop their own creative cultural resources interpretation and public outreach projects.

## Summary of Approach:

Research was conducted to identify existing standards and best practices for cultural resources interpretation and public outreach. A website was created to allow the public to submit project examples. The website and project were advertised through emails to SHPOs and

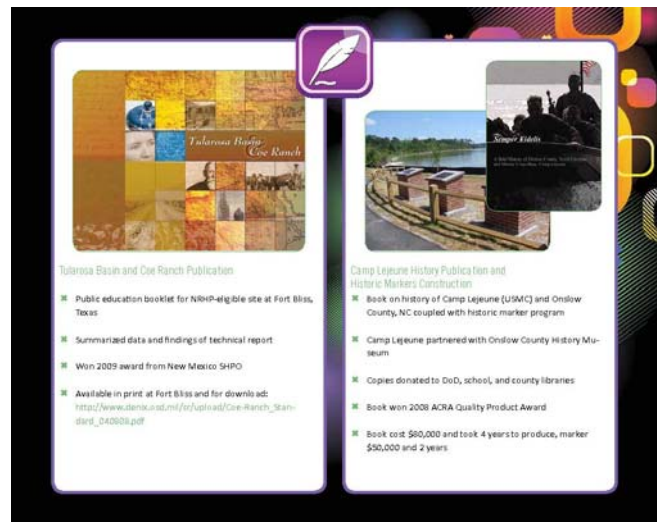
organizations, at related conferences, and through social networking. Existing standards and guidelines were used to create an evaluation rubric suitable for evaluating effectiveness and success of various project types. A panel of cultural resources professionals and laypersons evaluated collected projects examples using the rubric. The summary of the collected information, project examples, and evaluation tools were presented in a technical report and summarized in a graphic source book suitable for internet distribution and printing.

## Benefit:

This project is designed to benefit DoD by collecting guidance and examples of creative interpretation and public outreach projects to aid DoD components and installations in developing their own interpretation and public outreach projects to more effectively meet stewardship responsibilities under NHPA, Executive Order 13287 (Preserve America), and DoDI 4715.16.

## Accomplishments:

The technical report and source book have been completed and are available on the Legacy DoD and Denix websites for download by DoD components and installations as well as the general public.



Sample page from source book

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