



Preserving America's Heritage

April 4, 2012

The Honorable John McHugh
Secretary of the Army
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington DC 20301-1400

REF: Privatization of Army Lodging Prototype Programmatic Agreement.

Dear Secretary McHugh:

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the Department of the Army (Army) have a long cooperative relationship developing Program Alternatives in accordance with the regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the Army Cultural Resources Program has consistently been a leader in providing stewardship for the significant resources in the Army's inventory. Most recently, the Army requested the assistance of the ACHP in developing a tool to streamline Section 106 compliance for the Privatization of Army Lodging (PAL) program. As a result, the ACHP and the Army have developed an approach to help installations streamline the process of developing Programmatic Agreements for the remaining 14 states and 21 installations that are participating in Group C of the PAL project. This Prototype Programmatic Agreement (Prototype PA) is a template that can be used by these 21 installations to expedite the Section 106 process for the PAL project.

Accordingly, I hereby designate the attached document as a Prototype Programmatic Agreement under 36 C.F.R. § 800.14(b)(4). It was developed by the Army and the ACHP with input from the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO), National Park Service (NPS), National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), the PAL Army Working Group, multiple State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO) and interested tribal governments. The Prototype PA enables installations to streamline Section 106 reviews by establishing review protocols and methods for resolving adverse effects to historic properties. Further, it will address workload concerns that the installations and SHPOs are confronting in the development of Programmatic Agreements.

The benefits that the Prototype PA provides include:

- establishing a template PA that can be readily signed to evidence Section 106 compliance for the PAL project;
- allowing the Army and SHPO to execute a PA for the PAL project without ACHP involvement; and
- giving the opportunity for flexibility and creative approaches by developing specific PA's for the management of the PAL program.

SHPOs and Army Installations may add other provisions to the Prototype PA that establish further

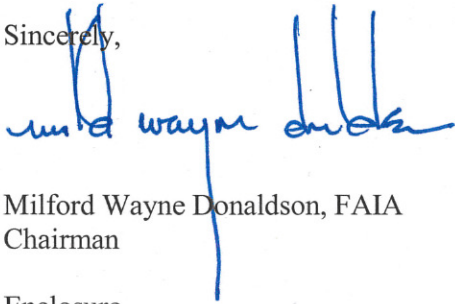
efficiencies and improve the management of effects on historic properties. Such additions and other modifications to the attached Prototype PA will not change the status of the document as a Prototype PA, so long as the modifications (1) are agreed to by Army Installation and the relevant SHPO, and (2) do not substantially change the consultative role given to other consulting parties.

The Army must file all executed Prototype PAs with the ACHP prior to their use. This will enable the ACHP to monitor the effectiveness of the Prototype PA and engage the Army in future discussions regarding the administration of this Prototype PA.

We appreciate the Army's cooperation and ongoing support of historic preservation initiatives. We are particularly appreciative of the efforts of the Army staff within HQDA Environmental Division. Their contributions were invaluable.

We look forward to working with the Army as a partner in this important interagency agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Milford Wayne Donaldson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long vertical line extending downwards from the end of the name.

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
Chairman

Enclosure