

106 Process for Sunflower AAP

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) announced that it is continuing the Section 106 process under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for the disposal of the Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant (Sunflower AAP). To date, the process has included a public meeting, held on March 7, 2001, during which the Section 106 process for Sunflower AAP was outlined, and a Tribal Consultation Planning meeting, held on October 30, 2001, at which tribal representatives met with representatives of GSA to discuss ways to identify tribal cultural resources at Sunflower. Summarized on page 2 of this newsletter is a summary of previous cultural resource activities. The tribal consultation meeting is summarized on page 3.



Section 106 process is the review designed to ensure that federal agencies consider historic properties during project planning and execution. For the Sunflower AAP project, both the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the Kansas State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) will participate the Section 106 process. The table on page 4 summarizes the phases and elements of the Section 106 process for Sunflower AAP.

GSA has asked its newly selected consultant, Tetra Tech EM Inc. (Tetra Tech), to support the completion of the Section 106 process. GSA recently

completed a competitive procurement process and, on September 17, 2001, awarded a contract to Tetra Tech. At GSA's direction, Tetra Tech has reviewed all previous activities related to the Section 106 process for Sunflower AAP and has provided to GSA elements that will facilitate completion of the process. The GSA and Tetra Tech team intend to perform the following elements:

- Development and distribution of this newsletter, which provides information about past and future activities conducted under the Section 106 process
- Preparation of a strategy for consulting with affected Indian tribes and other interested tribal groups about potential effects on tribal cultural resources
- Coordinating with other interested groups, including the Oregon and California Trails Association and the Kansas SHPO.
- Development of a plan for involving the public in the Section 106 process
- Conduct of additional public meetings to present findings related to the information collected during the Section 106 process and to provide an opportunity for the public to offer comments and voice concerns
- Identification of other resources at Sunflower AAP.

The GSA and Tetra Tech team actively seeks public participation and comment. The team looks forward to working with all concerned parties and individuals to address any concerns throughout the process.

Information related to Sunflower AAP and the Section 106 process can be accessed at the following link on the Internet: <http://propertydisposal.gsa.gov/mip/army/sunflower/sunflower.asp>.

HISTORY OF CULTURAL RESOURCE ACTIVITIES AT SUNFLOWER AAP

Cultural resource investigations conducted at Sunflower AAP have included field surveys, research of historical records, development of resource management plans, and consultations with both the Kansas SHPO and the ACHP. The following descriptions of the cultural resource investigations at Sunflower AAP are presented chronologically.

① Eoff and Hill Survey (1968)

Eoff and Hill performed an informal survey in the Kill Creek Flood Plain. No formal report was prepared, but state site forms were completed and are on file at the Kansas archeologist's office in Topeka.

② Mary Adair Archeological Survey (1975)

Dr. Mary Adair, University of Kansas Museum of Anthropology, performed a formal archeological survey of 585 acres for the then-proposed nitroguanidine manufacturing plant. Dr. Adair performed a pedestrian reconnaissance in the northwestern portion of Sunflower AAP, with an emphasis on locating prehistoric sites. Dr. Adair reported that the survey covered only 375 acres, but a plot of the boundaries of the survey area revealed that she actually had surveyed 585 acres. The Kansas SHPO concurs with the findings of the survey that no prehistoric sites are located within the survey limit of 585 acres, but considers the survey to be incomplete with regard to the identification of historic sites.

③ Nickens and Associates Cultural Resources Management Plan (1985)

Nickens and Associates completed an archeological resource review and prepared a cultural resources management plan (CRMP) for Sunflower AAP. The CRMP describes the management and preservation of the historic properties at Sunflower AAP. Nickens interviewed staff of the contractor that staffed and operated Sunflower AAP and reviewed the following historical maps:

- 1874 Historical Atlas of Johnson County by Heisler and Smith
- 1902 Historical Atlas of Johnson County by George Ogle and Company
- 1922 Historical Atlas of Johnson County by George Ogle and Company
- 1928 Soil Survey Map by Knoebel and Davis

Nickens identified 73 potential historic sites -- including schools, farmsteads, and a church -- that had been located on Sunflower AAP property. No archeological surveys were completed under this effort.



Map of Sunflower AAP

④ Jim Feagins Survey (1989)

Mr. Jim Feagins, under contract with the Kansas City Museum, performed a pedestrian survey and judgmental shovel testing in an area of approximately 15 acres. The survey was conducted along a proposed alignment of a 1.4-mile-long access road that passed through Sunflower AAP en route to a neighboring stone quarry. The survey also included the examination of a recorded prehistoric site from which numerous artifacts were recovered. The final recommendation was that for an alternative alignment or for additional archeological work to determine the eligibility of the site for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

5 Jim Feagins Archeological Tests (1991)

Mr. Feagins, under contract with St. Joseph Museum, performed archeological testing, excavation of four test units, and removal of sod with a bulldozer for a recorded prehistoric site at Sunflower AAP. The survey was limited to the portion of the site that was located outside the perimeter fence for Sunflower AAP, but within the boundaries of the installation. Although several artifacts were recovered, Mr. Feagins recommended that the eastern portion of the recorded prehistoric site was not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The entire site remains to be investigated to determine the eligibility of the site as a whole.

6 Geo-Marine Cultural Resource Management Plan (1996)

Geo-Marine, Inc., prepared a Cultural Resource Management (CRMP) for Sunflower AAP, in accordance with the requirements of Army Regulation 420-40. The CRMP described the management and preservation of the historic properties at Sunflower AAP while it remains under the control of the U.S. Army Materiel Command.

7 O'Brien Archeological Survey (1996)

Dr. Patricia O'Brien, Professor of Anthropology, Kansas State University (KSU), performed a pedestrian survey and shovel testing on three leased acres in the southeastern portion of Sunflower AAP. In 1998, Sunflower AAP leased approximately 300 acres of land to KSU and formally signed a 25-year lease. The pedestrian survey and shovel testing was performed at a proposed building site on the leased property. No evidence of archeological material was

found during the pedestrian survey and associated shovel testing.

8 Roper Archeological Survey (1998)

Dr. Donna Roper, Kansas State University, participated on a cultural resource survey team that completed a pedestrian survey and shovel testing along areas in the northern meadow of the KSU leased area at which the construction of roads and ponds had been proposed. The pedestrian survey and shovel testing were conducted throughout an approximately 60-acre tract of land. The Kansas SHPO received the study and concurred that no further studies were necessary in that area unless cultural artifacts are discovered during future excavation or construction activities.

9 Roper Archeological Survey (2001)

Dr. Roper, also performed an additional pedestrian survey and shovel testing of five acres of land adjacent to the three-acre tract of land that had been surveyed in 1996 by Patricia O'Brien. The additional survey was conducted to support planning for the future construction of a maintenance building for KSU. No archeological resources were observed.

10 GSA Activities (2001)

GSA has consulted with the Kansas SHPO to identify areas that may contain other cultural resources. As part of its efforts to survey and discover resources that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, GSA will seek input from various interested parties and assist them in identifying resources.

Tribal Consultation Meeting

GSA invited representatives of federally-recognized tribal governments and interested tribal groups to participate in a consultation meeting on October 30, 2001. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the process by which GSA will consult with federally recognized tribes and other interested tribal groups about the completion of the Section 106 process. The goals of the meeting were to establish a framework for the consultation process, identify sources of information, and establish a schedule for its completion. Public participation also will continue as a process separate from the tribal consultation process.

During the meeting, tribal representatives described how they could assist GSA in identifying potential tribal cultural resources located within the boundary of Sunflower AAP. Information collected during the consultation process will be included in the final cultural resources survey report to be prepared for Sunflower AAP.

SUMMARY OF THE SECTION 106 PROCESS AT SUNFLOWER AAP

Initiate Section 106 Process	<p><u>Identify appropriate regulatory Agencies</u> Mr. Will Banks, Kansas SHPO Mr. Ralston Cox, ACHP</p> <p><u>Identify other consulting parties</u> Kansas SHPO, ACHP, U.S. Army, Tribal Governments, and community organizations</p> <p><u>Prepare and implement a plan to involve the public</u> A public participation plan is under development</p>
Identify Historic Properties	<p><u>Determine the scope of the federal action</u> Transfer of property from federal ownership</p> <p><u>Determine area of potential effect (APE)</u> A geographic information system (GIS) project is being developed to predict the visual, audio, and ambient light area of potential effect</p> <p><u>Identify historic properties (see Criteria for Eligibility)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performed reconnaissance survey of the Roberts' House • Determine the eligibility of other structures and landscapes at Sunflower that may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places • Identify areas at Sunflower AAP that may require future cultural resource investigations • Determine the types of surveys (pedestrian survey, archeological investigations, and others) that may be used to investigate cultural resources at Sunflower AAP
<p>CRITERIA for ELIGIBILITY The following National Park Service World Wide Web page identifies the criteria for evaluation and the considerations for eligibility: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/listing.htm></p>	
Assess Adverse Effects	<p><u>Apply criteria for determining adverse effects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider whether the federal action causes an adverse effect to a property eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places • Develop mitigation measures •
Resolve Adverse Effects	<p><u>Continue consultation between the Agencies, ACHP, Kansas SHPO and Indian Tribes</u> <u>Mitigate adverse effects through negotiating a memorandum of agreement (MOA)</u></p>

How to Get More Information

GSA has established an information repository at two branches of the Johnson County Public Library and at the Olathe Public Library, to house hard copies of the documents related to the Section 106 process. As activities for the review progresses, information will be sent to the repositories to provide residents with a continuing source of information and keep them abreast of progress at the site and opportunities for public involvement. If you wish to be included on the mailing list for the Section 106 process for Sunflower AAP, please e-mail your name, organization name, address, telephone and fax numbers to sunflower@ttemi.com.

DeSoto Library
33145 West 83rd Street
DeSoto, KS 66018
(913) 583-3106

Hours of Operation:
Sun - Mon: CLOSED
Tue, Wed, & Fri, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Thu, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sat, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Central Resource Library
9875 West 87th Street
Overland Park, KS 66212
(913) 495-2400

Hours of Operation:
Mon - Thu, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fri, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sun, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Olathe Public Library
201 East. Park
Olathe, KS 66061
(913) 764-2259

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