



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE GARRISON  
PICATINNY ARSENAL, NEW JERSEY 07806-5000

July 8, 2008

Environmental Affairs Division

Mr. Terry Karschner  
Acting Administrator  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State of New Jersey Historic Preservation Office  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Parks and Forestry  
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Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0404

POC: Jason Huggan  
Cultural Resource Manager  
Chugach Industries, Inc.  
Environmental Affairs Office  
Bldg. 319  
Picatinny Arsenal, NJ 07806

SUBJECT: FINAL Report- Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of Eight Study Areas Totaling Approximately 215 Acres, Picatinny Arsenal, Morris County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Karschner,

Picatinny Arsenal is submitting this letter and the enclosed report as the FINAL results and conclusions for a Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of Eight Study Areas Totaling Approximately 215 Acres, Picatinny Arsenal, Morris County, New Jersey. The fieldwork for the report was performed by Panamerican Consultants, Inc. during August and October 2007.

The Phase I cultural resource investigation of the eight (8) study areas resulted in the excavation of 1,490 shovel tests and the identification of five (5) new archaeological sites, all of a historic nature. The results of the investigation within each study area are presented individually.

*400 Study Area:* No significant archaeological cultural resources were identified in the 400 Study Area. Approximately 23 percent of the investigated area was not shovel tested because of unexploded ordnance (UXO) concerns. The UXO areas overlap with the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the Picatinny Lake Dam Upgrade and the Packaging, Handling, Shipping, and Transportation (PHS&T) Center. The areas that were not tested include the mapped locations of historic elements of the Middle Forge and the Righter farmstead as well as the area around the remains of an early-20<sup>th</sup> Century railroad platform. The fact that parts of both the farm and forge sites fall within the APE for the Dam Upgrade project underscores the need for addressing the uninvestigated parts of the study area. Remote sensing techniques (i.e., ground-penetrating radar) could be employed to determine if architectural remains or large deposits of cultural material are present. However, if at all possible, the areas should be investigated with more intensive techniques (i.e., shovel testing). If resources for addressing the unexamined areas are limited, priority should be given to the zones where loci with UXO issues intersect the APEs for the two development projects in the 400 Study Area.

Due to these UXO concerns in the 400 Area, Picatinny's current plan is to perform Phase I Survey of the PHS&T APE this Summer after UXO investigation and clearance is complete; and monitor all excavations for the Picatinny Lake Dam Upgrade. This archaeological monitoring will be performed by Jason Huggan, Cultural Resource Manager (CRM), who meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards as a Registered Professional Archaeologist. The installation's ultimate priority is to ensure that safety

concerns are met before any excavations are undertaken in this area since the potential for finding UXO is still present across the Arsenal.

*636 Study Area:* No significant archaeological historical or prehistoric cultural resources were identified in the 636 Study Area. Construction of the elements of the Ballistics Experimentation Facility there will have no impacts on archaeological resources. No further archaeological investigations are recommended for the study area.

*647 Study Area:* No significant archaeological historical or prehistoric cultural resources were identified in the 647 Study Area. Construction of the elements of the Ballistics Experimentation Facility and the BRAC Guns and Weapons Systems Tech Data Facility there will have no impacts on archaeological resources. No further archaeological investigations are recommended for the study area.

*900 Study Area:* No significant archaeological historical or prehistoric cultural resources were identified in the 900 Study Area. Construction of the Experimental Evaluation Facility there will have no impacts on archaeological resources. No further archaeological investigations are recommended for the study area.

*1200 Study Area:* No significant archaeological historical or prehistoric cultural resources were identified in the 1200 Study Area. Construction of two Explosives Storage Magazines there will have no impacts on archaeological resources. No further archaeological investigations are recommended for the study area.

*1300 Study Area:* Four (4) historical sites were identified in the 1300 Study Area, including: Site 28-MR-327, comprising 19<sup>th</sup> Century surface and shovel test finds from the southeastern corner of the study area that may be related to one or more nearby map documented structures; Site 28-MR-326, stone fence enclosure north of the Walton family cemetery (28-MR-265); Site 28-MR-324, partially demolished structure southeast of Upper H.X.E. Road; and Site 28-MR-323, a pair of stone enclosures in the northeast corner of the study area along Fishers Run. No historical cultural materials were found in the close-interval shovel testing around Site 28-MR-326. Therefore, the site is unlikely to yield additional information. The structures with which it formerly was associated are no longer extant, so the enclosure has lost its integrity. It is therefore not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). No further archaeological investigations of the enclosure are recommended. The remaining three sites will require further archaeological investigations to determine whether they are likely to yield additional information relating to either pre-Arsenal life in the area or early Arsenal development. None of the sites identified in the 1300 study area fall within the APE for the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technology Facility and therefore no additional archaeological investigations therein are recommended.

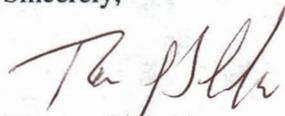
*1400 Study Area:* One (1) historical archaeological site was identified in the northwestern portion of the 1400 Study Area, Site 28-MR-325 likely related to the map-documented 19<sup>th</sup> Century J. Buckley structure. The site is composed of at least four elements, including two stone fences, remains of a cut-stone foundation, and the artifact assemblage from nearby shovel testing. The subsurface artifact finds suggest deposits related to the site may be present. Beyond this, additional structural remains related to the foundation might also be extant. Before the northwestern half of the study area is developed, additional archaeological work is recommended to determine if the site is likely to yield additional information about 19<sup>th</sup> Century life in the area. The stone fence near the southeastern boundary of the investigated area has been partially demolished and has therefore lost its integrity. Beyond this, no additional historical cultural remains were found nearby. The fence therefore does not merit additional archaeological examination and no further work is recommended.

Picatinny's plan for curating the artifacts, field records, and photos collected from these 5 new archaeological sites is to temporarily store the materials within a curation room at Building 319 until the installation finds a more suitable long-term storage facility compliant with 36 CFR 79. This room within Building 319 is secure and has a separate HVAC system from the remaining building. Additionally, the collections will be stored in a separate protected environment within the room itself (with humidity monitors for climate control inspection purposes). Overall, Picatinny realizes that this curation and conservation plan does not entirely meet regulatory compliance; however, the installation does have a future preservation goal in mind based on the amount of previous collections that it has onsite and at other various Cultural Resource Management firms within the region, and also future funding allotments designed for this fiscal year and the next. Picatinny is currently in discussions with other Federal agencies, and local county and township historical organizations in the hopes of finding a long-term storage facility fully compliant with 36 CFR 79's regulations. (Note: This long-term storage facility will likely be off-post and not on the installation, as the Army is currently not funding these requirements at Picatinny.)

Based on Panamerican's Phase I Cultural Resource Survey results, Picatinny Arsenal recommends no further archaeological investigations and 'no effects' from the proposed development of the following projects across the installation: Ballistics Experimentation Facility (636 Area), Ballistics Experimentation Facility and the BRAC Guns and Weapons Systems Tech Data Facility (647 Area), and the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technology Facility (1300 Area). Regardless of these determinations, the installation will implement Standard Operating Procedures that if any other archaeological/cultural resources are discovered during construction development the CRM is notified for further investigation. Additionally, separate Environmental Assessments (EA) for both Picatinny's Master Development Plan, and Base Realignment Closure Actions are currently in production for your office. These EA's will be accompanied by separate Phase I Cultural Resource Survey reports focusing on other areas of future development and their cultural resource effects across the Arsenal.

We request that your office provide a review of these determinations and the enclosed report. If you require further information, please feel free to contact Mr. Jason Huggan at (973) 724-3664, [jason.j.huggan@pica.army.mil](mailto:jason.j.huggan@pica.army.mil).

Sincerely,



Thomas Solecki  
Chief, Environmental Affairs Division

Cc: Michael Cinquino, Ph.D., RPA  
Senior Vice President  
Panamerican Consultants, Inc.

Enclosures