December 19, 2014

Re: Call for Case Studies, DoD Sacred Site Case Study Project

Dear Participant:

The National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers is collaborating with the U.S. Navy and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on a project to advance identifying, managing, and protecting Native American sacred sites within the context of the military readiness mission across the Department of Defense (DoD). The main objective of this project is a compendium of case studies related to American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian sacred sites.

The immediate goal is the nomination of case studies from both the DoD and Indian country, which will lead, in selected cases, to conducting interviews for in-depth information. The case studies may involve various levels of consultation for the identification, protection and long-term management and access to sites in some cases. The study is looking to review the process involved from the perspective of all participants.

Specific and sensitive information on each site is not being requested.

The results of this project will assist Native people and DoD installations better understand their work in light of others in this field. The results – an analysis of the data and a narrative report – will be made widely available to Native people and the DoD and others interested in this field. It is our goal to foster successful consultation practices to the mutual benefit of all participants.

This project will rely on the accumulation of information related to each case study, supplied by participants in the process. We ask for your participation by responding to the Call for Case Studies, which may be found on the NATHPO website (www.nathpo.org). Please use one form per case study and feel free to duplicate the form if you have more than one example that you would like to share. If the information supplied leads to some additional questions, we also ask that you grant us a brief interview via a telephone interview or by email inquiry.

The principal investigator for this study is Dr. Richard Meyers (Oglala Lakota), who has a long history of involvement in historic preservation and cultural resource management and substantial experience working with Indian Tribes and Federal agencies. The survey responses should be sent to Dr. Meyers, by February 13, 2015, as noted on the form.

We thank you for your time and attention to this project and your participation.

Sincerely yours,

D. Bambi Kraus
National Association of THPOs

Valerie Hauser
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Dr. Cheryl L. Huckerby, Ph.D.
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