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Description of document: National Park Service (NPS) Meeting minutes, meeting agendas and handouts from the four (4) most recent meetings of the Advisory Committee on the Cold War Theme Study 2011-2020

Requested date: 03-June-2020

Release date: 01-February-2022

Posted date: 07-March-2022

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242
[FOIA Online](#)

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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
12795 W. Alameda Parkway
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

February 1, 2022

A7221 (2550)

Reference: NPS-2020-00904

Subject: Response to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated June 3, 2020, in which you requested:

...meeting minutes and meeting agendas and handouts from the most recent four (4) meetings of the Cold War Advisory Committee.

Upon further review, your request is granted in part and denied in part. We are providing you one file totaling 42 pages of responsive records. However, portions of one page are being withheld under Exemption 5, which allows an agency to withhold "inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party... in litigation with the agency." [5 U.S.C. § 552\(b\)\(5\)](#); see *Nat'l Labor Relations Bd. v. Sears Roebuck & Co.*, 421 U.S. 132, 149 (1975). Exemption 5 therefore incorporates the privileges that protect materials from discovery in litigation, including the deliberative process, attorney work-product, attorney-client, and commercial information privileges. We are withholding this information because it qualifies to be withheld under the following privilege:

Deliberative Process Privilege

The deliberative process privilege protects the decision-making process of government agencies and encourages the "frank exchange of ideas on legal or policy matters" by ensuring agencies are not "forced to operate in a fish bowl." *Mead Data Cent., Inc. v. United States Dep't of the Air Force*, 566 F.2d 242, 256 (D.C. Cir. 1977) (internal citations omitted). A number of policy purposes have been attributed to the deliberative process privilege. Among the most important are to: (1) "assure that subordinates . . . will feel free to provide the decisionmaker with their uninhibited opinions and recommendations"; (2) "protect against premature disclosure of proposed policies"; and (3) "protect against confusing the issues and misleading the public." *Coastal States Gas Corp. v. United States Dep't of Energy*, 617 F.2d 854, 866 (D.C. Cir. 1980).

The deliberative process privilege protects materials that are both predecisional and deliberative. The privilege covers records that “reflect the give-and-take of the consultative process” and may include “recommendations, draft documents, proposals, suggestions, and other subjective documents which reflect the personal opinions of the writer rather than the policy of the agency.” *Id.*

The conference call numbers being withheld constitute “intra-agency” documents because they are only shared with members of the Department or their consultants for the purpose of conducting official government business, including holding discussions that are deliberative and pre-decisional. In addition to qualifying as “intra-agency” documents, it has been determined that the conference call numbers qualify as “confidential commercial information”, which also protectable by Exemption 5.

In this case, the government entered the marketplace as an ordinary commercial buyer of private conference call numbers and pass codes. If the conference call numbers and/or pass codes were released, the government’s financial interest would be significantly harmed. The conference calls would no longer be private since unknown, non-governmental parties would have the ability to listen in to the calls.

Accordingly, the funds spent on purchasing the call-in numbers and pass codes would therefore have been wasted and the conference call numbers and pass codes would be of no use. Because the release of the conference call numbers would significantly harm both the government’s financial interest and the deliberative process, the National Park Service is withholding the conference call numbers in accordance with Exemption 5 of the FOIA.

Pursuant to regulation, 43 CFR 2.24(b) the following person is responsible for this denial:

Charis Wilson
NPS FOIA Officer

In accordance with Department of the Interior FOIA Bulletin Number: 20-01 these preapproved withholdings were made in consultation with SOL’s Division of General Law and the DFO.

You have the right to appeal this denial of your request. You may file an appeal by writing to:

Freedom of Information Act Appeals Officer
Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
MS-6556-MIB,
Washington, D.C. 20240
foia.appeals@sol.doi.gov

Your appeal must be received no later than 90 workdays after the date of this final response. The appeal should be marked, both on the envelope and the face of the appeal letter, with the legend "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." Your appeal should be accompanied by a copy of your original request and copies of all correspondence between yourself and the National Park Service related to this request, along with any information you have which leads you to believe the records are available, including where they might be found, if the location is known to you. Please note, appeals received after 5 p.m. EST will be considered to have been received as of the following day. Additionally, please be aware that appeals submitted via the FOIAOnline form will NOT be accepted for processing and will be deleted without further review or communication.

Also, as part of the 2007 OPEN Government Act FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a nonexclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)
National Archives and Records Administration
Room 2510
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Phone: 301-837-1996
Fax: 301-837-0348
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Additionally, because the National Park Service creates and maintains law enforcement records, we are required by the Department of Justice to provide the following information, even though it may or may not apply to your specific request. Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that we are required to give all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions or concerns. I can be reached at the address above or by phone at 303-969-2959. I can also be reached via e-mail at charis_wilson@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

CHARIS
WILSON

Digitally signed by
CHARIS WILSON
Date: 2022.02.01
09:21:09 -07'00'

Charis Wilson
NPS FOIA Officer

5-23-2011 Notes from the Cold War Advisory Committee Meeting.pdf

Meeting of the Presidential Advisory Committee on the Cold War Theme Study
May 23, 2011
Washington DC

The Advisory Committee on the Cold War Theme Study met on May 23, 2011, in Washington D.C. The purpose of the meeting was to provide National Park Service staff and John Salmon, who has been contracted by the National Park Service to write the Cold War Theme Study, with guidance and assistance as they research and complete the theme study.

The following members of the Advisory Committee were in attendance at the meeting: Mark Phillip Bradley, Professor, University of Chicago; Paul Green, Cultural Resources Program Manager, U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base; Ronald James, State Historic Preservation Officer, Nevada; Cynthia Kelly, President, Atomic Heritage Foundation; Francis Gary Powers, Jr, Museum Director, Military Aviation Museum; Tom Vanderbilt, Journalist; and Karen Weitze, Research Associate at the Air Force Historical Research Agency, Maxwell Air Force Base. Richard Fried, Professor, University of Illinois, Chicago and Christian Friedrich Ostermann, Director of the Woodrow Wilson Center's Cold War International History Project, were unable to attend. John Salmon was also in attendance.

Also in attendance were several National Park Service staff members. These included: Antoinette Lee, Assistant Associate Director, Historical Documentation Programs; Paul Loether, Chief of the National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Programs; Alexandra Lord, Branch Chief of the National Historic Landmarks Program; and Carol Shull, Interim Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places.

Following introductions of the members of the Presidential Advisory Committee and National Park Service staff, Mr. Loether recommended that the Committee choose a Chair to head the Committee. Mr. Powers was chosen as Chair of the Committee.

Dr. Lord provided a brief overview of the National Historic Landmarks (NHL) Program. This included a discussion of the six criteria which are used when nominating properties for designation as NHLs as well as a discussion of how theme studies are used to assist in indentifying and evaluating properties for consideration as either NHLs or for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Mr. Salmon provided an overview of the project. He indicated that the project presented multiple challenges, including the recent nature of this subject and the overwhelming amount of historic literature on the topic. He stated that he envisions this theme study to be very much a framework (as opposed to a comprehensive study of the Cold War); the goal of the project is to enable property owners, State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs), Federal Preservation Officers (FPOs), and other interested parties to know the questions they need to ask and address when initiating an evaluation of a property. Due to limited resources, the theme study must be brief which raises a variety of issues. Paramount among these is the question of how to balance the theme study, to ensure that it is comprehensive, but not a duplicate of print and online books already available. Mr. Salmon seeks to enable the potential preparer of an NHL nomination to easily determine the national context and evaluation standards.

Mr. James and Mr. Powers had submitted comments to Mr. Salmon in advance of the meeting. Mr. Salmon stated that he intends to incorporate these comments as well as the comments made during the meeting into the study.

Meeting of the Presidential Advisory Committee on the Cold War Theme Study
May 23, 2011
Washington DC

Ms. Kelly stated that she would like to see more information regarding the Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for these types of properties; she wants the theme study to help agencies to determine this.

Dr. Weitze recommended tying resources more directly into the historic context. This information can be teased out in the existing document but it would be better to have it clearly done in the document. The same could be said of the timeline---with resources incorporated directly into the timeline itself.

Dr. Green asked how the theme study can address the civilian side of this story.

Professor Bradley pointed out that it is necessary to see the Cold War outside of the narrow military definition. He suggested that the narrative incorporate a broader discussion of this topic, which would allow for more nuance.

Dr. Green said that as it currently stands the theme study does not get into the details that he would need for his work.

Professor Bradley raised the issue of covert action. There were various economic aspects as well as cultural aspects of this war (including propaganda). American society and the military aspects of the Cold War were so integrated during this period that it often becomes difficult to disentangle broader issues from the Cold War. Professor Bradley mentioned fallout shelters and other civilian defense measures. He argued that, although the Congressional mandate called for a focus on armaments, this may be problematic if the theme study does not cover this topic broadly and if it fails to include a discussion of the civilian side of this story. He suggested moving away from John Gaddis's work and looking, for example, at the work of Elaine Tyler May, *The Cold War Encyclopedia* etc. He felt that the scholarship is strongest on origins, weak on the middle period and even weaker on the end period. He asked if the focus on the end causes problems in terms of where the scholarship currently is and if the focus on the end cause problems in terms of the 50 Year Rule?

Dr. Green suggested acknowledging the broader socio-cultural context at the beginning of the theme study as a way to address this. The study could then serve both the Congressional mandate and the need for a broader context.

Mr. Powers asked for a list of references that would provide people with a better understanding of the process of nominating a property for designation.

Mr. James asked that the study be a little less jingoistic.

Ms. Kelly recommended that the theme study include a better discussion of America's foreign partners during the Cold War. The Manhattan project was, for example, very much an Anglo-American project. She suggested that Mr. Salmon review books like Richard Rhodes' *Arsenals of Folly* to think beyond the American sphere in terms of the impact of this period.

Professor Bradley asked that there be a discussion of "the bleedover period;" the Cold War may have ended but nuclear weapons are still very much around.

Meeting of the Presidential Advisory Committee on the Cold War Theme Study
May 23, 2011
Washington DC

A discussion of the Cold War, its end, and its origins (including the origins of the term itself) followed. Dr. Weitze pointed out that, in some ways, the Cold War has ended but, in other ways, it has not.

Dr. Lee asked if the timeline was helpful. The Committee members agreed that this timeline was important and asked that it be expanded and developed further.

Ms. Kelly, Professor Bradley, and Dr. Green suggested that the categories be expanded to include the development of nuclear materials. Dr. Green, Mr. James, Professor Bradley, Mr. Vanderbilt, and Ms. Kelly asked also that the categories be expanded in general to include a range of topics including protest sites, sites dealing with covert actions, sites which analyzed information (such as RAND), and sites dealing with civil defense and how civilians could survive a nuclear strike.

Professor Bradley suggested that sites such as Little Saigons in various American cities might be included as well. Dr. Lee noted that the Congressional mandate for the current study focuses on military-related Cold War sites. This should form the highest priority for the limited funds now available. The context document should describe the larger universe of Cold War-related properties---particularly civilian sites and communities of immigrants from various nations affected by Cold War policies---but greater investigations of these groups of properties should occur when resources permit. In the meantime, one of the Committee's recommendations could be that other, non-military, aspects of the Cold War should be studied in the future.

Dr. Weitze pointed out the importance of acknowledging how radically American culture has changed as a result of the Cold War.

The discussion that followed suggested a variety of specific sites which should be included in the theme study. Committee members agreed to forward to Mr. Salmon the list of specific sites. Dr. Weitze asked that a distinction be made between closed and open bases as this factor needs to be taken into account when discussing integrity.

Dr. Weitze raised the issue of classified documents and whether Mr. Salmon might inadvertently create a classified document when creating his inventory. Dr. Weitze also recommended that Mr. Salmon work more closely with the DOD to create the inventory as many SHPOs are unaware of what exists in their states. Dr. Weitze suggested that the draft inventory be used as a committee document/a placeholder document to which the committee adds material. Committee members agreed with this recommendation.

The meeting ended with Committee members stating that they will send Mr. Salmon material which will enable him to add to his inventory (both in terms of specific properties as well as property types); expand the timeline; further develop the bibliography; expand the context to include discussions of the intersections between civilian life, preparation for nuclear war, and military armaments; and flesh out the historic context to include more on the middle and end periods of the Cold War.

8-3-2012 Cold War Webinar.pdf

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Meeting of the Cold War Advisory Committee for the Cold War Theme Study

Please call: (b) (5)

Passcode: (b) (5)

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Cold War Theme Study



B Reactor, Hanford,
Washington

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Please mute your phone when you are not participating in the discussion. If you do not have a mute button, you can press #6 on your phone (pressing #6 again will allow you to take the phone off mute).

If you have a problem accessing the phone line or any other technical question, call Caridad de la Vega at 202-354-2253 and she will attempt to address it quickly.



Agenda

1. Discussion of the Cold War Theme Study
2. Discussion of the Cold War Bibliography
3. Discussion of potential sites to be nominated under the Cold War Theme Study

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What is the National Register of Historic Places?

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of properties worthy of preservation.
Over 86,000 properties are currently listed in the National Register.



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What is a National Historic Landmark?

National Historic Landmarks are nationally significant historic places that best illustrate the heritage of the United States.

Currently, 2,501 historic places are National Historic Landmarks.

All NHLs are listed in the National Register.

Freedom Tower,
Florida



National Park Service

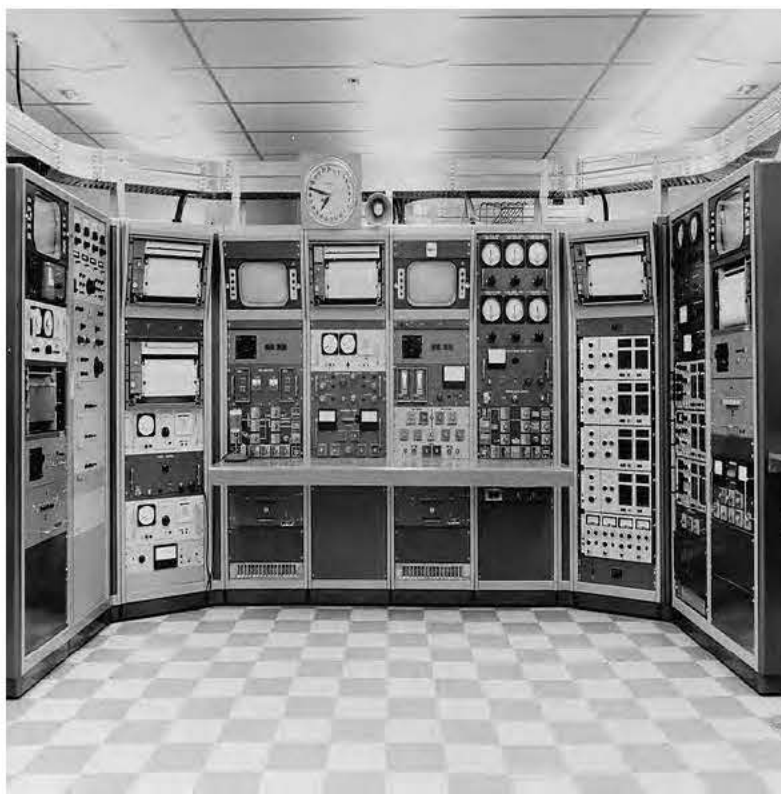


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The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

Sites that reflect stories that have meaning either to the local community, the residents of a specific state, or to the citizens of the nation as a whole.

Rocky Flats Plant, Colorado



National Historic Landmarks

Sites that reflect stories that are of importance to the nation as a whole.

Westminster College Gymnasium,
Missouri



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The National Register

possess good historic integrity.

National Historic Landmarks

must demonstrate high
integrity.

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Designation as a National Historic Landmark:

- ensures that stories of nationally important historic events, places, or persons are recognized and preserved for the benefit of all citizens.
- may provide the property's historic character with a measure of protection against any project initiated by the Federal government.
- may ensure eligibility for grants, tax credits, and other opportunities to maintain a property's historic character.

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How long does it take for a property to be listed in the National Register or become an NHL?

National Register

Varies from state to state and nomination to nomination, but generally 1- 2 years



National Historic Landmarks

Generally between 2 - 4 years.

How does a property get listed in the National Register?



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- With the consent of the property owner, an interested individual works with the National Register Coordinator of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to write a National Register nomination.
- The nomination is reviewed by the State Review Board (composed of experts in history, preservation etc.).
- Following approval by the State Review Board, the nomination is forwarded to the Washington DC office of the NPS for review.
- NPS has 45 days to review the nomination. A Control Unit performs a technical review.
- If the nomination is flagged for review or if the property is listed at the national level, the nomination is sent to a NR reviewer for a substantive review.
 - If there are no issues for review, the nomination is listed in the NR.
- The nomination may be rejected, returned for corrections, listed with Supplementary Listing Record (SLR) or listed with corrections within the 45 day listing period.

How does a property become a National Historic Landmark?



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- A State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), a Federal Preservation Officer (FPO), a Regional Office of the National Park Service, a scholar or an interested member of the general public writes a letter of inquiry to the National Park Service.
- NHL staff in both Washington DC and NPS Regional Offices review the letter to determine if the site appears to meet the criteria for an NHL. If the site has the potential to become an NHL, the staff provides the preparer with detailed guidance as the nomination is written.
- Working with the preparer, staff from the National Historic Landmarks program in Washington DC and NPS Regional Offices edit and review the nomination.
- Subject matter experts and scholars from across the nation review the nomination. Their suggestions and assessments are incorporated into the nomination.
- The Landmarks Committee reviews the nomination before making a recommendation to the National Park System Advisory Board.
- The National Park System Advisory Board reviews the nomination before making a recommendation to the Secretary of the Interior.
- The nomination is submitted to the Secretary of the Interior.
- The Secretary considers the recommendations and decides whether or not to designate the property as a National Historic Landmark.

To qualify as an NHL or be listed in the National Register, a property must:



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- **National Register: four different criteria**
- NHLs: six different criteria.
- **National Register: possess good integrity.**
- NHLs: possess high integrity

Abo Elementary School (Fallout Shelter),
New Mexico



George C. Marshall House, Virginia



National Register Criteria



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- **Criteria A.** That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- **Criteria B.** That are associated with the lives of significant persons in or past;
- **Criteria C.** That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
- **Criteria D.** That have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.

NHL criteria



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- NHL Criterion 1: Events or Movements
- NHL Criterion 2: Persons
- NHL Criterion 3: Idea or Ideal of the American people
- NHL Criterion 4: Architecture or Engineering
- NHL Criterion 5: Historic District
- NHL Criterion 6: Potential information of major scientific importance

Aldo Leopold Shack
and Farm (WI)

National Park Service



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How to assess and prioritize nominations of potential sites given NPS's limited resources?

How to better reach out to and involve Federal agencies in reviewing and nominating potential sites?

How to encourage SHPOs to review and nominate sites?

How to involve academics in reviewing and nominating potential sites?

8-3-2012_FedReg Cold War.pdf

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NRNHL-10699]

[2200-3210-665]

Meeting of the Cold War Advisory Committee for the Cold War Theme Study

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix, that the Cold War Advisory Committee for the Cold War Theme Study will conduct a teleconference meeting on August 3, 2012. Members of the public may attend the meeting in person in Washington, DC. During this teleconference, the Committee will make recommendations to the National Park Service (NPS) concerning the Cold War Theme Study.

DATES: The teleconference meeting will be held on August 3, 2012, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, inclusive.

LOCATION: The teleconference meeting will be conducted in Meeting Room 801 of the National Park Service, 1201 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005, telephone 202-354-6906.

AGENDA: The agenda for the meeting to be held on August 3, 2012 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. is as follows:

1. Discussion of the Cold War Theme Study
2. Discussion of the Cold War Bibliography
3. Discussion of potential sites to be nominated under the Cold War Theme Study

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information concerning the Cold War Advisory Committee for the Cold War Theme Study or to request to address the Committee, contact Dr. Alexandra M. Lord, Branch Chief, National Historic Landmarks Committee, National Park, Service, 1201 I Street, NW., 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20005, telephone 202–354–6906, e-mail alexandra_lord@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Due to the limited scope of this meeting, the NPS has determined that a teleconference will be the most efficient way to convene the Committee members. The Committee meeting will be open to the public in the same way that other Committee meetings have been open to the public. Space and facilities to accommodate the public are limited and attendees will be accommodated on a first-come basis. Opportunities for oral comment will be limited to no more than 3 minutes per speaker and no more than 15 minutes total. The Committee’s Chairman will determine how time for oral comments will be allotted. Anyone may file a written statement with the Committee concerning matters to be discussed. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Draft minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection about 12 weeks after the meeting in the 8th floor conference room at 1201 I Street, N.W., Washington, DC.

J. Paul Loether

Date

Chief

National Register of Historic Places/

National Historic Landmarks Program

12-7-2016_Agenda_ColdWarAdvisoryCommittee.pdf

Meeting of the Cold War Advisory Committee

1201 I Street, NW, Washington DC, Room 201

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

12-7-2016_Meeting Notes ColdWarAdvisoryCommittee.pdf

Meeting of the Cold War Advisory Committee

1201 I St., NW, Washington, DC; December 7, 2016

Meeting Notes

Participating Advisory Committee Members:

Mark Bradley

Rick Fried (via telephone)

Paul Green

Ron James (via telephone)

Cindy Kelly

Christian Ostermann

Gary Powers

Additional Participants:

Paul Loether (NR/NHL Programs Division Chief)

Robie Lange (NHL Program Liaison to Cold War Advisory Committee)

Amberleigh Malone (NHL staff assistant)

Michelle Volkema (Deputy Federal Preservation Officer, Air Force)

Committee Chairman Gary Powers opened the meeting at 10:00am.

Paul Loether outlined the status of the project: The Committee's charter is due to expire later this month, but a two year extension has been requested. It is anticipated that there will be no lapse before the reauthorization is approved. Contract historian John Salmon revised the draft Cold War historic context study to reflect input from the Committee during its Feb 2016 conference call. Salmon also addressed review comments provided by two peer reviewers last summer. The revised draft was shared with the Committee. Salmon will address any comments resulting from today's meeting, and an updated draft will then be shared with the Committee soon thereafter. The NHL Registration Guideline section (pp. 60-78) is being revised by NHL staff, and will be available for review upon its completion. The Cold War project includes efforts to identify and nominate potential Cold War-related NHLs (for which a small amount of funding is currently available). The project also includes a requirement to produce an illustrated booklet to supplement the NHL Cold War Theme Study (for which no funding is currently available). That booklet will be designed to interest a general audience.

After the Committee began its discussions about the current draft historic context, Gary Powers raised for discussion the question of what dates should be used for the start and end of the

Cold War (for example, for purposes of veterans' eligibility for DoD's Cold War certificate, Congress uses 9/2/45 and 12/26/91). At the end of a general discussion it was agreed that the text (p.4, para.2) should acknowledge that the exact dates of the start and end of the Cold War era are open to interpretation, but for the purposes of this study, the Cold War began with the bombing of Hiroshima (8/6/45), and concluded with the dissolution of the Soviet Union (12/25/91). To illustrate various interpretations of the dates of the Cold War, a footnote will be added noting the date range selected to determine eligibility for DoD's Cold War certificates.

Paul Green asked if the context study could acknowledge the importance of preserving records and smaller artifacts associated with the Cold War, as well as historic buildings and structures. It was agreed that even though such materials do not fall within the purview of NR or NHL eligibility, a note would be added to the text (p.4, para.4) acknowledging the value of such records, and strongly encourage their preservation.

Several members proposed, and it was agreed, that the discussion of which types of Cold War-related historic properties might be eligible for NHL consideration be further broadened to include more than historic military properties (p.4, para.4).

During a discussion of proposed revisions to sentences about a U.S. invasion of Japan (p.11, para. 1&2), Robie Lange explained that the proposed changes stem from the peer reviewers' comments that current scholarship raises questions about the traditional interpretation of casualty estimates. The revision acknowledges the "vast loss of life" that was likely to result, without getting bogged down in the debate about specific numbers.

Rick Fried and Christian Ostermann noted that the discussion of the Tonkin Gulf Incident (p.27, para.4) required some additional attention to better reflect the timeline of events. Christian Ostermann recommended a book by Edwin Moise (*Tonkin Gulf and the Escalation of the Vietnam War*) as the most definitive historical study of the incident.

Gary Powers introduced for discussion whether properties associated with major U.S. military engagements such as the Korean and Vietnamese wars should be included within the context of this Cold War NHL theme study. It was agreed that they would be included.

Mark Bradley noted that the discussion of Pope John Paul (pp.34-35) was relatively detailed (in comparison to other Cold War-related individuals). He and others recommended that this discussion be condensed. Robie Lange will draft proposed revisions.

Mark Bradley noted that the discussion of Reagan (pp.35-37) could be amplified to more fully convey his influence on the end of the Cold War. He offered to draft some modified language for the Committee to consider.

Christian Ostermann noted that the discussion of Gorbachev (pp.36-37) should be expanded.

Christian Ostermann also noted that the discussion of the 1983 Able Archer crisis (p.36) was nearly as important as the Cuban Missile Crisis, and that point should be noted. He recommended a 2016 book by Nate Jones of the National Security Archive.

Christian Ostermann, Gary Powers and Mark Bradley noted that the iconic image of U.S. helicopters evacuating U.S. and Vietnamese personnel from a rooftop (pp.29-30) is often misidentified as the U.S. embassy (instead of a nearby building that housed CIA staff). This discussion should be reviewed for accuracy, and a footnote related to this point should be added.

Paul Green suggested that additional attention be given to important technological developments (such as advances in aviation stealth) that played a consequential role in the Cold War. He added that a new Air Force-commissioned study was being finalized, and he would share it with the Committee as soon as possible.

Several relatively minor editorial changes were also proposed and discussed.

Regarding the illustrated booklet that will be prepared for this project, Paul Loether noted that one of the challenging aspects will be identifying historic photographs, and obtaining written permission to use the images selected for inclusion.

In relation to a discussion about the need to consider possible NHLs that include more than military properties, Paul Loether explained that all NHL theme studies remain open-ended after the context study is released. A primary goal of this project is to prepare a general framework from which Cold War-related properties can be evaluated to determine whether they appear to possess national significance, and retain a high degree of historic integrity. In addition to those properties that will be mentioned in this study, it is expected that additional potential NHLs will come to light after this study is published.

The meeting broke for lunch at 12:20pm. At the beginning of the break Committee members Ron James and Rick Fried (both participating via telephone) indicated that they were unable to

participate in the afternoon session. Michelle Volkema also indicated that she was unable to sit in on the afternoon session.

The meeting resumed at 1:30pm.

Christian Ostermann noted that the opening of relations with China was a key event leading toward the end of the Cold War, and he offered to draft a few sentences to strengthen the discussion of that issue.

In relation to a general discussion about the coverage in the draft study's timeline, it was agreed that any suggested revisions to expand or narrow the focus of the timeline should be submitted to Robie Lange by January 2, 2017.

Paul Loether recommended that the Committee reconvene in February via conference call after everyone has reviewed the next revisions to the historic context study.

Paul Green mentioned some of the cultural resources research materials available through various Air Force collections, including: 1400 items stored at Maxwell Air Force Base; 35,000 high-quality TIF scans of engineering documents currently be collected by contract historian Karen Weitze; and a digital repository at Arizona State University. He noted that post-9/11 security concerns now limit access to some Cold War-related documents.

Gary Powers raised for discussion the point that some people were reticent to commemorate aspects of U.S. history they view as unpopular or controversial. For example, Cindy Kelly noted that some people were against efforts to preserve Manhattan Project-related historic properties because so many people were killed by the atomic bombs. It was agreed that the goal of NHL theme studies is to identify historic properties with nationally significant associations to the Cold War, rather than on whether the historic association could be argued to be positive or negative.

Robie Lange explained that one of today's handouts lists currently designated NHLs that have varying degrees of association with the Cold War. This list is expanded from the one included in the earlier draft of the context study. Some of these designated NHLs are strongly associated with the Cold War, while others possess more casual associations. In many instances, the documentation prepared for NHL nomination did not specifically address whether the historic property possessed a nationally significant association with the Cold War. The second handout is a longer rough list of additional Cold War-related historic properties that may or may not be found to be candidates for future NHL consideration. Paul Green reminded the Committee

that a spread sheet reflecting a much longer list of Cold War-related properties (not necessarily possessing nationally significant associations) was attached to the previous draft of John Salmon's study (and will remain part of this project). The discussion also acknowledged that while the primary focus of this project is on potential NHLs, the work done will support efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties that do not meet NHL criteria for national significance and a high degree of historic integrity, but might meet the criteria applicable for listing on the National Register. Additionally, it is possible that properties identified in this study might come under future consideration as additions to the National Park System.

Cindy Kelly distributed a list of Cold War-related properties she compiled.

Christian Ostermann offered to assist with the planned illustrated Cold War booklet.

As the Committee prepared to take a break at 3:30, Committee members Cindy Kelly and Christian Ostermann indicated that they could not remain for the second portion of the afternoon session. Upon returning from the break, it was noted that a quorum was no longer present, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:38pm.

January 24, 2017

3-22-2017 ColdWarAdvisoryCommitteeCallSummary.pdf

Summary of Cold War Advisory Committee Conference Call, March 22, 2017

Cold War Advisory Committee members Gary Powers (Chairman), Richard Fried, Paul Green, Ron James, Cindy Kelly and Christian Ostermann participated in the conference call. Committee member Mark Bradley was not available to participate. National Historic Landmarks (NHL) staff Paul Loether (Designated Federal Officer), Christopher Hetzel, and Robie Lange also participated, as did contract historian John Salmon.

The purpose of the conference call was to review the revisions contract historian John Salmon made to the draft NHL Historic Context Study after the committee's last meeting (December 7, 2016). During this discussion, the committee discussed a few additional aspects of Cold War history that could be mentioned in the study (such as the 1967 *USS Liberty* incident). NHL staff agreed to address those suggestions, and to continue working to restructure the study's Registration Requirements section. Additionally, Paul Loether noted that a summer intern would be hired to identify historic photographs that will illustrate the historic context study.

The committee voted to accept the submitted revisions to the historic context study, and endorsed the ongoing efforts to complete the study.

3-31-2020_Agenda_ColdWarAdvisoryCommittee.pdf

Cold War Advisory Committee Conference Call; 1:30 - 3:00 pm, 3/31/2020

Call # & passcode: [To be determined]; Contact: Robie Lange; robie_lange@nps.gov

Expected Participants:

Serena Bellew	Deputy Associate Director, Preservation Assistance Programs, NPS
Michael Binder	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Paul Green	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Walter Grunden	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Ron James	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Robie Lange	Historian, National Historic Landmarks Program, NPS
Gary Powers	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee

AGENDA

Call to Order (1:30 pm)	Serena Bellew
Welcome	Serena Bellew
Introductions	Committee Members
Nominations & Election of Chair	Serena Bellew
Introduction of Draft NHL Evaluation Guidance (1:50 pm)	Robie Lange
Discussion of Draft NHL Evaluation Guidance	Committee
Introduction of Draft Mountain Home NHL Nomination (2:10 pm)	Robie Lange
Discussion of Draft NHL Nomination	Committee
Status of Cold War Interpretive Handbook Project (2:30 pm)	Serena Bellew
Public Comments	Chair & Public Participants
Adjourn Meeting (3:00 pm)	Chair

3-31-2020_Meeting Notes ColdWarAdvisoryCommittee.pdf

COLD WAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL
1:30 PM, March 31, 2020

Attendees

Serena Bellew	Deputy Associate Director, Preservation Assistance Programs, NPS
Michael Binder	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Paul Green	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Walter Grunden	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Ron James	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Robie Lange	Historian, National Historic Landmarks Program, NPS
Gary Powers	Member, Cold War Advisory Committee
Patty Henry	Historian, National Historic Landmarks Program, NPS (recorder)

It was announced that no members of the public had contacted the NPS to participate in the call.

Serena Bellew called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves. She outlined the history of the Cold War Advisory Committee and how we arrived at this point.

Bellew asked for nominations for Committee Chair.

Ron James nominated Gary Powers.

The vote was unanimous, and Powers was elected Chairman.

Introduction of Draft NHL Evaluation Guidance

Before the Committee discussed the draft Evaluation Guidelines, Robie Lange explained that in 2017, the NHL Program decided to recast the earlier draft of this section of the NHL Theme Study to provide more guidance and examples. The author of the NHL Theme Study, John Salmon, welcomed the revision and provided input for the current draft.

Paul Green asked whether that meant altering the balance of military and non-military properties.

Lange noted that the NHL Program and the Committee had concluded several years ago that while military properties were the focus of attention, non-military properties would be included.

Michael Binder noted that the draft NHL nomination for Mountain Home AFB placed greater emphasis on evaluations of the relative historic integrity of comparable properties than was the case with an older NHL nomination for the USS Intrepid (which had post-WWII modifications).

Binder then asked if the overall NHL Theme Study is to focus on the “Cold War” or on the broader “Cold War Era.” He proposed that “Cold War Era” events are not necessarily “Cold War” events. He believes the broader concept makes it difficult to determine what to study.

James said that the Advisory Committee had previously discussed this issue. They noted that the NHL Theme Study should address properties that had nationally significant associations with the Cold War itself (including the “Home Front”), but not on all properties possessing nationally significant associations that merely happened to occur during the Cold War years.

Bellew stated that we would review how the NHL Theme Study explains this issue. She also noted that we should also keep in mind that the study is being done within the framework of the NHL Program and its criteria rather than on the broader criteria of the NR program.

Powers added that the Advisory Committee had previously discussed and selected the most appropriate start and end dates for the Cold War to use in the NHL Theme Study.

Relating to the draft of the evaluation guidance, Powers suggested that the discussion of NHL Criterion Six be expanded to acknowledge the crashed B-29 Bomber in Lake Mead.

Lange said he would make that change.

James added that there has been archeology conducted at the Nevada Test Site.

Lange added that the list of properties mentioned in the NHL Theme Study is not a definitive list. The guidance provided in the revised draft can be used to inform future considerations of additional properties once sufficient information is available.

Green asked if overseas properties are eligible for NHL designation.

Lange replied that there is one overseas NHL. It is a U.S. embassy, but since the land embassies occupy are considered to come under the territorial authority of the embassy’s country, this is not a precedent for designating NHLs outside of U.S. territory.

Green asked if regulations specifically state that NHLs and National Register properties must be located on U.S. soil.

Bellew asked if the question was whether properties that once were U.S. properties but are not now, would be eligible.

Green said that the Department of the Defense often has questions about NR eligibility in those situations, but they have never seen a specific citation.

Binder cited the USS Pueblo as an example.

Bellew said that she would look into Green’s question and report back on the answer.

Powers asked that Vint Hill Station in Virginia be considered for mention in the study.

Walter Grunden noted that the list of properties mentioned in the draft was heavy on nuclear history and he was hoping places associated with biological warfare, such as Ft. Detrick in Maryland or Dugway Proving Ground, could also be mentioned.

Mountain Home NHL Nomination

Lange discussed the origin of this NHL nomination. He noted that Green made him aware of a historical study the Air Force prepared about SAC Ground Alert Facilities. That study concluded that among GAFs that included the 150-man version of Alert Crew Quarters, the one at Mountain Home was one of the most intact examples. The objective of this NHL nomination is to conclude whether it is one of the most intact examples of GAFs regardless of whether they featured the 150-, 100- or 75-man versions.

Powers commented that he thought the nomination was well done.

Binder noted that he thought other GAFs were more important but that they had undergone more modifications. He also thought the 1958 to 1965 period of national significance should be extended to conclude in 1991, when bombers came off alert.

Lange commented that the period of national significance used for NHL purposes is not necessarily the whole period the property was in use. The period of significance represents only the years during which its historic association has been demonstrated to be nationally significant. In the instance of the bomber mission at former SAC Ground Alert Facilities, that is the transition period before ICBMS became sufficiently accurate, powerful, plentiful.

James replied that Mountain Home was selected as a good example of this resource type because it had a higher degree of integrity than most others.

Green commented that this property has the support of the military command and the local population. This place also crystalizes a moment in history and illustrates this time period. He felt that if we don't protect Mountain Home now it will be gone in the future.

Binder asked if the public could visit this property if it becomes an NHL.

Lange answered that public access is not required for NHL designation or NR listing.

Bellew added that other bases that are demonstrated to represent nationally significant associations can be studied.

Green remarked that he appreciated that nominating this property doesn't preclude looking at others. But he felt this nomination was pretty darn good.

Binder disagrees with the basis the nomination used for concluding that the Mountain Home Ground Alert Facility was nationally significant. He believes that if priority is to be based on

integrity, the section of Mountain Home is ok, but other bases that remained in operation for a longer period were therefore more important.

Lange informed the Committee that the contractor had stopped working on the nomination before it was satisfactory, so the NHL Program had to finish it. The contractor has agreed to provide the necessary photographs and figures for the NHL nomination.

Status of Cold War Interpretive Handbook

Bellew gave some background on the Cold War Interpretive Handbook project. The handbook is very different from the type of work the NHL Program does, but this task was included in the 2009 Act. In early 2018, the National Council of Historic Preservation Officers awarded the contract for this project to the same firm who was awarded the contract for the Mountain Home NHL nomination project.

Lange added that the contractor had proposed topics of chapters to be written by selected scholars, but the contractor failed to deliver any draft for NPS review. Bellew noted that once we became aware of this problem we talked with the contractor about their capacity to complete the project, but this matter has not been resolved as of this date. She said that the NHL Program may need to complete the project.

The Committee offered to write a letter to the contractor expressing their concerns about this situation.

Other Comments

Binder commented that the government is getting rid of all the chemical or biological warfare depots, and he hoped some of them could be considered for NHL nomination.

Bellew asked if other government agencies have done Cold War surveys or studies.

Lange noted that studies have been prepared over decades, but their availability is sometimes restricted due security concerns.

Green commented that he is aware of several such instances.

Bellew concluded that she, Powers and Lange would have a conversation about the points raised in this conference call, and to discuss some next steps. They'll report back to the Advisory Committee at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.