

PRESERVING THE PAST,
PROTECTING THE FUTURE

The Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works cultural resources staff assists the installation commander in making informed decisions regarding the cultural resources on Fort McCoy in compliance with public laws, in support of the military mission, and consistent with sound principles of cultural



Calf Burial From a Late 19th Century Farmstead

resource management. The successful balance of mission requirements and cultural resource compliance responsibilities requires long-term planning, coordination, and effective management to prevent conflicts between the installation mission and managed resources.



Glass Bottles from the 1910 Camp Emory Upton



Prehistoric Ceramics From Fort McCoy (~100 BC–200 AD)

Directorate of Public Works,
Environmental Division, Natural Resources Branch,
Cultural Resources Program
DPW (IMMC-PWE-N)
2171 South Eighth Ave

Cultural Resources Management Program



DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC WORKS
FORT MCCOY, WISCONSIN



28th Infantry Insignia from the 1910 Camp Emory Upton

WHAT ARE CULTURAL RESOURCES?

Cultural Resources include the material remains of our shared human past as well as less tangible important spaces and landscapes. They represent fascinating pieces of human history, but they are also fragile, and irreplaceable.



1940 Photograph of the Camp McCoy Stone Gates

Fort McCoy contracted cultural resources staff are currently working with historians and Native American groups throughout the region to document the history and prehistory of west-central Wisconsin.

Any artifacts that visitors may discover on Fort McCoy are important clues for documenting the history of the installation and Monroe County. It is important for the visitor to Fort McCoy to understand that any person, who without authorization, excavates, removes, damages, or otherwise alters or defaces any historic or prehistoric site, artifact or object of antiquity on Fort McCoy is violating federal laws. The discovery of any archaeological artifact should be reported to the Natural Resource Branch at (608) 388-4793.



Constructed in 1911, Building 6017 is the oldest building on Fort McCoy.

FORT MCCOY HAS A LONG HISTORY

Currently there are 561 state-registered archaeological sites and one archaeological district located on the installation. These sites range from the Late Paleo-Indian Period through the early 20th Century, a time-span of over 10,000 years. The stone gates, Building 6017, and at the present time 161 archaeological sites, have been determined eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and are protected in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act. Important Historic sites on Fort McCoy include refuse from pre-WWI infantry maneuvers and remnants of the first and largest WWII era Japanese POW camp for the permanent internment of Japanese POWs in the US. Important prehistoric sites include ancient campsites, hunting stands, workshops, and quarrying operations spanning nearly the entire history of human occupation in North America.

Fort McCoy contracted cultural resources staff work every day to evaluate and protect culturally important sites on the installation. This attention to detail enhances the installation's military mission by drastically limiting the chances of encountering federally protected materials during training and construction activities. Such episodes are both costly and time consuming, as well as extremely damaging to the cultural resources of the area. Proper attention to cultural resource management concerns has also improved the planning and approval process for construction on the installation.



Prehistoric Projectile Point From Fort McCoy (~250 AD)

The mission of Fort McCoy is to underpin the readiness of the force by serving as a training center and a support site for power projection. The government and contracted cultural resources staff at Fort McCoy are dedicated to supporting this mission while protecting the past.