

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
SUBMITTED TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
PURSUANT TO 36 CFR, 800.6(a)

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma entered into a memorandum of understanding for the purpose of conducting research of mutual interest, which includes, in part, the establishment of a facility on Federal lands managed by ARS, lands which are officially entitled the Grazinglands Research Laboratory, and commonly called Fort Reno, at the city of El Reno, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, an archeological survey and controlled surface collection of the proposed site of the facility conducted on February 9, 1999, revealed a sparse scattering of artifacts in patterns interpreted to be traces of the southernmost portion of the Cavalry Scouts' camp associated with Ft. Reno, a late nineteenth century cavalry post; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Archeologist believes that the controlled surface collection "has sufficiently treated the portion of the Cavalry Scouts' camp within the project area to the extent that no further work is warranted"; and

WHEREAS, archeological testing of the Cavalry Scouts' camp determined that the site is considered eligible for the National Register of Historical Places; and

WHEREAS, the ARS considers the Cavalry Scouts' camp eligible for National Register of Historic Places, and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurs in that opinion; and

WHEREAS, the ARS has determined that the construction of the research facility on a portion of Fort Reno by the University of Oklahoma may have an effect upon that portion of the cultural resources of the Grazinglands Research Laboratory, and has consulted with SHPO pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f); and Section 110(f) of the same Act (16 U.S.C. 470h-2(f)); and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Archeologist and the leadership of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma participated in the consultation regarding this matter;

NOW, THEREFORE, the USDA, ARS, the University of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma SHPO, and the Council agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the undertaking on this historic property (bearing in mind that because of the nature of the site, the research required for a determination of the site's eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places itself disturbed a portion of the site).

Stipulations

ARS and its collaborator the University of Oklahoma will ensure that the following measures are carried out:

A qualified archeologist shall be present when the soil is disturbed during preparation of the site for construction and construction disturbance will be limited to the area previously examined.

Representatives of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma shall be advised of the day and hour of commencement of site preparation for construction, and shall have the opportunity to observe the site preparation, subject to reasonable safety standards.

Execution of this Memorandum of Agreement and implementation of its terms evidence that the ARS has afforded the Council an opportunity to comment on the construction of the research facility and its effects on historic properties, and that the ARS has taken into account the effects of the undertaking on historic properties.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

By: John M. Fowler Date: 6/9/99

John M. Fowler, Executive Director

USDA, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

By: Charles A. Onstad Date: 4-30-99

Charles A. Onstad, Area Director, Southern Plains Area

OKLAHOMA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

By: Blake Wade Date: 5/19/99

Blake Wade, State Historical Preservation Officer

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

By: Frank Waxman Date: 5/3/99

Frank Waxman, Vice President for Research