

Camp Navajo Historical Preservation Tour

2010 Historic Preservation Partnership Conference

Saturday morning, May 15, 2010

9:00 am to noon

Tour leader: Dr. John Westerlund

Group Limit: 30. Please carpool when possible.

Note: we will do a little walking, possibly in mud. Bring water. Restrooms not available after second stop. Cameras *are* permitted: we will not be in the restricted area.

This historical tour complements the Friday afternoon programs by Dr. John Westerlund and LTC Mary Williams-Lynch. Navajo Ordnance Depot was vital to the U. S. success in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Munitions from plants across the country were shipped by rail to the Bellemont depot and stored, pending shipment to the Pacific via Los Angeles or San Francisco. Navajos, Hopis, and Austrians played a major role at this very unusual military base. Considerable efforts have been made to preserve this extraordinary national historic site.

We will meet at 9:00 am at the Camp Navajo 1942 entrance monument located on the south side of the Bellemont exit from Interstate 40, about 10 miles west of Flagstaff on I-40.

Early breakfast? Try the Bellemont truck stop on the north side of the I-40 Bellemont exit.

Our itinerary will include:

Stop 1: 9:00 am: meet at the 1942 entrance monument. Discussion of the history (including the Civil War) and settlement of Volunteer Prairie.

Stop 2: Drive to Camp Navajo Headquarters Building flagpole: Discussion of the construction of Navajo Ordnance Depot in 1942-43.

Stop 3: Drive to Indian Village: Discussion of the Navajo-Hopi experience at Indian Village as well as the historic and cultural preservation efforts that have helped save this unique site.

Stop 4: Drive to the Austrian prisoner of war camp: Discussion of the POW story as well as the historic and cultural preservation efforts that have been involved at this site.

End of tour: about noon.