

Historic Preservation Advisory Group Report  
Kathleen S. Kilpatrick, Chairman,  
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**Background** The HPAG has a broad mission reflecting the breadth and significance of the resources that comprise Fort Monroe and Old Point Comfort. The variety of historic, natural, and outdoor resources presents many stewardship challenges and opportunities to engage the public and work with many partners for the future. Toward these ends, several efforts are underway under the auspices of, or parallel to, the HPAG's work.

1. HPAG National Park Service Partnership Working Group
2. Master Interpretive Plan
3. Museum Study Group Review
4. HPAG Natural Resources Working Group
5. Chesapeake Bay Foundation Discussions
6. HPAG African American Culture Working Group
7. Design Standards Development and Review

**National Park Service Partnership Working Group** Charged with developing a factual report partnership options and associated considerations, necessary steps to implement these, etc. Work plan, interview list, etc., developed, and interviews underway. Draft report in June to HPAG for review and finalizing before presentation to the FMFADA.

**Master Interpretive Plan** The HPAG has approved the RFP for release and strongly supports moving forward with this critical component that will set the course for the sustainable use of Fort Monroe/Old Point Comfort as an educational, tourism and outdoor recreational resource for the public and community. The development of a master interpretive plan is a deliverable of the Programmatic Agreement.

**Museums at Fort Monroe** Planning effort undertaken by self-selecting stakeholder museums interested in developing the intriguing concept of a campus

of museums within the fortress. Draft plan shared with the HPAG just prior to its last meeting. Under review by members and scheduled for substantive discussion on June 1. Foundational contribution to the master interpretive planning process as that critical step gets underway as a deliverable of the Programmatic Agreement.

**Natural Resources Working Group** Established in March as a task force of state natural resource/environmental education experts. Tasked with: assessing the natural, ecological and outdoor assets; identifying resource-based opportunities for environmental education, recreation, and eco-tourism; providing the context and data of the larger trends associated with such opportunities; helping frame the consequences of land treatment decisions; and developing a broad interpretive framework. Draft report to the HPAG expected in July. Foundational contribution to the master interpretive planning process.

**Chesapeake Bay Foundation** Ongoing discussions with the Virginia CBF office about educational and programming partnerships and resource restoration projects.

**African American Culture Working Group** Recently formed group of scholars and practitioners. Charged with exploring and developing this theme further, identifying creative ways to convey it to the public and identifying potential implementation partners. Guided by the idea that the Contraband history is both central to African American history and an essential American story.

**Design Standards** Work on going to develop this key operational manual as a deliverable of the PA. Treatment of historic buildings section nearing final draft stage. New construction section now underway. Flowing into the work will be the results of the viewshed and landscape studies the Army will undertake as a deliverable of the PA.