

Chapter 1.

Introduction.

1-1.

Purpose of the Manual.

A. Introduction.

Military installations should provide efficient and pleasant physical environments conducive to attracting and retaining skilled and motivated personnel. A military installation conveys a visual image in terms of its design character and organization that can be either clear, logical and attractive or cluttered, confused and disoriented. The design, location and maintenance of individual elements such as buildings, roads, parking lots, signing and planting, affect the quality of the visual environment. Each of these elements should be functional, attractive and harmonious with its surroundings to create an environment that enhances the capability of installations to support their missions and fosters pride in and commitment to military service.

B. Objective.

The objective of the **Installation Design Manual** is to provide guidance for improving the quality of the visual environment on Army, Navy and Air Force installations.

C. Scope.

The **Installation Design Manual** is a tool to improve the appearance and functioning of military installations by enhancing natural site assets; compatibly relating the natural and built environments; establishing an orderly organization of activities, circulation and open space system; achieving a consistent architectural character; and coordinating site components such as lighting, signing and street furniture to reduce clutter. This manual includes information gathered from a variety of sources and is intended to serve as a comprehensive reference of design guidance for military installations.

1. The manual provides observations of common problems, design objectives and specific design criteria for components comprising the exterior environment of an installation. It also illustrates their practical application in terms of prototypical design solutions for improving various types of facility areas commonly found on installations. Furthermore, the manual addresses how such guidance can be incorporated into the master planning and facility design process.

2. These guidelines are directed toward creating a visually cohesive and attractive installation that is consistent with good planning, design and environmental policy. They address both the design of new facilities as well as the improvement of existing facilities;

and they encompass both visual and functional considerations. Because of the need to address a variety of conditions that could be encountered on various installations, the design guidance is primarily generic in nature.

3. The design guidance in this manual has been devised for general application at all installations. It is intended that each installation will develop its own design guide, tailored to its specific situation and containing those guidelines dealing with such locationally specific conditions as climate and prevailing architectural character. Other modifications may be necessary in response to specific installation policies or some atypical condition that may exist at a particular installation.

D. Intended Users.

Improving the appearance and functioning of military installations requires quality design. This entails the interaction of two essential participants: 1) an enlightened client and 2) competent design professionals. The guidance offered in this manual is for use by Army, Navy and Air Force personnel responsible for installation planning and design as well as design firms, particularly those offering comprehensive architectural, planning and engineering services, who are under contract to plan and design military installations or facilities. This manual is directed to both audiences to promote a high level of awareness of potential design solutions and standards, as well as evaluation criteria. It is directed at making the military a better client and aiding design professionals in performing a higher quality of service.

1-2.

Organization of the Manual.

The **Installation Design Manual** is divided into three major parts and a set of appendices:

A. Part One: General.

Chapters 1 and 2 provide an introduction to the purpose and use of the manual, principles for improving the quality of military installations and the means of incorporating visual design considerations into the installation master planning process.

B. Part Two: Design Guidelines.

Chapters 3-13 provide design guidance for component elements that comprise the environment of military installations. These include: buildings, roads, parking, planting, plazas and courtyards, walkways, bikeways, signing, lighting, site furnishings and utilities. Each chapter deals with a specific component in terms of commonly observed problems, design objectives and design guidelines.

C. Part Three: Prototype Areas.

Chapters 14-18 illustrate how the use of an installation design guide can improve five prototypical facility areas commonly found on military installations. These prototype areas include: main installation entrances, administrative/headquarters areas, housing areas, community facilities and industrial/warehouse areas.

D. Appendices.

1. Appendix A: *Related Military References* lists applicable Department of Defense, Army, Navy and Air Force publications. Personnel from each service need follow only the references from their service and those of the Department of Defense. The only exception to this direction is with respect to handicapped criteria. Both Army and Air Force personnel are to follow DOD 4270 1M. Navy personnel are to follow the specific guidance provided in *DM-1 Series*.

2. Appendix B: *Annotated Bibliography* provides a selected listing of basic references on site planning and design.

3. Appendix C: *Model Scope of Work Statement and Design Consultant Selection Criteria for the Preparation of Installation Design Guides* offers guidance in the development of design guides.

1-3. Preparation of the Manual.

A. Process.

The preparation of this manual took over two years and involved four separate phases. These included field survey and research, during which visits were made to 15 separate military installations across the United States; problem analysis and organization, criteria definition and development; and criteria coordination and synthesis.

B. Participants.

This manual was prepared by an interdisciplinary team of design professionals working in collaboration with project representatives of the Army, Navy and Air Force. The various design disciplines involved included architects, planners, civil and electrical engineers, landscape architects and graphic designers. Army, Navy and Air Force personnel involved in the planning and design of installation facilities extensively reviewed draft forms of this manual. This interdisciplinary approach and military participation were utilized to produce a responsive, practical and comprehensive manual.

1-4. Proponent and User Comments.

The proponent agency of this manual is the Office of the Chief of Engineers, Department of the Army. Personnel are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on **DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications)** to HQDA (DAEN-MPE-I) Washington, D C 20314. Navy personnel should send comments to NAV-FACENCOM HQ (Code 202), 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria, VA 22332. Air Force personnel should send comments to AF/LEEE, Washington, D C 20332.