

6.1.3 SOP No. 3: Reassessing Resources that Turn 50 Years of Age

Identification of historic properties is an ongoing process. As time passes, events occur, or scholarly and public thinking about historical significance changes. Therefore, even when an area has been completely surveyed for historic properties of all types, it may require reinvestigation if many years have passed since the survey was completed. Such follow-up studies should be based upon previously obtained information, may focus upon filling information gaps, and should consider reevaluation of properties based upon new information or changed historical understanding.

NPR 8510.1 requires an SOP for reassessing resources to address the passage of time, changing perceptions of significance, subsequent changes to the property, or incomplete prior evaluations. This SOP is applicable to all resources located at ARC and in areas where ARC mission-related undertakings may affect historic properties.

Applicable Laws/Regulations/Procedural Requirements

- National Historic Preservation Act
- NASA Procedural Requirement 8510.1

Policy

- NASA will reassess resources that have previously been determined eligible or ineligible for listing in the NRHP prior to their turning 50 years of age to address the passage of time, changing perceptions of significance, subsequent changes to the property, or incomplete prior evaluations.
- NASA will proactively protect and maintain NRHP-eligible historic buildings, structures, and districts.
- NASA will ensure that the HPO has the authority and resources to carry out his or her role and responsibilities to comply with applicable CRM regulations and NPR 8510.1 and has funding to conduct periodic inventory and evaluation of historic facilities. (See NHPA and EO 11593.)
- The HPO will implement NASA CRM Program activities in compliance with NPR 8510.1 and Sections 106 and 110 of NHPA.
- The HPO will ensure that identification and evaluation of historic properties, including properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to Native Americans, are completed in compliance with Section 106 of NHPA prior to an undertaking.
- Avoidance of adverse effects to NRHP-eligible historic buildings will be proactively incorporated into the planning process.
- Until such time as SHPO has concurred with NASA's determination that a historic building is ineligible for inclusion to the NRHP, it will be treated as potentially eligible.

Procedures

Reevaluation of historic facilities will be conducted as directed by the HPO following the Secretary of the Interior's standards for identification and evaluation of historic properties, as set forth in *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (48 FR 44720-44726), which should be used to ensure that the CRM Program's identification and evaluation procedures will be appropriate. Identification and evaluation of historic properties must be conducted by professionally qualified individuals (Sec. 101(g), Sec. 101(h), and Sec. 112) (see Chapter 5.2.3 for Professional Qualification Standards). The procedures to identify and evaluate historic facilities for eligibility for listing in the NRHP and other significance are described in Chapter 6, SOP 2.