

Street and Place Names Around Moffett Federal Airfield

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The names of the streets on the NASA side of Moffett Field reflect its origins as a laboratory in the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. The names of the streets on the former Navy base tend to reflect those who died in the crash of the *USS Akron* or other lighter-than-airships.

Major Place Names

Moffett Federal Airfield: William A. Moffett, U.S. Navy Admiral. Recognized as the founder of naval aviation, first head of the U.S. Navy Bureau of Aeronautics, and a strong voice for basic research in aircraft design. Member of the NACA Main Committee from 1921 until 1933, upon his death in the crash of the dirigible *USS Akron*.

Ames Aeronautical Laboratory: Joseph Sweetman Ames. Professor of physics and later president of Johns Hopkins University. Recognized as the architect of aeronautical engineering. Member of the NACA Main Committee from 1915 to 1939.

Onizuka Air Station: Ellison Shoji Onizuka, a U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel and NASA Astronaut. Died aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger on January 28, 1986.

NACA Park: National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. The predecessor agency to NASA. This park is on the site of the former 14 foot wind tunnel.

Arnold Park: Harold H. "Hap" Arnold. U.S. Air Force General and member of the NACA Main Committee from 1938 to 1946.

Street Names Behind the NASA Gates

Allen Road: H. Julian "Harvey" Allen. Aerodynamical genius and Director of NASA Ames.

Arnold Avenue: Harold H. "Hap" Arnold. U.S. Air Force General and Member of the NACA Main Committee from 1938 to 1946. A park near the National Full Scale Aerodynamics Complex is also named after Arnold.

Beta Lane: No special meaning.

Boyd Road: John W. Boyd, long time Ames leader. Before 1999, this road was named Walcott Road, a name then moved to a different street.

Bush Circle: Vannevar Bush. Member of the NACA Main Committee from 1938 to 1958.

C Lane: No special meaning.

Cooper Loop: George Cooper, famous Ames test pilot. Before 1999, this was a portion of Severyns Avenue.

DeFrance Avenue: Smith J. DeFrance. Founding Director of the NACA Ames Aeronautical Laboratory.

Durand Road: William F. Durand. Aerodynamics professor at Stanford, and member of the NACA Main Committee from its founding in 1915 to 1933, and again from 1941 to 1945.

F Lane: No special meaning.

Gamma Lane: No special meaning.

H Lane: No special meaning.

Hall Road: Charles Hall, Ames engineer best known as project manager of the Pioneer series of spacecraft. It passes by N244, where the space projects offices reside. Before 1999 it was named South Warehouse Road.

Hunsaker Road: Jerome C. Hunsaker. Author of the first NACA Technical Report, designer of the *USS Macon*, Dean at MIT, and member of the NACA Main Committee from 1922 to 1923, and from 1938 to 1958.

King Road: Admiral Ernest J. King. Member of the NACA Main Committee from 1933 to 1936.

Lindbergh Avenue: Charles A. Lindbergh. First person to fly solo across the Atlantic, and a member of the NACA Main Committee from 1931 to 1939. Lindbergh worked hard in his NACA capacity, and chaired the site committee that nominated Moffett Field as the NACA second laboratory.

Lomax Lane: Harvard Lomax, Ames aerodynamicist and a founder of computational fluid dynamics. This lane runs by to N258, the NASA Advanced Supercomputing facility. Before 1999 this road was named Whipple Lane, likely after Laura Thane Whipple, a civic leader responsible for acquiring the land that became Moffett Field.

Mark Avenue: Hans Mark, Director of NASA Ames and famous in leader in aerospace technology. Before 1999 this road was a portion of McCord Avenue.

Parsons Avenue: Jack Parsons, Associate Director at Ames from 1940 to 1967, and architect of the set of national Unitary Plan Wind Tunnels.

Pollack Road: James Pollack, famous Ames space scientist. This road passes by building N245 where the space sciences division resides. Before 1999, it was named North Warehouse Road.

Pioneer Avenue: A series of famous scientific spacecraft developed at NASA Ames in the 1960s and 1970s, including the first spacecraft to pass the asteroid belt, encounter Saturn and Jupiter, and exit our solar system. Notably, Hall and Pollack roads intersect at Pioneer Avenue, reflecting the synergy between the science and engineering components of Ames space missions.

Victory Road: John F. Victory. First employee of the NACA, and its executive secretary until 1958.

Walcott Road: Charles D. Walcott. Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and a member of the NACA Main Committee from 1915 to 1927. Before 1999 this was a portion of Sevryns Road.

Warner Road: Edward P. Warner. Only NACA staff member to later serve on NACA Main Committee, from 1929 to 1954. Hired from MIT to be NACA's first chief scientist (at LMAL from 1919 to 1920). Return to MIT, became first Assistant Secretary of Navy for Aeronautics (1926 to 1929), then editor of Aviation. He most strongly advocated an industrial and operations perspective for the NACA.

Wright Avenue: Orville Wright. First to fly, and member of NACA Main Committee from 1920 to 1948.

Street Names on the former Navy Base
(Thanks to Bill Stubkjaer, Moffett Field Historical Society)

Adams Road: Charles E. Adams, U.S. Navy Ensign. Missing in action on August 16, 1942 from blimp L-8. This road has since disappeared.

Akron Road (both North and South): Dirigible ZRS-4, sister ship of *USS Macon*. The *USS Akron* crashed near Barnegat Light, New Jersey, killing 73 crewmen, on April 3, 1933, nine days before the formal establishment of the Naval Air Station Sunnyvale.

Bailey Road: Unknown. Possibly P.C. Bailey, U.S. Navy Aviation Machinist Mate Second Class. Died May 16, 1944 in crash of blimp K-5 at NAS Lakehurst.

Berry Drive and Court: Fred T. Berry, U.S. Navy Commander, Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station Lakehurst and the Rigid Airship Training and Experimental Squadron. Died in the crash of the *USS Akron*.

Bettio Road: Pasquale Bettio, U.S. Navy Aviation Chief Metalsmith. Along with Cummins, died on April 4, 1933 in the crash of blimp J-3 while searching for survivors of the *USS Akron*.

Bushnell Street: Wilfred Bushnell, U.S. Navy Lieutenant (jg). A balloon pilot who won balloon races in the early 1930s and died in the crash of the *USS Akron*.

Carroll Drive: George A. Carroll, U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander, and photographer at the NAS Sunnyvale during the Macon era.

Clark Road: Originally named Clarke Memorial Drive, after Vincent A. Clarke, Jr., U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander and Commander of the airship *ZR3 Los Angeles* from 1929 to 1931. He was stationed at NAS Sunnyvale as a mooring officer when he died of blood poisoning on August 10, 1932.

Cody Road: Ernest D. Cody, U.S. Navy Lieutenant. Missing in action on August 16, 1942, from blimp L-8 while on patrol near Treasure Island.

Cummins Avenue: David Cummins, U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander. Along with Bettio, died on April 4, 1933 in the crash of blimp J-3 while searching for survivors of the *USS Akron*.

Dailey Road: Ernest Edwin Dailey, U.S. Navy Radioman 1st Class. One of two people who died during the crash of the *USS Macon*. Sometimes appears on maps as Bailey Road.

Dugan Avenue: Hammond J. Dugan, U.S. Navy Lieutenant (jg). Died in the crash of the *USS Akron*.

Edquiba Road: Florentino Edquiba, U.S. Navy Mess Attendant 1st Class. One of two people who died during the crash of the *USS Macon*.

Ellis Street: Ellis Anderson (1871 to 1971) began a house moving business in Mountain View in the 1920s at the intersection of what is now Bayshore and Ellis. In 1954, this street was brought within the city limits of Mountain View.

Girard Road: Preston L. Girard, U.S. Navy Radioman. Died on October 17, 1944 in the crash of blimp K-111 on Santa Catalina Island, California.

Gorsky Road: Edward T. Gorski, U.S. Navy Ensign. Died October 17, 1944 in the crash of blimp K-111 on Santa Catalina Island, California.

Kaiser Road: Gordon F. Kaiser, died October 17, 1944 in the crash of blimp K-111 on Santa Catalina Island, California.

Macon Road and Drive: U.S. Navy dirigible ZRS-5, which crashed off Point Sur in California on 12 February 1935, killing two crewmen.

McCord Avenue: Frank C. McCord, U.S. Navy Commander and Commanding Officer of the *USS Akron*, who died when it crashed.

Perimeter Road (West, North and South): Merely reflects its position on base.

Sayre Avenue: Robert E. Sayre, U.S. Navy Lieutenant (jg). Died in the crash of the *USS Akron*. Sometimes misspelled Sayer Avenue.

Severyns Avenue: Joseph H. Sevrins, U.S. Navy Lieutenant and chemical engineering graduate of MIT with specialization in light gasses. Died in crash of *USS Akron*.

Shenandoah Court: An early airship of the U.S. Navy, ZR-1, which crashed in 1925.

Stewart Drive: Unknown.

Zook Road. Unknown.

Wescoat Road and Court: Herbert M. Wescoat, U.S. Navy Lieutenant. Died on crash of the *USS Akron*. Sometimes misspelled Westcoat Road.

Whipple Circle: Laura Thane Whipple, a civic leader responsible for acquiring the land that became Moffett Field.

Street Names on the East Side of the Airfield

Marriage Road: Wallis H. Marriage, U.S. Navy Lieutenant. Died on October 17, 1944 in the crash of the blimp K-111 on Santa Catalina Island, California.

Patrol Road (East and North): Merely reflects its function on the base.

Jagels Road: Unknown.

Johnny Luv Lane: Unknown.

Street Names Outside the Gate, on the West Side

R.T. Jones Road: Famous Ames aerodynamicist. Before 1999, this was named Moffett Boulevard Extension.

NASA Parkway: A small portion of road near the Visitor Center, renamed in 2003 to merit a more prominent sign off of Highway 101.

Orion Park: Named after the PC-3 Orion aircraft that were based at Moffett Federal Airfield during the 1980s.

Stevens Way and Road: Unknown.

Vernon Avenue and Circle: Unknown.