



**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

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May 23, 2019

In reply, refer to: NASA_2019_0424_001

Mr. Jonathan Ikan
Center Cultural Resources Manager
NASA Ames Research Center
Mail Stop 213-8
Moffett Field, CA 94035

Subject: 5th Avenue Gate Reopening and Access Improvement Project, Moffett Federal Airfield, NASA Ames Research Center, Santa Clara County, CA

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the April 17, 2019, letter initiating consultation regarding an undertaking at NASA Ames Research Center (ARC). NASA is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in order to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. §306108), as amended, and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800. Along with the letter, NASA submitted a memorandum prepared by Stantec and dated April 17, 2019, that provides the Section 106 analysis, project maps, and project photographs.

The proposed undertaking, as described, involves reactivating the existing gate and point of entry at 5th Avenue, as well as circulation and security improvements.

- Replace existing pavement and widen the road to accommodate three lanes.
- Shift the checkpoint north and construct a new guard station 10'X4' and 12' tall, requiring a concrete foundation and ground disturbance 1.5' deep.
- If conduit banks are required, NASA will install them either with open trenching four feet deep or horizontal directional drilling ten feet below grade.
- Install new 30' tall lighting poles with five feet of ground disturbance and three-foot tall traffic security bollards requiring three feet of ground disturbance.
- Construction of a paved shoulder area at the entry and large roundabout at the intersection of East Patrol and Macon Roads.
- Install a new stormwater culvert system under the roundabout.
- Construct a 10' wide sidewalk at the entry.
- Construct a left turn pocket on southbound Macon Road.
- Install a new security perimeter fence with manual swing gates within Moffett Field boundaries to enclose the checkpoint area. The fence would be a six-foot

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tall chain link fence with concrete footings requiring three feet of ground disturbance.

NASA defined an Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this undertaking that encompasses the project area and a buffer area totaling 23.89 acres and extends 12 feet deep. Based upon previous surveys, including one in 2017, no previously identified archaeological resources are located within the vicinity of the driving range. NASA did not conduct a new survey based upon this information and because the project will occur within an area of low sensitivity and previous disturbance. The APE is located within the extended boundary of the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District. None of the district's contributing properties is located within the APE. The APE also extends into a portion of the California Air National Guard Cantonment Area, though none of the four buildings in this part of the APE is eligible for listing in the National Register.

NASA finds that the project would modify a non-character defining area of the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District and that no contributing elements or other historic properties will be adversely affected. In the event that archaeological materials are encountered, construction would be halted and NASA would follow the procedures for inadvertent discoveries. Therefore, NASA proposes a Finding of No Adverse Effect.

After reviewing the information submitted, the SHPO offers the following comments.

- This project qualifies as an undertaking with the potential to affect historic properties.
- The APE appears to be sufficient to take effects of the undertaking into account.
- Identification and evaluation efforts are sufficient.
- Based upon the information submitted, the SHPO has no objection to the proposed Finding of No Adverse Effect for this undertaking.
- Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, NASA may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mark Beason, State Historian, at (916) 445-4047 or mark.beason@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer