



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

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April 13, 2020

In reply, refer to: USGS_2020_0319_001

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

Subject: Moffett Federal Airfield, United States Geological Survey (USGS) Radio Upgrade Project, NASA Ames Research Center, Santa Clara County, CA

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the February 13, 2020, 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 technical Section 106 report prepared by Page & Turnbull and dated January 15, 2020, that provides the Section 106 analysis, project maps, photographs, and plans.

The proposed undertaking, as described, involves construction of a communications facility within Lot 127C at Moffett Federal Airfield. The facility would consist of a 70-foot, four-legged, self-supporting tower and a 12-foot by 26-foot prefabricated communications shelter. With communications instruments attached, the tower would stand 80 feet high. Ground disturbance would include surface grading as well as drilling to approximately 22 feet deep at the tower support locations.

Following a search of NASA records and an information center search, NASA found no previously identified archaeological resources within the APE. Previous studies identified the APE as having low archaeological sensitivity, and a survey in November 2019 failed to identify any archaeological deposits.

NASA identified four previously unevaluated resources over 50 years old within the APE: Buildings N123, N127, N244, and N245. FEMA proposes to treat these buildings as eligible for the purposes of this consultation. The southwest portion of the APE also overlaps the Arc Jet Laboratory (Building N238), a contributor to the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District, and the Systems Development Facility (N242), which has been found

eligible for listing in the National Register.

NASA finds that the undertaking would not alter the characteristics that qualify any of the built environment resources for listing in the National Register and 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.
- It is unclear if NASA conducted any Tribal consultation for this undertaking. The SHPO recommends that NASA take efforts to identify and consult with any interested Tribal groups.
- 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.

The SHPO is sending this letter in electronic format only. Please confirm receipt of this letter and, if you would also like the letter mailed to you, respond to this email to request a hard copy. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact State Historian Mark Beason, at (916) 445-7047 or mark.beason@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer