

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, California 94035



August 14, 2024

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks & Recreation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 85816

Attn: Mark A. Beason

Subject: Section 106 Consultation for the Building N200 Elevator Replacement Project, NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California

Dear Ms. Polanco:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Ames Research Center (ARC) requests initiation of consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 United States Code §306108), as amended, for the Building N200 Elevator Replacement Project (project or undertaking) at the NASA Ames Research Park at NASA ARC, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California. NASA ARC has determined that this project constitutes an undertaking under Section 106.

In support of its responsibilities under Section 106, NASA ARC retained AECOM Technical Services, Inc. to conduct a technical review for this project. The study was conducted by cultural resources professionals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards (36 CFR Part 61; 48 Federal Register 44738). Enclosed for your review is a Section 106 Technical Memorandum, dated August 8, 2024, which includes detailed descriptions of the undertaking, the Area of Potential Effects (APE), identification efforts, and the affected historic properties, and concludes with an assessment of potential effects resulting from the undertaking, summarized below.

Description of the Undertaking

The project scope of work includes replacement of the existing single-car hydraulic elevator with a new hydraulic elevator system. The new elevator will be installed within the existing, exterior, poured-in-place, concrete elevator shaft, and the existing elevator pit and concrete roof will remain. The architectural scope of work includes demolition of all existing hydraulic elevator components, including but not limited to the remote pump, hydraulic piston, guide rails, elevator doors, door frames, thresholds at first and second floor landings, elevator car, and all electrical controls and equipment related to the elevator system at the interior of the elevator shaft, interior

of elevator car, at each landing, and in the remote pump room. Security card readers at each landing will be removed. If existing conduit is inadequate for new system, it will also be removed and replaced, as required. The new elevator system will include a new car door operator, power unit, piston refurbishment, landing doors replacement, guide rails within the elevator shaft, an elevator car and car doors with standard finishes and lighting including emergency communication system, exterior-rated controls within the shaft and car, exterior-rated call buttons at each landing, and elevator doors with actuation equipment at each landing including thresholds and door frames. Finishes will be high performance paint suitable for exterior exposure. Non-proprietary software will be used for elevator system.

Area of Potential Effects

The APE is defined to address both direct and indirect impacts on known and potential historic properties and encompasses areas that may be affected by both temporary and permanent construction activities (see attachment, Figure 3 in Appendix A). The APE is within the preliminary boundaries of the NACA District and accounts for potential indirect effects on the district but does not include the entire district due to the project's limited scale. Exterior improvements, which include changes to the elevator doors, thresholds, and equipment, are unlikely to have indirect visual, audible, or atmospheric impacts on historic properties beyond Building N200's immediate surroundings. The project will be limited to the existing detached elevator shaft and no ground disturbance is anticipated. Therefore, the APE is limited to the project site and Building N200.

Affected Historic Properties

The APE overlaps the proposed NACA District, which NASA has determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Properties (NRHP), and contains Building N200 (Administration Building), which is individually listed in the NRHP and is a potential contributor to the NACA District. These historic properties are described in the attachment.

Effects Assessment

The Criteria of Adverse Effect were applied to assess the undertaking's potential effects on the historic properties in the APE, including Building N200 and the NACA District. The significance of these historic properties is associated with research and development, important researchers, and a unified Streamline Moderne-style campus design. The detached elevator addition is not a characteristic of the historic property that qualifies it for NRHP inclusion. The project will remove and replace all existing hydraulic elevator components, which are non-contributing, mostly interior, and invisible from the exterior of Building N200 and the NACA District. The alterations to the exterior of the elevator, including replacement of the elevator landing doors, thresholds, door frames, and other equipment such as security card readers, conduit, exterior-rated call buttons, and actuation equipment. Finishes will be high performance paint suitable for exterior exposure. The exterior changes to the detached elevator addition are essentially in-kind and will face the north elevation of Building N200; any visibility of these changes will be minimal. The project will not alter any of the characteristics of Building N200 or the NACA District that qualify them for NRHP inclusion and will not result in adverse effects. Therefore, the proposed undertaking would have no adverse effects on historic properties per 36 CFR § 800.5(b).

Finding of Effect

Based on the assessment conducted by qualified cultural resources professionals, NASA ARC has made a finding that the undertaking will result in No Adverse Effect.

Consultation Efforts

NASA ARC has not identified additional consulting parties for this Section 106 review but is making these findings available to the public via the NASA ARC Historic Preservation Office website (<https://historicproperties.arc.nasa.gov/section106.html>).

NASA ARC requests the State Historic Preservation Officer's concurrence on NASA's finding of No Adverse Effect for this undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(b). Please provide a response within 30 days of receipt of this letter, as specified in 36 CFR 800.5(c).

Please feel free to contact me at Jonathan.D.Ikan@nasa.gov or (650) 604-6859 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Jonathan D. Ikan
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Cc:

Dr. Rebecca Klein, NASA Deputy FPO Environmental Management Division NASA
Headquarters
300 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20546-0001

Enclosure: *Section 106 Technical Memorandum for the Building N200 Elevator Replacement Project*. Prepared by AECOM, dated August 8, 2024.