



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

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VIA Email

In reply, refer to: NASA_2020_0918_001

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

Subject: Construct New Engineering and Missions Operations Facility N278, NASA Ames Research Center, Santa Clara County, CA

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the September 18, 2020, letter initiating consultation regarding an undertaking at NASA Ames Research Center (ARC). NASA is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) 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 AECOM dated September 16, 2020, that provides the Section 106 analysis, project maps, and photographs.

The proposed undertaking, as described, involves construction of a new building, N278, that would serve as the Engineering and Missions Operations Facility. Construction requires demolition of the approximately 83,000 square feet of existing facilities, including Building N216 (constructed in 1941), Building N251 and its underground grease trap (1977), two empty underground gas tanks, the Motor Pool fuel station, the paved parking lot, and existing footings from the 7' X 10' Wind Tunnel No. 2 that formerly occupied this location before its demolition.

The project will also require relocation of an existing 36" diameter storm drain. The site will likely require some level of contamination remediation. Staging for this project will be limited to existing paved parking lots in the vicinity of the project site. Construction would require ground disturbance to a maximum depth of 30 feet.

NASA identified the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking encompassing the entire NASA Ames Wind Tunnel Historic District. The location of the proposed Building N278 is within district boundaries. The recent evaluation of the historic district

found neither Buildings N216 and N251 nor the other facilities proposed for demolition to be contributors to the historic district. District contributors and historic properties are located nearby and may be indirectly affected by the undertaking.

Archaeological surveys of the area determined it to be previously disturbed with low sensitivity for buried resources.

NASA determined that the undertaking would have No Adverse Effect on historic properties. No known archaeological resources are located within the APE; the buildings and features proposed for demolition are not historic properties; and the new Building N278 has been designed to be compatible with the design of the NASA Ames Wind Tunnel Historic District.

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 is sufficient to take direct effects of the undertaking on individual properties or contributors 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 there are 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