National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Ames Research Center Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000



February 21, 2025

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

Attn: Mr. Mark A. Beason

Subject: Section 106 Consultation for the Building T-36A Demolition Project

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 T-36A Demolition Project (project or undertaking) at the ARC at Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California (see enclosure; Attachment A, Figures 1 and 2). NASA ARC has determined that this project constitutes an undertaking under Section 106.

NASA ARC retained AECOM Technical Services, Inc. to conduct a cultural resources study 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 is the study report with 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, as summarized below.

Description of the Undertaking

The project is located within the NASA Ames Research Park near Shenandoah Plaza. The project involves the demolition of Building T-36A on McCord Avenue to the south of S. Akron Road. This project involves the demolition and disposal of Building T-36A, which is a 4-wide prefabricated trailer, and the disconnection of utilities, including electrical power, data communication, water, and sanitary sewer. This trailer has been used as an office trailer supporting procurement activities since it was installed in 2002. The staging area for the project is on the west side of McCord Avenue on a paved parking lot area between Buildings T-36A and 566.

Area of Potential Effects

The APE was defined to address both direct and indirect potential effects on historic properties, including areas that may be affected by both temporary and permanent construction activities. The project is located within the boundary of the U.S. Naval Air Station Sunnyvale, California (NAS Sunnyvale) Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The APE accounts for potential indirect effects on the district as a whole but does not include the entire district boundary due to the project's relative scale to the district. Visual changes from demolition could impact the setting of the overall historic district and adjacent contributors; therefore, the APE encompasses the building footprint and a 150-foot buffer to account for potential visual effects (see enclosure; Appendix A, Figure 3).

Affected Historic Properties

The APE includes the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District and its contributing features Buildings 15 and 17. 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 the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District and its contributing features Buildings 15 and 17.

Building T-36A is a prefabricated trailer that was installed in 2002 on the site of a previous prefabricated metal building from the World War II era that was in place as late as 1998. The trailer is not architecturally or historically significant but is located within the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District. The prefabricated trailer does not exhibit any contributing characteristics to the district. The removal of Building T-36A would not impact the historic setting of the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District or its contributors Buildings 15 and 17. The visual alteration would not detract from any historic characteristics or character-defining features of the contributing buildings or the district, or compromise the properties' integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Therefore, the undertaking would result in no historic properties affected.

Finding of Effect

The project will not alter any of the historical characteristics of historic properties in the APE that qualify them for NRHP inclusion. Based on the assessment conducted by qualified cultural resources professionals, NASA ARC has made a finding that the undertaking will result in No Historic Properties Affected.

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 Historic Properties Affected for this undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(c). 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 maria.k.meiser@nasa.gov or (650) 390-5450.

Trina Meiser Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosure

Section 106 Technical Memorandum for the Building T-36A Demolition Project, prepared by AECOM, dated January 13, 2025

cc:

ARC/Historic Preservation Office