

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, California 94035

April 9, 2020

Ms. Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks & Recreation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

Attn: Mr. Mark Beason

Subject: Section 106 Consultation for FY19 Maintenance Project at Ames Research Center,
Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California

Dear Ms. Polanco:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Ames Research Center (ARC) is the lead Federal agency pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.2(a)(2) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (54 U.S.C. §306108), as amended, and its implementing regulations (36 C.F.R. Part 800) to initiate and conduct Section 106 consultation on the Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Maintenance Project (project or undertaking). The project is located at NASA ARC, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California. NASA ARC determined that this project constitutes an undertaking under the NHPA. The undertaking would include routine maintenance, in-kind equipment replacement, and repairs at or adjacent to 16 separate facilities.

NASA ARC's consultants who meet the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards conducted a cultural resources study related to the undertaking, including the evaluation of resources for NRHP eligibility. The enclosed cultural resources technical memorandum prepared by AECOM includes a description of the undertaking and the Area of Potential Effects (APE), the methodology used to identify and evaluate historic properties within the APE, and an assessment of potential effects resulting from the undertaking.

No previously identified archaeological resources were identified in areas of ground disturbance in the APE, and those areas are within an area of low archaeological sensitivity. Because the

areas of proposed ground disturbance are very limited and completely paved, no field surveys were undertaken for this project. The technical study found that there is a low potential for archaeological resources to be encountered in the APE, because excavations would be limited to previously disturbed soils and fill. If any archaeological resources are discovered, construction will be halted. With implementation of NASA ARC's established standard operating procedure for unanticipated discoveries, the undertaking would have no adverse effect on unknown archaeological historic properties.

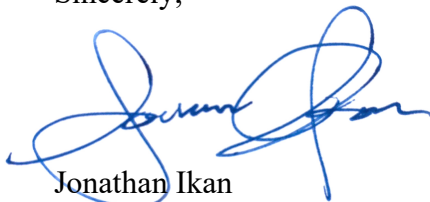
Sixteen aboveground facilities, all of which are historic properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), were identified in the APE. Several facilities are contributors to the U.S. Naval Air Station Sunnyvale, California Historic District (listed in 1994), including Buildings 15, 17, 20, 23, 25, and 55, and the Shenandoah Plaza flagpole. Additional facilities are contributors to the NASA Ames Wind Tunnel Historic District (listed in 2017), including Building N215, N220, N221, N226, and N227 (the Unitary Plan Wind Tunnel, which was also designated a National Historic Landmark in 1985). The remaining buildings include individually listed facilities, including Building N200, N238, and N243. Lastly, Building N242 was previously determined eligible for listing in the NRHP with concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in 2015. The technical study found that the undertaking, focused on routine maintenance, in-kind replacement, and repairs, would not alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of the 16 historic properties that qualify them for inclusion in the NRHP. Therefore, the undertaking would have no adverse effect on the historic properties.

Based on the enclosed analysis, which includes a description of the undertaking, the APE, identification efforts, and effects analysis for the undertaking, NASA ARC has determined that the undertaking would result in No Adverse Effect on historic properties. NASA ARC requests your review of the attached analysis, which includes a description of the undertaking, the APE, identification efforts, and effects analysis.

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

Please contact me at jonathan.d.ikan@nasa.gov or at (650) 604-6859 with your comments or questions.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Ikan
Center Cultural Resources Manager



Ames Research Center, MS 213-8
Moffett Field, California 94035

cc:

HQ/EMD/Dr. Rebecca Klein, Ph.D., RPA

Enclosures

Technical Memorandum on the FY19 Maintenance Project, prepared by AECOM, dated April 9, 2020