



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

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March 21, 2023

VIA Email

In reply, refer to: NASA_2023_0201_001

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

Subject: FY20-21 Maintenance Projects at NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the February 1, 2023, 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 Memorandum, prepared by AECOM dated January 24, 2023, that provides the Section 106 analysis, project maps, and photographs.

The undertaking, as described, involves maintenance repairs, replacements, and upgrades to improve the functionality of nine facilities, including replacement and/or minor upgrades to interior and exterior materials, such as roofing, and equipment, such as ventilation and cooling units.

NASA identified the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking that is discontinuous and limited to the boundary of each facility and immediate areas that may be affected by the project. The vertical APE is limited to previously disturbed soils and fill associated with the original installation of those utilities, up to 3' below grade.

Based upon the 2017 investigation, no known archaeological sites were identified in the APE, and the APE is in an area of low archaeological sensitivity. Ground disturbance for the undertaking would be limited and it appears the area has been previously heavily disturbed. Because of the proposed scope and lack of archaeological sensitivity, no archaeological historic properties would be affected by the undertaking. 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.

The project would affect nine historic buildings/facilities at the NASA Ames Campus, the NASA Research Park, and Moffett Federal Airfield. The Ames Campus includes the Unitary Plan Wind Tunnel (UPWT), which is a National Historic Landmark (NHL); the Arc Jet Complex, the Flight Guidance and Simulation Laboratory, and the NASA Ames Wind Tunnel Historic District, which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NASA Research Park and Moffett Federal Airfield comprise the NRHP-listed Naval Air Station Sunnyvale, California Historic District (NAS Sunnyvale Historic District), which includes the Shenandoah Plaza and Moffett Federal Airfield.

The project involves modifications to Building N227 (UPWT); Buildings N234, N238, and the 60-megawatt (MW) Power Supply Substation (Arc Jet Complex); Building N243 (Flight Guidance and Simulation Laboratory); and Buildings 10 (Heat Plant), 16 (Public Works), 20 (Bachelor Officer Quarters), and 23 (Dispensary) adjacent to Shenandoah Plaza; and Building 158 (Flight Operations Building and Tower) at Moffett Federal Airfield.

NASA determined that nine historic properties in the APE would be directly or indirectly affected by project activities. These interior and exterior maintenance and equipment upgrades would be minor and would not detract from any historic characteristics of the buildings or the districts, or compromise the properties' integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Therefore, NASA proposes a Finding of No Adverse Effect for this undertaking.

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 and indirect 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.
- Please note that because the undertaking affects an NHL property, NASA has additional consultation responsibilities under 36 CFR 800.10.

Mr. Jonathan Ikan
March 21, 2023
Page 3

NASA_2023_0201_001

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact State Historian Mark Beason, at (916) 445-7047 or mark.beason@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer