Welcome!
The meeting will begin momentarily.

How to Use Zoom Webinar:
- Zoom webinar will not permit access to your camera.
- Please submit comments/questions in writing through the Q&A function.
- Written comments/questions can be submitted at any time and will be answered or discussed at designated points during the meeting by the panelists.
- Click "Raise Hand" if you would like to speak your comments/questions at designated points with the panelists. A moderator will grant temporary access to your device’s microphone.

Thank you for participating in our virtual public consultation meeting!
Panel of Speakers

Moderator
Carly Bond, Acting Associate Director, Historic Preservation, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

Panelists
Christopher U. Browne, John and Adrienne Mars Director, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum

Charles Obi, Program Executive, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

Mike Henry, Senior Design Manager, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

Zena Howard, Project Principal, Perkins and Will
Meeting Agenda

I. Project Introduction
   • NASM Revitalization
   • Bezos Learning Center Program Scope

II. Section 106 Process
   • Draft APE
   • NASM Determination of Eligibility
   • Project Background
   • National Mall Historic District

III. Contextual Framework

IV. Next Steps

Q&A Process
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Project Introduction
Project Introduction

NASM Revitalization

Revitalization
- Memorandum of Agreement executed December 28, 2017
- NASM Revitalization construction substantial completion in 2024
- 7 years devoted to revitalizing NASM and providing a secure building envelope

Transformation
- 23 galleries and spaces reimagined for immersive learning
- 5,200 artifacts moved and preserved
- 1,400 new objects on display

NASM viewed looking NE, November 2022.
Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center Scope

• Largest philanthropic gift since SI’s founding gift from James Smithson in 1846

• Gift designs, constructs, and supports a premiere space for education across Smithsonian, housed at the NASM, at the heart of the National Mall

• Bezos Learning Center program shall reach underserved communities in DC and across the nation

• Smithsonian will supplement these funds to include:
  • Demolition of restaurant addition aligned with NASM Revitalization construction
  • Address loading dock functionality providing proper height clearances and separation of delivery areas
  • Construct a restaurant facility
  • Design and construct permanent location for the Phoebe Waterman Haas Public Observatory
  • Design and construct the Phoebe Waterman Haas Astronomy Park
  • Landscape east terrace
Section 106 Process
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA):

- National Air and Space Museum (NASM) contributes to the National Mall Historic District
- Section 106 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their projects on historic properties and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects
- Section 106 requires consultation to seek, discuss, and consider the views of "consulting parties" who are invited to participate in the process
- Approximately 90 consulting parties or organizations invited to participate

Section 106 Process Overview

We Are Here

Step 1
Initiate the Process
- Define the Undertaking
- Initiate Section 106
- Identify Consulting Parties
- Involve the Public

Step 2
Identify Historic Properties
- Define Area of Potential Effects (APE)
- Identify Historic/Cultural Resources

Step 3
Assess Adverse Effects
- Assess Effects on Historic Resources
- Apply Criteria of Adverse Effect

Step 4
Resolve Adverse Effects
- Avoid, Minimize, and/or Mitigate Adverse Effects
- Notify ACHP of Adverse Effects
- Create Resolution Document (MOA/PA)

Consultation with Consulting Parties
- A Consulting Party is anyone with a demonstrated interest in the project.
- Consulting Parties meetings will review design progress, provide detailed discussions on how the Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center project may adversely affect historic resources, and consider ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects.
Draft Area of Potential Effect
Historic Resources
## Contributing Elements of NASM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tiered terraces and planting beds</td>
<td>Contributing (modified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marble-clad retaining walls throughout</td>
<td>Contributing (modified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garage openings and ramps</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ad Astra</em> sculpture</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuum sculpture</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Delta Solar</em> sculpture and reflecting pool</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plaza surrounding restaurant addition</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel guardrails surrounding garage egress walls and ramps</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freestanding astrophysical observatory</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freestanding planters, site furniture, and vendor carts throughout</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perimeter security elements</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granite paving and stair treads</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contributing Elements of NASM

- Vegetation
- Terrace walls and planting beds
- Bronze and SS handrails
- Granite paving and stair treads
- Perimeter security elements
- Terrace walls and planting beds
- Marble clad retaining walls
- Vegetable
- Guardrails
- Garage openings and ramps
- Perimeter security elements
Contributing Elements of NASM
Contributing Elements of NASM

Table #2: NASM Building Exterior Contributing Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seven-bay building form with alternating solid-void pattern</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recessed, glazed openings in east and west elevations</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recessed, third-story linear openings and balconies</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marble curtain wall panels</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carved inscriptions on north and south elevations</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exterior terrace on southeast cantilevered block</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North and south entry vestibules</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurant addition</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical glazing and ridged skylights on first and second floors</td>
<td>Non-Contributing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NASM History

• SI National Air Museum established by President Truman August 12, 1946

• NASM building completed on July 1, 1976
  • Building site selected June 26, 1958
  • Designed by Gyo Obata of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabum (HOK) in 1972

• Alterations:
  • Terrace repaving in 1986
  • Restaurant addition added in 1988
  • Terrace waterproofing & landscaping alterations from 1996-1998
  • Failed glass curtain walls and acrylic skylights replaced from 1994-2000
  • Perimeter security from 2001-2005
  • Restaurant demolition in 2023
  • Ongoing major revitalization project

Rocket row along the west side of the Arts and Industries Building, ca. 1960.

Early National Air Museum Quonset hut (image left) on the south yard of the Smithsonian Castle, 1963.
NASM DOE

- MOA stipulation to complete a Determination of Eligibility for individually listing NASM
- Draft completed October 2021
- Determined individually eligible under Criteria A and C, and Criteria Consideration G
  - 21 contributing features
  - 12 non-contributing features
- Period of significance – 1976
- To be updated and resubmitted after Major Revitalization project completion
Project Background

NASM Restaurant Addition

- Restaurant addition completed in 1988
- Section 106 consultation initiated in May 2020 for restaurant demolition and replacement
- Received Bezos Learning Center philanthropic gift July 14, 2021
- NASM East End Programmatic Agreement executed in March 2022 to govern the two phases of the project: addition demolition, then design and construction of the BLC
- Restaurant demolished in 2023
NASM East End Programmatic Agreement
Stipulation 2.A. Bezos Learning Center Program

i. **Building Parameters:** Two levels above a ground floor restaurant, connected to the NASM at the east end

ii. **Observatory Program:** Consultation to establish a permanent location for the Phoebe Waterman Haas Public Observatory

iii. **Astronomy Park:** Consultation to site the outdoor Phoebe Waterman Haas Astronomy Park on the east terrace

iv. **Comprehensive East End:** Cohesive design of the BLC, Observatory, Astronomy Park with east terrace site features and the Revitalization landscape design
Consider the following in the design concepts for the BLC:

i. Respect the formal setting of the National Mall and neighboring museums

ii. Respond to NASM's architecture and massing with an addition that maintains the form and integrity of the NASM and environment

iii. Consider the physical connection to the NASM and exterior materials

iv. Respect contributing vistas of the National Mall Historic District and the building line established by the Plan of the City of Washington
National Mall Historic District


President Ford, NASM Director Michael Collins, and Secretary Ripley at the NASM Opening, 1976.

NASM North Elevation, 1976.

National Mall Historic District – National Register of Historic Places

• Criterion A – Period of Significance 1791 to Present
• Criteria C and D – Period of Significance 1791-1965
• NASM is a contributing element to the National Mall Historic District
• Resource list in the nomination places NASM’s significant dates as 1972-1976
National Mall Historic District

National Register Criterion A: Properties that are associated or linked to events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of American history.

- Period of Significance for Criterion A is 1791 to the Present.
- NASM contributes to the National Mall's historic significance under Criterion A.

- Inauguration of President Obama, 2009.

- National Mall is significant as the nation's symbolic core and public gathering space
- Ongoing location for national celebrations and expressions of constitutional rights
- Rooflines and monumental building masses form the backdrop for the Mall’s associations with Criterion A
National Mall Historic District

National Register Criterion A: Properties that are associated or linked to events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of American history.

- National Mall ongoing importance as a public gathering space justifies the continuation of the period of significance to the present
- Location is ongoing site for national celebrations and expressions of constitutional rights
- Significant as the site of continuing recreation in the form of museum and memorial visitation.
- Smithsonian buildings and other Federal buildings form the north-south boundaries of the main gathering space of the National Mall
- Buildings at grade obscured by the four rows of American elm trees that flank the central green space of the National Mall
- NASM originally had a direct visual connection to the Capitol until the construction of the National Museum of the American Indian in 2004

Inauguration of President Obama, 2009.
National Mall Historic District

National Register Criterion C: Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

- Period of Significance for Criterion C is 1791 to 1965.
- NASM does not contribute to the National Mall's historic significance under Criterion C.
National Mall Historic District
Contributing Views and Visual Relationships

- Reciprocal view east-west between the Washington Monument to the Capitol
- North-south vista along 4th Street
- North-south vista along 6th Street, between NASM and the National Gallery West Building
- North-south vista along 8th Street, toward the National Archives
- North-south vista along 10th Street, between National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution Building
- Visual relationships include views to the elms and the buildings along the Mall from the pedestrian walks and central grass panels
Questions and Comments

Moderator
  Carly Bond, Acting Associate Director, Historic Preservation, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

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Contextual Framework
Pattern - Reflection
Contextual Framework
Urban Edge and Green Space
Contextual Framework
McMillan Line
Contextual Framework
Site Plan Diagram
Contextual Framework

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

CIVIC GREENSPACE

27,000 - 29,000 SF FOOTPRINT

ASTRONOMY PARK

ALIGN WITH SOUTH FACE OF NASM

JEFFERSON DR

INDEPENDENCE AVE.

445' MCMILLAN SETBACK

Smithsonian Perkins&Will

Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center

Consulting Meeting #1, August 9, 2023
• Maximum Height is **not to exceed** the top of the National Air and Space Museum (NASM)
• East Face is **not to exceed** the 4th Street Corridor Setback
• East Face is **targeted** to reflect the additional 30' Setback set forth by the National Museum of the American Indian
East Elevation
Contextual Framework

- **Maximum Height** is not to exceed the top of the National Air and Space Museum (NASM)
- **North Face** is not to exceed the 445' Setback set forth by the McMillan Plan
- **South Face** is not to exceed the South Face of NASM
Contributing View Shed: 4th St South
Contributing View Shed: 4th St North
Contributing View Shed: Capitol Steps
Contributing View Shed: Jefferson Dr East

Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center
Contributing View Shed: Jefferson Dr West
View Shed: Independence Ave East
View Shed: Independence Ave West
Solid Void Rhythm
NE Axon
Connection to Public Realm
NE Axon
Connection to Public Realm
SE Axon
Existing Terraces & Site Access

NE Axon
Loading Dock Mitigation

Challenges that need Mitigation:
- Service Ramp proximity/visibility to The National Mall
- North Face of Service Ramp extends 20' beyond the McMillan Line
- Goal to Perambulate around Future Development
- Prominence of Service Entry along 4th Street Corridor
Loading Dock Mitigation

Challenges that need Mitigation:

- Service Ramp proximity/visibility to The National Mall
- North Face of Service Ramp extends 20' beyond the McMillan Line
- Goal to Perambulate around Future Development
- Prominence of Service Entry along 4th Street Corridor
Next Steps
Section 106 and Project Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 9, 2023</td>
<td>Consulting Parties Meeting #1</td>
<td>Project introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Initiate Section 106 consultation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2023</td>
<td>Consulting Parties Meeting #2</td>
<td>NEPA Scoping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tour the NASM site – Consider visibility of the east terrace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review Concept design alternatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2024</td>
<td>Consulting Parties Meeting #3</td>
<td>Review Schematic Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2024-2025</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Section 106 consultation and NEPA analysis ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter 2025</td>
<td>Final Design Submissions</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Parties will receive a minimum 30-day email notice of a public meeting
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to assess environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions
- Section 106 consultation and NEPA process will run concurrently
Next Steps

Please visit the project webpage:

https://airandspace.si.edu/about-transformation/bezos-learning-center/106

Today's presentation material and meeting recording will be available on the project webpage by August 11, 2023.

Please submit written comments on today's presentation to preservation@si.edu by September 8, 2023.
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Thank you!

Smithsonian  Perkins&Will