PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
AND
THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGARDING
THE NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM EAST END PROJECT

This Programmatic Agreement (PA) is made as of this 30th day of March, 2022, by and among the Smithsonian Institution (SI), the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer (DC SHPO), and the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) (referred to collectively herein as the “Signatories” or individually as a “Signatory”), pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 54 U.S.C. § 306108, its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800 (Section 106), and 36 CFR § 800.14(b) to govern the implementation of the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) East End Project (Project); and

WHEREAS, the NASM is a Modernist style building designed by Gyo Obata of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum, that opened to the public in 1976. A restaurant addition was constructed at the east end of the NASM in 1988, designed by Obata in the Late Modern/Post-Modern style, replacing the original public dining facility on the otherwise non-public third floor of the NASM (Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, the NASM building is rectangular in plan with alternating bays of solid blocks of curtain wall construction clad with stone and glazing. The restaurant addition is cruciform in plan encased in glazing, and with a stepped, hipped roof; and

WHEREAS, the NASM and its restaurant addition are contributing elements of the National Mall Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). NASM and the restaurant addition are significant within the National Mall context under National Register Criterion A with a period of significance of 1791 to the present, and under Criteria Consideration G, which applies to properties achieving significance within the last fifty years if they are of exceptional importance; and

WHEREAS, the SI completed a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for individual listing of the NASM in the NRHP in October 2021, finding that the NASM is eligible under National Register Criteria A, C, and Criteria Consideration G, proposing a period of significance for the NASM’s individual listing as 1976, and determining that the restaurant addition and other later changes do not contribute to the NASM’s individual eligibility for the National Register; and

WHEREAS, when the SI initiated Section 106 consultation with the DC SHPO on May 29, 2020, the Project consisted solely of demolition and replacement of the restaurant addition with a new dining facility. Consultation regarding that scope of work included a Consulting Parties meeting held on September 29, 2020, that focused on the dining facility program, the east terrace considerations, and the findings from the DOE; and

WHEREAS, on July 14, 2021, the second largest philanthropic gift ever given to the SI modified the Project plans and scope by enabling the design and construction of a “world class center for education” known as the Bezos Learning Center (BLC) which will focus on both NASM-specific and pan-institutional programs, with a target completion date to commemorate the NASM’s 50th anniversary and the nation’s
Semiquincentennial (i.e., 2026). The SI held a second Consulting Parties meeting on October 19, 2021, for consultation on the revised Project plans and scope, and the development of an Assessment of Effects on Historic Resources report (Exhibit B) that found the demolition of the restaurant addition would have an “adverse effect” on historic properties; and

WHEREAS, the SI subsequently determined that the existing restaurant addition is undersized and cannot accommodate the required program square footage of the BLC. The addition does not meet required blast criteria or structural codes and it has deficient mechanical systems that harm collections, and functional inefficiencies resulting from excessive solar heat gain inside the structure. The SI also determined that the demolition of the restaurant addition advances the missions of the SI and the NASM and is required for construction of the BLC; and

WHEREAS, the NASM East End Project now consists of the demolition of the restaurant addition and the design and construction of the BLC (Undertaking) (Exhibit C) and the Undertaking will be implemented in accordance with this PA; and

WHEREAS, a separate project known as the NASM Revitalization Project is currently under construction at the NASM. The Revitalization Project is the subject of a 2017 Memorandum of Agreement and involves replacement of the museum building’s exterior cladding and glazing, and the construction of a security vestibule on the north side. The NASM Revitalization does not include modifications to the restaurant addition. The NASM Revitalization project is being constructed in phases, and the demolition of the restaurant addition must align with the next phase of construction beginning in March 2022; and

WHEREAS, NCPC, a Signatory to this PA pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(f)(1), has approval authority over federal projects located within the District of Columbia pursuant to the National Capital Planning Act (40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public. Law No. 108-72, 117 Stat. 888 (August 15, 2003), the SI is “deemed to be an agency for purposes of compliance with regulations promulgated by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act” for projects in the District requiring NCPC review and approval; and

WHEREAS, the SI and NCPC have agreed that SI will be the lead agency pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2) for the undertaking to fulfill their collective Section 106 responsibilities; NCPC has elected to fulfill its Section 106 responsibilities by participating in consultation and by signing this PA pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6(c)(2); and

WHEREAS, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking, which was defined in consultation with the DC SHPO, is the same as the NASM Revitalization APE, and consists of portions of the National Mall Historic District with visibility of the NASM, and extending south of the NASM (Exhibit D); and

WHEREAS, in addition to the Signatories, the SI has consulted with a wide group of interested parties and has invited them to participate as Consulting Parties pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(f) (Exhibit E); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(a) the SI, in consultation with the Signatories and the Consulting Parties, applied the criteria of adverse effect to the demolition of the restaurant addition, and determined that this action will result in adverse effects on the National Mall Historic District as outlined below and as described in the Assessment of Effects on Historic Resources; and
WHEREAS, the SI buildings, National Gallery of Art, and other Federal buildings form the north-south boundaries of the main gathering space of the National Mall, with the rooflines and monumental building masses forming the backdrop for the Mall’s associations with National Register Criterion A. The demolition of the restaurant addition alters this backdrop setting, resulting in an adverse effect on historic properties; and

WHEREAS, the 4th Street north-south vista is an identified contributing viewshed of the National Mall Historic District. The restaurant addition is directly visible within this vista’s setting, and demolition results in an adverse effect on this contributing feature; and

WHEREAS, the SI and the Signatories agree that the design and construction of the BLC also has potential to result in adverse effects on the National Mall Historic District and other historic properties by altering the backdrop setting, contributing vistas, and through other means; and

WHEREAS, the SI notified the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) on November 23, 2021, of the adverse effects associated with the demolition of the restaurant addition in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.6(a)(1) and invited the ACHP to participate in the consultation to resolve adverse effects; and on January 13, 2022, notified the ACHP of its intent to prepare this PA and the ACHP declined to participate; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Signatories agree that the undertaking will be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations to take into account the effects of this undertaking on historic properties.

STIPULATIONS

The SI shall ensure that the following measures are carried out:

1. MITIGATION MEASURES FOR DEMOLITION OF THE RESTAURANT ADDITION

A. HABS Recordation Drawings: The SI will complete Historic American Building Survey (HABS) drawings to document the restaurant addition prior to the start of demolition activities. HABS drawings will be completed in accordance with HABS Guidelines Recording Historic Structures and Sites with HABS Measured Drawings. HABS documentation photographs were completed in 2017. The SI will submit the completed drawings to HABS for inclusion in the collection at the Library of Congress. The SI will publish the drawings on the SI’s Architectural History and Historic Preservation webpage or other public SI webpage.

B. Video Walkthrough: The SI will gather data from a Lidar and high-definition panoramic imaging scanner to create a three-dimensional point cloud model of the restaurant addition prior to any construction or demolition activities. This record documentation will be utilized to create a video of a virtual experience of walking around the exterior and interior of the addition. The virtual walkthrough will be completed within two (2) years of the date of signature on this PA and will be posted on the SI’s Architectural History and Historic Preservation webpage or other public SI webpage.

C. East End Project Webpage: The SI will maintain the materials available on the NASM East Project webpage. This webpage will contain presentation materials, Section 106 consultation history, and the Determination of Eligibility. This content will be posted on the SI’s Architectural History and Historic Preservation webpage or other public SI webpage.
D. Interpretive Signage: One (1) interpretive signage panel will be developed in consultation with the DC SHPO and installed on the east terrace of the NASM to provide the public with information about the history of the NASM and the restaurant addition, possibly including supplemental web-based resource material. The permanent location and all other details relating to the interpretive signage will be identified and developed in accordance with Stipulation 2 of this PA.

2. BEZOS LEARNING CENTER FUTURE CONSULTATION

A. Bezos Learning Center Program: The BLC will be a nexus where creativity, problem-solving, and innovation take place, linking learners to the unparalleled collection that the NASM and its unique positioning on the National Mall offers. The BLC will house and present programs focused on the work of NASM and efforts that uniquely bring together resources and expertise from across the Smithsonian. Two of the primary program initiatives funded by the Bezos gift are the Bezos Empowering Educators Program (establishment of a national network of K-3 grade classroom educators working with NASM Museum educators) and the Bezos Science and Technology Innovation Challenges (middle/high school age learners are teamed to engage in future oriented problem solving rooted in the work of NASM and Smithsonian overall).

i. Building Parameters: The BLC will be housed in a new building addition at the east end of the NASM. The existing restaurant addition is 22,000 gross square feet. The BLC addition proposes a comparable footprint to the existing restaurant addition based on existing site limitations from the loading dock, grade changes, and the east terrace (Exhibit F). The BLC program requires a total of 50,000 square feet anticipated to be housed within two levels above a ground floor restaurant space of approximately 22,000 square feet. The restaurant addition will be accessed through the ground floor of the NASM, and the BLC program accessed through a connection at the NASM’s second floor. Small event space at the addition roof is planned to accommodate 100-150 people for educational programming and events.

ii. Observatory Program: Section 106 consultation on the BLC project will also address the direct and indirect effects that may result from establishing a permanent location for the Phoebe Waterman Haas Public Observatory in the southeast area of the NASM site. The proposed Observatory program requires a 21-26 foot commercially available metal dome mounted on a small foundation. The Observatory is anticipated to have an attached accessible external observation pad, around 900 square feet to accommodate fixed telescope piers.

iii. Astronomy Park: Section 106 consultation on the BLC project will also address the direct and indirect effects that may result from including an exterior Astronomy Park on the NASM’s east terrace. This outdoor park space is intended to feature interactive exhibits to connect visitors to astronomy and planetary science.

iv. Comprehensive East End: The overall project will consider the design of the BLC addition, Observatory, and Astronomy Park as a cohesive system considering site features of the east terrace and the Revitalization project’s comprehensive landscape design.

B. Bezos Learning Center Design Framework: The following will be considered in the development of design concepts for the Bezos Learning Center:
i. Design concepts must respect the formal setting of the National Mall and neighboring museums, including the Hirshhorn Museum, National Gallery of Art, and the National Museum of the American Indian. The NASM is sited on center with the 6th Street axis, designed in a symmetric relationship with the National Gallery of Art west building.

ii. Design concepts must respect the NASM building and respond to its architecture and massing with an addition design that maintains the essential form and integrity of the NASM and its environment. Design concepts shall meet the *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties for Rehabilitation*.

iii. Design concepts must carefully consider the BLC addition’s physical connection to the NASM and materials. Design concepts may consider transparent walls to inspire learning through connection to the National Mall, BLC learner projects, and to the NASM’s artifacts.

iv. Design concepts must consider and respect contributing vistas of the National Mall Historic District, including the 4th Street north-south vista, the east-west viewshed of the central greensward, the building line established by the Plan of the City of Washington and views to the flanking elm trees and buildings along the Mall from pedestrian paths and the central greensward.

C. *Section 106 Consultation Process and Procedures*: The NASM East End project schedule requires the demolition of the NASM restaurant addition in 2022, with the subsequent design and construction of the BLC. The SI shall consult with the Signatories, Consulting Parties, and the public in accordance with this PA and 36 CFR § 800 as follows:

i. **Preliminary Project Consultation**: The SI may convene the Signatories for preliminary project consultation prior to formally initiating Section 106 consultation on the design of the BLC.

ii. **Initiating Consultation**: After the Smithsonian has contracted with an architect-engineer team and completed the development of schematic design alternatives, the SI will formally initiate consultation regarding the BLC with the Signatories via letter.

iii. **Continuing Involvement of Consulting Parties and the Public**: Consulting Parties and the public will continue to have the opportunity to participate in Section 106 consultation for the BLC. At the re-initiation of Section 106 consultation for the design of the BLC project, the SI will consult with the Signatories to update and expand the Consulting Parties list, as needed. The SI will establish a schedule for Section 106 consultation with critical dates and identified opportunities for consultation and comment. The SI will maintain a project specific website, with email notifications to Consulting Parties of Section 106 meetings and/or website content updates.

iv. **Assessment of Effect and Resolution of Adverse Effects**: The SI shall apply the criteria of adverse effect in consultation with the Signatories and Consulting Parties to design alternatives, using this analysis to inform the selection of the preferred alternative. Section 106 consultation will evaluate all exterior design aspects of the proposed program, including the direct and indirect effects that may result on the NASM, the surrounding National Mall Historic District, and other properties within the APE.
The SI will consult to identify ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate “adverse effects” pursuant to 36 CFR 800. Agreed upon minimization and mitigation measures will be formalized in a separate Memorandum of Agreement executed pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6

D. Design and Construction Schedule: Section 106 consultation for the design of the BLC is planned to begin in early 2023. The target construction start date is 2024, with a target completion date of 2026. This schedule is subject to change with notification provided to the Signatories through the Monitoring and Reporting, Anti-Deficiency Act, and/or Design Consultation stipulations of this PA.

3. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Each year, by the anniversary date of the last signature on this PA until it expires or is terminated, the SI will provide the Signatories a summary report detailing work undertaken pursuant to the terms of the PA. Such report will include any scheduling changes proposed, any problems encountered, and any disputes and objections received in the SI’s efforts to carry out the terms of this PA. Failure to provide such summary report may be considered non-compliance with the terms of the PA pursuant to the Amendments and Non-Compliance stipulation of this PA.

4. QUALIFICATIONS

SI will ensure that all historic preservation work performed on its behalf pursuant to this PA will be accomplished by, or under the direct supervision of a person or persons who meet(s) or exceed(s) the pertinent qualifications cited in the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards.

5. ANTI-DEFICIENCY ACT

The SI’s obligations under this PA are subject to the availability of appropriated funds, and the stipulations of this PA are subject to the provisions of the Anti-Deficiency Act. The SI will make reasonable and good faith efforts to secure the necessary funds to implement its obligations under this PA. If lack of appropriated funds or compliance with the Anti-Deficiency Act alters or impairs the SI’s ability to implement its obligations under this PA, the SI will consult in accordance with the Amendments and Non-Compliance stipulation, and if necessary, the Termination stipulation.

6. AMENDMENTS AND NON-COMPLIANCE

This PA may be amended when such an amendment is agreed to in writing by all Signatories. The amendment will be effective on the date a copy signed by all the Signatories is filed with the ACHP. If the Signatories cannot agree to appropriate terms to amend the PA, any Signatory may terminate the PA in accordance with the Termination stipulation of the PA.

7. DESIGN CONSULTATION

The SI will consult with the Signatories regarding any changes to the undertaking that may occur prior to re-initiating Section 106 consultation on the design of the Bezos Learning Center, including comments from informational briefings to the Commission of Fine Arts and the NCPC in Spring 2022. Should the SI not initiate construction activities for the Learning Center within a six (6) year period from the date of execution of this PA, the SI will pursue an alternative project that restores public use of the east terrace, and will notify the Signatories early in development of an alternative project.
8. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Should any Signatory object at any time to any action proposed or the manner in which the terms of this PA are implemented, SI will consult with the Signatories to resolve the objection. If a resolution cannot be reached after a good faith effort to resolve the dispute, and the SI determines the objections cannot be resolved, the SI will:

A. Forward all documentation relevant to the dispute, including the SI’s proposed resolution, to the ACHP. The ACHP will provide the SI with its advice on the resolution of the objection within thirty (30) days of receiving adequate documentation. Prior to reaching a final decision on the dispute, the SI will prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the ACHP and Signatories, and provide them with a copy of this written response. The SI will then proceed according to its final decision.

B. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the thirty (30) day period, the SI may make a final decision on the dispute and proceed accordingly. Prior to reaching a final decision, the SI will prepare a written response that takes into account any timely comments regarding the dispute from the Signatories to the PA, and provide them and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.

C. The SI’s responsibility to carry out all other actions subject to the terms of this PA that are not the subject of the dispute remain unchanged.

9. TERMINATION

If any Signatory to this PA determines that its terms cannot or are not being properly implemented, that Signatory will immediately consult to attempt to develop an amendment per the Amendments and Non-Compliance stipulation of this PA. If the Signatories cannot reach agreement on an amendment within thirty (30) days (or another time period agreed to by all Signatories), any Signatory may terminate the PA upon written notification to the other Signatories. Once the PA is terminated, and prior to work continuing on the undertaking, the SI must either (a) execute a new MOA pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6 or new PA pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.14(b), or (b) reinitiate consultation on the unfinished components of the undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR § 800 and applicable sections of the PA. The SI will notify the Signatories as to the course of action it will pursue.

10. ELECTRONIC COPIES

Within one week of the last signature on this PA, the SI will provide the Signatories with one legible, color, electronic copy of the fully executed PA and all attachments fully integrated into one, single document. Internet links will not be used to provide copies of attachments. If the electronic copy is too large to send by e-mail, the SI will provide the Signatories with a copy of this PA on a compact disc.

11. DURATION

This PA will be in effect for eight (8) years from the date of its execution. Prior to such time, the SI may consult with the Signatories to reconsider the terms of the PA and amend it in accordance with the Amendments and Non-Compliance stipulation of this PA.
Execution of this PA by the Signatories and the implementation of its terms evidences that the SI has taken into account the effects of the National Air and Space Museum East End Project on historic properties, and afforded the ACHP a reasonable opportunity to comment.

SIGNATURES FOLLOW ON SEPARATE PAGES

EXHIBITS

Exhibit A – Photographs of the National Air and Space Museum
Exhibit B – Assessment of Effects on Historic Resources
Exhibit C – National Air and Space Museum Site Plan
Exhibit D – Area of Potential Effects
Exhibit E – List of Consulting Parties
Exhibit F – NASM East End Existing Site Plan
SIGNATURE PAGE
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
REGARDING
THE NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM EAST END PROJECT

FOR THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Ronald S. Cortez, JD, MA
Under Secretary for Administration

Date 3/23/22
SIGNATURE PAGE
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
REGARDING
THE NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM EAST END PROJECT

FOR THE DC STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

David J. Maloney
DC State Historic Preservation Officer

March 28, 2022
FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Marcel C. Acosta  
Executive Director

3/30/2022
EXHIBIT A – Photographs of the National Air and Space Museum

NASM museum building, west and south elevations, September 2021.

Restaurant addition north elevation, and NASM east elevation, September 2020.

Restaurant addition and planted area at the east end of the NASM site, Historic American Building Survey, 2017.
EXHIBIT B – Assessment of Effects on Historic Resources

National Air and Space Museum – East End Project
Assessment of Effects on Historic Resources

October 2021

Criteria of Adverse Effect

This document provides an assessment of effects on historic resources associated with the National Air and Space Museum East End Project. Effect assessments are based on the criteria of adverse effect as defined in the implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR Part 800). The criteria of adverse effect are defined as follows:

An adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property’s location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Consideration shall be given to all qualifying characteristics of a historic property, including those that may have been identified subsequent to the original evaluation of the property’s eligibility for the National Register. Adverse effects may include reasonably foreseeable effects caused by the undertaking that may occur later in time, be farther removed in distance or be cumulative (36 CFR § 800.5(a)(1)).

Effect assessments were considered within the below Area of Potential Effects, the geographic area in which the project may directly or indirectly result in alterations to the character or use of historic properties.
Project Background

The National Air and Space Museum (NASM) is a large museum building occupying three city blocks at 7th Street SW on the south side of the National Mall in Washington, DC. The Modernist style building was designed by Gyo Obata of Hellmuth, Obata, and Kassabaum, and opened to the public in 1976 as part of the Nation’s Bicentennial celebration.

In 1988 a restaurant addition was added to the east end of the building, also designed by Obata. The addition is a glass pavilion and cruciform in plan and included alterations to the east terrace of the site. A Determination of Eligibility (DOE) was completed in 2021 for the NASM to evaluate its individual eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The DOE found NASM eligible under National Register Criteria A, C, and Criteria Consideration G, with a period of significance of 1976, the year the museum was completed. The Restaurant Addition and other later alterations to the NASM were determined compatible with the character of the building and site, but they do “not rise to the same level of significance as the original design” and do not contribute to the NASM’s significance.

The Smithsonian Institution is planning a project to demolish the restaurant addition and construct a future addition to the NASM for a pan-Institutional learning center. The demolition of the restaurant addition is the subject of this undertaking. The NASM is a contributing element to the National Mall Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The NASM contributes to the National Mall only under Criterion A, and this effect assessment considers only how the demolition of the restaurant addition will effect the historic character of the National Mall. Per the DOE and period of significance of 1976, the demolition of the restaurant addition does not have an adverse effect on the significance of the Air and Space building or its individual eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.

National Mall Historic District

The National Mall Historic District meets 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 possess high artistic values) for the period 1791 to 1965. The NASM constructed in 1976, falls outside of this period of significance, and does not contribute to the District under Criterion C.

The National Mall is nationally significant under National Register Criterion A (properties associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of American history) in the areas of entertainment and recreation, ethnic heritage, politics and government, education, and social history for the period 1791 to the present. The National Mall is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas
of entertainment and recreation for the period 1791 to the present. The NASM contributes to the District under Criterion A, and is part of the buildings, sites, structures, and objects within that add to this character and historic associations.

The National Mall meets Criterion A for politics/government, ethnic heritage, and social history as the site of demonstrations of rights of free assembly and free speech related to important issues in the nation's history, and as the symbolic core of American government. Smithsonian buildings, National Gallery buildings, and other Federal buildings form the north-south boundaries of the main gathering space of the National Mall and form the backdrop of significant public events.

The National Mall consists of a wide central lawn flanked by four rows of mature American elm trees. Most of the elm trees vary in height between 60-80', which creates a visual screen between the central green space and the buildings fronting Jefferson and Madison Drives. Building rooftiles and monumental building masses form the backdrop setting for the Mall's associations with Criterion A in the areas of politics/government, ethnic heritage, and social history. The elm tree cover largely obscures the restaurant addition in the backdrop setting, however, the demolition of the addition will alter the setting and is an adverse effect on this characteristic of the historic district.

The National Mall meets Criterion A for entertainment/recreation and education, as the site of the Smithsonian Institution and the National Gallery of Art, and the site of continuing recreation in the form of museum and memorial visitation. The restaurant addition is operationally and functionally separate from the NASM, and its development was not an expansion of the NASM's exhibition and programs. The demolition of the restaurant addition does not diminish the NASM's educational purpose, and does not have an adverse effect on this characteristic of the historic district.
The National Mall has specific views and visual relationships that contribute to the significance of the historic district. The annotated aerial photograph below notes the significant views. The vista along 4th Street SW is considered significant, and the restaurant addition is prominently visible as pedestrians pass the NASM moving north. The NASM frames the 4th Street vista as the street passes the site and is elevated above the street due to the steep grade change at the east end of the site. The demolition of the restaurant addition is an adverse effect on the setting of 4th Street and character of the vista.

Annotated aerial photograph of the National Mall. The location of the NASM is noted with a blue outline, and the significant views and visual relationships noted with yellow arrows.

Visibility of the restaurant addition from the sidewalk of 4th Street SW.

The NASM is sited on center with the National Mall’s 6th Street axis, also a significant vista in the Historic District, and is in a symmetrical relationship with the National Gallery of Art’s west building. The National Gallery’s marble projections align with the NASM’s receding steel and glass planes. The
restaurant addition aligns with an outdoor National Gallery exhibition area, and the demolition of the restaurant addition will have “no adverse effect” on the historic reciprocal relationship between the two buildings.

**Conclusion**

The National Mall is nationally significant under National Register Criterion A (properties associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of American history) in the areas of entertainment and recreation, ethnic heritage, politics and government, education, and social history for the period 1791 to the present. The National Mall is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of entertainment and recreation for the period 1791 to the present. The NASM contributes to the District under Criterion A, and is part of the buildings, sites, structures, and objects within that add to this characteristic and historic associations. The demolition of the restaurant addition alters the National Mall setting and the 4th Street vista, resulting in an adverse effect on historic resources. The demolition of the restaurant addition has “no adverse effect” on the 6th Street vista and reciprocal relationship between the NASM and the National Gallery of Art West Building.
EXHIBIT C – National Air and Space Museum Site Plan

National Air and Space Museum Plan, 2019. Undertaking includes demolition of the restaurant addition noted with a red outline.

EXHIBIT D – Area of Potential Effects
EXHIBIT E – List of Consulting Parties

Review Agencies
National Capital Planning Commission
U.S. Commission of Fine Arts

State Historic Preservation Office
DC State Historic Preservation Office

Public Agencies
National Park Service
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
General Services Administration
National Gallery of Art
Department of Agriculture
Architect of the Capitol
District Department of Transportation
National Archives and Records Administration
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Federal Aviation Administration
Department of Education

Interested Parties
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Committee of 100 on the Federal City
U.S. Capitol Historical Society
DC Preservation League
National Mall Coalition
Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum
Southwest Business Improvement District
Wharf DC
Docomomo US/DC
Brutalist DC
American Institute of Architects – DC Chapter
Cultural Tourism DC
Trust for the National Mall

Local Elected Representatives
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D

* Names of private individuals that participated in Section 106 consultation are not included for privacy concerns.
EXHIBIT F – NASM East End Existing Site Plan

21,500 GSF

22,000 GSF

Underutilized

Underutilized

JEFFERSON AVE

INDEPENDENCE AVE

4TH STREET SW