

The United States Air Force (USAF) is initiating section 106 consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended) for a federal undertaking to construct Building 14351—a munitions facility—a apron, vehicle access, and a parking area at Nellis Air Force Base (NAFB) in Clark County, Nevada. Currently, the munitions storage is dispersed through various facilities, which do not meet the USAF standards for security. The purpose of the facility is to centralize the storage of munitions for the various training programs and to ensure munitions are stored properly in a secure facility.

The area of potential effects (APE) is located on the east side of the NAFB runways south of the Live Ordinance Loading Area (Attachment 1). Construction for the project will require a 58,500-square-meter area, which includes a 20-meter buffer. The laydown area for equipment will be immediately adjacent to O’Bannon Road.

Ten previously recorded resources are within one-half mile of the proposed APE. Nine of the resources previously have been determined not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). One resource, S1827—an apron—remains unevaluated for the NRHP.

SHPO Resource Number	Eligibility Status	Date of SHPO Concurrence
26CK4857	Not Eligible	February 9, 1993
26CK4858	Not Eligible	February 9, 1993
26CK4860	Not Eligible	February 9, 1993
26CK4861	Not Eligible	February 9, 1993
26CK4862	Not Eligible	February 9, 1993
26CK4866	Not Eligible	February 9, 1993
26CK5720	Not Eligible	July 3, 2000
26CK5721	Not Eligible	July 3, 2000
26CK5722	Not Eligible	July 3, 2000
S1827	Unevaluated	No letter

Two buildings located just over one mile to the northwest of the proposed APE previously have been determined eligible for the NRHP. Building 282 (SHPO #B13558) is the Weapons Fighter School and is eligible under Criterion A for its role in the fundamental mission at NAFB during the Cold War. Building 292 (SHPO #B13561) is the Thunderbirds Hangar has been determined eligible under Criterion A for its role in the morale of the USAF during the Cold War. SHPO concurrence was received for both buildings on January 5, 2015.

Setting and feeling are the only two aspects of integrity for the historic buildings that have the potential to be altered by the undertaking. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) establishes as the policy of the Government to “use measures...to foster under which our modern society and our prehistoric and historic resources can exist in productive harmony and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations” (16 USC 470–1[1] and [5]). The facilitation of new construction, improvements, and upgrades to the flightline and associated resources ensure that the flightline can continue to be utilized for its purpose of training the next generation of elite fighter pilots. NAFB has *Installation Facilities Standards* (IFS 2019:99) states that new buildings must “Maintain architectural compatibility

following AFCFS [Air Force Corporate Facility Standards] and this Installation Facility Standards (IFS) document to create continuity while avoiding monotony.” These standards consider the importance of the historic elements within the overall installation and are consistent with the express purposes of the NHPA and negate any potential visual impacts that would alter the integrity of setting or feeling.

No new aircraft will be added to the installation as part of this undertaking and construction noise will not exceed the noise level of the current array of fighter jets; therefore, there is no short- or long-term auditory effect from this project. Construction of the facility, vehicle access and parking area will increase the amount of unpaved disturbed soil temporarily. The increased potential for dust will be mitigated through a dust control permit and plan. This potential for an increase in atmospheric dust is temporary and will not have long term cumulative effects.

Overall cumulative effects to the project area include a small increase in traffic and personal to the project area; however, no additional personnel will be hired after the implementation of the undertaking at NAFB. As discussed above, the visual effect to historic properties is negated using the IFS, which is consistent with the spirit of the NHPA. As the new hangars will be consistent with the visual, auditory, and atmospheric nature of the flightline, there will be no effect to the significance or the integrity of the known historic properties within the indirect APE. There are no historic properties within the direct APE. NAFB, therefore, has determined there are *no adverse effects* to historic properties.

In accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 800.3(e), NAFB is inviting you to participate in consultation for this undertaking and is seeking your views so they may be considered. A similar letter also will be sent to the State Historic Preservation Office.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the proposed Building 14351, please contact either the Cultural Resource Program Managers via email at [99CES.CulturalResources@us.af.mil](mailto:99CES.CulturalResources@us.af.mil).

