

# **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

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## **SPACEX STARSHIP-SUPER HEAVY LAUNCH VEHICLE AT LAUNCH COMPLEX 39A**

at the Kennedy Space Center, Merritt Island, Florida

Final, Volume II, Appendix B.3, Part 3

**January 2026**



**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

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**From:** [North Brevard Historical Society and Museum](#)  
**To:** [Zeringue, Katherine S. \(KSC-SIE30\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Response Requested by 1/24/25 -Section 106 Consulting Party Invitation: SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at Launch Complex-39A, Kennedy Space Center  
**Date:** Thursday, January 23, 2025 3:44:46 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of NASA. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. Use the "Report Message" button to report suspicious messages to the NASA SOC.

Katherine,

This is to confirm our participation as a Consulting Party for the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at Launch Complex-39A, Kennedy Space Center. Being located in downtown Titusville we are definitely in the APE for this project and would like to be kept apprised of its progress. It looks like a lot of the historical buildings in this area have already been identified. Our museum does have information on quite a few of the structures in this area. Please feel free to use our resources in any of your investigations. Our normal business hours are Wednesday thru Saturday from 12noon to 4pm. However if you would like access at a different time, please contact me at 321-917-6336.

Pierre Alix  
 President  
 North Brevard Historical Society & Museum

On Fri, Dec 20, 2024 at 5:13 PM Zeringue, Katherine S. (KSC-SIE30)  
 <[katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov](mailto:katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov)> wrote:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Kennedy Space Center (NASA KSC) is inviting your organization to participate as a Consulting Party, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, for the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review for the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship and Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at Launch Complex-39A (LC-39A). Under the supervision of the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation, SpaceX is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential impacts of proposed infrastructure construction, and ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the Starship Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at LC-39A. Because SpaceX plans to apply to the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation for a vehicle operator license for Starship Super Heavy, the EIS will conform to the FAA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing policy, FAA Order 1050.1F, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures*, regarding the potential infrastructure construction, ground operations, launch, and reentry-related impacts. NASA KSC is acting as the lead federal agency for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA. As such, Section 106 will be conducted pursuant to the 2009 *Programmatic Agreement Among the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, John F. Kennedy Space Center, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer: Regarding Management of Historic Properties at the Kennedy Space Center*, or any subsequent version thereof.

If you are unfamiliar with the Section 106 consultation process or the role of a Consulting

Party, please review the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's *Protecting Historic Properties: A Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review* which can be found at: <https://www.achp.gov/protecting-historic-properties>.

#### **Description of the Undertaking**

The undertaking involves issuance of a vehicle operator license by the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation that will facilitate ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy at LC-39A. Specifically, this would include up to 44 launches of Starship Super Heavy per year; return of the first stage booster to LC-39A; return of Starship to LC-39A; and construction of an air separation unit for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen, onsite natural gas liquefaction production and cryogenic liquid storage capability, roadway improvements, other associated infrastructure, and a catch tower (see **Enclosure 1**).

#### **Area of Potential Effects**

The area of potential effects (APE) considers any physical, visual, or auditory effects that the project may have on historic properties<sup>[1]</sup>. As such, the APE has been developed to consider both a construction APE and an operational APE. The construction APE is limited within the existing boundaries of LC-39A. Additionally, it is anticipated that proposed new construction associated with the operation of the Starship Super Heavy will be compatible with the characteristic of other launch complex infrastructure and will not pose viewshed effects to historic properties. The operational APE considers the auditory effects of the Starship Super Heavy launch activity as well as the overpressure effects of the sonic boom generated during atmospheric reentry. FAA guidance stipulates consideration of a 130 decibel (dB) threshold for launch effects and a 2.0 pounds per square foot (psf) threshold for effects from the sonic boom. Based on this information, and previous research regarding rocket engine noise and vibration effects to structures, the APE was established as any area subjected to greater than or equal to 2.0 psf sonic booms (see **Enclosure 2, Figure 2**). This area also encompasses the 130 dB threshold for launch effects, as well as the construction APE.

#### **Initial Identification of Historic Properties and Proposed Identification Efforts**

The proposed identification approach is designed to make a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the APE that may be affected by the undertaking. Effects related to construction will be limited within the footprint of LC-39A. This area has already been subject to survey and evaluation and will not require additional studies. The fieldwork and analysis will therefore focus on historic properties subject to the potential effects of elevated noise and vibrations associated with the undertaking.

The undertaking has the potential to affect historic properties from increased vibratory



impacts. According to data provided by SpaceX, launch and reentry events are estimated to result in Lmax levels of 130 dB and/or sonic boom impacts of 2 psf or higher within the APE. Archaeological resources consisting solely of either surface scatters or subsurface deposits are not likely to be affected by the vibratory effects of increased sonic boom exposure due to the protective qualities of the surrounding soil matrix. Similarly, underwater archaeological sites are unlikely to be affected. However, vibratory effects may be greater on historic age resources within the built environment. Architectural elements most susceptible to damage from launch and reentry vehicle noise include windows and, infrequently, plastered walls and ceilings. Vibration effects may be greatest to non-structural elements such as fragile glass and loose plaster/stone ornamentation. The enclosed memorandum provides additional information on this summation of the potential for vibratory effects on cultural resources (see **Enclosure 2**).

#### Previously Recorded Resources Within the APE

Historic properties within the construction APE include the Launch Complex 39 Pad A Historic District (**8BR1686**) which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The historic district is the first of two launch pads constructed by NASA in the 1960s to accommodate the Saturn V launch vehicle for Apollo missions and modified in the 1970s to accommodate the Space Shuttle Program. The historic district contains 23 extant contributing resources all used to support launch operations. One contributing resource, Launch Complex 39 Pad A (**8BR1995**), is also individually listed in the NRHP. No archaeological sites have been recorded or documented within LC-39A.

A preliminary assessment of the operational APE, using data contained in the Florida Master Site File (FMSF), identified 2,964 previously recorded resources, including 2,315 structures, 31 bridges, 465 archaeological sites, 31 cemeteries, and 122 resource groups. Of these, 35 properties are listed in the NRHP and 353 have been evaluated as eligible (see **Enclosure 2**).

#### Approach for the Identification of Historic Properties

In 2010, NASA KSC completed HAER documentation of the LC-39A historic district and its associated contributing resources. As such, LC-39A is well documented and no further identification or evaluation of LC-39A is proposed.

Identification efforts will focus on historic properties that may be subject to physical damage from elevated noise and vibrations as well as cultural resources whose setting and feeling may be affected by audible and acoustic effects during launch and reentry activities. This will include buildings and structures within the APE that were not specifically designed to withstand the concussive forces of launching and landing spacecraft. Additionally, there are specific types of cultural resources for which aspects of setting and feeling are more likely to represent important components of historic integrity. These types of cultural resources potentially include:

- Designed historic landscapes such as parks and gardens
- Rural historic landscapes with continuity in their traditional use (farming, hunting/fishing, sports/recreation)
- Historic districts
- Historic sites that feature outdoor spaces such as yards and plazas
- Cemeteries

Since the universe of properties in the APE will include many thousands of buildings and structures, identification efforts will focus on properties greater than 45 years of age, in areas that have not been surveyed within the last 10 years, and limited to historic properties and potential historic properties that may reasonably be affected by the undertaking. Previously recorded resources that were determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP will be excluded from further identification and evaluation efforts.

Historic properties will be identified in two ways. First, NASA KSC, supported by SEARCH, will compile an inventory of previously recorded cultural resources within the APE that are listed, eligible for listing, potentially eligible for listing, and unevaluated for listing in the NRHP. NASA KSC will use the FMSF database as well as the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plans from both KSC and the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. Additionally, county property appraiser databases will be queried to identify unrecorded historic aboveground resources within the APE. Parcel data contains built year information, which can be cross-referenced with recorded resources to identify parcels that contain structures 45 years old or older without recorded resources. Historic maps and aerial photographs will be used to examine land use and development changes over time, and a historic context will be developed for the APE. Data will be further supplemented with information on unrecorded cultural resources provided by consulting parties and the public. The cumulative data will be used to develop a Geographic Information System heat map within the APE to identify areas with high concentrations of unrecorded structures that are 45 years old or older. These data sets will be used to identify and create a list of properties that will be subject to survey fieldwork. The preliminary inventory data are provided in **Enclosure 2**.

Second, fieldwork will be conducted with three primary objectives:

1. Conduct a windshield survey guided by the heat map discussed above, in order to identify potential historic properties.
2. Complete FMSF documentation for potential historic properties identified during the windshield survey that have a reasonable possibility to be adversely affected by the undertaking. The architectural historians will identify and photograph potential historic properties that appear to embody historic significance established in the historic context. They will also identify and document the character-defining features



that are indicative of NRHP eligibility and that may be susceptible to adverse effects, as discussed in Section 1.2. All newly recorded resources will be assumed NRHP-eligible, for the purposes of Section 106 consultation.

3. Revisit NRHP-listed or eligible historic properties that are individually eligible for the NRHP and that have with a reasonable possibility to be adversely affected to reassess their integrity.

NASA KSC has two requests. First, please provide NASA KSC with any information your organization has about cultural resources within the APE that may need to be a part of the identification effort and/or for which you have concerns regarding project effects. Second, **please respond in writing to confirm your participation as a Consulting Party for this project by January 24, 2025.** If you decline to be a Consulting Party or do not respond by the deadline, no further Section 106 consultation materials will be forwarded to your organization. However, your organization will still have the opportunity to review and comment on materials available to the public on FAA's project website at [https://www.faa.gov/space/stakeholder\\_engagement/spacex\\_starship\\_ksc/](https://www.faa.gov/space/stakeholder_engagement/spacex_starship_ksc/).

Cultural resource information and/or Consulting Party participation responses should be emailed to me. If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Zeringue

Cultural Resources Manager

John F. Kennedy Space Center

Spaceport Integration & Services

Environmental Management Branch, SI-E3

Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899

321-867-8454



[[1] Historic property means any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the National Register criteria. 36 CFR 800.16(l)(1)

**From:** Zeringue, Katherine S. (KSC-SJE30)  
**To:** Chase, Kelly L.; Edwards, Scott; Long, Eva (FAA); Akstulewicz, Kevin D. (US-USI); Bill Werner; tim.parsons@searchinc.com; Kim Tice  
**Cc:** nicholas.m.baker@faa.gov; Hanson, Amy (FAA); Edwards, Scott; Sherman, Steven; Quirk, Phillip  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: RE: SpaceX Starship Superheavy - S106 Approach  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 4:25:00 PM  
**Attachments:** Noise and Sonic Boom Impact Technology Sonic Boom .pdf

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Hi Everyone,

Here are some high level notes from today's meeting. If anyone has any corrections or additions, please let me know.

Attendees:

NASA KSC - Katherine

FAA - Eva

SpaceX - Kim

FL SHPO – Kelly, Scott

Contractors (Leidos, ICF, Search Inc.) – Kevin A., Bill, Time, Steve, Phillip

- **Project:** SpaceX Starship Superheavy – Launch and landings at KSC's LC-39A.
  - Any construction related to facilitating Superheavy launches and landings is expected to take place within the confines of LC-39A.
  - Noise generated from this spacecraft is anticipated to be louder than current spacecraft operations.
- **Federal Agency Involvement:**
  - FAA is leading the development of an EIS to facilitate issuance of a launch license to SpaceX for the project. FAA is generally responsible for analysis for any impacts once a vehicle leaves the ground.
  - NASA KSC has agreed to act as the lead federal agency for Section 106 purposes and is supporting FAA as a Cooperating Agency in the development of the EIS. NASA generally has oversight for any on-the-ground infrastructure built or used to facilitate launches and landings.
- **APE:**
  - Two APEs will be established – a construction APE and an operational APE. The construction APE is anticipated to be within the confines of LC-39A. The development of the operational APE will be primarily defined by noise and vibration contours associated with the launch and landing of spacecraft. The noise and vibration analysis is still in development, so the geographic limits of the APE are still in development as well.
  - FAA's standard practice is to use a 2 psf contour when establishing an APE for this type of project. The 2psf contour correlates with sonic booms generated by booster landings and is larger than any anticipated noise/vibration contours generated from launch activities.
  - A 1989 study by Haber and Nakiki informs this approach (see attached) and established thresholds when structural damage may occur. In general, there is a low probability of structural damage within the 2-4 psf contour. Between 4-10 psf, the probability of structural damage increases. Using the 2 psf contour is a conservative approach.



- The 2 psf APE is anticipated to primarily fall within federal lands and over water. However, there will be areas outside of federal lands within Titusville, Merritt Island, and potentially Cocoa Beach that may be within the APE. The 4 psf contour is expected to remain within the boundaries of KSC, or at least within federal lands. The 10 psf is anticipated to be concentrated around the launch and landing area (LC-39A).
- **Identification and Evaluation:**
  - There is the potential for large numbers of non-federal buildings to be present within the APE.
  - The proposed level of effort for identification and evaluation is informed by two factors: 1) the identification of structures, buildings and other property types that are more susceptible to damage within the 2 psf contour (i.e. potential for effect, rather than identifying everything within the APE lines) and 2) those properties susceptible to atmospheric and/or visual effects (e.g. cemeteries).
  - Identification will begin with desktop analysis and supplemented with field survey, as necessary.
  - SHPO wanted to ensure that cumulative effects were taken into consideration when determining which buildings are more susceptible to damage as well as opportunities to weigh in on the research design once it is more clearly defined.
  - SHPO also noted that Tribes may have concerns with noise/vibratory effects to prehistoric burial mounds containing human remains.
- **Schedule:**
  - **Mid-December 2024:** A Section 106 Initiation letter defining the APE, identifying consulting parties, and summarizing the identification/evaluation research design will be sent to FL SHPO, Consulting Parties and Federally-Recognized Tribes.
  - **Early January 2025:** KSC will schedule a follow-up discussion with SHPO approximately 2 weeks after the delivery of the initiation letter. This meeting will take place within SHPO's 30-day review timeframe.

Sincerely,  
Katherine Zeringue  
Cultural Resources Manager  
John F. Kennedy Space Center  
Spaceport Integration & Services  
Environmental Management Branch, SI-E3  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899  
321-867-8454



-----Original Appointment-----

## 1/23/25 SpaceX Starship Superheavy SHPO Meeting Summary

### Attendees:

- NASA – Katherine Zeringue
- FAA – Eva Long, Amy Hanson, Nick Baker
- SHPO – Alissa Lotane, Kelly Chase
- Consultant Team – Kevin Akstulewicz, Jay Austin, Tim Parsons, Bill Werner, Pam Schanel, Steve Sherman

### APE

- SHPO is ok with the APE
- An overview explanation of the APE graphic and the different psf contours:
  - The APE does not depict vibration contours because the 2psf contour, associated with sonic booms, is larger. So the overpressure contour was used to define the APE.
  - There is progressively more overpressure/gradient pressure as you move in toward LC-39A (e.g. from 2 psf to 20 psf).
- What is the difference between overpressure and vibration?
  - Overpressure is considered one impulse/singular event that can affect a resource.
  - Vibration is a more prolonged force that can affect a resource.
  - Overpressure is more of a concern compared to vibration for this project.
  - Discussion of vibratory contours, and associated effects from vibration, will be included in the effects analysis.

### Identification and Evaluation

- FAA stated that the identification and evaluation approach is consistent with the standard methodology that the agency uses when conducting Section 106 for airport projects or project with large APEs
- SEARCH provided a quick overview of Identification and Evaluation efforts:
  - Identification is not a 100% sampling survey. Survey efforts are following the methodology outlined in the tech report attached to the consultation package.
    - A heatmap of older neighborhoods based on age of construction was created in GIS
    - Older neighborhoods were prioritized
    - GIS and parcel data was used to identify older/historic areas and to identify specific structures of interest
  - Field verification for all previously recorded resources listed or eligible for NRHP is complete
  - Buildings of historic age that have not been recorded are being identified and will be reviewed within relevant historic contexts
  - Currently 30-40 resources with character-defining features that could be affected by the project have been identified
  - Most of the resources of concern are within the Titusville historic district
- Will SHPO be given an opportunity to comment on the areas identified for desktop or field survey?
  - Yes, NASA would welcome feedback.
  - SHPO indicated they would like to have id/eval materials and then follow up with questions/meetings.

- Will both interior and exterior character defining features be considered in the process?
  - Only exterior character-defining features and windows are being used to identify structures
  - Approach will also look at materials and construction – what features are more susceptible to effects? Wood more stable. Concrete and masonry can be affected more.

#### **Effects and Cumulative Effects**

- Built Environment
  - Are these studies taking into account cumulative effects/multiple launch and reentry? FAA has studies on the effects of multiple exposures to structures. This information is critical for and linked to FAA safety information. This information was summarized in the tech report included in the Section 106 package. For example, 1 in 10,000 windows are anticipated to be broken within the 2 psf.
  - FAA's studies provide general observations, but we must keep in mind that each property and its condition is unique. Effects will depend upon how a property is maintained or changed by a homeowner. Properties will also continue to change over time independent of the project.
  - A monitoring program will need to be instituted to address this.
  - There are insurance requirements for companies to address damages if they were to occur.
- SHPO requested a plain English version of an explanation of vibratory and overpressure reports and effects to structures.
- Archaeological Sites
  - Is there water movement that would create effects to archaeological sites along the shoreline?
    - Water is hard and noise/energy bounces off of water. So no waves or water movement would be created that would impact underwater sites or archaeological sites along the shoreline.
  - For terrestrial sites, recent publications cited in the tech study address how the soil matrix is affected by vibration and overpressure. The conclusion of that study is that surface scatters and stratigraphy are not affected. It would only be above ground features outside of a soil matrix that may pose archaeological concern.

#### **Need for an Agreement Document**

- We all agree that an agreement will be needed
- The survey team is still doing research but believes the potential for affects is very low. So far, only a handful of buildings has been identified with character defining features that may be affected.
- Affects would likely be to windows and fenestration and not result in structural failure.
- FL SHPO been in contact with TX SHPO regarding SpaceX activities in Texas. SHPO is interesting in a long-term monitoring program. They are concerned with long-term movement of the buildings over time.

#### **Consulting Parties**

- SHPO felt we had contacted the appropriate consulting parties.
- Titusville CLG – SHPO will reach out to them and check in. They have accepted Consulting Party status.



## SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Meeting February 13, 2025

### Attendees:

- **NASA** – K. Zeringue, J. Brooks, D. Dankert, P. Hall
- **ICF on Behalf of FAA** – S. Sherman, P. Schanel
- **SHPO** – K. Chase, S. Edwards, A. Lotane
- **SpaceX** – K. Tice
- **Leidos/SEARCH** – K. Akstulewicz, C. Ward, B. Werner, T. Parsons

### Opening Statements:

SEARCH is drafting the Identification, Evaluation and Assessment of Effects report. The identification and evaluation methodology follows the standard FAA approach for these types of projects.

The anticipated schedule and dates, for review and comment on identification, evaluation, and assessment of effects, as agreed to by NASA and SHPO are below:

- Pre-Report SHPO Briefing Meeting: 13 Feb 25
- Deliver "Interim Draft" Report to SHPO for cursory review: 17 Feb 25
- SHPO "Cursory Review": 18 – 24 Feb 25
- Deliver "Final" report to SHPO for official review: 18 Mar 25

### SEARCH Presentation on Identification, Evaluation and Assessment of Effects

- See attached PPT. Below is additional information or clarifications provided during the presentation.
- This is a large-scale identification effort since the APE is around 2 million acres, however most of the APE is not over land.
- The APE accounts for 130 dB associated with launch activities. The 130 dB demarcation is concentrated around LC-39A and is limited in geographic scope. Launch activities have the potential to create sonic booms, but those will occur over water.
- The APE also accounts for 2 psf which is the overpressure from landing activities, which comprises the majority of the APE.
- Overall, potential auditory/vibratory effects are of most concern and will primarily stem from launch and landing activities (operations).
- For archaeological sites with character-defining features of concern, SEARCH read through the entire FMSF site file forms and their associated documentation. They also looked at modern/aerial photographs to determine impacts to sites resulting from development over time.

### Questions Asked by SHPO:

- **Q:** Will SHPO get any additional site forms for buildings or archaeological sites because of these survey efforts OR was this only a windshield survey?

- A:** It was a windshield survey, and no site forms are anticipated to be submitted to SHPO.
- **Q:** Since resources previously determined ineligible for NRHP were excluded from survey, what parameters were used to address properties that may require reassessment (e.g. due to the passage of time)?

**A:** SEARCH did not reassess these properties. However, the survey methodology focused on areas not surveyed within the past 10 years to try to account for this.

**SHPO Response:** SHPO will look at this during its cursory review and determine if there are any concerns.
  - **Q:** Has anyone had communication with the CLG?


**A:** NASA nor anyone on the CRM has received any additional communications or information from the CLG. As a result of our meeting with SHPO on January 23, 2025 SHPO stated they would reach out to the CLG to determine if there were any concerns.

**SHPO Response:** SHPO stated that they needed to follow up on this.
  - **Q:** How was the CLG (and other Consulting Parties) contacted and who contacted them?

**A:** NASA KSC distributed Section 106 materials to Consulting Parties via email twice and also mailed hard copy letters. NASA KSC will provide information related to CPs who responded and what information they have provided regarding the identification of historic properties. See attached information.

**Next Steps:**

- Documents will be transmitted by SEARCH via their SharePoint system on Monday.
  - This method is acceptable to SHPO. SEARCH will follow up with a confirmation email to Kelly to ensure the link has been received on Monday.
- SHPO requests the materials be sent with a comment matrix to log their responses.



# Results Summary of Historic Properties Identification and Evaluation for SpaceX SSH Activities at LC-39A

February 13, 2025





## Overview of Proposed Activities

SpaceX proposes to use LC-39A to support Starship Super Heavy Operations

- Infrastructure at LC-39A.
- Landing SSH and booster at LC-39A on “droneships” in ocean.

Requires Vehicle Operator License from FAA

- Considered Section 106 undertaking.
- NASA KSC is lead federal agency for Section 106.



## Area of Potential Effects

### Construction APE

- Previously surveyed/existing boundary of LC-39A.

### Operational APE

- Considers auditory and vibratory effects of launch and landing activities.
- $\geq$  Lmax level at 130 dB for effects from launch.
- $\geq$  2 pounds per square inch (psf) sonic boom overpressure for effects from reentry.





## Potential for Adverse Effects

- **High sound pressure levels and vibrations have the potential to cause adverse effects, though damage from propulsion/engine noise is rare.**
  - Potential effects are greatest to non-structural building elements and may include damage to windows, plastered walls and ceilings, fragile glass, loose plaster mosaics, or pieces of stone.
- **Sonic booms have the potential to cause adverse effects, although this is rare.**
  - Properly installed glass will not break, and plaster is unlikely to be damaged at overpressures below 10 psf.
  - Below 2 psf, building damage in well-maintained structures is unlikely.
- **Effects to archaeological sites are less understood.**
  - Sites consisting of surface scatters or subsurface deposits are unlikely to be affected, based on existing literature.
  - Underwater sites unlikely to be affected, as water is “acoustically dense.”
  - Effects may be greater to sites possessing aboveground structural elements, although the potential for damage is considered low based on existing literature.





## Research Design

- Thousands of previously recorded and unrecorded buildings and structures are within the operational APE.
- Identification efforts focused on properties greater than 45 years of age, in areas not surveyed within the last 10 years.
- Identification focused on historic properties and potential historic properties that may reasonably be affected by SSH launch and landing activities (i.e., possess character defining features that may be affected by auditory and vibratory events  $\geq$  Lmax level of 130 dB or  $\geq$  2 psf sonic boom overpressure).



## Architectural History Methods

- Desktop analysis of previously recorded historic properties (NRHP-listed, eligible, or unevaluated).
- Intensive field survey and windshield survey of NRHP-listed, eligible, and unevaluated resources, FMSF resources within existing Resource Group Boundaries recommended as potentially contributing to an NRHP district, and cemeteries and Resource Groups lacking SHPO determinations to identify character defining features that may be affected.
- Windshield survey for unrecorded resources with characteristics similar to the potentially affected historic properties, focusing on areas where high concentrations of unrecorded resources of historic age were possible based on GIS analysis.
- Resources on Cape Canaveral Space Force Station and NASA KSC were omitted from the study (information on historic properties included in recent ICRMP updates).





## Archaeological Desktop Analysis Methods

- FMSF research to identify archaeological sites with character defining features that could be affected by auditory and vibratory effects:
  - Clear aboveground components (precontact mounds, building remains, and/or structures).
  - Sites documented in FMSF as potentially containing human remains.
- Archaeological sites previously evaluated ineligible for NRHP listing by SHPO were excluded.





## Architectural History Results Summary: Previously Recorded Resources

- Survey of 92 previously recorded resources, Resource Groups, and cemeteries.
  - 7 no longer extant.
  - 18 NRHP-listed resources/Resource Groups retain integrity.
  - 59 resources eligible for NRHP inclusion, 1 resource eligible as Resource Group contributor, 6 are not eligible for NRHP inclusion, and 1 remains unevaluated (no access).
- Windshield survey of 142 previously recorded resources.
  - 2 no longer extant.
  - 122 eligible as Resource Group Contributors, and 9 eligible for NRHP inclusion.
  - 6 not eligible for NRHP inclusion.
  - 2 cemeteries and 1 Resource Group remain unevaluated (no access).



## Architectural History Results Summary: Unrecorded Resources

- Purpose of the windshield survey for unrecorded resources was to identify architectural styles, distinguishing characteristics, and general development patterns, and to reasonably assess potential effects.
- Three areas of historic unrecorded structure concentrations were identified: Titusville North, Titusville South, and Merritt Island.
- Individual structures and Resource Groups were not recorded, but general trends (supported by examples in the report) were documented to inform the potential for adverse effects.





# Architectural History Results Summary: Observed General Trends

## Titusville North

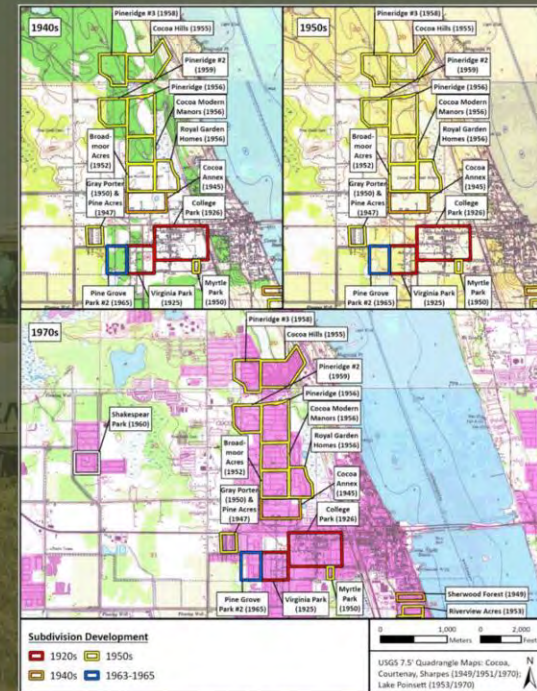
- Heavy post-WWII residential construction beginning in late 1950s.
- Primarily contemporary ranch-style construction, often with changes to fenestration and other features.

## Titusville South

- Heavy post-WWII residential construction along US-1
- Less stylistic cohesion than Titusville North.
- Observations include some late 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century craftsman style homes, wood frame vernacular homes, and one Spanish Revival residence.
- Most buildings have reduced integrity due to changes to character defining features.

## Merritt Island

- Heavy post-WWII residential, commercial, and recreational development.
- Significant post-1950 residential development associated with the growth of the space program.





## Archaeological Desktop Analysis Results Summary

- 438 previously recorded sites within APE.
- 347 do not retain above ground components, were determined ineligible for NRHP, or are not suspected to contain human remains.
- 34 sites documented as containing mounds, middens, or site names are suggestive of such.
  - 2 mound sites are NRHP eligible (8BR00086 and 8BR01673). 1 mound site is evaluated as ineligible, but the FMSF indicates may contain human remains (8BR00064).
- 32 sites documented in FMSF as potentially containing human remains.
- 54 sites with confirmed or possible historic-era aboveground components.
  - 33 appear no longer extant based on examination of aerial imagery.
  - 1 site (8BR01872) is NRHP-eligible for foundation remains. 3 other sites are eligible, but for subsurface components.
  - Several other sites contribute to NRHP-listed districts associated with NASA KSC.



## Archaeological/Architectural Example: Site 8BR01872 (Sam's Site)

- 11.7 miles southwest of LC-39A.
- Contains 19<sup>th</sup>-century foundation remnants, and precontact components (Sam's Mound, 8BR0063).
- Site also contains some of the oldest historic structures in Brevard County, and one of the oldest farmsteads/homesteads on Merritt Island, ca. 1875-1883 (8BR0889, 8BR01973).
- Location is county-owned and may be a suitable candidate for a monitoring program.

An aerial photograph of Merritt Island, Florida, showing various land parcels and water bodies. A red arrow points from the text '8BR01872' to a specific location on the island, marked with a red circle and a small red exclamation mark. The arrow is labeled '8BR01872' in white text on a red background. The map shows a mix of green land, blue water, and some developed areas.

8BR01872





## Effects Analysis Summary

### Archaeology

- Any visual, auditory, or vibratory interruptions to historic setting or feeling are temporary.
- Physical adverse effects to sites within the APE are unlikely, based on available current literature.
- Subsurface components, including burials, are likely protected by the surrounding soil matrix. However, the longitudinal effects of repeated exposure to vibratory events is understudied.
- Sites with significant above-ground components (standing, structural elements) were not identified within the APE, and it is unlikely that features such as foundation remains would be affected.

### Architectural History

- Adverse effects to previously recorded structures are possible, though unlikely.
- Adverse effects may include impacts such as broken windows, damage to plaster walls, and other masonry adornments.
- Structural damage to maintained buildings is unlikely.
- Many character defining features of previously recorded and unrecorded structures, resource groups, and neighborhoods have been removed or diminished over time, resulting in integrity loss.





## Conclusion and Recommendations

- No adverse effects within construction APE.
- Within operational APE, adverse effects are not likely, but possible.

*Because a final determination of how SSH launch and landing activities will affect historic properties is not possible at this time, the development of a Programmatic Agreement to monitor for and mitigate any potential adverse effects is recommended.*



**From:** [Tim Parsons](#)  
**To:** [Chase, Kelly L.](#); [Edwards, Scott](#); [Lotane, Alissa Slade](#)  
**Cc:** [Akstulewicz, Kevin D. \(US-US\)](#); [Zeringue, Katherine S. \(KSC-SIE30\)](#); [Long, Eva \(FAA\)](#); [Bill Werner](#)  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: SpaceX SSH Section 106 Report DRAFT - Submittal for Comments  
**Date:** Monday, February 17, 2025 9:32:49 AM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-0ud2c1ti.png](#)  
[Outlook-0zr4dxo3.png](#)  
[Outlook-l0v0vbad.png](#)  
[Outlook-fsvrg3i4.png](#)  
[Outlook-vn40wkcr.png](#)  
[Outlook-afi5bwng.png](#)

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of Leidos. Be cautious when clicking or opening content.

Good morning,

As we discussed last Thursday, the draft SpaceX SSH Section 106 report is available for download and your review. You can access the documents at this link:

If you have any problems accessing the shared folder, please let me know. I have included an Excel comment table for convenience. You should be able to edit the table directly, but again, if you encounter any issues send me a message and I will resolve it.

Thank you again for your initial comments and questions, last week. We look forward to your response, and hope you enjoyed the holiday weekend!

Tim

**Timothy Parsons, PhD, RPA**  
Director  
SEARCH Florida - Tallahassee  
[tim.parsons@searchinc.com](mailto:tim.parsons@searchinc.com) 850-766-4088

**SEARCH - SEARCH2O** Harness the Power of the Past  
Archaeology – Maritime Archaeology – Architectural History – Cultural Heritage



**From:** [Chase, Kelly L.](#)  
**To:** [Zeringue, Katherine S. \(KSC-SIE30\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Akstulewicz, Kevin D. \[US-US\]](#); [Long, Eva \(FAA\)](#); [Bill Werner](#); [Tim Parsons](#); [Edwards, Scott](#); [Lotane, Alissa Slade](#)  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: SpaceX SSH Section 106 Report DRAFT - Submittal for Comments  
**Date:** Friday, February 28, 2025 4:29:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[SSH Section 106 DRAFT Comment Table\\_DHR Comments.xlsx](#)

---

Katherine,

Attached please find our comments regarding the SpaceX Starship Superheavy draft identification, evaluation and assessment of effects report. Please let us know if you have any questions or need clarification.

Kelly L. Chase

Compliance and Review Supervisor | Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Division of Historical Resources | Florida Department of State  
Office: 850.245.6344 | Cell: 850.274.9121 (cannot receive text messages)  
500 South Bronough Street | Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
[dos.myflorida.com/historical](https://dos.myflorida.com/historical)

---

**From:** Zeringue, Katherine S. (KSC-SIE30) <katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 26, 2025 3:55 PM  
**To:** Chase, Kelly L. <Kelly.Chase@dos.fl.gov>  
**Cc:** Akstulewicz, Kevin D. [US-US] <KEVIN.D.AKSTULEWICZ@leidos.com>; Long, Eva (FAA) <Eva.Long@faa.gov>; Bill Werner <Bill.Werner@searchinc.com>; Tim Parsons <tim.parsons@searchinc.com>; Edwards, Scott <Scott.Edwards@dos.fl.gov>; Lotane, Alissa Slade <Alissa.Lotane@dos.fl.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: SpaceX SSH Section 106 Report DRAFT - Submittal for Comments

EMAIL RECEIVED FROM EXTERNAL  
SOURCE

The attachments/links in this message have been scanned by Proofpoint.

Hi Kelly,

Friday should be fine.

Thanks,

**Katherine Zeringue**  
Cultural Resources Manager  
Spaceport Integration and Services  
Kennedy Space Center  
Mail Code: SI-E3



**From:** [Zeringue, Katherine S. \(KSC-SIE30\)](#)  
**To:** [Lotane, Alissa Slade](#); [Chase, Kelly L.](#); [Edwards, Scott](#); [CompliancePermits](#)  
**Cc:** [Akstulewicz, Kevin D. \(US-US\)](#); [Hanson, Amy \(FAA\)](#); [Long, Eva \(FAA\)](#); [Zee, Stacey \(FAA\)](#); [Bill.Werner@searchinc.com](#); [tim.parsons@searchinc.com](#); [Schanel, Pam](#); [Sherman, Steven](#); [Ward, Carmen J. \(US-US\)](#); [Dankert, Donald J. \(KSC-SIE30\)](#); [Brooks, James T. \(KSC-SIE30\)](#); [Kim Tice](#); [Hall, Patrice \(KSC-SIE30\)](#); [Klein, Rebecca A \(HQ-LD020\)](#); [Thorpe, David B. \(KSC-SIA10\)](#); [Krouchick, Jennifer L. \(KSC-SIA10\)](#); [Tezel, Trevor D. \(KSC-CC000\)](#); [Griffin, Richard T. \(HQ-LD062\)](#); [Kneiff, Kristen B.](#); [PENDERS, THOMAS E NH-03 USSF SSC 45 CFS/CEIE](#); [Kanaski, Richard](#); [Penn, Thomas R. \(KSC-USFWS\)\(US Fish and Wildlife\)](#); [Ramos, Keith \(KSC-USFWS\)\(US Fish and Wildlife\)](#)  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: Continuing Consultation, SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at Launch Complex-39A, Kennedy Space Center  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2025 11:04:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[SpaceX Starship ID Eval Effects SHPO Final.pdf](#)

Dear Ms. Lotane,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Kennedy Space Center (NASA KSC) is continuing consultation with your office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review of the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at Launch Complex-39A (LC-39A). The undertaking involves issuance of a vehicle operator license by the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation that will facilitate ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy at LC-39A. Specifically, this would include up to 44 launches of Starship Super Heavy per year; return of the first stage booster to LC-39A; return of Starship to LC-39A; and construction of an air separation unit for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen, onsite natural gas liquefaction production and cryogenic liquid storage capability, roadway improvements, other associated infrastructure, and a catch tower. As noted in our initiation letter sent on December 20, 2024, NASA KSC is acting as the lead federal agency for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA.

This letter addresses the identification, evaluation, and assessment of effects for this undertaking. Relevant information can be found in the following sections of the enclosed Cultural Resource Survey for the Starship-Super Heavy Project at LC-39A:

- Methods for the identification of historic properties can be found in Section 5.2. Identification efforts included the following resources:
  - Previously recorded historic resources including cemeteries; and
  - Unrecorded resources; and
  - Archaeological resources.
- Identification results and recommendations for determinations of eligibility can be found in Sections 4.2 and 6.
- A discussion of how historic properties may be affected by the undertaking can be found in Sections 1.1 and 5.1.
- Anticipated findings of effects can be found in Section 6.

NASA KSC agrees with the conclusions and recommendations in the Cultural Resource Survey, including SEARCH Inc.'s eligibility recommendations. However, at this time, NASA KSC cannot make a definitive effect finding of how SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and landing activities will affect historic properties. Evidence suggests that adverse effects resulting from the undertaking are not likely but are possible. Because a final determination of effect is inconclusive, the development of a programmatic agreement to monitor for and resolve adverse effects is proposed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.14(b)(1)(ii). The development of this agreement will be done in consultation with your office, Consulting Parties, and federally-recognized Indian Tribes.

Please note:

- Consulting Parties, who accepted the invitation to consult on this undertaking, are identified in this correspondence. Your letter will act as their notification and invitation to review and provide comments on the Cultural Resources Survey (CRAS). Consulting Parties who are not federal agencies will be contacted in a separate email and provided a link to a redacted version of the CRAS. I will copy your office on this notification.
- NASA KSC also continues to consult with federally-recognized Indian Tribes directly.
- **SEARCH Inc. will send you a link to access the CRAS via their SharePoint site as the file is too large to send via email.** Additionally, your office will be mailed a hard copy of the CRAS.

NASA KSC requests your concurrence with our determinations of eligibility as well as the development of a Programmatic Agreement. **We respectfully request a response, and any comments, by April 18, 2025.** If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



**Katherine Zeringue**  
**Cultural Resources Manager**  
Spaceport Integration and Services  
Kennedy Space Center  
Mail Code: SI-E3  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899  
O: 321-867-8454  
[katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov](mailto:katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

**John F. Kennedy Space Center**  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899



March 17, 2025

Reply to Attn of: SI-E3

Alissa S. Lotane  
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer  
Florida Division of Historical Resources  
R.A. Gray Building  
500 S. Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Attn: Ms. Kelly Chase, Deputy SHPO  
Mr. Scott Edwards, Historic Preservationist

Subject: Continuing Consultation, SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry  
Vehicles at Launch Complex (LC)-39A, Kennedy Space Center (KSC)

Dear Ms. Lotane:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) KSC is continuing consultation with your office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review of the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at LC-39A. The undertaking involves issuance of a vehicle operator license by the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation that will facilitate ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy at LC-39A. Specifically, this would include up to 44 launches of Starship Super Heavy per year; return of the first stage booster to LC-39A; return of Starship to LC-39A; and construction of an air separation unit for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen, onsite natural gas liquefaction production and cryogenic liquid storage capability, roadway improvements, other associated infrastructure, and a catch tower. As noted in our initiation letter sent on December 20, 2024, NASA KSC is acting as the lead Federal agency for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA.

This letter addresses the identification, evaluation, and assessment of effects for this undertaking. Relevant information can be found in the following sections of the enclosed Cultural Resource Survey for the Starship-Super Heavy Project at LC-39A:



- Methods for the identification of historic properties can be found in Section 5.2. Identification efforts included the following resources:
  - Previously recorded historic resources including cemeteries; and
  - Unrecorded resources; and
  - Archaeological resources.
- Identification results and recommendations for determinations of eligibility can be found in Sections 4.2 and 6.
- A discussion of how historic properties may be affected by the undertaking can be found in Sections 1.1 and 5.1.
- Anticipated findings of effects can be found in Section 6.

NASA KSC agrees with the conclusions and recommendations in the Cultural Resource Survey, including SEARCH Inc.'s eligibility recommendations. However, at this time, NASA KSC cannot make a definitive effect finding of how SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and landing activities will affect historic properties. Evidence suggests that adverse effects resulting from the undertaking are not likely but are possible. Because a final determination of effect is inconclusive, the development of a programmatic agreement to monitor for and resolve adverse effects is proposed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.14(b)(1)(ii). The development of this agreement will be done in consultation with your office, Consulting Parties, and federally-recognized Indian Tribes.

Consulting Parties, who accepted the invitation to consult on this undertaking, are copied on this correspondence. This letter acts as their notification and invitation to review and provide comments on the enclosed materials. NASA KSC also continues to consult with federally-recognized Indian Tribes directly.

NASA KSC requests your concurrence with our determinations of eligibility as well as the development of a Programmatic Agreement. We respectfully request a response, and any comments, within 30 days of receipt. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 321-867-8454 or [Katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov](mailto:Katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov).

Sincerely,

**Katherine Zeringue**  
Digitally signed by Katherine Zeringue  
Date: 2025.03.17 09:07:28 -0400

Katherine Zeringue  
NASA KSC Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosures:  
Cultural Resource Survey for the Starship-Super Heavy Project at LC-39A

cc:  
HQS FPO/R. Klein  
KSC/SI-E3/D. Dankert  
KSC/AD/D. Thorpe  
KSD/AD/J. Krouchick  
KSC/CC/T. Tezel  
KSC/SI-C2/R. Griffin  
FAA/E. Long  
FAA/A. Hanson  
FAA/S. Zee

Consulting Parties:  
Canaveral National Seashore/K. Kneifl  
Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation/B. Zingarelli  
Cape Canaveral Space Force Station/T. Penders  
City of Titusville/B. Parrish  
Historical Society of North Brevard/P. Alix  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/R. Kanaski  
North Brevard Heritage Foundation/R. Foster

**From:** [Zeringue, Katherine S. \(KSC-SJE30\)](#)  
**To:** [museumdirector@canaveralight.org](#); [Roz@callhenry.com](#); [titusvillehistory@gmail.com](#); [brad.parrish@titusville.com](#); [sue.williams@titusville.com](#); [tabitha.armstrong@titusville.com](#)  
**Cc:** [CompliancePermits](#); [Chase, Kelly L.](#); [Edwards, Scott](#); [tim.parsons@searchinc.com](#); [Bill.Werner@searchinc.com](#); [Long, Eva \(FAA\)](#); [Hanson, Amy \(FAA\)](#); [Zee, Stacey \(FAA\)](#); [Akstulewicz, Kevin D. \[US-US\]](#); [Schanel, Pam](#); [Sherman, Steven](#); [Ward, Carmen J. \[US-US\]](#); [Dankert, Donald J. \(KSC-SJE30\)](#); [Brooks, James T. \(KSC-SJE30\)](#); [Hall, Patrice \(KSC-SJE30\)](#); [Kim Tice](#)  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: Continuing Consultation, SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2025 11:15:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[SpaceX Starship ID Eval Effects SHPO Final.pdf](#)

Dear Consulting Party,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Kennedy Space Center (NASA KSC) is continuing consultation with your organization pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review of the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at Launch Complex-39A (LC-39A). The undertaking involves issuance of a vehicle operator license by the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation that will facilitate ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy at LC-39A. Specifically, this would include up to 44 launches of Starship Super Heavy per year; return of the first stage booster to LC-39A; return of Starship to LC-39A; and construction of an air separation unit for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen, onsite natural gas liquefaction production and cryogenic liquid storage capability, roadway improvements, other associated infrastructure, and a catch tower. As noted in our initiation letter sent on December 20, 2024, NASA KSC is acting as the lead federal agency for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA.

This letter addresses the identification, evaluation, and assessment of effects for this undertaking. Relevant information can be found in the following sections of the enclosed Cultural Resource Survey for the Starship-Super Heavy Project at LC-39A:

- Methods for the identification of historic properties can be found in Section 5.2. Identification efforts included the following resources:
  - Previously recorded historic resources including cemeteries; and
  - Unrecorded resources; and
  - Archaeological resources.
- Identification results and recommendations for determinations of eligibility can be found in Sections 4.2 and 6.
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- Anticipated findings of effects can be found in Section 6.

NASA KSC agrees with the conclusions and recommendations in the Cultural Resource Survey (CRAS), including SEARCH Inc.'s eligibility recommendations. However, at this time, NASA KSC cannot make a definitive effect finding of how SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and landing activities will affect historic properties. Evidence suggests that adverse effects resulting from the undertaking are not likely but are possible. Because a final determination of effect is inconclusive, the development of a programmatic agreement to monitor for and resolve adverse effects is proposed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.14(b)(1)(ii). The development of this agreement will be done in consultation with SHPO, Consulting Parties, and federally-recognized Indian Tribes.

Please note:



- **SEARCH Inc. will send you a link to access the CRAS via their SharePoint site as the file is too large to send via email.**
- You will receive a redacted version of the CRAS in order to protect the location of archaeological sites.

**NASA KSC requests comments by April 18, 2025.** Please send comments directly to me via email and if you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



**Katherine Zeringue**  
**Cultural Resources Manager**  
Spaceport Integration and Services  
Kennedy Space Center  
Mail Code: SI-E3  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899  
O: 321-867-8454  
[katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov](mailto:katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov)

**Akstulewicz, Kevin D. [US-US]**

**From:** Zeringue, Katherine S. (KSC-SIE30) <katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2025 9:56 AM  
**To:** e106@achp.gov; Chris Daniel; Bill Marzella  
**Cc:** CompliancePermits@dos.fl.gov; Chase, Kelly L.; Edwards, Scott; Lotane, Alissa Slade; Akstulewicz, Kevin D. [US-US]; Hanson, Amy (FAA); Brooks, James T. (KSC-SIE30); Long, Eva (FAA); Dankert, Donald J. (KSC-SIE30); Kim Tice; Ward, Carmen J. [US-US]; tim.parsons@searchinc.com; Bill Werner; Steven.Sherman@icf.com; Schanel, Pam  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: Case # 020937: SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at Launch Complex-39A, Kennedy Space Center  
**Attachments:** 1\_15\_25 Consulting Parties POC.xlsx; 1\_23\_25 SpaceX Superheavy SHPO Mtg.pdf; 2\_13\_25 SpaceX Starship Super Heavy SHPO Meeting.pdf; CapeCanaveral Lighthouse Foundation Inv Ltr.pdf; NASA FAA STOF Tribal Cons Pkg Final.pdf; SpaceX SH Launch.Reentry Final SHPO.pdf; SpaceX SSH KSC ACHP Notification.docx; SpaceX Starship ID Eval Effects SHPO Final.pdf; SpaceX Starship ID Eval Effects STOF Final.pdf; SSH LC-39A Section 106 Tribal Tracker.xlsx; SSH Section 106 DRAFT ID Eval\_Comment Table\_DHR Comments.xlsx  
**Categories:** Admin Record

Hi Chris,

Attached is the eS106 form and supporting documentation for ACHP Case # 020937: SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at Launch Complex-39A, Kennedy Space Center. NASA is the lead federal agency for Section 106 for this project. Please note that a link to access the associated Cultural Resource Survey which summarizes our identification, evaluation, and assessment of effects findings and determinations, will be sent to you by SEARCH, Inc. At this time, NASA KSC cannot make a definitive effect finding of how SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and landing activities will affect historic properties. Evidence suggests that adverse effects resulting from the undertaking are not likely but are possible. Because a final determination of effect is inconclusive, the development of a programmatic agreement to monitor for and resolve adverse effects is proposed per 36 CFR Part 800.14(b)(1)(ii).

If you (or Bill) have any questions or need additional information to determine ACHP's participation in the development of the programmatic agreement, please let me know.

Sincerely,



**Katherine Zeringue**  
**Cultural Resources Manager**  
 Spaceport Integration and Services  
 Kennedy Space Center  
 Mail Code: SI-E3  
 Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899  
 O: 321-867-8454  
[katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov](mailto:katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov)

Salutation	First	Last	Title	Organization	Street	City	State	Zip	Email
Ms.	Kristen	Kneiff	Resource Manager	Canaveral National Seashore	212 S. Washington Ave.	Titusville	FL	32796	<a href="mailto:kristen.kneiff@epa.gov">kristen.kneiff@epa.gov</a>
	Becky	Zingarelli	Museum Director	Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation	PO Box 1978	Cape Canaveral	FL	32935	<a href="mailto:museum@capecanaveral.org">museum@capecanaveral.org</a>
Mr.	Tom	Penders	Cultural Resources Manager	Cape Canaveral Space Force Station					<a href="mailto:thomaspenders@spc.mil">thomaspenders@spc.mil</a>
									<a href="mailto:tom.penders@usmc.mil">tom.penders@usmc.mil</a>
									<a href="mailto:tom.penders@usmc.mil">tom.penders@usmc.mil</a>
									<a href="mailto:tom.penders@usmc.mil">tom.penders@usmc.mil</a>
Mr.	Brad	Pamish	Community Development Director	City of Titusville	555 South Washington Ave.	Titusville	FL	32796	<a href="mailto:bpamish@cityof Titusville.com">bpamish@cityof Titusville.com</a>
Mr.	Pierre	Alix	President	Historical Society of North Brevard	PO Box 5265	Titusville	FL	32783	<a href="mailto:pierrehistory@gmail.com">pierrehistory@gmail.com</a>
Mr.	Rick	Kanaski	Regional HPO and Archaeologist	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge				<a href="mailto:rick.kanaski@fws.gov">rick.kanaski@fws.gov</a>
Ms.	Roz	Foster	Founder & President	North Brevard Heritage Foundation	PO Box 653	Titusville	FL	32781	<a href="mailto:roz@northbrevard.org">roz@northbrevard.org</a>



## 1/23/25 SpaceX Starship Superheavy SHPO Meeting Summary

### Attendees:

- NASA – Katherine Zeringue
- FAA – Eva Long, Amy Hanson, Nick Baker
- SHPO – Alissa Lotane, Kelly Chase
- Consultant Team – Kevin Akstulewicz, Jay Austin, Tim Parsons, Bill Werner, Pam Schanel, Steve Sherman

### APE

- SHPO is ok with the APE
- An overview explanation of the APE graphic and the different psf contours:
  - The APE does not depict vibration contours because the 2psf contour, associated with sonic booms, is larger. So the overpressure contour was used to define the APE.
  - There is progressively more overpressure/gradient pressure as you move in toward LC-39A (e.g. from 2 psf to 20 psf).
- What is the difference between overpressure and vibration?
  - Overpressure is considered one impulse/singular event that can affect a resource.
  - Vibration is a more prolonged force that can affect a resource.
  - Overpressure is more of a concern compared to vibration for this project.
  - Discussion of vibratory contours, and associated effects from vibration, will be included in the effects analysis.

### Identification and Evaluation

- FAA stated that the identification and evaluation approach is consistent with the standard methodology that the agency uses when conducting Section 106 for airport projects or project with large APEs
- SEARCH provided a quick overview of Identification and Evaluation efforts:
  - Identification is not a 100% sampling survey. Survey efforts are following the methodology outlined in the tech report attached to the consultation package.
    - A heatmap of older neighborhoods based on age of construction was created in GIS
    - Older neighborhoods were prioritized
    - GIS and parcel data was used to identify older/historic areas and to identify specific structures of interest
  - Field verification for all previously recorded resources listed or eligible for NRHP is complete
  - Buildings of historic age that have not been recorded are being identified and will be reviewed within relevant historic contexts
  - Currently 30-40 resources with character-defining features that could be affected by the project have been identified
  - Most of the resources of concern are within the Titusville historic district
- Will SHPO be given an opportunity to comment on the areas identified for desktop or field survey?
  - Yes, NASA would welcome feedback.
  - SHPO indicated they would like to have id/eval materials and then follow up with questions/meetings.

- Will both interior and exterior character defining features be considered in the process?
  - Only exterior character-defining features and windows are being used to identify structures
  - Approach will also look at materials and construction – what features are more susceptible to effects? Wood more stable. Concrete and masonry can be affected more.

#### **Effects and Cumulative Effects**

- Built Environment
  - Are these studies taking into account cumulative effects/multiple launch and reentry? FAA has studies on the effects of multiple exposures to structures. This information is critical for and linked to FAA safety information. This information was summarized in the tech report included in the Section 106 package. For example, 1 in 10,000 windows are anticipated to be broken within the 2 psf.
  - FAA's studies provide general observations, but we must keep in mind that each property and its condition is unique. Effects will depend upon how a property is maintained or changed by a homeowner. Properties will also continue to change over time independent of the project.
  - A monitoring program will need to be instituted to address this.
  - There are insurance requirements for companies to address damages if they were to occur.
- SHPO requested a plain English version of an explanation of vibratory and overpressure reports and effects to structures.
- Archaeological Sites
  - Is there water movement that would create effects to archaeological sites along the shoreline?
    - Water is hard and noise/energy bounces off of water. So no waves or water movement would be created that would impact underwater sites or archaeological sites along the shoreline.
  - For terrestrial sites, recent publications cited in the tech study address how the soil matrix is affected by vibration and overpressure. The conclusion of that study is that surface scatters and stratigraphy are not affected. It would only be above ground features outside of a soil matrix that may pose archaeological concern.

#### **Need for an Agreement Document**

- We all agree that an agreement will be needed
- The survey team is still doing research but believes the potential for affects is very low. So far, only a handful of buildings has been identified with character defining features that may be affected.
- Affects would likely be to windows and fenestration and not result in structural failure.
- FL SHPO been in contact with TX SHPO regarding SpaceX activities in Texas. SHPO is interesting in a long-term monitoring program. They are concerned with long-term movement of the buildings over time.

#### **Consulting Parties**

- SHPO felt we had contacted the appropriate consulting parties.
- Titusville CLG – SHPO will reach out to them and check in. They have accepted Consulting Party status.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

**John F. Kennedy Space Center**  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899



December 20, 2024

Reply to Attn of: SI-E3

Alissa S. Lotane  
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer  
Florida Division of Historic Preservationist  
R.A. Gray Building  
500 S. Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Attention: Ms. Kelly Chase, Deputy SHPO; and Mr. Scott Edwards, Historic Preservationist

Subject: SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at Launch  
Complex-39A, Kennedy Space Center

Dear Ms. Lotane:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Kennedy Space Center (NASA KSC) is initiating consultation with your office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review of the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at Launch Complex-39A (LC-39A). Under the supervision of the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation, SpaceX is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential impacts of proposed infrastructure construction, and ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the Starship Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at LC-39A. Because SpaceX plans to apply to the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation for a vehicle operator license for Starship Super Heavy, the EIS will conform to the FAA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing policy, FAA Order 1050.1F, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures*, regarding the potential infrastructure construction, ground operations, launch, and reentry-related impacts. NASA KSC is acting as the lead federal agency for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA. As such, Section 106 will be conducted pursuant to the 2009 *Programmatic Agreement Among the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, John F. Kennedy Space Center, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer: Regarding Management of Historic Properties at the Kennedy Space Center*, or any subsequent version thereof.



**Description of the Undertaking**

The undertaking involves issuance of a vehicle operator license by the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation that will facilitate ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy at LC-39A. Specifically, this would include up to 44 launches of Starship Super Heavy per year; return of the first stage booster to LC-39A; return of Starship to LC-39A; and construction of an air separation unit for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen, on-site natural gas liquefaction production and cryogenic liquid storage capability, roadway improvements, other associated infrastructure, and a catch tower (see **Enclosure 1**).

**Area of Potential Effects (APE)**

The area of potential effects (APE) considers any physical, visual, or auditory effects that the project may have on historic properties\*. As such, the APE has been developed to consider both a construction APE and an operational APE. The construction APE is limited within the existing boundaries of LC-39A. Additionally, it is anticipated that proposed new construction associated with the operation of the Starship Super Heavy will be compatible with the characteristic of other launch complex infrastructure and will not pose viewshed effects to historic properties. The operational APE considers the auditory effects of the Starship Super Heavy launch activity as well as the overpressure effects of the sonic boom generated during atmospheric reentry. FAA guidance stipulates consideration of a 130 decibel (dB) threshold for launch effects and a 2.0 pounds per square foot (psf) threshold for effects from the sonic boom. Based on this information, and previous research regarding rocket engine noise and vibration effects to structures, the APE was established as any area subjected to greater than or equal to 2.0 psf sonic booms (see **Enclosure 2, Figure 2**). This area also encompasses the 130 dB threshold for launch effects, as well as the construction APE.

*\*Historic property means any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the National Register criteria. 36 CFR 800.16(l)*

**Initial Identification of Historic Properties and Proposed Identification Efforts**

The proposed identification approach is designed to make a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the APE that may be affected by the undertaking. Effects related to construction will be limited within the footprint of LC-39A. This area has already been subject to survey and evaluation and will not require additional studies. The fieldwork and analysis will therefore focus on historic properties subject to the potential effects of elevated noise and vibrations associated with the undertaking.

The undertaking has the potential to affect historic properties from increased vibratory impacts. According to data provided by SpaceX, launch and reentry events are estimated to result in Lmax levels of 130 dB and/or sonic boom impacts of 2 psf or higher within the APE.

Archaeological resources consisting solely of either surface scatters or subsurface deposits are not likely to be affected by the vibratory effects of increased sonic boom exposure due to the protective qualities of the surrounding soil matrix. Similarly, underwater archaeological sites are unlikely to be affected. However, vibratory effects may be greater on historic age resources within the built environment. Architectural elements most susceptible to damage from launch and reentry vehicle noise include windows and, infrequently, plastered walls and ceilings. Vibration effects may be greatest to non-structural elements such as fragile glass and loose plaster/stone ornamentation. The enclosed memorandum provides additional information on this summation of the potential for vibratory effects on cultural resources (see **Enclosure 2**).

*Previously Recorded Resources Within the APE*

Historic properties within the construction APE include the Launch Complex 39 Pad A Historic District (**8BR1686**) which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The historic district is the first of two launch pads constructed by NASA in the 1960s to accommodate the Saturn V launch vehicle for Apollo missions and modified in the 1970s to accommodate the Space Shuttle Program. The historic district contains 23 extant contributing resources all used to support launch operations. One contributing resource, Launch Complex 39 Pad A (**8BR1995**), is also individually listed in the NRHP. No archaeological sites have been recorded or documented within LC-39A.

A preliminary assessment of the operational APE, using data contained in the Florida Master Site File (FMSF), identified 2,964 previously recorded resources, including 2,315 structures, 31 bridges, 465 archaeological sites, 31 cemeteries, and 122 resource groups. Of these, 35 properties are listed in the NRHP and 353 have been evaluated as eligible (see **Enclosure 2**).

*Approach for the Identification of Historic Properties*

In 2010, NASA KSC completed HAER documentation of the LC-39A historic district and its associated contributing resources. As such, LC-39A is well documented and no further identification or evaluation of LC-39A is proposed.

Identification efforts will focus on historic properties that may be subject to physical damage from elevated noise and vibrations as well as cultural resources whose setting and feeling may be affected by audible and acoustic effects during launch and reentry activities. This will include buildings and structures within the APE that were not specifically designed to withstand the concussive forces of launching and landing spacecraft. Additionally, there are specific types of cultural resources for which aspects of setting and feeling are more likely to represent important components of historic integrity. These types of cultural resources potentially include:

- Designed historic landscapes such as parks and gardens
- Rural historic landscapes with continuity in their traditional use (farming, hunting fishing, sports/recreation)

- Historic districts
- Historic sites that feature outdoor spaces such as yards and plazas
- Cemeteries

Since the universe of properties in the APE will include many thousands of buildings and structures, identification efforts will focus on properties greater than 45 years of age, in areas that have not been surveyed within the last 10 years, and limited to historic properties and potential historic properties that may reasonably be affected by the undertaking. Previously recorded resources that were determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP will be excluded from further identification and evaluation efforts.

Historic properties will be identified in two ways. First, NASA KSC, supported by SEARCH, will compile an inventory of previously recorded cultural resources within the APE that are listed, eligible for listing, potentially eligible for listing, and unevaluated for listing in the NRHP. NASA KSC will use the FMSF database as well as the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plans from both KSC and the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. Additionally, county property appraiser databases will be queried to identify unrecorded historic aboveground resources within the APE. Parcel data contains built year information, which can be cross-referenced with recorded resources to identify parcels that contain structures 45 years old or older without recorded resources. Historic maps and aerial photographs will be used to examine land use and development changes over time, and a historic context will be developed for the APE. Data will be further supplemented with information on unrecorded cultural resources provided by consulting parties and the public. The cumulative data will be used to develop a Geographic Information System heat map within the APE to identify areas with high concentrations of unrecorded structures that are 45 years old or older. These data sets will be used to identify and create a list of properties that will be subject to survey fieldwork. The preliminary inventory data are provided in Enclosure 2.

Second, fieldwork will be conducted with three primary objectives:

- 1) Conduct a windshield survey guided by the heat map discussed above, in order to identify potential historic properties.
- 2) Complete FMSF documentation for potential historic properties identified during the windshield survey that have a reasonable possibility to be adversely affected by the undertaking. The architectural historians will identify and photograph potential historic properties that appear to embody historic significance established in the historic context. They will also identify and document the character-defining features that are indicative of NRHP eligibility and that may be susceptible to adverse effects, as discussed in Section 1.2. All newly recorded resources will be assumed NRHP-eligible, for the purposes of Section 106 consultation.



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- 3) Revisit NRHP-listed or eligible historic properties that are individually eligible for the NRHP and that have with a reasonable possibility to be adversely affected to reassess their integrity.

A technical report presenting the results of the identification of historic properties will be prepared and submitted to your office for review.

**Consulting Party Identification**

An initial list of Consulting Parties (see **Enclosure 3**) who will be invited to consult for this undertaking has been compiled. NASA KSC is also consulting with the following Federally-recognized Tribes directly - the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma.

**Public Involvement Plan**

NASA KSC intends to post this and subsequent letters it submits to SHPO on FAA's public facing project website with instruction on how the public may provide comment. Public postings will not contain confidential or sensitive information pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.11(c) or information that is Export Controlled.

At this time, NASA KSC is requesting your comments related to: 1) the APE; 2) the proposed identification/evaluation approach, and 3) information on any additional consulting parties that should be included in our consultation effort. If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact me at 321-867-8454.

Sincerely,

Katherine Zeringue

Digitally signed by Katherine  
Zeringue  
Date: 2024.12.20 13:11:14 -05'00'

Katherine Zeringue  
KSC Cultural Resource Manager  
Environmental Planning

**Enclosures:**

1. LC-39A Infrastructure Figure
2. Supplemental Background Information for the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles Proposed Action at Launch Complex-39A, Kennedy Space Center
3. Initial list of Consulting Parties



Enclosure 1. LC-39A Infrastructure

**TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**  
**SUPPLEMENTAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE SPACEX STARSHIP**  
**SUPER HEAVY LAUNCH AND REENTRY VEHICLES PROPOSED ACTION AT LAUNCH**  
**COMPLEX-39A, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER**

<b>CONSULTANT:</b>	SEARCH
<b>AUTHORS:</b>	Timothy Parsons, PhD; William Werner, MA; Gypsy Brafford, PhD
<b>CLIENT:</b>	Leidos
<b>DATE:</b>	December 2024
<b>SEARCH PROJECT #:</b>	240265

This technical memorandum presents supplementary background information in support of consultation between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Kennedy Space Center (NASA KSC) and the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review for the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and reentry vehicles at KSC. Southeastern Archaeological Research, LLC (SEARCH) completed this cultural resources desktop study on behalf of Leidos, SpaceX, and FAA to provide additional information regarding the proposed area of potential effects (APE), known historic properties within the APE, and the approach for evaluating effects to previously unidentified historic properties within the APE.

### **1.1 AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS**

Area of potential effects means the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking [36 CFR 800.16(d)]. For launch operations, the FAA has typically selected a noise contour for a specific propulsion/engine noise level and/or a specific sonic boom/overpressure, because rocket noise has the greatest geographical extent of all of the potential sources of alterations to historic properties from launches (including landings and reentries).

In defining the APE for rocket launches, it is important to consider engine noise levels that 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 (NRHP) in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's setting or feeling. For projects at federal launch complexes, such as KSC, this typically is not an issue because of the historical nature of rocket launches occurring at the project site.

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<sup>1</sup> Supplemental Information for the SpaceX SSH Proposed Action at KSC



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The APE considers the auditory and vibratory effects of the Starship Super Heavy Launch and reentry activities covered under the Federal Aviation Administration's operating license and is predicated on vibratory impacts based on data provided by SpaceX and prepared by Leidos. Vibratory impacts can be quantified using the Maximum Unweighted Sound Level (Bradley et al. 2020:3). Based on a study of structural damage during rocket static firing tests, Maximum Unweighted Sound Levels at 111 decibels (dB) result in one damage claim per 1,000 structures exposed, and levels at 120 dB result in one damage claim per 100 structures (Bradley et al. 2020:5). The National Academy of Sciences' "Guidelines for Preparing Environmental Impact Statements on Noise" (National Academy of Sciences 1977) state that one may conservatively consider all sound lasting more than one second with levels exceeding 130 dB (unweighted) as potentially damaging to structures. Vibratory impacts from sonic boom overpressure are quantified in pounds per square foot (psf). Studies have shown that damage from sonic booms is highly unlikely when structures are exposed to levels under 2 psf (Haber et al. 1989). However, when exposed to levels between 2 and 4 psf, structural components, including glass and plaster, demonstrate damage at a higher rate than expected due to natural wear in well-maintained structures (Haber et al. 1989).

In summary, for rocket launch undertakings at federal launch complexes, the FAA recommends defining the APE using a peak sound pressure level of 130 dB for operations with launches only or 2 psf overpressure for operations with launches and landings. In cases with both launches and landings, the total extent of both areas should be used to define the APE when one does not fully encompass the other. Additionally, effects analyses should be conducted on the resources for both launch noise and landing noise impacts to the respective identified resources.

Based on this information and previous research regarding rocket engine noise and vibration effects to structures, the APE was established as areas subjected to greater than or equal to 130 dB or overpressure levels of 2 psf associated with sonic booms (**Figure 1** and **Figure 2**) (Fenton and Methold 2016, Guest and Slone 1972, Haber et al. 1989).

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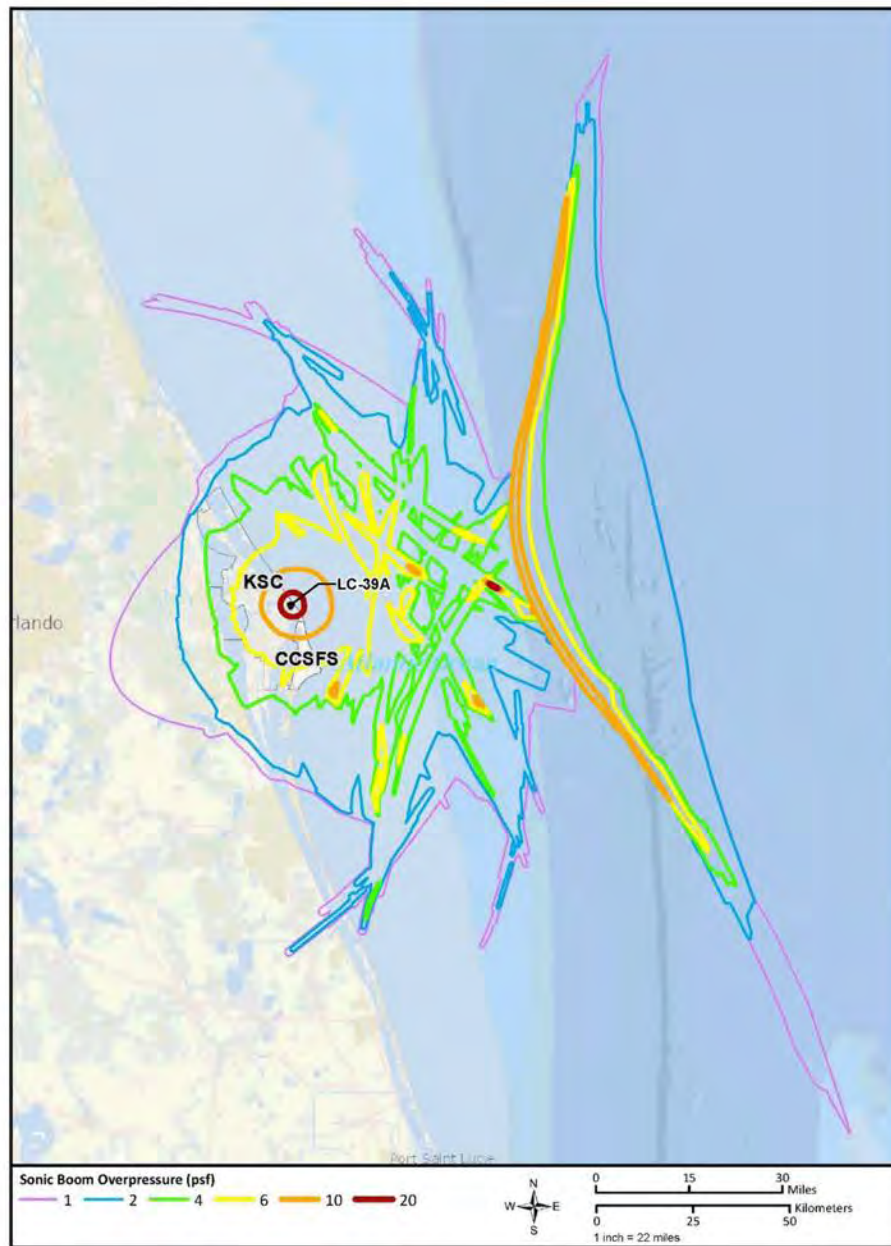


Figure 1. Sonic boom overpressure map for the Project area. The APE is defined as the area within the 2 psf contour (blue line) (Figure provided by Leidos).

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Figure 2. The APE, including portions of Brevard, Volusia, and Orange Counties.



## 1.2 POTENTIAL FOR ADVERSE EFFECTS

Per 36 Code of Federal Regulations 800.5, a federal undertaking has an adverse effect on a historic property when it diminishes one or more aspects of integrity to the extent that the property no longer conveys its significance per Criteria A–D for listing in the NRHP. NRHP eligibility is defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations 60.4, under the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1972, as amended:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and,

- A. that are associated with events or activities that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. 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, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

The increased vibratory impacts from the proposed project have the potential to cause adverse effects to cultural resources. High sound pressure levels and vibrations have the potential to cause building/structural damage. In general, however, structural damage to buildings due to propulsion/engine noise is rare. The historic building element “most susceptible to damage from launch vehicle noise [are] windows, and more infrequently, plastered walls and ceilings” (Nocerino et al. 2021:15). Masonry buildings and structures are most susceptible to vibration damage through the “wearing of joints...which can cause load to be redistributed due to a weakening of a structural member” (National Cooperative Highway Research Program [NCHRP] 2012:35). Further, vibration effects may be greatest to “non-structural building elements [such as] fragile glass, loose plaster mosaics or pieces of stone” (NCHRP 2012:36). Previous analysis also indicates “wood and steel are more elastic than masonry, such as brick and stone” (NCHRP 2012:2). Therefore, increased exposure to vibration may diminish the integrity of a resource’s significant historic features.

Sonic booms also have the potential to result in structural damage. A large degree of variability exists in the possible effects of a sonic boom. For example, the probability of a window breaking when exposed to a sonic boom of 1 psf ranges from one in a billion to one in a million (Sutherland 1990) with much of the variability depending on the condition of the glass. At 10 psf, the probability of glass breaking is between 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000. Laboratory tests involving glass have shown that properly installed glass will not break at overpressures below 10 psf, even when exposed to repeated sonic booms (White 1972). Damage to plaster has the potential to occur in

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the same range of overpressures as damage to glass. Plaster often cracks due to shrinkage over time or due to structural settling. Sonic boom damage to plaster often occurs when internal stresses are already high as a result of these processes. In general, for well-maintained structures, the threshold for potential damage from sonic booms is 2 psf; below 2 psf, damage is unlikely (Haber and Nakaki 1989).

Archaeological resources consisting solely of surface scatters or subsurface deposits are not likely to be affected by the vibratory effects of increased sonic boom exposure due to the protective qualities of the surrounding soil matrix (Nocerino et al. 2021). Vibratory effects may be greater on historic resources, particularly those elements that predate the mid-twentieth century and were not designed or built with the impacts of the aeronautical industry in mind.

The National Park Service (NPS) provides guidelines for interpreting the seven aspects of integrity (location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association) as they relate to the potential effects of an undertaking (NPS 1995:45). The effects of the undertaking are unlikely to impact the location or association of historic properties within the APE. As noted above, there are limited circumstances in which the effects of vibration may result in damage to aboveground structures. Such damage may potentially affect the design, materials, and workmanship of historic properties, particularly as they relate to exterior and ornamental detailing.

Additionally, the setting and feeling of historic properties may be temporarily altered by the visual, audible, and vibratory effects of the undertaking. Setting refers to the physical environment of a resource, while feeling refers to the aesthetic qualities of a resource as they relate to the specific time during which the resource became significant. There are specific types of cultural resources for which aspects of setting and feeling are more likely to represent important components of historic integrity, such as archaeological sites with aboveground features, historic districts and landscapes, and cemeteries.

### **1.3 PREVIOUSLY RECORDED CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE APE**

The Florida Master Site File (FMSF), maintained by the Florida Division of Historical Resources, is the primary repository for information regarding cultural resources (archaeological sites, cemeteries, buildings, bridges, linear resources [e.g., highways, railroads, canals], districts, and landscapes) that have been formally documented in Florida, typically as a result of compliance with federal, state, or municipal historic preservation statutes. SEARCH performed a query of the FMSF Geographic Information System database in December 2024 to provide the background information discussed below. Alternate sources that will be consulted to create an inventory of previously recorded cultural resources will include the NRHP database, the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plans for KSC and the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, and information provided by consulting parties and members of the public. Procedures for identifying additional cultural resources that have not been previously recorded are discussed in the subsequent section.



The query of the FMSF database indicated that there are 2,964 previously recorded cultural resources within the APE, including 465 archaeological sites, 2,315 structures, 31 cemeteries, 122 resource groups (including building complexes, districts, landscapes, and linear resources), and 31 historic bridges. The following sections provide overviews of each of the resource categories present within the FMSF database, including discussion of the attributes most likely to be affected by the proposed project.

### 1.3.1 Structures

Historic structures include architectural resources such as residential, commercial, and public buildings, as well as other elements of the built environment. To be considered significant,

the structure must represent a part of history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture of an area, and it must have the characteristics that make it a good representative of properties associated with that aspect of the past. (NPS 1995:7)

The FMSF database review identified 2,315 previously recorded buildings within the APE; at least 40 have been destroyed and will not be included in further analyses. Twenty-four buildings are listed in the NRHP, 324 have been evaluated eligible for listing, seven are potentially eligible for listing, 836 are not eligible for listing, and the remaining 1,084 have not been evaluated for eligibility. Though these historic structures are distributed throughout the APE, many are concentrated around the cities of Titusville and Cocoa Beach, or are associated with KSC, Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, or Patrick Space Force Base. **Table 1** summarizes the extant NRHP-listed and -eligible structures located on nonfederal lands within the APE. An additional 1,053 structures located on nonfederal lands have yet to be evaluated and are not included in the table.

Of the 1,439 buildings that are listed, eligible for listing, potentially eligible for listing, or have not been evaluated for NRHP eligibility, at least 545 recorded structures are composed at least in part of masonry materials such as brick, concrete, stone, and structural clay tile. As discussed above, these materials are less elastic than metal or wood and may be particularly susceptible to vibratory impacts. However, minor damage may not necessarily result in an adverse effect to these resources unless it diminishes the character-defining aspects of integrity that contribute to the eligibility of these structures. Because the remaining 876 buildings were either determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP or recorded as destroyed, it can be reasonably assumed that impacts to these resources, if any, would be insignificant.

**Table 1. Structures within the APE that are NRHP-Listed or -Eligible.**

Site	Site Name	Year Built	Style	NRHP Status
BR00172	Launch Complex 39	1968	Other	Listed
BR00177	St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church	1887	Gothic Revival, ca. 1840–present	Listed
BR00211	Porcher, E P House	1916	Georgian Revival, ca. 1880–present	Listed
BR00278	Cocoa Junior High	ca. 1924	Masonry Vernacular	Listed
BR00282	Aladdin Theater Building	1924	Italian Renaissance Rev ca. 1880-1935	Listed



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Site	Site Name	Year Built	Style	NRHP Status
BR00397	Wager House	ca. 1891	Frame Vernacular	Listed
BR00399	Robbins, George, Judge House	ca. 1892	Georgian Revival, ca. 1880–present	Listed
BR00425	422 Julia St.	1926	Mission	Eligible
BR00426	428 Julia St.	1905	Masonry Vernacular	Eligible
BR00430	423 Main St.	ca. 1910	Frame Vernacular	Eligible
BR00454	La Grange Church and Cemetery	1869	Frame Vernacular	Listed
BR00465	Brevard County Courthouse	ca. 1912	Neo-Classical Revival, ca. 1880–1940	Eligible
BR00468	Palm Ave	1925	Mission	Eligible
BR00480	Spell House	ca. 1911	Queen Anne (Revival), ca. 1880–1910	Listed
BR00524	Pritchard House	1891	Queen Anne (Revival), ca. 1880–1910	Listed
BR00581	St. Luke's Episcopal Church	1889	Frame Vernacular	Listed
BR00681	825 Osceola Dr.	ca. 1926	Mediterranean Revival, ca. 1880–1940	Eligible
BR00724	Caldwell, Troy E. Residence	ca. 1905	Georgian Revival, ca. 1880–present	Eligible
BR00730	1277 Rockledge Dr.	ca. 1915	Frame Vernacular	Eligible
BR00860	Hill, Dr. George E. House	ca. 1880	Frame Vernacular	Listed
BR01163	Lamar, Mattie House	1917	Frame Vernacular	Eligible
BR01657	City Point Community Church	1885	Frame Vernacular	Listed
BR01658	Hotel Mims	ca. 1889	Frame Vernacular	Listed
BR01684	Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB)	ca. 1966	No style	Listed
BR01685	Launch Control Center (LCC)	ca. 1966	International, ca. 1925–present	Listed
BR01688	Missile Crawler Transporter Facilities	ca. 1965	Not applicable	Listed
BR01690	Press Site: Clock and Flag Pole	1969	No style	Listed
BR01693	Operations Checkout (O&C)	ca. 1964	International, ca. 1925–present	Listed
BR01702	Field, J.R. Homestead	ca. 1900	Frame Vernacular	Listed
BR01723	Cocoa Cemetery Storage Building	ca. 1931	Masonry Vernacular	Eligible
BR01739	Ashely's Café & Lounge	ca. 1932	Tudor Revival, ca. 1890–1940	Eligible
BR01741	Rockledge Gardens Nursery & Landscaping	ca. 1930	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR01744	Harvey's Groves	ca. 1939	Masonry Vernacular	Eligible
BR01765	Bohn Equipment Company	ca. 1927	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR01825	Cocoa Post Office	1940	Art Deco, ca. 1920–1940	Listed
BR01988	Landing Aids Control Building (LACB)	ca. 1976	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR01991	Orbiter Processing Facility (OPF)	ca. 1977	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR01992	Orbiter Processing Facility High Bay 3	1987	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR01994	Thermal Protection System Facility	ca. 1988	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR01995	Launch Complex 39: Pad A	ca. 1965	Not applicable	Eligible
BR01997	Rotation/Processing Building	1982	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR01998	SRB ARF Manufacturing Building	1986	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR02010	Launch Complex 39: Pad B	ca. 1966	Not applicable	Eligible
BR02016	Canister Rotation Facility	ca. 1993	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR02021	Mobile Launcher Platform	ca. 1963	Not applicable	Eligible
BR02671	Space Station Processing Facility	1992	Industrial Vernacular	Eligible
BR02704	400 Lucerne Dr	ca. 1966	Other	Eligible
BR02779	317 Rosa Jones Drive	ca. 1962	Masonry Vernacular	Eligible
BR02908	NLAX 170	ca. 1985	Not applicable	Eligible

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Site	Site Name	Year Built	Style	NRHP Status
BR02969	Engineering Development Laboratory	1966	No style	Eligible
BR02990	Beach House	1962	No style	Eligible
BR03046	Foam Building	ca. 1965	Masonry Vernacular	Eligible
BR03955	2460 Courtenay Parkway N	ca. 1965	Mid-Century Modern, ca. 1940s–early 1960s	Eligible
BR04215	Imperial Towers	ca. 1963	Mid-Century Modern, ca. 1940s–early 1960s	Listed

### 1.3.2 Building Complexes, Districts, and Landscapes

The FMSF classifies several types of cultural resources that consist of individual resources grouped into building complexes, districts, and landscapes. The FMSF includes 51 building complexes, districts, and landscapes within the APE that are listed ( $n = 8$ ), eligible ( $n = 32$ ) potentially eligible ( $n = 1$ ), or unevaluated ( $n = 10$ ) for listing in the NRHP (Table 2). Of these, five are archaeological districts, two are designed historic landscapes, nine are FMSF building complexes, 33 are historic districts, and two are mixed districts. Of the 40 NRHP-listed or -eligible resources within this group, most are late nineteenth- to twentieth-century historic districts ( $n = 20$ ) or building complexes ( $n = 2$ ) located on Cape Canaveral and associated with the aeronautical industry. These include 12 launch complexes, two test facilities, and various operations support facilities. The remaining 18 NRHP-listed or -eligible resources within this group include aeronautical facilities in Titusville ( $n = 5$ ), Satellite Beach ( $n = 2$ ), and at Patrick Space Force Base ( $n = 3$ ). Although Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (8BR00216) is not formally listed in the NRHP and is therefore not included in the sum of listed properties above, it was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1984.

Potential effects to archaeological districts and archaeological components to “mixed” districts will be included in the discussion of archaeological sites below; the current section focuses on districts and landscapes containing aboveground elements. A historic district draws its significance from the density of historic resources within it, rather than from the individual significance of a resource. A contributing resource is one that adds to a historic district’s context and integrity. A district is further composed of resources unified through common historical themes or architectural types or styles (NPS 1999:6). A contributing resource adds to these overall themes not necessarily by possessing individual significance, but rather by its expression of historic integrity. Given that the potential for physical damage from the effects of the undertaking is limited to very few individual buildings, as discussed above, it is unlikely that the undertaking would significantly alter the integrity of a historic district’s materials, design, and workmanship. Analysis of effects to historic districts and building complexes within the APE will focus on those that are not associated with the aeronautical industry because these are more likely to contain physical elements that may be susceptible to vibration damage or have historical associations expressed through integrity of setting and feeling that may be affected by the visual and audible effects of the undertaking.



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#### A designed historic landscape

has significance as a design or work of art; was consciously designed and laid out by a master gardener, landscape architect, architect or horticulturalist to a design principle, or an owner or other amateur using a recognized style or tradition; has a historical association with a significant person, trend, event, etc.” (Keller and Keller n.d:2)

Examples of designed historic landscapes include estate grounds, zoological gardens, plazas or other public spaces, city planning, battlefield parks and outdoor recreation areas (such as golf courses, stadiums, and racetracks). There are no NRHP-listed designed historic landscapes within the APE, but the PAFB Airfield (8BR02439) is eligible, and the Rockledge Country Club (8BR02143) has not been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. Analysis of potential effects to these designed historic landscapes will consider whether they have contributing physical elements that maintain integrity of design, materials, and workmanship that could be susceptible to vibration damage and how their aspects of setting and feeling may be affected by the visual and audible effects of the undertaking.

**Table 2. Districts and Landscapes within the APE that are Listed, Eligible, or Unevaluated for Listing in the NRHP.**

Site	Site Name	Classification	Time Period	NRHP status
BR00216	Cape Canaveral Air Force Station	FMSF building complex	1950-present	National Historic Landmark
BR00238	Canaveral Town	Archaeological district	1921-1940	Not evaluated
BR00560	Titusville Commercial District	Historical district	1880-1929	Listed
BR00564	Cocoa Historic District	Historical district	1861-1899	Not evaluated
BR01611	Rockledge Drive Residential District	Historical district	1880-1929	Listed
BR01612	Valencia Subdivision Residential District	Historical district	1921-1929	Listed
BR01613	Barton Avenue Residential District	Historical district	1880-1897	Listed
BR01686	Launch Complex 39: Pad A	Historical district	1950-present	Listed
BR01687	Launch Complex 39: Pad B	Historical district	1950-present	Listed
BR01975	Banana River Naval Air Station Seaplane	Historical district	1939-1989	Potentially eligible
BR01986	Shuttle Landing Facility Area HD	Historical district	1969 to 2010	Eligible
BR01990	Orbiter Processing Historic District	Historical district	1969 to 2010	Eligible
BR01996	Solid Rocket Booster Disassembly and Refurbishment Historic District	Historical district	1969 to 2010	Eligible
BR02022	Launch Complex 21/22	Historical district	1900–present	Eligible
BR02033	Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Station District	Mixed district	Precontact; 1861–1865; 1894–present	Not evaluated



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Site	Site Name	Classification	Time Period	NRHP status
BR02143	Rockledge Country Club Resource Group	Designed historic landscape	1927–1957	Not evaluated
BR02170	PAFB Missile Instrumental Station	Historical district	1950–present	Eligible
BR02181	Bommarc - Sage Radome Facility	FMSF building complex	1945–1991	Eligible
BR02188	Launch Complex 9 Resource Group	FMSF building complex	1900–present	Eligible
BR02198	Launch Complex 13	Historical district	1956–1966	Eligible
BR02209	Launch Complex 14	Historical district	1950–present	Eligible
BR02234	Launch Complex 3 & 4	Historical district	1900–present	Eligible
BR02248	Launch Complex 1-2	Historical district	1900–present,	Eligible
BR02260	Launch Complex 19	Historical district	1956–1966	Eligible
BR02272	Launch Complex 30	FMSF building complex	1950–present	Eligible
BR02279	Launch Complex 34	Historical district	1961–1971	Eligible
BR02369	Launch Complex 17	Historical district	1957–1960	Eligible
BR02438	PAFB Landplane Facilities District	FMSF building complex	1945–1991	Eligible
BR02439	PAFB Airfield	Designed historic landscape	1950–present	Eligible
BR02440	PAFB Landplane Administrative District	FMSF building complex	1945–1991	Eligible
BR02518	Launch Complex 25	Historical district	1958–1969	Eligible
BR02529	Launch Complex 29	Historical district	1958–1969	Eligible
BR02535	Launch Complex 31/32	FMSF building complex	1900–present	Not evaluated
BR02540	Fuel Storage Area 3	Historical district	1952–present	Eligible
BR02935	Titusville Downtown Residential Historic	Historical district	1821–present	Not evaluated
BR03031	Area 55: Delta Operations Support Area	Historical district	1956–1980	Eligible
BR03034	Delta II Solid Rocket Motor Area	Historical district	1963–1965	Eligible
BR03036	Delta Spin Test Facility	Historical district	1966–2010	Eligible
BR03052	LC 5/6 Spin Test Facility	Historical district	1900–present	Eligible
BR03073	CCAFS Industrial Area	Historical district	1958–present	Eligible
BR03186	Skid Strip Historic District	Historical district	1950–present	Eligible
BR03345	Cocoa Maintenance Yard	FMSF building complex	1900–present	Not evaluated
BR03369	CCAFS Industrial Area Historic District	Historical district	1946–1989	Eligible
BR03407	Carpenter Homes Complex	FMSF building complex	1950–present	Not evaluated
BR03433	Control Tower Road Tracking Sites	Historical district	1950–present	Eligible
BR03921	Richard E. Stone Historic District	Historical district	Unknown	Not evaluated
BR04000	Cape Fish Company	Archaeological district	1900–present	Eligible
BR04229	Jonathan H. Sams Farmstead	Mixed district	Precontact	Eligible
VO00259	North Mosquito Lagoon Archaeological District	Archaeological district	Precontact	Not evaluated
VO02569	Ross Hammock Complex	Archaeological district	Precontact; nineteenth century	Listed

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Site	Site Name	Classification	Time Period	NRHP status
VO09407	Elliot Plantation Complex	Archaeological district	British colonial; US territorial period	Eligible

### 1.3.3 Cemeteries

**Table 3** summarizes the 31 cemeteries within the APE that are recorded in the FMSF database. Six have been evaluated eligible for listing in the NRHP, while the remaining 25 have not been evaluated. One of the NRHP-eligible cemeteries, La Grange Cemetery (BR04541), is associated with the NRHP-listed La Grange Church (BR00454). Approximately half of the FMSF-recorded cemeteries within the APE serve African American and Native American populations. Eight are federally owned cemeteries associated with the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, and at least seven are privately owned.

NPS guidelines state that cemeteries are typically ineligible for listing in the NRHP; however, they may be eligible if they are associated with persons of outstanding historical importance or are connected to important historical events. The materials, design, and workmanship evident in grave markers and the organization of burial grounds may reflect unique perspectives of ethnic and cultural groups in ways that can contribute to the eligibility of a cemetery. Furthermore, the analysis of the effects of the undertaking will consider whether setting and feeling potentially contribute to the eligibility of the cemeteries within the APE, as these aspects of integrity may be disrupted by visual, audible, and vibratory effects of the undertaking.

**Table 3. Recorded Cemeteries in the APE.**

Site	Site Name	Year Established	Ownership	Ethnicity	Status	NRHP Status
BR00186	Campbell-Jackson Cemetery	1913	Federal	African American	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR00191	African American Graves/New Haulover 2	1880	Federal	African American	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR00233	Cape Road Cemetery	ca. 1894	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Abandoned	Not evaluated
BR00552	Historic Negro Cemetery	Unknown	Private-individual	African American	Abandoned	Not evaluated
BR01624	Emma Watton	ca. 1882	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR01626	Crook/Watton	1915	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR01631	Griffis	1897	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Unspecified by surveyor	Not evaluated
BR01705	Pioneer Cemetery	ca. 1890	Private-community	White, non-Hispanic	Used	Eligible
BR01724	Hilltop Cemetery	ca. 1887	City	African American	Used	Eligible
BR01777	Cocoa Cemetery	ca. 1890	City	White,	Used	Eligible

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Site	Site Name	Year Established	Ownership	Ethnicity	Status	NRHP Status
				non-Hispanic		
BR01979	City Point Cemetery	1878	Private-individual	African American, Native American, white, non-Hispanic	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR02352	Fac. 77903-Burnham Family Cemetery	ca. 1866	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Abandoned	Not evaluated
BR02354	Fac. 60201-Penny Family Cemetery	ca. 1890	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Abandoned	Not evaluated
BR02355	Quartermen North	ca. 1920	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR02356	Quartermen South	1869	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR02357	Facility 6403-Osmon Grave	ca. 1913	Federal	White, non-Hispanic	Abandoned	Eligible
BR02358	Fac. 6405-Canaveral Fish Company Grave	1913	Federal	Other	Abandoned	Eligible
BR02401	White Lilly	ca. 1892	Private	African American	Used	Not evaluated
BR02406	Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church Cem	ca. 1915	Unknown	African American	Unspecified by surveyor	Not evaluated
BR02411	Dennis Sawyer Cemetery	1956	Private	African American	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR02785	Evergreen Memorial Cemetery	1942	Unknown	White, Non-Hispanic	Used	Not evaluated
BR02786	Canaveral Groves Cemetery	1884	County	White, Non-Hispanic	Used	Not evaluated
BR02808	Pinecrest Colored Cemetery	1949	Private-corporate/nonprofit	African American	Used	Not evaluated
BR03000	Pinecrest Cemetery	1929	Private-corporate/nonprofit	White, Non-Hispanic	Used	Not evaluated
BR03334	Fisher Plot	ca. 1884	Private-individual	Other	Maintained but not used	Not evaluated
BR03366	Fac. 77901-Wilson Brothers Cemetery	ca. 1940	Federal	White, Non-Hispanic	Abandoned	Not evaluated
BR04310	Pluckebaum's Tomb	ca. 1937	Private	White, Non-Hispanic	Unspecified by surveyor	Not evaluated
BR04482	Davis Memorial Cemetery	1956	Unknown	African American	Unspecified by surveyor	Not evaluated
BR04541	La Grange Cemetery	1875	Unknown	Unknown	Used	Eligible
BR04574	Oak Ridge Cemetery	ca. 1916	Private-corporate/nonprofit	African American	Used	Not evaluated
BR04630	Georgiana Cemetery (aka Crooked Mile)	ca. 1884	Unknown	African American	Used	Not evaluated



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### 1.3.4 Archaeological Sites

An archaeological property can be a precontact or postcontact district, site, structure or object. To be eligible for listing in the NRHP, an archaeological property should have local, state, or national significance, and qualities of integrity, which include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association (Little et al. 2000). Archaeological sites are usually eligible under NRHP Criterion D (yield or likely to yield important information), but they can be eligible under any of the criteria.

The FMSF database includes 465 previously recorded archaeological sites within the APE, including five submerged historic shipwrecks. Of these 465 previously recorded sites, one is listed in the NRHP, 40 have been evaluated eligible for listing in the NRHP, six have been evaluated potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP, and 122 have been evaluated ineligible for listing in the NRHP. The remaining 296 have not been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. As described above, the anticipated effects of the undertaking are limited to rare instances of physical damage to aboveground resources, as well as temporary visual, audible, or vibratory interruptions to historic setting and feeling. Most archaeological sites, consisting of scattered remains on or below the ground surface, are protected from vibration damage by the surrounding soil matrix (or by water in the case of maritime sites) and already lack integrity of setting and feeling. However, some archaeological sites may have preserved aboveground structural features. Furthermore, setting and feeling may be important aspects at sites that feature landscape elements, such as mounds or earthworks (Little et al. 2000:36). The 343 sites within the APE that are listed, eligible for listing, potentially eligible for listing, or have not been evaluated for NRHP eligibility were reviewed to identify those that potentially include these attributes. This review identified 103 sites, which are summarized below. The 122 sites previously found to be ineligible for listing in the NRHP presumably lack integrity, significant historical associations, or information potential; therefore impacts to these sites are not likely to be significant.

**Table 4** summarizes the 103 archaeological sites that are eligible for listing, potentially eligible for listing, or have not been evaluated for NRHP listing and that also feature aboveground components or landscape features. Of these 103 sites, 43 are precontact Native American mounds, and the remaining 60 are the aboveground remains of houses, mills, historic forts, or other aboveground built structures. In total, 19 of the 103 archaeological sites summarized below are considered eligible for NRHP listing. Of these 19 sites, 15 are historic structures, which largely consist of aeronautical facilities, such as the Former NAA Control Tower Site (8BR03534) and Lighter-Than-Aircraft Factory (BR02477), and industrial facilities, such as the Ross Hommock Evaporation Plant (8VO00213) and Sugar Mill Ruins at Elliot Plantation (8VO00160). The remaining four are precontact burial mounds with associated midden deposits, including the Ross Hammock Mounds (8VO00131) and Haulover Sand Mound and Midden (A, B) (8BR01673).

**Table 4. NRHP-Eligible and Unevaluated Archaeological Sites within the APE with Potential Aboveground or Landscape Features.**

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	NRHP Status
BR03279	Beachside Midden	Land (terrestrial)	Not evaluated
BR03335	Fac. 17200: Weather Theodolite Pad B	Building remains	Eligible

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Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	NRHP Status
BR03336	Fac. 1331: Telemetry ELSEE 12-110-PL	Building remains	Eligible
BR03337	Fac. 1333B: Beat-Beat DOVAP 14-110-PLM	Building remains	Eligible
BR03338	Fac. 1333A: Beat-Beat DOVAP 14-110-PR	Building remains	Eligible
BR03339	Fac. 1334: Telemetry ELSEE 12-110-PRS	Building remains	Eligible
BR03341	Facility 74610: Camera Pad	Building remains	Eligible
BR00009	Indian Mound Station	Precontact burial(s)	Eligible
BR00031	Unknown	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00062	Moore Mound	Precontact midden(s)	Not evaluated
BR00063	Sams Mound	Land (terrestrial)	Not evaluated
BR00065	Unknown	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00066	Unknown	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00069	Unknown	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00072	Fairyland/Honeymoon Hill	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00077	Nauman's Place	Precontact burial(s)	Not evaluated
BR00078	Dummett's Place	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00078B	Dummett Homestead	Building remains	Potentially eligible
BR00083	De Soto Grove Burial Mound	Land (terrestrial)	Eligible
BR00084	Unknown	Historic fort	Not evaluated
BR00085	Burns	Habitation (precontact)	Not evaluated
BR00086	Holmes Mound	Building remains	Eligible
BR00087	Gulbransen Mound	Habitation (precontact)	Not evaluated
BR00088A	Hammock Mound A	Habitation (precontact)	Not evaluated
BR00088B	Hammock Mound B	Habitation (precontact)	Not evaluated
BR00088C	Hammock Mound C	Habitation (precontact)	Not evaluated
BR00089	Norris Mound	Habitation (precontact)	Not evaluated
BR00090	Fuller Mound A	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00091	Fuller Mound B	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00092	Fuller Mound C	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00093	Fuller Mound D	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00094	Fuller Mound E	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00095	Fuller Mound F	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00142	Butler Campbell's Mound	Precontact burial(s)	Not evaluated
BR00150	Oyster Prong Creek Mound	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00151	Unknown	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00156	Unknown	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00162	Fairyland Hill Burial Mound	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR00175	Fort Ann	Historic fort	Not evaluated
BR00205	Max Hoeck Mound and Midden	Precontact midden(s)	Not evaluated
BR00206	Pepper Hammock	Campsite (precontact)	Not evaluated
BR00223	Quartermaster	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00234	Old Lighthouse	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00238A	Canaveral Town Site B	Building remains	Not evaluated



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Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	NRHP Status
BR00238B	Canaveral Town Site C	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00238C	Canaveral Town Site D	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00238D	Canaveral Town Site E	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00239	Stinktown and Jeffords	Building remains	Potentially eligible
BR00240	Hotel	Industrial	Not evaluated
BR00243	Pier Road Houses	House	Not evaluated
BR00243B	Pier Road Houses Site B	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00243C	Pier Road Houses Site C	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00540	Daigle Place	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00544	Lopex Orchard	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR00567	UWF 3	Homestead	Not evaluated
BR01639	NS BR 4	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR01670	Haulover Canal Midden	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR01673	Haulover Sand Mound and Midden (A,B)	Precontact mound(s)	Eligible
BR02351	Murray Parcel	Farmstead	Not evaluated
BR02365	Fac. 1330B: Beat-Beat DOVAP 12-110-PLM	Building remains	Eligible
BR02396	Fac. 1343: East Compass Rose	Building remains	Eligible
BR02400	Ulumay Lagoon	Habitation (precontact)	Not evaluated
BR01855	Harry T. Moore Site	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR01872	Sam's Site	Agriculture/farm structure	Eligible
BR01933	Little Midden	Building remains	Eligible
BR01935	Lone Cistern	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02052	Fac 1222 CZR Camera Pad U15R146	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02053	Fac 36900: GLOTRAC Site	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02054	Fac. 114-G: LC-25 Warning Horn Site	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02055	Facility 1212-CZR Camera Site U36R175	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02078	Pace's Landing	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02160	FIM Van Site S-5	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02161	Facility 1209-Rate Antenna Pad A	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02165	Facility 289 - Flame Attenuation Site	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02166	James W. Merchant Homestead	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02167	Facility 1126: Telemetry ELSS	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02229	Clifton Schoolhouse	Agriculture/farm structure	Not evaluated
BR02477	Lighter-Than-Air Craft Factory	Building remains	Eligible
BR02507	Taylor House	Homestead	Not evaluated
BR02508	Hunters Camp	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02509	Palm Hammock	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02513	Facility 1390: Theodolite Tower 1.40	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02514	Facility 1090 Security Police Bldg	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR02680	Klondike Beach Tower Ruins (2311.12)	Building remains	Not evaluated
BR03048	Old MacDonald's Farm	Farmstead	Not evaluated
BR03152	Clark Slough Earthwork	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR03274	The Dunal Ridge Midden	Precontact mound(s)	Not evaluated
BR03534	Former NAA Control Tower Site	Building remains	Eligible
BR03998	CCAFS Facility 1430 - SHANICLE Building	Building remains	Not evaluated
IR00994	Sam Dale	Farmstead	Not evaluated
OR00008	Long Bluff 3	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
OR10652	Streetman Cabin	Building remains	Not evaluated



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Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	NRHP Status
VO02599	Mosquito Lagoon House of Refuge	Building remains	Not evaluated
VO00112	Castle Windy Midden	Precontact burial(s)	Not evaluated
VO00129	Scobey Place	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
VO00131	Ross Hammock-Mounds	Precontact burial mound(s)	Eligible
VO00148	Griffis Place	Precontact burial mound(s)	Not evaluated
VO00149	Oak Hill Mound	Campsite (precontact)	Not evaluated
VO00160	Sugar Mill Ruins – Elliot Plantation	Building remains	Eligible
VO00213	Ross Hammock – Evaporation Plant	Building remains	Eligible
VO05312	CANA 26	Specialized procurement site	Not evaluated
VO08887	V-1 Impoundment	Land-terrestrial	Not evaluated
VO08936	Voorhees Midden	Campsite (precontact)	Not evaluated

### 1.3.5 Linear Resources

The FMSF includes 49 linear resources within the APE, two of which are listed in the NRHP. Fifteen have been evaluated eligible for listing in the NRHP, 24 have been evaluated ineligible for listing in the NRHP, and eight have not been evaluated for listing in the NRHP (**Table 5**). The two NRHP-eligible linear resources within the APE are the Old Haulover Canal (8BR00188), which connects the Indian River to Mosquito Lagoon north of Merritt Island, and Crawlerway (8BR01689), which connects the Vehicle Assembly Building (BR01684) and two launch pads (BR01686 and BR01687) at Launch Complex 39 at the KSC. The 24 eligible or unevaluated linear resources include canals and associated structures ( $n = 5$ ), railroads ( $n = 5$ ), roads ( $n = 8$ ), trails ( $n = 3$ ), and paved runways ( $n = 3$ ) associated with aeronautical facilities. These include some of the oldest roads on Merritt Island (8BR04227 and 8BR04228) and sections of the Hernandez Capron Trail (8BR01766 and BR01924), which was built in part to forcefully remove the Seminole from south Florida during the Second and Third Seminole Wars. The linear resources within the APE that are associated with modern transportation uses and industrial aeronautical facilities are engineered to withstand frequent impacts and are unlikely to be affected by the undertaking. Linear resources dating to earlier historic periods typically consist of features at or below the ground surface and often lack physical integrity, so they are unlikely to be affected by the undertaking.

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**Table 5. Linear Resources within the APE that are NHRP-Listed, Eligible, or Unevaluated.**

Site	Site Name	Classification	Date Established	NRHP status
BR04534	S Range Road Canal	Canal	Twentieth century	Not evaluated
BR00188	Old Haulover Canal	Canal	Late eighteenth–early nineteenth century	Listed
BR01689	Crawlerway	Runway	Late twentieth century	Listed
BR01766	Hernandez Trail	Trail	Mid-nineteenth century	Eligible
BR01870	Florida East Coast Railroad	Railroad	Early to mid nineteenth century	Eligible
BR01914	St. Johns Indian River RR/Tramway	Railroad	Nineteenth century	Eligible
BR01924	Old Dixie Highway	Road	Nineteenth century	Eligible
BR01987	Shuttle Landing Facility Runway	Runway	Late twentieth century	Eligible
BR02193	Magruder Road	Road	Late nineteenth–early twentieth century	Not evaluated
BR02230	New Smyrna to Haulover Canal Road	Road	Nineteenth century	Eligible
BR02258	New Haulover Canal	Canal	Nineteenth century	Not evaluated
BR02336	Facility 50305: Skid Strip	Runway	Mid to late twentieth century	Eligible
BR02363	Canaveral Beach Canal	Canal	Early twentieth century	Not evaluated
BR02544	Old Highway A-1-A	Road	Early twentieth century	Not evaluated
BR02931	NASA Railroad at Kennedy Space Center	Railroad	Mid to late twentieth century	Eligible
BR02932	NASA KSC Railroad System HD	Railroad	Mid to late twentieth century	Eligible
BR02936	Canaveral Lock	Lock	Mid to late twentieth century	Eligible
BR03051	Indian River Drive	Road	Nineteenth century	Not evaluated
BR04191	ICBM Road	Road	Mid-twentieth century	Eligible
BR04227	Homesteaders' Trail	Trail	ca. 1879	Eligible
BR04228	North Tropical Trail	Trail	ca. 1879	Eligible
BR04504	Pluckebaum Road Canal	Canal	1936–1943	Not evaluated
VO08606	Florida East Coast Railroad	Railroad	Nineteenth century	Eligible
VO08880	New Smyrna to Haulover Canal Road	Road	Nineteenth century	Eligible
VO09406	Plantation Road	Road	Nineteenth century	Not evaluated

### 1.3.6 Bridges

In total, 31 historic bridges are included in the FMSF database. Five of these historic bridges have been evaluated eligible for listing in the NRHP, 24 have been evaluated ineligible for listing in the NRHP, and the remaining two have not been evaluated for listing in the NRHP. A summary of NRHP-eligible and unevaluated historic bridges is provided in **Table 6**. The historic bridges within the APE were constructed in the twentieth century, and all but one are still in use. The four eligible bridges are located along roads that facilitate access to Merritt Island: two (BR01699,

BR02906) span the Indian River to the west, one spans the New Haulover Canal between the Indian River and Mosquito Lagoon to the north (BR02957), and the other spans the Banana River to the east of Merritt Island (BR02955). The eligible or unevaluated bridges within the APE are unlikely to be affected by the undertaking because they have been engineered for durability and frequent use by modern trains or motor vehicles; their construction dates range from 1948 to 1965.

**Table 6. NHRP-Eligible and Unevaluated Historic Bridges within the APE.**

Site	Site Name	Year Built	Ownership	Material	Status	NRHP Status
BR01699	Indian River Bridge	1948	County	Concrete, steel	Destroyed	Eligible
BR02906	Jay Jay Bridge	ca. 1963	Federal	Concrete, steel	In use	Eligible
BR02955	Banana River Bridge	1964	Federal	Steel	In use	Eligible
BR02957	Haulover Canal Bridge	1965	Federal	Steel	In use	Eligible
BR03015	Girard Blvd / Navigable Sykes Creek	1962	County	Concrete	In use	Not evaluated
VO10381	FDOT Bridge No. 790004	ca. 1956	State	Steel	In use	Not evaluated

#### 1.4 PROPOSED APPROACH TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED HISTORIC PROPERTIES

This approach is designed to make a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the APE that may be affected by the undertaking. Because the properties in the APE will include thousands of buildings and structures, identification efforts will focus on properties greater than 45 years of age, in areas that have not been surveyed within the last 10 years, and limited to those historic properties and potential historic properties that may reasonably be affected by the undertaking. Previously recorded resources that were determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP will be excluded from further identification and evaluation efforts.

Historic properties will be identified in two ways. First, NASA KSC, supported by SEARCH, will compile an inventory of previously recorded cultural resources within the APE that are listed in, eligible for, potentially eligible for, and unevaluated for listing in the NRHP. NASA KSC will use the FMSF database and Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plans from both KSC and the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. Additionally, county property appraiser databases will be queried to identify unrecorded historic aboveground resources within the APE. As illustrated in **Figure 3**, parcel data contains built year information, which can be cross-referenced with recorded resources to identify parcels that contain structures 45 years old or older without recorded resources. Historic maps and aerial photographs will be used to examine land use and development changes over time, and a historic context will be developed for the APE. Data will be supplemented with information on unrecorded cultural resources provided by consulting



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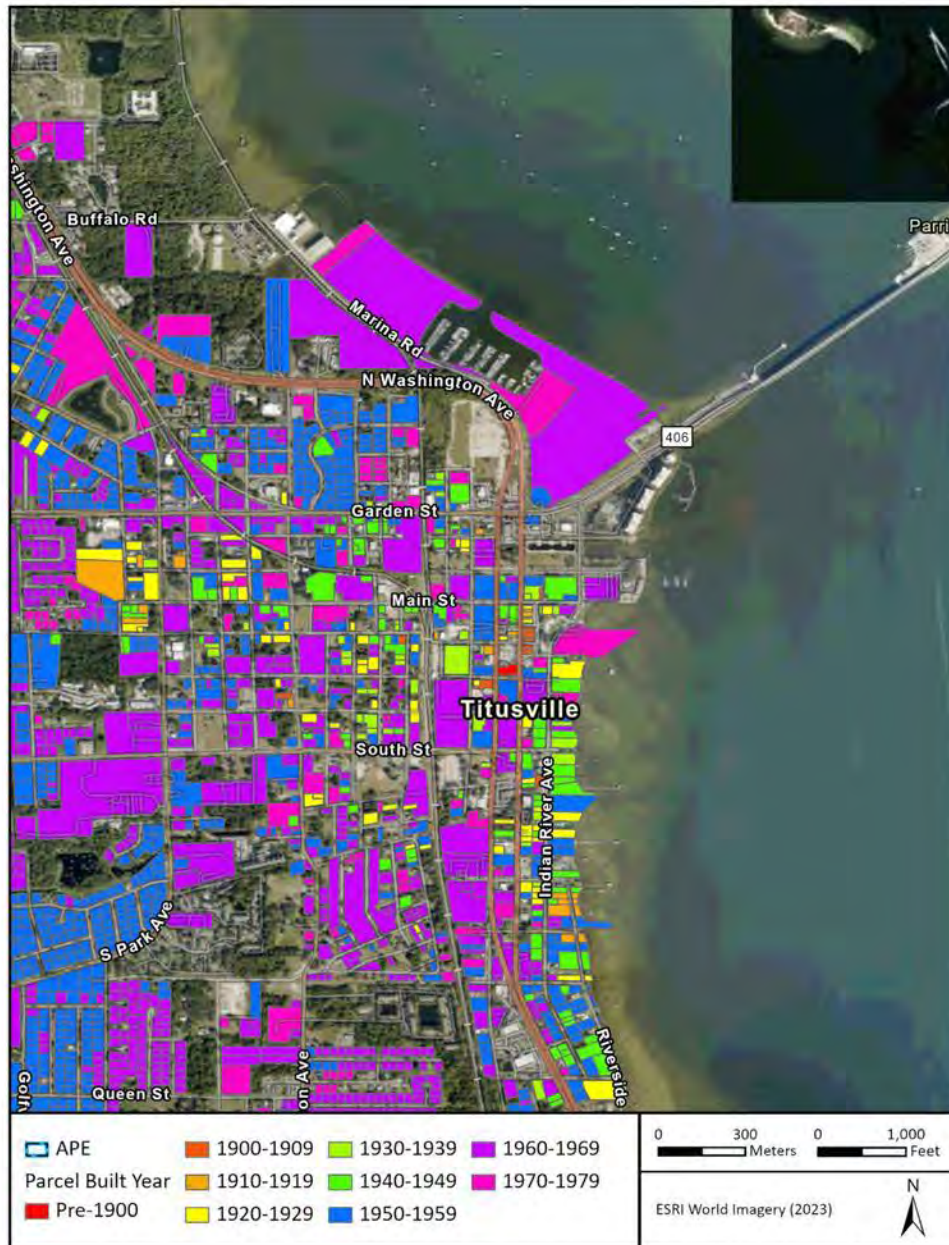
parties and the public. The cumulative data will be used to develop a Geographic Information System heat map of the APE to identify areas with high concentrations of unrecorded structures that are 45 years old or older. These data sets will be used to identify and create a list of properties that will be subject to survey fieldwork. The preliminary inventory data are provided in this document.

Second, fieldwork will be conducted with three primary objectives:

- 1) Conduct a windshield survey guided by the heat map discussed above, in order to identify potential historic properties.
- 2) Complete FMSF documentation for potential historic properties identified during the windshield survey that have a reasonable possibility to be adversely affected by the undertaking. The architectural historians will identify and photograph potential historic properties that appear to embody historic significance established in the historic context. They will also identify and document the character-defining features that are indicative of NRHP eligibility and that may be susceptible to adverse effects, as discussed in Section 1.2. All newly recorded resources will be assumed NRHP-eligible, for the purposes of Section 106 consultation.
- 3) Revisit NRHP-listed or eligible historic properties that are individually eligible for the NRHP and that have with a reasonable possibility to be adversely affected to reassess their integrity.

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Background Information: SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at KSC

December 2024  
Technical Report



December 2024  
Technical Memorandum

SEARCH  
Background Information: SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at KSC

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December 2024  
Technical Report

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- 2012 *NCHRP 25-25/Task 72: Current Practices to Address Construction Vibration and Potential Effects to Historic Buildings Adjacent to Transportation Projects*. Electronic document, [https://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/docs/NCHRP25-25\(72\)\\_FR.pdf](https://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/docs/NCHRP25-25(72)_FR.pdf), accessed December 16, 2024.

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- 1990 *Effects of Sonic Boom on Structures, Lecture 3 of Sonic Boom: Prediction and Effects*. Brooks Air Force Base, Texas: Air Force Systems Command.

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- 1972 *Effects of Repetitive Sonic Booms on Glass Breakage*. Report No. FAA-RD-72 43, Wyle Laboratories. Huntsville, Alabama.

**Enclosure 3. Consulting Parties List**

- American Space Museum and Space Walk of Fame
- Apollo One Memorial Foundation, Inc.
- Brevard County Historical Commission
- Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science
- Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation
- Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum (formerly Air Force Space and Missile Museum)
- Cape Canaveral Space Force Station
- City of Titusville
- City of Titusville Historic Preservation Board
- Department of Anthropology, University of Central Florida
- Florida Anthropological Society
- Florida Historical Society
- Florida Public Archaeology Network – East Central Region
- Historical Society of North Brevard
- Indian River Anthropological Society
- Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge
- NASA Alumni League-Florida Chapter
- National Park Service, Canaveral National Seashore
- National Park Service, National Historic Landmark Program Southeast Region
- National Space Club
- North Brevard Heritage Foundation
- North Brevard Historical Museum
- South Brevard Historical Society

**6. Name and title of federal agency official and contact person for this undertaking, including email address and phone number:**

Katherine Zeringue  
[Katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov](mailto:Katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov)  
321-867-8454

**II. Information on the Undertaking\***

**7. Describe the undertaking and nature of federal involvement (if multiple federal agencies are involved, specify involvement of each):**

NASA KSC is lead federal agency for Section 106 as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review of the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at Launch Complex-39A (LC-39A). Under the supervision of the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation, SpaceX is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential impacts of proposed infrastructure construction, and ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the Starship Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at LC-39A. Because SpaceX plans to apply to the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation for a vehicle operator license for Starship Super Heavy, the EIS will conform to the FAA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing policy, FAA Order 1050.1F, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures*, regarding the potential infrastructure construction, ground operations, launch, and reentry-related impacts. NASA KSC is acting as the lead federal agency for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA. As such, Section 106 will be conducted pursuant to the 2009 *Programmatic Agreement Among the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, John F. Kennedy Space Center, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer: Regarding Management of Historic Properties at the Kennedy Space Center*.

The undertaking involves issuance of a vehicle operator license by the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation that will facilitate ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy at LC-39A. Specifically, this would include up to 44 launches of Starship Super Heavy per year; return of the first stage booster to LC-39A; return of Starship to LC-39A; and construction of an air separation unit for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen, onsite natural gas liquefaction production and cryogenic liquid storage capability, roadway improvements, other associated infrastructure, and a catch tower.

**8. Describe the Area of Potential Effects (APE):**

See Enclosure 1, Figures 1 and 2 in the attached document titled "SpaceX SH Launch, Reentry Final SHPO".

The APE has been developed to consider both a construction APE and an operational APE. The construction APE is limited within the existing boundaries of LC-39A. Additionally, it is anticipated that proposed new construction associated with the operation of the Starship Super Heavy will be compatible with the characteristic of other launch complex infrastructure and will not pose viewshed effects to historic properties. The operational APE considers the auditory effects of the Starship Super Heavy launch activity as well as the overpressure effects of the sonic boom generated during atmospheric



reentry. FAA guidance stipulates consideration of a 130 decibel (dB) threshold for launch effects and a 2.0 pounds per square foot (psf) threshold for effects from the sonic boom. Based on this information, and previous research regarding rocket engine noise and vibration effects to structures, the APE was established as any area subjected to greater than or equal to 2.0 psf sonic booms. This area also encompasses the 130 dB threshold for launch effects, as well as the construction APE. The operational APE totals 2,050,232.71 acres (ac), the majority of which is over the Atlantic Ocean; 168,770.55 ac is terrestrial. A visual of the APE is provided with the materials referenced in question #10.

**9. Describe steps taken to identify historic properties:**

The proposed identification approach was designed, in consultation with SHPO, to make a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the APE that may be affected by the undertaking. Effects related to construction will be limited within the footprint of LC-39A. This area has already been subject to survey and evaluation and will not require additional studies. The fieldwork and analysis therefore focused on historic properties subject to the potential effects of elevated noise and vibrations associated with the undertaking.

NASA KSC and Cape Canaveral Space Force Station (CCSFS) historic properties, including NHLs, are within the APE. Inventories and descriptions of architectural history resources from each agency's Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) were used to identify NRHP listed, NRHP-eligible, and contributing elements to listed and eligible resources. No additional architectural survey was completed within KSC and CCSFS.

Because thousands of unrecorded buildings and structures are within the operational APE outside of federal lands, NASA KSC, in consultation with the FAA and the Florida SHPO, developed an identification approach to make a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the APE that may be affected by the undertaking. Identification efforts focused on historic properties greater than 45 years of age, in areas that have not been surveyed within the last 10 years and limited to those historic properties and potential historic properties that may reasonably be affected by the undertaking. This identification and evaluation approach aligns with standard FAA practice for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and its implementing regulations and is consistent with Chapter 8 of the FAA Order 1050.1F, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures.

The architectural history field methods consisted of an intensive architectural survey of previously recorded architectural resources and a windshield survey of unrecorded architectural resources that are likely to be 45 years or older. The Florida Master Site File (FMSF) was used to inform the strategy of the field methods. In addition, USGS quadrangle maps and available parcel data were reviewed (Brevard County Property Appraiser 2025) for buildings and/or structures built prior to 1980 and placed into color-coded "heat maps" to identify areas of concentration in which previously unrecorded structures are likely to be 45 years or older. This will further inform general interpretations on architectural styles, integrity, and development patterns. Following the background research, architectural history fieldwork was conducted and included an intensive architectural survey focused on previously recorded architectural resources within the APE, and a windshield survey focused on previously unrecorded architectural resources that are likely to be 45 years or older within the APE. Additional windshield survey efforts used the "heat maps" to identify concentrated areas of unrecorded resources, focus the identification effort, and inform interpretations on architectural styles, distinguishing characteristics, integrity, and notable development patterns.

The FMSF Geographic Information System database was researched to identify all archaeological sites previously documented within the operational APE. Archaeological sites with aboveground components have the potential to be affected by vibratory and overpressure effects like those described for

architectural resources. Sites in the FMSF that included a site type description with a clear aboveground component such as precontact mound, building remains, or structures were further researched. Sites that were previously found to be ineligible for listing in the NRHP presumably lack integrity, significant historical associations, and information potential, and were excluded because impacts to these sites are not likely to be significant. Archaeological sites that met all the following criteria within the APE were considered to have the potential for aboveground components that could contribute to NRHP eligibility and be affected by vibratory and overpressure effects:

- A site type description with a clear aboveground component such as precontact mound, building remains, or structures and also;
- Sites that the SHPO has not evaluated or determined the site to be eligible or potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Sites that have the potential to contain human remains were accounted for regardless of the presence of aboveground components or NRHP eligibility due to their sensitive nature. For sites that met the above criteria, modern aerial imagery (Google Earth Pro 2025) and site details recorded in the FMSF for the last field visit were reviewed to assess the likelihood for aboveground components to be extant that may contribute to NRHP eligibility.

Additionally, federally-recognized Indian tribes, Consulting Parties and the public were asked to provide any information they had regarding historic resources. Two consulting parties, the City of Titusville CLG and the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation, provided information regarding historic resources within the APE. Canaveral National Seashore confirmed they had shared information regarding historic properties with us previously independent of this project but didn't have anything new to offer. No other information was received from tribes, Consulting Parties, or the public.

**10. Describe the historic property (or properties) and any National Historic Landmarks within the APE (or attach documentation or provide specific link to this information):**

A link to access the Cultural Resources Survey (CRAS) will be provided by SEARCH Inc. The file is too large to email. The Cape Canaveral Air Force Station NHL is within the operational APE.

**11. Describe the undertaking's effects on historic properties:**

See Sections 1.1, 4.2.1 and 5.1 of the CRAS.

Within the construction APE, Historic American Engineering Record (HAER FL-8-11-F), at a Level II, for LC-39A was completed in 2010 to mitigate for "adverse effects" that might occur with post Shuttle Program redevelopment. The Florida SHPO, in a letter dated May 10, 2013, concurred future consultation is not required for future modifications to LC-39A. Furthermore, it is anticipated that proposed new construction associated with the operation of the SSH will be compatible with the characteristics of other launch complex infrastructure and will not pose viewshed effects to historic properties.

Within the operational APE, adverse effects resulting from the undertaking are not likely but are possible. Vibratory and sonic-boom events could result in window breakage, damage to character-defining plaster and masonry features, and structural damage to highly vulnerable or poorly maintained buildings. Although it is similarly unlikely—because the nature of longitudinal effects of vibratory and overpressure events on archaeological sites has not been studied thoroughly—adverse effects to such resources cannot be ruled out. The majority of documented resources outside of NASA KSC and CCSFS are within the 2 psf overpressure contour. However, resources located on KSC and CCSFS are within the 20, 10, 6, and 4 psf contours. Resources subjected to higher overpressure resulting from sonic booms may be more susceptible to adverse effects.



**12. Explain how this undertaking would adversely affect historic properties (include information on any conditions or future actions known to date to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects):**

A final determination of how SSH launch and landing activities will affect historic properties is not possible at this time. NASA KSC will develop a programmatic agreement to monitor for and mitigate potential adverse effects, should they occur. SHPO has indicated they would like to use the SpaceX Starship Superheavy Boca Chica Launch Site Programmatic Agreement in Texas as a model for the development of the Programmatic Agreement for this project. See: [Appendix C - National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation | Federal Aviation Administration](#)

NASA KSC will propose the following measures for the Programmatic Agreement:

- **Additional efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties.** Due to the size of the operational APE and the thousands of resources within its boundary, not all of the many thousands of previously recorded resources within the APE could be discussed. Specifically, 164 previously recorded architectural history resources that have been evaluated by previous surveyors as “NRHP Eligible as Potential Resource Group Contributors” but not evaluated by SHPO were identified within the APE during background research and are omitted from the identification and evaluation efforts. It is possible that these resources contribute significance to existing resource groups or comprise unrecorded resource groups or historic districts. Additional survey, documentation, and evaluation is necessary to determine if these resource groups contribute to existing or unrecorded NRHP eligible historic districts. Additionally, previously recorded architectural history resources that were determined by SHPO to be ineligible for listing in the NRHP were excluded from this study. Although background research does not capture these data at the individual resource level, some of these ineligible resources were surveyed and recorded in the FMSF more than 10 years ago. The Florida SHPO frequently recommends that properties determined ineligible more than 10 years ago be resurveyed and reevaluated for NRHP eligibility, as it is possible that they have developed significance individually or as contributors to resource groups in the intervening years. Similarly, additional field survey and updates to FMSF historic structure forms for buildings recommended eligible for NRHP listing either individual or as contributors to resource groups may support long-term efforts to assess effects to NRHP-eligible resource groups.
- **Monitoring historic properties within different psf contours for effects.** The potential for adverse effects to historic properties within the 2 psf is possible, though unlikely, based on existing data. While most historic properties in Titusville and outside of NASA KSC and CCSFS are within the 2 psf contour, several are within the 4 psf counter. However, numerous resources on NASA KSC and CCSFS are within the 4, 6, 10, and 20 psf contours. There is limited data on how historic buildings and structures may be affected by repeated exposure to sonic booms. A longitudinal study monitoring the effects of sonic boom and vibratory effects on historic properties over the long-term could inform consulting parties on the nature and severity of adverse effects to different property types and would serve as a resource for future studies evaluating the potential effects of future undertakings involving spacecraft launches and landings.
- **Monitoring sonic boom overpressure and vibration at archaeological sites.** Previous studies on effects to archaeological sites resulting from sonic boom overpressure are limited in scope and make assumptions related to the lack of subsurface effects. Additionally, similar studies focused on resource types such as those within the APE (shell and sand mounds, for example) have not been conducted, and existing archaeological literature does not specifically note, describe, or discuss effects resulting from vibratory and sonic boom-related effects resulting from spacecraft launches (if any). A longitudinal study of surface and subsurface exposure to launch-related



overpressure and vibratory events at archaeological sites, combined with targeted excavations to evaluate subsurface integrity of archaeological deposits, may inform whether such exposure results in effects to subsurface archaeological deposits. Additionally, such a study would serve as a resource for future studies evaluating the potential effects of future undertakings involving spacecraft launches and landings.

**13. Provide copies or summaries of the views provided to date by any consulting parties, Indian tribes or Native Hawai'ian organizations, or the public, including any correspondence from the SHPO and/or THPO.**

**Tribal responses:** KSC has contacted 5 Tribes with a known interest in the area including the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, the Miccosukee Tribe, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town. NASA KSC has received responses from 3 of the 5 tribes.

- The **Seminole Tribe of Florida** requested copies of studies relevant to effects to archaeological sites and responded: The proposed undertaking does fall within the STOF Area of Interest. Therefore, we would like to accept your invitation to consult on this project pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470) as amended and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). Our preferred methods of engagement are written correspondence and supplemental virtual and/or in-person Government-to-Government consultations. It is our hope that any formal engagement with our office will facilitate meaningful discussion and integrate Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK), and general comments, into project design/implementation.
- The **Miccosukee** had questions related to effects to archaeological resources and requested information related to launch and landing trajectories stating, "this could be a potential concern, depending upon the answer."
- The **Seminole Nation of Oklahoma** stated they wanted to continue to consult on the project but would defer to the Seminole Tribe of Florida in decision making.

**Consulting party responses:** A full list of consulting parties invited to consult can be found in the attached document titled "SpaceX SH Launch.Reentry Final SHPO".

- The **City of Titusville (CLG)** requested consulting party status and provided the following information related to historic resources: Here is the sharelink with the City's historic preservation files: <https://titusville.sharefile.com/ds91f2e071167b41ef934c3d01bcf91265>. Here is a link to a storymap of national and local designated historic resources in Titusville: [Historic Titusville](#).
- The **North Brevard Historical Society and Museum** requested consulting party status and stated the following: Being located in downtown Titusville we are definitely in the APE for this project and would like to be kept apprised of its progress. It looks like a lot of the historical buildings in this area have already been identified. Our museum does have information on quite a few of the structures in this area. Please feel free to use our resources in any of your investigations.
- The **North Brevard Heritage Foundation, Inc.** requested consulting party status and provided the following statement: I have reviewed the attached reports and find that you have identified the historic structures and archaeological sites that are located within the identified APE area. Our concerns are the noise and vibration impacts of both launches and landings to the respective identified resources and how they would also impact the general public. I would like to see results of a recent impact study at Boco Chico site in regard to noise and vibration of both launches and landings to the surrounding area. I think that the SpaceX Starship Project and Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles are extremely important to the future of space exploration and development of KSC for future generations.

- The **Canaveral National Seashore**, who is also a Cooperating Agency in the development of the EIS, requested consulting party status and provided the following statement: Our agency has shared cultural resource information with KSC NASA previously via the NPS database, the Historic Resource Study, the Archeological Overview and Assessment, and reports on individual sites and projects that are north of the secure area. Canaveral National Seashore also has a museum building located at the southern boundary adjacent to the launch pads. The museum building houses important archeological, biological, paleontological, historical, and archival objects from the Seashore and KSC. Some of these objects are breakable and/or stored in flammable liquids (in a flammable cabinet) which could be susceptible to damage from strong vibrations which is a concern.
- The **Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation** requested consulting party status and provided the following statement: Our historic properties include the lighthouse, constructed in 1868 on the tip of Cape Canaveral, and moved to its current location in 1894. Adjacent to the lighthouse is an oil house constructed circa 1900. Original brick work and foundations are also located underground at the same location. We appear to be just outside the area of most danger, but would like to follow the discussion going forward, in case additional information relative to impacts on the lighthouse arise.
- The **NPS National Historic Landmark Program Southeast Region** was invited to participate as a consulting party and was non-responsive.

**Members of the public** submitted comments during initial public scoping meetings. Five comments were received regarding concern for potential effects to the structural integrity of historic properties.

### III. Additional Information

**14. Please indicate the status of any consultation that has occurred to date, including whether there are any unresolved concerns or issues the ACHP should know about in deciding whether to participate in consultation.** Providing a list of consulting parties, including email addresses and phone numbers if known, can facilitate the ACHP's review response.

#### General Section 106 Consultation Materials Distributed:

- December 20, 2024 – Initiation of Section 106 Consultation
- March 17, 2025 – Continuing Consultation – Identification, Evaluation, Assessment of Effects (review and comment period closes April 18, 2025)

#### SHPO Engagement:

- January 23, 2025 Meeting – Discussed proposed APE, the proposed identification and evaluation approach, potential effects and cumulative Effects, the need for an agreement document, and consulting parties. Meeting notes are attached.
- February 13, 2025 Meeting – Discussed initial finding of identification and evaluation fieldwork. Meeting notes are attached.
- February 17 – 28, 2025 – SHPO informally reviewed a draft of the CRAS before it was formally distributed for review and comment on March 17, 2025. Their informal comments are attached; the majority of their comments were addressed prior to CRAS finalization and distribution.

#### Tribal Engagement:

- NASA KSC has followed up with all Tribes via email and phone calls after the distribution of the December 20, 2024 Section 106 consultation materials.
- Seminole Tribe of Florida has provided responses in writing. See #13 above.
- Miccosukee has provided responses in writing and NASA KSC has engaged in direct

conversation with the THPO.

- The THPO for the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma visited NASA KSC for an on-site tour of KSC and discussion about the project on January 31, 2025.

**15 Does your agency have a website or website link where the interested public can find out about this project and/or provide comments? Please provide relevant links:**

- FAA's website: [https://www.faa.gov/space/stakeholder\\_engagement/spacex\\_starship\\_ksc](https://www.faa.gov/space/stakeholder_engagement/spacex_starship_ksc)
- KSC's website: [Section 106 – Environmental](#)

**16. Is this undertaking considered a “major” or “covered” project listed on the Federal Infrastructure Projects Permitting Dashboard? If so, please provide the link:**

Yes. See: <https://www.permits.performance.gov/permitting-project/dot-projects/spacex-starship-super-heavy-project-kennedy-space-center-launch>

**The following are attached to this form (check all that apply):**

- ☒ Section 106 consultation correspondence (SHPO, sample Tribal letters, sample consulting party invite)
- ☐ Maps, photographs, drawings, and/or plans (Will be included in the CRAS provided by SEARCH Inc. The file is too large to attach.)
- ☐ Additional historic property information
- ☒ Consulting party list with known contact information
- ☒ Other: [SHPO Meeting Minutes](#), [SHPO comments on draft CRAS](#), [Tribal engagement tracker](#)



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

John F. Kennedy Space Center  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899



March 17, 2025

Reply to Attn of: SI-E3

Alissa S. Lotane  
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer  
Florida Division of Historical Resources  
R.A. Gray Building  
500 S. Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Attn: Ms. Kelly Chase, Deputy SHPO  
Mr. Scott Edwards, Historic Preservationist

Subject: Continuing Consultation, SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry  
Vehicles at Launch Complex (LC)-39A, Kennedy Space Center (KSC)

Dear Ms. Lotane:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) KSC is continuing consultation with your office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review of the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at LC-39A. The undertaking involves issuance of a vehicle operator license by the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation that will facilitate ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy at LC-39A. Specifically, this would include up to 44 launches of Starship Super Heavy per year; return of the first stage booster to LC-39A; return of Starship to LC-39A; and construction of an air separation unit for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen, onsite natural gas liquefaction production and cryogenic liquid storage capability, roadway improvements, other associated infrastructure, and a catch tower. As noted in our initiation letter sent on December 20, 2024, NASA KSC is acting as the lead Federal agency for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA.

This letter addresses the identification, evaluation, and assessment of effects for this undertaking. Relevant information can be found in the following sections of the enclosed Cultural Resource Survey for the Starship-Super Heavy Project at LC-39A:

- Methods for the identification of historic properties can be found in Section 5.2. Identification efforts included the following resources:
  - Previously recorded historic resources including cemeteries; and
  - Unrecorded resources; and
  - Archaeological resources.
- Identification results and recommendations for determinations of eligibility can be found in Sections 4.2 and 6.
- A discussion of how historic properties may be affected by the undertaking can be found in Sections 1.1 and 5.1.
- Anticipated findings of effects can be found in Section 6.

NASA KSC agrees with the conclusions and recommendations in the Cultural Resource Survey, including SEARCH Inc.'s eligibility recommendations. However, at this time, NASA KSC cannot make a definitive effect finding of how SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and landing activities will affect historic properties. Evidence suggests that adverse effects resulting from the undertaking are not likely but are possible. Because a final determination of effect is inconclusive, the development of a programmatic agreement to monitor for and resolve adverse effects is proposed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.14(b)(1)(ii). The development of this agreement will be done in consultation with your office, Consulting Parties, and federally-recognized Indian Tribes.

Consulting Parties, who accepted the invitation to consult on this undertaking, are copied on this correspondence. This letter acts as their notification and invitation to review and provide comments on the enclosed materials. NASA KSC also continues to consult with federally-recognized Indian Tribes directly.

NASA KSC requests your concurrence with our determinations of eligibility as well as the development of a Programmatic Agreement. We respectfully request a response, and any comments, within 30 days of receipt. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 321-867-8454 or [Katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov](mailto:Katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov).

Sincerely,

**Katherine Zeringue**  
Digitally signed by Katherine Zeringue  
Date: 2025.03.17 09:07:28 -04'00'

---

Katherine Zeringue  
NASA KSC Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosures:  
Cultural Resource Survey for the Starship-Super Heavy Project at LC-39A

cc:  
HQS FPO/R. Klein  
KSC/SI-E3/D. Dankert  
KSC/AD/D. Thorpe  
KSD/AD/J. Krouchick  
KSC/CC/T. Tezel  
KSC/SI-C2/R. Griffin  
FAA/E. Long  
FAA/A. Hanson  
FAA/S. Zee

Consulting Parties:  
Canaveral National Seashore/K. Kneifl  
Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation/B. Zingarelli  
Cape Canaveral Space Force Station/T. Penders  
City of Titusville/B. Parrish  
Historical Society of North Brevard/P. Alix  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/R. Kanaski  
North Brevard Heritage Foundation/R. Foster



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

John F. Kennedy Space Center  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899



March 17, 2025

Reply to Attn of: SI-E3

Tine Osceola  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Seminole Tribe of Florida  
Heritage & Environment Resources Office  
30290 Josie Billy Hwy., PMB 1004  
Clewiston FL 33440

Subject: Continuing Consultation, SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry  
Vehicles at Launch Complex (LC)-39A, Kennedy Space Center (KSC)  
THPO Compliance Tracking Number: 0034641

Dear Ms. Osceola:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) KSC is continuing consultation with your Tribe pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) environmental review of the proposed action for the SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and reentry vehicles at LC-39A. The undertaking involves issuance of a vehicle operator license by the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation that will facilitate ground, launch, and reentry operations associated with the SpaceX Starship Super Heavy at LC-39A. Specifically, this would include up to 44 launches of Starship Super Heavy per year; return of the first stage booster to LC-39A; return of Starship to LC-39A; and construction of an air separation unit for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen, onsite natural gas liquefaction production and cryogenic liquid storage capability, roadway improvements, other associated infrastructure, and a catch tower. As noted in our initiation letter sent on December 20, 2024, NASA KSC is acting as the lead Federal agency for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and FAA is leading Government to Government consultation.

This letter addresses the identification, evaluation, and assessment of effects for this undertaking. Relevant information can be found in the following sections of the enclosed Cultural Resource Survey for the Starship-Super Heavy Project at LC-39A:

2

- Methods for the identification of historic properties can be found in Section 5.2. Identification efforts included the following resources:
  - Previously recorded historic resources including cemeteries; and
  - Unrecorded resources; and
  - Archaeological resources.
- Identification results and recommendations for determinations of eligibility can be found in Sections 4.2 and 6.
- A discussion of how historic properties may be affected by the undertaking can be found in Sections 1.1 and 5.1.
- Anticipated findings of effects can be found in Section 6.

NASA KSC agrees with the conclusions and recommendations in the Cultural Resource Survey, including SEARCH Inc.'s eligibility recommendations. However, at this time, NASA KSC cannot make a definitive effect finding of how SpaceX Starship-Super Heavy launch and landing activities will affect historic properties. Evidence suggests that adverse effects resulting from the undertaking are not likely but are possible. Because a final determination of effect is inconclusive, the development of a programmatic agreement to monitor for and resolve adverse effects is proposed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.14(b)(1)(ii). The development of this agreement will be done in consultation with your Tribe.

NASA KSC requests your review and comment on our determinations of eligibility, effect finding, as well as the development of a Programmatic Agreement. Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your comments into project planning. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 321-867-8454 or [Katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov](mailto:Katherine.s.zeringue@nasa.gov).

Sincerely,

**Katherine Zeringue**  
Digitally signed by Katherine Zeringue  
Date: 2025.03.17 09:04:46 -04'00'

Katherine Zeringue  
NASA KSC Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosures:  
Cultural Resource Survey for the Starship-Super Heavy Project at LC-39A

cc:  
THPO Compliance Manager/D. Simon  
THPO Compliance Analyst II/V. Menchaca

Dr. J. L. Smith  
J. L. Smith, Jr.  
J. L. Smith, Sr.



January 2026

[illegible]



March 31, 2025

Katherine Zeringue  
Cultural Resources Manager  
Kennedy Space Center  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899

Ref: *SpaceX Starship Super Heavy Launch and Reentry Vehicles at Launch Complex-39A*  
*Kennedy Space Center, Merritt Island, Florida*  
*ACHP Project Number: 020937*

Dear Ms. Zeringue:

On March 30, 2025, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) received your notification and supporting documentation regarding the potential adverse effects of the referenced undertaking on a property or properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Based upon the information you provided, we have concluded that Appendix A, *Criteria for Council Involvement in Reviewing Individual Section 106 Cases*, of our regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800) implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, does not apply to this undertaking. Accordingly, we do not believe our participation in the consultation to resolve adverse effects is needed.

However, if we receive a request for participation from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, affected Indian tribe, a consulting party, or other party, we may reconsider this decision. Should the undertaking's circumstances change, consulting parties cannot come to consensus, or you need further advisory assistance to conclude the consultation process, please contact us.

Pursuant to Section 800.6(b)(1)(iv), you will need to file the final Section 106 agreement document (Agreement), developed in consultation with the Florida SHPO and any other consulting parties, and related documentation with the ACHP at the conclusion of the consultation process. The filing of the Agreement and supporting documentation with the ACHP is required in order to complete the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Thank you for providing us with your notification of adverse effect. If you have any questions or require our further assistance, please contact Christopher Daniel at (202) 517-0223 or by e-mail at [cdaniel@achp.gov](mailto:cdaniel@achp.gov) and reference the ACHP Project Number above.

Sincerely,

Dana Daniels  
Historic Preservation Technician  
Office of Federal Agency Programs

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
401 F Street NW, Suite 305 • Washington, DC 20001-2637  
Phone: 202-517-0223 • Fax: 202-517-6381 • [achp@achp.gov](mailto:achp@achp.gov) • [www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov)