PRESENTING HISTORY THROUGH GIS

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Outline

• Introduction to NASA LaRC
• Background leading to project
• Objectives of MOA
• Focus on Public Interpretation
• Expansion beyond SHPO
• Preparing for the Future - Wrap-up
It all began here …

- Chesapeake Bay
- Jamestown
- Williamsburg
- Yorktown
Colonial Through 19th Century

- Chesterville
- Syms School
- Cloverdale
- Moorefield
NACA / NASA

- 1916
- 1945
- 1950
- Current
Background leading to project

- MOA with state
- Headquarters Interest
- 400 Year Jamestown Anniversary
Objectives of MOA

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AND
THE VIRGINIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
REGARDING
DEMOLITION OF THE 7-FOOT BY 10-FOOT HIGH SPEED TUNNEL

WHEREAS, NASA, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined that the proposed undertaking will have an adverse effect on the 7-Foot by 10-Foot High Speed Tunnel, a property eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource to a proposed historic district, and

WHEREAS, NASA and the SHPO agree that there is a lack of prudent and feasible alternatives to the demolition of the 7-Foot by 10-Foot High Speed Tunnel due to the facility’s out-dated technology, restricted public access, and NASA mission requirements to streamline unneeded infrastructure; and

a. Recordation – NASA shall prepare Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) documentation of the property consistent with Level I standards of the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Architectural and Engineering Documentation (48 Federal Register 44730-38). Copies of this documentation will be made available to the SHPO for review and approval prior to demolition. The SHPO shall provide its review within 30 calendar days following receipt of documentation from NASA and absent receipt of approval or response by the SHPO within that time period, NASA may presume that the documentation is approved by the SHPO.

b. Artifact Salvage and Curation – NASA shall consult with parties that have expressed interest in preserving architectural elements of the building to determine if there are any such elements, or artifacts within the building, that may be salvaged for curation or display purposes.

c. Public Interpretation – NASA, in consultation with the SHPO, shall develop and implement a plan to allow for public interpretation of the history of the 7-Foot by 10-Foot High Speed Tunnel. The plan shall include, but need not be limited to, the following elements:
Focus on Public Interpretation

Web-based presentation available to public and on file with NASA Tech Library and SHPO Archives

• Includes:
  – Photographs
  – Written documents
  – Videotaped interviews

• Additional work:
  – Maps
  – Old test film clips
  – Virtual tours
  – Educational module
Virtual Tour of 7x10 High Speed Tunnel
Documenting All Old Test Facilities
Collection of Old Maps of Region
Georeferencing Historic Maps
Education Module

• Students choose mission, Mercury or Apollo, and proceed to visit the astronauts’ training locations.

• After choosing a mission, map of US appears. Locations of interest will be marked. Symbols will be repeated at buildings at LaRC or JSC.

• Students will discover the events that took place at each location. Descriptions will be supplemented with photographs and movies, when appropriate.

• Individual and group activities incorporating assessment methods described by the National Science Teachers’ Association, and aligned with the Virginia SOLs.
Preparing for the Future - Wrap-up

- Improved public outreach
- Improved access to documentation within agency
- NASA requirements to streamline unneeded infrastructure
- If demolition becomes only feasible alternative, preliminary work will be 90% complete
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http://gis.larc.nasa.gov/historic