Section 106 Consulting Parties Meeting
October 26, 2016

Smithsonian South Mall Campus Master Plan
Agenda

• Section 106 Process Update
• Determination of Eligibility (DOE) Process
• Presentation of Hirshhorn DOE
• Presentation of Quadrangle DOE
• Next Steps/Schedule
Overview of Section 106 Process

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

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

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

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

Consultation with Consulting Parties
Determinations of Eligibility (DOEs)

A DOE is a tool for federal agencies to identify and evaluate the eligibility of properties for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

- A DOE can be conducted for individual properties, historic districts, archaeological resources, and multiple property/thematic studies.
- Process is prescribed by 36 CFR § 64.
- In DC, agencies use a template developed by the DC State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO).
- The content and criteria are based on National Register Criteria for Evaluation.
National Register Criteria

(A) Event

• Properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

(B) Person

• Properties that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past

(C) Design/Construction

• Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction

(D) Information Potential

• Properties that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.
Criteria Considerations

Certain types of properties are usually not considered for listing in the National Register, unless they meet certain requirements, known as Criteria Considerations.

(A) Religious Properties
(B) Moved Properties
(C) Birthplaces and Graves
(D) Cemeteries
(E) Reconstructed Properties
(F) Commemorative Properties
(G) Properties that Have Achieved Significance in the Past Fifty Years
Determinations of Eligibility (DOEs)

- The Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places (administered by the National Park Service) makes the final determination.
- The opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer is solicited and considered in the determination.
- Public notice of properties determined eligible are published in the Federal Register.

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Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden DOE
Evaluation of Significance

National Criterion A (Event):

The HMSG is significant for its reflection of the evolution of the Smithsonian Institution and National Mall during the middle half of the twentieth century.

National Criterion C (Design/Construction):

The HMSG is significant as an outstanding and singular example of Modernist architecture designed by a recognized master in the field.
Evaluation of Significance

Criteria Consideration G (Properties that Have Achieved Significance in the Past Fifty Years):

The HMSG meets the test of exceptional significance for the following reasons:

• Work of a recognized master architect (Gordon Bunshaft) by a highly influential corporate firm (SOM)
• Iconic and singular example of late-Modernist architecture
• Evaluated within well-established historic contexts for Modernist architecture, both locally and nationally

Ca. 1974, Avery Library
Evaluation of Integrity

Ca. 1974, Avery Library

2014, EHT Traceries

2016, EHT Traceries
Aerial view of the Smithsonian Quadrangle looking north, 2006, Library of Congress
Purpose and Methodology

- Evaluation of the National Register eligibility of Quadrangle for its potential significance as an **individual** resource.

- Provides **objective, accurate, and meaningful** documentation of the Quadrangle to assist in reaching a consensus determination for the purposes of Section 106 consultation. It can be followed by further evaluations.

- Follows the U.S. Department of the Interior guidelines for applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and Criteria Considerations and the National Register Bulletin *Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties that Have Achieved Significance within the Past Fifty Years*. 
DOE Evaluation of Significance

Criterion A and Criteria Consideration G

Under Criterion A, a property can be significant due to its association with a specific event marking an important moment in prehistory or history and/or a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, municipality, or the nation.

DOE Recommendation:

• The individual historic associations and contributions of the Quadrangle to the development of the Smithsonian Institution and to the development of the National Mall have not had an extraordinary impact that signifies exceptional importance.
DOE Evaluation of Significance

Criterion B and Criteria Consideration G

Under Criterion B, a property is significant if it is associated with the life of a person important in our past.

DOE Recommendation:

- Criterion B customarily applies to a person's home, business, office, laboratory, or studio, and to locations of important events in which the person played a key role.

- The Quadrangle does not meet the requirements of exceptional significance for the resource to be individually eligible at the local or national level under Criterion B and Criteria Consideration G.
DOE Evaluation of Significance

Criterion C and Criteria Consideration G

Under Criterion C, properties are significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, or that represent the work of a master.

DOE Recommendation:

- Architect Jean Paul Carlhian’s body of work has not been widely recognized as pioneering or highly influential.

- Sufficient historical perspective and scholarly, comparative analysis do not currently exist for the period within which the Quadrangle was developed or for the local Postmodern movement that shaped its design.

- There is a scarcity of critical evaluations identifying the Quadrangle as an important example of the work of its landscape architect Sasaki Associates.
DOE Evaluation of Significance

Criterion D and Criteria Consideration G
Under Criterion D, a property is significant if it has yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

DOE Recommendation:
- Criterion D customarily applies to archeological resources.
- The Quadrangle was not evaluated as part of this DOE for its potential to yield archeological information. The presence of archaeological resources is unlikely due to the fact that the site was entirely excavated for the construction of the Quadrangle.
Site History

The Smithsonian Institution Building and the South Yard

1847-1855: Smithsonian Institution Building

1850s: Downing’s plan for the “Smithsonian Pleasure Grounds”

1890: Astro-Physical Observatory

1917: Aircraft Building

Mid 20th C.: South yard cluttered with aged and obsolete buildings

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Chronology of Development

Bicentennial Improvements and the Development of the Quadrangle Concept

1969: Secretary Ripley proposes developing the south yard into a collegiate “Quadrangle”

1975-76: Temporary Bicentennial improvements for the south yard included surface parking and a park designed by Dan Kiley and Partners

1978-79: Concept studies for the south yard’s redevelopment prepared by Junzo Yoshimura

Top: Kiley’s plans for the south yard Bicentennial improvements, October 1975, SI OPDC
Bottom: Yoshimura’s South Garden Concept Study, 1979, SI Archives
Chronology of Development

Final Design and Construction

1980: Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott chosen to develop Yoshimura’s preliminary concept

1980-83: Design review and project development

1983-87: Groundbreaking and construction of the Smithsonian Quadrangle complex (Ripley Center, Sackler Gallery, National Museum of African Art, Haupt Garden)
Final Design

View looking north of the Quadrangle, September 1987, SI Archives

The design team included:
- Junzo Yoshimura (Concept Architect)
- Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott, Boston, Massachusetts (Architect) with design principal Jean Paul Carlhian
- Sasaki Associates, Watertown, Massachusetts (Landscape Architects)

In addition, James R. Buckler of the Smithsonian’s Office of Horticulture had input into the landscape design and landscape architect Lester Collins consulted on plant materials for the Haupt Garden.
Critical Reception

*Architectural Digest* (September 1987)
- “three beautifully proportioned and executed pavilions”
- “the architects lost control of the underground exhibition galleries, and it shows”

- pavilions characterized as “clunky,” “woefully simplistic,” “awkward,” and “heavy-handed”

*Architecture* (November 1987)
- “The pavilions are pleasing in form, handsomely detailed, and finely crafted....”
- “masterful placemaking,” an “engaging sense of place,” and a “very pleasant Washington experience”

*Progressive Architecture* (November 1987)
- pavilions described as “wildly out of scale in the handsome gardens” and “their exaggerated geometries suggest caricature, with cartoonlike references”
Description of Changes

Enid A. Haupt Garden

1989: European linden tree in the northeast corner of the site dies; the Downing Urn and three little-leaf linden trees installed in its place

1990-91: Original crushed stone paving of the paths replaced with brick

1990s: Original half-round granite pavers in the basin of the Moongate Garden replaced with black granite tiles

2014: Sour gum trees along the eastern path of garden replaced with silverbells

2015: Fish scale patterned granite tiles of the chadar in the Fountain Garden replaced with tile
Description of Changes

Ripley Center and Museums

- Redesign of the third level of the Ripley Center to accommodate the Discovery Theater
- Wall board panels installed along the great hall of the Ripley Center
- Fountain basin within the great hall of the Ripley Center removed
- Installation of wall board panels and decorative screens in the ground-floor gallery of the African Art pavilion

Top: Ripley Center concourse, Smithsonian Magazine 18, no. 6 (September 1987)
Bottom: Ripley Center concourse, 2016
CRITERION A: Properties associated with a specific event marking an important moment in history and/or a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, municipality, or the nation.

The Quadrangle is currently listed as a contributing building to the National Mall Historic District under Criterion A.
CRITERION B: Properties associated with the life of a person important in our past.

Charlie Parker Residence, New York, photo from NY Landmarks Preservation Commission

Rachel Carson House, Silver Spring, photo from J. Falkinburg, MHT
**CRITERION C:** Properties significant for their physical design or construction or that represent the work of a master.

- **Top:** Piazza d'Italia (1978) by Charles Moore, photo by C. Birnbaum/Cultural Landscape Foundation
- **Bottom:** Guild House (1960-63) by Robert Venturi, photo from Architecture in the Twentieth Century
- **AT&T Building (1984)** by Philip Johnson and John Burgee, photo from Architecture After Modernism
- **Portland Building** by Michael Graves (1982), photo from Architecture After Modernism
CRITERION C: Properties significant for their physical design or construction or that represent the work of a master.
**CRITERION C:** Properties significant for their physical design or construction or that represent the work of a master.

Left: Hirshhorn Sculpture Garden

Carlhian, 1986, SI Archives
Previous Evaluations

National Mall Historic District
The Quadrangle is a contributing element of the National Mall Historic District under National Register Criterion A as part of the Smithsonian Institution’s complex of museum buildings and educational facilities on the Mall.

South Mall Campus CLR
The Quadrangle is a contributing element of the South Mall Campus under National Register Criterion A for its association with the growth and evolution of the Smithsonian Institution from its foundation in 1846 to the present.
Key Features

- The DOE provides a list of key features to identify the architectural and landscape elements that date to the original design and augments the documentation in the South Mall Campus Cultural Landscape Report.

- The list will assist with evaluating determinations of adverse effect under Section 106 of the NHPA due to the Quadrangle’s status as a contributing building of the National Mall Historic District.

- The list will provide background for possible future evaluations of the resource’s significance.
Comments/ Discussion

Aerial view of the Smithsonian Quadrangle, looking south, photo courtesy Martin Stupich
## Matrix of Historic Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>D.C. Inventory of Historic Sites</th>
<th>Listed in National Register</th>
<th>National Historic Landmark</th>
<th>Determined Eligible</th>
<th>Contributing to Historic District</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Mall Historic District (with contributing resources)</td>
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<td>Plan of the City of Washington (with contributing resources)</td>
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<td>Freer Gallery of Art</td>
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<td>Arts and Industries Building</td>
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<td>Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden</td>
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<td>Quadrangle</td>
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<td>DOE Pending</td>
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<td>Downing Urn</td>
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<td>Joseph Henry Statue</td>
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<td>Bulfinch Gatehouses and Gateposts</td>
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<td>Auditor’s Building Complex</td>
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<td>National Archives</td>
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<td>National Gallery of Art (West Building)</td>
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<td>United States Botanic Garden</td>
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<td>Benjamin Banneker Park</td>
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<td>U.S. Capitol and Grounds</td>
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<td>National Air and Space Museum</td>
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<td>DOE Pending</td>
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# Next Steps/ Schedule

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<th>Meeting/Action</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quadrangle/Hirshhorn DOEs</td>
<td>October 26, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revised Alternatives</td>
<td>December 2016/January 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment of Effects</td>
<td>January/February 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing Section 106 Consultation</td>
<td>Fall 2016-Summer 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>EIS Preparation and Public Hearing</td>
<td>Winter-Summer 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>CFA Review of Final Master Plan</td>
<td>2017/2018</td>
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<td>NCPC Review of Draft Master Plan</td>
<td>Fall 2017</td>
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<td>NCPC Review of Final Master Plan</td>
<td>2018</td>
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Please send written comments on the contents of this presentation and the *Quadrangle Determination of Eligibility 95% Draft* to Michelle Spofford at SpoffordM@si.edu by Wednesday, November 9th.

www.southmallcampus.si.edu