

June 4, 2015

Mr. Reid Nelson Director, Federal Agency Programs Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 401 F Street, NW Suite 308 Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Nelson:

On behalf of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), and in accordance with 36 CFR 800 § 800.6(a)(1), I am writing to formally invite the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to participate in consultation for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Headquarters Consolidation and Exchange (FBI Consolidation) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Section 106 Consultation for this project was formally initiated with the D.C. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on February 6, 2015, and the State Historic Preservation Offices in Maryland and Virginia on May 14, 2015; copies of these initiation letters are included herein. GSA intends to relocate the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI HQ), Washington, D.C., from its downtown location to a consolidated campus at a new and permanent neighboring suburban location (Undertaking). Specifically, the J. Edgar Hoover Federal Bureau of Investigation Building (FBI Building) at 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, (Squares 378 and 379) will be exchanged for the new consolidated headquarters. While initial evaluations of the three alternative suburban sites under consideration currently do not identify and/or indicate effects to historic properties, GSA, in a comprehensive approach to consultation, has invited the Maryland and Virginia State Historic Preservation Officers to this consultation meeting, which will largely focus on the exchange and the transfer of the site from federal to private ownership (36 CFR § 800.11(e)).

A consolidated FBI HQ is needed to support information sharing, collaboration, and integration of strategic priorities. Currently, the aging FBI Building houses only 52 percent of HQ staff, with the remainder dispersed over multiple locations in the National Capital Region. Fragmentation resulting from FBI HQ's multiple locations diverts time and resources from investigations, hampers coordination and collaboration, and decreases flexibility. Dispersion across multiple locations also gives rise to redundancy in operations and inefficient use of space. The consolidation is needed to eliminate redundancies and provide for substantial space savings.

The exchange process is a new and innovative approach to Federal real estate investment that partners Federal agencies with private developers to cost-effectively and efficiently meet both public and private sector redevelopment needs. In this particular case, the Undertaking's process would involve GSA's acquisition of property and construction of a new facility in exchange for the FBI Building and parcel, pursuant to 40 USC §581(c)3304. Upon completion and acceptance of the



new HQ facility, the exchange partner would receive title to Squares 378 and 379, offsetting the costs of the new FBI HQ to the Federal Government and therefore the American taxpayer.

Given the Undertaking's multi-jurisdictional nature, the complexities of correlating regulatory processes, and the project schedule, GSA will establish, as part of this consultation, a Programmatic Agreement (PA) pursuant to 36 CFR §800.14(b)(1)(ii-iii, v). The PA will state the review processes and outline the multiple facets and phases of the Undertaking. GSA has consulted with its Liaison to the Advisory Council (Council), Kirsten B. Kulis, and will carry the Section 106 process forward pursuant to 36 CFR §800.8(a), in coordination with agency requirements under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Public scoping for the EIS occurred in late September/early October 2014 with four public meetings and public outreach included an extensive list of agencies, organizations, and individuals. We currently anticipate that the draft EIS, which will analyze all alternative sites identified above, will be available for public review and comment later this year.

GSA will hold a consulting parties meeting on **Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 1:30 pm** at the offices of Louis Berger at **1250 23rd Street, NW** (between M and N Streets, NW) on the 4th Floor, Room 408/409. The purpose of this meeting is present the background of the project and solicit feedback on GSA's approach to the Section 106 process for this Undertaking.

If you plan to attend, please rsvp to Joan Brierton at <a href="mailto:joan.brierton@gsa.gov">joan.brierton@gsa.gov</a> by Friday June 12, 2015. Please sign in at the building lobby desk and you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you have any questions about the meeting or require special accommodation, please email Joan Brierton at <a href="mailto:joan.brierton@gsa.gov">joan.brierton@gsa.gov</a>. For additional information on the project, visit the website: <a href="https://www.gsa.gov/fbihqconsolidation">www.gsa.gov/fbihqconsolidation</a>.

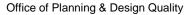
I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on June 16th at Louis Berger's office.

Sincerely,

Nancy Witherell

Regional Historic Preservation Officer

(202) 260-0663 nancy.witherell@gsa.gov





cc: Beth L. Savage, GSA

Kristi Tunstall, GSA Joan Brierton, GSA Kirsten B. Kulis, ACHP David Maloney, DC HPO

Beth Cole, MHT Andrea Burke, VDHR

enc: Initiation letters to District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia Department of Historic Resources





6 February 2015

Mr. David Maloney State Historic Preservation Officer District of Columbia Office of Planning 1100 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Suite 650 East Washington, DC 20024

Subject: Federal Bureau of Investigation Headquarters Consolidation and Exchange

Dear Mr. Maloney:

On behalf of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), I am writing to inform the D.C. State Historic Preservation Office (DCSHPO) of our initiation of consultation for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Headquarters Consolidation and Exchange (FBI Consolidation) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). GSA intends to relocate the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Washington, D.C., from its downtown location to a consolidated campus at a new and permanent neighboring suburban location (Undertaking). Specifically, the J. Edgar Hoover Federal Bureau of Investigation Building (FBI Building), located at 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, will be exchanged for the new consolidated headquarters (40 USC § 581(c)3304). I am also initiating consultation on the Undertaking with suburban jurisdictions, including the Maryland and Virginia State Historic Preservation Offices.

The exchange process is a new and innovative approach to Federal real estate investment that partners Federal agencies with private developers to cost-effectively and efficiently meet both public and private sector redevelopment needs. In this particular case, the Undertaking's process would involve the acquisition of property and construction of a new facility *in exchange for* the FBI Building and site, the parcel of land (Squares 378 and 379) bounded to the south by Pennsylvania Avenue, to the west by Tenth Street, to the east by Ninth Street, and to the north by E Street, NW. Upon completion and acceptance of the new headquarters facility by GSA, the private developer would receive title to the property on Squares 378 and 379, offsetting the costs of the new FBI headquarters to the Federal government and therefore the American taxpayer.

A consolidated headquarters for the FBI is needed to support information sharing, collaboration and integration of staff and strategic priorities. The current headquarters houses only 52 percent of headquarters personnel, with the remainder of employees dispersed over multiple locations throughout the GSA's National Capital Region. The fragmentation that results from multiple locations diverts time and resources from investigations, hampers coordination and collaboration, decreases flexibility, and increases redundancy in operation and in the use and cost of space. Consolidation of all resources is required to eliminate these redundancies and provide significant space and cost savings.

In accordance with Section 110 of the NHPA, GSA contracted with Quinn Evans Architects in 2013 to prepare a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) report on the FBI Building. On March 6, 2014, your office concurred with the DOE finding that the building is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). The building's site, however, is within the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site District (NHS), within the boundaries of the L'Enfant Plan, and within or adjacent to National Register-listed historic districts and landmarks.

While the FBI Building is not eligible for listing in the National Register and is not identified as a contributing resource to the NHS, the Section 106 process for the Undertaking will take into account the potential for effects of the property's leaving Federal ownership and its possible redevelopment in the vicinity of historic properties. GSA invites the DCSHPO to participate in the consultation process.

After our consideration of the comments received at the December 18, 2014, agency information meeting, and given the Undertaking's multi-jurisdictional nature, the complexities of correlating regulatory processes, and the project schedule, GSA will establish, in consultation, a Programmatic Agreement (PA) pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.14(b)(1)(ii-iii, v). The PA will state the review processes and the many facets and phases of the Undertaking. GSA has consulted with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council). GSA will carry forth this process pursuant to 36 CFR Part § 800.8(a), in coordination with agency requirements under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the development of the associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Attached to this letter please find an illustration of our preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the exchange of the FBI Building in Washington. For your information I am also providing the Fall 2014 Public Scoping Newsletter, as well as illustrations of the proposed APEs for the potential sites for the consolidated campus in Maryland and Virginia. We look forward to meeting with you and your staff on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss this effort and process. I will provide a preliminary list of consulting parties and would appreciate your guidance on individuals and interested parties who should be invited to participate.

Please note that we are planning subsequent agency as well as consulting party meetings and will develop a schedule as part of our ongoing consultation. If you have questions regarding the Undertaking or our proposed meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup> please contact me at 202.260.0663 or <a href="mailto:nancy.witherell@gsa.gov">nancy.witherell@gsa.gov</a>.

I look forward to seeing you next week.

Sincerely,

Nancy Witherell

Regional Historic Preservation Officer

**National Capital Region** 



May 14, 2015

Beth Cole Review and Compliance Administrator Maryland Historical Trust 100 Community Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Crownsville, Maryland 21032

RE: FBI Headquarters Consolidation – Section 106 Initiation

Dear Ms. Cole:

On behalf of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), I am writing to inform the Maryland Historical Trust (MDSHPO) of our initiation of consultation for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Headquarters Consolidation and Exchange (FBI Consolidation) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). GSA intends to relocate the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI HQ), Washington, D.C., from its downtown location to a consolidated campus at a new and permanent neighboring suburban location (Undertaking). Specifically, the J. Edgar Hoover Federal Bureau of Investigation Building (FBI Building) at 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, will be exchanged for the new consolidated headquarters. I have also initiated consultation on the Undertaking with the District of Columbia and Virginia State Historic Preservation Offices.

A consolidated FBI HQ is needed to support information sharing, collaboration, and integration of strategic priorities. Currently, the aging JEH building houses only 52 percent of HQ staff, with the remainder dispersed over multiple locations in the National Capital Region. Fragmentation resulting from FBI HQ's multiple locations diverts time and resources from investigations, hampers coordination and collaboration, and decreases flexibility. Dispersion across multiple locations also gives rise to redundancy in operations and inefficient use of space. The consolidation is needed to eliminate redundancies and provide for substantial space savings.

The new FBI HQ would be built by a private developer (exchange partner) chosen by GSA and FBI on one of the three sites identified as best meeting a series of minimum and additional criteria by GSA and FBI. Two of the three short-listed sites are located in Prince George's County, Maryland: the Landover site and the Greenbelt site. The Greenbelt site is located on the Greenbelt Metro Station, near the intersection of Interstate 495 and the Greenbelt Station (exit 24); and the Landover site is located at the former Landover Mall, along Brightseat Road near the intersection of Interstate 95/495 and Landover Road (exit 17). The third site under consideration is known as the GSA Franconia Warehouse Complex (Springfield), located along Loisdale Road just south of the Franconia-Springfield Parkway overpass and east of Interstate 95 in Fairfax County, Virginia.

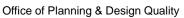


The exchange process is a new and innovative approach to Federal real estate investment that partners Federal agencies with private developers to cost-effectively and efficiently meet both public and private sector redevelopment needs. In this particular case, the Undertaking's process would involve GSA's acquisition of property and construction of a new facility in exchange for the FBI Building and parcel, pursuant to 40 USC §581(c)3304. Upon completion and acceptance of the new HQ facility, the exchange partner would receive title to the property, offsetting the costs of the new FBI HQ to the Federal Government and therefore the American taxpayer.

Given the Undertaking's multi-jurisdictional nature, the complexities of correlating regulatory processes, and the project schedule, GSA will establish, as part of this consultation, a Programmatic Agreement (PA) pursuant to 36 CFR §800.14(b)(1)(ii-iii, v). The PA will state the review processes and outline the multiple facets and phases of the Undertaking. GSA has consulted with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council), and will carry the Section 106 process forward pursuant to 36 CFR Part §800.8(a), in coordination with agency requirements under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Public scoping for the EIS occurred in late September/early October 2014 with four public meetings and public outreach included an extensive list of agencies, organizations, and individuals. We currently anticipate that the draft EIS, which will analyze all alternative sites identified above, will be available for public review and comment later this year.

Attached to this letter please find maps illustrating the preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) developed for each of the two sites as well as additional preliminary information on the identification and potential for historic resources in the APEs. Each APE represents a 0.25 mile radius to accommodate impacts to the site itself and to account for potential visual impacts due to the possible height of the new FBI HQ building, which is yet to be determined.

GSA appreciates the time your office has given to preliminary, informal discussions on this proposed effort and now extends an invitation to the MDSHPO to formally participate in consultation. We welcome your review of the enclosed information and look forward to receiving your comments, questions, or concerns. Subsequent agency and Consulting Party meetings will be requested as the exchange partner selection and EIS processes move forward and a preferred alternative is identified as part of the development of the Final EIS. We will be holding a consulting parties meeting on Tuesday, June 16 to discuss the exchange of the J. Edgar Hoover building and will send you an invitation in case you are able to attend.





Sincerely,

Nancy Witherell

Regional Historic Preservation Officer

(202) 260-0663 nancy.witherell@gsa.gov

cc Amanda Apple, MHT

Howard Berger, MNCPPC

Beth L. Savage, GSA Federal Preservation Officer

## **Areas of Potential Effect**

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) consists of two distinct areas to take into account potential direct and indirect effects to historic resources. The Ground Disturbance APE comprises the project site in its entirety where there is potential for direct impacts from the construction of the new FBI headquarters. The viewshed APE consists of a quarter-mile radius from the project site boundary for potential visual, indirect impacts from the construction of the new headquarters. The height of the buildings is currently unknown.

## Background Research/Methodology

Background research was conducted to determine if any previously identified architectural or archeological resources are located within the APE and the project vicinity. Background research entailed a thorough review of survey data available at the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) library in December 2014 to identify recorded historic resources listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as well National Historic Landmarks. Research identified that there are no previously identified historic resources within the ground disturbance or viewshed APEs.

In addition, historical aerial photographs and USGS maps were used to identify the potential for archeological sites within the ground disturbance APE and architectural resources older than 45 years of age within the ground disturbance and viewshed APEs. The year 1970, or 45 years, was used as a benchmark to capture resources that will be approaching 50 years of age at the time of construction initiation.

Following this research a windshield survey was conducted in November 2014, by Louis Berger architectural historians Patti Kuhn Sarah Groesbeck to document architectural resources that are older than 45 years of age and within the APEs. Photographs were taken to provide information on the types of resources found within the APEs.

#### **LANDOVER**

## **Landover Site Description**

The Landover site consists of 80 acres in Prince Georges County owned by Lerner Enterprises, formerly the site of the Landover Mall. The site stands on the west side of the Capital Beltway (I-495) and is bounded by Landover Road on the south and Brightseat Road on the west. All of the buildings associated with the mall have been demolished or are currently in the process of being demolished.

# **Previous Studies**

Background research indicated one previous study within the larger visual APE:

Stuart Paul Dixon, Alan D. Beauregard, Elizabeth L. Roman, and Richard A. Geidel, Phase IB Archaeological and Historic Architectural Identification Survey and Phase II Archaeological Investigations at 18PR505 and 18PR506 For the Proposed Highway Improvements Along I-95, Between US 50 and MD 214, Prince George's County, Maryland (Project No. AW534B11). Prepared for the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highways Administration by KCI Technologies, Hunt Valley, Maryland (1997).

# Resources within the Ground Disturbance APE

# **Archaeological Resources**

No archeological studies have been completed within the Direct Impact APE. The Landover Site in its entirety appears to have been disturbed during the construction of the Landover Mall in the 1970s. Therefore, there is low potential for archeological resources on the Landover Site.

#### **Architectural Resources**

The Landover Alternative Site contains no historic structures or districts. The site was developed in 1972 as the Landover Mall, but none of the buildings related to the mall remain extant. A commercial building along the west side of the parcel was built between 1971 and 1979 and is in the process of being demolished.

## Resources Identified Within the Viewshed APE

#### Palmer Park School

Southwest of the Landover Site, on the south side of Landover Road, is the former Palmer Park School (now the Bonnie F. Johns Educational Media Center), built in 1965. This school is a Prince George's County public school building that is currently used primarily for administrative and training functions.

# Maple Ridge Apartments (former Village in the Woods)

The Maple Ridge Apartments were built at 2252 Brightseat Road on the west side of the Landover site between 1964 and 1966 as the Village in the Woods garden apartments. The three-story apartment buildings were built by builder-developers Max Kraft and Oscar Margulies and designed by architect Harvey Gordon (Washington Post 1966).

## Landsdowne Village Apartments

The Landsdowne Village Apartments stand along the southern edge of the APE, are located at 1720 Brightseat Road, south of Sherriff Road. This garden apartment complex was built between 1964 and 1965 (Washington Post 1965).

## Royale Gardens

A single-family residential subdivision of Royale Gardens is north of the Landover Alternative site, west of the Capital Beltway and east of Brightseat Road. On the south side of the subdivision, Henry P. Johnson Park serves as a buffer between the Landover Site and Royale Gardens.

Royale Gardens consists of one-story, split level, and two-story houses built around 1962 by the Canadian firm of Domino Construction, headed by architect Peter Caspari, attorney Samuel Kelner, and engineer Hans Reicher. Plans for the neighborhood called for 119 houses on a 30-acre tract. By 1964 the firm had only built 93 houses and filed for bankruptcy (Washington Post 1962, 1964).

#### Glenarden (adjacent to the Visual APE)

Directly north of Royale Gardens, but outside the visual APE is Glenarden (PG:72-26). Glenarden is a predominately African-American community that developed in the early twentieth century as a result of the Washington, Baltimore, and Annapolis Electric Railroad. In 1963, in cooperation with the U.S. Public Housing Administration, the Glenarden Housing Authority constructed a 90-unit public housing project. In 1974 Glenarden received a HUD Community Development Block Grant and underwent a large urban renewal project. As part of an I-495/I-95 Capital Beltway Corridor Transportation Improvement Study, Glenarden was evaluated for NRHP eligibility in 2001 as a Planned Suburban Neighborhood. At the time the majority of the standing structures were less than 50 years of age and it was determined that the neighborhood did not meet National Register Criterion Consideration G. The study recommended that Glenarden should be reevaluated once the majority of the structures reach 50 years (Darsie 2001).

## References

# Darsie, Julie.

2001 Historic Glenarden Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form (PG:72-26). Prepared by KCI Technologies, Hunt Valley, Maryland.

## **Washington Post**

- "New Models on Display at Royale Gardens." September 22: B18.
- 1964 "15 Uncompleted Houses Sold in Bankruptcy Case." June 9: B5.
- 1966 Article 18, No Title. March 12: E11.
- 1965 Landsdowne Apartment Advertisement. April 6: C12.

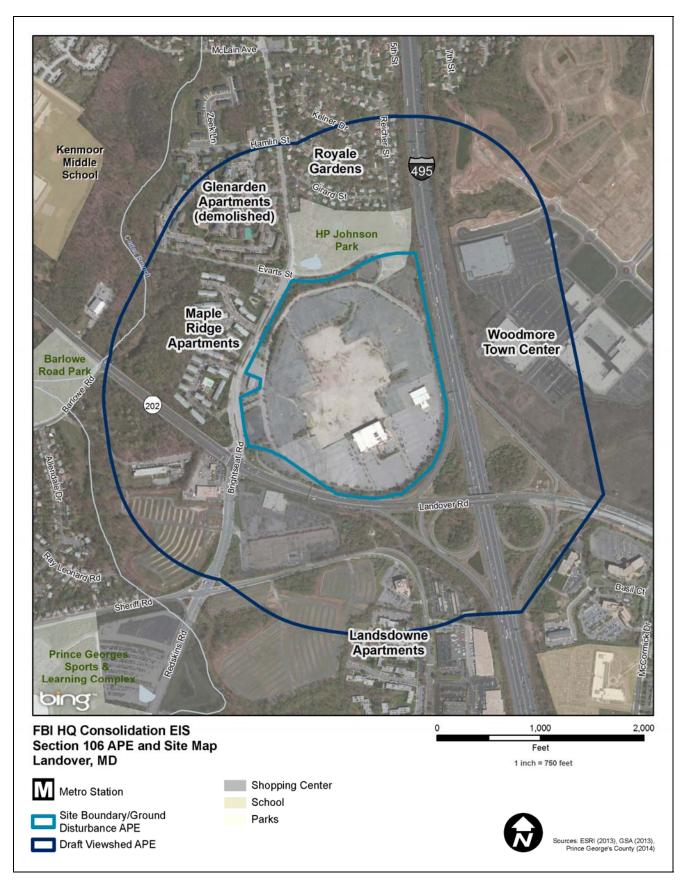




Figure 1. Landover Site, Landsdowne Village Apartments



Figure 2. Landover Site, Maple Ridge Apartments (formerly Village in the Woods)



Figure 3. Landover Site, Palmer Park School (Bonnie F. Jones Educational Media Center)



Figure 4. Landover Site, Royale Gardens



Figure 5. Landover Site, Royale Gardens



Figure 6. Landover Site, Royale Gardens

#### **GREENBELT**

#### **Greenbelt Site Description**

The Greenbelt Site comprises approximately 62 acres adjacent to the Greenbelt Metro Station in Prince George's County and is currently owned by WMATA. The property stands on the south side of I-495 and west of Cherrywood Lane. Indian Creek bifurcates the property. The northern half of the site contains parking lots for the metro station. The southern half of the site is primarily wooded wetlands. Along the western boundary of the site are tracks for Metrorail and north of the site, on the north side of I-495, is the WMATA Greenbelt Storage Yard.

#### **Previous Studies**

Background research indicated several previous studies within the larger visual APE, primarily related to transportation-related projects. A list of the studies is below:

- Charles H. LeeDecker and Brad Koldehoff, Excavation of the Indian Creek V Site, An Archaic Gathering Camp in the Maryland Coastal Plain. Prepared for Wallace Roberts & Todd and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority by Louis Berger & Associates, Washington, D.C. (1991).
- Charles H. LeeDecker, John W. Martin, Amy Friedlander, Cheryl A. Holt, and Daniel P. Wagner, Archaeological Evaluation of the Greenbelt Storage Yard, WMATA Construction Segment E-II, Prince George's County, Maryland. Prepared for Wallace Roberts & Todd and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority by Louis Berger & Associates, Washington, D.C. (1988).
- Millis, Heather, Phase I Survey, I-95 Greenbelt Metro Interchange, Prince George's County, Maryland. Prepared for the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration by TRC Garrow Associates, Inc. and Legacy Research Associates Inc., Durham, North Carolina (2004).
- Diamanti, Melissa, David J. Rue, and Conran A. Hay, Phase I Archaeological Identification Survey for I-495 Capital Beltway Mainline Project and Stormwater Management Point, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland. Prepared for the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration by Archaeological & Historical Consultants, Inc., Centre Hall, Pennsylvania (2008).

#### Resources within the Direct Impact APE

# Archaeological Resources

The north section of the property, the location of the current metro parking and where construction would occur if the Greenbelt site is chosen for the new FBI Headquarters, was determined to be highly disturbed by sand and gravel mining before the Greenbelt Metro station was constructed (U.S. Department of Transportation 1975). This area has low potential for archaeological sites due to ground disturbance.

#### **Architectural Resources**

The Greenbelt Alternative Site contains no historic structures or districts. The site is predominately used for surface parking. Any standing structures present on the site would mostly likely date from the development of the Greenbelt Metro Station, between 1988 and 1993, or later.

## Resources Identified Within the Visual APE

#### Hollywood

The subdivision of Hollywood (PG:66-39), comprised of post-World War II tract single-family housing, sits in the northwest section of the APE (Figures 1 and 2). Hollywood was determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP with Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) concurrence in 2001 (Kermes 2001).

# Holly Park School

Along the northeast side of the Hollywood subdivision and within Hollywood Park is the former Holly Park School (now the Al-Huda School) (Figures 3 and 4). The school was not included in the evaluation of the Hollywood subdivision. John G. Scheibel, Inc. built the eight-classroom school circa 1957. The school and its 10-acre site, together with the adjacent 15-acre Hollywood Park, were part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission park-school plan (Washington Post 1957).

Spinghill Lake Apartments and Springhill Lake Elementary School

On the southeast edge of the APE, on the southeast side of Cherrywood Lane, is the Springhill Lake apartment complex, currently known as Franklin Park. This large complex was built between 1964 and 1972 and consists of groupings of three-story garden apartments (Figures 5-7). The Springhill Lake Elementary School, located within the complex, was erected in 1969-1972 (Figure 8).

Greenbelt Historic District National Historic Landmark (outside APE)

The Greenbelt Historic District, located outside the APE, was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1997. Greenbelt, developed in 1935-1946, is the first government-sponsored, planned community in the United States built on "garden city" principles and embodies the regional planning principles and architectural ideals of the mid-1930s. The Greenbelt Middle School (Rural High School) one of four discontigulous parcels of the NHL district, is approximately one-half mile from the Greenbelt Site. The largest portion of the historic district (also known as Parcel 1) is approximately one-half to three-quarter miles from the Greenbelt Site.

# References

## Kernes, Becky

Hollywood (PG:66-39) Maryland Historical Trust NR-Eligibility Review Form. On file, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

# United States Department of Transportation

1975 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Regional System. Part II: Route Summaries and Critical Areas. Prepared by the U.S. Department of Transportation Urban Mass Transportation Administration in Cooperation with the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority.

# Washington Post

1957 Start of Work on 4 Schools Authorized. September 26:B1.

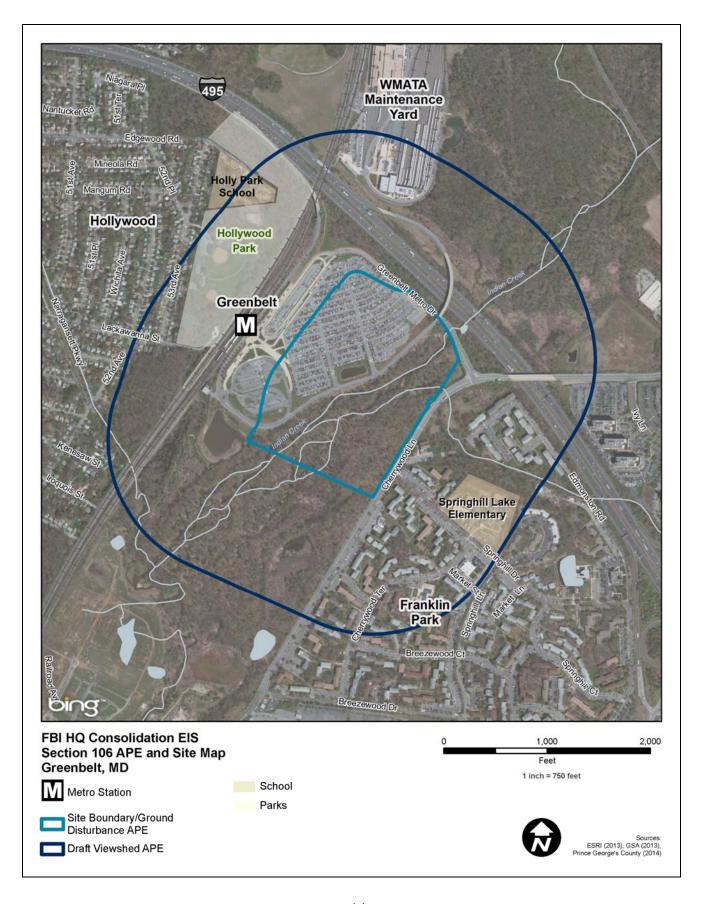




Figure 1. Greenbelt Site, Hollywood (PG:66-39),



Figure 2. Greenbelt Site, Hollywood (PG:66-39),



Figure 3. Greenbelt Site, Holly Park School (now the Al-Huda School)



Figure 4. Greenbelt Site, Holly Park School (now the Al-Huda School)



Figure 5. Greenbelt Site, Springhill Lake Apartments (now Franklin Park)



Figure 6. Greenbelt Site, Springhill Lake Apartments (now Franklin Park)



Figure 7. Greenbelt Site, Springhill Lake Apartments (now Franklin Park)



Figure 8. Greenbelt Site, Springhill Elementary School



May 14, 2015

Andrea Burke Review and Compliance Virginia Department of Historic Resources 2801 Kensington Avenue Richmond, VA 23221

RE: FBI Headquarters Consolidation – Section 106 Initiation

Dear Ms. Burke:

On behalf of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), I am writing to inform the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VASHPO) of our initiation of consultation for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Headquarters Consolidation and Exchange (FBI Consolidation) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). GSA intends to relocate the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI HQ), Washington, D.C., from its downtown location to a consolidated campus at a new and permanent neighboring suburban location (Undertaking). Specifically, the J. Edgar Hoover Federal Bureau of Investigation Building (FBI Building) at 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, will be exchanged for the new consolidated headquarters. I have also initiated consultation on the Undertaking with the District of Columbia and Maryland State Historic Preservation Offices.

A consolidated FBI HQ is needed to support information sharing, collaboration, and integration of strategic priorities. Currently, the aging JEH building houses only 52 percent of HQ staff, with the remainder dispersed over multiple locations in the National Capital Region. Fragmentation resulting from FBI HQ's multiple locations diverts time and resources from investigations, hampers coordination and collaboration, and decreases flexibility. Dispersion across multiple locations also gives rise to redundancy in operations and inefficient use of space. The consolidation is needed to eliminate redundancies and provide for substantial space savings.

The new FBI HQ would be built by a private developer (exchange partner) chosen by GSA and FBI on one of the three sites identified as best meeting a series of minimum and additional criteria by GSA and FBI. One of the alternative sites under consideration for a consolidated FBI HQ is located in Springfield, Fairfax County, Virginia. This site is known as the GSA Franconia Warehouse Complex (Springfield), and is located along Loisdale Road just south of the Franconia-Springfield Parkway overpass and east of Interstate 95 in Fairfax County, VA. The other two sites under consideration



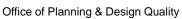
are the Greenbelt Metro Station (Greenbelt), located near the intersection of Interstate 495 and the Greenbelt Station (exit 24) in Prince George's County, Maryland; and the former Landover Mall (Landover), located along Brightseat Road near the intersection of Interstate 95/495 and Landover Road (exit 17) in Prince George's County, Maryland.

The exchange process is a new and innovative approach to Federal real estate investment that partners Federal agencies with private developers to cost-effectively and efficiently meet both public and private sector redevelopment needs. In this particular case, the Undertaking's process would involve GSA's acquisition of property and construction of a new facility in exchange for the FBI Building and parcel, pursuant to 40 USC §581(c)3304. Upon completion and acceptance of the new HQ facility, the exchange partner would receive title to the property, offsetting the costs of the new FBI HQ to the Federal Government and therefore the American taxpayer.

Given the Undertaking's multi-jurisdictional nature, the complexities of correlating regulatory processes, and the project schedule, GSA will establish, as part of this consultation, a Programmatic Agreement (PA) pursuant to 36 CFR §800.14(b)(1)(ii-iii, v). The PA will state the review processes and outline the multiple facets and phases of the Undertaking. GSA has consulted with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council), and will carry the Section 106 process forward pursuant to 36 CFR Part §800.8(a), in coordination with agency requirements under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Public scoping for the EIS occurred in late September/early October 2014 with four public meetings and public outreach included an extensive list of agencies, organizations, and individuals. We currently anticipate that the draft EIS, which will analyze all alternative sites identified above, will be available for public review and comment later this year.

Attached to this letter please find a map illustrating the preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) developed for the Springfield site as well as additional preliminary information on the identification and potential for historic resources in the APE. The APE represents a 0.25 mile radius to accommodate impacts to the site itself and to account for potential visual impacts due to the possible height of the new FBI HQ building, which is yet to be determined.

GSA appreciates the time your office has given to preliminary, informal discussions on this proposed effort and now extends an invitation to the VASHPO to formally participate in consultation. We welcome your review of the enclosed information and look forward to receiving your comments, questions, or concerns. Subsequent agency and Consulting Party meetings will be requested as the exchange partner selection and EIS processes move forward and a preferred alternative is identified as part of the development of the Final EIS. We will be holding a consulting parties meeting on Tuesday, June 16 to discuss the exchange of the J. Edgar Hoover building and will send you an invitation in case you are able to attend.





Sincerely,

Nancy Witherell

Regional Historic Preservation Officer (202) 260-0663 <a href="mailto:nancy.witherell@gsa.gov">nancy.witherell@gsa.gov</a>

cc Elizabeth Crowell, FCPA
Beth L. Savage, GSA Federal Preservation Officer

# Areas of Potential Effect

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) consists of two distinct areas to account to take into account potential direct and indirect effects to historic resources. The Ground Disturbance APE comprises the project site in its entirety where there is potential for direct impacts from the construction of the new FBI headquarters. The viewshed APE consists of a quarter-mile radius from the project site boundary for potential visual, indirect impacts from the construction of the new headquarters. The height of the buildings is currently unknown.

# **Springfield Site Description**

The Springfield site consists of approximately 60 acres in Fairfax County currently owned by GSA. The property sits on the east side of I-95 and is bordered by Metropolitan Center Drive on the north and Loisdale Road on the west. On the north side of the property are the Springfield Crossing apartments. East of the property are railroad tracks formerly owned by the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac (RF&P, now CSX) Railroad and Long Branch Creek. The Springfield Metro Station is approximately .25 miles east of the property.

The Springfield site primarily contains two warehouses built in 1953. The larger of the two warehouses, Warehouse A, occupies the northern section of the site. The smaller warehouse, Warehouse B, stands along southwest side of Warehouse B near Loisdale Road. Several smaller prefabricated structures are located southeast of Warehouse B.

## **Background Research/Methodology**

Background archival research was conducted to determine if any previously identified architectural or archeological resources are located within the APE and the project vicinity. Background research entailed a thorough review of survey data available through the Department of Historic Resource's (DHR) Virginia Cultural Resources Information System (VCRIS) and the DHR archives to identify recorded historic resources listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as well as National Historic Landmarks and archaeological sites.

In addition, historical aerial photographs and USGS maps were used to identify the potential for archeological sites within the ground disturbance APE and architectural resources older than 45 years of age within the ground disturbance and viewshed APEs. The year 1970, or 45 years, was used as a benchmark to capture resources that will be approaching 50 years of age at the time of construction initiation.

Following this research, a windshield survey was conducted in November 2014, by Louis Berger architectural historians Patti Kuhn Sarah Groesbeck to document identified above-ground resources that are older than 45 years of age and within the APEs. Photographs were taken to provide information on the types of resources found within the APEs.

#### **Previous Studies**

Background research indicated two associated previous studies within the APE:

- J.W. Joseph and David Price, An Architectural Historical Assessment of the GSA Warehouse Property, Springfield, Virginia. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia, and Tetra Tech, Fairfax, Virginia (2007).
- J.W. Joseph, An Archaeological Assessment of the GSA Warehouse Property, Springfield, Virginia. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia, and Tetra Tech, Fairfax, Virginia (2007).

# Resources Identified Within the Ground Disturbance APE

# Archaeological Resources

In 2007 an archaeological survey was completed for the GSA Warehouse site by New South Associates and Tetra Tech for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District (Joseph 2007). The study concluded that the GSA Warehouse property has a low potential to contain archaeological sites and did not warrant intensive survey. DHR concurred with this assessment in December 2007 (Landwermeyer 2007).

#### **Architectural Resources**

The two largest buildings on the Springfield property were built in 1953 by the Parr-Franconia Corporation and leased to GSA as a central supply depot for the federal government (Figures 1 and 2). Not long after its construction the Park Avenue Methodist Church of New York City purchased the warehouse property (Washington Post 1954). In 1956 GSA acquired the warehouse from the church at a cost of 7.5 million dollars (Washington Post 1956). The property remains under the ownership of GSA and federal tenants currently occupy 1.3 million square feet of office and warehouse space on the site.

An architectural survey was completed for the GSA Warehouse site in 2007 by New South Associates and Tetra Tech for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District (Joseph and Price 2007). The study concluded that the buildings on the GSA Warehouse Site are not eligible for the NRHP due to lack of significance and integrity. DHR concurred with this determination of eligibility in December 2007 (Landwermeyer 2007).

A railroad spur from the RF&P, built for the warehouse property, is located along the north side of the Springfield Crossing apartments, north of Building A, on property owned by GSA. The 2007 archaeological study noted that the railroad tracks were not included in its assessment of the site. Since the warehouse property is not eligible for the NRHP and the railroad tracks are physically separated from the warehouse site by the Springfield Crossing apartments, it is unlikely that the railroad would be eligible for the NRHP as an individual resource.

#### Resources Identified Within the Viewshed APE

#### Loisdale Estates

The subdivision of Loisdale Estates is located south of the project site on the east side of I-95 and west of the railroad tracks. The neighborhood consists of approximately 300 houses that are predominately modest one-story brick ranch and split level single-family houses.

In 1955 Alexander Hassen, a Washington area land developer, purchased approximately 200 acres for Loisdale Estates. A 1958 article in the Washington Post advertised two "rambler" models available in Loisdale Estates that were built by Town and Country Developers: the Riviera and the Catalina. Architect Edward M. Pitt designed the two models and sales of the houses were managed by Yeonas Realty, Inc. A later advertisement for the subdivision noted that in addition to ramblers, the subdivision also offered split level houses (Washington Post 1955, 1958, 1960) (see Figures 3-6 below).

# Beverly Forest

The subdivision of Beverly Forest stands southwest of the project site on the west side of I-95 and Backlick Road. It consists of approximately 140 houses built between 1952 and 1958.

Builders Joseph S. Gordin, Harry Mensh, and Thomas C. Roumel developed Beverly Forest with custom-built ramblers on large, one-and-a-half acre lots in a wooded setting. The subdivision also provided lots on and residents access to a small lake, located in its southeast corner. Advertisements in the Washington Post illustrate modern-style and traditional one-story houses; however, the majority of the houses within the subdivision appear to be one-story, traditional, red-brick ranch houses (Washington Post 1952, Carter 2013) (see Figures 7-9 below).

## Springvale

Springvale is located northwest of the project site on the east side of I-95 and north of the Franconia Springfield Parkway. Unlike Loisdale Estates and Beverly Forest, this area of single-family houses does not appear to be a cohesive planned subdivision. Standing structures over 45 years of age within the APE are located along Oriole Avenue and were built between 1951 and 1958. The houses consist of modest Cape Cod and ranch houses interspersed with more recent development (see Figures 10-12 below).

# References

#### Carter, Robyn

2013 "Ready for Some More Nostalgia? Part IV." North Springfield Civic Association, Inc. Newsletter. May.

# Joseph, J.W. and David Price

2007 An Architectural Historical Assessment of the GSA Warehouse Property, Springfield, Virginia. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia, and Tetra Tech, Fairfax, Virginia. On file, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia.

## Joseph, J.W.

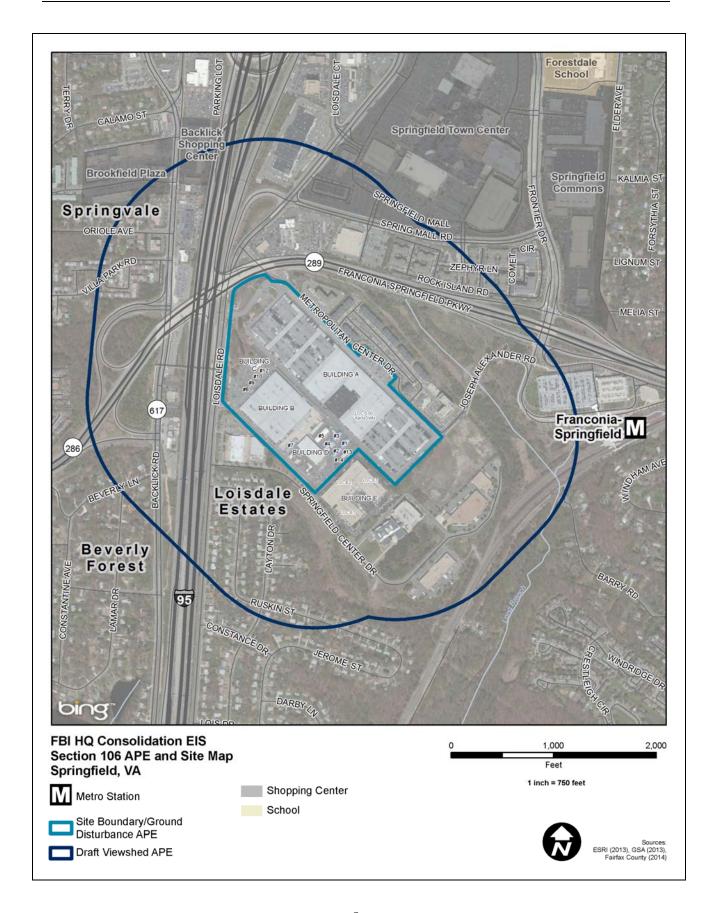
2007 An Archaeological Assessment of the GSA Warehouse Property, Springfield, Virginia. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District by New South Associates, Stone Mountain, Georgia, and Tetra Tech, Fairfax, Virginia. On file, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia.

# Landwermeyer, H.T. Jr.

2007 Letter from H.T. Landwermeyer Jr., Brigadier General, U.S. Army, Director, Operations, Washington, D.C., to Marc Holma, Office of Review and Compliance, Virginia Department of Historic resources, Richmond, Virginia. On file, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia.

# **Washington Post**

- 1954 Church Buys Big Fairfax Warehouse. July 4:5.
- 1955 Historic Land Sold for Home Subdivision. April 24:G1.
- 1959 1958 Models Shown at Loisdale Estates. May 3:C5.
- 1960 GI Financing at Loisdale Estates. Feb 20:B2.
- 1978 Roof at GSA Warehouse Collapses. July 28:A8.
- 1952 Rules for Judging Well-Built Houses. October 5:R4.



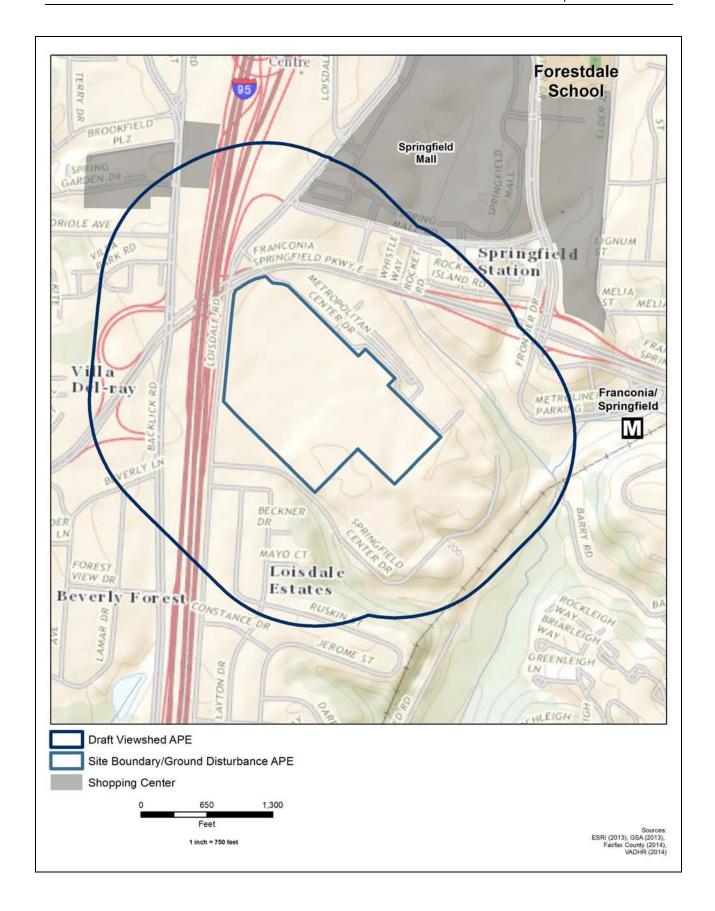




Figure 1. GSA Warehouse Property, looking north



Figure 2. GSA Warehouse Property, looking south



Figure 3. Loisdale Estates



Figure 4. Loisdale Estates



Figure 5. Loisdale Estates



Figure 6. Loisdale Estates



Figure 7. Beverly Forest



Figure 8. Beverly Forest



Figure 9. Beverly Forest



Figure 10. Springvale (Oriole Avenue)



Figure 11. Springvale (Oriole Avenue)



Figure 12. Springvale (Oriole Avenue)