



CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF NAVAL SPACE SURVEILLANCE FIELD STATIONS, NAVAL SPACE COMMAND

Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southern Division (SOUTHDIV) issued a task order to HHM to provide NRHP eligibility evaluations of field stations associated with the Naval Space Command following the decision to transfer the unit from the Navy to the Air Force. Such action represented an undertaking and triggered the Section 106 Process in compliance with 36 CFR Part 800. Under the original task order, HHM undertook evaluations of the field stations in Tattnal (Fort Stewart), GA; Hawkinsville, GA; Jordan Lake, AL; Silver Lake, MS; Red River (Lewisville), AK; and Lake Kickapoo, TX. However, a modification to the task order required HHM to document field stations in Elephant Butte, NM; Gila River, NM; and San Diego, CA, all of which were within the area of responsibility of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest Division (SWDIV).

The field stations were part of a satellite tracking system that was used to identify and monitor man-made objects orbiting the earth. Implemented and operational just a few months after the launching of the first Sputnik satellite, the system enabled the U.S. to track launchings associated with the Soviet space program. The system proved highly successful and was a particularly important means of monitoring the Soviet space program during the Cold War.

HHM visited each field station and documented all extant resources. Project historians also reviewed facility files to document the physical evolution of each field station and determined when changes were made to the resources. HHM hired a subconsultant to assess the potential for archaeological sites for those field stations within the area of responsibility of SOUTHDIV (those within SWDIV were undertaken independently). HHM documented 97 extant resources at the nine field stations and recommended that the entire system possessed exceptional significance with the recent past and was eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

KEY SERVICES

- ▶ Nationwide Study
- ▶ Cold War Resources
- ▶ Historic Context Development
- ▶ NRHP Eligibility Assessments
- ▶ Section 106 Compliance
- ▶ Multiple SHPO Coordination
- ▶ Subconsultant Supervision

PROJECT

- ▶ Client: U.S. Navy, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
- ▶ Location: Nationwide
- ▶ Date: 1999-2001
- ▶ Contract Type: LS/FF
- ▶ Contract/Job Numbers: N62467-98-D-0994