

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

Final Environmental Assessment
Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum Learning Center Addition
Grand Rapids, MI

The Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Gerald R. Ford Learning Center addition, Grand Rapids, MI, attached hereto, provides sufficient evidence and analysis to determine that a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate for this action. The EA documents the evidence and analysis in the following sections: 1. PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION; 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES; and, 3. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT and ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES; (see attached EA).

The EA analysis for the proposed addition indicates that the project would have no significant impact on the natural or human environment, therefore, no mitigation measures are proposed.

The EA also considered alternative actions including the No Action Alternative. All available square footage at the Ford Museum has been dedicated to the various functions of the museum, leaving no alternative but to create a new program/educational space to meet the public needs and offerings of the museum. Beginning in 2011, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and the National Archives and Records Administration carefully considered a range of options for layout and configuration of the Learning Center. It was concluded that no other potential site would meet key criteria for site constraints or be environmentally preferable. As such, other alternatives were not considered further in the EA.

An Archeological and Historic Resources Review (Section 106) was conducted to determine the effects of the proposal on any historic properties. It was concluded that no archeological or historic sites will be adversely impacted by the proposed addition.

PREDECISIONAL EA DRAFT REVIEW AND COMMENT: The National Archives and Records Administration invited review and comment on the predecisional EA from the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, City of Grand Rapids, as well as the general public. Legal advertisements were placed in the Grand Rapids Press on Monday March 9 through Wednesday March 11, 2015, advising the general public as to the availability of the EA for review and comment and announcing the public meeting on March 26, 2015. No comments were received during the Public Meeting or in response to the legal advertisements placed in the local paper.

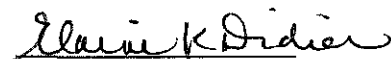
AGENCY CONSULTATIONS: An Archeological and Historic Resources review (Section 106) was conducted as part of the EA. Various parties were consulted, and the findings were reviewed by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office who agreed that there would be no

adverse effect on historic structures and archeological resources by the proposed addition (See EA Appendix B.1).

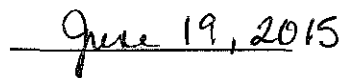
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: The National Archives and Records Administration finds that proceeding with its proposed addition to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum will have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102 (2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347. This finding is based on the EA that analyzed the consequences of the relevant issues of environmental concern associated with the proposed project. The EA determined the addition would not result in any significant impacts on the natural or human environment. The National Archives and Records Administration makes this Finding of No Significant Impact pursuant to NEPA, and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA at 40 CFR 1500 - 1508. Therefore, no environmental impact statement is required for this project.

The National Archives and Records Administration, having taken into account the effects that the proposal to construct the addition on the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum will have on any historic or archeological resources listed in or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, finds that no resources will be adversely affected by the proposal. This finding is based on the Archeological and Historic Resources review (Section 106) conducted as part of the EA, and consultation with the community including the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office. This finding fulfills the Agency's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 470-470x-6, and the implementing regulations for section 106 at 36 CFR Part 800.

Finding by:

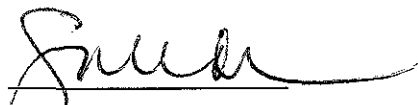


Elaine K. Didier, Ph.D.
Director
Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum

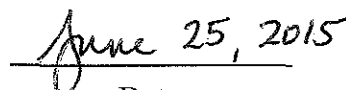


Date

Approved by:



Susan K. Donius
Director
Office of Presidential Libraries
National Archives and Records Administration



Date

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information on the project or this FONSI, please contact:

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Copies of this FONSI (with the Environmental Assessment attached) will be made available for public review at the National Archives and Records Administration website at <http://www.archives.gov/about/plans-reports/environmental-assessment/> and copies may be obtained by writing to the contact listed above.

ATTACHMENT

Environmental Assessment