

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the National Endowment for the Humanities' Section 106 Review of Renovation and Expansion of the Seattle Asian Art Museum

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded The Seattle Art Museum a grant to renovate and expand the Seattle Asian Art Museum (SAAM), one of three locations that comprise the Seattle Art Museum. NEH is an independent grant-making agency of the United States government dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. This public notice is issued as part of NEH's responsibilities under 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the regulations which implement Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 470. NEH, a funding agency, is required by regulation to identify and assess the effects of any proposed actions on historic properties. If any proposed action will have an adverse effect on historic resources, NEH works with the appropriate parties to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects. Additionally, the Section 106 regulations require NEH to consider the views of the public on preservation issues when making final decisions that affect historic properties.

In its grant application, The Seattle Art Museum plans to renovate and expand the Seattle Asian Art Museum, located at 1400 E Prospect Street in Volunteer Park. The Seattle Asian Art Museum building has been identified as a historic property subject to Section 106 regulations. The grant application proposes to renovate and expand this building by implementing the following:

- Carry out seismic upgrades to include reinforcement or replacement of existing hollow clay tile walls located throughout the building, strengthening of masonry walls at the entry lobby, and reinforcement of columns at the loading dock.
- Architectural work to re-build affected walls and ceilings as similar to the original condition as possible to maintain the building's historic character.
- Upgrade the heating and ventilating system to an efficient air conditioning system. Replace the original 1933 steam boiler with a high efficiency boiler system and replace steam distribution piping. Install zone-by-zone duct-mounted humidifiers and associated piping. Install a new HVAC control system.
- Contain or route plumbing pipes away from storage and gallery areas to minimize the potential for damage. Replace deteriorating water supply and waste lines.
- Upgrade existing 2,000 amp panel with 3,000 amp with new feeders to accommodate the addition of the new chiller plant. Install LED lighting throughout the museum.
- Upgrade handrails on all staircases and remodel bathrooms for ADA compliance. Renovate the auditorium for ADA compliance.
- Remove, insulate, and re-build a portion of the exterior gallery walls to eliminate condensation on wall surfaces and cavities and improve indoor air quality. Install interior storm windows.
- Upgrade the security system.

- Add 3,400 square feet to the east side of the building's footprint and renovate the adjoining space to include a gallery, a public event space, and a studio.
- Improve landscaping, sitework, signage, and outdoor lighting.
- Upgrade wifi connectivity.

The Seattle Asian Art Museum was built in 1933 and served as the main building for the Seattle Art Museum until 1991. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building embodies the distinctive characteristics of an early 20th century museum building type and a resource constructed during the depression era in Art Moderne style. It represents the work of noted Seattle architect Carl. F. Gould. The building is integrated into Seattle's National Register-listed Volunteer Park.

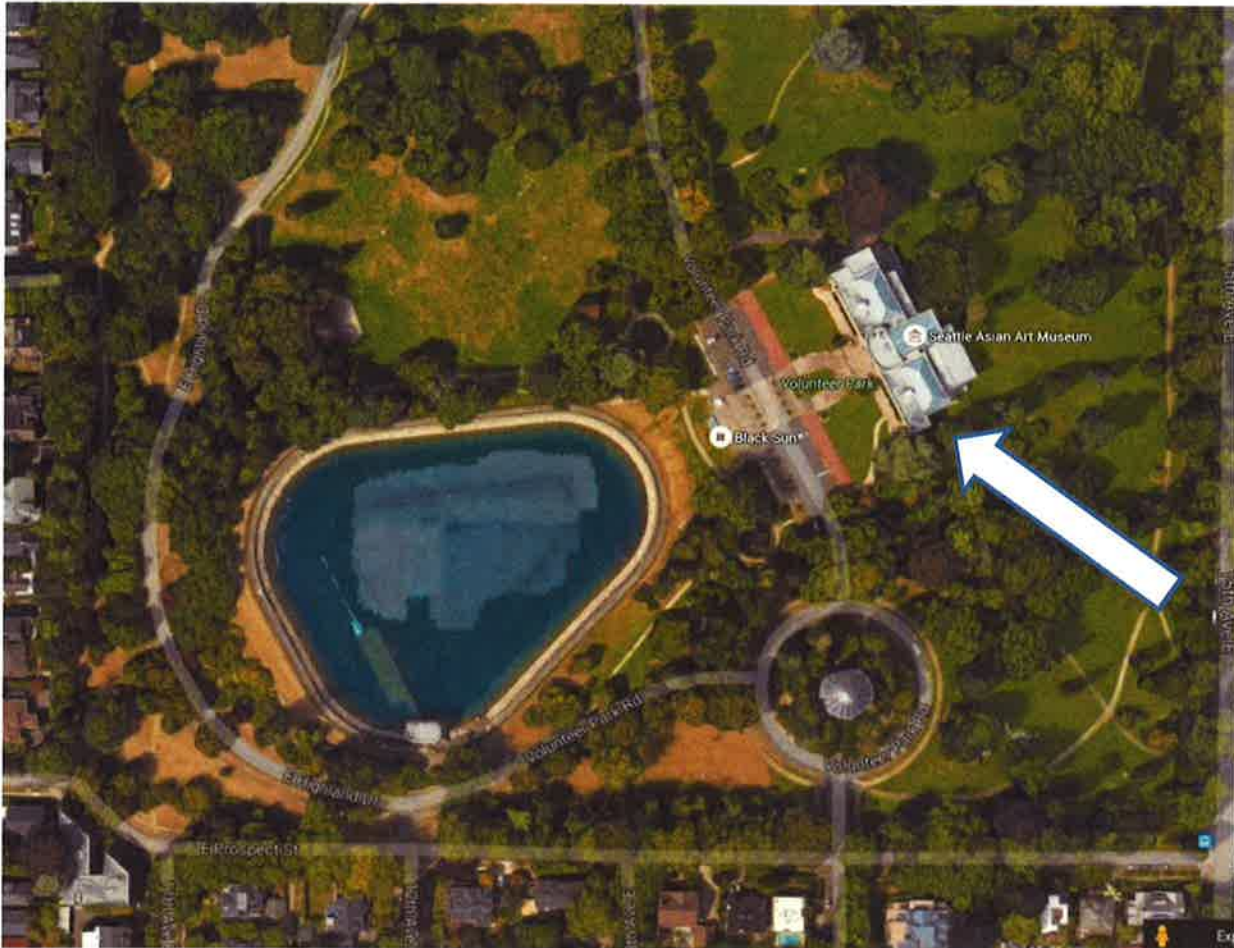
In a letter dated April 4, 2018, State of Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Historical Architect Nicholas Vann advised that the proposed undertaking will have **no adverse effect** upon historic properties, as defined by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

As required by Section 106, NEH is providing the public with information about this project, as well as an opportunity to comment on any knowledge of, or concerns with, historic properties in the proposed project area, and issues relating to the project's potential effects on historic properties. Comments may be submitted to the NEH by e-mail to FPO@neh.gov, or to National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Preservation and Access, 400 7th St SW, Floor 4, Washington, DC 20024. The deadline for submitting comments is **March 8, 2019**.

Seattle Art Museum

King County, Washington

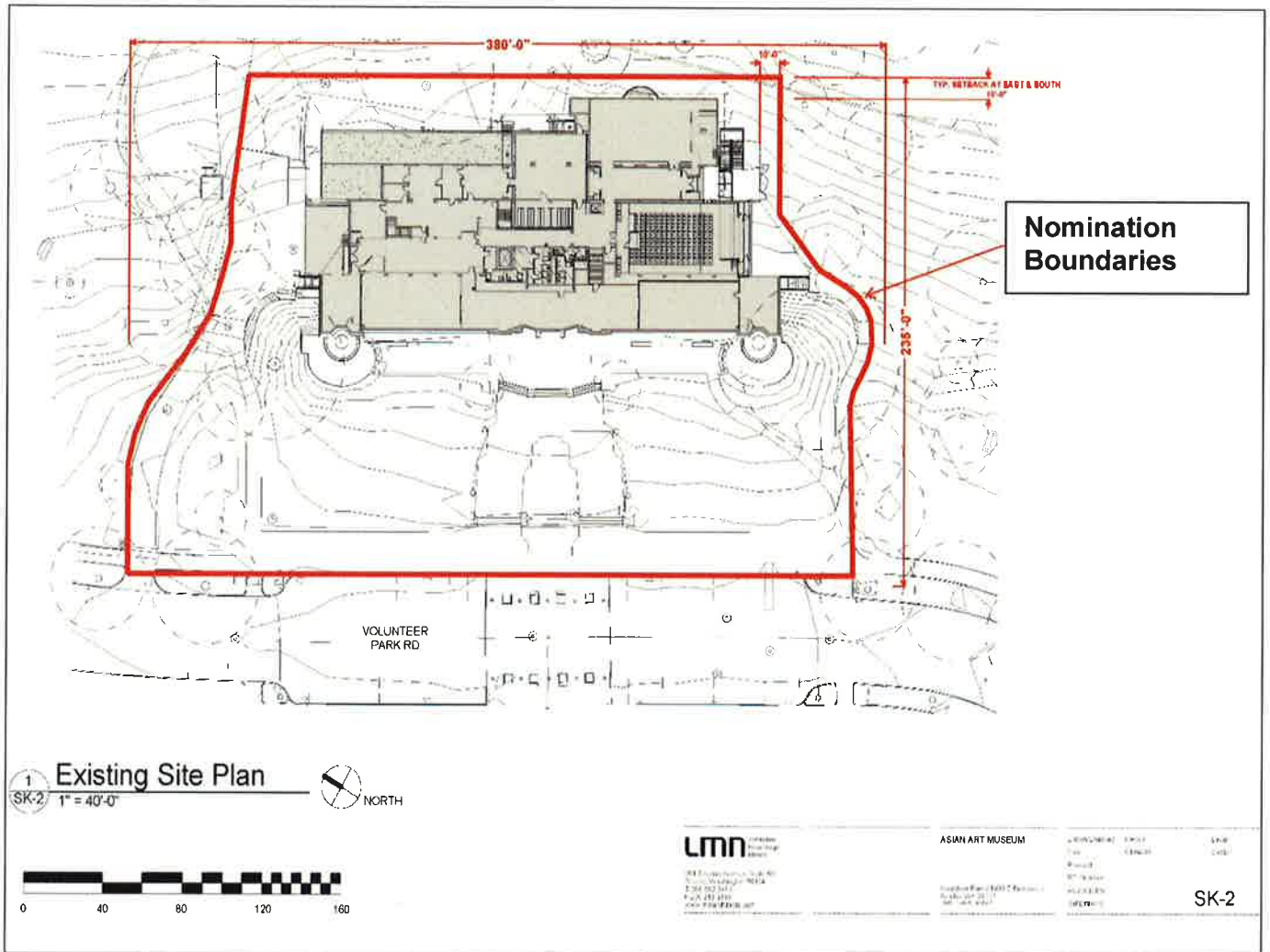
Current Aerial View



Current detail aerial view of Volunteer Park showing the museum with the roadbed and reservoir to the west, and the historic water tank to the south. North is oriented up in this image. (Google Maps, December 2015).

Seattle Art Museum

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Current Site Plan (LMN) showing NR boundaries