

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Apollo Mission Control Center

and/or common Mission Control Center

2. Location

street & number Lyndon B. Johnson Space Flight Center not for publication

city, town Houston vicinity of congressional district

state Texas code 48 county Harris code 201

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Space Exploration

4. Owner of Property

name National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

street & number

city, town Washington vicinity of state D.C. 20546

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

street & number Real Property Management Office Code NXG

city, town Washington state D.C. 20546

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

---

## 7. Description

---

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

---

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Apollo Mission Control Center is in Building 30 at the Lyndon B. Johnson Manned Space Flight Center in Houston, Texas. The three-story structure consists of a mission operations wing (MOW), operations support wing (OSW), and an interconnecting lobby wing. The MOW contains systems and equipment required to support the mission control function. The OSW contains offices, laboratory, and technical support areas for the flight operations directorate. The lobby wing provides additional office space and dormitory facilities utilized by flight controllers during space flights of extended duration. The mission control center is supported by an emergency power building that houses standby electrical power and air-conditioning systems in the event that primary sources fail.

Principal systems on the first floor are the real time computer complex and the communications systems. These systems support the dual mission facilities and systems on the second and third floors. The communications system provides the interface between the mission control center in Houston and the manned space flight network and the launch site.

Principal areas on the second floor are the mission operations control room (MOCR), the staff support rooms (SSR), the simulation facilities, and the master digital command system. The MOCR is the principal command and control center, staffed with key mission operations teams responsible for overall management of the flight.

Principal areas on the third floor are the MOCR, the SSR, the recovery control room, the meteorological area, and the display and timing area. The MOCR and SSR are exact duplications of the areas on the second floor.

The recovery control room, the meteorological area, and the display and timing areas support the dual mission facilities and systems on the second and third floors.

The MOCR on the second floor is the principal command and decision area in the MCC. Critical information related to spacecraft, launch vehicle, and ground systems, as well as aeromedical parameters from the worldwide stations, ships, and aircraft, is processed and displayed within the MOCR. Based on an analysis of this continuous flow of information, personnel in this room must assess the spacecraft flight status and progress, and then, in time-critical periods, determine the continuation, alteration, or termination of the space flight.

This is an ongoing NASA facility and is currently being modified to accommodate flights of the shuttle. The third floor of the facility has been turned over to the Air Force and is in the process of being converted into a secure area from which Air Force shuttle flights will be monitored. The second floor of the facility housing the mission control operations room is being divided into two rooms to accommodate increasing numbers of shuttle flights.<sup>1</sup>

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Space Exploration
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1965-Present      **Builder/Architect** NASA

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Apollo Mission Control Center is significant because of its close association with the manned spacecraft program of the United States. This facility was used to monitor nine Gemini and all Apollo flights including the flight of Apollo 11 that first landed men on the moon. After the end of the Apollo Program this facility was used to monitor manned spaceflights for Skylab, Apollo-Soyuz, and all recent Space Shuttle flights.

The support provided by the Apollo Mission Control Center to the first manned landing on the surface of the moon was critical to the success of the mission. It exercised full mission control of the flight of Apollo 11 from the time of liftoff from Launch Complex 39 at the Kennedy Space Center to the time of splashdown in the Pacific. The technical management of all areas of vehicle systems of Apollo 11 including flight dynamics, life systems, flight crew activities, recovery support, and ground operations were handled here.

Through the use of television and the print news media the scene of activity at the Apollo Mission Control during the first manned landing on the moon was made familiar to millions of Americans. When Neil Armstrong reported his "giant leap for mankind" to Mission Control his words went immediately around the world and into history. The Apollo Mission Control Center and Launch Complex 39 at the Kennedy Space Center are the two resources that symbolize for most Americans achievements of the manned space program leading to the successful first moon landing during the flight of Apollo 11 in July 1969.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 2

Footnotes

Harry Butowsky, et. al., Man in Space Reconnaissance Survey (Denver, National Park Service, 1981), pp. 57-8.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Bibliography

Brooks, Courtney G., Grimwood, James M., Swenson, Loyd S. Chariots for Apollo: A History of Manned Lunar Spacecraft. Washington, D.C.: National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1979.

Butowsky, Harry, et. al. Man in Reconnaissance Survey. Denver: National Park Service, 1981.

Mission Control Center. Washington, D.C.: National Aeronautics and Space Administration, No Date.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name League City

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 

1	5	2	9	7	6	6	0	3	2	7	1	4	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

B 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

  
Zone Easting Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the Apollo Mission Control Center is defined by the outside perimeter of Building 30 at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Harry A. Butowsky

organization National Park Service date May 15, 1984

street & number Division of History telephone (202) 343-8168

city or town Washington, D.C. 20240 state \_\_\_\_\_

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

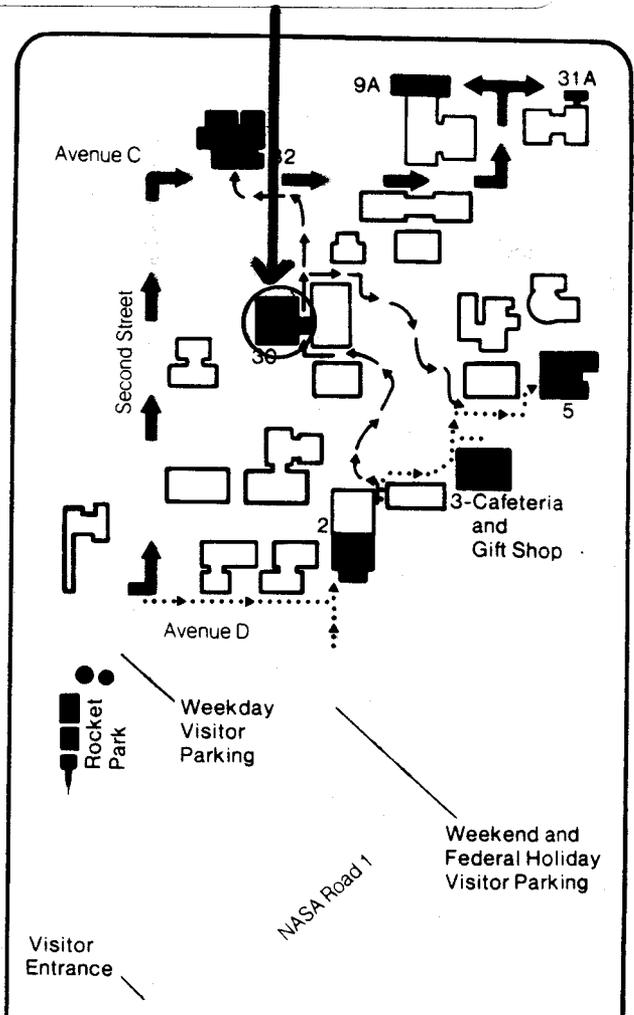
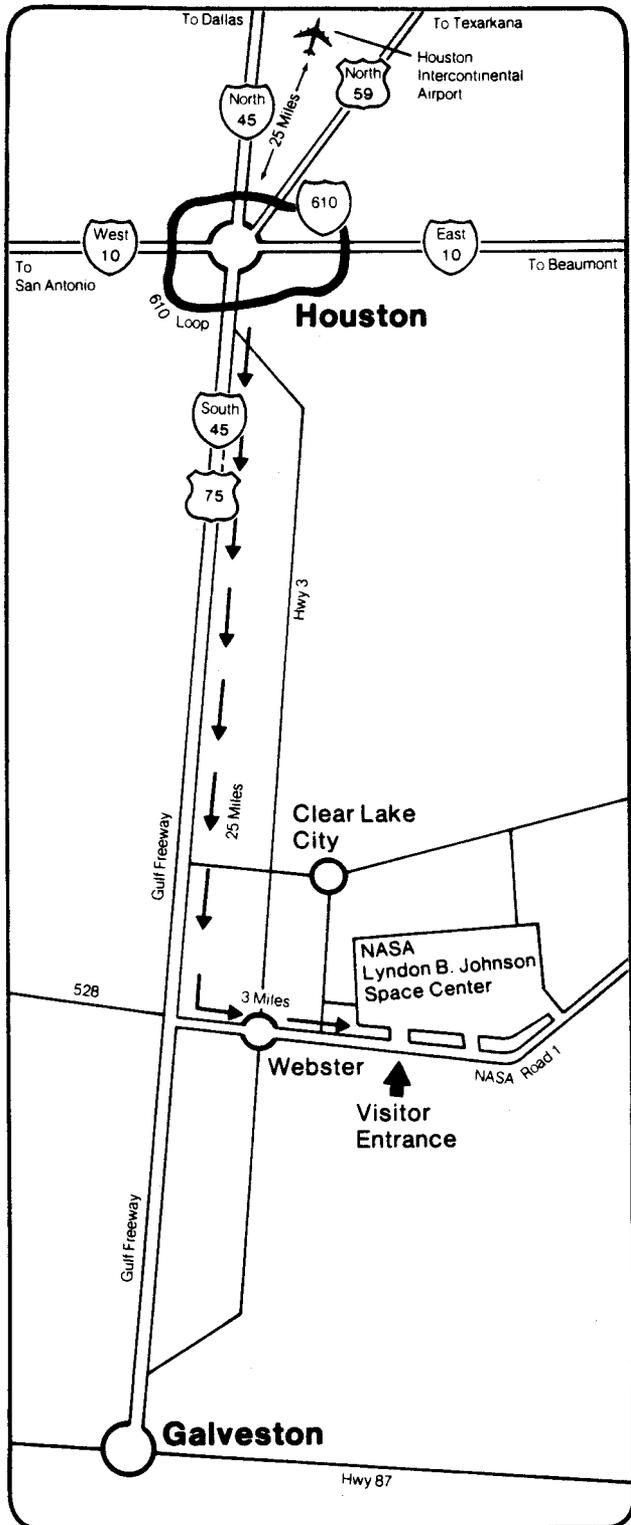
date \_\_\_\_\_

Keeper of the National Register

Apollo Mission Control Center

UTM References:

15/297660/3271460



Bldg.

- 2 - Visitor Center
- 3 - JSC Cafeteria and Gift Shop
- 5 - Mission Simulation and Training
- 9A - Space Shuttle Orbiter Training
- 30 - Mission Control Center
- 31A - Lunar Sample Building
- 32 - Space Environment Simulation Laboratory

LYNDON B JOHNSON  
SPACE CENTER  
(NASA)

18 Tower

Apollo Mission Control Center  
Building 30  
15/297660/3271460

Nassau Bay

Lake Nassau

Lunar and Planetary Institute  
(Rice University)

Clear Creek High Sch

St Christopher Ch

Athletic Field

St Marys

