INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Gaithersburg NIKE Launch Site  
Survey Number: M: 21-187

Project: Master Plan Review, Section 110 review of doe
Agency: NIST/Commerce

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no ___ yes Name __________________________ Date ____________

Eligibility recommended ___  
Eligibility not recommended _X_

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D  
Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___ X None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)
The Gaithersburg NIKE Launch Site is located at 770 Muddy Branch Road. This complex of 10 buildings
operated as a Ajax missile launch site from 1955 to 1963. Consisting of concrete buildings of one and two stories,
the architectural complex displays little ornamentation. Common NIKE buildings including a barracks, kennel,
launch pads, storage buildings exist on site. However, compared to other similar sites, the Gaithersburg facility is
small and does not have some of the standard buildings such as administration and operations. Twelve buildings
have been built on site since the Army transferred the site in 1972. The existing NIKE buildings have undergone
alterations such as window/door replacement or removal, interior modifications and equipment removal. Coupled
with the site changes, the integrity of the buildings is sufficiently reduced to exclude them from National Register
eligibility.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
Annex, Supporting Photographic Documentation and DOE

Prepared by: Hyatt, James and Hagan, Steve NIST employees

Lauren Bowlin  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services  
Nov. 4, 1998  
Date

NR program concurrence: yes ___ no ___ not applicable

Reviewer, NR program  
Date
MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland ( Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period ( _ prehistoric _ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaptation

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Religion
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: buildings
Historic Environment: suburban
Historic Function(s) and Use(s): military defense, missile launch site

Known Design Source: ________________________________
Figure 1: Location Map