

LewisNews

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Lewis Facilities Named Historic Landmarks

Lewis' Rocket Engine Test Facility, Zero Gravity Research Facility and the Spacecraft Propulsion Research Facility (Lewis' Plum Brook Operations Division) have been designated national historic landmarks by the Department of Interior because of their role in representing the early years of the American space program.

Ohio was among eight states where 22 sites were selected recently. The Interior Department's National Park Service studied approximately 350 sites associated with early space exploration for preservation and interpretation. "A Man in Space Theme Study" was initiated to consider resources relating to the following general sub-themes: technical foundations before 1958; the effort to land a man on the moon; the exploration of the planets and solar system; and the role of scientific and communications satellites.

The Historic Sites Act of 1935 authorizes the Secretary of Interior to designate historic landmark properties identified as having significance to the Nation. National historic landmarks are entered into the National Register of Historic Places upon designation.

In selecting the Center sites, the Interior Department stated: "These represent the important role of the Lewis Research Center in developing hydrogen as a fuel for the Centaur and Saturn V rockets." Also included in the selected sites were NASA facilities at Langley, Ames, Marshall, Johnson, Goddard and JPL. □