

Project name:
Building 3 Rehabilitation for Menlo Survey Federal
Credit Union Project

Project reference:
60606649

From:
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Date:
October 23, 2019

To:
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Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000

cc:
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Kathy Kwong, AECOM

Memo

Subject: Section 106 Consultation on Building 3 Rehabilitation for Menlo Survey Federal Credit Union Project, NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California

1. Introduction

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Ames Research Center (ARC) proposes the Building 3 Rehabilitation for Menlo Survey Federal Credit Union Project (project or undertaking) at ARC, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California. As the lead federal agency, NASA is responsible for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended (54 United States Code 300101 et seq.), which requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their activities and programs on historic properties, and its implementing regulations in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide necessary information for compliance with Section 106, including a description of the undertaking and the Area of Potential Effects (APE), the methodology used to identify and evaluate historic properties within the APE, a description of the affected historic properties, and an assessment of potential effects resulting from the undertaking.

1.1 Project Location

Building 3 is on Severyns Road between N. Akron Road and S. Akron Road within the NASA Ames Research Park at ARC, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California (Attachment A; Figures 1 and 2). The NASA Ames Research Park is an area of ARC designated as a shared-use research and development and education campus for industry, academia, nonprofits, and government. Several public and private entities lease offices and facilities in the research park. Building 3 is also within the U.S. Naval Air Station (NAS) Sunnyvale Historic District (known locally as the Shenandoah Plaza Historic District), which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1994 (NRHP #94000045) (Attachment A; Figure 3). It is in the industrial zone of the district that is east of Shenandoah Plaza and west of the airfield. Building 3 was constructed in 1933 as part of the original NAS Sunnyvale campus plan but is a noncontributing element to the district due to extensive alterations to the building.

1.2 Project Personnel

This study was conducted by cultural resources professionals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards (48 Federal Register 44738). Trina Meiser, M.A., Senior Architectural Historian, served as the Principal Investigator; Lauren Downs, M.A., RPA, provided map figures; and Kirsten Johnson, M.A., served as the lead verifier of this document.

2. Description of the Undertaking

The project involves the renovation of four offices in Building 3 for a branch of the Menlo Survey Federal Credit Union, which is considered an undertaking per 36 CFR § 800.3(a). The purpose of the undertaking is to provide credit union services at ARC. The need for the undertaking is to improve facilities to full operational capability.

This project will:

- Renovate 972 square feet of Building 3 (Rooms 102, 103, 104, and 105) for use by the Menlo Survey Federal Credit Union with interior finish changes, including the installation of a new acoustical drop ceiling, light-emitting diode (LED) lighting fixtures, vinyl tile flooring, and carpet.
- Renovate storage closet (Rooms 133A and 133B) into an ATM service room.
- Remove interior wall partitions to reconfigure space.
- Repaint the interior walls.
- Replace two existing horizontal sliding aluminum windows (Room 105) with modern windows of the same size.
- Replace an existing aluminum sliding glass door with a single-door hollow core steel door for security.
- Replace existing exterior concrete steps and install new handrails.
- Repaint sections of the exterior walls to match the existing paint color.

Attachment B includes select project drawings that illustrate proposed alterations.

3. Area of Potential Effects

The APE is defined to address both direct and indirect impacts on historic properties. The APE encompasses areas that may be affected by both temporary and permanent construction activities. No ground disturbance is associated with this project. Above-ground activities are primarily interior and are unlikely to have indirect impacts on other historic properties. Exterior alterations to Building 3 are relatively minor due to the scale of the visible changes, which include replacing two windows with similar window units, replacing a sliding glass door with a single-door hollow core steel door, replacing concrete steps, and repainting the exterior to match the existing paint color. Therefore, the APE is limited to the Building 3 footprint (see Attachment A; Map Figure 3).

4. Identification of Historic Properties

Historic properties are defined as any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or is eligible for listing in the NRHP. The following sections describe efforts to identify historic properties in the APE.

4.1 Architectural Resources

A survey of the APE was conducted on October 17, 2019. The APE is located in the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District. Building 3 is the only potential historic property in the APE.

Building 3 is a one-story, wood-framed and reinforced-concrete, stucco building on concrete slab foundation with a complex, irregular plan including several additions. The oldest part of the building was built in 1933 and had a T-plan with the façade facing east toward Severyns Road (Photograph 1). The building has substantial additions on the north, west, and south sides (Photographs 2 through 4). The additions were constructed in stages in the 1950s (partial additions on the north and south sides), in the 1960s (west addition and southeast addition), and in the 1980s (north and south additions). The roof is complex and irregular, with the original hipped roof covered in Spanish tiles surrounded by flat, built-up roofs of the additions that encompass it, and a gabled roof over the west addition. The north and south additions have parapet walls at the perimeter with hipped slopes covered

with Spanish tiles over angled cornices with decorative brackets. The exterior walls have a painted stucco coat. Fenestration varies from large, arched, multi-light windows in the east elevation arcade to multi-light casement and double-hung sash in the 1933 portion of the building, and aluminum sliding windows, steel fixed windows, and plate glass picture windows in the additions. Doors are glazed, metal frame entrance doors with modern hardware. The interior of the building has been substantially reconfigured and renovated. It currently contains a café, kitchen, various offices, mechanical rooms, and restrooms (Attachment B; Sheet A0.3).

The project area, consisting of Rooms 102, 103, 104, 105, 133A and 133B, is primarily in the southeast corner of Building 3. Rooms 102, 103, 104, 133A, and 133B are in original portions of the building, and Rooms 102, 104, and 133B each feature a six-over-six double-hung sash window in the east wall. Room 105 is in a circa 1968 addition and features two aluminum horizontal sliding windows and an aluminum sliding glass door (Photographs 5 and 6).

Building 3 is within the boundaries of the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District but was identified as a noncontributing element in the NRHP nomination (NRHP 1994). The district is listed in the NRHP under Criteria A and C, and originally included only the earliest Spanish Colonial campus buildings and Hangars 1, 2, and 3, with periods of significance of 1930 through 1935 and 1942 through 1946. The statement of significance focused on Spanish Colonial Revival-style architecture and the engineering feat related to the airfield hangars.

In 2013, a historic property survey of Moffett Field was conducted to evaluate the significance of additional resources related to the airfield and concluded that the airfield and related resources are eligible for the NRHP under an expanded context for the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District (AECOM 2013). The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with the boundary expansion on June 6, 2013 (OHP reference: NASA_2013_0417_001) with a revised period of significance of 1942 to 1961 for the airfield. The district's statement of significance also was revised to include World War II military missions. However, the 2013 study did not revisit the previously listed areas of the district or its contributing and noncontributing resources.

Built in 1933, Building 3 was designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style as part of the original campus plan of the naval air station. Research does not indicate that it served any specific mission-related or notable purposes. The building was constructed as a support structure for the naval air station and does not possess sufficient significance to meet the NRHP criteria for individual listing. Furthermore, extensive alterations over several periods have diminished the integrity of its design, materials, workmanship, and feeling as a 1933 Spanish Colonial Revival style building. Therefore, Building 3 is not considered a contributing element to the historic district under the district's statement of significance related to its Spanish Colonial Revival design and aesthetic, and its current condition supports the previous evaluation of ineligibility for listing in the NRHP.



Photograph 1. Building 3, east elevation, view facing west



Photograph 2. Building 3, north addition, view facing southeast (Hangar 1 in background)



Photograph 3. Building 3, west addition, view facing east



Photograph 4. Building 3, south addition, view facing northeast



Photograph 5. Building 3, patio wall (left) and southeast addition (right, exterior of Room 105), view facing west



Photograph 6. Building 3, southeast addition (Room 105), view facing west

5. Assessment of Effects

Per 36 CFR § 800.5(a)(1), an adverse effect results when an undertaking may alter, either directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the NRHP in a manner that would diminish the historic property's integrity.

Building 3 is within the NRHP-listed NAS Sunnyvale Historic District; however, it is not a contributor to the district. The proposed exterior changes of Building 3, consisting of window, door, and concrete step replacement, repainting, and installation of handrails, are relatively minor in scale and will have no impacts on any of the district's contributors in the vicinity of the building. Alterations to Building 3 will not compromise the integrity other contributing properties in the district or the district as a whole. Therefore, the undertaking will not result in any adverse effects on historic properties.

6. Summary of Findings

Although the APE is located in the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District, Building 3 does not contribute to the significance of the district and is not individually eligible for listing in the NRHP. The proposed undertaking would not alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District that qualify it for inclusion in the NRHP. Therefore, the proposed undertaking would result in No Adverse Effect on historic properties per 36 CFR § 800.5(b).

7. References

AECOM, 2013. *Historic Property Survey Report for the Airfield at NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, California*. Accessible online at https://historicproperties.arc.nasa.gov/downloads/hpsr_airfield.pdf.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), 1994. U.S. Naval Air Station Sunnyvale, California, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California, NRHP # 94000045.

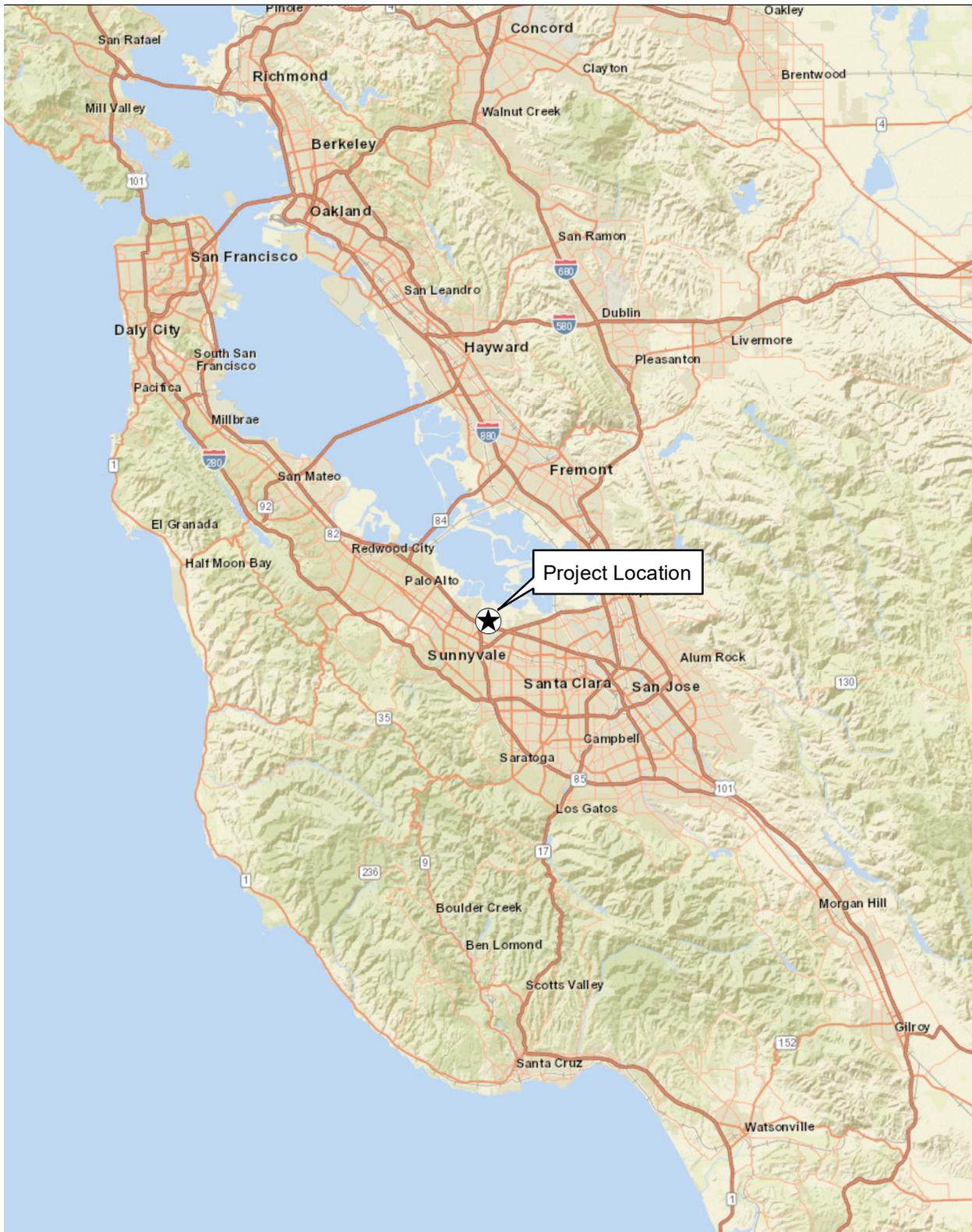
Attachments

Attachment A: Map Figures 1 through 3 (Project Location, Project Vicinity, APE)

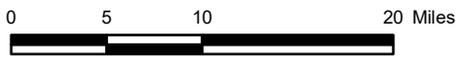
Attachment B: Select Project Drawings

ATTACHMENT A

MAP FIGURES 1 THROUGH 3
(PROJECT LOCATION, PROJECT VICINITY, APE)



Source: ESRI, AECOM, NASA

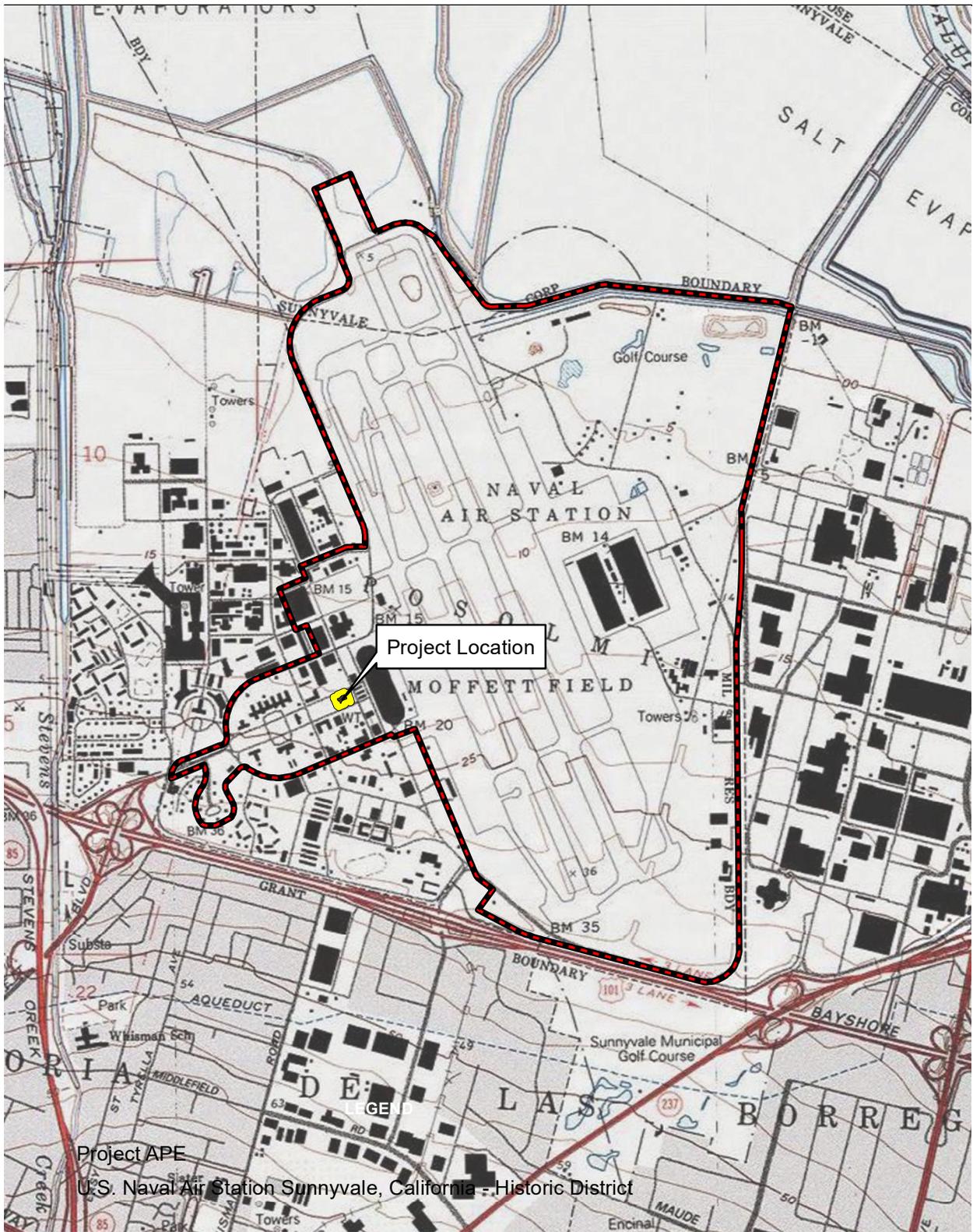


Scale: 1 = 633,600; 1 inch = 10 mile(s)

Figure 1
Project Location

Building 3 Rehabilitation Project

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Source: ESRI, AECOM, NASA, National Geographic Society; USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle: Mountain View



Figure 2
Project Vicinity Map

Building 3 Rehabilitation Project

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Source: ESRI, AECOM, NASA



Scale: 1 = 1,200; 1 inch = 100 feet

Figure 3
APE Map

Building 3 Rehabilitation Project

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The following attachments were redacted from this public posting:

Attachment B: Select Project Drawings