



**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

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September 26, 2018

In reply, refer to: NASA_2018_0606_001

Mr. Jonathan Ikan
Center Cultural Resources Manager
NASA Ames Research Center
Mail Stop 213-8
Moffett Field, CA 94035

Subject: Rehabilitation of Building 25, NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field,
Santa Clara County, CA

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the June 5, 2018, letter initiating consultation regarding an undertaking at NASA Ames Research Center (ARC). NASA is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in order to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. §306108), as amended, and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.

Along with the letter, NASA submitted a memorandum prepared by AECOM and dated June 1, 2018. The memorandum contained several attachments, including the 1994 National Register nomination form for U.S. Naval Air Station Sunnyvale Historic District, Building 25 Re-Use Guidelines prepared by Architectural Resources Group, Inc., in October 2000, Core and Shell Architectural Drawings for Building 25 dated March 15, 2018, and project photographs. In subsequent emails dated September 10 and 26, 2018, NASA also provided details about specific portions of the scope of work.

The proposed undertaking, as described, involves rehabilitation of Building 25 with core and shell improvements. Elements of the undertaking include:

- Seismic strengthening by:
 - Removing the ceiling, upgrading the trusses by adding steel adjacent to the existing members, then replacing the ceiling to match existing construction. All work will be concealed by existing or new finishes to match existing conditions.
 - Removing the existing tile roof (which is needed to replace the failing felt system also) to expose the structure, then to adding plywood over the

existing 2x tongue and groove planking to direct the lateral forces to the perimeter walls. Existing tiles will be saved with the intent to reinstall them using the same construction methods as the original construction so as not to affect the existing roof profiles and aesthetics. Any broken tiles will be replaced to match the existing tiles.

- Saw cutting the interior basement floor to upgrade the foundation where needed. Concrete will be replaced to match existing construction.
 - Adding additional steel or wall reinforcement to remedy lack of existing capacity to channel the anticipated loads down to grade. Intent is to match the existing architectural vocabulary shapes and proportions, and cover with plaster to match existing surfaces, and to look like original construction. No exposed steel or X-bracing is proposed since it would not match the existing architectural vocabulary for the building.
- In-kind replacement of the roof.
 - Removal and replacement of mechanical and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment.
 - Removal of non-original interior partitions.
 - Lead and asbestos abatement (interior and exterior).
 - Replacing window and door glazing.
 - ADA-accessibility, lighting, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing improvements.
 - In-kind integral color stucco resurfacing to match existing / historic colors.
 - Removal of existing, non-original poured-concrete ramp at the main entrance on the south side and restoration of the main entrance stairs.
 - Installing a new, ADA-accessible entrance at grade through the conversion of an existing window into an ADA-accessible door opening with a historically compatible door. The new door will maintain the height, width, alignment, and character of the existing window and its relationship to the other fenestration in order to preserve the symmetry of the south elevation of the building.
 - Removal of non-original second story windows and enclosures to reopen historic patio above the main entrance.

- Removal of non-original exterior metal stairs and doors on the north side of the building.
- Removal and replacement of air duct openings and one window on the east and west sides with louvered vents for the new mechanical system.
- In-kind replacement of one door each on the east and west sides.
- Limited exterior lighting changes to support security cameras.
- Installation of new curb ramps, sidewalk repairs, and upgrades to accessible parking.
- Minor trenching will occur for foundation waterproofing, new storm drains, and installing communication, power, distribution, and fire protection lines.

NASA defined an Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this undertaking that encompasses Shenandoah Plaza and the five major contributors to the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District surrounding the plaza (Buildings 17, 19, 20, 23, and 25). The vertical APE extends to a maximum depth of five feet to account for installation of storm drains and other underground lines.

Building 25 contributes to the significance of the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District; however, the National Register nomination found that the interior of the building did not retain architectural integrity.

Based upon previous studies, Building 25 is in an area with low archaeological sensitivity. NASA conducted an archaeological survey of the APE in May 2018, and no cultural resources were identified.

NASA designed the project to conform with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and proposes a Finding of No Adverse Effect for the undertaking. After reviewing the information submitted, the SHPO offers the following comments.

- This project qualifies as an undertaking with the potential to affect historic properties.
- The APE appears to be sufficient to take effects of the undertaking into account.
- Identification and evaluation efforts appear to be sufficient.
- Based upon the information submitted, the SHPO has no objection to the proposed Finding of No Adverse Effect for this undertaking.

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- Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, NASA may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for considering historic properties in your project planning efforts. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mark Beason, State Historian, at (916) 445-4047 or mark.beason@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer