



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

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June 10, 2020

VIA Email

In reply, refer to: NASA_2019_1216_001

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

Subject: Hangar 3 Hazard Remediation (Demolition) Project, Moffett Federal Airfield,
NASA Ames Research Center, Santa Clara County, CA

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the May 11, 2020, letter continuing consultation regarding an undertaking at NASA Ames Research Center (ARC). NASA is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) 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 Section 106 technical report prepared by Stantec May 11, 2020, that provides Section 106 analysis, project maps, and photographs.

As previously described, NASA's structural engineering studies have led the agency to the conclusion that Hangar 3 is structurally deficient, unsafe, and vulnerable to damage or partial collapse. In analyzing project alternatives, NASA finds that repairs to return the building to occupancy would be "extensive, undefinable, and cost-prohibitive," and, therefore, proposes to demolish the building. The proposed undertaking, as described, involves:

- Systematic, controlled demo of Hangar 3 down to the concrete slab, including any necessary hazardous material abatement.
- Disconnect utilities, demo above ground connections, cap below ground utilities and abandon them in place.
- Place temporary airspace obstruction lights along the monitor roof of Hangar 2.

- Replace interior electrical panel in Building 55.
- Install temporary plywood to protect Building 55.
- Install temporary fencing around the work area (8' chain link set in concrete barriers with no attachment to existing surfaces).
- No ground disturbance is anticipated.

NASA identified a discontinuous Area of Potential Effects for the undertaking encompassing all of Moffett Federal Airfield, a portion of the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District, and some buildings east of NASA's fence line. Historic properties within the APE include most of the boundary of NAS Sunnyvale Historic District (including Moffett Federal Airfield, Hangars 1, 2, and 3, Building 55, and East Moffett Field Aircraft Parking Apron) and Lockheed Missiles & Space Campus (east of NASA ARC), being treated as eligible.

NASA assessed effects of the undertaking and determined that demolition of Hangar 3 constitutes an adverse effect to NAS Sunnyvale Historic District (including Moffett Federal Airfield, Hangars 1, 2, and 3, Building 55, and East Moffett Field Aircraft Parking Apron). NPS also determined that the undertaking would not adversely affect archaeological resources or the Lockheed Missiles & Space Campus.

Prior to determining that an undertaking will have adverse effects, an agency is required to consider alternatives that would avoid or minimize the adverse effects.

- Please clarify how NASA has demonstrated the need to demolish the building rather than repair and rehabilitate it, and provide the documentation and analysis supporting that need.
- Provide the structural analysis documents that support NASA's conclusion that demolition is necessary.
- Clarify if the State Historic Building Code be helpful in repairing and rehabilitating the building rather than demolishing it?
- As requested in the SHPO's January 23, 2020, letter, clarify if NASA used a structural engineer with experience assessing historic buildings while preparing the technical report.

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Until this information is provided, the SHPO is unable to comment on the proposed Finding of Adverse Effects. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact State Historian Mark Beason, at (916) 445-7047 or mark.beason@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer