

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

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March 05, 2012

Reply in Reference To: VA110720A

Daniel Swienton, Project Manager
Office of Construction and Facilities Management
Department of Veteran Affairs
1175 Nimitz Avenue, Suite 200
Vallejo, CA 94592

Re: Section 106 Consultation for Building 209 Seismic Retrofit and Rehabilitation Activities,
Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Healthcare Center

Dear Mr. Swienton:

Thank you for continuing consultation on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regarding their efforts to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470f), as amended, and its implementing regulation found at 36 CFR Part 800.

I received your response to my 06 December 2011 comments regarding your proposed Building 209 seismic retrofit and window replacement. It is my understanding that the VA is addressing the retention, repair and replacement of the existing steel sash windows in Building 209 in the following manner:

- Replacement of existing glass with laminated glass to address energy performance;
- Replacement of missing, previously replaced or severely damaged windows with aluminum sash windows to match original windows on secondary elevations;
- Relocation of original windows on secondary elevations at missing or deteriorated primary elevation facades;
- Removal of four windows from secondary elevations to create emergency exits;
- Removal and replacement of non-historic windows at the in-filled porches with new window sash and keeping the porches enclosed;
- Replacement of missing wood screens with new aluminum screens.

The VA has provided the following information in support of this undertaking:

- Cover letter responding to consultation dated 7/20/11
- Attachment 1 Building elevations with window treatment
- Attachment 2 Existing vs. proposed glazing comparison
- Attachment 3 Sections, Elevations, Photos of proposed aluminum replacement windows
- Attachment 4 Screen porch historic photos

- Attachment 5 Existing and proposed window screens for porches
- Attachment E identifying primary, secondary and tertiary spaces
- Sample of laminated glass

After reviewing this information, I have the following comments:

- 1) I concur with the proposed repair and reuse of the existing steel sash windows. The replacement of damaged primary window sash on primary elevations with original sash from secondary elevations is considered to be good practice and in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.
- 2) I concur that the removal of select windows at secondary elevations to provide code-required access and the installation of new aluminum screens to replicate original wood screens and factory painted to match original wood windows meets the Standards.
- 3) I concur with the replacement of existing windows at the porches.
- 4) The film in the laminated glazing you have provided has a distinctive tint that appears half-mirrored in character. OHP strongly suggests a clear film. As a result, I *cannot* concur that the use of this product as currently configured meets the Standards.
- 5) OHP supports the use of the clear film identified as Solarban 60 that you have selected for this undertaking. I am therefore able to concur that this undertaking as described and proposed will have no adverse effect on historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.5(b).
- 6) Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as an unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, you may have future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for seeking my comments and considering historic properties as part of your project planning. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ed Carroll of my staff at (916) 445-7006 or at email at ecarroll@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

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CC:

VA110720A

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