



Preserving America's Heritage

November 8, 2013

Mr. Dallan Wordekemper, CCIM
Federal Preservation Officer
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Suite 6670
Washington, DC 20260-1862

Ref: *Request for Section 106 Consulting Party Status, Berkeley Main Post Office
Berkeley, California*

Dear Mr. Wordekemper:

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) received a copy of the U.S. Postal Service's (USPS's) October 23, 2013 letter to the Citizens to Save the Berkeley Post Office. In the letter, the USPS rejects the organization's request to be a consulting party in the consultation for the disposal of the Berkeley Main Post Office; the USPS's letter provided no justification for this decision. Subsequently, the ACHP received an inquiry from the National Trust for Historic Preservation regarding this decision by the USPS.

As you are aware, the federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, invites consulting parties to participate in the consultation in accordance with Section 800.3(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act regulations (36 CFR Part 800). The USPS has provided no explanation for the refusal to grant consulting party status to the Citizens to Save the Berkeley Post Office, so the justification for this decision is unclear. However, to meet the intent and spirit of Section 106, consulting parties must be given the opportunity to engage in a dialog with the other parties, to share in problem-solving, and to have their questions and concerns addressed. To that end, we encourage the USPS to include all interested parties, including the Citizens to Save the Berkeley Post Office, in the Section 106 consultation for this undertaking.

If you have any questions, please contact Najah Duvall-Gabriel at (202) 606-8585 or via email at ngabriel@achp.gov. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Caroline D. Hall
Assistant Director
Federal Property Management Section
Office of Federal Agency Programs

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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