



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Medical Center  
4150 Clement Street  
San Francisco, CA 94121

FEB 09 2016

In Reply Refer To: 662/138

Julianne Polanco  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
California Office of Historic Preservation  
1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95816

Subject: **Section 106 Initiation for the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center Building 208 Extension and Trailer 24 Removal Project**

Dear Ms. Polanco:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing a project that will include the extension of Building 208 (Community Living Center and National Cardiac Device Surveillance Center) and the removal of Trailer 24 for the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center (SFVAMC) at Fort Miley in San Francisco, California. The SFVAMC is located on a 29-acre site in northwest San Francisco (see Exhibits 1 and 2) and is a major tertiary care facility that serves as a VA regional referral center for specialized medical and surgical programs. The 12-acre SFVAMC National Register Historic District (see Exhibit 3) lies within the boundaries of the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, and the proposed project is located outside of the SFVAMC Historic District (see Exhibit 4).

Per the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the *Programmatic Agreement Among the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center; the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; and the California State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Long Range Development Plan for the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center* (the PA) dated November 25, 2014 and executed January 9, 2015, the VA is contacting you to initiate consultation in the early stages of project development prior to completing the Schematic Design (roughly 35 percent design) of the proposed Building 208 Extension and Trailer 24 Removal Project (the project). As the project site for this sub-phase of the Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) is located outside of the SFVAMC Historic District and outside of the visual range of the SFVAMC Historic District and the Fort Miley Reservation Historic District, we are following the consultation procedures outlined under PA Review Category D, as previously identified in Attachment B of the PA.

This letter constitutes the review initiation for the proposed project per the directives of Review Category D and includes a written description of the proposed sub-phase and any way in which it differs from what is described in the LRDP Finding of Effect (FOE) (included in Table B-1 of the PA).

## **Proposed Sub-Phase**

### *Existing Conditions*

The proposed project, identified as SFVAMC LRDP Sub-phase 1.15 in Attachment B of the PA, includes the removal of Trailer 24 and the construction of an annex to Building 208 (the Community Living Center). Located in the southwest corner of the SFVAMC Fort Miley campus, Building 208 and Trailer 24 stand outside of and are not contributing resources to the SFVAMC Historic District. Building 208 was constructed in 1989 and is essentially linear in plan with the front façade and main entrance facing north and a large central section extending to the south. The approximately 61,300 square foot building stands two and three stories tall on a site that slopes to the south and features minimal landscaping and a roadway at three sides. At the rear, south side a one-story enclosed walkway connects to Building 203 to the east. The one-story 1,000 square foot portable building known as Trailer 24 occupies a site south of Building 208 just east of the building's central volume. The proposed project site is located at the south side of Building 208's central portion and is not visible from either the SFVAMC Historic District or the Fort Miley Reservation Historic District due to distance, existing buildings, and topography.

### *Building Improvements*

Three design options are currently being studied for the proposed project, which would include the removal of Trailer 24, the construction of a new, two- to three-story addition ranging from approximately 8,000 to 9,400 square feet in size, and minor alterations to Building 208's interior near the proposed annex location. The new addition would be the permanent home for the National Pacemaker/Telemetry Surveillance Center, would provide additional space for the Clinical Nurses /Administration, Clinical Storage, Physical and Occupational Suites, and would be located at the south side of the central portion of Building 208. The proposed extension as shown in all three design options would be essentially rectangular in plan with a flat roof. The proposed exterior cladding has not yet been determined, but would likely be stucco.

The Building 208 Extension and Trailer 24 Removal Project (Sub-phase 1.15) is described in the PA as follows:

Sub-phase 1.15 would involve the removal of a trailer and new construction to expand an existing building to the south. Both activities would occur outside the SFVAMC HD and outside the visual range of the Fort Miley Military Reservation HD.

PA Attachment B also includes the finding that the proposed project does not have the potential to contribute to the adverse effect on historic properties. The proposed project coincides with the project description as outlined in Table B-1 of the PA.

## **Public Involvement**

In accordance with our responsibilities under the PA, the SFVAMC will post this submission to its LRDP Section 106 website and notify all other Consulting Parties

within 30 days of transmittal to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). If SHPO requests additional information, then the SFVAMC will post the supplementary submission or objection to the LRDP Section 106 website and again notify all consulting parties.

### Summary

With this letter, the VA would like to initiate the review of the SFVAMC Building 208 Extension and Trailer 24 Removal Project (Sub-phase 1.15) in accordance with the PA under Review Category D and in compliance with Section 106 of NHPA. We request your comments or guidance specific to this sub-phase.

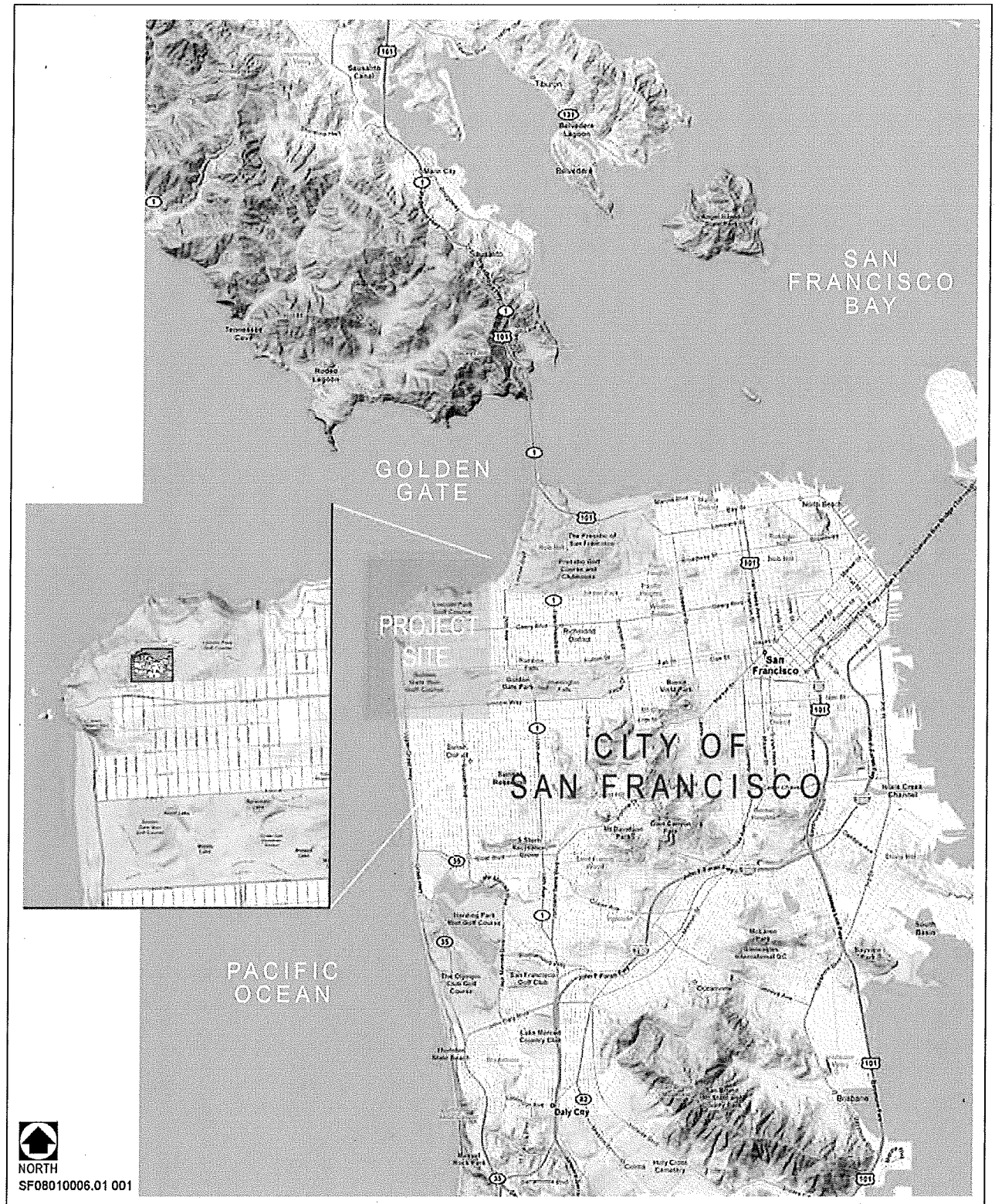
Should you have any questions about this project, please contact Ms. Robin Flanagan, Planning Office at (415) 750-2049.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bonnie Graham".

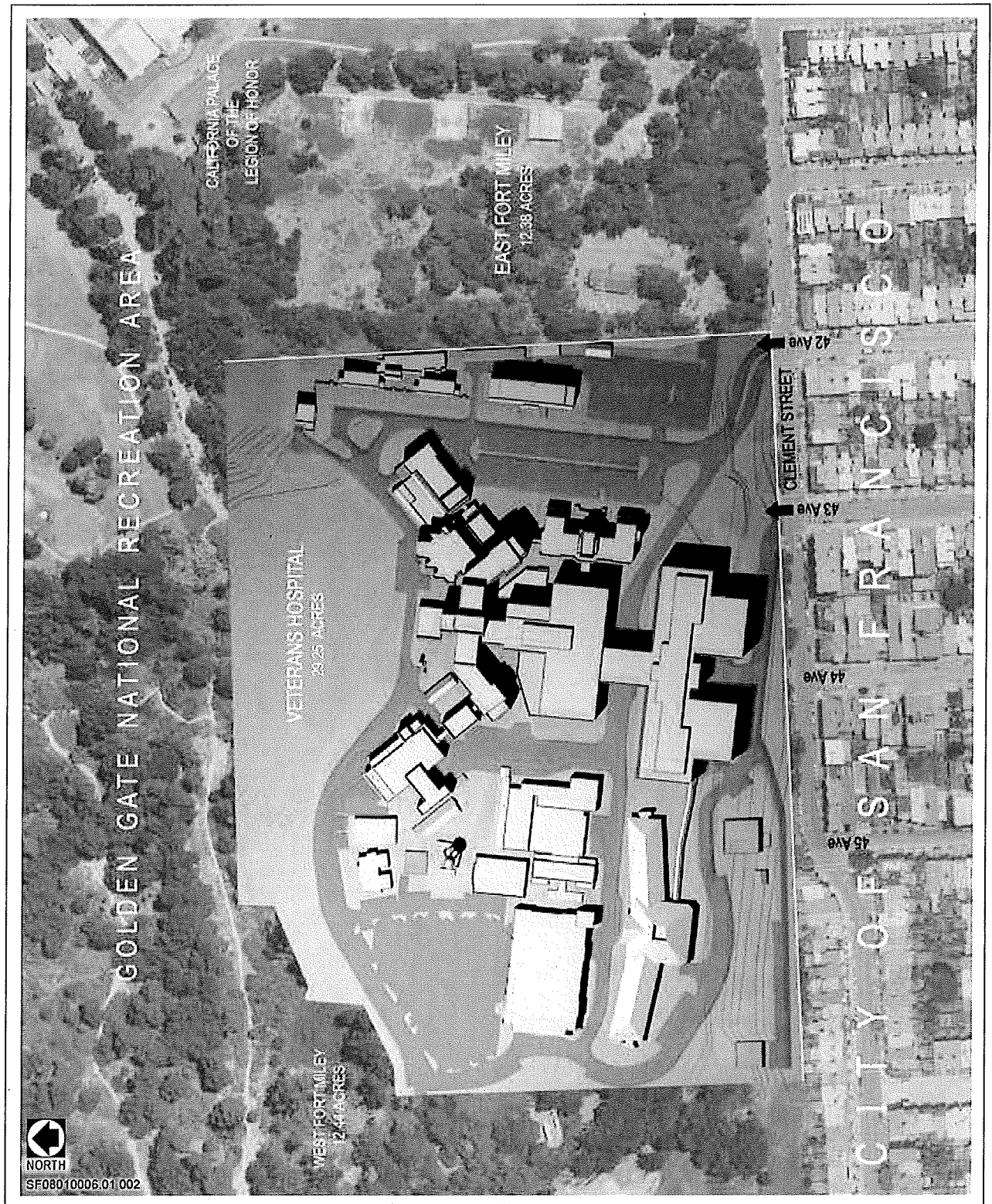
Bonnie S. Graham, MBA  
Medical Center Director

Attachments: Exhibit 1 (Location of SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus within Urban Context of San Francisco)  
Exhibit 2 (Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus)  
Exhibit 3 (SFVAMC Historic District)  
Exhibit 4 (Approximate Project Limits)  
Existing Conditions Photographs



Source: USVA, 2010

**Exhibit 1: Location of SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus within Urban Context of San Francisco**

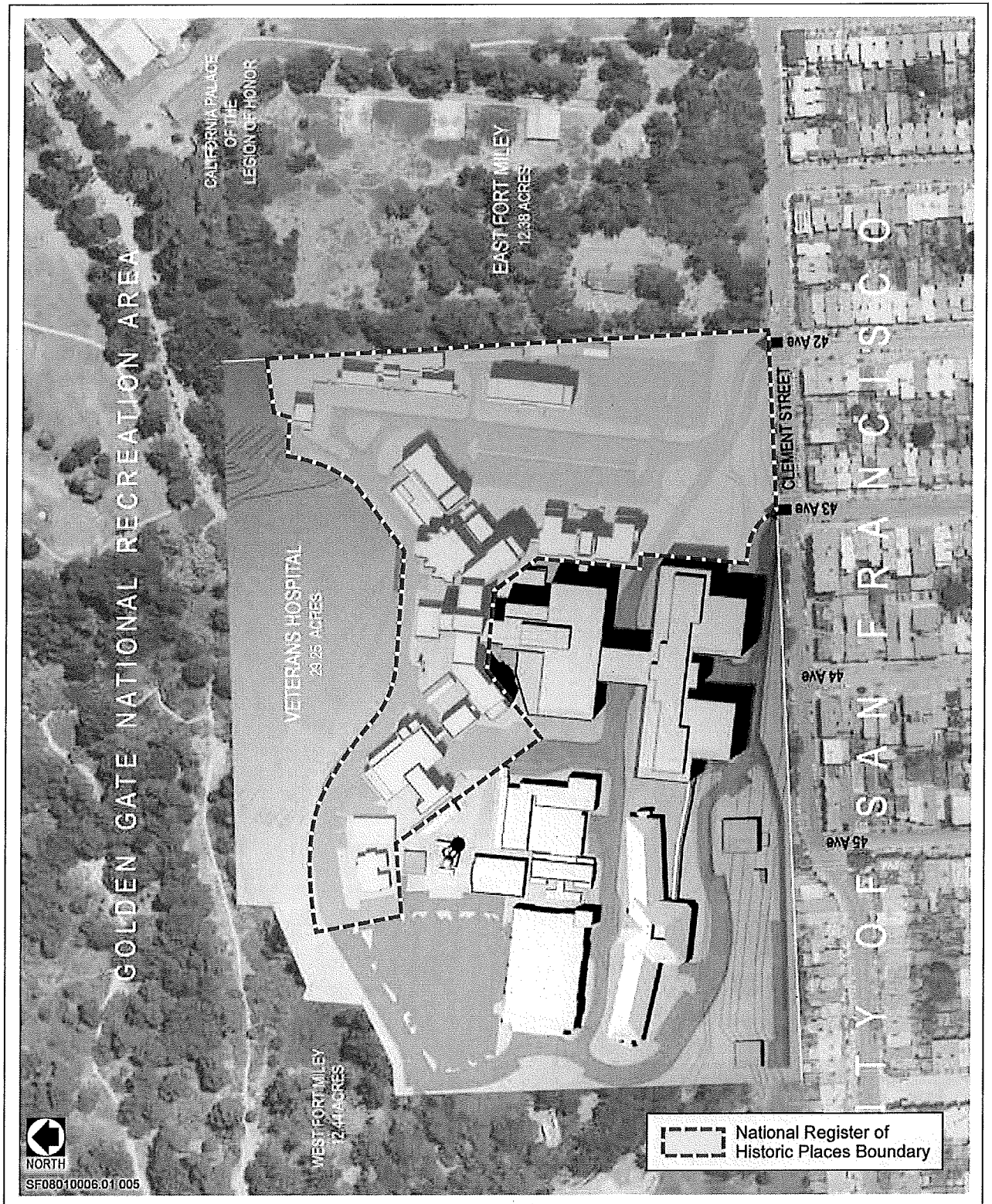


Source: USVA, 2010

Exhibit 2:

Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus

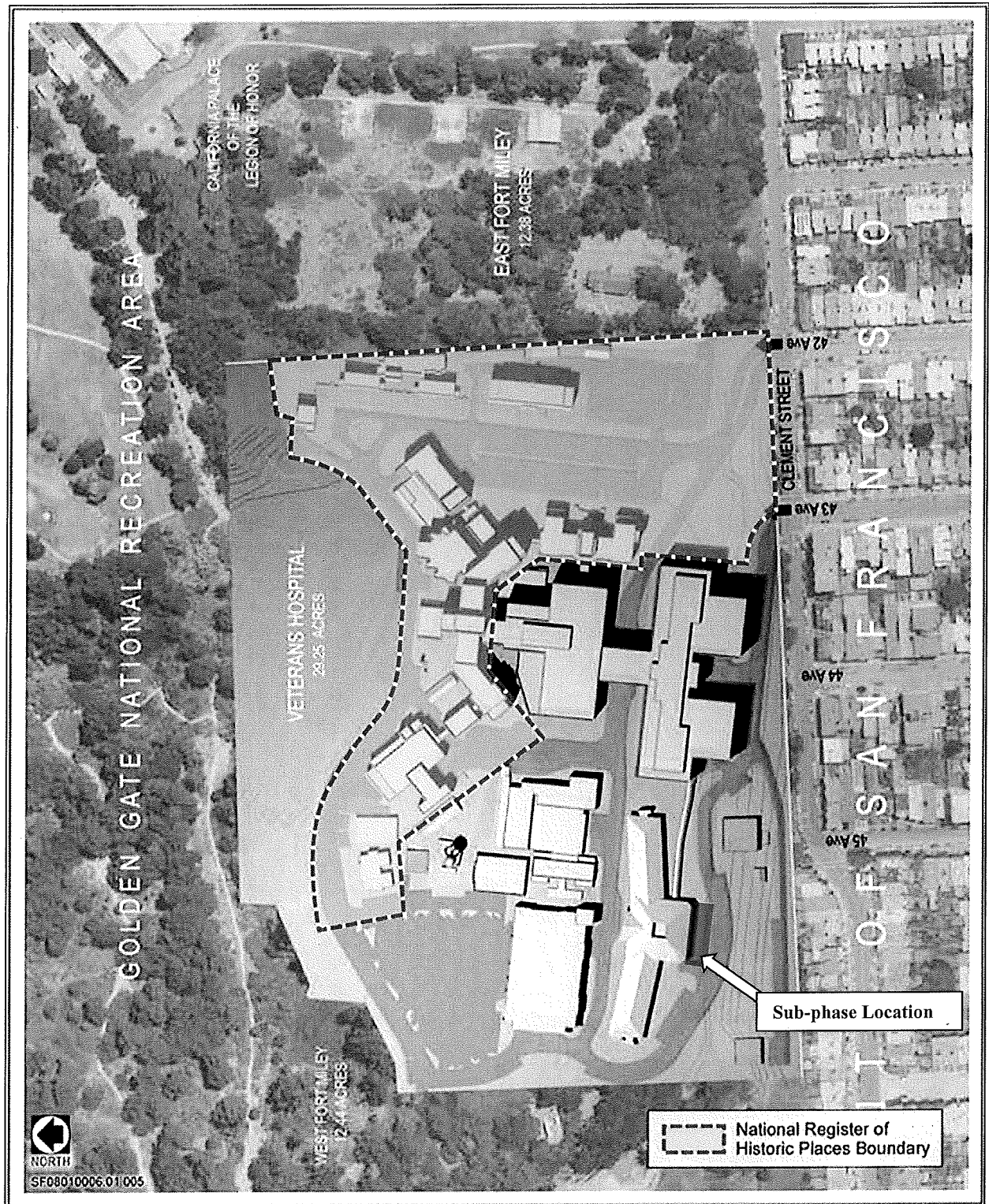




Source: SFVAMC Institutional Master Plan

Exhibit 3:

SFVAMC Historic District



Source: SFVAMC Institutional Master Plan (Altered by Author)

Exhibit 4:

Sub-phase Location





Photograph 1: View toward the project site and the south facade of the central portion of Building 208 looking east. Note: Building 203 in the background. Source: KPA.



Photograph 2: View toward the project site and existing Trailer 24 looking west. Source: KPA