

**Relocation and Consolidation
of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
Off-Site Research Programs
Project Summary**

PROPOSED UNDERTAKING: Within the 16-acre site shown on Figure 1, 25 existing structures, totaling approximately 107,000 gross square feet, would be demolished and removed. These structures comprise all of the existing buildings south of Lark Drive, with the exception of Building 201 (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] regional laboratory). The 16-acre site would be cleared, re-graded to raise the elevation by approximately five feet, the proposed DOE facility and infrastructure improvements and supporting facilities would be constructed, and additional facilities may also be constructed on the site.

LOCATION OF ACTION: The proposed undertaking would be constructed on the developed Southwest portion of the Richmond Field Station (RFS) which is located in Richmond, California. The RFS is a 172-acre site owned by the University of California (UC) and located along the eastern shore of the San Francisco Bay in Contra Costa County, at 1301 South 46th Street, Richmond, California (see Figure 1). The RFS is comprised of 110 acres of developed upland areas that currently host buildings used for academic teaching and research activities and privately leased spaces; a north-south oriented planting of eucalyptus trees in the central portion of the site; a tidal salt marsh (known as the Western Stege Marsh); a transition zone between the upland areas and marsh; and 62 acres of undeveloped tidal lands and open waters in San Francisco Bay. Coastal grasslands occur in a number of meadows on the RFS site, and a stretch of the San Francisco Bay Trail runs along the south of the RFS. In addition to the RFS, UC also owns an adjacent 23-acre developed parcel along Regatta Boulevard.

AREA OF POTENTIAL AFFECT: The APE includes the 16 acres site shown on Figure 1 and additional buildings that surround the 16 acre site as shown on Figure 2.

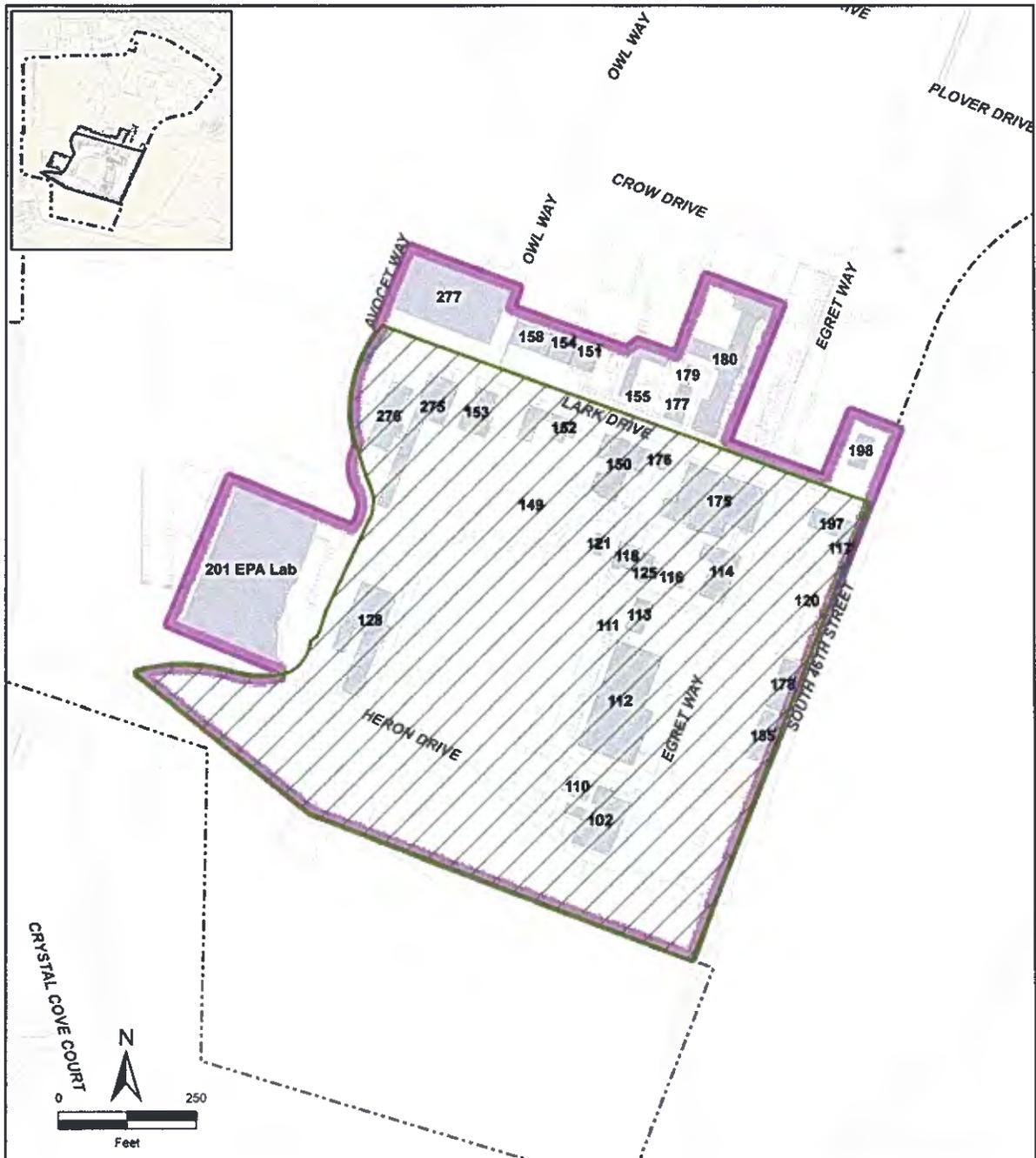
DISCUSSION: Within the APE only buildings 150 and 175 are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, under either Criterion (A) or the California Register of Historic Resources Criterion 1, for their association with the California Cap Company. Both buildings are to be demolished as part of the proposed undertaking and would therefore be adversely affected. The reports identify no potential adverse impacts to the buildings that would be left standing within the APE.

ALTERNATIVES: Consideration was given to not demolishing buildings 150 and 175. However, that alternative would limit the location of future buildings within the project site thereby limiting the site's ability to satisfy the project need. Moreover, the proposed undertaking includes replacing and rerouting utilities within the 16 acre site which could isolate buildings 150 and 175, making them nonfunctional and subject to deterioration. Consideration was also given to alternate sites on the RFS. However, the 16 acre site chosen is the least occupied of the other alternative sites at the RFS. Consequently, selecting any of those alternate sites would require relocating a greater number of existing occupants and creating potentially more impacts on the environment. Other sites at RFS are vacant but those sites have environmentally sensitive habitat that should not be disturbed.

FINDING AND DETERMINATION: DOE has determined that the proposed undertaking requires the demolition of two buildings that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. DOE proposes to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for resolution of the adverse effects that result from the proposed undertaking.



Figure 1



Historical Architectural Area of Potential Effects

Richmond, California



-  Direct Area Potential Effects
-  Indirect Area of Potential Effects
-  Richmond Field Station Boundary
-  Buildings
-  Road or Other Landscape Feature

Figure 2

Figure 2