



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
FORT MASON CENTER, BUILDING E
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94123

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H4217 (SAFR-CR)

December 6, 2011

Bayardo R. Pinell
Academy of Art University
The Cannery
2801 Leavenworth Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

Dear Mr. Pinell,

This is to inform you that the Argonaut Hotel's Blue Mermaid Restaurant, a tenant of San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, is proposing to expand its outdoor dining area located within the Cannery courtyard (a.k.a. Del Monte Courtyard). The Argonaut Hotel is located within the historic California Fruit Cannery Warehouse, a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places and therefore, the National Park Service (NPS) is required to review the project for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

We have a copy of a draft Historic Resource Evaluation of the Cannery prepared by Page & Turnbull, Inc. which was presented to us by a previous owner of the complex. They concluded that according to the California Register of Historic Properties, it appears to qualify as one of the earliest and most prominent examples of adaptive re-use, designed by a prominent architect, Joseph Esherick, with landscape design by Thomas Church. They also concluded that the "Cannery Street Courtyard" was a contributing element to the Cannery's significance. To that end, we are mindful that our projects may not only have an effect on our own historic building, but also on the potentially significant Cannery and courtyard. Our initial review of the project proposal has led us to believe that this project will not have any adverse effects on the historic Warehouse building, the Cannery or the Courtyard. Since we are neighbors, and our project has a potential to affect your property, we would like to offer you the opportunity to review and comment on the project. We have loaded the documents on our public planning website, which you can find at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/courtyarddiningarea>. Please share this information with the businesses located within the courtyard so that they will know that the project is taking place and can review and comment on it. We will leave the comment link open through December 30, 2011.

If you have any questions, please contact Robbyn Jackson, Chief of Cultural Resources and Museum Management at 415-561-7019. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Craig Kenkel
Superintendent

cc: David von Winckler, General Manager, Argonaut Hotel