Mr. Hugh C. Miller  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Department of Historic Resources  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Mr. Miller:

In response to your letter of July 31, 1989, regarding Langley Research Center's plans for relocation of the Variable Density Tunnel (VDT) vessel, the following additional information is provided relative to your stated concerns.

Building 582 was constructed originally to house the VDT. Subsequently, it became a compressed air station, when the VDT was adapted for reuse as a compressed air storage vessel. Currently the building is an element of the Low-Turbulence Pressure Tunnel (LTPT) complex, and still houses compressors and associated equipment.

In the course of these functional evolutions, Building 582 has been subjected to internal rearrangements, change of equipment content, and major additions. The enclosed annotated and color-highlighted copies of facility plans for Buildings 581, 582, 582A, and 585 indicate the nature and respective construction dates for the LTPT complex. In 1940, when Building 582A was added, Building 582 was "modernized" with brick walls having large windows, concealing the original metal exterior.

A rehabilitation project is currently underway at the LTPT complex to further alter the interior of Building 582 to provide critically needed research and office space. A portion of a non-original facade will be reworked with smaller windows, and the roof/parapet over the office area will be changed.

Concerning the VDT vessel, it is intended to use state-of-the-art two-part epoxy or polyurethane coatings for weather-resistance.

Langley Research Center values your concern and recommendations relative to this VDT exhibit project. The Center recognizes the potential benefit of your suggested visit. In order that any added measures your office may propose will receive the most consideration, you are invited to visit this site at your earliest possible opportunity. The best information available from the contractor at this time is that the Building 582 roof will be open for a brief period beginning approximately August 30, 1989. The VDT vessel is to be extracted for transportation at that time.
The Langley staff is anxious to accommodate your visit. Immediate arrangements should be made with Mr. John Mouring (804) 864-6861, who will also provide additional information or documentation as necessary.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Holloway
Acting Director

Enclosure

cc:
National Historic Landmarks and Administrative History Programs
Attn: Dr. Harry A. Butowsky
National Park Service
Washington, DC 20013-7127

(w/o encl)
101/General Files
436/J. E. Knemeyer
278/D. Caplan
115/OEA
123/R. T. Layman
449/W. R. Wiley
446/FPDO Files

446/JLMouring:as 8-15-89 (46861)
446/ILH
112/RLS
115/AGP