



**A CULTURAL RESOURCES EVALUATION OF
350 MERRYDALE, 3833 REDWOOD HIGHWAY, SAN RAFAEL,
MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

SUBMITTED BY

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SUBMITTED FOR

Michael Hooper, Campus Property Group

March 17, 2018

A.R.S. Project 18-011

INTRODUCTION

As requested and authorized, Archaeological Resource Service has conducted an archaeological evaluation of the parcel described below. The following basic tasks are to be accomplished as part of this project:

1. A check of the information on file with our office and the Regional Office of the California Historical Resources Information System, to determine the presence or absence of previously recorded historic or prehistoric cultural resources,
2. A check of appropriate historic references to determine the potential for historic era archaeological deposits, and;
3. Contact with the Native American Heritage Commission to determine the presence or absence of listed Sacred Lands within the project area;
4. Contact with all appropriate Native American organizations or individuals designated by the Native American Heritage Commission as interested parties for the project area;
5. A surface reconnaissance of all accessible parts of the project area to locate any visible signs of potentially significant historic or prehistoric cultural deposits.
6. Preparation of a report describing the work accomplished, the results of the research, and making appropriate recommendations for further action, if warranted.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The following project description is taken directly from the project description submitted to the City of San Rafael:

The Preliminary Site Plan dated 10/5/17 shows 44 three-story Townhomes in a total of 10 buildings accessed from both Merrydale Road and the existing dead end of Redwood Highway. Internal drive aisles provide vehicular access to garage spaces within each townhome unit. Pedestrian access to front doors is generally provided directly from Merrydale Road or a series of connecting greenways and the setback from Las Gallinas Creek. The exceptions are Buildings 9 and 10 that have pedestrian access from a drive aisle so that they can have useable back yards.

The intent, as far as feasible is to have landscaped usable Greenways including the Las Gallinas Creek area that also provide separation of pedestrians and vehicles.

All units will have two parking spaces, at least one covered in secured garages. All but 8 of the units (Plan B) will have two car garages. The Plan B units will have a 1 car secured

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PLANNING

garage and one other reserved parking space. Surface parking for Plan B owners and visitors will be generally located along the freeway side.

To the maximum extent possible, buildings are oriented to Merrydale Road, Las Gallinas Creek and the Greenways.

Buildings 1, 2, 5 and 6 are setback from Las Gallinas Creek a minimum of 18 feet from the existing top of bank and approximately 32 feet from center line.

Trash and recycling carts will be located within the garage of individual units for pick up in the drive aisles on collection days.

Drive aisles will be Private and be maintained by a Home Owners Association along with the other common areas including the Greenways and the Las Gallinas Creek setback.

The cultural resources evaluation has been undertaken to determine the presence or absence of potentially significant cultural resources within the project area.

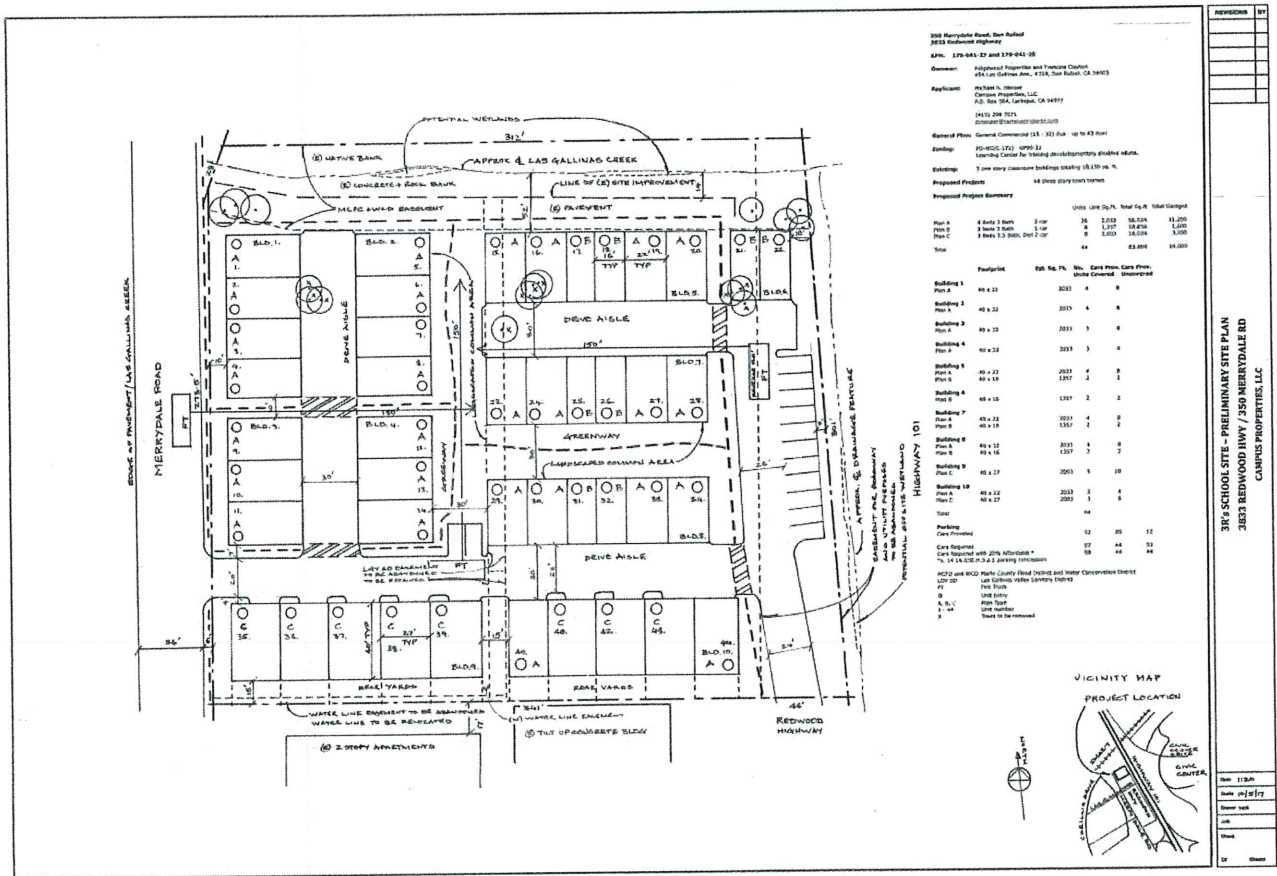


FIGURE 1 -- PROPOSED PROJECT

This plan shows the proposed townhouses and other improvements proposed for the evaluated project.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project area is located at 3833 Redwood Highway, 350 Merrydale Road, San Rafael, Marin County, California. The parcel consists of about five acres of paved parking and commercial buildings land bounded by similar properties.

The project area lies in the Mexican era land grant of San Pedro, Santa Margarita y Las Gallinas within unsectioned land of Township 2 North, Range 6 West, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian. The Universal Transverse Mercator Grid coordinates to the approximate center of the project area, as determined by measurement from the USGS 7.5' San Rafael, California Quadrangle Map (1995) are:

4205870 Meters North,
 540630 Meters East, Zone 10

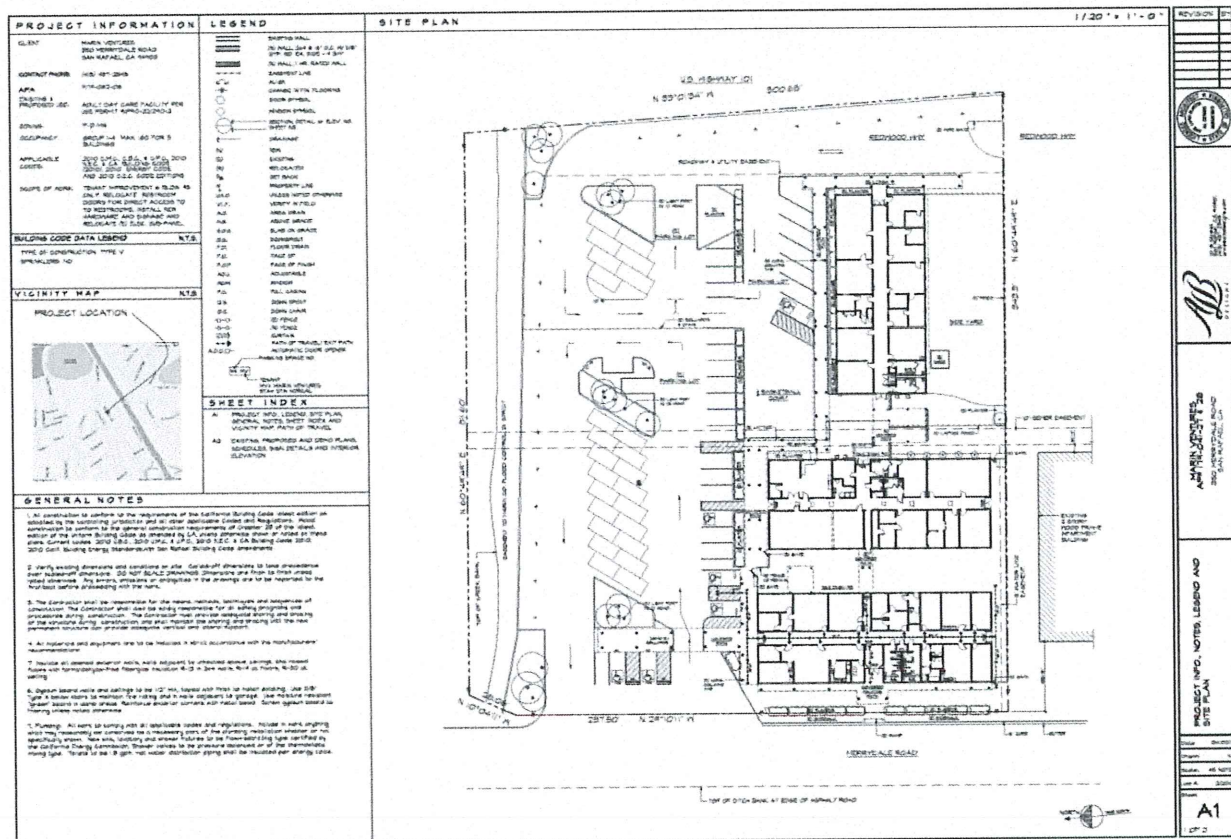


FIGURE 2 -- EXISTING CONDITIONS

This illustration shows the configuration of the property when examined. The only areas available for inspection lay along the channelized creek channel, along the frontage with the freeway and in the labeled "side yard" in the southeast (upper right) corner of the property.

REGULATORY SETTING

There are no previously recorded prehistoric or historic resources located within the project area. Archaeological resources, once identified, are evaluated using criteria established in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (14 CCR 15064.5 and PRC 21084.1). Significant historical resources need to be addressed before environmental mitigation guidelines are developed and approved. A "significant historical resource" (including both a prehistoric and historic resource) is one that is found eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources. As per Title 14, California Code of Regulations Section 15064.5, historical resources are those that are:

- Listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historic Resources (Public Resources Code 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4850 et. seq.);
- Listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (CRHR);
- Included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resource Code; or
- Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California, provided the lead agency's determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record.



FIGURE 3 -- PROJECT LOCATION ON THE USGS SAN RAFAEL QUADRANGLE MAP

The project area lies at the northern edge of the map, as shown by the horizontal line at the north side of the project location. Bordering maps, noted by the color changes at the edges, are Novato to the north, Petaluma Point to the northeast and San Quentin to the east.

Additionally, historical resources and historic districts designated or listed as city or county landmarks or historic properties or districts pursuant to any city or county ordinance can also be listed in the California Register, if the criteria for listing under the ordinance have been determined by the Office of Historic Preservation to be consistent with California Register criteria adopted by the commission (pursuant to Section 5024.1(e) of the PRC).



FIGURE 4 -- THE PROJECT LOCATION FROM GOOGLE EARTH

The level of previous development of the neighborhood is apparent in this view. The Marin County Civic Center can be seen to the right of the freeway.

A resource may be listed as an historical resource in the California Register if it has integrity and meets any of the following National Register of Historic Places criteria:

- 1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- 2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past; or
- 3) Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- 4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

CEQA (PRC 21083.2) also distinguishes between two classes of archaeological resources: archaeological sites that meet the definition of a historical resource as above, and “unique archaeological resources.” A “unique archaeological resource” has been defined in CEQA as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- 1) Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information,
- 2) Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type, or
- 3) Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

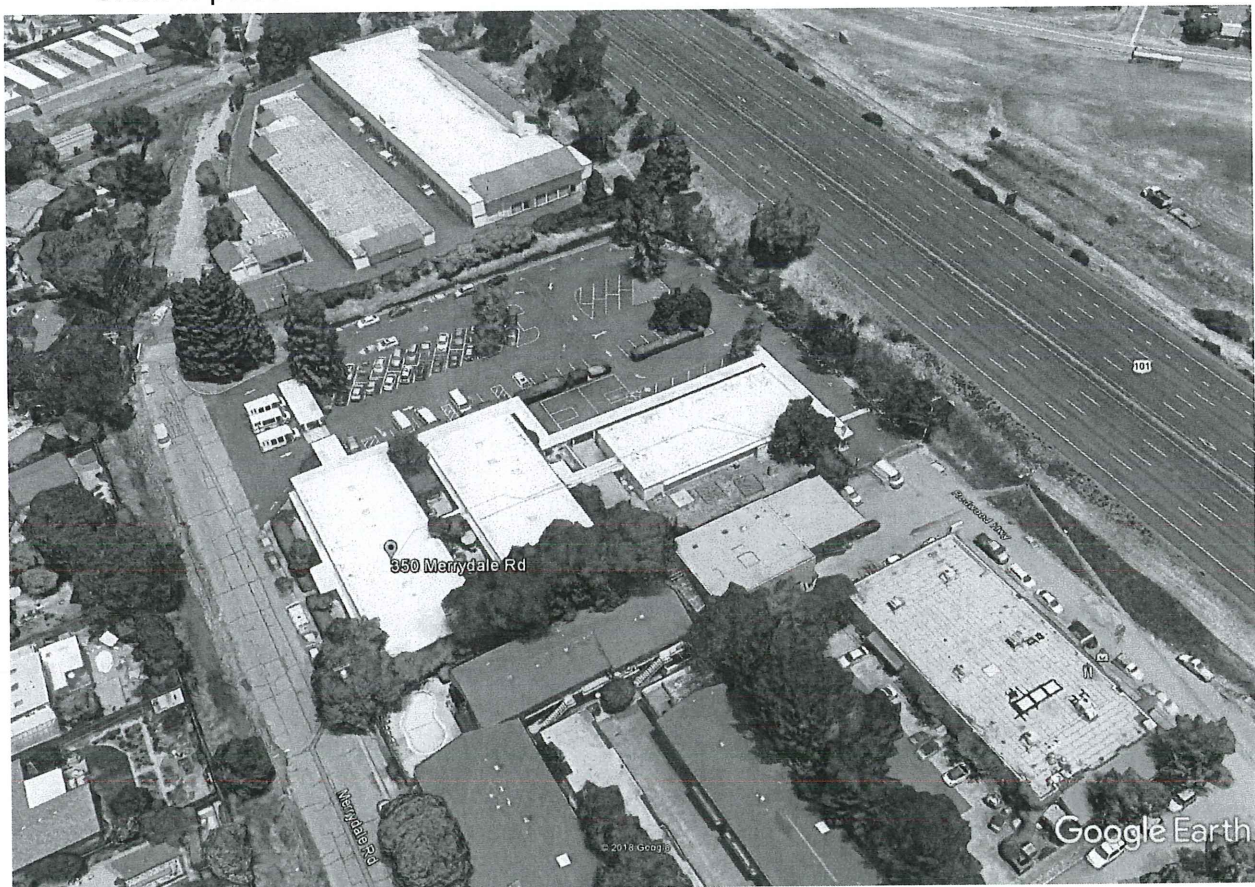


FIGURE 5 -- A CLOSE VIEW FROM GOOGLE EARTH

The extent of pavement and building cover impedes examination of most of the property. Fortunately, apparently native soil is still present in the open “side yard” and around the edges of the project area.

Buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts representative of California and United States history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture convey significance when they also possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. A resource has integrity if it retains the characteristics that were present during the resource’s

period of significance. Enough of these characteristics must remain to convey the reasons for its significance.

As of July 2015, two new classes of resources have been defined. Tribal cultural resources and Tribal cultural landscapes can be any of a variety of cultural sites as defined by the individual tribe. These resources, once identified, are treated as significant resources under CEQA.

The fact that a resource is not listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in the CRHR, or included in a local register of historical resources (pursuant to Section 5020.1(k) of the PRC), or identified in an historical resources survey (meeting the criteria in Section 5024.1(g) of the PRC) does not preclude a lead agency from determining that the resource may be an historical resources as defined in PRC sections 5020.1(j) or 5024.1.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The historic and archaeological records and maps on file at the Archaeological Resource Service office were consulted to check for cultural resources in the project vicinity. A search of the maps and records on file at the NWIC was conducted by ARS to determine the presence or absence of cultural resources within a 1 mile radius of the project vicinity.

The Native American Heritage Commission was contacted, with a request to check the Sacred Lands file maintained by them. This database lists sacred places recorded by Native Americans or observed by anthropologists or archaeologists. These places can be rock art sites (petroglyphs or pictographs), cemeteries or funerary locations, important village sites, or locations associated with specific events or features of oral tradition. A request was also made for a list of local Native American parties who may have interest or knowledge about the project area.

SACRED LANDS INVENTORY / NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION

The California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) works to identify, catalogue, and protect places of special religious or social significance, graves, and cemeteries of Native Americans per the authority given the Commission in Public Resources Code 5097.9. A check with the NAHC was done to determine if there are sites listed in the Sacred Lands file located within or near to the current project area.

A response was received from the agency by email on Saturday, March 17, recommending contact with representatives of FIGR. Knowing that the NAHC would recommend contacting the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR), we have copied Ms. Buffy McQuillen, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, on our letter to the NAHC. Although we may not receive a response from FIGR, it is likely that they will contact the City of San Rafael seeking consultation.

RESULTS OF LITERATURE CHECK

PREHISTORIC BACKGROUND

The artifacts and features left by the earliest identified prehistoric inhabitants of this part of California are referred to as the Post Pattern of archaeological deposits and features (Fredrickson 1973, 1974). This assemblage of artifacts is contemporaneous with the Paleo-Indian period, from about 10,000 to 6,000 B.C. The economic focus of the Post Pattern appears to have revolved around hunting and exploitation of lakeshore (lacustrine) resources. Attributes of the Post Pattern include the inferred use of the dart and atlatl tipped with fluted projectile points (Origer and Fredrickson 1980:47). Chipped stone crescents also occur during this period.

The Post Pattern is followed by the Borax Lake Pattern, which lasted through the Lower Archaic (ca. 6,000 to 3,000 B.C.) and the Middle Archaic (ca. 3,000 to 500 B.C.) periods (Fredrickson

1973, 1974). Two projectile point traditions are recognized for the southern aspect of the Borax Lake Pattern. The earlier, wide-stemmed tradition may have a temporal range from 6,000 to about 4,000 B.C. while the later, concave base tradition may date from the period from about 3,000 to 500 B.C. (Origer and Fredrickson 1980:48). The economy of the Borax Lake Pattern focused on the collecting and processing of hard seeds with hunting of possibly equal importance. Significant attributes of the Borax Lake Pattern include the milling slab and handstone and relatively large projectile points which suggest the use of the dart and atlatl (Origer and Fredrickson 1980:48).

During the Upper Archaic period (ca. 500 B.C. to A.D. 500), the Borax Lake Pattern was replaced in the southern North Coast Ranges by the Houx Aspect of the Berkeley Pattern (Fredrickson 1973; Origer and Fredrickson 1980). Influenced by the cultures of the Sacramento Valley and the San Francisco Bay regions, the Houx Aspect had a continuing economic focus on hunting, but was also marked by the acorn economy as inferred from the presence of the bowl mortar and pestle (Origer and Fredrickson 1980:48). Houx attributes include large lanceolate projectile points suggestive of the continued use of the dart and atlatl, and the replacement of milling slab and handstone technology by the bowl mortar and pestle (Origer and Fredrickson 1980:48; Fredrickson 1984).

The Emergent Period (ca. A.D. 500 to 1800) is typified in this area by the Augustine Pattern which represents a fusion of introduced elements with those of the older Berkeley Pattern (Fredrickson 1973, 1984). The Augustine Pattern is distinguished by intensive fishing, hunting, and gathering (especially of acorns); large, dense populations; highly developed exchange systems; social stratification; and the mortuary practices of cremation and pre-interment grave-pit burning of artifacts, coupled with flexed burial (Fredrickson 1973; Moratto 1984). Augustine

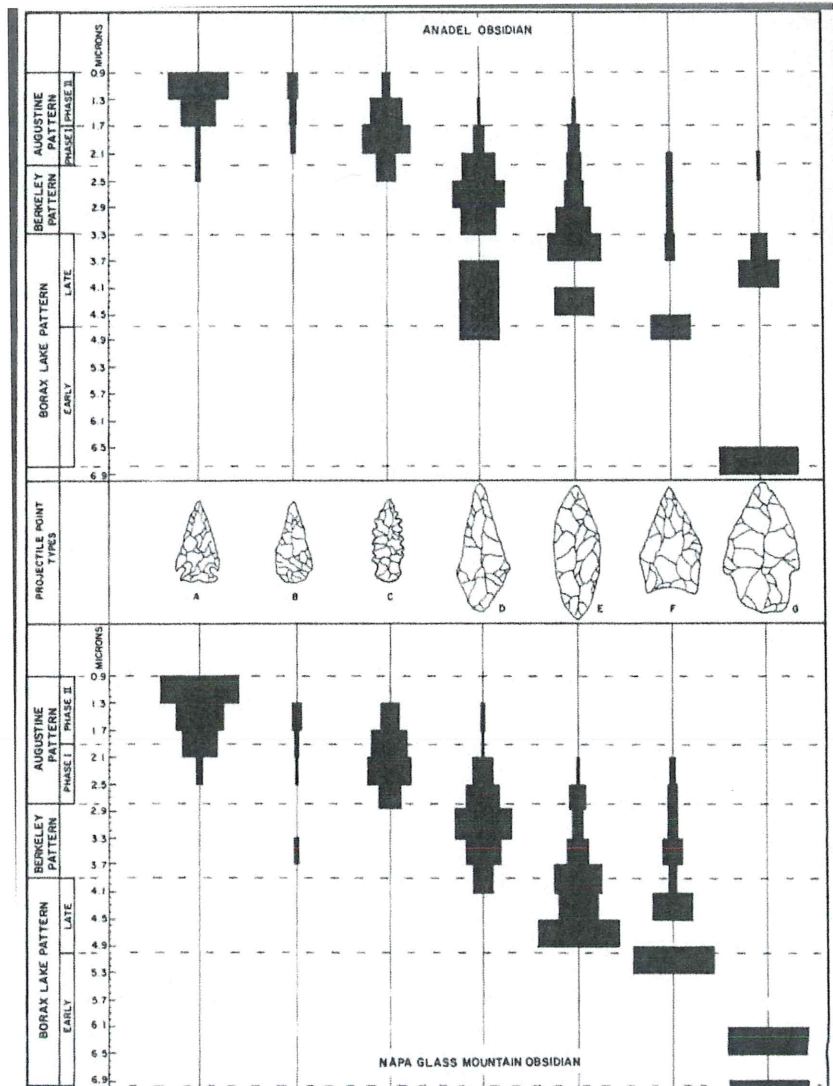


Figure 10.15 Projectile points characteristic of the Sonoma District. A, corner-notched; B, round-base [preform]; C, serrated, stemmed; D, shouldered, lanceolate; E, lanceolate; F, concave-base; G, wide-stemmed. The two sets of graphs [one for the Anadel obsidian source, the other for the Napa Glass Mountain source] show relative proportions for each projectile point category within each 0.4 μ m interval. The shape of the distribution of any one category is referred to as a *battleship curve*. [Data source: Origer 1982, drawing by Nelson Thompson.]

Pattern technological innovations included shaped mortars and pestles, bone awls for making baskets, and the bow and arrow (Fredrickson 1973; Moratto 1984).

Nels C. Nelson recorded many of the nearby prehistoric archaeological sites in 1907. Nelson's 1909 publication on the shellmounds of the Bay Area confirmed the presence of these aboriginal shellfish processing camps and larger village areas that were further described as either "shell mounds" or "shell heaps" (Nelson 1907, 1909). These places are composed of midden soil (decomposed shellfish and organic material) mixed with shell debris and artifacts. These deposits may also contain human remains.

Some of the archaeological sites reported by Nelson are still prominent features on the landscape, others have all but disappeared. A few have not been found for many years. Several of Nelson's sites in the area have been relocated by more recent investigations. Some examples include the following:

CA-MRN-120, 121, and 122 are located over a mile to the east of the project property. Ca-Mrn-120 is located in a valley well above the marshland and Gallinas Beach to the north. Nelson initially recorded this site as a shell mound with dimensions of 75 feet by 125 feet, and 8 feet high. A pestle fragment and an obsidian arrow point were found at this site (Nelson 1907a).

Ca-Mrn-121 and 122 are located to the north of 120, on the edge of the marshland just south of Gallinas Beach. Both sites were shallow shell mounds and described by Nelson as temporary campsites, and little to no evidence of these sites presently exists (Nelson 1907b,c).

CA-MRN-123 was located approximately ½ mile northwest of Ca-Mrn-124, on the edge of what was formerly marshland. This site was described by Nelson as a shell midden mound approximately 15 feet high, 180 feet wide, and 250 feet long, with signs of human and animal bone (Nelson 1907d). This site has not been relocated by an archaeological study, but it has most likely been destroyed by modern residential development (Chavez 1982).

CA-MRN-124 was originally recorded as being located on the northwest side of what may have been N. San Pedro Rd. in 1907, and noted that the site had been plowed over. However, the site was relocated in 1973 by Thomas King to the southeast side of present day N. San Pedro Rd., south of Granlee Rd. (Nelson 1907e, 1909, King 1973). It is most likely possible that N. San Pedro Rd. has been realigned multiple times since the time Nelson used it as a locational reference.

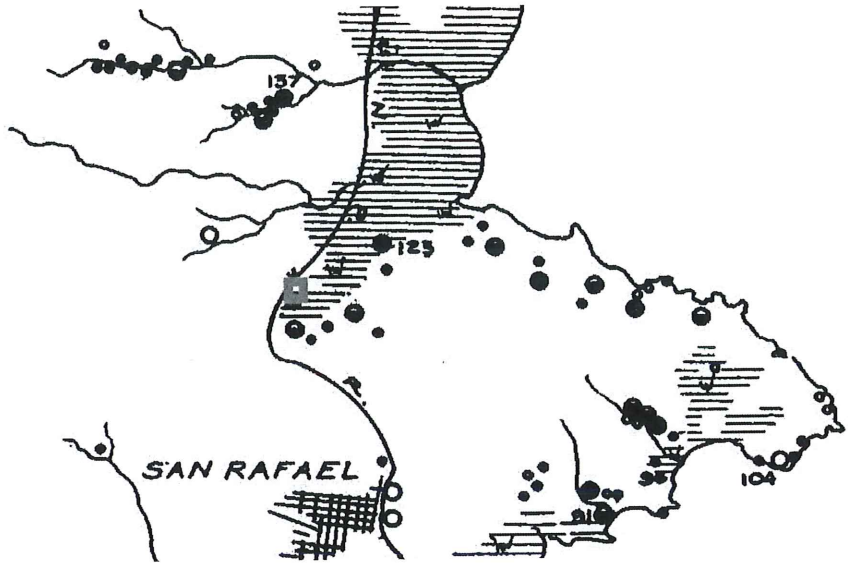


FIGURE 6 -- PART OF N.C. NELSON'S MAP OF SHELLMOUNDS

The curving line north and east of San Rafael is a railroad line that runs near the current freeway. The project area lies just north of San Rafael (red box) as depicted on this map.

King relocated Ca-Mrn-124 during his 1973 evaluation of 200 acres southeast of the project property for the proposed "San Pedro Reserve" development. He described the site as a relatively late village site, but noted that the majority of the midden had been damaged or obscured by the Jehovah's Witness Church and parking lot (King 1973).

In 1976, an archaeological impact evaluation was performed within the vicinity of Ca-Mrn-124 for the realignment of N. San Pedro Rd. Archaeological Consulting and Research Services, Inc. excavated three test pits within the limits of the proposed road right-of-way for the Marin County Department of Public Works. Although the test pit locations were not indicated on the map, the author indicated that testing was done within close proximity to Ca-Mrn-124. The results of the testing were negative in terms of prehistoric materials, and only a few samples of modern and historic trash was observed. It was concluded that dark, midden like soil containing shell fragments encountered in the top levels of the test pits was most likely imported fill (ACRS 1976).

Efforts were made in 1995 to relocate Ca-Mrn-124 by ARS, but this proved futile due to modern landscape changes and construction. The area where the site is believed to be located, under the church parking lot, was fenced off and thus inaccessible (Chattan 1995).

Ca-Mrn-125, located approximately 0.75 mile south of the project area, was relocated by King in 1973, and then by Suzanne Baker in 1981. This site has been described as a large shell mound with the dimensions of 40 meters by 50 meters, and 1 meter deep. Chert flakes and fire-cracked rock were observed on the surface of the site (Baker 1981, King 1973).

CA-MRN-126, was reported in what is now the Santa Venetia area and is thought to have been disrupted by modern development. MRN-126 has not been observed in recent years and it is unrelocated.

CA-MRN-127 is located on the east side of the Marin Civic Center Lagoon. The area was examined by students from the Sonoma State University Cultural Resources Facility in 1988-89. The deposit was found to be an Emergent Period deposit producing a carbon date of 370 ±50 years (CE1580, 1530-1620 A.D.). This was a permanent or semipermanent village site. Human remains have been reported.

CA-MRN-128 was described as a "shellground" (usually a minor site or one that has eroded away due to tidal action) and reported by Nelson to be "Situated at the base of the round hill mentioned above, at the northwest side." This may be a reference to the location of MRN-126.

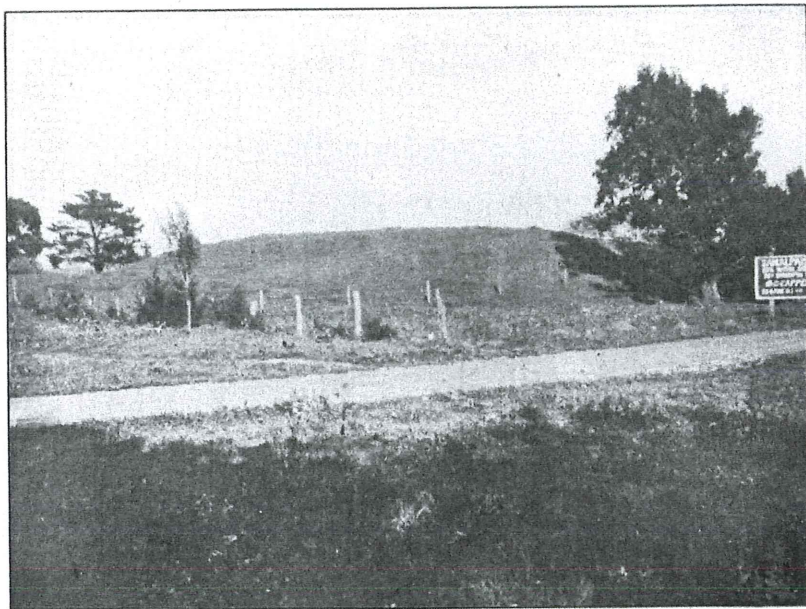


FIGURE 7 -- A TYPICAL SHELLMOUND OF MARIN COUNTY

This example is from the Mill Valley area, but illustrates the appearance of a relatively undisturbed shellmound.

Nelson's description of the site leaves somethings to be desired. His entire description is: "*It is obviously genuine, but yet insignificant in every respect.*"

CA-MRN-129 The literature check revealed the presence of one previously recorded prehistoric resource adjacent to the proposed project. This archaeological site, Mrn-129, was originally recorded by N. C. Nelson in 1907. The literature search indicates that Nels C. Nelson located several prehistoric sites in the present projects vicinity when he examined the area in the fall or early winter (September -- December) of 1907. Nelson appears to have used the terms "shellmound" and "shellheap" to describe the larger and smaller versions of the same phenomenon. He appears to have used "shellmound" to describe larger sites, or the largest sites in a series of sites. Shellheap was reserved by him as the diminutive descriptive term for a culturally generated shell deposit. A third category, shellground, was reserved for those sites that Nelwson considered to be insignificant in all respects. The size ascription used by Nelson is useful in description, but is not a statement of the relative value of the deposit.

Nelson's published study of "shellmounds" (Nelson 1909) was the first comprehensive regional study of prehistoric sites around San Francisco Bay. Nelson took copious notes on the archaeological sites he observed. Beginning in 1948, with the establishment of the University of California Archaeological Survey at Berkeley, the information was transcribed onto standardized forms. The information available today consists of those transcribed descriptions. The "old survey map" referred to in the transcribed notes has since been lost, preventing accurate confirmation of the recorded site locations on current maps.

One of Nelson's reported shellmounds, Mrn-129 is currently mapped as lying between Merrydale Road and the freeway, south of Olivet Cemetery. Information culled from his notes was used to generate Archaeological Site Record Forms in 1948 when the UC Archaeological Survey was formed as part of the Anthropology Department. Nelson described Mrn-129 as follows:

Shellmound. Situated at the head of the marsh on the east of the San Rafael-Petaluma wagon road, south of the small hillock lying in the angle made by the road and railroad. Cemetary (sic) hill lies close directly to the north. The site is low, near the marsh and not much above its level.

The mound is ovoid and measures 115 x 210 ft. It is 3--4 ft high and nearly flat topped. A small area has been excavated near the broad end. In all probability, from what various informants say, most of this mound has been carted away.

The material is finely broken up, has a good deal of earth and rock in it, and clam shells particularly seem scarce.

Found a good 6--7 inch pestle, and also two imperfect obsidian arrow points.

In a recent evaluation prepared for the Marin Municipal Water District, archaeologists retained by the consultants (Woodward--Clyde 1991) revisited the reported location of Mrn-129 and reported no success in relocating this resource. No evidence of a mound or pronounced deposit could be found. The intensity of current development in the area argues persuasively that this site may have been damaged or destroyed when the highway was built, or during general development of the area.

When our own field evaluation also returned negative results for this area, a reexamination of the recorded information was undertaken. Following Nelson's description, and comparing to the 1915 USGS 15' map of the area, it was found that the current plotting cannot be supported. Nelson shows on his map of shellmounds (Nelson 1909) that the large mound reported as No. 129 lies at the head of a rectangular extension of marshland. The USGS map shows the edge

of this marsh to correspond with the boundary of the Mexican era land grant of San Pedro, Santa Margarita, Y Las Gallinas. This boundary is also shown on the current USGS 7.5' quadrangle map of the area. By using this information to replot the site location it became apparent the Mrn-129 lay on the east side of present Highway 101, probably west of or under Civic Center Drive between Memorial Drive and McInnis Parkway. This is well outside of the proposed project area.

ETHNOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

This area of Marin County was within the territory of Coast Miwok speaking people during the time of European and American contact (Barrett 1908; Kelly 1978). Coast Miwok is a branch of the Penutian language stock. The Coast Miwok occupied Marin and Southern Sonoma Counties. The people who inhabited this particular area were identified with the Hookooeko tribelet (Kelly 1978:424; Kroeber 1925:273; Legare 1994:3). The Coast Miwok were hunters, fishers and gatherers, who enjoyed a diverse array of natural food resources in their Native land. Foods from the sea, marsh, freshwater and land were exploited, including: fish, shellfish, sea kelp, waterfowl, large and small land mammals, seeds, nuts, berries and especially acorns. Shelters were conical structures covered with grasses. Large villages had circular, semi-subterranean sweathouses and dance houses which served as social centers. Clamshell disk beads served as an important form of currency, particularly for inter-tribal trade, such as with the Wappo for obsidian. Flaked, carved and groundstone objects included blades, mortars, pestles and charmstones, among other things. Basketry was a well developed craft, and baskets served many purposes- from burden baskets, to cooking and eating vessels, to decorative and ceremonial wares (Kelly 1978).

The Coast Miwok can be divided into two groups with their own distinct dialects; the Western-Bodega Miwok (Olamentko), and the Southern Marin, or Hookooeko tribe, who spoke the Southern Marin dialect with some linguistic differences between valley and coastal peoples (Kelly 1978: 414). Merriam (1907) discusses a third group from the northern area of Southern Marin Valley known as



FIGURE 8 -- COAST MIWOK TERRITORY (KROEBER 1925)

This map from the Handbook of California Indians shows one ethnographic village site east of San Rafael, *Awani-wi*.

the Lekahtewutko tribe. Bennyhoff (1977) and Slaymaker (1982) have further divided the Coast Miwok into political tribelets. Within the Hookooeko territory included the Huimen tribelet. This tribelet is believed to have been located the closest to the project area (Evans 2004).

Due to the diverse supply of resources throughout this region, the Coast Miwok were well suited to an economy based on hunting, fishing and the gathering of acorns (Kelly 1978: 415). They were well adapted to exploiting the wetland and marsh areas in particular, and wetland plants and shellfish from the ocean and bays were a prime source of food. They used dip nets and spears to catch salmon and steelhead, as well as bow and arrows with obsidian points to kill

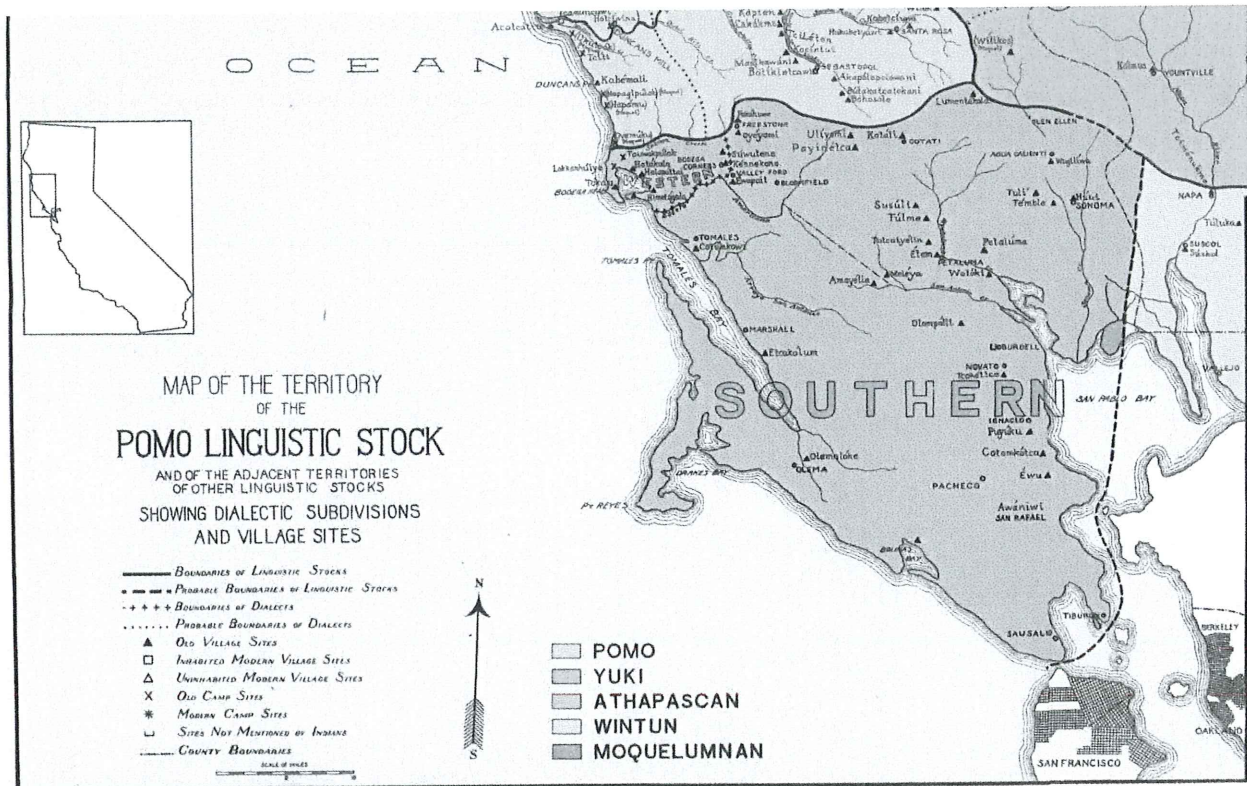


FIGURE 9 -- PART OF BARRETT'S 1908 ETHNOGRAPHIC MAP

This is the southern part of Barrett's map, showing the territory of the Coast Miwok, called Moquelumnan by Barrett. The Pomo to the north were the primary focus of Barrett's research. One, unmapped, ethnographic village is referenced near San Rafael and two are shown between about Santa Venetia and Ignacio..

small and large game. Along with acorns, which were ground down to make mush or bread, the Coast Miwok utilized the buckeye fruit, the pepperwood fruit, and a variety of greens. The collecting of shellfish led to the formation of shell deposits known as midden heaps, mounds, or scatters, which are now the primary remains of most prehistoric sites around the bay (Kelly 1978: 417-418).

The Coast Miwok lived in conical structures that were small and made from two forked and interlocking poles, onto which additional poles were lashed to form a cone shaped frame, then covered by grass (Kelly 1978: 417). Approximately 6 to 10 people would reside in one of these structures. Larger villages often contained a large, circular sweathouse that was dug four feet into the ground and covered with a frame of poles topped with grass, and a large ceremonial house that was built in the same manner as the sweathouse.

Tools were made from locally obtained materials including chert, obsidian, basalt, bone, antler, and various types of plants. Beads and pendants were manufactured from locally obtained shell and include clamshell disc beads (used as money), Olivella beads and abalone shell pendants. Clothing was minimal, but based on seasonal weather. Women wore a double apron made of deerskin and men wore a similar type of loincloth. Baskets were important to the Coast Miwok and were used for portage, storage, and cooking containers, as well as for seed beating, winnowing, and as hoppers for groundstone mortars. The Coast Miwok also traded for venison, medicinal plants, yellow paint, and turtles (Kelly 1978: 419).

The Coast Miwok were first encountered by Europeans in 1579 when Sir Francis Drake stopped to repair his ship the Golden Hinde somewhere in the Point Reyes Vicinity. In 1769 Portola arrived in the San Francisco Bay area, and by 1776 Mission Dolores was



FIGURE 10 -- COAST MIWOK TERRITORY ACCORDING TO KELLY (1978)

This is essentially the same information as in the previous territorial maps. A few additional village sites are identified, but there is no additional information regarding the project vicinity.

established in what is now San Francisco. In 1817 Mission San Rafael Arcangel was established, and in 1823 Mission San Francisco Solano was established in Sonoma. By 1817 three quarters of the Coast Miwok population had entered the mission system (Evans 2009). European disease and forceful missionization decimated the Coast Miwok population and culture by the mid 19th century. A small number of Coast Miwok descendants did survive the initial encounter with Euro-Americans. During ethnographic times, the closest Coast Miwok village to the project area was *Awani-wi*, near present day San Rafael (Bryne 2002:9; Kelly 1978:415). Today, the Coast Miwok are part of the federally recognized Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, and are very active in the preservation of their ancestral traditions and lands.

The Coast Miwok culture became severely disrupted after the establishment of surrounding missions in San Francisco (1776), San Rafael (1817), and Sonoma (1823) (Kelly 1978). The rapid and forceful desocialization and acculturation imposed upon the Coast Miwok by the missionaries left very little of their culture intact. European diseases progressively reduced the population, and due to the use of Coast Miwok lands for lumbering, dairying, and agriculture, the

Coast Miwok people almost disappeared completely. By 1920, only five Coast Miwok descendants could be identified by ethnographers. Ethnographic data on the Coast Miwok is based primarily the accounts of two Bodega Miwok informants, Tom Smith and Maria Capa Frias, who were interviewed between 1931 and 1932 by Isabel Kelly (Breece & Lipo 1990).

HISTORIC SETTING

The current project area is located north of downtown San Rafael. The San Rafael Mission is a recorded archaeological and historic site located near downtown San Rafael. The mission was founded in December of 1817 and a structure was erected in 1818 (Keegan 1987). The mission property included the greater area of San Rafael, and buildings covered an area much greater than the square block now operated as San

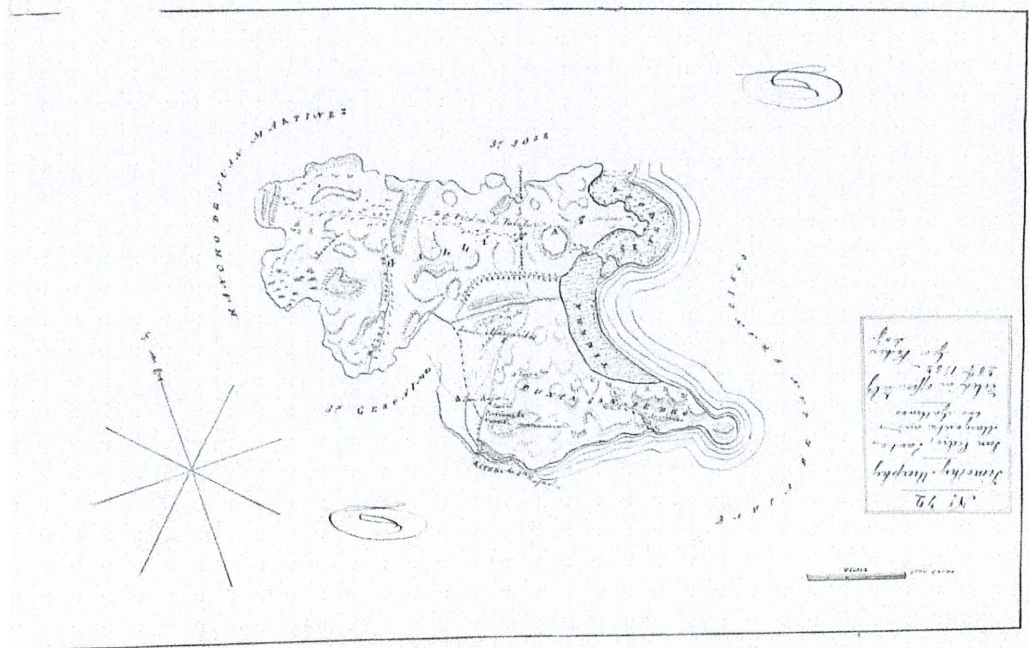


FIGURE 11 -- THE DISEÑO OR SKETCH MAP FOR THE LAND GRANT

This is a copy of the map submitted to the US courts as a true copy of the sketch map originally submitted to the government of Mexico in support of the claim for the three combined grants of San Pedro, Santa Margarita and Las Gallinas. The copy has been inverted so north is relatively "up", making it more comparable to modern maps. The map text reads: "No. 72, Timothy Murphy, San Pedro, Santa Margarita and Las Gallinas, filed in office July 20th 1852, Geo Fisher, secty."

Rafael Archangel church and school. The mission was secularized in 1834 along with all the other Missions in California. After secularization the land grants of *San Pedro Santa Margarita Y Las Gallinas*, that included the San Rafael Mission and the property on which the current project is located, was given to Timothy Murphy. When Murphy died he left the mission buildings and a large portion of land to the north and east to the Catholic Church. The buildings that exist at San Rafael Archangel today are of much more recent construction, but the site is a recorded archaeological site (CA-Mrn-344), a California Historical Landmark (No. 220) and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Timothy Murphy died just two years after San Rafael became the Marin County seat. Before Murphy's death, he brought his nephew John Lucas and his brother Matthew over from Ireland. On Timothy Murphy's death, John Lucas received the 2,340 acre "Santa Margarita Ranch," the area now known as Terra Linda and Lucas Valley, while the "Punta San Pedro" portion, today's McNear Beach, Peacock Gap, and China Camp, went to his brother Matthew (Keegan 1987).

The area remained largely rural until the development of Santa Venetia in the early 1900's. The area was envisioned as a small version of Venice, with canals excavated and vacation houses

built around them. As described in Wikipedia, it was envisioned as a rural retreat for the wealthy. The "Little Venice" idea was abandoned in the 1920's. In the 1960's housing development along San Pedro Road significantly increased the size of the neighborhood. In the 1950's it was decided to build a new county civic center in the Santa Venetia area. The chosen site is just east of the project area on the opposite side of Highway 101.

The Marin County Civic Center was the last of Frank Lloyd Wright's commissions. He died in 1959, before the completion of the initial stage in 1962. The city of San Rafael recognizes the importance of the building complex, and says about it:

In 1957 Wright accepted this commission (his 770th) at age ninety. Wright died in 1959 at ninety-two years before the ground-breaking ceremony had occurred. His work was continued by Taliesin architects, primarily senior architect William Wesley Peters and Aaron Green. Like many of Wright's buildings, this civic center plan is adjusted to the landscape. Green reports Wright's saying "I'll bridge these hills with graceful arches" (Green 21) and quotes from Wright's speech at the acceptance of the commission: "The beauty of Marin County should be expressed in our architecture. The buildings must not hurt the land. . . . The buildings of the new Civic Center will express this natural beauty; they will not be a blemish upon the landscape" (23). Often compared to an aqueduct, the building uses repeated arches (echoing the hills), a blue roof (not Wright's first choice of color) echoing the sky, and beige concrete echoing the original landscape. (Aaron Green added the lush landscape details.)

According to Cultural Services of the County of Marin, civic center is described as follows:

The Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Marin County Civic Center is a national- and state-designated historic landmark. Wright's 770th commission, the Civic Center is the last and one of the most important works by this internationally acclaimed architect who has been described as "one of the most creative architectural geniuses of all time" and "the most original architect the United States has ever produced." Frank Lloyd Wright died on April 9, 1959, at the age of 92, and did not see his vision completed. Taliesin Senior Architect Wesley Peters and San Francisco Bay Area Taliesin Architect Aaron Green directed the completion.

Highway 101 and its predecessors along with various railroads followed roughly the same route through the Santa Venetia-Civic Center area, and have been the main corridor of transportation through Marin County since the Spanish arrived. This transport corridor has supported the



FIGURE 12 -- THE PROJECT VICINITY IN 1892

This official county map shows the general lack of develop[ment] in the project vicinity. The railroad, the wagon road that is now Highway 101 and the cemetery are the only apparent improvements in the area.

development of Marin County throughout the Twentieth Century and still does today. The history of "The 101" through Marin was summarized by Jim Wood in the *Marin Magazine*, where he described the road as a central part of the county:

According to Caltrans historian Alicia Whitten, the conversion to a direct route through Marin culminated with the November 1931 completion of the Redwood Bridge, a quarter-mile span over Richardson Bay. "It was built of redwood timbers, supposedly to last hundreds of years," Whitten adds. "But just 25 years later, in 1956, it was replaced with a much wider steel and concrete structure."

In 1935—even before the Golden Gate Bridge opened—Marin County moved to ban billboards along its stretch of Highway 101. "This was sore subject number one for Sepha Evers, a cofounder of today's Marin Conservation League," says historian Spitz. Her efforts resulted in passage of County Ordinance 226, which, Spitz says, "required architectural approval of all signs within 500 feet of the highway. Eventually, Marin's billboards disappeared—and never reappeared."

Traffic-wise, the most significant impact on Highway 101 in Marin was the May 27, 1937, opening of the Golden Gate Bridge. Before the bridge, the highway handled approximately 1.5 million cars annually. Within 10 years of the bridge's opening, 7.8 million vehicles crossed it in a year and traveled some part of Highway 101 in Marin.

"Now, 60 years later," says Mary Currie, public affairs director for the Golden Gate Bridge District, "39.3 million bridge crossings were made in 2008." This equates to roughly 115,000 cars a day traveling somewhere on Highway 101 in Marin.

The Waldo Tunnel also opened in 1937. The original 1,000-foot bore was four lanes wide, handled two-way traffic and cost \$630,346. In the mid-'50s, a second tunnel opened to handle southbound traffic (northbound uses the original tunnel). It cost \$1.75 million. As for local color, according to Currie, blissful hippies did not paint the rainbows on the southern portals. "In the '70s, Alan Hart, a Caltrans engineer, came up with that concept," she states, "and Caltrans has maintained them ever since."

*The explanation for the name Waldo is less precise. According to Louise Teather's *Place Names of Marin*, "During the 1849 Gold Rush, William Waldo heroically delivered food and supplies to snowbound immigrants in the Sierra Nevada." A few years later, he ran unsuccessfully for governor of California, and, according to several accounts, spent time campaigning in a mining camp named *Sailor's Diggings*, which, unfortunately for Waldo, was in Oregon. (In tribute, the village later changed its name to Waldo; it is now a ghost town.) Waldo did leave his mark on Marin, though—Marin City has a Waldo Court, Sausalito has Waldo Point Harbor, and Highway 101 has Waldo Grade and its rainbow-emblazoned tunnel.*



FIGURE 13 -- A 1914 ADVERTISEMENT FOR SANTA VENETIA

Santa Venetia, "The Venice of the West" was a real estate development initiated in 1914. This was the first residential development in the Santa Venetia area, and marked a move northward by the population of San Rafael.

The history of Highway 101's 29 miles in Marin is one of steady expansion. In 1942, the elevated roadbed through San Rafael was completed and 10 years later came the first versions of "cloverleaf" turnouts at Sir Francis Drake Boulevard and North San Pedro Road. Through the 1970s and 1980s, numerous projects transformed 101 into the veritable freeway it is today. Obviously, the evolution has continued. Beginning in 2002, from Greenbrae to Terra Linda, a major project upgraded the interchange with Interstate 580 and widened Highway 101 to create continuous carpool lanes from Highway 37 in Novato to the Richardson Bay Bridge approaching Sausalito. Within weeks, this \$132 million project will be completed. (Wood 2009).



FIGURE 14 -- LOOKING NORTH-NORTHWEST ACROSS THE PROPERTY

The predominance of pavement and buildings impeded the surface examination.

RESULTS OF SURFACE EXAMINATION

The cultural resource evaluation has resulted in a negative finding. A negative result indicates that no artifacts or potentially significant cultural features were observed. On March 5, 2018, William Roop and Ryan Poska examined the project area in a pedestrian survey. The majority of the project area is covered by paved parking, existing buildings or landscaping. The channelized south fork of Las Gallinas Creek runs along the northern edge of the property. All soil exposures in or adjacent to the project area were examined.

The areas include the eastern side of the property adjacent to the freeway, the banks of the



FIGURE 15 -- THE "SIDE YARD"

This was the largest expanse of open soil that could be examined.

channelized creek along the north side of the parcel and an open area behind the eastern building at the southeastern corner of the property. No other soil exposures could be found. Each area was closely examined, including use of a hand trowel to loosen the soil and examine a sample every few paces.

No indication of unmodified, native soil was found in any of the examined areas. The entire parcel has been graded in preparation for the existing structures and parking. The south bank of the channelized creek is also entirely modified. An examination of the 1915 USGS Quadrangle Map for the area indicates that the natural creek channel was closer to, if not south of Las Gallinas Avenue. The Mt. Olivet Cemetery and a whistle stop on the railroad



named Forbes are the only improvements visible in the area on the 1915 map. The modified, probably engineered, soils of the project area did not produce any indication of Native American or other historic use of the property.

FIGURE 16 -- THE NORTHERN CREEK FRONTAGE

The channelized creek can be seen on the right. Soil exposures could be found along the entire northern project boundary.

CONCLUSIONS

The entire project area appears to have been heavily modified in the past. Development of the property for the existing buildings and parking would have disrupted any archaeological deposits if they were present. Indications of that disturbance would likely still be apparent to the trained eye when examining the remnant soils. Minor artifacts, shell, burned rocks and other indicators are usually not noticed and remain around the edges of disturbed areas. The complete lack of any indicators of Native American habitation or use is within expectations for this location.

While the soils under the pavement cannot be examined, it should be noted that N.C. Nelson examined several archaeological deposits in the area. When he undertook his work he would frequently ask locals if they knew of any other sites or features in the area. If an archaeological site were present, it seems likely that it would have been reported to him and it would be in the records today. The bulk of the evidence indicates that there is not an archaeological site present in the project area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No archaeological monitoring is required for the proposed project. The following recommendations are designed to minimize potential negative impacts to cultural resources that might be located in the project area.

Recommendation 1. In the event that any unanticipated artifacts or cultural soil deposits are discovered during future grading or underground excavation for foundations, utility lines, or other purposes, Archaeological Resource Service recommends that all work in the vicinity of the find be stopped until the discovery area can be evaluated by an archaeologist. Depending on the extent and cultural composition of the discovered materials, it may be advisable to have subsequent excavation monitored by an archaeologist, who should be ready to record, recover, and/or protect significant cultural materials from further damage.

Recommendation

2. The discovery of human skeletal remains anywhere within a project area requires that work be discontinued in the vicinity of the discovery, while the county coroner is contacted. If the skeletal remains are found to be prehistoric, Native American and not modern, then the coroner must call the Native American



FIGURE 17 -- TYPICAL PROJECT AREA SOILS

Observed soils were clayey with some gravel. None of the normal indicators of a cultural deposit was seen at any of the places where soil could be examined.

Heritage Commission in Sacramento, which will designate the "Most Likely Descendant" of the remains. The Most Likely Descendant will be responsible for recommending the disposition and treatment of the remains. Although the likelihood of encountering human skeletal remains in the project area seems very slight, it is important to have a procedure for alternate tasks that can be put into effect quickly in the event that human remains are discovered. This allows construction work to continue while the remains are investigated.

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APPENDIX 1— SIGNIFICANCE IN THE EVALUATION OF CULTURAL RESOURCES AS HISTORIC PROPERTIES

To be significant an archaeological site must qualify for registration as an “historic resource” the following criteria must be met for this listing:

An archeological site may be considered an historical resource if it is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military or cultural annals of California (PRC § 5020.1(j)) or if it meets the criteria for listing on the California Register (14 CCR § 4850). CEQA provides somewhat conflicting direction regarding the evaluation and treatment of archeological sites. The most recent amendments to the CEQA Guidelines try to resolve this ambiguity by directing that lead agencies should first evaluate an archeological site to determine if it meets the criteria for listing in the California Register. If an archeological site is an historical resource (i.e., listed or eligible for listing in the California Register) potential adverse impacts to it must be considered, just as for any other historical resource (PRC § 21084.1 and 21083.2(l)). If an archeological site is not an historical resource, but meets the definition of a “unique archeological resource” as defined in PRC § 21083.2, then it should be treated in accordance with the provisions of that section.

If an archaeological site does not qualify for listing, the directive is clear. The Public Resources Code states:

(4) If an archaeological resource is neither a unique archaeological nor an historical resource, the effects of the project on those resources shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment. It shall be sufficient that both the resource and the effect on it are noted in the Initial Study or EIR, if one is prepared to address impacts on other resources, but they need not be considered further in the CEQA process.

APPENDIX 2 – PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR CONSULTANTS

Secretary of the Interior's Standards

The minimum professional qualifications in archeology are a graduate degree in archeology, anthropology, or closely related field plus:

1. At least one year of full-time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in archeological research, administration or management;
2. At least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in general North American archeology; and
3. Demonstrated ability to carry research to completion.

In addition to these minimum qualifications, a professional in prehistoric archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the prehistoric period. A professional in historic archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the historic period.