



A CULTURAL RESOURCES EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSED MAINTENANCE FACILITY REPLACEMENT WITHIN MARINWOOD PARK, 775 MILLER CREEK ROAD, MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

SUBMITTED BY

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SUBMITTED FOR

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A.R.S. Project 18-023

INTRODUCTION

As requested and authorized, Archaeological Resource Service has conducted an archaeological evaluation of the parcel described below. The following basic tasks were 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

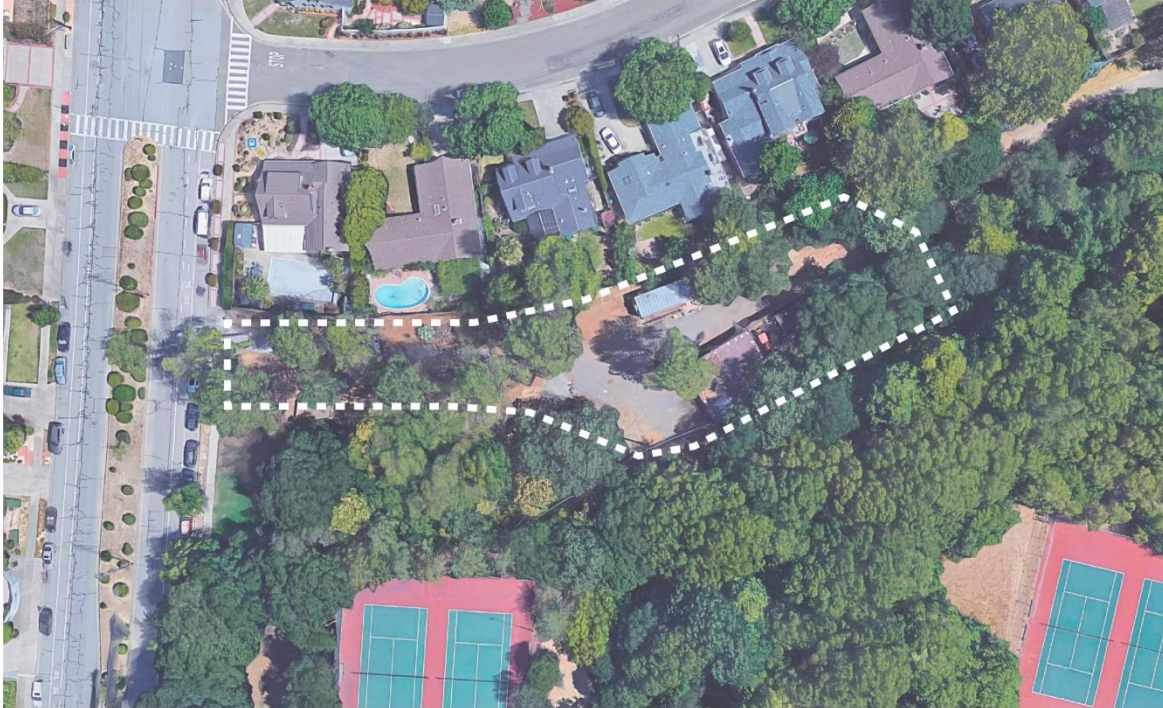
The proposed project would replace the existing park maintenance facility within Marinwood Park. The facility has been in use for over fifty years, long outliving its design life. The facility has deteriorated over time through daily use. The facility is now worn out and in need of replacement, as described by the district is:

The current park maintenance facility, located at the northern end of Marinwood Park, was originally constructed in 1965. In addition to serving as a facility to store District equipment and supplies used for park maintenance purposes, it has also served as a workshop for the District's dedicated park staff where new ideas and improvements have become reality.

As the years have progressed, the maintenance facility has severely deteriorated. The roof is tarped seasonally and during heavy rains the interior floods, rendering the facility unsafe and unusable. Yet it continues to be relied upon to the best of its rapidly degrading functionality

as the District has no other such facility. All the while the structure becomes more unstable, less sound and a growing safety risk to our dedicated staff, the public and the environment.

The archaeological investigation has examined the project area to determine the potential for negative impacts to cultural resources.



SITE AERIAL

MARINWOOD CSD PARKS FACILITY February 28, 2017



FIGURE 1 -- THE PROJECT AREA AS CURRENTLY CONFIGURED

Miller Creek Road is to the left, Quietwood Drive is visible at the top. This is the northwest corner of Marinwood Park.



FIGURE 2 -- THE REPLACEMENT PLAN

The proposed configuration is shown on the left. The replacement is superimposed on the existing conditions on the right.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project area is located Within Marinwood Park, 775 Miller Creek Road, near Quietwood Drive, Marin County, California. The parcel consists of about two acres within the 14.12 acre property of forested park land bounded by schools, parkland and urban neighborhoods.

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' Novato, California Quadrangle Map (1954 (Photorevised 1980)) are:

4209315 Meters North,
 539395 Meters East, Zone 10

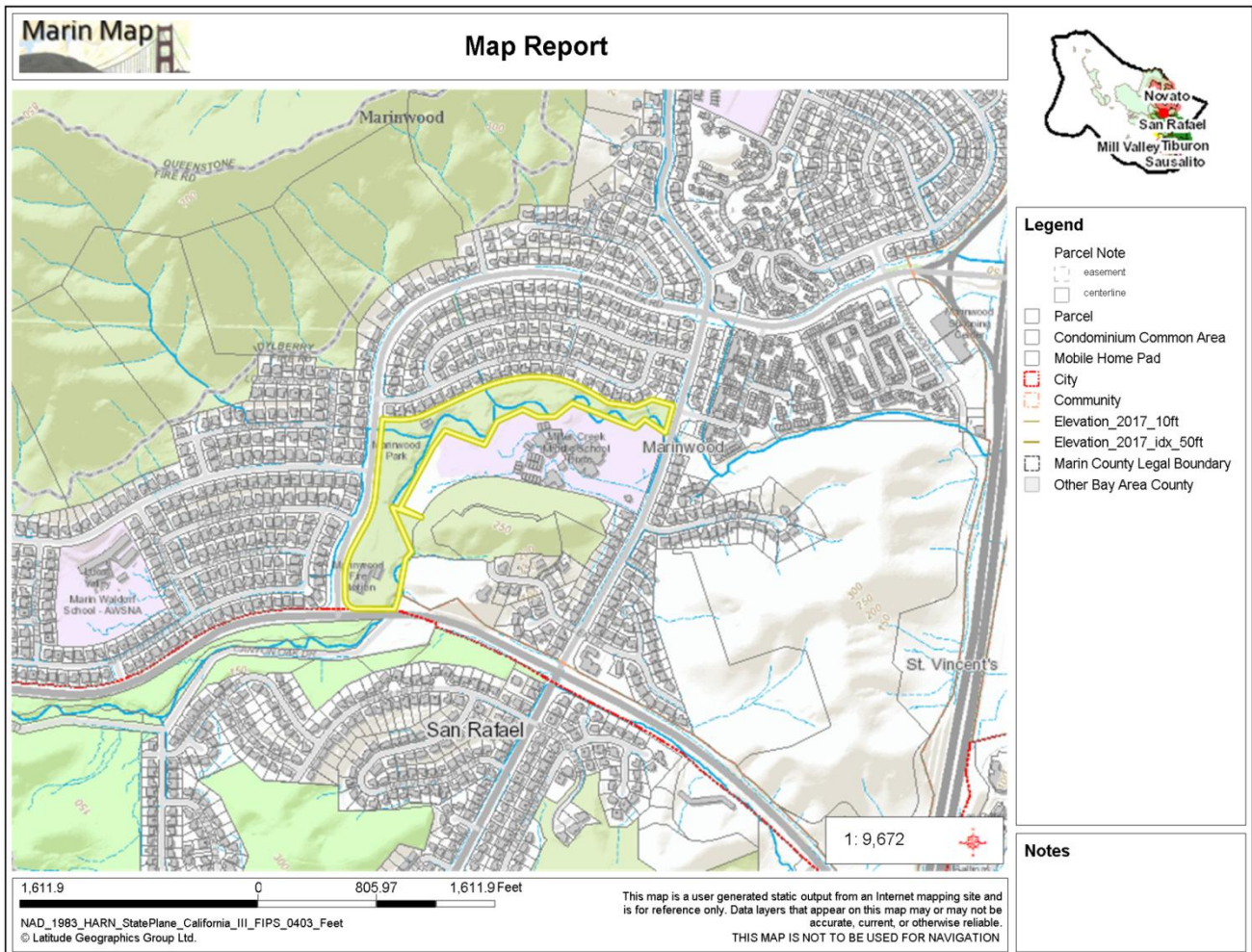


FIGURE 3 -- MARINWOOD PARK FROM THE MARIN COUNTY GIS

The project area lies in the northwest corner of the park, above and to the west of Miller Creek.

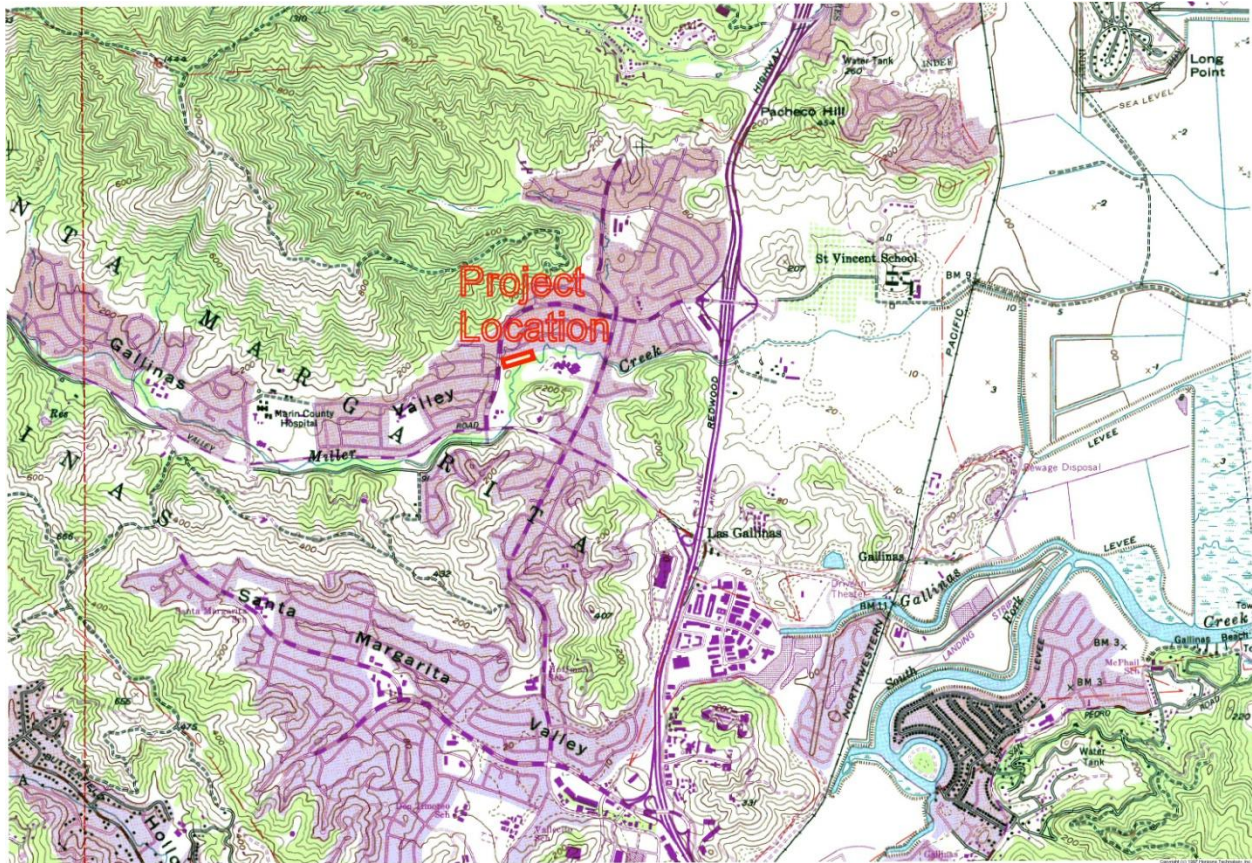


FIGURE 4 -- THE PROJECT LOCATION ON THE USGS NOVATO QUADRANGLE MAP
REGULATORY SETTING

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.

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).

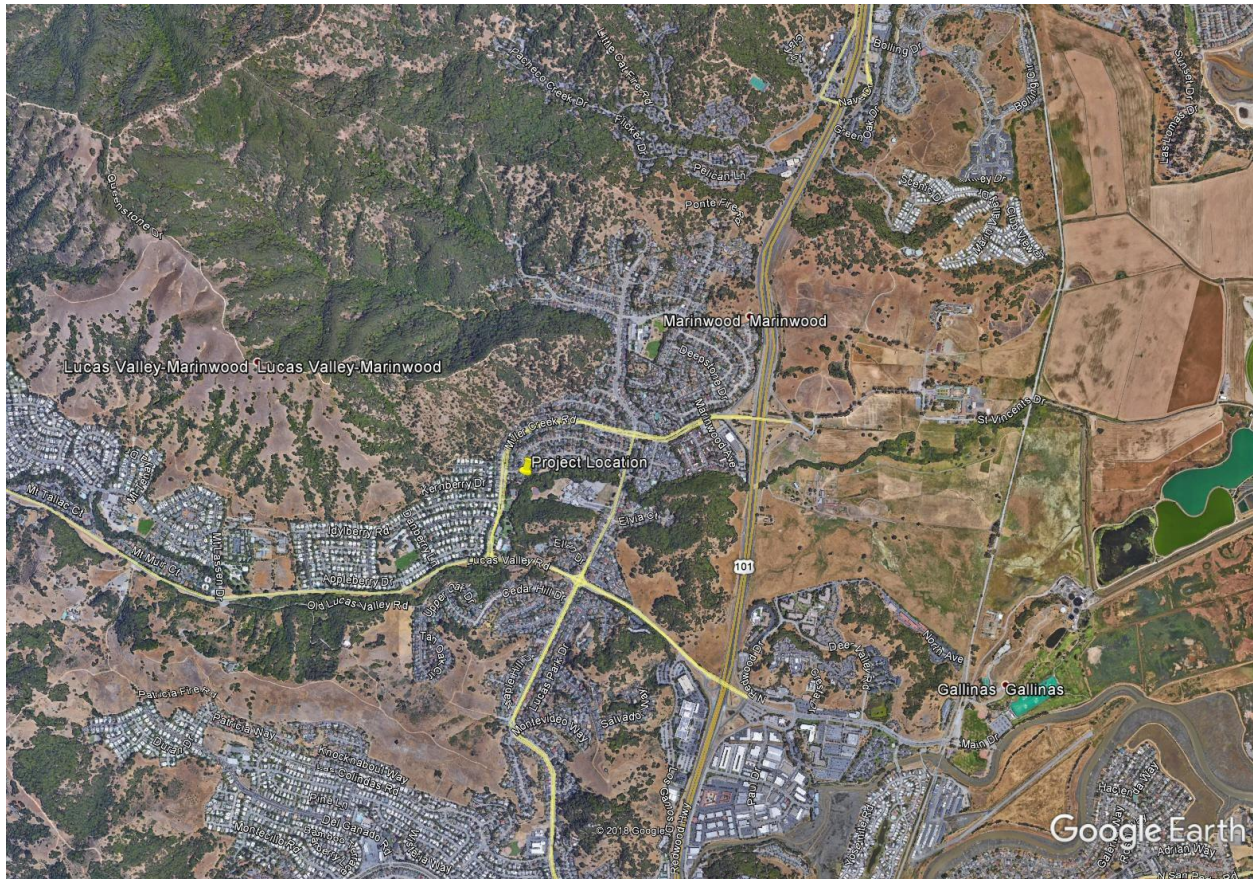


FIGURE 5 -- THE PROJECT LOCATION FROM GOOGLE EARTH

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.

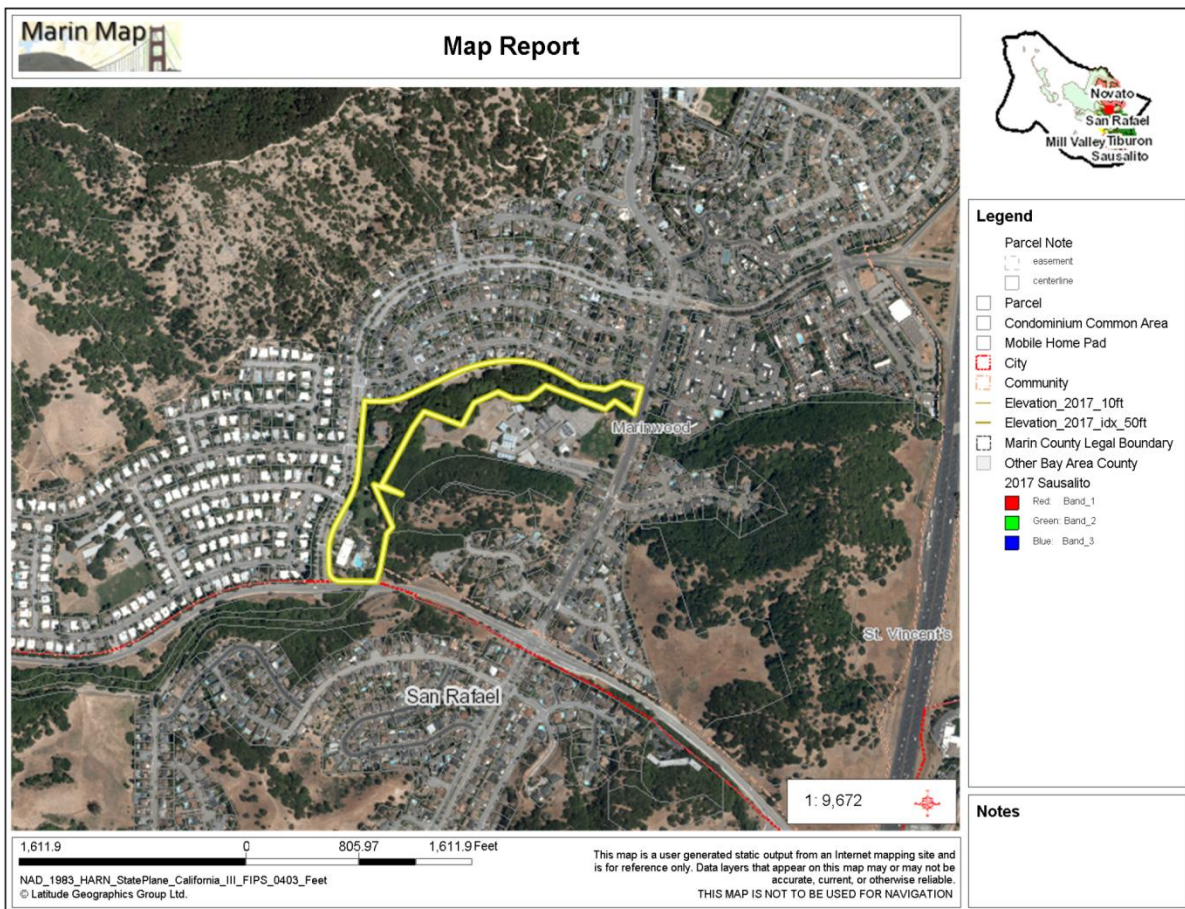


FIGURE 6 -- MARINWOOD PARK FROM THE COUNTY GIS WITH SATELLITE IMAGERY

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.

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.

The Native American Heritage Commission has not responded to our query. Based on past inquiries, it is recommended that the permitting agency consult the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, the current representatives of the Coast Miwok.

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).

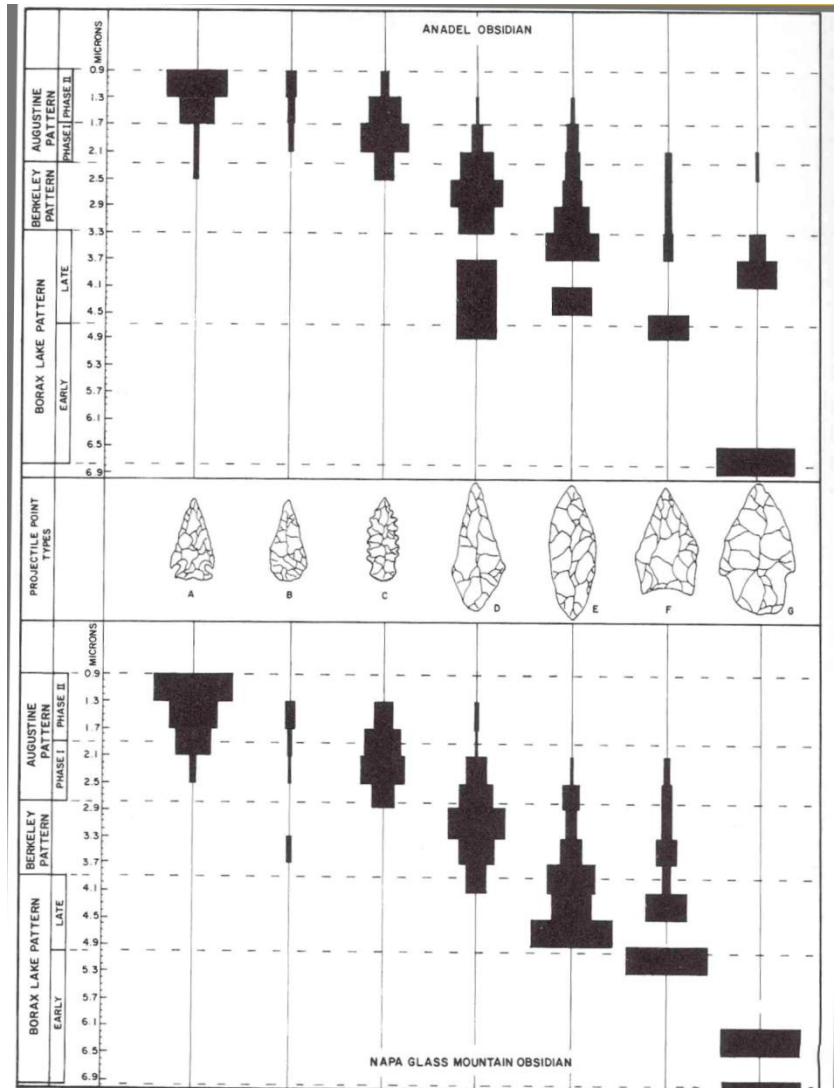


Figure 10.15 Projectile points characteristic of the Sonoma District. A, corner-notched; B, round-base (preform); C, serrated, stemmed; D, shouldered, lanceolate; E, lanceolate; F, concave-base; G, wide-stemmed. The two sets of graphs (one for the Anadel obsidian source, the other for the Napa Glass Mountain source) show relative proportions for each projectile point category within each 0.4 μm 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.]

FIGURE 7 -- CULTURAL PATTERNS IN THE SONOMA DISTRICT (MORATTO 1984)

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

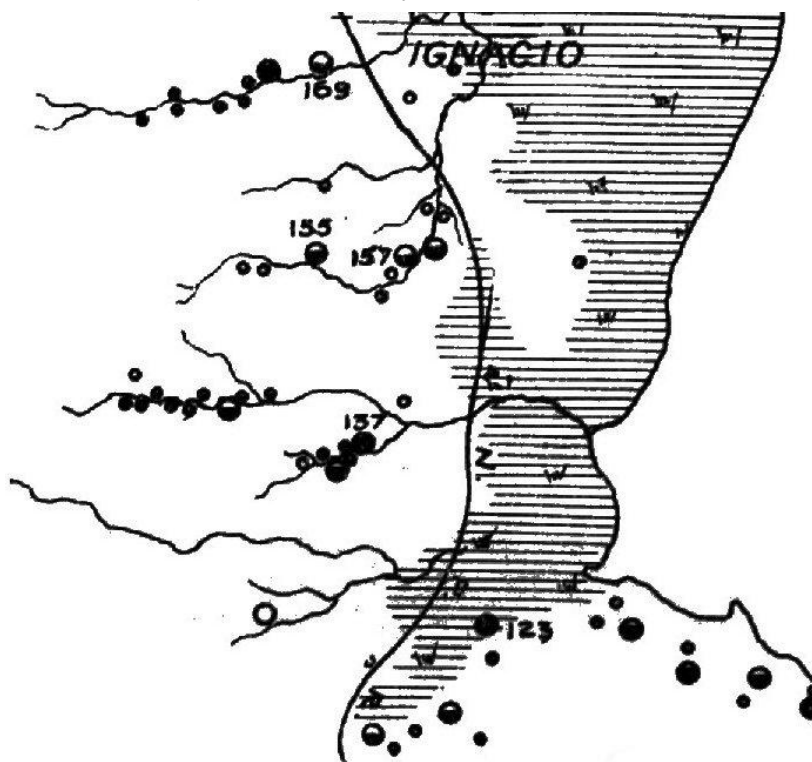


FIGURE 8 -- PART OF N.C. NELSON'S MAP OF SHELLMOUNDS

The curving line running north-south is a railroad line that runs east of the current freeway. Two clusters of sites can be seen on Miller Creek. The eastern cluster near the number 137 lies just east of Highway 101 southwest of St. Vincent's School. The project area lies near the westerly cluster of archaeological sites.

Nels C. Nelson investigated 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.

Current records indicate that there are at least six Native American sites east of Highway 101 in the lower reach of Miller Creek, at least three to the north of the park and at least nine archaeological sites within a half mile of the park to the west along Miller Creek. No archaeological sites are reported in Marinwood Park. All of these sites are settlements associated with pre-Hispanic and/or Hispanic era occupation of Marin County.

Very little attention was paid to Marin County archaeology for several years after Nelson's work. What investigations that did occur seem to have focused on the search for evidence of Sir Francis Drake, both at Point Reyes and within San Francisco Bay. With the rise of anthropology programs at San Francisco State College (now University) and later Sonoma State College (also now University), interest in Marin County was rekindled. Reinvestigation of some of Nelson's reported locations, as well as more recently discovered locations were undertaken. This only increased more with the advent of CEQA and the evaluation of various projects for potential impacts to cultural resources. In his summary of Marin County archaeology up to that time Moratto (1974) described the investigation of sites along Miller Creek:

Between 1970 and 1972, C. Slaymaker coordinated the systematic excavations of sites Mrn-138, Mrn-139 and Mrn-140, which are clustered along the south bank of Miller Creek in Lucas Valley, slightly more than a mile from the present bayshore. Mrn-139 and Mrn-140 seem to have been undistinguished and ephemerally-settled hamlets, whereas Mrn-138 was clearly a long-occupied major village. At least three components have been recognized at



FIGURE 9 -- COAST MIWOK TERRITORY (KROEBER 1925)

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

Mrn-138: (1) A McClure-like "Middle Horizon" component; (2) manifestations of a Phase 2, "Late Horizon" occupation; and (3) evidence of a full historic mission-era (or possibly post-Mission) component, in part demonstrated by an obsidian crucifix from the uppermost level of the midden. Charcoal from the basal stratum of Mrn-138 has provided dates of 2650 ± 95 RC yr B.P. :700 B.C. (I-5797) and 1910 ± 90 RC yr. B.P.:40 A.D. (I-5798) (Slaymaker, personal communication by Moratto, 1971) (Moratto et. Al. 1974: 53-54).

A large area east of the project area between Las Gallinas Avenue and Highway 101 was examined for a project that was never built (Chavez 1984) with negative results. Chavez was familiar with the array of archaeological deposits in the vicinity, noting that:

These archaeological Resources (CA-Mrn-138 through CA-Mrn-142) have been extensively studied (Slaymaker 1977) and are collectively described as a major cultural resource which expresses the prehistoric lifeways of the Miwok Indians in the Gallinas Valley. One of these sites (CA-Mrn-138) has been identified as the ethnographically recorded community of Cotomko-Tca, which was still occupied at the time of historic contact. (Chavez 1985).

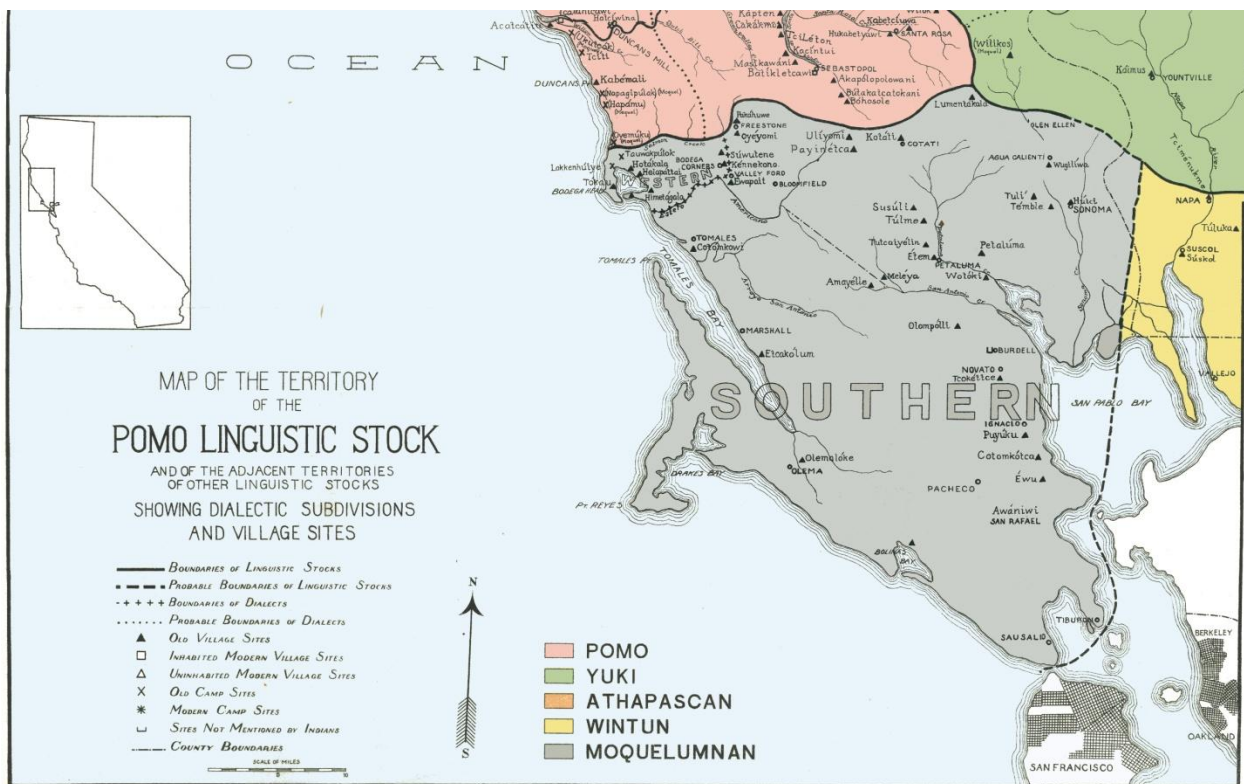


FIGURE 10 -- PART OF BARRETT'S 1908 ETHNOGRAPHIC MAP

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.

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 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 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



FIGURE 11 -- 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.

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 established in what is now San Francisco. In 1817 Mission San Rafael

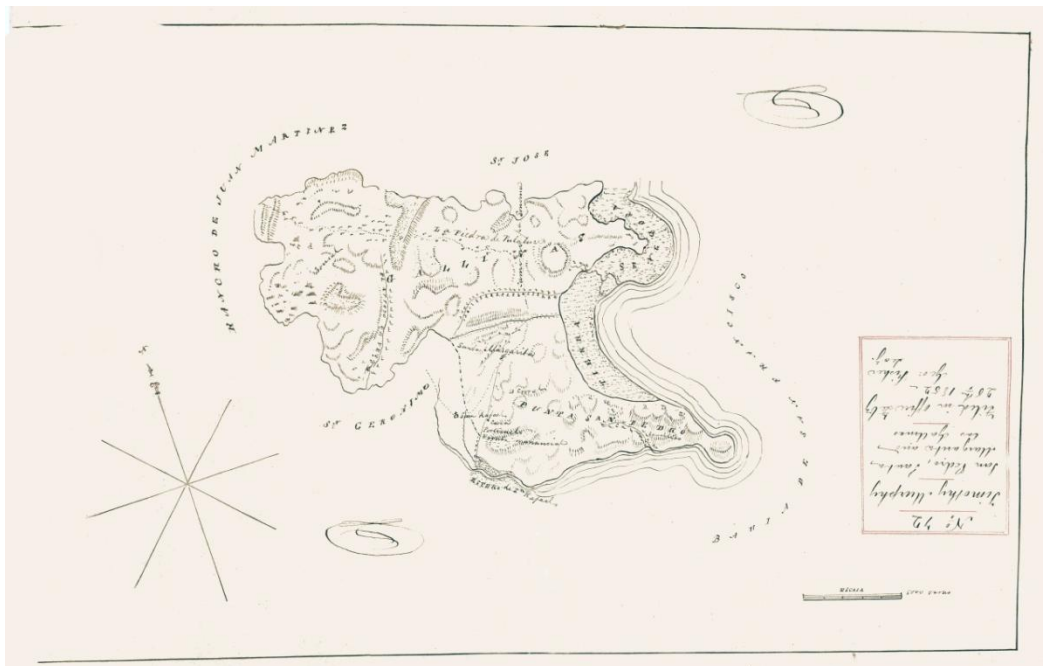


FIGURE 12 -- THE DISEÑO OR SKETCH MAP FOR THE LAND GRANT

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."

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.

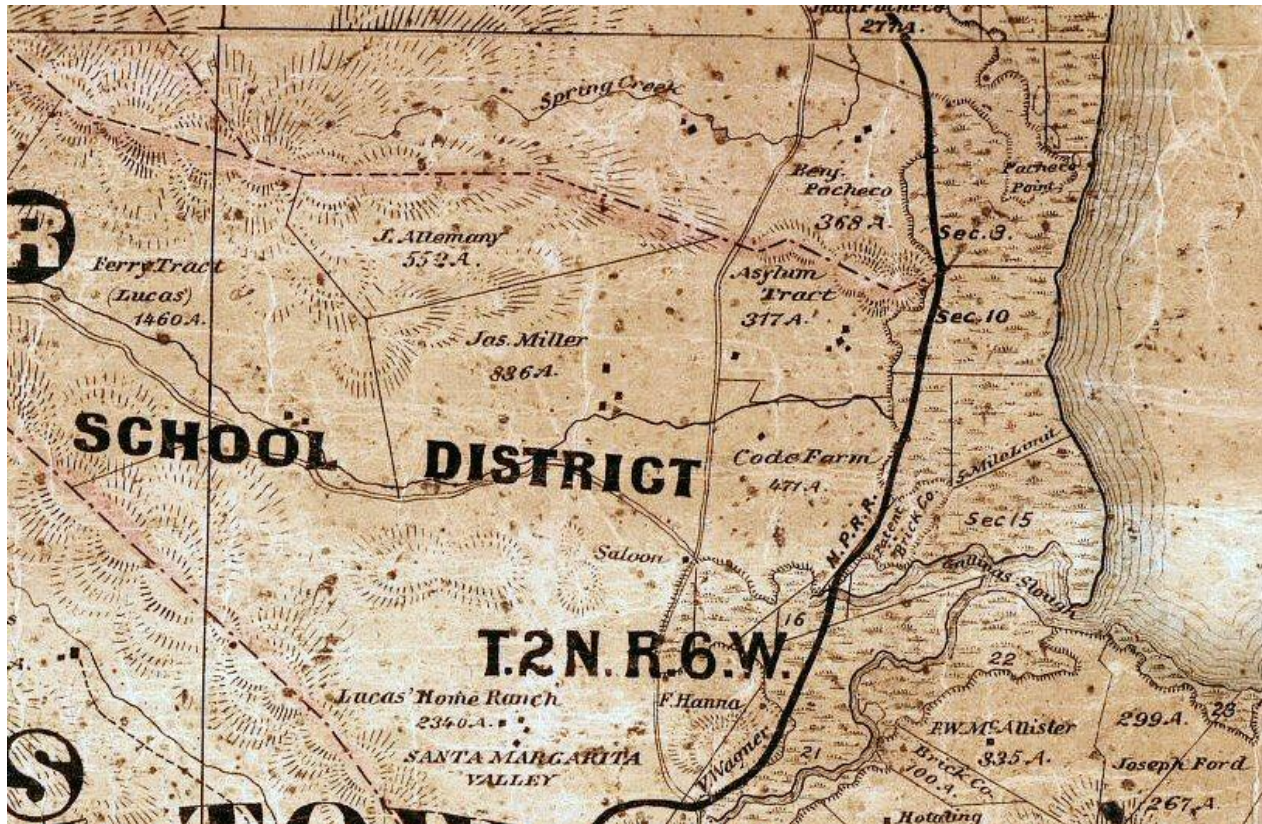


FIGURE 13 -- THE LAS GALLINAS AREA IN 1871

The project lies about where the word "DISTRICT" is placed. Other than some large tracts of land, very little is apparent in the area. An early version of Lucas Valley Road appears to traverse the area, marked by a saloon at the turnout from the main road.

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 San Rafael in the Marinwood area. 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 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).

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

The evaluation was undertaken by walking a series of transects across the parcel at regular intervals. Each transect was about 5 meters apart, except where vegetation or structures caused a divergence.

The project area is essentially flat and has not been landscaped. Vegetation growth at the time of the survey was variable but did not limit observation of the soil. Every few paces, each surveyor examined a small soil sample collected with a hand trowel and inspected it for indications of cultural modification. Soils at the surface are medium to brown clayey silt, typical of the area. The parcel is dominated by low lying grasses and shrubs mixed with open ground.

The archaeological investigation indicates that the potential for discovery of archaeological deposits within the project area is low. Artifacts that are typically associated with prehistoric sites include humanly modified stone, shell, bone or other cultural materials such as charcoal, ash and burned rocks indicative of food procurement or processing activities. Prehistoric domestic features include hearths, firepits, or house or floor depressions whereas human skeletal remains or discrete human burials in a prepared pit or depression in the culturally modified soil deposit typically represent mortuary features. Historic artifacts potentially include all byproducts of human land use greater than 50 years of age. No potentially significant artifacts or features were observed at any location in the project area.

CONCLUSIONS

The typical indications of Coast Miwok habitation consists of a shell midden deposit which is represented by a dark, ashy, or loamy soil with shellfish, fish, and animal remains throughout the deposit. Because stone tools and debitage (manufacturing waste) tend to preserve well,



FIGURE 14 -- LOOKING WEST ALONG THE ENTRANCE ROAD

Miller Creek lies behind and to the left of the photographer, Housing lies to the right, and the existing maintenance facility lies behind the camera.

these materials are also often associated with Coast Miwok habitation sites. Thus, prehistoric shell midden sites often contain chipped stone tools, debitage, and ground stone tools such as mortars, pestles, manos, metates, and hammerstones. Fire cracked rock, charcoal, and ash from cooking fires can also be associated with Coast Miwok shell midden sites. More permanent habitation sites may also contain house depressions, usually identifiable by a hard packed earthen floor containing stone and other cultural materials (Kelly 1978, Slaymaker 1977). None of these things were observed in the project area.



FIGURE 15 -- THE CURRENT MAINTENANCE FACILITY

The view is Easterly. Miller Creek lies behind the building on the right.

There is also the potential for isolated artifacts to be present from the result of basic subsistence activities such as gathering and processing fruits and vegetables, and hunting game (Roop 1992). These subsistence activities did not necessarily take place at the more permanent village sites, but would occur in an area where desired materials could be obtained, such as the grasslands between creeks and marshes. These isolated materials include chipped stone or ground stone tools left behind or lost after hunting and gathering activities (Kallenbach 1996, Morre 1997).

RECOMMENDATIONS

ARS recommends that in the event that



FIGURE 16 -- THE ENTRANCE DRIVE, LOOKING WEST

Private houses can be seen on the left. The maintenance facility lies beyond the white car.

prehistoric archaeological features such as a concentration of flaked stone artifacts, or culturally modified soil (midden) or dietary shell are encountered at any time during preparatory grading or underground excavation to remove existing features or structures, all work should be halted in the vicinity of the discovery. A qualified archaeologist should be contacted immediately to make an evaluation and determine if the discovered material represents a potentially significant cultural resource. Once it has been determined that a potentially significant feature has been revealed, a temporary suspension of the construction activities should be enforced until an appropriate mitigation program can be developed and implemented to satisfy the Marin County Community Development Agency.

Following implementation of the mitigation plan, any further excavation or other earth disturbing work should be monitored by an archaeological monitor who should observe all further work during construction activities or demolition of buildings that are located within the archaeological site area. The presence of an archaeological monitor is to insure that proper recordation and evaluation of the discovered resource can occur without causing any further damage to the site.



FIGURE 17 -- MILLER CREEK AND THE DRAINAGE DITCH

Miller Creek flows from right to left across the photo. An artificial drainage ditch intersects the creek from the lower right corner of the photo. The ditch defines the southern edge of the project area.

The archaeological monitor will properly record any potentially significant cultural material that has been observed using the appropriate DPR 523 form and where necessary commence recovery of the material before resumption of construction activities (that is, excluding the discovery of human skeletal remains that require other special treatment). The recording form prepared on the cultural resource should be submitted to the NWIC so that an official numerical designation can be assigned; a copy of this record will be sent to the Marin county Community Development Department for their files.

There is a very slight potential that human skeletal remains might be discovered during underground excavation within the property. In the event that human remains are discovered, all work must stop in the immediate vicinity of the discovered remains and the County Coroner as well as a qualified archaeologist must be notified immediately. California State law prescribes procedures that deal with the discovery of human skeletal remains. If the remains are examined and determined to be Native American and prehistoric, the Native American Heritage Commission should be contacted by the Coroner so that a "Most Likely Descendant" (MLD) can

be designated. Once a MLD is designated, the MLD will be afforded an opportunity to make an evaluation as appropriate and make decisions regarding the proper treatment option that is available, once construction activities resume on the discovery site.

The recommendations are designed to minimize potential negative impacts to cultural resources that might be located in the project area. They can be summarized as follows:

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. If the discovery is determined to be potentially significant under the state guidelines, a mitigation plan should be developed, approved by the County of Marin, and implemented prior to recommencing construction.

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 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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FIGURE 18 -- SOILS OF THE PROJECT AREA

The observed soils are heavy with clay and lack the level of organic material to be expected in a cultural site. Additionally, all of the observed constituents were either natural or can be attributed to current use of the area as a park.

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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.