

3.8 Cultural Resources

This chapter analyzes the effect of the proposed Pacifica General Plan on important historic and prehistoric cultural resources in the Planning Area. Cultural resources evaluated include historic resources, contemporary Native American resources, archaeological resources, and paleontological resources.

Environmental Setting

PHYSICAL SETTING

Bay Area Prehistoric Resources

Prehistoric cultural resources are composed of Native American structures or sites of historical or archaeological interest. These may include districts, buildings, objects, landscape elements, sites, or features that reflect human occupations of the region, such as villages and burial grounds.

The moderate climate, combined with the abundant natural resources found throughout the nine-county region of the Bay Area, has supported human habitation for several thousand years. The prehistoric occupation of Central California can be interpreted using the Paleo-Archaic-Emergent chronological sequence.¹ The sequence consists of three broad periods: The Paleo-Indian period (10,000 – 6,000 B.C.); the Archaic period consisting of the Lower Archaic (6,000 – 3,000 B.C.), Middle Archaic (3,000 – 1,000 B.C.), and Upper Archaic (1,000 B.C. – A.D. 500); and the Emergent period (A.D. 500 – 1800). The entry and spread of people into California dates to the Paleo-Indian period.² The cultural patterns relevant to the Planning Area include the Windmill Pattern and Berkeley Pattern during the Archaic period and the Augustine Pattern during the Emergent period.

The Windmill Pattern was characterized by small communities of hunters and gatherers who moved seasonally. Material attributes typical of the Windmill Pattern include large leaf-shaped and stemmed projectile points, westerly oriented extended burials with grave offerings or burial goods such as red ocher, and a distinctive variety of shell beads and

¹ D.A. Fredrickson, 1974.

² M.J. Moratto, 1984.

charmstones.³ Subsistence was based on hunting large animals including deer and elk, along with smaller game animals such as water fowl. Fishing also occurred along with the gathering of nuts and fruits.

The Berkeley Pattern was characterized by larger communities with more permanent settlement patterns. Material attributes typical of the Berkeley Pattern include projectile points with distinctive diagonal flaking across their faces, flexed position burials with burial ornaments such as shell beads, and an extensive bone tool industry. During this Pattern, a heavy reliance was developed on acorns which were used throughout the year as a staple food.⁴ Food was also obtained through a combination of hunting, fishing, and gathering. Tools were more diverse than the Windmill Pattern, and included specialized fish spears and hunting gear along with bone and ground-stone tools.

The Augustine Pattern was characterized by large sedentary communities. Material attributes typical of the Augustine Pattern include large spear points, often with serrated edges, and small arrow points, bone harpoons, ceramics and coiled basketry, and flexed position burials, and evidence of the practice of cremation.⁵ Hunting and gathering was practiced broadly and important technological innovations include the bow and arrow and shaped mortars and pestles. This late prehistoric pattern predated the Miwok who occupied central California at the time of Spanish contact.⁶

California's Paleo-Coastal peoples were "traveling in seaworthy boats, using fishhooks and other fishing tackle, hunting marine mammals and sea birds, weaving cordage and basketry from sea grass, and making shell beads for ornamental use and exchange with interior peoples"⁷ by about 10,000 years ago. Rising sea levels, the formation of the San Francisco Bay, and the resulting filling of inland valleys have covered early sites, which were most likely located along the then existing bay shore and waterways. Existing evidence indicates the presence of many village sites began least 5,000 B.C. in the region. The arrival of Native Americans into the Bay Area is associated with documented cultural resources from circa 5,500 B.C.⁸

Pacifica Historic Context

Native Americans once had an extensive presence in the Planning Area. When Europeans arrived, the area was home to people speaking the Costanoan/Ohlone language, and living in and around two villages: Pruristac, in San Pedro Valley, and Timiigtac, in Calera

³ M. Ember and P.N. Peregrine, 2001.

⁴ M. Ember and P.N. Peregrine, 2001.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ S.J. Fiedel, 1992.

⁷ T. Jones and K. Klar, 2007.

⁸ U.S. Dept. of Interior, 1990.

Valley. In 1769, an expedition led by Gaspar de Portola, governor of the Spanish territory covering California, discovered San Francisco Bay from a point on Pacifica's Sweeney Ridge, and camped in San Pedro Valley. Not long after, Mission San Francisco de Asis (Mission Dolores in present-day San Francisco) was established, and in 1786 the Mission developed an outpost in San Pedro Valley, alongside Pruristac. The Costanoan village was wiped out by disease in 1791.⁹

Mexican independence from Spain was followed by a "secularization" program, and in 1839 the San Pedro mission outpost and its *rancho*, covering the majority of the Planning Area, was granted to Francisco Sanchez, who built the adobe house that stands today as the oldest structure in San Mateo County. Following his death, the land was divided and the area developed slowly.

In 1905 construction began on the Ocean Shore Railway, which was to connect San Francisco with Santa Cruz. The line was never completed, but operated as far south as Half Moon Bay until 1921, supporting a string of small communities in present-day Pacifica including Tobin, Salada Beach, and Rockaway Beach. These and other settlements grew slowly until the building boom following World War II. Pacifica incorporated as a City in 1957.

Native American Cultural Resources

Five Native American archaeological resources have been found and recorded in Pacifica, all classified as habitation sites. Two additional resources contain both Native American and historic-era archaeological value. The Sanchez Adobe's State Historical Landmark and Point of Historical Interest is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and operated by the San Mateo County Historical Association as an historical site. The Sanchez Adobe Park, site of the Pruristac village and the San Pedro mission outpost, also is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources.

The Planning Area is rich with the types of environments where Native American cultural resources have been found: permanent and intermittent streams, productive coastal environments, and sheltered locations for permanent habitations, as well as ridgelines, terraces, spurs and saddles. The Planning Area also includes a significant amount of alluvial soil, which in some cases is overlaid by artificial fill, increasing the probability for buried archaeological deposits. Considering the environmental conditions within the Planning Area, there is a high likelihood that unrecorded Native American cultural resources are present.

Contemporary Native American Resources

As part of the General Plan update process, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) conducted a record search of the sacred lands file in 2009. The search did not indicate the presence of additional Native American cultural resources within the Planning Area. The NAHC response listed six tribes that may have historic ties to the Planning Area,

⁹ California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), 2009

and letters of inquiry were sent to the six tribal representatives; however, no responses were received.

Historic Resources

Nationally and State-Listed Resources

Pacifica has three sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places: the Sanchez Adobe, the San Francisco Bay Discovery Site on Sweeney Ridge, and the Little Brown Church, a 1910 structure at the corner of Francisco Boulevard and Salada Avenue in West Sharp Park. The Portola Expedition Camp at San Pedro Creek, the Discovery Site, and the Sanchez Adobe are Pacifica's State Historical Landmarks. Tobin Station, one of two remaining structures from the Ocean Shore Railroad, is a State Point of Historical Interest.

A Master Plan for the Sanchez Adobe Historical Site was completed in 2007, which aims to increase visitation and improve visitors' educational experience while ensuring that the site is preserved for future generations. Key aspects of the Master Plan's proposed improvements for the site include educational and interpretive exhibits and activities; expanded public facilities such as picnic areas and restrooms; and improving site characteristics such as signage, security, screening, and interface with San Pedro Creek.

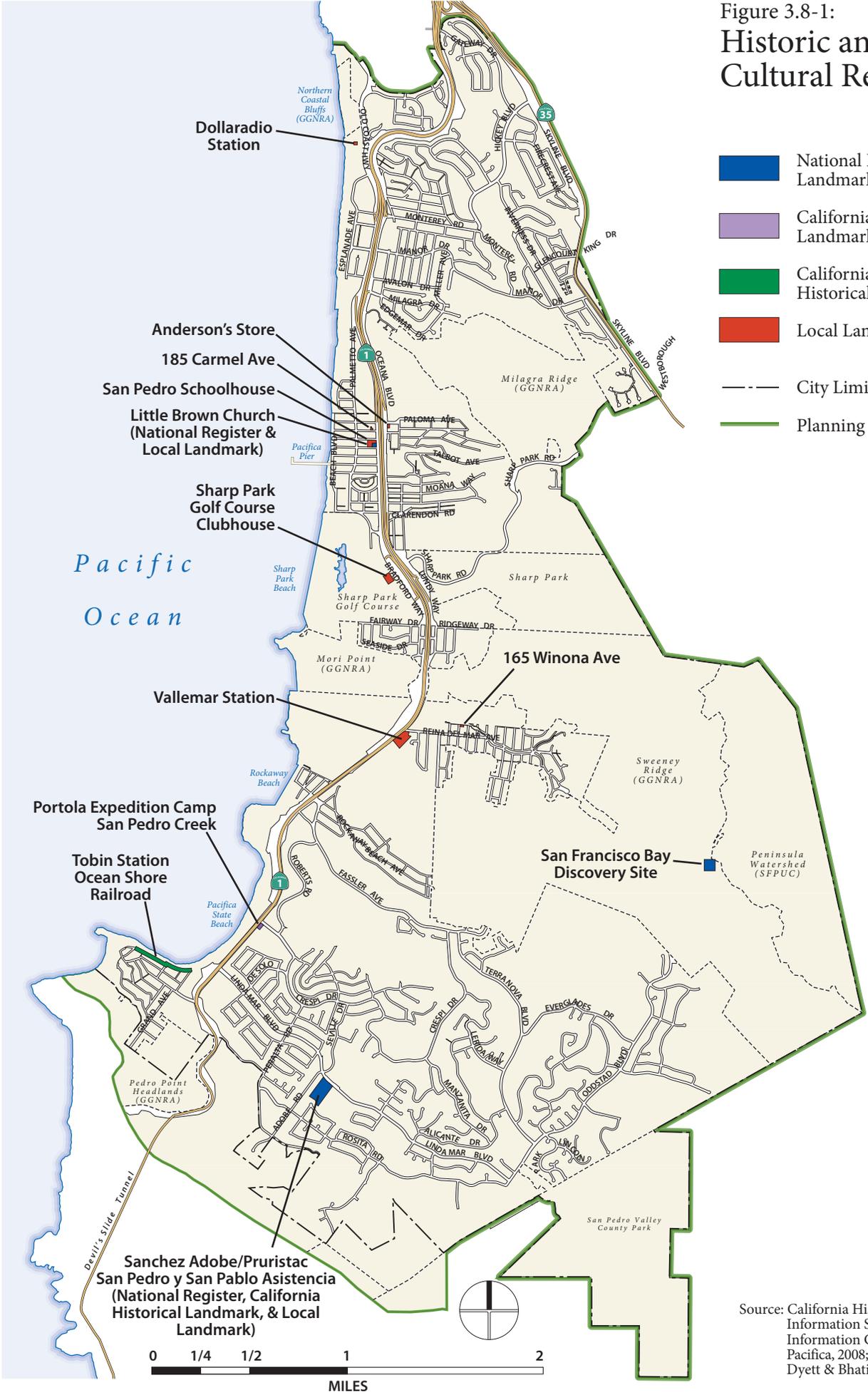
Locally Listed Resources

The City of Pacifica has nine local historical landmarks, which are designated in the City's Municipal Code. In addition to Sanchez Adobe and the Little Brown Church, these include the former San Pedro Schoolhouse (now City Hall); the 1907 Anderson's Store building on Paloma Avenue; the Sharp Park Golf Course club house, from 1932; Vallemar Station; the former Dollaradio Station; and two private residences (see **Table 3.8-1**).

The Little Brown Church's ongoing renovation is the work of the Pacifica Historical Society, which envisions a local history museum there. The Historical Society also owns the last remaining car from the Ocean Shore Railroad, and has stated its interest in moving the railcar alongside the Church. A local landmark that is not officially designated but is worth noting is the house known as Pacifica Castle. The house, perched above the Sharp Park neighborhood, was built in 1908 in the style of a Scottish castle. Now owned by a foundation, the house is used for events and occasionally open to the public. All of the different types of historic resources in Pacifica are listed in **Table 3.8-1** and shown in **Figure 3.8-1**.

Figure 3.8-1:
Historic and Cultural Resources

- National Register Landmark
- California Historical Landmarks
- California Point of Historical Interest
- Local Landmarks
- City Limits
- Planning Area



Source: California Historical Resources Information System, 2009; Norhtwest Information Center, 2009; City of Pacifica, 2008; San Mateo County, 2009; Dyett & Bhatia, 2012.

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Table 3.8-1: Historic Resources in the Planning Area

Site	Address	Year Constructed
National Register Landmarks		
Little Brown Church	1850 Francisco Boulevard	1910
San Francisco Bay Discovery Site	Sweeney Ridge	NA
Sanchez Adobe / Pruristac / San Pedro y San Pablo	1000 Linda Mar Boulevard	1842
California Historical Landmarks		
Portola Expedition Camp at Pedro Creek	Southeast of SR 1 and Crespi Drive	NA
San Francisco Bay Discovery Site	Sweeney Ridge	NA
Sanchez Adobe / Pruristac / San Pedro y San Pablo	1000 Linda Mar Boulevard	1842
California Point of Historical Interest		
Tobin Station-Ocean Shore Railroad	Shoreside Drive, Pedro Point	
Local Landmarks Identified in Pacifica Zoning Code		
Anderson's Store	220 Paloma Avenue	1907
Little Brown Church	1850 Francisco Boulevard	1910
San Pedro Schoolhouse	170 Santa Maria Avenue	1914
Sanchez Adobe / Pruristac / San Pedro y San Pablo ¹	1000 Linda Mar Boulevard	1842
Sharp Park Golf Course Clubhouse	Sharp Park Road & SR 1	1932
Vallemar Station	2125 Coast Highway	
Private residence	165 Winona Avenue	
Private residence	185 Carmel Avenue	
<i>Dollaradio Station (private residence)</i>	<i>100 Palmetto Avenue</i>	<i>1926</i>

Sources: California Historical Resources Information System, 2009, City of Pacifica, 2012.

REGULATORY SETTING

Definitions

Archaeological Resources

Archaeological resources are places where human activity has measurably altered the earth or left deposits of physical remains. Archaeological resources may be either prehistoric (before the introduction of writing in a particular area) or historic (after the introduction of writing). The majority of such places in this region are associated with either Native American or Euroamerican occupation of the area. The most frequently encountered prehistoric and early historic Native American archaeological sites are village settlements with residential areas and sometimes cemeteries; temporary camps where food and raw materials were collected; smaller, briefly occupied sites where tools were manufactured or repaired; and special-use areas like caves, rock shelters, and sites of rock art. Historic archaeological sites may include foundations or features such as privies, corrals, and trash dumps.

Historic Resources

Historic resources are standing structures of historic or aesthetic significance. Architectural sites dating from the Spanish Period (1529-1822) through the early years of the Depression (1929-1930) are generally considered for protection if they are determined to be historically or architecturally significant. These may include missions, historic ranch lands, and structures from the Gold Rush and the region’s early industrial era. Post-Depression sites may also be considered for protection if they could gain historic significance in the future. Historic resources are often associated with archaeological deposits of the same age.

Contemporary Native American Resources

Contemporary Native American resources, also called ethnographic resources, can include archaeological resources, rock art, and the prominent topographical areas, features, habitats, plants, animals, and minerals that contemporary Native Americans value and consider essential for the preservation of their traditional values.

Paleontological Resources

Paleontological resources are the mineralized (fossilized) remains of prehistoric plant and animal life exclusive of human remains or artifacts. Fossil remains such as bones, teeth, shells, and leaves are found in geologic deposits (rock formations) where they were originally buried.

Federal Regulations

National Historic Preservation Act

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) is the most prominent federal law dealing with historic preservation. The NHPA established guidelines to “preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and to maintain, wherever possible, an environment that supports diversity and a variety of individual choice.” The NHPA includes regulations specifically for federal land-holding agencies, and also includes regulations (Section 106) which pertain to all projects that are funded, permitted, or approved by any federal agency and which have the potential to affect cultural resources. All projects that are subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) are also subject to compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA. Furthermore, all projects that are carried out by Caltrans are also subject to Section 106. At the federal level, the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) carries out reviews under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Section 106 review process normally involves a four-step procedure described in detail in the Section 106 Regulations (36 CFR Part 800):

- Identify and evaluate historic properties in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and interested parties;
- Assess the effects of the undertaking on properties that are eligible for inclusion in the NRHP;

- Consult with the SHPO, other agencies, and interested parties to develop an agreement that addresses the treatment of historic properties and notify the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; and
- Proceed with the project according to the conditions of the agreement.

National Register of Historic Places

The NHPA authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish a National Register of Historic Places (National Register), an inventory of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant on a national, State, or local level in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register is maintained by the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, State Historic Preservation Office, and grants-in-aid programs.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Specific projects that are subject to NEPA must also comply with NEPA requirements for the consideration of cultural resources. Compliance with NEPA requirements concerning cultural resources may be addressed through compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA. Reports, agreements, and correspondence documenting compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA are provided to the lead NEPA agency for a specific proposed action that is subject to NEPA.

State Regulations

Office of Historic Preservation

The mission of the OHP and the State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC) is to preserve and enhance California's irreplaceable historic heritage as a matter of public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, recreational, aesthetic, economic, social, and environmental benefits will be maintained and enriched for present and future generations.¹⁰ California Public Resources Code 5024 requires consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) when a project may impact historical resources located on State-owned land.

California Register of Historic Resources

The SHPO also maintains the California Register of Historic Resources (California Register). Historic properties listed, or formally designated for eligibility to be listed, on the National Register are automatically listed on the California Register (PRC Section 5024.1). State Landmarks and Points of Interest are also automatically listed. The California Register can also include properties designated under local preservation ordinances or identified through local historic resource surveys.

¹⁰ Office of Historic Preservation webpage: http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1054

For a historic resource to be eligible for listing on the California Register, it must be significant at the local, state, or national level under one or more of the following four criteria:

- It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the United States;
- It is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or national history;
- It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values; or
- It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation (California Public Resources Code).

State Historical Building Code

The State Historical Building Code (SHBC) provides alternative building regulations for permitting repairs, alterations and additions necessary for the preservation, rehabilitation, relocation, related construction, change of use, or continued use of a “qualified historical building or structure.” These standards are intended to preserve California’s architectural heritage by recognizing the unique construction issues inherent in maintaining and adaptively reusing historic buildings. The State’s Office of Historic Preservation manages the SHBC.

Native American Heritage Act

Also relevant to the evaluation and mitigation of impacts to cultural resources is the Native American Heritage Act (NAHA) of 1976 which established the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and protects Native American religious values on state property (see California Public Resources Code 5097.9).

Public Notice to California Native American Indian Tribes

Government Code, Section 65092 includes California Native American tribes that are on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission in the definition of “person” to whom notice of public hearings shall be sent by local governments.

Tribal Consultation Guidelines

Passed in 2004, Senate Bill (SB) 18 (Burton, D-San Francisco) now Government Code Section 65351 and 65352 establishes a procedure to help tribes and jurisdictions define tribal cultural resources and sacred areas more clearly and incorporate protection of these places earlier into the General Plan and Specific Plan processes. The SB 18 process mirrors the federal 106 Review process used by archaeologists as part of the environmental review conducted under NEPA (36 CFR Part 800.16) While not a component of CEQA review per se, the Lead agency

is required to request consultation with responsible and trustee agencies, such as NAHC and neighboring tribes, during the initial study and EIR process (PRC 21080.3, 21080.4).

Disposition of Human Remains (Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5)

When an initial study identifies the existence, or the probable likelihood, of Native American human remains within the project, a lead agency shall work with the appropriate Native American groups or individuals as identified by the NAHC as provided in Public Resources Code 5097.98. The applicant may develop an agreement for treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any items associated with Native American burials. Furthermore, Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code requires that construction or excavation be stopped in the vicinity of discovered human remains until the county coroner can determine whether the remains are those of a Native American. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner must contact the NAHC.

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

California Health and Safety Code Sections 8010-8011 establishes a state repatriation policy intent that is consistent with and facilitates implementation of the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. The Act strives to ensure that all California Indian human remains and cultural items are treated with dignity and respect. It encourages voluntary disclosure and return of remains and cultural items by publicly funded agencies and museums in California. It also states the intent for the state to provide mechanisms for aiding California Indian tribes, including non-federally recognized tribes, in filing repatriation claims and getting responses to those claims.

Local Regulations

City of Pacifica General Plan

The Historic Preservation Element features a map and list of sites and structures considered to be of historic significance in Pacifica. The Historic Preservation Element calls for the development of a Historic Preservation Ordinance, and a Historic Sites Advisory Committee. General Plan policies listed below are from the existing Pacifica General Plan.

General Plan Policies

1. 1. Conserve historic and cultural sites and structures which define the past and present character of Pacifica.
2. 2. Consider creative alternatives, which may include uses other than the original use, to protect and preserve historic sites and structures.
3. 3. Public awareness and education programs shall be considered essential for historic conservation.
4. 4. Encourage all public agencies to continue and increase their support for local historic sites of County, State, and National significance in Pacifica.

City of Pacifica Historic Preservation Ordinance

In 1985, the City adopted its Historic Preservation ordinance, to recognize historic structures, sites, and natural features, and to encourage their preservation and continued use. The ordinance established criteria for designation. A site may be designated because it reflects a significant element of the City's history; has special aesthetic or architectural interest; is identified with significant persons or events; is representative of a type of building which was once common but is now rare; is a notable work of a master builder or architect; or contributes to a distinctive area of the City. Designation requires a formal public process.

Repairs and maintenance to locally designated landmarks require no special permission. Permits are required for demolition, alteration, or relocation that affects the exterior appearance of the landmark. In evaluating applications for demolition, the Planning Commission and City Council shall consider the economic feasibility of alternatives to demolition, and the interests of the public in preserving the landmark.¹¹

Impact Analysis

SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

A significant impact on cultural resources would occur with the implementation of the proposed General Plan if the plan would:

- Criterion 1:** Cause substantial changes to the significance of a historical resource, defined as physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of a historic resource would be materially impaired (Guidelines Section 15064.5).
- Criterion 2:** Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5.
- Criterion 3:** Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.
- Criterion 4:** Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.

For purposes of this EIR, a significant effect would occur if the integrity of a cultural resource that is eligible for listing on any one of the following lists would be compromised through demolition or alteration: National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest; or City of Pacifica Designated Landmarks.

¹¹ City of Pacifica, 1985

METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS

The cultural resources analysis identifies the potential impacts of the proposed General Plan on archaeological, historical, and other cultural resources within the Planning Area. This methodology recognizes that important cultural resources may be encountered during ground-disturbing construction work on future development projects that involve physical construction. Since the extent of ground disturbance associated with future development is unknown at this time, it is not possible to assess specific cultural resource impacts based on the Pacifica General Plan. For the same reasons, the analysis does not distinguish between regulatory conditions for privately- and publicly-owned land. Accordingly, no project-specific reviews or field studies are undertaken for this program EIR.

California Historical Resources Information System

The California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) is a statewide system for managing information on the full range of historical resources identified in California. CHRIS is a cooperative partnership between the citizens of California, historic preservation professionals, twelve Information Centers, and various agencies. This system bears the following responsibilities: integrate newly recorded sites and information on known resources into the California Historical Resources Inventory; furnish information on known resources and surveys to governments, institutions, and individuals who have a justifiable need to know; and supply a list of consultants who are qualified to do work within their area.

As part of the General Plan update process, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) conducted a record search of the sacred lands file in 2009. The search did not indicate the presence of additional Native American cultural resources within the Planning Area. The NAHC response listed six tribes that may have historic ties to the Planning Area, and letters of inquiry were sent to the six tribal representatives; however, no responses were received.

IMPACT SUMMARY

The primary impact that could occur is disturbance of cultural resources during development of property, subsequent to adoption of the proposed General Plan. Specific projects implied through proposed General Plan policies may require supplemental environmental analysis to comply with CEQA requirements if currently unknown cultural resources are discovered prior to or during construction.

As described above, there is a high possibility of encountering Native American archaeological resources in the Planning Area. However, existing national and state laws, as well as policies in the proposed General Plan, reduce these potential impacts on historic and archaeological resources to less than significant levels. No known significant paleontological resources exist in the Planning Area.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact

- 3.8-1 Implementation of the proposed plan would not cause a substantial change to the significance of a historical resource, defined as physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of a historic resource would be materially impaired (Guidelines Section 15064.5). (*Less than Significant*)**

Pacifica has three sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places: the Sanchez Adobe, the San Francisco Bay Discovery Site on Sweeney Ridge, and the Little Brown Church. The Portola Expedition Camp at San Pedro Creek, the Discovery Site, and the Sanchez Adobe are State Historical Landmarks. Tobin Station, one of two remaining structures from the Ocean Shore Railroad, is a State Point of Historical Interest. In addition to these sites, Pacifica has local historical landmarks, described in the Environmental Setting section.

The proposed Plan would not increase the likelihood that any of these sites would be developed. Eight of the sites would retain their existing General Plan designation. Three sites would see their Plan designation change from Commercial to one of the proposed Plan's more refined designations: Office Commercial, Retail Commercial, and Low-Intensity Visitor-Serving Commercial for the Anderson's Store; Vallemar Station; and Tobin Station sites, respectively. The development intensity allowed by the Office/Commercial and Retail Commercial designations is not expected to vary significantly from the what existing zoning allows. The Low-Intensity Visitor Serving Commercial designation allows for very limited new development, which should favor maintaining the Tobin Station site. The land use designation on the San Francisco Bay Discovery Site would be changed from Special Area/Prominent Ridgeline to Park. This will not have any effect on how the land is managed by the GGNRA.

Finally, the proposed Plan includes a number of policies, cited below, which call for City commitment to historic resource preservation. The Plan's impact on historic resources would be less than significant.

Proposed General Plan Policies that Reduce the Impact

Overall, current federal and state laws as well as the following policies in the proposed General Plan would reduce these impacts on archaeological resources to less than significant levels.

Conservation Element

- CO-I-71 **Historic Preservation Ordinance.** Continue to evaluate development projects for their historical significance and preservation value, using the criteria in the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

CO-I-72 **Integration of Historic and Cultural Resources with City Identity.** Incorporate historic and cultural resources into the City’s marketing and branding efforts. Specific initiatives might include:

- Identifying historic sites in the City’s wayfinding scheme;
- Giving priority to streetscape and public realm improvements around historic structures that are visitor destinations;
- Hosting/supporting events and educational programs that feature Pacifica’s history and promote its relevance; and
- Linking related historical sites through the City’s open space and trail system.

CO-I-73 **Public Agency Support for Local Historic Sites.** Seek support from public agencies, such as GGNRA, for local historic preservation programs for designated sites.

Two documents have been prepared for San Mateo County that should guide agency involvement in Pacifica’s historic resources: the Sanchez Adobe Historical Site Master Plan (2007) and the Historic Resource Study for Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Mateo County (2010).

CO-I-74 **Resource Impact Mitigation.** Ensure that new development analyzes and avoids potential impacts to historic, archaeological, and paleontological resources by:

- Requiring a records review for development proposed in areas that are considered archaeologically or paleontologically sensitive;
- Requiring pre-construction surveys and monitoring during any ground disturbance for all development in areas of historic or archaeological sensitivity; and
- Implementing appropriate measures as a condition of project approval—such as avoidance, preservation in place, and excavation,—to reduce or avoid impacts.

In the event that historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources are accidentally discovered during construction, grading activity in the immediate area shall cease and materials and their surroundings shall not be altered or collected. A qualified archaeologist or paleontologist must make an immediate evaluation and avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation should be completed, according to CEQA Guidelines. The State Office of Historic Preservation has issued recommendations for the preparation of Archaeological Resource Management Reports that may be used as guidelines.

CO-I-75 **Adaptive Reuse.** Promote adaptive reuse of historic structures—preserving their original design and character—as an option for preserving sites that are threatened with demolition or degradation.

Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures are required.

Impact

3.8-2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5 (*Less than significant*).

Five Native American archaeological resources have been found and recorded in Pacifica, all classified as habitation sites. Two additional resources contain both Native American and historic-era archaeological value. One of these, the Sanchez Adobe, is a State Historical Landmark and Point of Historical Interest, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is operated by the National Park Service as an historical site. The Sanchez Adobe Park, site of the Pruristac village and the San Pedro mission outpost, is also listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources.

The Planning Area is rich with the types of environments where Native American cultural resources have been found: permanent and intermittent streams, productive coastal environments, and sheltered locations for permanent habitations, as well as ridgelines, terraces, spurs and saddles. The Planning Area also includes a significant amount of alluvial soil, which in some cases is overlaid by artificial fill, increasing the probability for buried archaeological deposits. There is considered to be a high likelihood that unrecorded Native American cultural resources are present.

While project-specific studies will be necessary to determine the actual potential for significant impacts on archaeological resources resulting from the implementation of the proposed General Plan, some general impacts can be identified based on the probable locations of new development in the Planning Area and known geographic features near which prehistoric resources are most likely to be located. Projects in the vicinity of ridgelines, midslope terraces, alluvial flats, ecotones, and sources of water have the greatest possibility of encountering a prehistoric archaeological resource.

If potentially significant cultural resources are discovered during ground-disturbing activities associated with project preparation, construction, or completion, work shall halt in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find, and, if necessary, develop appropriate treatment measures in consultation with San Mateo County and other appropriate agencies and interested parties. For example, a qualified archaeologist shall follow accepted professional standards in recording any find including submittal of the standard Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Primary Record forms (Form DPR 523) and location-specific information to the California Historical Resources Information Center office (Northwestern Information Center). The consulting archaeologist shall also evaluate such resources for significance per California Register of Historical Resources eligibility criteria (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1; Title 14 CCR Section 4852). If the archaeologist determines that the find does not meet the CEQA standards of significance, construction shall proceed. On the other hand, if the archaeologist determines that further

information is needed to evaluate significance, the Planning Department staff shall be notified and a data recovery plan shall be prepared. Policies included in the proposed General Plan include actions that require pre-construction surveys for areas that could potentially experience archeological disturbance. With adherence to existing regulations, this potential impact would be less than significant.

Proposed General Plan Policies that Reduce the Impact

Policy CO-I-74, as listed above.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

Impact

3.8-3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would not disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries (*Less than Significant*).

Pacifica's environmental setting and its long history of habitation by Native people make it likely that unrecorded cultural resources are present in the Planning Area. All future development in the Planning Area will be accordance with state laws pertaining to the discovery of human remains. Accordingly, if human remains of Native American origin are discovered during project construction, the developer and/or the Planning Department would be required to comply with state laws relating to the disposition of Native American burials, which fall within the jurisdiction of the Native American Heritage Commission (Pub. Res. Code Sec. 5097). If any human remains are discovered or recognized in any location on a project site, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until:

- A. The San Mateo County Coroner/Sheriff has been informed and has determined that no investigation of the cause of death is required; and
- B. If the remains are of Native American origin:
 - 1. The descendants of the deceased Native Americans have made a recommendation to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98; or
 - 2. The Native American Heritage Commission was unable to identify a descendant or the descendant failed to make a recommendation within 24 hours after being notified by the commission.

With adherence to existing regulations, as well as proposed Plan policies, this potential impact would be less than significant.

Proposed General Plan Policies that Reduce the Impact

Conservation Element

Policy CO-I-74, as listed above.

CO-I-76 **Native American Sites.** Work with local Native American tribes to protect recorded and unrecorded cultural and sacred sites, and educate developers and the community-at-large about the connections between Native American history and the environmental features that characterize the local landscape.

Development on archaeologically sensitive sites requires on-site monitoring by appropriate Native American consultant(s) and a qualified archaeologist of all grading, excavation, and site preparation activities that involve earth-moving operations.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

Impact

3.8-4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. (Less than Significant)

The California Historical Resources Information System did not identify any paleontological resources in the Planning Area as of 2009. However, since fossils are considered to be nonrenewable resources, such impacts would be considered significant. Adverse impacts on paleontological resources could occur when earthwork activities such as mass excavation cut into geological formations, or depths below the soil layer, which is generally six feet deep. These impacts are in the form of physical destruction of fossil remains.

The proposed General Plan requires pre-construction surveys to be conducted of all potential paleontological resources within a proposed development area. These surveys would ensure that any paleontological resources is preserved and development is planned accordingly to ensure this preservation. As such, these resources would not be affected under the policies of the proposed General Plan, as listed below.

Proposed General Plan Policies that Reduce the Impact

Overall, current federal, state, and local laws as well as policies summarized above under Impacts 3.8-1 and 3.9-2 would reduce these impacts to less than significant levels.

Mitigation Measure

None required.